

May 17, 1949

Braves Win & Fido to the Rescue?

The Leavenworth Braves beat the Hutchinson Elks 3-2 to snap a season-long 22-game losing streak in a Western (C) Association tilt ... following their 0-22 start, the Braves go through three managers en route to finishing last a full 70 1/2 games behind the first place St. Joseph Cardinals ... not one of the 30 players to play for the independent Braves ever makes it to the majors.

Western Association

Winless Warriors Finally Win Game

(At Hutchinson's Expense)

Leavenworth—Leavenworth baseball fans were celebrating Tuesday night—the town going a little wild.

The Leavenworth Braves snapped a 22 game losing streak which had begun with the first game of the season by edging the Hutchinson Elks 3 to 2.

The home team racked its first Western association victory with a two-run rally in the home half of the seventh inning.

Sonny Grasso opened the big seventh with a single to center field. Reyes and Blanco grounded out, but Casanova tripled to right field scoring Grasso and Pitcher Tom Scanlon won his own game with a single which scored Casanova.

Western Association Standings through games of Tuesday, May 18

Baseball

Western Association							
Team	W	L	Pct.	Teams	W	L	Pct.
St. Joe	16	5	.762	St. Smith	9	10	.474
M'Kogre	15	7	.682	Salina	10	13	.433
Joplin	14	7	.667	Hutchinson	8	13	.278
Topeka	13	8	.619	Leavenworth	1	22	.043

Hutchinson						
	AB	R	H	O	A	E
Fayla cf	5	0	1	4	0	0
Kates ss	4	0	1	1	3	0
Tirney lf	3	0	2	2	0	0
Chapeta 1b	3	0	0	1	1	0
Reyes 2b	3	0	0	0	0	0
Bevan 3b	3	0	1	0	2	0
Butler 3b	1	0	1	0	0	0
Bethencourt rf	2	2	0	0	1	0
McCormick c	3	0	2	4	1	0
DeCamp p	3	0	1	1	2	0
Goff	1	0	0	0	0	0
Steinking p	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	31	2	9	24	20	0
Goff flied out for DeCamp in 5th.						
Leavenworth						
	AB	R	H	O	A	E
Perez rf	4	0	1	1	0	1
Harte 1b	4	0	0	3	1	0
Nezveda 2b	4	0	1	2	1	0
Casova 3b	4	0	0	0	0	0
Grasso cf	3	1	1	2	0	0
Reyes 2b	2	0	0	2	1	0
Blanco ss	3	0	1	1	3	0
Casanova c	3	2	1	4	0	0
Scanlon p	3	0	1	1	3	0
Totals	30	3	8	27	15	1
Hutchinson	610	100	610	210	3	
Leavenworth	601	609	210	3		

RBI—DeCamp, Perez, Casanova, Scanlon. 2B—McCormick, Butler, Casanova. 3B—Casanova. Sac.—Kates, Chapeta, Reyes. DP—Blanco, Nezveda to Harte. ER—Hutchinson 1, Leavenworth 4. LOB—Hutchinson 10, Leavenworth 4. BB—off Scanlon 3, 80—by DeCamp 4, Scanlon 4. H & R—off DeCamp, 8 and 3 in 1. Loner — DeCamp (7-3). Umpires — Sharpe and Cook. Time 2:17.

Tuesday, May 17

Leavenworth officials announce the morning of the game that Bill Cronin will coach the Braves that night, but that they are reopening negotiations with Ray "Fido" Murphy ... Murphy promises team officials that he will bring some players with him if he named manager.

Wednesday, May 18

Leavenworth President Robert Ricketson announces that he has completed a telephone deal with Raymond (Fido) Murphy to become the Braves field manager on May 27, succeeding Bill Cronin, who will hold the position until Murphy is able to take over ... Murphy, who had been suspended from organized baseball in 1947 for having a side agreement with a player while the owner and manager of the Topeka Owls, informs Ricketson that he will bring with him six players to "bolster" the team.

July 17, 1949

Saddled with a 21-game losing streak, Murphy quits as manager of the Leavenworth Braves ... President Robert Ricketson hires the team's business manager, H.L. "Red" Harvel, as manager.

1949 Leavenworth Braves Record by Manager

Bill Cronin	3-26	.103
Fido Murphy	11-45	.196
Red Harvel	11-41	.212

Fido Murphy Quits Braves

Leavenworth—Raymond (Fido) Murphy quit as manager of the Leavenworth Braves Sunday night after the team lost its 20th and 21st straight games.

Robert H. Ricketson, president of the Leavenworth club, said he would announce Murphy's successor Monday. It was rumored that the job would go to H. L. (Red) Harvel, business manager. Harvel was an outfielder with the Kansas City Blues from 1929-31.

Murphy, former owner-manager of the Topeka Owls, said he had two baseball offers and one football offer on the fire.

He steps out as the Braves lack just one game of equalling their own national professional baseball record of 22 straight losses, set at the beginning of the season.

Murphy succeeded Bill Cronin May 27.