

Old Tennis Master Claims Kramer-Gonzales Matches Greatest Duels In History

By BOBBY RIGGS
 Editors Note: One of the all-time tennis greats gives his views on one of the all-time great tennis rivalries.

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON, Eugene, Jan. 18.—When I say that the Gonzales-Kramer matches are the greatest tennis duels in history, somebody is bound to snicker. After all, I am the promoter. But tennis is more than my business. I've played a bit of it myself. In fact, I played against Jack Kramer on a hard court, and many times as an amateur. I know him thoroughly.

The rivals clash at McArthur court here Feb. 8 in one of the two matches.

Except For Tilden

So, I don't think I'm sticking my neck out very far when I say that I consider Jack Kramer the greatest tennis player of all time, except for Bill Tilden, and I make the exception only out of respect for Tilden's record. But for several unfortunate bouts of illness, and a hitch in the Coast Guard, Kramer would probably have the most impressive record in tennis history.

As for Pancho Gonzales, well, Pancho is everything implied by the word "colorful." His game, based on power, is colorful, and so is his personality. Even though Pancho won the national singles title for the past two years, I still feel that he's an up-and-coming player, and where he'll stop nobody knows. He has proven this during his recent

comeback in the series, starting Jan. 1.

Pancho Improving

Tennis critics expressed some doubts when the tour was announced. "Kramer is too good for the kid," said one group. "Pancho has too much strength and talent for Kramer," said the Gonzales fans. But the tour is under way now, the two have met, and nobody can say I was wrong. Their court battles have been exciting, topnotch tennis.

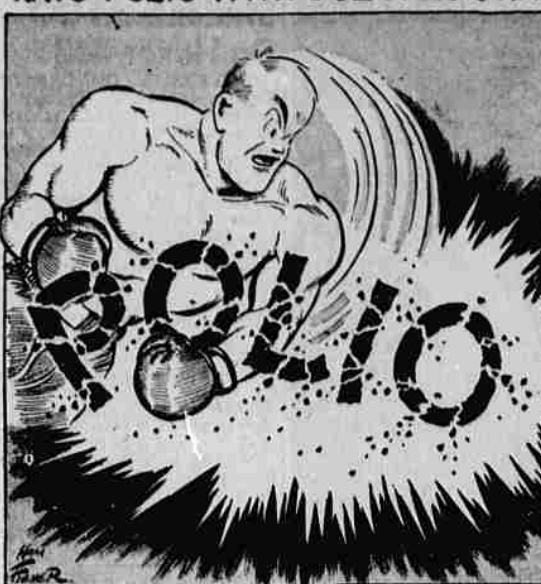
Why? Kramer is a power player too. Both have blistering serves backed by a sharp, aggressive net attack. Kramer has better control, but Pancho has improved tremendously in that department since the tour started.

Kramer's terrific forehand is matched by Gonzales' equally terrific backhand, to which Kramer fades most of the time. Both play an all-out, all-court game.

Advantage Noted

Kramer has another advantage. He's played a lot longer than Pancho, and he's got quite a bag of tricks. Pancho, however, is a born imitator and improviser, and he's been stealing from Jack's repertoire at a great rate. Incidentally, it amuses me a bit, because Kramer learned a lot of those tricks last year on tour with an old pro. The old pro was Bobby Riggs. To put it crudely, I "smartened" him up. So I pitted an up-and-coming player against an experienced one. I'm proud of the results.

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Gonzales has improved tremendously. He had to, because of the constant practice, more than amateur competition could ever have provided. I think that for the first time in the sport, a player is reaching his peak as a pro. Most players wait too long.

Kramer Better Also

Strangely enough, I feel that Jack has improved too, under the pressure that Pancho has exerted. After all, Pancho is still a youngster who doesn't know his own strength. Kramer has got to be on his toes every minute to keep up with him. Pancho, of course, is getting better and smoother all the time. He's got so much raw talent that he can't help it.

That's the story, I guess. I've got some nice lines about myself in the record books, but I think I'll deserve at least a few paragraphs in tennis history some day as the man who brought together the two greatest pros of our

Production Of County Red Cross Chapter Praised

Production service volunteer workers of the Douglas County chapter, American Red Cross, repaired, renovated and returned more than 1600 articles of clothing for use at the Veterans administration hospital at Roseburg, announced Mrs. S. E. Wilhelmy, production chairman.

In addition, said Mrs. Wilhelmy, the group made more than 109 garments and comfort articles, which were also turned over to the hospital for distribution. Fifty-eight pairs of slippers were made and sent to the military hospital near Spokane, Wash.

To accomplish this task eight volunteer workers gave over 1500 hours of their time during 1949. The bulk of the work was done in the chapter rooms in the Roseburg armory, where sewing machines are available. Some of the workers living some distance from town completed the work at home.

Mrs. Bertha Toner, Yoncalla Red Cross branch production chairman, reported her group made 52 pairs of slippers, several bed jackets and quilts, and repaired 85 articles for the hospital. The work required more than 400 hours.

Douglas Simms, local chapter manager, stated that all these items had, in accordance with American Red Cross policy, been distributed to military and veterans' hospitals. When the need was met in these institutions, the remainder, together with more than 1,000 pounds of new bedding and used clothing, was distributed to Douglas county families in emergency circumstances.

An account of the activities of this group was read at the last meeting of the chapter's board of directors. The volunteer work-

Oklahoma, Irish Sign Grid Series

NORMAN, Okla., Jan. 18.—(AP)—A "football game thousands would have paid \$10 for just an end zone seat last season will be up for decision in 1952."

That's when Notre Dame and Oklahoma, the nation's best team in 1949, have agreed to inaugurate their home-and-home grid-iron series.

The 1952 game will be played at Notre Dame, Nov. 8. The Irish journey here Sept. 26, 1953 to play the Sooners with their most ambitious opening game in history.

Contracts for the engagements have not been signed but President George L. Cross of Oklahoma said interest in the game had reached such a pitch that the schools decided to make announcements yesterday.

Oklahoma, long a Big Seven power, began a sensational rise to prominence under the guidance of youthful Coach Charles (Bud) Wilkinson.

Wilkinson's record shows 26 victories in the Sooners' last 27 games and two Sugar Bowl championships to go along with two Big Seven titles. His coaching of the split "T" attack has brought the plaudits of many veteran coaches.

Both teams point with pride to a long undefeated record. Notre Dame has played 38 games without a setback and Oklahoma's string has reached 21 straight victories.

The Katzenjammer Kids



Finns' President Election Winner

HELSINKI, Finland, Wednesday, Jan. 18.—(AP)—President Juho Paasikivi took an early lead toward re-election today in returns from the two-day voting for presidential electors which ended yesterday.

The coalition of social democrats, conservatives and Swedish peoples party members which supported Paasikivi chalked up an aggregate 58.8 per cent majority over the opposition.

But some of the individual parties supporting the incumbent president lost ground to agrarians and the Communist-dominated Peoples Democratic party, both of which opposed his re-election on different grounds.

The communists had been bolstered by recent Russian attacks which charged the government with harboring 300 alleged Soviet war criminals and violating the Soviet-Finnish peace pact.

In a note delivered Jan. 1 Russia specifically demanded the return of 56 of these alleged war criminals. It was strongly believed that the note was intended to put pressure on the elections. Finland is expected to answer

University Athletic Officials To Tour Southern Oregon

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON, Eugene, Jan. 18.—A heavy winter travel schedule, covering more than 30 cities in the state, has been announced by Leo Harris, director of athletics at the University of Oregon.

Harris and members of the Oregon coaching staff will meet with Webfoot alumni and friends of the athletic program to discuss the general policy and the future prospects of Duck athletic teams.

Football Films Featured

In addition to the discussions, one of the highlights of the various meetings will be the showing of the football highlights of the 1949 season. The film includes shots from all 10 of the games played by the Ducks last fall.

The tour of the state will be broken up into three trips. The first begins Monday, Jan. 23, at Klamath Falls, moves to Medford on Tuesday and concludes Wednesday at Coos Bay. Harris track and freshman football coach, will make the first trip.

At Klamath Falls the local arrangements will be handled by John Houston, assisted by Scott Warren and Joe Peak. The Medford meeting will be under the direction of Bill Barker and he will be the note formally tonight.

Before the elections Paasikivi said in a radio broadcast that Finland must not have the Soviet as an enemy.

will be aided by Rod Neating of Ashland and Dr. Clarel Ogie of Grants Pass.

Mayfield Heads Group

In Coos Bay Leonard Mayfield will head the committee and will be assisted by Bill Borcher, Ben Chandler, Jerry Extra and Chester Muggins. The meeting will include alumni from the adjacent coastal region and several participating committees have been named. Dr. Louis Garner and Ben Molecomb of North Bend, Lester Thompson of Reedsport, Earl "Spike" Leslie and Al Schroeder of Coquille, and Elton Schroeder of Myrtle Point will aid the Coos Bay group with the arrangements.

In February Harris and Coaches Don Kirsch and Jerry Lillie will spend several days in eastern Oregon and during March Coach Jim Alken, Kirsch and Business Manager Howard Lemmons will travel to Astoria, Portland and Salem.

Want To Keep Warm? Go To Public Library

"The public library has a nice wood-burning furnace and plenty of candles, so come what may—power failures or not—we will be open and ready to serve" the people of Douglas county, Mrs. Muriel Mitchell, librarian, said Tuesday. Library hours are noon to nine.

HOME TOWN NEWS



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Oregon High School Basketball Scores

(By The Associated Press)

Tillamook 47, Milwaukie 43.
 Eugene 79, St. Mary's (Eugene) 28.
 Hillsboro 48, Forest Grove 38.
 Salem 35, Corvallis 29.
 Toledo 38, Newport 34.
 Caribault 40, Nehalem 33.
 Pendleton 36, Hermiston 34.
 AT PORTLAND:
 Roosevelt 45, Benson 34.
 Jefferson 43, Washington 38.
 Franklin 35, Lincoln 26.
 Grant 53, Cleveland 31.

FIGHTS LAST NIGHT

(By The Associated Press)

LOS ANGELES—Johnny Etkan, 120½, Honolulu, outpointed Rocky Lucero, 131, San Francisco, 10.

BUFFALO, N. Y.—Lester Felton, 149, Detroit, outpointed Jean Walzack, 148½, Paris, France, 10.

SEEKS JUSTICE OFFICE

Harry Smith, Sutherlin, has filed a petition to be nominated for the office of justice of the peace of the Calapooia district at the primary election to be held May 19. Smith will run on the Republican ticket.

ers were highly praised for their accomplishments.

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