Yankees favored to capture series

Today's game rated as even money

PITTSBURGH (AP)—Despite outward optimism, Pittsburgh Pirates went into the world series against the New York Yankees today secretly worried about the condition of two key performers—starting pitcher Vernon Law and shortstop Dick Groat.

Law, the Pirates' 20-game winner and steadiest man on the mound this year, has not fully recovered from an ankle injury suffered 10 days ago.

The 30-year-old right-handed ace, said "it feels better, but it's not 100 per cent yet." He still has some difficulty sliding his foot off the rubber when throwing a curve ball, his best pitch.

Even Danny Murtaugh, Pirate manager, admits Groat's left wrist, fractured a month ago, is "not 100 per cent." The Buc captain and sparkplug, who showed great courage last week in returning to the lineup before anyone expected him to, still flinches when missing a swing or catching a hard throw in the pocket of his glove.

SKOWRON HAS HEAD COLD

The Yankees, in sharp contract, faced the opener before a sellout crowd of some 38,000 in full strength except for a minor nuisance. A head cold is plaguing first baseman Bill (Moose) Skowron.

Right-hander Art Ditmar, Casey Stengel's choice to oppose Law, is fit and ready.

The Yankees were 13 to 10 to gain their 19th victory in 25 world series and their eighth in 10 under Stengel. Today's game was rated even money.

Stengel's champions streaked into Forbes Field by sweeping their last 15 games. The Pirates came back nicely after coasting into the pennant, defeating Milwaukee in the final two games of the regular season.

Today marks the 33rd anniversary of the opener of the only other world series in which these two teams met. In that one—1927—the Yankees swept the best-of-seven series in four straight.

FRIEND, MIZELL

No matter what happens in the opener, Murtaugh plans to pitch Bob Friend (18-12) in Thursday's second game here and follow with Vinegar Bend Mizell, his 14-game winning left-hander, in the third game Saturday at Yankee Stadium. Harvey Haddix, another southpaw, is his tentative fourth-game choice.

Stengel, who waited until Monday to announce Ditmar as his opening-game pitcher, declined to go further, but it is believed right-hander Bob Turley (9-13) will pitch the second game. That would leave the third game to lefty Whitey Ford.

Both teams worked out Tuesday. Many Yankees saw Forbes Field for the first time. Some expressed surprise at the distant left-field fence, 365 feet from home plate at the foul line. Centre field is 457 feet away. Right field is 300 feet down the line.

They all agreed, however, that the back-ground for the hitters was the best they had seen.

"Wait until those Partes see our park," said infielder Gil McDougald. "They won't believe it. The switch is bound to affect them. I can understand how Yankee Stadium can take the heart out of you, especially after you lose a couple of balls in that background."

✦ ✦ ✦

Pittsburgh is filled with signs such as "Beat 'em Bucs," and "Spank the Yanks," but now the funsters are in.

The most conspicuous sign read:

"All of Casey's banks can't hold our Bucs."

✦ ✦ ✦

Talk about a busman's holiday: Dewitt Bottom, a mailman, walked and hitch-hiked 1,375 miles from Waco, Tex., to get here for the world series.

It's a matter of economics for Bottom, 64, who also asked police for lodgings in a jail cell.

"I'm just conserving my money," he said, "because the series may go seven games and I'll need a little extra to hitch-hike back and fourth from New York."

The cops obliged. They even agreed to wake him up at 4 a.m. today so he'll have plenty of time to make it out to Forbes Field for the opening game.

✦ ✦ ✦

Bob Friend, half of Pittsburgh's righthanded pitching pride, doesn't think New York Yankees should be any tougher than Milwaukee Braves, a club the Pirates left squatting in second in the National League race.

Friend, an 18-game winner in the regular season, is the starting choice in Thursday's second game of the world series. Vern Law, the other right-handed ace, who won 20 games, faced the American League champions in today's opener.

"I haven't seen too much of the Yankees," Friend said in an interview Tuesday. "But they're a lot like the Braves with their power. And I don't see how they could be tougher. They don't have a hitter like Hank Aaron. And Ed Mathews can almost match them.

"You can compare Mathews with Mickey Mantle and Aaron with Bill Skowron."

CLOSE SHAVE . . . Bobby Hull, Chicago Black Hawks talented young leftwinger, just misses scoring in Saturday's All Star-Montreal Canadiens game. Warding him off are Albert (Junior) Langlois (19), goalie Jacques Plante (half-hidden) and Dickey Moore (12). The Stars edged the defending Stanley Cup holders 2-1. (CP Photo).

Montreal Canadiens still figured as best choice to win NHL title

By The Canadian Press

Chicago Stadium and Madison Square Garden in New York share the scene for opening games of the 1960-61 National Hockey League season tonight. It will be Boston Bruins against the Rangers and the Black Hawks at home to Detroit Red Wings.

The other two clubs—Toronto Maple Leafs and Montreal Canadiens—get their season under way in Montreal Thursday night.

Canadiens, even without retired Maurice Richard, are solid avorites to outdistance the opposition once again. Montreal has won the Stanley Cup the last five years and has taken the NHL title in four of those years.

Young Billy Hicke is being tried in Rocket's right wing spot on a line with Henri (Pocket-Rocket) Richard and Dickie Moore. Hicke was American Hockey League scoring champion two season ago with Rochester. Otherwise, coach Toe Blake is going with a stand-pat team.

TORONTO SECOND?

After Canadiens it looks like Toronto Maple Leafs for runner-up honors—on paper at least. Leafs finished a strong second last season but lacked Montreal's playoff polish and bowed four straight in the cup finals.

Veteran goalie Johnny Bower could again be the key to success or failure for Leafs. The 36-year-old goaltender held the club together on more than one occasion last season with some superlative puck-stopping.

Elsewhere, it should be a scramble for the remaining two playoff positions. The Red Wings and Black Hawks appear to be slightly beter balanced than either Boston or New York.

Detroit still has the great Gordie Howe up front and former Vezina Trophy winner Terry Sawchuk in goal. Howe suffered a knee injury in the NHL all-star game last Saturday and will miss Detroit's first two games.

Chicago will be minus veteran Ted Lindsay. The scrappy 35-year-old leftwinger retired after 16 seasons in the NHL—three with Chicago and 13 with Detroit.

Rangers, who finished in the cellar last season, have added five players in an effort to hit a winning combination: Defenceman Jim Morrison, drafted from Chicago; centre Ted Hampson, from Toronto; plus thre farmhands—Len Rochefort, Len Ronson and Dave Balon.

Coach Alf Pike has indicated he will carry two goalies—Jack McCartan, hero of the United States team that won the Olympic hockey title, and holdover Gumy Worsley.

Dean Prentice, Rangers' leading scorer last season, will miss the first two weeks while recovering from a knee operation. Camille Henry will be sidelined for at least three weeks with a hairline fracture of a lower rib, received in an exhibition game Sunday.

Boston, which also finished out of the playoffs—fifth place last year—has added forwards Orval Tessier and Jimmy Bartlett. Tessier set a pro scoring record with Kingston in the Eastern Professional Hockey League last season. Bartlett, an aggressive player, is a former Ranger.

Sports Shop, Granby top ten-pin league

Sports Shop and Granby emerged as the top teams in Mixed 10-pin Bowling League action October 2.

Sports Shop took the team high single and high three with 770 and 2198 respectively, while team member Beverly Rose captured the women's high single and high three with 166 and 461.

Granby's Dave Wilson took the men's high single and high three with respective scores of 211 and 526.

Results were: Granby 4, Dominoes 0; Jack's 4, Jakes 0; and Sports Shop 4, Sheps 0.

Sports

By Gary Oakes, Sports Editor.

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SPORTS ROUNDUP

Former hockey great, Eddie Shore reported seriously ill after attack

SPRINGFIELD, Mass. (AP)—Eddie Shore, former National Hockey League great, was reported today in serious condition after suffering another in a series of heart attacks.

A member of the family said Shore is confined to his home here.

Shore, a native of Fort Qu' Appelle, Sask., started his big-time career that led to the hockey hall of fame with Boston Bruins in 1926.

Among the greatest of all rushing defencemen, he had a record of 102 goals and 161 assists. He is the only player in the league to have won the Hart Trophy as most valuable player four times.

In recent years he has been head of the American Hockey League Springfield team, which he bought in 1939.

Horse breaks record

LEXINGTON, Ky. (AP) — Adios Butler, a four-year-old colt by Adios-Debby Hanover, Tuesday paced the fastest mile ever recorded by a harness horse, turning the distance in 1:54 3/5 in a time trial at the famous Red Mile.

The 1959 winner of the Little Brown Jug, successfully beating his own pacing record of 1:55 4/5, paced the second quarter in an astonishing :27 2/5.

AHL opens

QUEBEC (AP)—With Cleveland Barons off to a winning start with a 4-2 victory over Quebec Aces, the other four American Hockey League teams make their season's debut tonight.

Rochester Americans play Buffalo Bisons at Buffalo and Providence Reds meet Hershey Bears at Hershey.

Canadians win

BIRMINGHAM (AP)—A Canadian All-Star soccer team ended its overseas tour Tuesday night by defeating West Bromwich Albion, English first division team, 1-0.

It was the first win for the Canadians in six matches on their tour of Russia and Britain.

Director signed

TORONTO (CP)—Lew Hayman has signed for an additional three-year term as managing director of Toronto Argonauts in the Big Four football union; it was announced today. Terms were not made public.

Hayman, one-time part owner of Montreal Alouettes, came to Argonauts late in 1956.

Elliott to study

CAMBRIDGE, England (AP) — Olympic star Herb Elliott of Australia reported to Jesus College at Cambridge Tuesday and explored the rooms and grounds where he plans to spend the next three years.

The world's fastest miler is here to study science.

Bills sign Green

BUFFALO, N.Y. (AP) — Buffalo Bills of the American Football League today announced the signing of quarterback Johnny Green, formerly of Toronto Argonauts of the Big Four.

The Bills placed quarterback Bob Brodhead, fromer Duke University standout, on waivers.

Brown leading

NEW YORK (AP)—National league football is getting montoonous in one respect — Jimmy Brown is leading the circuit's ground-gainers again.

The big Cleveland Browns line buster has led the league in ball carrying for the last three seasons and holds the league record of 1,527 yards in one season.

Today, after two games, league statistics reveal Brown has run up 240 yards on 43 carries for an average of 5.6 yards. Only six yards behind and with virtually the same average gain is Green Bay's Jim Taylor with 234 yards on 42 carries.

Powers hurt as Canucks bow to Comets

PRINCE GEORGE, B.C. (CP) — Vancouver Canucks lost a 6-4 decision to Spokane Comets Tuesday night in an exhibition Western Hockey League game here, and saw speedy forward Jim Powers knocked out of action for a week or 10 days.

The victory, before a crowd of 1,340, was the first in four games for Spokane in their tour of the British Columbia Interior with the Canucks. The teams round out the tour tonight in Chilliwack.

Spokane went ahead 2-1 in the first period, added two unanswered goals in the second and another early in the third before Vancouver retaliated with three quick scores. The final Comet goal came with 18 seconds left, Del Topoll scoring on an empty net.

Topoll counted twice for Spokane, as did Ching Johnson, Bev Bell and Bill Folks got singles. For Vancouver, the scoring was shared by Ray Cyr, Dave Duke, Powers and Larry Cahan.

Powers twisted his left ankle with four minutes remaining in the game and was carried from the ice on a stretcher. In the first period, the Canucks lost rookie goalie George Wood with a knee injury and called in another rookie, Cesare Maniago, to finish the game.

Wood's injury was not believed to be serious.

The Comets' hustle kept the defending WHL champion Canucks off stride during most of the game.

Vancouver exploded for three quick goals during the final seven minutes of the game, but the injury to Powers seemed to take the steam out of them.

Spokane outshot Vancouver 45 to 20.

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