

Bentley Victors Over Plymouth, 4-1

RU Swells Diamond Streak To 9 Straight Games

By George Maskin

observing sports

It was a little item buried in the Pontiac Press. A couple of the TV commentators mentioned the matter in passing.

But the high school sports scene suffered a severe blow this past week.

Ralph Owen, the man who guided the Metropolitan Catholic High School League, has tendered his resignation, effective next Aug. 1.

All of which means somebody new will be running the biggest schoolboy sports league in the country next fall. There are 78 schools in the circuit, including St. Agatha, Our Lady of Sorrows and the Bishop Borgess.

Owen caught virtually everybody by surprise with his announcement. He has handled the post for seven years and done a job which produced only orchids and praise.

It was Owen who suggested the revolutionary three ball-two strike rule which has become so popular in Catholic League baseball. He has had much to do with track interest jumping from 24 schools to more than 50.

OWEN HAS MADE certain that competition remained on an even keel, especially in football. He has juggled divisions, so as to make certain a school didn't find itself outclassed.

Under him, the Catholic League has swooped to many honors in outside competition. For example, parochial teams have dominated in recent years in the Goodfellow Football Game, which, incidentally, will be no more.

There's been little said, but the Goodfellow game matching public and parochial school champs in Detroit is dead.

Last March, the Catholic League had five quarterfinalists in the state basketball tournament. There was a chance the Class A final could be strictly an All Parochial affair. But it didn't happen that way.

WHAT'S BEHIND OWEN'S resignation? He simply insists that he never figured he was taking over "a lifetime job."

"Right from the start, I felt I would work at it for around seven to ten years," Owen told this reporter. "My feeling on the subject hasn't changed."

But, it's possible that the league's headaches have become too much. As one agent said: "Imagine having to deal with over 200 coaches, 78 athletic directors and all the priests who are connected with the various schools."

Owen actually has left himself open for a financial jolt. He announced his retirement without first looking for another job.

"I just felt," he said, "that I owed it to the Catholic schools to give them a chance to find a man so I could at least work with him a little before I stepped out."

Owen probably won't have much trouble finding new employment. Men with his administrative ability rarely grow on trees.

Besides, he once coached and it just could be that's what he has in mind.

He's not saying anything.

ONE SPORT OWEN never helped to introduce in his school league is lacrosse, which makes its professional debut Sunday when the new Detroit Olympics play the Toronto Maple Leafs at Olympia.

We've never seen lacrosse, except for a fleeting moment the other evening on a TV screen. But they tell us it's a lot like hockey—except on cement instead of ice.

And we're told that box lacrosse, the type the Olympics will play, isn't like field lacrosse which is played by many high schools and colleges in the eastern part of the United States.

In fact, up in New England, lacrosse is a big sport for the schoolboys along with soccer, two activities which haven't made any headway in this part of the country.

Yet, both are good school sports. They give many boys a chance to play and are inexpensive to operate.

About all you need is a playfield and a ball for soccer. Lacrosse requires a little more.

Stevenson Edges Glenn

The baseball week produced a 50-50 finish for John Glenn High.

After rallying to down Oak Park, 6-4, in a nine-inning Northwest Suburban League battle, Glenn dropped a 4-3 non-league verdict to Stevenson.

Classy relief pitching by Kerry Webb featured Glenn's winning start in league play. He worked 6-2/3 innings and kept Oak Park well in check.

Ray Rowland's hit brought Glenn even in the sixth inning and he drove in another tally in the eighth as the two teams remained tied.

Then in the ninth, Rick Bergeron and Steve McCoy singled and both scored when Dennis Maloney tapped to the pitcher, who threw the ball away.

JOHN KLADZYK with help from Bob Sievert, who fanned five in three innings of work, picked up the victory for Stevenson, which now stands 6-1 on the season.

Stevenson scored once in the first inning when Chuck Sobczak doubled and Phil Camp singled. Tim DeWitt and Kladzyk collected hits for another run in the second. In the third, hits

by Camp and Jerry Dotter and two errors spelled two more Stevenson runs.

There were two out in the fourth when Glenn loaded the bases on walks to Andy Kamen

and Bill O'Connor and a single by Rick Martinez. Bergeron followed with a double to clear the sacks.

Len Anderson was the losing pitcher. He went the route.

Canadiens Roll Into Final

MONTREAL—The Montreal Canadiens were waiting again this week.

They were relaxing, waiting for Minnesota and St. Louis to decide the Western Division title and gain the dubious right of meeting the Canadiens for the Stanley Cup, hockey's highest award.

Montreal, which knocked out Boston in four straight in the first round of the playoffs, took care of Chicago in five games by ending the series with a 4-3 overtime victory Sunday afternoon.

Jacques Lemaire's second goal of the game, shortly after the first overtime began, decided the game. He sailed in from the blue line and hardly was touched.

Bobby Rousseau and J.C. Tremblay tallied the other Montreal goals. Bobby Schmidt, Stan Mikita and Wayne MacKie

Combine stellar pitching and with solid hitting and it's the big reason Redford Union High's baseball team has won nine straight without a loss and also jumped off to a 2-0 start in Suburban League play.

The Towlshippers tripped Plymouth, 9-3, in a battle of defending co-champs last Friday, when gained a 2-0 triumph over Allen Park by cutting off a desperate Parker rally in the last inning.

Trailing Plymouth with a 3-1 score in the sixth inning, Redford Union erupted for eight runs in the bottom of the sixth when 12 men went to bat.

Singles by Bill Howe and Kirk Taylor opened the outburst. An error and two flycatchers' choices put three more on base.

Then Fred Dunham singled. A walk, error, another single by Howe and an error putting Taylor aboard again helped RU add to its list.

The first RU tally had come in the third inning when Kevin Fox slammed a homer.

THAT'S THE WAY matters stood until the top of the sixth when two RU errors and a walk jammed the sacks for Plymouth.

Rick Fillmore quickly misadvised the bases with a double that put Plymouth ahead—but not for long.

Winning pitcher Dale Bjerkie allowed three hits, fanned six and walked two. Jeff Gillespie hurled well for Plymouth until the uprising in the sixth when Fillmore replaced him.

Tom Becker required last inning help from Bjerkie to blank Allen Park.

Redford Union had tallied both its runs in the second inning when Howe singled, took second on Taylor's sacrifice and scored on Jerry Cook's single.

Cook went to second on the throw and to third on an infield hit. After Becker walked, the two engineered a double steal, permitting Cook to score.

RU had threatened three times in the game, twice putting a man on third with none out.

Philip Brian, the brilliant seven-year-old from the Harry Mijal stable of Westland, is rapidly gaining recognition as the best of the pacers competing at Wolverine Raceway.

At least he'll do until something better comes along and it will have to be something good for Philip is at his absolute best at the moment as he demonstrated Saturday when he won his second straight \$6,000 Preferred Million Race.

A week ago, Driver Jim Merriam Jr. sent Philip to the Battery Paves

Way For 2-1

Sorrows Win

Greg Main, the pitcher, and John Perry, the catcher, sparked for Farmington Our Lady of Sorrows in a 2-1 victory over Oak Lake St. Mary's.

Main went the route and scattered four hits.

He also drove in one run while Perry knocked in the other for Sorrows, which now stands 2-0 in the Northwest Division of the Catholic League.

Booker didn't allow a hit until the sixth. It was the first safety off him in 13 innings of work. In his previous start he had tossed a no-hitter against Stevenson.

In the Allen Park seventh a walk and single with none

out sent Booker to the showers and brought in Bjerkie who got the side out with no damage.

The victory was Booker's third without a loss. Bjerkie has won four, lost none and saved two.

BENTLEY MADE its league record 1-1 by pulling out a

4-1 victory over Plymouth, now 0-2 in the loop.

Bentley bounced off to a 2-0 lead when Wayne Paulson doubled. Ken Gokowski was safe on an error. Paulson scored on Bill Rice's fly and Gokowski came in on an error.

In the third inning, Rice sing-

led, stole second, took third on a passed ball and scored on an error.

The final Bentley run was tallied in the fourth when Dave Reed and Paulson singled and Tim Malone bounced into a forceout.

The only Plymouth run was registered in the opening inning when Walt Lee walked and traced around of Rick Fillmore's double down the right field line.

Gokowski, the winning pitcher, gave up only three hits in picking up the victory for Bentley. Fillmore was the loser.

Reed turned in a blazer Monday in hurling Atlanta to a 7-2 victory over San Francisco. He didn't allow a hit until the seventh inning—retiring the first 20 men to face him.

PHIL REGAN had paid quick dividends for the Chicago Cubs, who landed him from Los Angeles last week. The ex-Tiger worked 10 1/3 innings and saved both ends of a doubleheader as the Cubs beat Houston, 4-4 and 5-2.

TALK ABOUT YOUR surprises in the American League—the Washington Senators stood 10-7 and in fourth place.

Manager Leo Durocher of the Chicago Cubs, noted for getting bounced out of games by umpires, didn't even make it to the first pitch in Saturday's battle with Houston.

The Lip became involved in a hassle on what is -- or isn't -- a spitball and received a chance to enjoy a very early shower.

A ROOKIE BY the name of Tom Kosman of the New York Mets already has posted four victories without a loss.

THE FORM SHEET in the National League is running according to the way the experts said. The St. Louis Cards, last year's winners, are off and running in high gear.

They took a 12-4 record to the West Coast this week.

REMEMBER RON REED, who quit the Detroit Pistons two seasons ago to cast his lot with professional baseball as a pitcher?

He's back in the game, and he's stayed there all the way. Most thought it was just because one of the others in the field were able to handle the dead track as well as Philip.

Then came another Saturday and the brown gelding turned the trick for the second straight time. This time the competition was a bit rougher for Craig Creed. The pride and joy of the Elmer Conrad stable of Corydon, Ind., was fit and ready as was Sudan's Comet.

ONCE AGAIN PHILIP took the lead, speeding to the quarter in :29.3 and the half in 1:02.2. Most of the crowd was waiting for Craig Creed and Sudan's Comet to make their moves in the backstretch.

Both did and each was challenging Philip in the drive to the wire. That's when Merriam flicked his whip and Philip went faster than ever, opening up more than a length over the fast closing Sudan's Comet in second place and Craig Creed in third.

The clocking of 2:04.2 was a fifth better than the time of the week before and was the fastest of the meeting.

Oak Grove, a six-year-old who is one of the most erratic trotters ever to compete at Wolverine, was on his good behaviour in his first starts Friday and made every post a winning one.

Oak Grove, owned by a Detroit area syndicate, moved in front from the gate and stayed there for the entire mile.

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It all came about when Fort Defiance, an 11-year-old making his first start in two years, stormed through on the rail to catch the leading Pastime Bomb at the wire.

Then Printer's Ink took the second dash and the daily double paid \$35.60 when combined with Ford Defiance and \$93.60 when tied up with Pastime Bomb.

Driver-Trainer-Owner Ivan Walters, of Gregory, Mich., has to have one of the bargains of the year. Ivan liked the performance of York, a five-year-old Clever Braden gelding so he made a cash deal with Grove Stiner and bought the pacer for \$800.

Then just to make sure of his purchase, he decided to try it himself for the first time as the new owner. Much to his surprise York romped away from his competition in a claiming pace and won by something like five lengths.

York paid \$24.60, started a daily double worth \$136.60 and netted Ivan \$500 as his share

of the purse.

Frontier Marshall, a six-year-old, became the first pacer to win three in a row in the cheaper class events when he captured a claiming handi-

cap pace in 2:11.3 with Clarence Ayotte in the cart.

The win gave Frontier Marshall a record of three wins, a second and a fifth in five starts at the track.

DISPLAYING the form that has made him the most talked-of high jumper in Michigan schoolboy circles is North Farmington's John Mann.

He hasn't even removed his sweat clothes here and still was almost up to six feet. John has an area record of 6'5" this season.

White Sox can't win?

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Blanks Champion Red Sox, 6-0

Oriole's Tom Phoebus Has No-Hitter

Tom Phoebus of the Baltimore Orioles carved the big time in baseball over the week-

end. He turned in a no-hit game as the Orioles blanked Boston, 6-0. He struck out nine and walked three and permitted only

one batter to reach first after the opening inning.

A great start by Brooks Robinson in the eighth inning helped Phoebus to achieve his record-book feat.

WHO SAYS THE Chicago

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