Future of Joltin' Joe DiMaggio In Doubt

know your athletes . . .

By CHARLEY STINE

CHARLES MARCHANT, Senior high baseballer. . . . only a junior, Marchant is one of those rare specimens who can make varsity teams in three sports at a large school . . . is one of only four boys now at Senior high who have that distinction . . . others are Paul Ferguson and A. C. Jenkins (football, basketball and track), and Lou Gregorio (baseball, track and football) . . . Marchant won his baseball monogram as a sophomore last spring, then got letters as a third-string football quarterback and second team guard in basketball . . . nevertheless Charlie still likes baseball best and got his biggest kick out of going to the state tournament with the American Legion juniors last year . . . would like nothing better than to make another trip to a state tournament with the Senior high diamond aggregation . . . is being counted on by Tyger Coach Mike Byelene to fill that all-important leadoff spot in the lineup and play left field . . . also good infield insurance since he can play any place well except first . . . at Johnny Appleseed junior high, the quiet, soft-spoken lad was first-string competitor in basketball, football, baseball and track . . . would probably be on the Tyger track squad if he could squeeze it in . . . is 17, five-feet-eight-inches, weighs 150 pounds and plans to play ball in the Hot Stove league this summer . . . is dubbed "DiMaggio" by his teammates for his ardent following of the great Yankee outfielder.

MARCHANT

Grapple Card Is Completed For Saturday

Completion of the Stacy Hall-Whity Whittler wrestling card was announced today by Promoter Cleft Kauffman.

Whittler and Hall will battle in a return "grudge" match Saturday night at the Mansfield armory. Whittler has twice beaten Hall here but in their last outing he twisted Hall's hip out of place and the Columbus city cop wants revenge.

TAG TEAM BOUT

For the semi-final, Kauffman is bringing back another tag team special. This time, Wild Bill Zimovich will team with Buzz Jones against George Strickland and Walter Achue. Zimovich appeared in a tag team affair here last Saturday with Don Evans. They lost to Karol Krauser and Frankie Talaber.

Jones lost to ex-world champion Johnny Demchuck on the same card.

The 30-minute preliminary will pit Pancho Valentino against Danny Morris.

Two Mansfield Fighters Win

Two Friendly House amateur boxers continued winning streaks in the VFW show last night in the Galion armory.

Lofton Fuqua copped his eighth straight on a split decision over George Badgley of Toledo, while Billy Eberhardt was given a unanimous vote over Roy McArthy, also of Toledo. It was Eberhardt's third straight and 19th in 24 fights.

A change in the schedule cancelled a bout which was to have the Friendly House's Ulysses Calloway meet Roy Smith of Galion. The F-H battle royal kids did appear, however, and gave their usual crowd-pleasing performance.

Bowling Fete

The Club bowling league banquet will be staged Monday April 18 at the Baku Grotto hall. John Swank, announced today.

Yankee Star To Get More Treatments

BALTIMORE —(UP— Joe DiMaggio went to a doctor today to see if his baseball career can be saved.

There were doubts that it could. But neither the sharp-faced Yankee clipper nor his Johns Hopkins hospital surgeon were willing to give up easily despite the intense pain he was suffering in his right heel since last season.

DiMaggio, looking wan and weary, arrived here shortly after midnight after a plane and train trip from Fort Worth, Tex., where the New York Yankees were on exhibition tour.

TO BEGIN TREATMENTS

He was ordered here for treatment yesterday after an examination by a Dallas physician. Dr. George Bennett, who removed a spur from DiMaggio's heel bone last winter will begin treatments today.

"I don't feel well," DiMaggio said on his arrival. "We had a tough trip up."

When a reporter asked him if he thought his career may be ended, DiMaggio snapped: "Go fly a kite."

"Do you think I would tell you if I think I'm through?" he asked. "All I want now is rest."

With that he limped to a taxi which carried him to a hospital.

Dr. Bennett had been scheduled to take a fast look at Di-Mag last night, but because bad weather delayed the plane the Yankee clipper went straight to the hospital to get much needed rest before he begins his novacaine and X-ray treatments.

The 34-year-old slugging outfielder who rose from the poverty of a fisherman's family in San Francisco to the rank of baseball's highest-paid player of all time was far from his jaunty at-bat self when he arrived.

DENIES HE'S THROUGH

He was anxious to deny that his baseball career was through, but he knew the dangers of the recurring pain in his heel and there were many with the traveling Yankee team who admitted privately that DiMag may be near the end of the road.

DiMaggio had suffered from a heel spur, a growth of bone on the back of the heel, on his left foot, and he was cured by an operation in 1947. When a similar growth developed on the right heel, he underwent another operation last winter.

But after the first day of spring training, March 1, his heel pained so he could hardly walk. Alarmed Yankee officials ordered him to Baltimore, where Dr. Bennett examined the heel and reported nothing serious.

DiMaggio returned to the St. Petersburg, Fla., training camp the following day with orders simply to take it easy.

Doctors assured him he would be all right.

He entered exhibition games briefly only as a pinch hitter until March 30, when he played in his first game. He played in seven after that, always under orders to leave the field as soon as the heel bothered him. But DiMaggio was desperate to play ball and he doggedly sought action as often as he dared.

HITS ONLY .226

He played in seven games, batting .226 before yesterday. It was in an exhibition at Beaumont, Tex., Saturday that he first realized the lack of improvement. He hurt the heel sliding into third base.

Instead of withdrawing from the lineup, he played again Sunday at Greenville, Tex., to "test" the heel. He lasted only two-and-a-half innings, then was forced to leave the lineup. It was the same story at Dallas Monday. He played only two and a half innings, then was forced to quit.

The apprehensive Yankees sent DiMag to Dr. P. M. Girard of Dallas, an orthopedic specialist, who performed a meticulous four-hour examination. He diagnosed the trouble as a "hot" or irritated condition of the heel and suggested immediate treatment. Dr. Girard talked by long-distance telephone with Dr. Bennett in Baltimore and they decided to fly the home-run hitter here immediately.

DiMaggio called a press conference in Fort Worth to personally make the announcement.

"My heel hurts like hell and I'm going to Baltimore to find out what's wrong," he mumbled gloomily.

HERE'S HOW FELLOWS—Senior high Baseball Coach Mike Byelene demonstrates to Mike Gruber, left and Sparkie Watts the way he wants them to bunt in the game against Madison tomorrow. Gruber at third base and Watts at short are two of the veterans on which Senior high is banking its hopes for a championship team.—(News-Journal Staff Photo).

Soph Pitches No-Hit Tilt; Phillies Defeat Reds, 4-0

FORT WORTH, Tex.—(UP)—The New York Yankees turned today to the brilliant no-hit pitching of young Bob Porterfield to find consolation for the loss of Joe DiMaggio for the season's opening.

Porterfield, 25-year-old righthander, pitched a no-hit, no-run game yesterday against the Fort Worth Cats of the Texas league, 10 to 0. That came on the heels of a one-hitter he pitched against Cincinnati in his last time out, April 4.

With exceptional speed and remarkable control of his curve ball, the sophomore hurler kept Fort Worth helpless. The fact that yesterday's game was called after eight innings to allow the Yanks to catch a train didn't detract from his brilliance.

Porterfield faced only 27 batters and the closest approach to a hit came in the eighth when John Legros of the Cats hit a line drive which Jerry Coleman stabbed at in self-defense and snagged. A Coleman error and two walks accounted for the only three Fort Worth base runners.

★

LOUISVILLE, Ky.—(UP)—Bucky Walters isn't ready to agree with those persons who are picking his Cincinnati Reds to finish last in the National league but he's considerably concerned — about the pitching.

The Reds are only a mashie shot from their home grounds and they're nearing the end of spring training but not a single pitcher yet has gone the full nine-inning route.

Ewell Blackwell, of course, has done nothing more than mild batting practice hurling while recovering from a kidney operation. Johnny Vander Meer currently is suffering from a muscle injury in his thigh after getting away to a good start in the spring drills. The younger pitchers have been wild.

Kenny Raffensberger, a veteran, went eight innings recently against the New York Yankees before being lifted for a pinch hitter but that's the longest stretch done by any Cincinnati hurler.

Howard Fox allowed three runs in six innings yesterday as the Philadelphia Phillies licked the Reds here, 4 to 0. At that, it was about his best job of the spring. He allowed only four hits but walked four and heaved one wild pitch.

The Phils got their last run off Kent Peterson—a lusty home run by Del Ennis.

Simpson Track Team Opens With Plymouth Outfit

John Simpson junior high will open its track season at 3:45 p. m. tomorrow by playing host to an inexperienced Plymouth high combine.

Plymouth Coach Dick McMullen has had his thinclads working out for a week but is hampered considerably by the lack of equipment. Hurdler Dean Grabach works out by running back and forth over the lone hurdle and a recently-purchased vaulting pole for Larry Schrreck has not yet arrived.

McMullen says Bob Schreck will run the hundred and 220, Bill Trauger will compete in the high and broad jump, Larry Hampton in the 880, and Roger Hampton in the 440. The 880 relay team will be composed of Larry and Bob Schreck, Don Cunningham, and Dean Grabach.

PRO BASKETBALL PLAYOFFS
(By Associated Press)
National League
Oshkosh 70, Moline 68. (Oshkosh wins series, 3-1).

Geiger Moves Into Big Lead In Pin League

Led by Tony Gerger, the Geiger Distributing team all but sewed up the Transportation bowling league pennant last night by moving six games out in front of second place Schmid's Tire with only six games to go.

Gerger rolled 194-160-227—581 to take individual single game and series honors and led Geiger's to a two of three victory over Martin Steel. The league-leaders also had the best team scores with an 845 single game and 2468 series.

Adam Karbula was not far behind with 579 on 190-189-200 for Commercial Motor. J. DeYarmon tossed 573 for Schenk's Auto and George Percy had 553 for Motor Cargo. Others included: R. Forsythe, Mansfield Upholstering, 546; J. Yeager, Martin Steel, 543; Pete Hergatt, Schenk's, 539.

★

W. Shafer of Richland Aviation surprised Richland C leaguers with 208-189-202—599 to take individual honors. Quentin Squire of Mansfield Rug had 546, Hady Young, Ritz Nite club, 536, and H. Ebbert, Culp Jewelers, 529. Routson, Colby and Earick, rounded out the first five with 523.

Mansfield Plumbing swept three games from Culp Jewelers and Richland Aviation won a sweep from Baku Grotto.

★

J. Zimmerman paced St. Peter's high school league with games of 118 and 181 for a 299 count. D. Drophey had 293, D. Kutschall, 291, and Jean Cullen, 283.

Mr. Bucher Now Out Of Kentucky Derby

NEW YORK — (AP) — Mr. Busher has failed to regain his "racing edge" and so another big name is out of the Kentucky derby.

Mrs. Elizabeth Graham, owner of the Maine chance farm, told an adviser yesterday that the hard-luck son of War Admiral defintely will not face the barrier in the Louisville classic May 7.

OHIO COLLEGE BASEBALL
Virginia 7, Akron 6.
Ohio Wesleyan 7, Ohio State 5.

Tyger and Ram 9's Meet On Ball Field

The high school baseball game for which Mansfield sport fans have been waiting—Senior high vs. Madison—will be played at 3:30 p. m. tomorrow at Blue Goose field unless rain or some other unforseen circumstance intervenes.

Although the game has no bearing on any league standings or tournament play, at least three circumstances make it an important tilt.

1. It is the first meeting of the cross-town rivals in a regular season game since Sept. 21, 1935, when Senior won a football game from Madison, 38-6.

2. It will be the first game of the season for Senior high and the first under coaching of Mike Byelene. Three new faces will be in the starting lineup—Ken McCally at first base, Walt McKeever at second, and Cy Elsass in right field.

3. Mansfield's Mutt and Jeff will be opposing sides for the first time, Mutt being Ray "Dutch" Bader and Jeff Lou Gregorio. Bader, six-one, and a side-armer will start for Madison while the five-seven Gregorio fires his overhand fast stuff for the Tygers. The two have been teammates for two years with the Legion juniors.

SIX REGULARS

In regards to the Senior high lineup, Bylene has six regulars from last year back. Five are playing their old positions while Charlie Marchant has been shifted from right to left field. Marchant will also be the sub shortstop when Sparkie Watts takes his turn on the pitcher's mound.

The Tyger batting order will be: Marchant, lf; Elsass, rf; Watts, ss; Joe Miller, c; McCally, 1b; Mike Gruber, 3b; McKeever, 2b; Perrine, cf; and Gregorio, p.

★

Madison dropped its second decision in three starts at North Robinson yesterday in a 10-inning 4-3 thriller. Gene Pritchard, a pony-sized right-hander showed just why North Robinson is Crawford county champions by stopping the Rams with six hits and striking out 15.

Madison got four of its hits in a three-run fifth inning and the other two in the tenth, when it failed to score. The host team tied the count in the bottom of the sixth and won it in the tenth when Althouse led off with a double and rode home on Herbie Lohr's single. Lohr had been the offesnive star all the way a he had an earlier double and stole two bases, including one theft of home.

Madison	AB	R	H	North Robinson	AB	R	H
Hughes ss	3	1	1	Yuessy c	5	0	1
Bader rf-p	5	1	1	Pritchard p	4	1	1
Secrist 3b	5	0	2	Althouse 3b	4	1	1
Riblet c	3	0	1	Tupps 1b	4	0	0
Bosh lf	5	0	0	Lohr ss	4	1	2
Distl 1b	4	0	1	Regan 2b	3	1	0
Brightbill 2b	5	0	0	Burgin cf	4	0	0
Chelski cf	2	1	0	Carls rf	2	0	0
McMillan p	2	0	0	Blackford lf	1	0	0
Durig rf	1	0	0	Courter lf	1	0	0
Totals	35	3	6	Totals	32	4	5

Madison ..... 000 030 000 0—3
North Robinson ..... 100 002 000 1—4

Runs batted in: Lohr, Hughes, Bader, Secrist, Yuessy. Two base hits—Lohr, Althouse. Double Plays—Bosh to Hughes. Stolen bases—Hughes 2, Lohr 2, Chelski. Sacrifice hits—McMillan. Hits off: McMillan 2 in 5 2-3, Bader 3 in 3 2-3. Bases on malls, off—McMillan 6, Bader 1, Pritchard 7. Struck out by—Pritchard 15, McMillan 4, Bader 8. Hit by pitched ball—by McMillan 2 Blackford, Lohr). Passed ball—Yuessey 2. Left on bases—North Robinson 9, Madison 1. Losing pitcher—Bader.

Fight Results

(By Associated Press)

BUFFALO, N. Y.—Phil Muscato, 189, Buffalo, outpointed Ted Lowry, 176¼, New Bedford, Mass., 12.

DETROIT—Roscoe Toles, 200, Detroit, outpointed Lee Q. Murray, 205, South Norwalk, Conn., 10.

NEW BEDFORD, Mass.—Frankie Kay, 138½, New Bedford, outpointed Pat Demers, 136, Brockton, Mass., 10.

Softball Drill

The 164th Fighter Squadron will begin softball practice at 6 p. m. today at the airport. Squadron members wishing to try out for the team will meet at 5:45 at the YMCA for transportation.

Bob's Logical Pick to Hurl Opening Game

KNOXVILLE, TENN. — (INS) — Bob Feller appeared to be manager Lou Boudreau's choice to pitch the Cleveland Indians' opening day game next Tuesday, although no announcement has been made.

Lefty Gene Bearden probably will be on the mound at the Indians' first home game next Friday.

There was no doubt, however, about manager Boudreau's pitching assignments for the tribe's exhibition game against the New York giants today in Knoxville, Tenn. Steve Gromek and Bob Lemon get the nod.

GAM ERAINED OUT

The Indians and the Giants were rained out yesterday in Jackson, Miss.

Boudreau plans to alternate his pitchers every four days for the remaining five exhibition games with the Polo Grounders.

Feller is slated for mound duty tomorrow at Hickory, N. C. so he would have four full days of rest before the Tuesday opener. Bearden probably will pitch the Friday game in Cleveland against Detroit since he also will get four days of rest.

The Indians have drawn 200,882 for 30 games and undoubtedly will break the New York York Yankees' 250.000 attendance record for spring exhibition games.

Cleveland will draw nearly as many customers for their exhibition tour as the St. Louis Brown drew in a 77-game schedule at home last year. The Indians may net a $100,000 profit for their training season.

Tavern Baseball Team Schedules Opening Practice

The T. and E. Tavern baseball team has set its first practice session for 5:15 p. m. tomorrow at Liberty park, Manager Joe Siwek announced today.

The Taverns expect to enter the county league which is being organized by Mansfield Recreation Director Stan. Kamen.

The Mansfield Hawks and DAV have also expressed interest in the circuit and Kamen plans to hold an organization meeting sometime next week. Any semi-pro team in the county will be eligible.

Meanwhile, Siwek said that all positions on the Tavern team were open and that he would welcome newcomers as well as last year's players to the practice.

Ernie Tinkey, 118 Leppo Lane, is business manager of the club and has asked anyone interested in scheduling games to call him at 5361-3.

Loop Nights For Softball Games Set

Playing nights for Mansfield's softball teams were fixed last night by the softball committee of the Mansfield Athletic commission.

The newly formed Recreation "slow-ball" league will go on Monday nights with the National set for Tuesday, American, Wednesday; Church, Thursday and International, Friday. League competition will open late in May.

A tentative set-up by the softball group has the National loop operating as an all-employes circuit with Farm Tools, Tappan Stove, Ideal Electric, Westinghouse and Mansfield Tire in the fold.

Teams going into the American and International leagues will be set-up by the committee after teams submit their playing rosters by May 2. Eleven teams are now available for these two circuits while others may enter by calling Stan Kamen, recreation director, at 3391-1.

Plans call for the American league to be an "open" circuit with managers able to sign any player in Richland county. However, the rule that a player may play with only one team in recreation department leagues will still be enforced.

Games will begin at 6:15 p. m. this year with the visiting team getting the field for practice from 5:45 to 6. Home team goes on the diamond from 6 until game time.

Kamen announced today that Mansfield softball fields will be ready for practice next week. Managers may call for practice reservations starting Friday at 9 a. m.

Starting next week, all teams must have permits from the recreation department before they can use any of the Mansfield diamonds for practice.

Ripley Signs With Carroll

CLEVELAND — (AP) — Elmer H. Ripley, 57-year-old veteran basketball coach, was appointed yesterday as head cage mentor at John Carroll university.

Ripley, who has served two coaching terms at Georgetown university, will succeed Norbert Rascher.

Rascher's team last season won seven games and lost 10. His contract called for two more years at the Cleveland college.

Besides Georgetown, Ripley has coached at Yale, Columbia and Notre Dame. He was a member of the original Celtic basketball team.

CORRECTION

Soil Pipe Listed In Malone Plumbing Ad Monday Should Have Read

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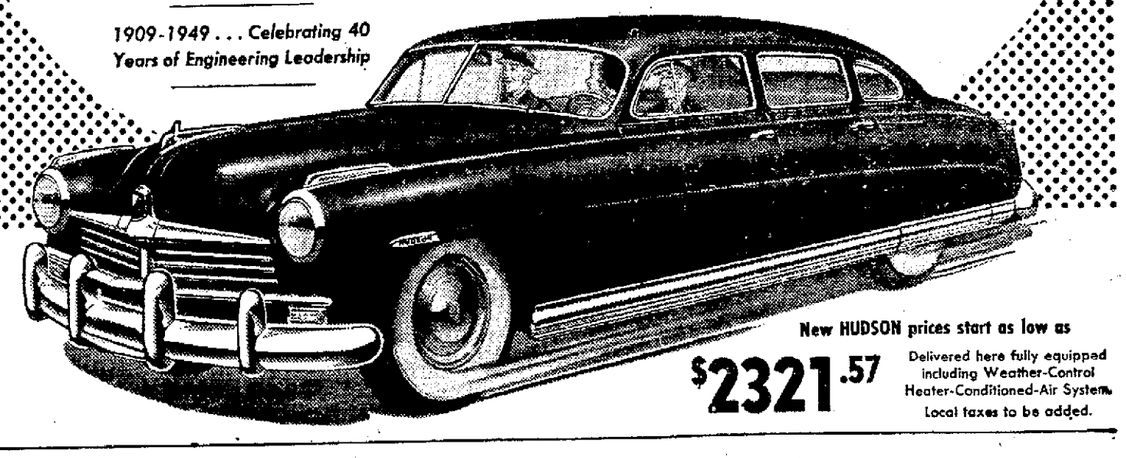

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