

Ezzard Charles Defeats Gus Lesnevich In 7 Rounds

Battered Eyes Compel Loser To Quit Fight

Negro Still Champion But Fails To Convince That He's Top Quality

NEW YORK, Aug. 11.—(AP)—Ezzard Charles has sold himself to New York as the best of a poor lot of heavyweights. The lean Cincinnati Negro still jacks New York state recognition as world heavyweight champion but he rules the 47 states under the N.B.A. Most of the 16,630 sweltering fans who saw him make Gus Lesnevich surrender at the end of seven rounds last night at Yankee stadium, seemed willing to accept him. The next move is up to Eddie Egan, chairman of the State Athletic commission. Maybe it's best to hold off until 28-year-old Charles meets the winner of the oft-postponed and still vague Bruce Woodcock-Lee Savold "title" fight in London. That's what Egan plans to do. But for all practical purposes, Charles is the champ. The doubting Thomases who still hold out are looking for another Joe Louis. Brother, there just ain't another Joe Louis around. You might as well get used to Ezy, for he may be with you for a long, long time. Club Looses Money It is hard to criticize Charles

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SPORTS

for his performance in stopping Lesnevich. Certainly, he was hit and hurt when durable Gus shot his bolt in his only flurry of the fight in the sixth round. But Charles' fight back gamely under fire. At the end of the next round, Gus' manager, Joe Vella, asked Referee Ruby Goldstein to stop it.

The International Boxing club, promoting its first New York fight since buying out Mike Jacobs, must have dropped a bundle on the show which grossed only \$75,832 plus \$17,500 for radio rights. Lesnevich took such a slashing around the eyes that it may well have been his last fight. The fight went just as it figured, with Charles absorbing early punishment but opening the old scar tissue around Gus' eyes. Charles met Lesnevich's first round rush with a sustained attack that made Gus' knees buckle. It was the same story in the next three rounds. The fighters suffered from the intense heat of the hottest day of New York's hottest summer. Most everybody, including the judges, had Charles out front, 6-1, in rounds at the end. Charles weighed 180, Lesnevich 182. Joe Louis Comments Joe Louis watched his hand-picked successor defend the heavyweight title for the first time and then declared again that he has no plans to come out

Softball Playoff Starts Tonight

City Softball league play enters its final phase tonight at Finlay field with Umpqua Plywood and Scherner Squirts set to battle for the city crown and the right to represent Roseburg at the district tournament. Tonight's game is the first of a scheduled two-out-of-three playoff series. It will be a regular nine-inning affair and start at 7:30 o'clock. For the Squirts, Swede Vang is expected to start on the mound, while Plywood may solicit the pitching services of Roy Baughman, who in 10 league games, has dropped only two.

of retirement. Still moving with a panther-like grace, the retired champ drew the biggest hand of the night as he walked around the ring last night before the battle. He wished good luck first to Charles and then to Lesnevich. Then the big fellow took an end seat near a neutral corner. Joe's opinion? "It was a good fight until he (Charles) got to the eyes. Then it was just a matter of time." Did he think he could lick them both? "Now, I'm too old." And he broke into what for him was a pretty good grin.

Grid Season Nearing For RHS Indians

Football Practice Will Begin Aug. 24; Medford Will Be First Opponent

By DAN MINDOLOVICH Associated Press Sports Writer Visions of crisp autumn air and crunchy, frost-covered earth are not the easiest to conjure with the midday August sun beating on one's brow, but two weeks hence, half-a-hundred lads from the high school are expected to assemble at Finlay field to start training for the number one sport of the fall and winter season. With the baseball season nearly over, sports fans will substitute the thud of leather armor crashing against more leather armor for the diamond and the familiar crack of the bat, as an object of spectator appeal. School colors, yell queens and water buckets will replace the peanut, popcorn and ice-cold soda pop—comes the football season. Cece Sherwood, head football coach at Senior High, announced football uniforms will be issued to candidates of the 1949 Indian varsity team Tuesday, August 23. Practice Start Dated Practice will start Wednesday, August 24. This year, the Oregon Athletic association set up a new practice schedule, advancing the date one week, to give high schools an extra week of football before quarter finals play. The quarter final entry will be decided on the field rather than in the office of the high school athletic boards this year. Heretofore, a team may have failed to make the quarter finals due to early season reverses, then after the district selection was made by the board, the same team may have forged ahead of the "picked" winner. The practice will be avoided this year, as the season starts early enough so that the district entry may be picked on the basis of competitive results on the gridiron, rather than by speculation of the district athletic board. Indians Face Start The Roseburg Indians start the season this year with a tough opponent in the Medford Black Tornado, to be played at Finlay field Friday night, Sept. 2.

S. F. 49ers Win Grid Game From Los Angeles Dons

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 11.—(AP) The San Francisco 49ers still have the Los Angeles Dons in their hip pocket.

The San Francisco all-America conference entry posted its eighth win over the Dons in nine starts last night with a 28-7 exhibition victory before 81,272 fans. The huge crowd, one of the largest ever to see a pro grid game here, saw Frankie Albert, the 49ers' smooth field general, exercise his usual mastery. Albert drove his speedy mates 85 and 66 yards on the ground for early scores, then pitched a 62-yard score to Jim Cason. John Strzykalaky bucked three yards for one score, Ed Carr raced 16 for another and Veri Lilly-white ran 15 with an intercepted pass for a third touchdown. Joe Vetterone booted all four conversions. The Dons, playing without their ace Glenn Dobbs, had to rely on rookie George Talaferro. The former Indiana star did nobly in the pinch, running for 37 yards and passing for 51, despite only one day's practice with his mates. Talaferro passed 13 and 15 yards to Dick Wilkins, then skirted end five yards for the Dons' only tally in the third quarter. Ben. Agajanian converted. The big turnout contrasted sharply with that of another exhibition involving all-America teams, Buffalo and Baltimore attracted only 2,933 fans in their game at Wilmington, Del., last night. Baltimore won, 28 to 7.

Page's Relief Job For Yanks Downs Bosox

Browns Edge Cleveland; Cardinals-Brooks Tie Continues in 4th Day

By JOE REICHLER Associated Press Sports Writer By all the laws of baseball statistics, the Boston Red Sox, not the New York Yankees, should be leading the American league today. The Red Sox own the circuit's top batter in Ted Williams. They possess the league's "winningest" pitcher in Mel Parnell. In Williams and Vern Stephens, they have the one-two leaders in home runs and runs batted in. In addition, they lead in team batting and slugging, and rank third compared to the Yankees' seventh in team fielding. Shouldn't that rate them the No. 1 spot in the standings? Yet the Red Sox find themselves in third place, six and a half games behind the front-running Yankees, who also own a five-and-a-half game bulge over the runner-up Cleveland Indians. There is only one answer for this strange, and, for Boston, sad state of affairs. The Red Sox don't have Joe Page and the Yankees do. It's as simple as that. Page Again Saves Yankees Take yesterday's important game between the Yankees and Red Sox in Boston. A three-run rally in the top of the seventh, highlighted by Hank Bauer's two-run single, had given the Yankees a 3-1 edge over Joe Dobson. Stephens clipped Yankee starter Ed Lopat for his 28th homer in the last half of the inning to make it 3-2. After Lopat survived a shaky seventh inning, Manager Casey Stengel excused his lefty for the day and summoned his trouble-shooter—Page. Joe retired the dangerous Sox with only one harmless infield single in the eighth and ninth to preserve the Yankee victory. It marked his 36th relief appearance and the 20th game he's saved. Page's record is 10-4, but he's saved seven others for another Yankee starter, Allie Reynolds, and two for Tommy Byrne. Page has been in only 11 losing Yankee games. Other Results The Indians lost ground when they were edged out, 5-4, by the lowly St. Louis Browns. Dick Kokos, former Indian chatter, homered in the ninth off Bob Lemon to snap a 4-4 tie. Washington's Senators and Chicago's White Sox pulled a couple of upsets. The Nats edged the Philadelphia Athletics, 8-7, and the Sox topped the Detroit Tigers, 6-3, in 10 innings. Sherry Robertson's grand slam homer in the fourth, and six Washington double plays won the game for the Nats. Hits by

Chiefs, Powers Billed Friday

Portland, Aug. 11.—(AP)—Reliance system of Portland snuffed out a ninth-inning rally last night to edge Banks, 6 to 4, and force the Oregon semipro baseball title series into an extra game.

The two teams will meet tonight to determine the champion and the berth in the regional tournament in Bremerton, Wash., this weekend. Banks was shut out until the final frame, and chalked up his first loss in the double elimination series. Sunday, the Chiefs travel to Central Point for a Southern Oregon league game. The Chiefs were defeated, 12-6, by Central Point in a game here June 19. Canyonville Amateur Boxing Bout Slated The Canyonville Lions club is sponsoring its third amateur boxing match at the Canyonville community hall Saturday, August 13. Matchmaker Henry Ford said any boy interested in participating should contact him at Ford's camp, Canyonville. Charlie Kress, Eddie Malone and Herb Adams, plus a wild pitch by Dizzy Trout, gave the White Sox three 10th inning runs and a win for Mickey Haefner. Deadlock Continues The Brooklyn Dodgers and St. Louis Cardinals remained deadlocked for the first place in the National league for the fourth straight day. The Brooks needed a ninth inning home run by Jackie Robinson with one on to beat Philadelphia's Phils, 7-5. The Cards, behind the sixth-inning pitching of lefty Al Brazle, took an easy 8-0 decision from Cincinnati. Southpaw Warren Spahn turned in his 14th victory as he pitched the Boston Braves to a 4-1 triumph over the New York Giants and Doyle Lade pitched the Chicago Cubs to a 2-0 victory over the Pittsburgh Pirates.

Reliance Edges Banks In Semi-Pro Playoff

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LEAGUE LEADERS

News-Review Correspondent NATIONAL LEAGUE

Batting—Robinson, Brooklyn, .367; Slaughter, St. Louis, .354. Runs batted in—Robinson, Brooklyn, 62; Hodges, Brooklyn, 61. Home runs—Kiner, Pittsburgh, 29; Gordon, New York, and Sauer, Chicago, 24.

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Batting—Williams, Boston, .349; Dillinger, St. Louis, .343. Runs batted in—Stephens, Boston, 113; Williams, Boston, 112. Home runs—Williams, and Stephens, Boston, 28. Pitching—Reynolds, New York, 11-2, 84; Wynn, Cleveland, 9-3, 750.

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BASEBALL STANDINGS

(By the Associated Press)

PACIFIC COAST LEAGUE

Team	W	L	Pct.
Hollywood	80	24	.764
Sacramento	74	34	.684
Oakland	74	35	.678
San Diego	71	36	.660
Seattle	69	37	.648
Portland	67	39	.630
San Francisco	62	44	.588
Los Angeles	57	49	.537

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Team	W	L	Pct.
New York	81	44	.648
Cleveland	81	44	.648
Boston	80	45	.641
Philadelphia	78	44	.639
Detroit	78	45	.635
Chicago	73	49	.595
Washington	68	51	.571
St. Louis	55	71	.435

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Team	W	L	Pct.
St. Louis	96	29	.769
Brooklyn	96	29	.769
New York	94	31	.752
Boston	94	31	.752
Philadelphia	93	34	.732
Pittsburgh	87	37	.698
Cincinnati	84	40	.676
Chicago	81	47	.630

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