

# PAIGE

## NEGRO HURLER SENSATION, LOSES, 2-1

By EDDIE MURPHY

The greatest baseball pitching attraction in the world is being passed up by scouts, club owners and managers only because the doors of organized ball are closed to him. It is surprising some move is not planned to lift the bars and allow this fellow and other diamond greats of his race to prove their supremacy just as they would be allowed to do in the boxing and many other sports. The writer refers to Leroy "Satchel" Paige, gangling right-handed pitcher who opposed the Major League Stars at the Oaks' ball park yesterday afternoon. He lost by a 2 to 1 score in a 10-inning mound duel with Tony Freitas and Johnny Babich, two of the best young hurlers in the majors. But for the fact that he was backed by only an ordinary bush-ball Negro club, he probably would have won with ease.

### MAY FACE MAJORS

So brilliant was his performance before a crowd of more than 4000 paid customers, who jammed every seat in the main grandstand of the Oakland ball park, there's a move afoot to have him appear here next Sunday as pitcher for the Minor League All-Stars, and oppose the Major Stars again in a game that is to be staged for the injury benefit fund of the Eastbay sandlotters.

It was one of the greatest exhibitions of pitching witnessed by the writer in nearly a score of years covering Coast League games. In fact, I might say that it was the greatest two-man baseball team I have seen as Paige and his battery mate, Ebel Brooks, from the New York Yankee Black Sox, were the whole ball club that opposed the Majors. This statement should not bring adverse comment from the local boys who backed Paige in the field because the Negro Stars got six hits, two were singles by Paige, one scoring the run that tied the score, and another was a triple to the clubhouse by Brooks.

Kingfish Levinsky was a spectator at the game. The Kingfish had just completed his training for his battle tonight with "Buck" Rogers at the local Auditorium and enjoyed the opportunity to sit in our California sunshine as he took things easy.

Take a tip. If the Eastbay Managers' Association, promoting the insurance game next Sunday can entice Satchel to remain over and pitch for the Minor Stars, they will probably be rewarded with a capacity house for the betting would probably be about 5 to 1, that with the Minor Stars supporting him in the field, Paige would win hands down.

### STRIKES OUT DOZEN

It was the greatest array of major leaguers that Paige ever faced and during the first nine innings he allowed only three hits and turned an even dozen back on strikeouts. It took Joe DiMaggio, former Seal, who will probably be the American League's 1936 sensation with the New York Yankees, to beat Paige.

The Negro Stars failed to score in the first of the tenth, leaving the score 1 to 1. Ernie Lombardi was disposed of and so was Augie Galan for a second out. Paige had not allowed a hit from the third inning, making six and two-third frames without a blow. Dick Bartell, who managed the Major Stars, followed the second out of the tenth, with a single to right, and stole second. With darkness coming fast, Brooks allowed Paige's fast one to DiMaggio to get by him, Bartelli racing to third. DiMaggio then hit a fast hopper to the left of Paige, who deflected the ball to Walker at second, but the latter's throw to first was just beaten by DiMaggio for an infield hit, Bartell scoring the winning run.

Earlier in the game, Paige had knocked down balls just as difficult to handle and got his men, but the dusk probably spoiled his judgment.

### UNEARNED RUN

Doubles to right field by Bud Hafey and Harry Lavagetto gave the Majors their first run in the second, and the Stars tied the count with an unearned run in the fourth when Walker was safe on Vergez' fumble. Brooks singled him to third and Paige singled.

Two times during the game Paige found the Majors with men on second and third and only one out, but pulled out of it each time.

His strikeout victims were Gussie Suhr and Johnny Vergez three times each; Harry Lavagetto, "Bud" Hafey and Dick Freitas twice each.

The combination of Bartell at short, and Lavagetto at second for the Majors, cut off at least a half dozen hits and it is no wonder that the Giants paid plenty last year to obtain the services of Bartell who may become a big league manager in time without surprise to the writer. Lavagetto gave his manager, Pie Traynor, a great exhibition of fielding even if he did make a wild toss to first in the 10th inning to put Collins in scoring position.

The turnout of fans yesterday was a tribute to the great Negro pitcher, who has attracted throngs in all parts of the United States.

### NEGRO STARS : MAJOR STARS

ABR H O A	ABR H O A
Janry, cf 5 0 0 2 0	Galan, lf 5 0 1 0 0
Walker, 2b 4 1 0 0 2	Bartell, ss 5 1 1 2 5
Perry, 3b 4 0 0 1 0	DiMaggio, rf 4 0 1 0 0
Brooks, c 4 0 2 12 0	Suhr, 1b 3 0 0 11 1
Lane, 1b 4 0 0 9 0	Hafey, lf 3 1 1 1 1
Paige, p 4 0 2 2 0	Verges, 3b 4 0 0 1 2
Arthur, 4 0 0 1 1	Lacoste, 2b 3 0 1 2 3
Collins, lf 4 0 2 2 0	Brenzel, c 2 0 0 0 0
Smith, rf 2 0 0 0 0	Freitas, p 1 0 0 0 0
Stout 2 0 0 0 0	Lombardi, c 3 0 0 7 0
	Babich, p 0 0 0 0 0

Total 37 1 6 29 71 Total 35 2 5 30 13

### SCORE BY INNINGS

Colored Stars ..... 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 1

Base hits..... 0 0 1 2 0 0 1 1 1 0-6

Majors ..... 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1-2

Base hits..... 0 2 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 2-2

Summary: Winning pitcher—Babich.

Errors—Walker 3, Arthur, Vergez, Lavagetto. Hit by pitcher—Lavagetto, DiMaggio. Hafey. Wild pitches—Paige 2. Three-base hits—Brooks. Two-base hits—Hafey, Lavagetto. Runs batted in—Lavagetto, Paige, DiMaggio. Stolen bases—Stout, Bartell. Double plays—Paige to Lane.