



Charley's Chatter

By Charley Ross

Excitement Prevails on Pro Baseball Scene

The big buzz in local sports circles is the Newark Co-Pilots assuming this name is adopted by the Newark-Wayne Community Baseball Club come opening game at Geneva on June 22. It seems that every sports fan we have come in contact with is as excited as we are in the debut of professional baseball in Newark.

Newark will receive more national publicity than the Fox Sisters (don't knock them, dearie) or roses ever gave our bustling town. We wouldn't know what advantage would be derived from such national recognition but the Newark dateline will appear on every sports page once the NY-Penn League swings into action a week hence. Baseball periodicals will carry stories on the Co-Pilots who are scheduled to make their Newark inaugural against Auburn on June 25.

The signing of "Sibby" Sisti as manager and Sal "The Barber" Maglie as pitching instructor means the Seattle club, a 1969 expansion team in the American League, is touching all the bases in providing Newark with experienced personnel in supervising its young players and major league players of tomorrow.

We just can't believe that names like Sisti and Maglie will soon make the baseball scene in Newark. They're usually available for the banquet circuit, but not this summer, fans. They'll be doing their talking at Colburn Park and in the other parks in the 8-team league this summer.

"Sibby" and "The Barber" will have many a story to tell in the dugouts or wherever they decide to turn back the pages in their illustrious baseball careers. We can't wait to hear Sal tell of his experiences in the Mexican League or with the Giants, Cards, Dodgers, Yankees, Red Sox and Cleveland Indians. "Sibby" should have a field day going back to his days as an infielder with the Boston and Milwaukee Braves.

Race Track Opens Meet Next Wednesday

Ed Moore, writing from one of the stalls at the nearby Finger Lakes Race Track in Farmington, reminds the \$2 bettors, as well as the plangers, that the upstate thoroughbred racing season will be ushered in at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, May 22. Race Secretary Jack Klucina apparently isn't concerned over a lack of horses. Moore tells us that all available stalls at the elaborate race plant have been allocated and the wires are hot with requests for stabling accommodations in the event of cancellations.

Recent arrivals have pushed the equine population above the 500 mark and nearly 1,000 runners will be on the grounds by opening day. There is an unusual amount of activity along the backstretch as training moves in full momentum. Horsesmen who have visited their horses over the past few days according to publicist Moore, that Superintendent Ken Bove and his crew have the "strip in the post" condition ever.

We can just visualize the horse fans rushing to get down their Daily Double bet before they're shut out at the wigwags. The excitement will be just as tense after the last race. The railbirds want to get home as fast as they can to count their winnings or look for another piggy bank to tap for the next day's program.

Harness racing and the "flats" don't mix as everyone knows. They're as far apart as the power boat and sail boat enthusiasts are on Sodus Bay. Batavia Downs recently concluded its spring meeting and it's interesting to note that the fifth post position was the most productive, accounting for 77 wins in the 491 races, followed by the No. 4 spot with 74 wins. The choice No. 1 or pole position rated no better than third with 64, and only once during the entire meet did the No. 1 horse win the second race to complete the daily double.

Golf Guide Lists 260 Courses in State

Bob Wolk's recent comments on the possibility of building an 18-hole layout at Ray Beckens' Marbletown holdings must have stirred up a hornet's nest.

Our "Roberto" may know whereof he speaks, golf nuts. "Golf Courses in New York State," just off the press, is a directory of more than 260 courses open to the greens-fee golfer in New York. Courses are springing up all over the state. The directory tells us that there are more golf courses in New York than in any other state. Some sources estimate that there are more than 700.

The book lists 260 golf facilities that welcome public play. They are classified as: commercial courses, resort hotel courses open to greens-fee golfers, municipal links, courses in state and county parks and private clubs open to visiting golfers upon payment of a greens fee.

The 1968 golf booklet groups the 260 courses into 11 vacation areas with each containing an alphabetical listing of the course, its general location and facilities available. Listed facilities include caddies, caddy carts and riding carts. Greens fees, yardage and rated par for each course are also recorded in the golfing guide-book.

The average New York State 18-hole course is a 6,000-yard challenge. However, courses in the booklet range from a 9-hole, 550-yard layout in East Rochester, to an 18-hole, 7,672-yard giant at Kiamasha Lake. A 72 par for 18 holes is norm on New York courses, but par at some clubs is as low as 54 to 60.

Fees, in general, average \$3 for 9-hole courses and from \$4 to \$5 for 18-hole courses that have more elaborate facilities and conveniences. While golf originated on the Scottish highlands during the 14th century, the game has played a significant part in Empire State history.

The sport actually made its American debut during the mid-17th century on the streets of Albany. However, at the time, the Sunday golfer's greens fees were paid in fines to the Dutch-controlled courts rather than the golf course.

Free Ride on Sports Merry-Go-Round

Mrs. Alberta E. Crowe of Liverpool, president of the Woman's International Bowling Congress since 1960, has been named the recipient of the 15th annual Distinguished Industry Service Award of the Bowling and Billiard Institute of America. Widow of Pat Crowe, Mrs. Crowe was cited for her untiring efforts to promote the sport of bowling and in guiding the world's largest woman's sports organization. Previous winners of the award are J. Edgar Hoover, Willie Mosconi, Joe Wilman, Jackie Gleason and the late Mort Luby.

Just after we had gone on record that Coach Dick Phillips' young school nine would never blow a 7-run lead again, we learn that Victor came up with eight runs in the last three innings to wipe out the seven runs scored by Newark in the first four innings. Hang in there, fellows. They'll start dropping for you and we don't mean fly balls. Ed Swartele out-fought a 133-pound sailfish that measured just two inches short of 10 feet during a recent trip to Acapulco. Ferry Lootens, high jumper on Coach Gary Miller's fine field and track team, suffered a blow over the right eye from a golf club in a gym class. The cut required 10 stitches to close. Waterloo Central has no running track. The coach is fighting for a cinder track. We can remember when Newark didn't have one. We stand to be corrected. NCS used to hold its meets on the cinder paths in Perkins Park and if that's a track then the 440 is run on stilts. We're sorry to see Gordon Bascom leave Newark for Hilton in more ways than one. He's not only an excellent band instructor and tennis coach but an authority on public relations. And Newark is letting him get away from us! We can't believe it. What has happened to the plans to form a slow-pitch softball league in Newark?

'Sibby' Sisti to Manage Newark Co-Pilots

Sebastian "Sibby" Sisti, former major league infielder, yesterday was signed by the Seattle Pilots to manage their Newark farm club in the New York-Pennsylvania League this summer. It was announced by John Bilotta, club official.

The former major leaguer was signed over the weekend by the Seattle Pilots as a "swing" minor league manager. Western New York scout and infield instructor for the entire Pilot organization, according to General Manager Marvin Milkes.

The Newark-Wayne Community Baseball Club, Inc. signed a working agreement a week ago with the Seattle Pilots for the 1968 season. Seattle, which will be one of the two expansion clubs in the American League in 1969, will stock the Newark club with college and high school players selected in the June draft.

Milkes, in his announcement from the West Coast, said he was elated over the signing of the 48-year-old Buffalo native.

"In signing Sisti," he said, "we obtained a dedicated baseball man, who will manage some of our fine youngsters, be invaluable in our development program as an infield instructor, and will probably be a manager in our Winter Instructional Program in Tempe, Ariz., when we commence to sign young players. His background as an infielder for 14 1/2 years in the major leagues plus his tenure as a minor league manager for five years, certainly qualifies him for a position in our growing organization."

Sisti, whose baseball career spans nearly three decades, signed with the Boston Braves organization in 1938 at the age of 17. He batted 293 and 312 with Hartford in the Eastern League before being called up to the Braves in the middle of the 1939 season. Sisti performed for the Braves through the 1942 season and after a 3-year hitch in the Coast Guard he came back strong as he clubbed American Association pitching for a league-leading 343 mark at Indianapolis. He was named by the Sporting News in 1946 as Minor League Player of the Year.

Sisti, who was to play every position with the Braves except pitching and catching, was a fixture with the Boston then Milwaukee Braves from 1947 through 1954. Primarily a second baseman and shortstop, Sisti was at one time considered "emergency" third string catcher, but such an emergency never materialized.

"Sibby," a member of the pennant-winning Boston Braves of 1948, hit for a career average of .244 in 1,007 big league games. He was released then reassigned as a coach by Milwaukee in 1954.

His managerial credits include a playoff-winning effort with the Quebec Club in 1955, followed by a pennant winner in 1958 at Corpus Christi. He finished



HOW TO BUNT—Newark Jayvee Coach Jack Burch demonstrates proper way to hold bat when bunting in workout. From left—Dave Johnson, Tom Hausman, Ed Dean, Coach Burch, William Clark and Steve Pelis.

fifth at Austin in 1957, sixth at Jacksonville in 1959 before leaving the organization in 1960. A roving infield instructor with the Phillies in 1960-61, Sibby was in self-imposed retirement from baseball until 1966 when he joined his home-town Buffalo Bisons of the International League as a coach in 1968-67.

Sisti's popularity is evidenced by his selection by Boston sports writers in 1967 as the first recipient of an annual award honoring former Brave players. Sisti was a teammate of both Joe Adcock, Seattle Angel manager, and Seattle-area product Earl Torgeson while with the Braves.

It is expected that Sisti will make his debut with the Newark club which is scheduled to play its first game in the NY-Penn League at Geneva on June 25.

Victor Lusk's superintendent of public works yesterday inspected the Colburn Park facility which must be "turned around" in 30 working days before opening game. Home plate will be moved to the left field corner with the right field line extending to where home plate is now and the left field line running toward the 330-foot marker in right-center field.

The Village Board has appropriated the sum of \$5,000 for park improvements with a check for \$650 received from the Newark Community Boosters Club to pay for the rest of erecting dugouts.

John Bilotta, chairman of the Board of Directors, said interest in the Co-Pilots was mounting with several fans already asking for season tickets. Stock will soon be sold to the public.

Track Team Posts 7th Straight Win

Dennis Johnson continued to pick up first places in the dashes and long jump as Newark Central posted a 77 to 41 win over a young Waterloo team here last Friday.

The Newark athlete sped to a victory in the 100-yard dash, copped the broad jump and anchored the winning 880-yard relay team for Coach Gary Miller's undefeated field and track team.

Co-Capt. Howard Synesael and Alan Kerr, sophomore miler, did not compete in the meet due to illness. The Newark squad ran its season's record to seven wins and no losses.

An all-freshman mile medley team from Waterloo set a new track record in this event in the time of 4:03.

Results: 180-yard low hurdles—Won by Proseus (N); Palmer (N), second; S. Ward (W), third. Time, 23.5.

100—Won by Johnson (N); Brooks (W), second; Cooley (W), third. Time, 11.4.

220—Won by Brooks (W); Klick (N), second; Cooley (W), third. Time, 24.8.

440—Lukas (N) and H. Ward (W), tied for first; Radl (N), third. Time, 57.4.

880—Won by Munn (N); Waters (W), second; McParland (N), third. Time, 2:12.5.

Mile—Won by Rosad (W); Contarie (N), second; VanCamp (N), third. Time 5:11.5.

2-mile run—Won by Gorall (N); Schoemaker (W), second; Tavano (N), third. Time, 11:21.

Pole vault—Won by Hubbard (N); VandenBout (N), second; Nadeau (W), third. Height, 9 feet 6 inches.

Shot put—Won by Fratto (W); Chelminski (N), second; Follette (N), third. Distance, 43 feet 7 inches.

Broad jump—Won by Johnson (N); Liddick (N), second; DiCicco (W), third. Distance 18 feet 9 1/2 inches.

High jump—Won by Lootens (N); DiCicco (W), second; Klick (N), third. Height, 5 feet 6 inches.

Triple jump—Won by Liddick (N); Langenstein (N), second; Rohrer (N), third. Distance, 37 feet 8 1/2 inches.

Mile medley—won by Waterloo (Pierson, Tumbolo, Buschhoff and Dorn). Time, 4:03 (new track record).

880-yard relay—Won by Newark (Proseus, Klick, Liddick and Johnson). Time, 1:45.



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SOFTBALL PRACTICE

Girls' softball practice will be held Friday at 3:30 p.m. and Saturday at 1:15 p.m. at Perkins Park, according to Coach Alex Elish of the Newark Community Center.

Tennis Team Defeats Clyde In County Match

The Newark Central School tennis team won its 45th straight match over a 3-year period last Wednesday by defeating Clyde Central, 2 to 1, on the local courts.

Doug Freelove remained unbeaten in the first singles as he disposed of Dan Ketchum in straight 6-0 sets while Jack Cowles was bowing to Greg Dennis in 4-6, 7-5 and 3-6 sets.

Coach Gordon Bascom's doubles team of Tom Chappell and Jim Weiler turned back Tom Marco and Ken Sontheim, 6-1 and 6-0, to protect Newark's perfect slate.

The NCS netmen will engage Wayne Central at Ontario Center tomorrow afternoon and on May 20 will play host to Leavenworth Central of Wolcott, Newark will meet Pal-Mac in the second match of the season between the two clubs at Palmyra on May 22. Coach Bascom's team shut out the Pal-Macs, 3 to 0, in the first match of the season.

Newark, N.Y. Courier-Gazette Thursday, May 16, 1968

Undefeated Tennis Team Turns Back Williamson, 3-0

Newark's undefeated tennis team blanketed Williamson, 3 to 0, to remain at the top of the standings in the County Tennis League.

Doug Freelove defeated Cooney in straight 6-0 sets. Newark's first point with DePolice besting Frazer 6-2 and 6-1 in the second games.

Newark's doubles team of Tom Chappell and Jim Weiler turned back Jack Marco and Reggie Cook, two members of Williamson's crack ball team last winter, 6-1 and 6-4.

Braves Belt Giants In Little Loop Fray

The Braves belted the Giants 15 to 6, in a Little League last Wednesday. John Santoro, shortstop, led four runs for the winners who erupted for seven in the fourth inning. Keith scattered six hits for the Braves. Chris Der Cola had two for the Giants.

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