

## Mortimers Makes Great Progress in Softball League

Mortimer's, the team regarded lightly as a bunch of misfits at the start of the season, has shown the league a brand of ball in the last month that has been unequalled by any team in the league. True, McManus has the same record for the same period, but the Mortimer lads' victories have been more convincing.

Consider the game with Franklin last week. With a score 1-0 in favor of the Franklinites, Phil Carey drove a drive over the centerfielder's head, clearing the bases. From then on the team played like a team inspired. Vince Hobe made a spectacular running catch in left center, killing a two or three-base hit. Jack Scoulo followed this with a great bucket catch on the grass. With this kind of defensive support, Bill Lawson has had little trouble winning, although Bill is the most improved pitcher in the league recently.

McManus kept pace with the Mortimer boys to keep the lead with a string of 13 consecutive victories. Monday night the McManus lads put on a five-run splurge in the third inning, capped by a home run by Monte Webb with the bases loaded to keep the lead, as they defeated Mortimer's 5-2.

With McManus remaining in

first place and Mortimer's in second, Buick passed Dayner's edge into third place in the standings and drop Dayner's into fourth, followed by Franklin, who continued to slip into fifth.

In the battle for the sixth place berth, North End and Birmingham Fruit remained tied at four victories and ten defeats. Inasmuch as both teams have been going at an unsteady pace, their meeting on September 3 may be the deciding battle.

The feature battle of the ensuing week should be the match between Mortimer's and McManus on Monday. The two teams met recently and ended in a five-all tie.

This week McManus takes on Mortimer's Monday, and North End on Tuesday. Mortimer's tackle Wades tonight, McManus Monday, while Buick is targeting with Fisher's Market tonight and Dayner's Tuesday evening. Franklin faces the tough Dayner outfit on Wednesday while waiting to take on Birmingham Fruit the next night.

With the end of this week, only three weeks remain before the playoffs, which begin Monday, September 9, with the six teams battling for the trophy. Some discussion has come up recently over which would be the best way to handle the title games, to have a two-team knock-out series or pair the teams together in three game series with the winners advancing to the next round. League heads would be glad to accept an expression of which method is preferred by the managers.

## Reds Have Balance Behind Loop's Top Hurling Staff

**BY ART BRONSON**

YEAR after year the National League's top hurling staff goes into the fall classic with paens of praise for its pitching prowess; despite the larrupers of the junior circuit, the old liners say, the elder loop's chuckers give them the edge.

But dive-bombing Yankees, Athletics, Tigers, and other upstarts from the American merry-go-round repeatedly refuted this reasoning. Not a whit discouraged, the graybeards are up to their old tricks again—the Cincinnati Reds can't miss this year because they've got the best pitching staff in the majors. It'll be a blitkrieg!

Maybe there is a bit more sense to this reasoning this year. For one thing, there aren't any right to plague National League pitchers, the Tigers, and Weatherly of the Indians, top hatters of the two leading American loop teams, just don't measure up.

**THE Reds' pitching, best of the old circuit last season, is even better now. Big-k' Walters again is the front runner. He's almost sure to total 40 games on the winning side for the two seasons. Following him are Paul Deringer and Junior Thompson, both due for 20-victory seasons.**

The Reds dug up Joe Begg from the Yankee chain gang last winter, in exchange for Lee Grisson, and he seems to be just what the doctor ordered in the way of a relief pitcher. Jim Turner, no great shakes with the Boston Bees after Bill McKeechick left, is staging a comeback.

**BUT** pitching isn't their only thing the Reds have. They've



## SCOUT NEWS

**Boy Scouts of America**

The big news this week, of course, is the fact that B-7's annual camp is scheduled for August 17. At this writing, B-7 Scouts are sure of going, and probably more in the near future. Scout Fred Zollin, Junior Red Cross Life Saver, who passed the Senior tests, but wasn't old enough to have a certificate in charge of swimming and general water-front activity. Firemen, members of the troop committee, will furnish the "qualified adult supervision" for one day apiece. Taken all in all, it looks like quite a time.

A brotherly tip to the Scouts of B-7: Scoutmaster George Scott's absence, the first in the troop's history, is that he is cruising with the Navy Reserve, of which he is a member. He reports that he won't sleep easy until he learns nothing is scheduled to mar the camping period while he was away. Let us hope that his leave will have been proven groundless. (How's that for a brotherly tip to the Scouts of B-7?)

The big night of the camp will be the night of August 22. All parents of Scouts attending the camp are invited to be present that night for a barbecue and general high time. There will be swimming contests, boating, canoe tilting, and other demonstrations of Scouting and campcraft. Afterwards come the barbecue and campfire. And it's all free!

Another tip to the Scouts of B-7: from the Scouts of B-3; take plenty of citronella. It stinks, but the famous Camp George mosquitoes are not above ripping off the shingles of the cabin or bunkhouse if they are really hungry. I know that fact that last year they would chew their way right through the screens and nets except in such a case. And as for the Gulfstream and Fit, they drink it by gallons. Indeed, at the last we learned that some of the boys and the mosquitoes soon drank so much of it that they plain blood lost any "kick" so they let us alone. Previous to that, only citronella would stop them, as they hate the smell as much as humans.

## What's What in Softball

**By JACK RIGDEN**

Beginning with Monday night's games all teams who have not fully forfeit their game they play from then until it is paid.

This ruling affects Buick and Franklin who have the entire fee to pay. Wade's who owe \$2.50, Birmingham Fruit \$2.50, and Fisher's Market \$2.50. This ruling would particularly hurt Buick and Franklin.

Lloyd Chapman, director, has gone on his vacation and has left your reporter in charge of league affairs for awhile.

McManus had a narrow squeak last Friday evening when they defeated Fisher's Market 4-1. Fisher's led 1-0 until the seventh inning.

Hat's off to Jim Wade, who through his team is in the cellar continue to play out the schedule besides pitching good ball.

Over in Rochester they are holding the district softball tournament. Dixie Diner is the Birmingham main reason for the turnout.

Best defensive team in the circuit is Mortimer's. Last week they again, Franklin they made record of the best plays of the year.

Most improved pitcher in the league in recent games is Bill Lawson of Mortimer's. He is one of the main reasons for the team's hanging around the top of the standings.

Less than a month remains before the playoffs. Season ends September sixth and playoffs begin following Monday, September 9.

When playing poker, does a good deal depend on luck, or does luck depend on a good deal?—U. S. West Virginia Mountaineer.

## Softball Schedule

Thursday, August 15: Mortimer—Wade's, at Torrey; Fisher's—Buick, at Poppleton.

Monday, August 18: Fisher's—North End, at Barnum; Birmingham Fruit—Post Office, at Torrey.

Tuesday, August 20: McManus—North End, at Hill; Dayner's—Buick, at Torrey.

Wednesday, August 21: Dayner's—Franklin, at Hill.

Thursday, August 22: Birmingham Fruit—Franklin, at Poppleton.

**WE HEARD IT SAID BY—**  
Fred Mallender, Chesterfield avenue: "How well do I remember the farm I bought southwest of Birmingham in 1881; I paid \$85 per acre for it. In 1883 the panic hit this country and I knew I couldn't have hold it for \$20 per acre. I drove good steers into Birmingham and was offered only two cents per pound for it. Today it is 9 1/2 cents. Yes Sir, the panic of '93 was a blinger."

**Famous Words**  
Mother—Tommy: how did you get that black eye?  
Tommy—Because I did not choose to run.

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## Birmingham Boys Expert in Miniature Airplane Models

**By JACK DUINN**

At a time when the whole nation is becoming suddenly and apprehensively air-minded, there are a few young men in Birmingham whose only comment is a weary, "We told you so." They deserve the title of Birmingham's premier amateur aeroplanist, being first both chronologically and in excitement. Their names are George Watt and Bob Allen; their official positions, president and vice-president, respectively, of the Model Airplane Club of Birmingham.

Their occupation, co-proprietors of the Volantu Aircraft Co., of Hanna street, and their hobby, the making and flying of model airplanes.

George began building and flying his model planes, using rubber bands for power, sometime in 1932. Between that time and 1937, when he and Benjelly Sprague built the first gas model ever seen in Birmingham, he estimates that he has constructed and flown about a half dozen of them; all large, elaborate models with wingspreads of from four to eight feet. He has generally been too busy with his models and store to do much racing, but he is always ready to take time out and give some pointers to the neophytes in the club.

**Allen Wins Prizes**

Bob Allen was initiated into the mystic society of model airplane enthusiasts somewhat later than George, since he recalls that he flew his first plane in the spring of '35. He can't remember the number of rubber-powered models he has constructed and flown, but is sure it is hardly a two-digit number. His specialty has been the making and flying of small, relatively plain control models. Although he doesn't let it go to his head, he has taken several prizes in contests in the southern part of the state. He counts almost twenty gas models to his credit.

"I know your inspiring reporter ventured what the twittering ding-dong happened to all of those model airplanes so much time and money, they looked at me with pity. 'Sooner or later, my lad,' exclaimed Allen with a sad look in his eyes, 'they all land wrong.' To show what he meant he showed my plane of his that had come a cropper. The light plane was reduced to a few splinters of balsa covered by some shreds of tissue paper. The hardwood propeller was shattered, and a chunk had been bodily torn out of the side of the solid aluminum crankcase. 'That plane,' he said, 'is just about hopeless.' We agreed."

**Not For Babies**

Another thing that the interview impressed upon your reporter was the fact that the building of model airplanes is definitely not a sport for babies. The builder, in addition to being an expert workman and mechanic, must have knowledge of everything from aerodynamics to meteorology. George estimates that if he were paid 10 cents an hour for his labor the value of his latest plane would be in excess of \$200. Definitely not a sport for babies! Both the boys are unanimous in advising the amateur at the sport to start with a kit. Only the "cerme de la creme" of model builders can start out with nothing but their own ingenuity to rely on.

The thing nearest and dearest to the hearts of both of them is the Model Airplane Club. That august body, we gathered, is the air-minded bunch of boys Birmingham. Several of the members of the club either have passed the officers of the club or are planning to do so. There is Bob Wolfston, who was Canadian National Champion in 1938; Dick Wenzell, Jacob Drake, in the relatively new category of members, and Watt and Francis Niederfurth among the rising juniors.

## Softball League Standings

(Including Monday's Results)

Team	W	L	Pct.
McManus	13	0	1.000
Mortimer's	11	2	.846
Buick	10	3	.769
Dayner's	12	4	.750
Franklin	4	7	.373
North End A. C.	4	10	.285
Birmingham Fruit	4	10	.285
Post Office	3	10	.230
Fisher's	3	10	.230
Wade's	1	12	.076

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