

Lip Tells Slow-Footed Giants to Run-- and They Run Into Peck of Trouble

Three Thrown Out at Plate, Others Picked Off Base; Kid Pitchers Impress

By KEN SMITH

PHOENIX, Ariz.



Gall Henley

The same old Giants started where they left off last season, bashing the stuffing out of the ball, but letting in runs faster than they could score them. They averaged just a fraction more than six runs and 12 hits per game against the Cleveland Indians in their first four contests, but the New York pitchers were tagged for a homer per game and averaged more than seven bases on balls each afternoon.

Thanks to their vaunted power at bat, they twice forced their perennial rivals into extra innings with late rallies. On March 15, they paraded five runs across the platter on a half dozen hits in the seventh inning.

However, it was just like walking on a treadmill—the Giants didn't get anywhere. In one game they walked eight Indians in two overtime innings. In another, Andy Tomasic served up a home run ball to Ray Murray to lose in the tenth.

To strengthen their keystone, Horace Stoneham brought up Bob Hofman from Sioux City. But no sooner did he join the club than he was bitten by the Polo Grounds virus of good hit, no field. The young second baseman lambasted seven hits in his first 16 times at bat to lead the club up to that point. But he was slow on the bases and around the keystone.

Get Tagged for Speeding

Leo Durocher even tried to get his team running, but three runners were picked off base in the first two exhibitions and in the first four games, three New Yorkers were thrown out at the plate and another was cut down at second base. With Johnny Mize, Walker Cooper, Sid Gordon, Willard Marshall and Hofman in the batting order, speed cops will not have to patrol the Polo Grounds.

The factor that really counts in spring training is what kind of stuff and control a pitcher exhibits, not the number of hits and runs he allows. Nevertheless, the figures on the Giant pitching staff were so generally poor in the first four games that it required an optimist to locate much hope for 1949 improvement.

Most of the young hurlers were welcomed by the Cleveland batters, particularly Roger Bowman, Ken Van-

Mize Cuts Down on Calories to Add More Weight to Blows

By JOE KING

Of the New York World-Telegram

PHOENIX, Ariz.

Lon Warneke, the new National League umpire who is breaking in with the Giants, remarked the other day that John Mize kept in marvelous shape for a man of his size, and that it could hardly be an easy job to do. Not easy at all, unless you are Mize and have many years of self-discipline behind you. As you might suspect, the recipe is a strict diet and lots of running.

Mize weighs in at 235 each day, and scales about 229-230 after his workout. If he ate what he liked he would balloon up to 250 and out of the league in a short while.

Johnny takes only two meals. At breakfast he drinks a large glass of citrus juice, eats three soft-boiled eggs, and has coffee with cream, but no sugar. At night, say about 7:00, Mize orders roast beef or steak, sometimes with a baked potato, and iced tea and lemon. He never eats dessert, soup, bread, butter, sugar, fried foods.

So you can see it takes will-power to be a homer king at 36. Frank Bowman, club trainer, claims Mize is just about down to playing weight now, and that he is in better shape—regarding suet-shedding—than some of the younger men.

Johnny hopes to put this fighting weight to use in breaking the two-year home run tie he holds with Ralph Kiner. "I would like to go for homers," he says, "unless the pitchers all pitch me outside, and then I have to go with them. There is no percentage trying to pull outside pitching."

Mize tries only to meet the ball in training. When the season opens he likes to feel he is ready to "handle the ball," that is, put wood to it and come around on it. John uses a 36-ounce bat most of the season, but he has stowed six of his best 33-35-ounce models of '48 at his De Leon Springs home in Florida. The lighter bats are used against extremely speedy pitchers, or in intense heat when muscles drag, or in the second games of double-headers.

Mize will pass the 300 mark when he hits his third homer this season. And even though he slumped under 300 for the first time in his pro career last year, with 289, his lifetime mark is still a lordly 324. Whatever you may say about his fielding, Mize is truly one of the all-time classic hitters.



Johnny Mize

gilder, Les Klesitz, Mario Picon and Tomasic. Dave Koslo, Larry Jansen, Sheldon Jones and Andy Hansen were greeted with equal heartiness in some innings, though all but Koslo matched bad innings with good ones.

All was not woe by any means, even though Cleveland ran up a three-game-to-one lead in the 16-game series. Sam Webb, the redheaded hope for succor on Durocher's pitching staff, made a smooth debut, March 14, limiting the world champs to one infield hit in three innings. Oswald Kolwe, Detroit farmhand refugee, also was unscathed in his first outing and George Spencer, burly

darkhorse from Knoxville who is struggling for a Polo Grounds bullpen seat, did okay in his first chance. Monte Kennedy and Clint Hartung each yielded one run in his first three-inning assignment, displaying some good stuff.

Gall Henley, impressive looking youngster from U.S.C., held down center field regularly when Bobby Thomson's arm went lame and the lad is making a serious bid to stick, though he has had only a brief experience at Knoxville, where he batted .310. The blond flycatcher clouted six hits in his first 15 times up and can run, throw and field in satisfactory style. He walloped a home run and came through splendidly in several pinches. Durocher declared that if he made it this year, the Giants could afford to trade an outfielder for a pitcher. The chances are, however, that Henley will be sent out to correct his inability to hit left-handers' curves.

Another bright outfield prospect is Bill Milne, whose hitting and running has attracted attention.

Sid Gordon, Buddy Kerr, Augie Galan, Willard Marshall and Whitey Lockman are in good spring form. Mize rested a stiff knee for a few days after walloping three hits, March 13. Walker Cooper has been working regularly. He also weighed in with a timely wallop on March 13.

Franks to Be Emergency Catcher, as Well as Coach

PHOENIX, Ariz.—When Herman Franks, ex-Dodger catcher and Connie Mack's bullpen assistant in 1948, was signed as a Giant coach late last winter, there was some question of why Leo Durocher was taking on another lieutenant with Frank Frisch, Fred Fitzsimmons and Ralph Kress already lined up as aides.

"If some of us get thumbed out we want to be sure and have plenty of coaches to carry on," quipped the manager.

But now an extra reason has been brought to light with the announcement that Franks will stand by as a catcher whenever he is needed.

Durocher plans to carry only two catchers, Walker Cooper and probably Mickey Livingston, with Franks ready to buckle on a chest protector at any moment. Leo considers Franks an expert receiver and handler of pitchers and a shifty guy in pursuit of fouls.



Bill Rigney

Collapse of Rigney Blamed on His Nerves and Not Heart

By JOE KING

Of the New York World-Telegram

PHOENIX, Ariz.—The future for Bill Rigney wasn't nearly so dire as it seemed when the Giant second baseman collapsed from a heart attack, March 13.

Dr. Anthony J. Palermo, club physician, pointed out that Rigney's trouble is functional, and not organic. That is, there is nothing wrong with his heart. The breakdown was induced by a nervous condition and did not originate in the vital organ. A cardiograph on the 29-year-old player showed fibrillation, an eccentric, rapid heart beat. The X-ray indicated pulmonary congestion, a backing up of the blood, and seepage in the lungs.

In 90 percent of such cases, Dr. Palermo expounded, the heart is victimized temporarily by the nerves, without permanent impairment. Also, there is no history of heart trouble in Rigney's case.

Rigney is not a rugged player. He is intense, and expends nervous energy lavishly, so that he often fails to finish double-headers in extreme heat. With a sore arm added to his customary troubles last year, Bill played only 113 games, and hit .264.

Rig, a 165-pound gamecock, will stand up to the best. He is always in traffic around second base refusing to concede to the most doughty foe. Two years ago he was laid up with a bad shoulder when he plunged into second attempting to tag Bill Nicholson, and suffered the fate of a light man colliding with a very heavy one.

On another occasion, Rig met head-on with Will Marshall while chasing a pop. Both went down, and it was surmised Rigney might have to be carried off. However, Marshall had to quit, while woozy Rigney insisted on playing.

Bill asked to be relieved in the fifth inning against the Indians, March 13, because of an accelerated heart beat. He collapsed in the locker room.

Meanwhile, Rig probably would be the first to smile if he were told of the most extravagant incident which ever happened to a Giant. Hal Schumacher was the victim of a sizzling day in St. Louis. He passed out, and those on the bench could not detect heart or pulse, and believed the pitcher had passed along. Hal, however, came out of it, and never has been troubled since. May it be the same with "Old Rig."

Women Fans Finish 1-2 in Cage Contest

Mrs. Ann Julian, Flushing, N. Y., Wins \$200 First Prize in March 5 Games

Proving again that women can call basketball winners as expertly as men, feminine fans finished one-two in *The Sporting News'* final cage contest based on the games of March 5.

Mrs. Ann Julian, 42-75 Kissena boulevard, Flushing, L. I., N. Y., and Mrs. Eleanor Loschiavo, 4224 Avenue D, Brooklyn, N. Y., each picked 18 winners in games of that date, leading all other contestants in that respect. However, Mrs. Julian was the closer of the two in predicting the scoring leader, naming Canisius for that distinction, and was awarded first prize of \$200. Mrs. Loschiavo, who forecast Wisconsin as the top scoring team, received \$100 as second-prize winner.

Women were represented among the prize winners in many of the preceding contests, several having won first prizes.

Numerous fans picked 17 winners in the contest of March 5, and the remaining prizes, therefore, were determined

First Prize Winner Says Tips by Husband Helped

Mrs. Ann Julian, 42-75 Kissena boulevard, Flushing, L. I., N. Y., has been a reader of *The Sporting News* since her marriage three years ago.

"My husband has been a reader of *The Sporting News* for 14 years," she writes. "If it hadn't been for my husband, who gave me a lot of tips, I don't think I would have won first prize."

"This is the first time that I ever won a prize."

Mother Seeks to Locate Charles William Bates

Mrs. Hattie Heron, 1146 Marion street, Camden 3, N. J., advises *The Sporting News* that she is trying to locate her son, Charles William Bates, a former ball player, from whom she has not heard since 1938.

According to Mrs. Heron, Bates was a catcher with the Philadelphia Athletics in 1927 and later played with Chattanooga, Dayton and Portland, Ore. She says she has heard nothing from him since she received a note from him while he was playing with Dayton in 1938.

Bates was born at Philadelphia, September 17, 1907, she states. She would like to hear from her son or anyone knowing his whereabouts.

on the accuracy of the scoring predictions.

Other capital prize winners included: Third, \$75, William J. Hash, 314 North Manzano, Albuquerque, N. M.

Fourth, \$50, Sam Porter, 506 1/2 Hillcrest avenue, Orlando, Fla.

Fifth, \$25, William H. Beecher, Highland Drive, Milltown, N. J.

Prizes of \$5 each were awarded to the following: Russell Eberhardt, Box 57, Lowber, Pa.; Charles N. Krackenberger, 1513 Sixth avenue, Terre Haute, Ind.; Bill Bryngelson, 6301 Rolf avenue, Minneapolis, Minn.; Eddie Doubek, Box 132, Coats, Kan.; Ralph A. Nobis, 516 Oak street, Toledo, O.; John S. Stuart, 533 Paris avenue S. E., Grand Rapids, Mich.; W. R. Lalor, 3311 North Twelfth, Terre Haute, Ind.; George Danik, 118 Atwood avenue, Akron, O.; Albert Alais, 610 Gobel street, Rock Springs, Wyo.; Eloise Aley, SKI, Waves Qu, U. S. N. Hospital, St. Albans, L. I., N. Y.

Top Entry in Final Competition

CHOOSE 20 WINNERS FROM THIS LIST

ARMY		of NAVY	X
ST. LOUIS	X	of BRADLEY	
DARTMOUTH		of BROWN	X
STANFORD	X	of CALIFORNIA	
BOSTON COL.		of CANISIUS	X
COLGATE		of SYRACUSE	X
COLORADO U.		of MISSOURI	X
CORNELL		of PRINCETON	X
DENVER		of UTAH	X
OHIO STATE		of DE PAUL	X
HARVARD		of YALE	X
MICHIGAN		of IOWA	X
MINNESOTA		of WISCONSIN	X
OKLAHOMA	X	of NEBRASKA	
NOTRE DAME	X	of NORTHWESTERN	
OREGON		of OREGON STATE	X
COLUMBIA		of PENNSYLVANIA	X
PITTSBURGH		of W. VIRGINIA	X
S. CALIFORNIA		of U. C. L. A.	X
WASH. STATE		of WASHINGTON	X

I predict CANISIUS will be highest scoring team with 78 points and that total of 20 winning teams will be 1087 points.

Your Name MRS. ANN JULIAN
Street Address 4275 KISSENA BLVD.
City FLUSHING, L. I. State NEW YORK

FOLLOW THESE RULES CAREFULLY
The object of the weekly BASKETBALL CONTEST is to select winners of the 20 collegiate games.

MRS. ANN JULIAN'S FIRST-PRIZE ENTRY

Results of March 5 Games

Following are the results of the games which were included in the March 5 basketball contest appearing in the All-Sports supplement of *The Sporting News*:

- Navy 42, Army 40
- St. Louis 66, Bradley 56
- Brown 67, Dartmouth 65
- Stanford 53, California 46
- Canisius 63, Boston College 46
- Syracuse 73, Colgate 61
- Missouri 48, Colorado 36
- Princeton 44, Cornell 38
- Utah 69, Denver 44
- Ohio State 63, DePaul 41
- Yale 77, Harvard 58
- Iowa 63, Michigan 62
- Wisconsin 45, Minnesota 43
- Oklahoma 56, Nebraska 49
- Notre Dame 59, Northwestern 56
- Oregon State 47, Oregon 45
- Pennsylvania 57, Columbia 47
- Pittsburgh 34, West Virginia 37
- U.C.L.A. 63, Southern California 58
- Washington 54, Washington State 41