

Spartan Runners Place in Finals

The Fearless Spectator



By

Charles McCabe, Esquire

I must say, I'm pretty dispirited by this depressing drive toward mediocrity of the New York Mets. Under Casey Stengel.

The Mets have been winning ball games. This, in their special circumstances, could be fatal.

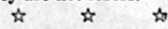
For the first time in the club's history—which goes all the way back to 1962—they're not in the National League cellar.

They could wind up eighth or sixth or something in the final league standings. Which would find your correspondent inconsolable, I can tell you.

As of now the Marvelous Mets have given up their coveted position as the losingest outfit in the history of baseball. One might say by default.

They are in ninth place, instead of their usual cozy situation—tenth, and last: In tenth place are the Houston Colt 45s (glorious name, what?) in what can only be described as a stunning upset.

The Mets, which are owned by Jock Whitney's sister and managed, to strain a usage, by Casey Stengel, are nothing if they are not losers.



Around the misfortunes of the Mets has cluttered a constellation of us here losers.

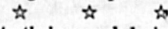
We didn't believe any team in any league anywhere could lose 120 games in a season. But the Mets, in their time at bat, achieved this staggering sink. And became a model and cynosure for losers everywhere.

If the Mets could do it, we all told ourselves, what is there to prevent us from achieving such depths?

This disconcerting and dispossessed imitation of a ball team was a constant source of inspiration to the bereft of the world, those admirable laddies who work like hell in a bank while the old lady is carrying on with an unemployed tuba player with sideburns.

Us here losers felt we had everything going for us as long as the Polo Grounds residents continued to be misplaced, misbegotten and unloved by the undiscriminating majority.

They were our shield and our safeguard against the comfort and complacency of those who had made it, those bums a rung or two up on the ladder above us.



In addition to their superb losing ability the Mets proved to us dramatically what we had long suspected: that winning has nothing whatever to do with talent.

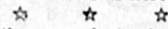
Stengel was the hottest thing since Mme. de Stael when he was running the Yankees. In 12 years with the club he managed them to 10 American League pennants and seven world championships. He made John McGraw look like a Little Leaguer.

He went with the Mets, and we saw Stengel in his true colors. A loser like the rest of us. The contagion of the new breed got to him.

At the Polo Grounds Stengel was only a mile or two from the scene of his greatest triumphs—the Yankee Stadium, across the Harlem River.

In the short space of a year, Casey was transmogrified from the greatest manager in baseball to the loudest manager in baseball. Which might tell us all a little about how important managers are in baseball.

And it was the Mets that did it all. A little bonfire was lighted in the hearts of us here losers.



So long as they were in tenth place, or absolute rock bottom, we were okay. We felt secure. It is only in the past few weeks that we have realized how false our sense of security was.

There's an admirable saloon I frequent. I like almost everything about it; but especially I like the motto which for years has hung gracefully above the cash register.

"Whatever you are, be a good one," it says. That's the way I feel about the Mets. None of this ninth-place detritus. If you're gonna be a loser, lose. That's what I always say.

CYCLES COMPETE

Ascot Schedules Holiday Feature

The flying motorcycle riders switch dates this coming week at Ascot Park, Gardena, with Neil Keen, Sammy Tanner, Al Gunter & Co. blazing around the half-mile oval Wednesday nights and the twist and turn steepchasing going over the jumps Friday night.

Racing director J. C. Agajian explained the switch as a safety factor for the 276 riders who'll be in the banner holiday week twin cycle bill. The flat-trackers use the entire half-mile saucer for their broadsliding and will have a fresh surface Wednesday night.

Forty-two men who work eight hours a day in the cold cellars of a Minnesota brewery haven't had a cold since they went on the job, the company physician reports. The snuffle-free periods range from nine to 31 years.

to their regular Friday night competition on June 7. There's one more change—Dick Dorresteyn, Sid Payne, Skip Van Leeuwen, Dave Bostrom, Jack Simmons and TT mates start competition Friday night at 8 p.m. rather than 8:30.

This is due to the whopping entry list of 162 riders, Agajian said, and to give every rider a chance to go over the jumps.

Wednesday night's flat track races start at the regular 8:30 p.m. kickoff with qualifying at 7 p.m.

Spikers End Season With Prime Efforts

Brilliant clutch performances netted South High's Harry Ruitermann a third place in the B shot put and Wes Fox a fourth in the C 660 in the CIF track finals Friday night at Cerritos College. Competing against the finest spike performers in Southern California, the two Spartans distinguished themselves among a host of distinguished athletes by bettering their previous best marks and Fox set a new South High record.

Tordondo Yanks Nudge Two Foes

Despite a shortage of players due to injuries, the Tordondo Little League posted a pair of triumphs the past week, whipping the Dodgers, 2-1, and taking a 6-4 nod from the White Sox.

Against the Dodgers, all-purpose Yankee performer Dean Gibson threw one-hit ball and tallied the first Yank run with a fence-clearing blast. Gibson chalked up 15 strike outs.

Only Bob Hibbard connected off Gibson and the lone Dodger run came via the walk route.

Unbeaten Sox Snare Ruth Lead

Remaining undefeated and stepping into the Pacific American Babe Ruth League lead, the Red Sox hung a 5-3 defeat on the Athletics over the weekend.

Winning hurler Dale Reis also hit a home run as the Red Sox boosted their record to 4-0 while the Athletics were dropping to second at 3-1.

Steve French and Gordon Mossman combined to pace the Tigers to a 15-6 triumph over the Orioles. French whiffed 11 men as he evened his record at 1-1 and also slapped a double.

Mossman went three for three at the dish and his bat sent three runs scampering across the plate.

For the losers, Joe Derdowski did his share with three safeties in four times at bat. Derdowski collected three runs-batted-in, and hit a double.

The Tigers and Orioles are now tied for third with 2-2 marks while the Yankees and Indians are in the cellar with 0-2 records.

A come-through performer all season long, Ruitermann unleashed a 54-6½ put for his third place finish, topping his previous best effort by more than two feet.

RUITERMANN's record-shattering effort came on the third of his four allowed tries as he blasted across the shot put ring, all but ignoring the chance of fouling.

Previously, Ruitermann's best effort was 52-2½, set in the Inglewood Relays.

Fox, running what South coach Dick Scully termed a "brilliant race," led a rapid 660 field at the three-quarter mark before slipping to fourth place.

A sophomore, Fox turned in a 1:24.8 clocking to erase his previous best of 1:25.3 that he turned in when qualifying for the Southern Section finals.

THE B SHOT put was won at 57-4½ while a time of 1:23.4 walked off with top honors in the C 660.

Both Fox and Ruitermann are Bay League champions in their respective events.

A DISASTEROUS spill in the final relay cost power-packed Muir High a chance of winning the varsity crown and allowed Long Beach Poly, a perennial track king, to walk off with the championship.

Centennial barely edged Santa Ana in the B division for the crown while Notre Dame easily conquered the C opposition to take the title.

On Varsity mark was recorded as Arcadia's Tracy Smith, a last minute entrant after a disqualification in the semi-finals, set a new mile mark of 4:12.6, bettering the old standard of 4:15.1 set last year by Bruce Bess, now a freshman at USC.

IT WAS LEFT up to two C performers, however, to provide the real excitement. Colton's Rick Felix edged Montebello's George Husarak in the 1320, setting a new CIF record of 3:05.5. The old C mark was 3:08.5 set by Husarak in the semi-finals, and both boys ran under the B record of 3:08.1.

TORRANCE HERALD Sports

GREGG PETERSON, Sports Editor MAY 26, 1963

EVENT	TIME NAME	PLACE DATE
50 YD FREE STYLE	1:28 J. GRABAN	STATE CHAMP REC 5/6/62
100 YD FREE STYLE	2:58 J. GRABAN	STATE CHAMP REC 5/6/62
200 YD FREE STYLE	5:54 J. GRABAN	STATE CHAMP REC 5/6/62
50 YD BREAST	1:32 J. GRABAN	STATE CHAMP REC 5/6/62
100 YD BREAST	3:08 J. GRABAN	STATE CHAMP REC 5/6/62
200 YD BREAST	6:41 J. GRABAN	STATE CHAMP REC 5/6/62
50 YD BUCKLE	1:32 J. GRABAN	STATE CHAMP REC 5/6/62
100 YD BUCKLE	3:08 J. GRABAN	STATE CHAMP REC 5/6/62
200 YD BUCKLE	6:41 J. GRABAN	STATE CHAMP REC 5/6/62
50 YD BUTTERFLY	1:32 J. GRABAN	STATE CHAMP REC 5/6/62
100 YD BUTTERFLY	3:08 J. GRABAN	STATE CHAMP REC 5/6/62
200 YD BUTTERFLY	6:41 J. GRABAN	STATE CHAMP REC 5/6/62
50 YD MIXED	1:32 J. GRABAN	STATE CHAMP REC 5/6/62
100 YD MIXED	3:08 J. GRABAN	STATE CHAMP REC 5/6/62
200 YD MIXED	6:41 J. GRABAN	STATE CHAMP REC 5/6/62
50 YD RELAY	1:32 J. GRABAN	STATE CHAMP REC 5/6/62
100 YD RELAY	3:08 J. GRABAN	STATE CHAMP REC 5/6/62
200 YD RELAY	6:41 J. GRABAN	STATE CHAMP REC 5/6/62

NEW ADDITIONS . . . El Camino College swimmer Cappy Sheeley displays a pleased grin as he points to his new college records listed inside the Warrior pool building. Sheeley now holds national records for both the 220-yard butterfly and the 400-yard individual medley after he singly led El Camino to a seventh place finish in the recent State swimming championships. The Warrior sophomore is an All-American high school swimmer from Hawaii.

McCormack Sparks Braves To Initial National Triumph

Clutch pitching and first degree base stealing by Dick McCormack paced the Torrance National League Braves to a 5-4 victory over the Cubs. With the bases loaded and two out in the sixth frame, McCormack saved the game for the Beavers by chalking up his ninth strike out of the contest. McCormack then came on to win the tilt by walking, and stealing all the way home in the sixth stanza. Terry Walters sent 12 men

down swinging, but gave up seven hits as McCormack took the win by spinning a three hitter and whiffing nine batsmen.

THE POWER-LADEN Minor League Yankees erupted for a pair of wins, one a 27-9 triumph over the Cards. Although the Yanks picked up only eight hits, nine Cardinal errors proved extremely costly.

Fifteen Yank runs came across in the fifth frame, accompanied by only two hits, but by five Card miscues. The Yanks also committed 13 errors.

IN A MORE refined game, the Yankees posted an 8-6 win over the Braves as Mike Schumaker threw a six hitter, whiffing 11 men.

THE BRVES bounced back for a 9-5 triumph over the Dodgers and a 7-5 triumph over the Angels.

THE WIN over the Dodgers was sparked by the base stealing of John Secondo. Secondo doubled in the sixth inning, stole third base, and tallied the winning run on a wild pitch.

Don Beck and Dan Nolan split pitching duties for the Braves while Pat Leu went all the way for the losers.

ALTHOUGH Ron Linde outperformed Bart Lehon, the Braves earned a 7-5 duke from the Angels. Linde gave up only three hits and fanned nine while Lehon allowed seven bingles and struck out eight.

The Cubs had a rough go, dropping two contests while winning only one. The Cubs took a 14-7 win from the Angels at Jerry Pregel whiffed 10 men although giving up nine hits.

A SEVEN-RUN fourth inning by the Giants cost the Cubs a 9-7 defeat as Don Cook took the mound nod. The Dodgers' Dick Hayer flipped a five-hitter and his club took a 16-8 nod from the Cubs.

Coming up with one run in the final frame, the Giants took an 8-7 nod from the Phillies. Frank Maynard and John Rozhon teamed to take the mound win from Kelly Huston and Larry Hoover.

Speedway Slates Twin Bill Today

Western Speedway will stage a super modified and jalopy double header this afternoon in preparation for the California Jalopy Ass'n's annual Memorial Day stick car race on Wednesday.

Bill Foster, 1962 CJA stick car champ, will top a sterling line-up of drivers at the Gardena oval in the super modified division.

Time trials start at 1 p.m. followed by the first race at 2:30 p.m.

OTHER POTENT chauffers in the super modified class include three-time main event winner George Durado and three-time CJA champ Jim Roessler. Topping the jalopy division pilots will be point leader Don Harrison and Kenney Hall of Torrance.

Two former NASCAR late model car champs, Lloyd Dane and Ed Gray, head the list of entries for the Memorial Day feature.

QUALIFYING for the nine-event card, which will be topped by a 40-lap main event, gets underway promptly at 6

Nine Earn Recognition At Banquet

Nine young athletes took home awards recently from the sixth annual eighth grade Sports Award Dinner at St. Lawrence Martyr School in Redondo Beach.

Awards were presented to Joan Schneider, volleyball; Monica Ryan, Terry Goebel, and Richard Pinto, basketball; Gail Nestlerode and Bill Brady, softball; Joseph Atwill, football; Donna Davis, outstanding girl athlete; and Jay Crawford, outstanding boy athlete.

Honored guests included Rt. Msgr. Daniel P. Collins, the Rev. John O'Byrne, the Rev. Eugene Buhr, Tina Douglas, girls' athletic director; Pat Edwards, boys' athletic director, and guests speakers Gil Smith, publicity director for the Los Angeles Lakers, and John Joseph swimming coach at Santa Monica City College.

SLO-PITCH RESULTS

- TUESDAY LEAGUE
Unproductables 7, Fire Fighters 5
Mobil #13, Warriors 7
Touchables 5, King Pipe 1
WEDNESDAY LEAGUE
Edison Co. 6, Rose Bud Dairy 4
Fire Fighters 5, Falcons 0
Computer Science Corp. 8, Mobil #24
THURSDAY LEAGUE
Torrance Bears 12, Local #2147 0
St. Johns 7, South Torrance Lions 3
St. Lawrence 4, Redondo Angels 2
Torrance Optimists 10, King's Men 0
Park Dept. 6, Throwaways 4
South Bay Church of God 14, Los Caracols 2
OPEN SOFTBALL
Torrance Bears 12, Local #2147 0
Magnavox over Laven Insurance (forfeit)
INDUSTRIAL SOFTBALL
AI Research 16, Harbor Hornets 0
Harvey Aluminum 21, R. C. Mahon 0
Mobil Oilers 12, Vickers 6
Soule Steel 2, South Bay Church of God 0
- DAILY DELUXE PARLOR BUS SERVICE TO HOLLYWOOD PARK**
Leaves Cabrillo & Carson St., 12:18 p.m.
Leaves Cabrillo & Torrance Bl., 12:30 p.m.
Leaves Crenshaw & Torrance Bl., 12:35 p.m.
Leaves Crenshaw & 190th, 12:52 p.m.
ROUND TRIP FARE \$1.50
For Further Information Call DA 6-6688, Eve: TE 3-5673
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