

Cleveland Wins American League Pennant

Habs Start Season With Good Goalie And Defence, Survey Shows

(By Bert Allen)
MONTREAL, Oct. 4 (CP)—Montreal Canadiens will start the season with a goaltender and a defence second to none in the National Hockey League, two of the highest scoring forwards in Elmer Lach and Maurice Richard, and a flock of question-mark veterans and rookies forwards.

The Canadiens will rise or fall on these "question-marks". If some come through as expected, then Canadiens figure to improve on last season when they finished fifth after four straight years on top of the heap.

To coach Dick Irvin, the wily, old-timer who missed the play-off last year for the first time in 19 years of handling N. H. L. teams, the club everyone has to look out for is the only one Canadiens finished ahead of last campaign—the Chicago Black Hawks.

What about the Toronto powerhouse Dick?

"Worried about the Maple Leafs' Hah" (Toronto manager) Conny Smythe was scared to death of us all last season and it'll even be worse this year. The club to beat? Well, I think that the team that's going to surprise everyone is Chicago."

Goalies Moan Over New Rink Layout At Detroit

DETROIT, Oct. 4 (CP)—As if the goaltenders didn't have enough troubles...

They introduced the new N.H.L. regulations for rink layout at the Detroit Olympia last night, and the boys who tend the nets don't think they're going to like it.

The rule calls for reduction of the distance behind the goal to the boards from 15 to 10 feet. To do this at the Olympia, they moved the boards out five feet and also cut the corners. Result is an egg-shaped rink.

"The ends of the rink used to be round, so you could clear the puck all the way out," said captain Syd Abel after last night's Detroit Red Wings exhibition game.

"Now they are egg-shaped. In the first period I tried to clear the puck all the way around from the right. Last year the puck would have cleared the back of the net and gone out past the blue line. But on this play it did a short loop around the point of the egg and came right out to the net between Harry Lumley's stick."

Lumley, Red Wings goalie, and Terry Sawchuk of the Indianapolis Caps were moaning about the change. As fast-moving as they are, they still can't get around quickly enough to catch those pucks before they get out in front of the net.

"It's like giving each team a fourth forward," lamented Lumley. "If they keep the boards like this, Olympia will be the hardest rink in the league in which to tend goal."

At least one tally in last night's game, won by Detroit 5-2 over Indianapolis, could be credited to the change.

Gordon Howe shot the puck behind the net and started across to recover it on the other side. Sawchuk slid with him but the puck came back out on the same side as the original shot. It went into the net off Howe's stick. Most of the 6,831 fans were mystified as to what happened.

Harris' Contract Is Not Renewed

NEW YORK, Oct. 4 (AP)—Stanley "Bucky" Harris' contract as manager of the New York Yankees was not renewed today.

The decision was reached at a conference involving Dan Topping, president of the club; George M. Weiss, general manager, and Harris.

The Yankee announcement said that "it was decided by mutual agreement that Harris' contract would not be renewed."

The announcement added that a successor would be named at a future date. Several men, none a Yankee player in 1948, are being considered.

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SPORTING NEWS

PAGE SIX THE GUARDIAN, CHARLOTTETOWN OCTOBER 5, 1948



IN THIS CORNER
 The Indians aren't a vanishing race so far as Cleveland is concerned. Chief Bill Veck and his Tribe did a neat job of scolding yesterday when they won the American League pennant from the Red Sox and moved into World Series play against Boston Braves.



End of the season (and maybe his baseball career) for one of the Boston Braves' top sluggers came on this home plate play at Ebbets Field. Outfielder Jeff Heath's ankle, already twisted grotesquely as he is tagged out by Dodger Catcher Capone, was broken as he tried to slide home from second base on a single in the sixth inning. Braves won the game, 4-3, but Heath's loss left them with only three outfielders and two power hitters for the World Series. (Photo by Harry Leder, NEA-Action staff photographer.)

It looks pretty much like an old-timer war for the world baseball championship with the opening game of the best of seven series slated for Bean Town tomorrow. Records show that Cleveland fans have waited some 28 years for their second American League pennant.

While Gene Bearden won the playoff pennant game in a nerve-rattling finish to an unprecedented event so far as the American League is concerned, not a single joy around the Tribe's home town centres these days around Bobby Feller. The fire ball ace is regarded as back in as good form as he ever was while blazing them past the junior league batters in past seasons. The closest observers believe he has hit his peak again and will hold it.

Most impressive of his recent performances was that three-hitter against Boston. They say he never was faster in any of his glittering displays of other years. Feller himself felt he was around tops on that occasion, and observers seemed all the more convinced by the way he treated the Red Sox much publicized "limp". There have been times when the Sox "got around" on Feller with considerable ease, but not in their last trip.

While on the subject of baseball it is expected that an effort will be made to round-up the City League this week or by the weekend depending on the vagaries of the weatherman. It is probable that the Anchors and Rovers will resume their best out of five series Wednesday afternoon. The Anchors have already a game advantage in the series.

Charlie Ryan while somewhat disappointed in the outcome of the junior series with Halifax Nationals was by no means discouraged. The Recce were capable of better ball and have turned in much better games during the season, he affirmed, the boys played on the same level as the Nationals, but the Recce was not outclassed as the scores would indicate.

While baseball is bowing out locally, football is about set to enter the sport pages. The weather has been anything but conducive to practice sessions and coaches are having their own difficulties in getting team members in shape. The season is all too short—six weeks at its longest—and players seem to be just hitting their peak when the curtain comes down.

Thanksgiving Day generally sees the opening of the gridiron sport here, but whether or not, there will be a football game on the campus and the College Athletic Association will meet in Truro Thursday to draft plans for the coming season. Football and hockey will soon be large on the agenda for St. Dunstan's, but all sports including basketball, tennis and track and field will be discussed. Rev. Walter McGuigan as faculty adviser and Elmer Murnaghan, representing the Athletic Association will attend.

Speaking of track and field sports, St. Dunstan's will stage their annual sports today. The field events will be staged this morning on the campus and the track events this afternoon commencing at 2:30 at the Memorial Field. The Saints have planned to build a new track around the football field, but work in its construction has been delayed.

Plans Not Definite For Intermediate Playoffs In N. S.

HALIFAX, Oct. 4 (CP)—Woodside Combines will meet Inverness for the Nova Scotia intermediate baseball championship in the Cape Breton town this week-end though plans are not definite.

Bruins' Frankie Brimsek Unwell

HERSHEY, Pa., Oct. 4 (CP)—Boston Bruins of the National Hockey League will wind up their training grind here without the services of veteran Frankie Brimsek in the net.

Final Standing In American League

NEW YORK, Oct. 4 (AP)—Final American League standings including today's Cleveland-Boston playoff game for the pennant.

Team	W	L	Games
Cleveland	57	58	115
Boston	56	59	115
New York	54	60	114
Philadelphia	54	70	124
Detroit	78	76	154
St. Louis	80	84	164
Washington	80	87	167
Chicago	51	101	152

Baseball's Big Six

(By The Associated Press)
 Three leaders in each league (final).

Player & Club	G	AB	R	H	Per.	Behind
Musial, Cards	135	611	125	230	37%	
Williams, R Sox	137	509	104	188	36%	
Boudreau, Ind.	132	560	116	196	35%	
Mitchell, Ind.	141	608	84	204	33%	
Ashburn, Phils.	117	463	78	154	33%	
Holmes, Braves	139	585	84	190	32%	

Runs batted in: American, Dimaggio, Yankees, 156; National, Musial, Cardinals, 131.
 Home Runs: American, Dimaggio, Yankees 30; National, Mitchell, Giants, and Kliner, Pirates 40.

WINNIPEG, Oct. 4 (CP)—Calgary Stampede were assured tonight of finishing on top of the Western Canada senior football conference following their 26-6 win over the second-place Winnipeg Blue Bombers. It was the Alberta Club's eighth consecutive victory this season in league play.

O'Brien Resigns Job With Castleton Farm

LEXINGTON, Ky., Oct. 4 (AP)—Joe O'Brien, 31-year-old New Glasgow, N.S., and Alberton, P. E. I., reinsman, today announced his resignation as second trainer for Castleton Farm.

Sudden Death Baseball Game Here Sunday

It was announced last evening that the winner of the current best out of three game series for the Physical Fitness baseball trophy in the South King's Baseball League would meet Wellington winner of the Prince County League, for the Island "B" intermediate title. The teams are scheduled to play a sudden-death encounter in Charlottetown on Sunday, Oct. 10.

Ostermueller Retires After 14 Years Pitching

PITTSBURGH, Oct. 4 (AP)—"Old Folks" Fritz Ostermueller today voluntarily retired after 14 years of pitching in the major leagues.

At his own request, the 41-year-old southpaw was released by Pittsburgh Pirates. He will return to his farm home near Quincy, Ill.

Fritz broke into the majors in 1934. He played with the Boston Red Sox and St. Louis Browns of the American League and Brooklyn and Pittsburgh in the National League. His lifetime record was 114 won against 115 losses.

He joined the Pirates in 1944 and won 49 while losing 42. This year his record was eight and 11.

"Old Folks," as he was called by his teammates, might have gone along pitching forever. His decision to return to life on the farm may have been influenced by an incident on a plane in St. Louis.

As Fritz told the story, the hostess, noting the familiar name of the passenger list and being somewhat of a baseball fan, gushed:

"Oh Mr. Ostermueller, did you come all the way to St. Louis to see your son pitch?"

Remember When

By The Canadian Press
 Fritz Zivic outpointed Henry Armstrong in a thrilling 15-rounder for the world's welter-weight boxing title at New York eight years ago today. Solving Armstrong's buzz-saw stance by backing away and dancing beautifully, the colorful Pittsburgher closed the Negro's eye early in the fight.

Remember When
 The American Indians used sunflower seed for bread and for thickening soup.

Crush Boston Red Sox 8-3 In Sudden Death Game For Flag

BOSTON, Oct. 4 (AP)—Cleveland's battling Indians loosed a searing home run barrage today behind stout-hearted five-hit pitching by lefty Gene Bearden to crush the Boston Red Sox 8-3, in a "sudden death" playoff for the American League pennant.

Two mighty blasts into the left field screen at Fenway Park by manager Lou Boudreau and a three-run homer by third baseman Ken Keltner high outside the orchard—all within the first five innings—gave the Tribe men a 5-0 lead by the end of the first inning. The Tribe won the pennant for the first time since 1920.

The Indians will oppose the Boston Braves in the fall classic beginning here Wednesday.

Bearden, 26, pitched his second complete game in three days and would have blanked the Sox sluggers for the last eight innings but for an error behind him by second baseman Joe Gordon in the sixth.

Led by Boudreau with his two circuit smashes and two line singles, the Indians bashed two Boston flingers. Danny McCarthy, Boston's ace, was driven to the showers by Keltner's homer, his 31st of the year. Kinder gave up the last eight Cleveland hits and four runs.

A crowd of just under 34,000 saw the Cleveland players put on a wild demonstration as they rushed for the dressing room after the final out.

Explosive was the word for the Tribe's attack. Boudreau's men arrived in town only at mid-morning, tired-eyed and thoroughly angry with themselves for having blown an apparently safe lead in the closing days of the race.

They took it out on McCarthy's curvers. Besides his homer, Keltner belted a double and a single against the left barricade. Larry Doby, Negro out-fielder, bounced a brace of doubles off the same wall.

Boudreau, at least for today, was the greatest manager in the game. The youthful pilot, in addition to his four base hits and three runs, fielded flawlessly and set a brilliant pattern for his men.

Three slick double plays helped Bearden wrap it up, but the willowy sumpster needed little assistance. His worst inning, as it turned out, was the fifth, which was riddled with errors. A double by an error behind him by second baseman Joe Gordon in the sixth.

After the sixth, the Sox were three on walks and Birdie Tebbets on a single through the left side of the infield.

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Cleveland Waited 28 Years For Second Pennant

CLEVELAND, Oct. 4 (AP)—Cleveland Indians' fans waited 28 years for their second American League pennant, but the present owners provided that championship in a little more than the years.

From the day he and a group of associates, including comedian Bob Hope, took over the club June 22, 1946, Bill Veck has concentrated on winning a pennant.

When the Indians were acquired by the new owners, their assets included an old league park property and two minor league clubs. Today the Indians have 19 farm clubs.

They moved out of old League Park with a seating capacity of 26,000, and leased mammoth Cleveland Stadium, which bulged with an all-time major league record crowd of 82,781 last June 20.

Veck brought in as coaches Bill McKechnie, who managed four pennant-winning National League clubs, and Harold (Muddy) Ruel, former manager of the St. Louis Browns and coach for 11 years with Chicago White Sox.

Mel Harder, who retired this year after 20 seasons as a pitcher for the Indians, also was given a job as coach. Hank Greenberg is listed as a club vice-president but he also is a part-time coach.

An idea of the scope of Veck's rebuilding efforts may be gleaned from the fact that only eight players who were with the Indians in 1946 are on the roster today.

He obtained second baseman Joe Gordon from the Yankees in exchange for pitcher Alie Reynolds. A deal Veck considers the best he ever made.

Southpaw hurler Gene Bearden was a baseball unknown when included in the deal that brought Hal Peck and Al Gettel (now with the White Sox) to the Tribe.

Veck purchased Larry Doby, the American League's first Negro player, from the Newark Eagles of the Negro National League. An infielder when he joined the Indians, he has become a fixture in the outfield.

Indians And Red Sox Divide Gate

BOSTON, Oct. 4 (AP)—The owners of Cleveland Indians and Boston Red Sox will divide 97 per cent of the approximately \$42,000 receipts of today's playoff game for the American League pennant, in contrast to the World Series, where the players collect the largest part of the money in the first four games and the clubs don't share until later, today's game was entirely between the two clubs.

The American League takes its regular three-per-cent cut of the net receipts.

Opposes Idea Of Wearing Red While Hunting

By Rae Corell

HALIFAX, Oct. 4 (CP)—For innumerable years, hunting seasons have opened across the country. When they do, hunters—who are bred to people with inflexible faith in their own immortality—head for the woods bedecked in red. The brighter the red, the better.

Red is supposedly the hunters' passport. It will prevent him from becoming a target for an eagle-eyed, bird-brained fellow woodsman intent on taking home a prize, be it moose or squirrel.

The bright flash of color will stay a hunter's finger on the trigger. These, then, are purportedly the life-saving powers of red, the color which infuriates a bull, but returns a fanatic hunter to sanity.

But there is one firm, immovable, unshakable sportsman who believes all this bunk about wearing red in the woods—is bunk.

In a letter to the Halifax Mail, Gordon Baker of Bedford, N. S., says:

"The writer... is far from alone in the opinion that the 'wear red' hunting season slogan is not only dangerous, but has actually been the indirect cause of serious, if not fatal, accidents in the woods."

He continues: "No one has the right to discharge a high-powered rifle at any object which he cannot identify positively, be it red, black or white, and no hunter has the right to fire on a partially screened object simply because no red is showing."

Giving vent to a host of pent up feelings on the matter, Mr. Baker explodes: "So why, then, encourage criminal negligence by giving some rattlebrains the idea they are safe if the object doesn't wear red?"

"This gentleman, far from being a non-constructive heckler of custom, offers his 'hunting license' vice from

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