Homers aid Hobbie's shutout

Sherry's debut as starter spoiled

By ED WILKS
Associated Press Staff Writer

Pitcher Glen Hobbie of Chicago Cubs waited until Los Angeles Dodgers were world champions before he beat them.

The six-foot-three righthander, 0-2 against the Dodgers as a rookie in 1958 and 0-2 again last year when they won the pennant, nailed them properly Wednesday night. He outpitched Larry Sherry, relief hero of the 1959 world series, and put away the first shutout of the season with a five-hit, 4-0 decision at Los Angeles.

	W	L	Pct.	GB
San Francisco	2	0	1.000	
Cincinnati	1	0	1.000	½
Milwaukee	1	0	1.000	½
Chicago	1	1	.500	1
Los Angeles	1	1	.500	1
Philadelphia	0	1	.000	1½
Pittsburgh	0	1	.000	1½
St. Louis	0	2	.000	2

That left the favored San Francisco Giants alone in first place in the National League. They picked up their second straight victory by defeating St. Louis Cardinals 6-1 on the three-hit pitching of lefty Mike McCormick, who didn't allow a hit until the eighth inning.

Hobbie, 10 days shy of his 24th birthday, gave up nothing but singles and shut off the Dodgers with one hit over the last six innings. His only problem was wildness. He walked six men and struck out three.

Home runs by Ernie Banks and Frank Thomas backed up Hobbie, the Cubs' leader in victories (16) and shutouts (three) last season.

Banks, who hit 45 but lost the home run crown to Milwaukee's Ed Mathews last season, belted his first of the year in the fourth inning. Then Thomas, hitless in his first seven at-bats and six times a strikeout victim, connected for a three-run shot over the left-field screen.

Sherry, the rookie who won his last seven decisions while helping the Dodgers to the pennant last year and then won two and saved two in the world series, hadn't lost since last July 12.

Getting a requested chance to be a starting pitcher, the young righthander was touched for nine hits, but struck out six men and walked just one.

GIANTS BREEZE THROUGH

The Giants made it a breeze for McCormick, who duplicated Sam Jones' opening-day three-hitter against the Cards. And it was Leon Wagner, a former Giant, who again saved the Cards from a shutout with a home run.

McCormick, 21, retired the first 17 men before reliefer Ernie Broglio reached base on an error in the sixth. Then Stan Musial led off with a single in the eighth, and after Bob Nieman hit into a double-play, Wagner got his homer. Willie Kirkland whacked a two-run homer for Giants in the third.

The American League, nearing its opening games next week, had only a two-game exhibition schedule Wednesday.

Boston Red Sox, who play against the Senators at Washington, Monday in the league's traditional first game, beat Chicago White Sox 3-0 on a joint two-hitter by Tom Brewer and Frank Sullivan. Lennie Green's 10th-inning home run gave Washington a 5-4 decision over Cleveland Indians.

Stirling Moss off highways for 12 months

LONDON (AP)—Stirling Moss, world famed auto racing driver, lost his licence to drive on an English highway for 12 months after being found guilty of dangerous driving.

The 30-year-old Briton, second in the world championships last year, also was fined 50 pounds ($140.00).

The charge arose out of an accident on an English road on September 29 last year. Moss' car collided head-on with a truck.

His punishment will not stop him from competing at race meetings in Britain or elsewhere.

A jury of 10 men and two women found Moss guilty after deliberating for two hours.

TENSE MOMENT — Ace forward Jean Beliveau (4) of Montreal Canadiens closes in on Johnny Bower, Toronto Maple Leafs goalie, in a tense moment during Montreal's 2-1 win over Maple Leafs, their second straight, in the openers of the best-of-seven Stanley Cup finals. —CP photo.

Canadiens ready for title tonight

By W. R. WHEATLEY
Canadian Press Staff Writer

TORONTO (CP) — Montreal Canadiens, the hockey powerhouse that managing director Frank Selke calls the best of all the blue-blang-rouge teams he has known, reaches for its fifth straight Stanley Cup tonight and a record game-winning streak of 10 straight in the post-season series.

Almost everybody except coach Punch Imlach and his Toronto Maple Leafs agrees the awesome Canadiens will make a four-straight sweep of the seven-game series.

Canadiens last year polished off the Leafs in the final 4-1, winning the last two games. This year they eliminated Chicago Black Hawks 4-0 in the semi-final.

WOULD BE A RECORD

A win tonight would set a record 10 straight and would also equal the eight-straight sweep through semi-final and final made by Detroit Red Wings in 1952 over the Leafs and the Canadiens.

The Wings won the first game of their 1953 semi-final against Boston Bruins, but lost the second, snapping an undefeated run of nine.

Managing director Selke said Wednesday:

"This is the best of all the great Canadiens teams because of its over-all strength—its depth, its reserves. We have youngsters who have demonstrated clearly in this series that they are highly capable.

"I'm not making the comparison on the basis of individual stars or specific forward lines. I say it's the all-round best. In that respect, 'best' would include other clubs.

"There have been brilliant stars like the Howe-Abel-Lindsay line of Detroit; the Bentley brothers of Chicago; Syl Apps of Toronto. But this team of ours is the best when you rate it from established stars to rookies.

"In one sense there may be an exception. Rocket Richard has lost some of his punch. But he showed in Tuesday's game that if a punch is needed he can still give it."

BELIVEAU IN SLUMP

Selke said Jean Beliveau has been in a scoring slump "but great otherwise and I told him not to worry about the slump but to look after the other fellow."

Their greatness undoubtedly stems from the farm system Selke has built. When he went to Montreal in 1946, there was one farm club — the senior Royals.

Today Canadiens have the Hull-Ottawa and Montreal Royals team of the Eastern Professional Hockey League and the Spokane club of the Western Hockey League.

They have four Junior A teams, in Brockville, Peterborough, Fort William and Regina. There is affiliation with 10 other junior teams.

In addition, the Canadiens management has supplied equipment and money for "hundreds of minor teams." There is no obligation on their part, but Selke said it is hoped the kid stars of these teams eventually will play for the "big team."

ROCKET HURT

The veteran Rocket suffered a badly bruised big toe on his left foot Tuesday and said Wednesday:

"I won't know until some time Thursday," whether he would play. He joined his mates only for a dinner given the players by the management.

Coach Toe Blake of Canadiens continued to shy off predictions but admitted "it was an encouraging sign when we won Tuesday's game without any points by our big line (Jean Beliveau, Bernie Geoffrion and Marcel Bonin). We can look for them to break loose any time."

Blake sat in his hotel room looking at—of all things—a Bugs Bunny cartoon on television.

"You know I must be stupid," he said. "I turn the thing on and look at it and all the time I'm thinking about hockey."

In the hotel lobby, Selke called to Andre Pronovost: "How about it? Are you fellows going to do it?"

"Yes, sir," replied Pronovost emphatically.

In the Leaf camp coach Imlach refused to concede anything.

"We have got to do the impossible. There's only one way we can go from here and that's up, and our fellows are so mad they can do it."

Imlach sent his players through a workout Wednesday hoping to correct what he called poor defensive play Tuesday. Canadiens rested, except for the standby farm-club rookie, here for an emergency, and a couple of the regulars who wanted to loosen up.

Last Night's Fights

Chicago (AP)—Sugar Hart, 152, Philadelphia, stopped Rocky Kalingo, 145, Philippines, (5).

Calgary, Alta. (AP)—Harold Johnson vs Tiger Floyd bout ppd. to April 27.

O.C. soccer

LONDON (Reuters) — Results of soccer matches played in the United Kingdom Wednesday:

SCOTTISH LEAGUE
Division II

Alloa 4, Cowdenbeath 2.
Dumbarton 4, East Fife 2.
Falkirk 2, Albion Rovers 1.
Queen's Pk. 2, Forfar 2.

RCMP out to tie puck series tonight

RCMP will take the floor with their backs against the wall tonight determined to tie up the best-of-five Senior Floor Hockey league finals with Sports Shop at two games each.

Art Borle, RCMP coach, put down his crystal ball long enough to say:

"My boys proved in the last game that they have it in them to stop Sports Shop. Tonight we're going to give it all we've got and tie up the series.

Sports Shop's high-scoring Ernie Novakowski explained today that RCMP's 14-9 victory over his teammates last Thursday "was just a fluke."

"We were just off that night," he said, adding "that we'll be right on the beam tonight."

The Junior Floor Hockey League finals also resume tonight with league champion Ormes holding a 2-1 lead in the best-of-five series with Bob Parker's.

The Parker squad, which has brought up a number of juvenile players to bolster their strength, are the most improved team of the league.

Ormes, however, captured the league title in regular season's play, and are out to clinch the series tonight.

Juniors face-off at 6:45 p.m., the seniors at 8:15 p.m.

Canucks near championship with 4-2 lead

VICTORIA (CP) — Vancouver Canucks, with a little bit of luck, skated to within a single victory of their second Western Hockey League championship Wednesday night as they edged Victoria Cougars 2-1 in the sixth game of the league final.

Canucks take a 4-2 edge in games into the seventh contest at Vancouver Friday night. Should Cougars pull a victory out of the hat the eighth game would be played here Saturday.

Canucks' triumph, on second-period goals by Ray Cyr and Dave Duke and strong defensive and netminding performances throughout, was their fourth in a row after dropping the first two games of the series.

COUGARS OPEN

Veteran Gordie Fashoway scored the only Victoria goal midway through the opening period. It stood up until 1:15 of the second when Cyr tied the game with his fifth goal and 14th point of the playoffs—both highes. Duke rattled in the winner 14 minutes later.

Today sees PCL play underway

SEATTLE (CP) — The Pacific Coast League opens its 1960 campaign today with the king idle and a new name on the schedule.

Opening day games pit Vancouver against Sacramento and Portland against Tacoma in a pair of day-night doubleheaders.

Salt Lake City, the 1959 pennant winner, doesn't get into action until Friday. Then the Bees take on Spokane at Salt Lake City.

Seattle and San Diego also dip into 1960 play Friday with a bargain bill at the southern California city.

Tacoma's Giants, successors to the Phoenix Giants of the last two years, will send Curt Barclay and Juan Marichal against the Beavers' Lynn Loverguth and Don Johnson in games starting at 1:30 p.m. and 8 p.m.

At Sacramento, Mounties George Bamberger and Joe Hatten will work for Vancouver against the Solons' Winston Brown and Elmer Singleton.

British XI held to tie

LONDON (AP)—Britain's Olympic soccer team was held to a 2-2 tie by Netherlands Wednesday night.

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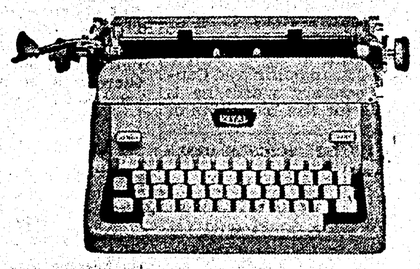

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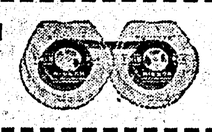

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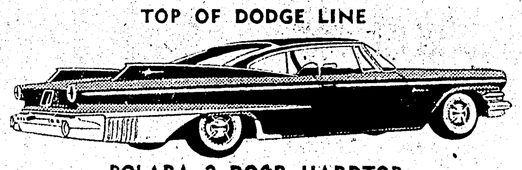

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