

EMERALD Sports

Duck Tracks

By Jerry Claussen
Emerald Sports Writer

Sports fans are pretty sick of hearing about the big money that gets thrown around in "amateur" sports. Stories on the football slush funds, basketball professional intentions, baseball bonuses, golf gambling, tennis subsidies, the fight racket, horse race fixes and, the latest, track payoffs are getting common.

A lot of interesting facts, comments and solutions for this disgusting situation are discussed in the April 30 issue of Life. "Athletes tell how illicit pay-offs destroy the amateur code," written by Jack Newcombe, is a top-notch expose of just what has been going on in track and field promotions for a long time.

The basic point, common sense lacking in AAU officialdom, is that the life suspension of Wes Santee for taking expense money is completely inconsistent. Santee's case was just one out of hundreds. But since he was used as a fall guy by Dan Ferris and the rest of the AAU big-shots, Santee is a martyr.

No Price—No Race

The article has several quotes from past track stars telling of payoffs they received while performing in amateur meets. One runner's comment was typical: "I never ran unless I got my price . . . the promoters knew that without us they didn't have a race."

Basically there is nothing wrong with runners, or tennis players or anyone else for that matter, getting expenses paid. If a race promoter in New York wants a California competitor in his meet, it should at least cost him something for fare.

The AAU's official policy is to allow \$15 a day expenses. That isn't enough, if a runner takes more, the AAU moguls, who officially control almost every Olympic sport, including tug-of-war, give him the business. This being an Olympic year, Ferris and his boys are playing God more than ever.

Realistic Theory Needed

The problem is to make the whole amateur sports theory more realistic and not to try to regulate every athlete and promoter in the country. The very least that should be done is to increase the expense allowance to a figure consistent with today's prices. Pro tennis star Jack Kramer says that \$25 would be a minimum for moderate living.

But this does not solve the deeper problem of compensating the athlete for time necessary in travel and training. Trackmen can hardly turn pro like golfers, basketball players etc., whose programs demand a lot more public interest. Professional track meets are non-existent.

Practical solutions would be to either abolish completely all distinction between amateurs and pros, or else redefine the difference, based on whether the athlete earns his living from sports. Sportswriter Paul Gallico once wrote that the only amateur runners he ever knew were commuters running for trains. Obsolete AAU codes will make this come true.

Games to Test World Power

The question has got to come to a head pretty soon. It should be decided before the Olympics, when Uncle Sam's struggling amateurs will compete with state-backed teams from Russia and other realistic nations. The Olympics are getting to be a test of world power, and the United States can't afford to lose it because of outdated idealism.

Of course the U.S. government is not overlooking all the angles. Last winter the navy located all members of its 1952 Olympic championship crew, called them in to the Navy academy at Annapolis and is now paying them officers' salaries for getting in shape for the June games trials.

A new policy is the answer, if the AAU hard-headedness can be cracked. Realism could go too far, however. Like the case of the 1000-yard runner who wanted \$1000 for competing in a certain meet. The promoter offered \$400. The runner quit running after a quarter-mile, telling the promoter that "for \$400 you get 400 yards."



ROCKY MARCIANO holds up a pair of boxing gloves as he announces at a news conference in New York April 27, that he is retiring as heavyweight boxing champion of the world. Rocky, unbeaten in 49 pro fights, acceded to wishes of his wife, Barbara, who said she had been "pleading and begging" with him to give up boxing for her sake and that of their daughter, Mary Anne. (AP Wirephoto)

WSC Downs Beavers, 7-5; Top Conference With 5-0

CORVALLIS (AP)—Undefeated Washington State won its fifth consecutive Northern division baseball victory here Monday, cutting off an Oregon State rally to defeat the Beavers, 7-5.

Coach Buck Bailey's league-leading Cougars capitalized on a bases-loaded triple by winning pitcher George Plummer in the fifth to break a 1-1 deadlock. An OSC error scored a fourth run in that inning.

Each team committed four errors in the loosely played contest, and only one WSC run was earned.

Bill Rich and Joe Grembley each had two hits for the winners. Oregon State's Dan Lovejoy doubled in one run in the fourth inning and set up another score with a single in the eighth. Jack Bowen tripled for the Beavers in the ninth, driving in a run, and scored himself on a WSC error. The rally faltered there, however, and Cougar relief pitcher Jerry Bartow retired the side to end the game.

WSC 001-040-101—7-6-4
OSC 000-101-012—5-6-4
Plummer, Bartow (8) and Rich; Gambee, Paine (5), Zaniker (7) and Lovejoy.

Idaho 9-Huskies 8

SEATTLE (AP)—Idaho cut short a late Washington rally to chalk up a 9-8 Northern division baseball victory here Monday.

The win gave the Vandals a 3-4 league record and pushed the Huskies deeper in the cellar at 1-6.

Washington outlit the visitors, 12-8, and rallied for five runs in the last two innings. The Huskies had the tying run on second

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Warriors Pick Max Anderson

NEW YORK (AP)—Max Anderson, University of Oregon basketball center for three years, was picked by Philadelphia's Warriors in professional basketball's annual draft of college players Monday.

The player who opposed Anderson the most times through his high school and college bas-



Max Anderson

ketball career — 7-foot Wade (Swede) Halbrook, former Oregon State college pivot man — was drafted by Syracuse. Halbrook did not complete his senior year at Oregon State and last season played for the Vickers Oilers of Wichita.

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