

Top Marksmen Eye Big Prize

VANDALIA, Mo., Aug. 21 (AP)—America's top trapshooters trained their guns on the \$7,000 top prize of "the Baby Grand championship" here Thursday at the Grand American Handicap tournament.

A total of \$17,000 will be the illusive target Thursday as scater-gunners fire in the top preliminary event leading up to Friday's clay bird classic—the Grand American Handicap.

In Wednesday's class championships, Herbert N. Ferguson, Fontana, Calif., took the top AA division title by blasting 50 straight from the 16-yard line and then 25 more from the 25-yard line for a perfect day.

The 40-year-old citrus grower who flew into Vandalia a few hours before the firing began, calmly knocked 200 birds from the sky in the regulation shooting to the Bobbie Lee Stifal, Casey, Ill., and Arnold Riegger of Seattle.

Both sharpshooters then moved back to the 25-yard line where the California marksmen banged another perfect 25. Stifal missed four clay targets.

'Bonus Baby' Out With Bad Ankle

THE DALLES, Aug. 21 (AP)—Eddie Urness, "bonus baby" pitcher signed by the Boston Red Sox for a reported \$50,000 or more this spring, was back home Thursday recovering from an ankle injury.

Urness twisted his ankle last week while covering home plate for Roanoke of the class 'B' Piedmont League in a game against Norfolk. The injury at first appeared to be minor but examination proved it to be serious and Urness was sent home and told to keep off the ankle as much as possible.

The 18-year-old righthander said he had no immediate plans and had not decided whether to attend college this fall. He said he would report next spring to the Red Sox or a farm club.

Urness was sent to Albany of the class 'A' Eastern League after he signed and won his first game. Later, he was sent to Roanoke when he had control trouble. He said he worked in about 17 games for Roanoke as a relief pitcher.

Yanks Dominate Canadian Meet

TORONTO, Aug. 21 (AP)—The Canadian Lawn Tennis tournament was reduced almost to an all-U. S. affair Thursday with five Yanks holding berths in the quarter-finals.

Dick Savitt, Orange, N. J., and Art Larsen, San Leandro, Calif., headed the U. S. survivors and were heavily favored to gain the semi-finals Thursday.

Savitt was matched against Gustavo Palafox of Mexico and Larsen played tiny Felicesimo Ampon of the Philippines.

The other two quarter-final matches pitted Champion Tony Vincent of New York against Ed Moylan, Orange, N. J., and Hall Butrows, Charlottesville, Va., against Kurt Nielsen, Denmark.

DIRECTOR NAMED
WASHINGTON, Aug. 21 (AP)—Former Associated Press Correspondent Tom Yarbrough Thursday was named assistant publicity director of the Democratic National Committee.

Sports Parade

By JACK CUDDY
(Editorial Sports Writer)

NEW YORK, Aug. 21 (AP)—Manager Paul Richards of the Chicago White Sox warned Thursday that "any one of five clubs" may beat out the New York Yankees for the American League pennant unless the Yanks improve their pitching in a hurry.

Did the tall, rangy, sharp-featured pilot figure that his White Sox still had a flag in hand, although they are now battling with the Philadelphia Athletics for fifth place in the standings?

"I certainly do," said the former Giant and Tiger catcher. "If we could only generate some power, we'd be right up there now. Our hitting has been unexpectedly poor this season, but I still hope to do something about it."

And who were the other formidable contenders?

The man in the gray road uniform with "22" on the back answered quickly.

"You can go right down the list—Cleveland, Boston, Washington and Philadelphia. Each of those clubs is tough."

"As a matter of fact, we've found the Athletics recently the toughest outfit we've faced. They're a very dangerous outfit."

If Paul and his Pale Hose can generate power and make a late-season pennant bid, they will be reversing the process of last year when they made an early bid but sluffed off in the stretch and finished fourth.

On June 7 last season, the amazing White Sox were in first place, five full games ahead of the Yankees. They fought for the lead until July 20, after which they began to descend. A year ago today they were in fourth place, 10½ games behind the leading Indians.

Standing beside the batting cage at Yankee Stadium today, Richards stressed the fact that Chicago's hitting had not supported its pitching this season.

"We haven't been getting the runs," he said. "We've left 926 men on base. At least that was the figure before Wednesday's game, and I believe it's the most in the league this season."

And we've lost 20 games by one run. Our hitting has not been effective."

Paul hopes the return of Chico Carrasquel to the shortstop post will add some pep to his outfit. Chico has been out more than six weeks with a broken finger on his right hand. He returned to the lineup Tuesday night for the first of three games with the Yanks.

Last season Senor Carrasquel of Venezuela sparked the Sox and earned general recognition as a shortstop who ranked second only to Scooter Rizzuto of the Yanks.

Writers with the Chicago club say outfielder Sam Mele has been the only consistent hitter this season. His figure is about .266 and he has driven in 56 runs. Although first-sacker Ed Robinson has about .300 and 80 RBI, he has been in a slump recently. Likewise outfielder Minnie Minoso has been going hot and cold. Second baseman Nellie Fox is showing signs of snapping out of his terrific slump.

"If we can only get some effective hitting, we'll still give anybody a good fight," Richards concluded.

Most lizards can move each eye separately and probably have keener vision than human beings.

Middlecoff After Fort Wayne Title

FORT WAYNE, Ind., Aug. 21 (AP)—Cary Middlecoff, one of the hottest shot-makers on the current pro golf circuit, went after his fifth major championship of the season Thursday as the \$15,000 Fort Wayne Open began.

The golfing dentist from Memphis, Tenn., who last Monday won the Kansas City Open in a special play-off against young Jack Burke Jr., prepared himself for the four-day, 72-hole test Wednesday by touring the front nine of the rolling Elks Country Club course in 34-two under par.

Julius Boros, U. S. Open titlist here for the first time, matched Middlecoff's scorecard, and neither played the back nine.

Middlecoff must win here to keep alive his hopes of becoming top money winner of the top touring pros. He now trails Boros, who whipped him in a play-off in the lucrative Tam O'Shanter "world's championship" earlier this month, by some \$4,200.

MEET PLANNED
THE DALLES, Aug. 21 (AP)—The two-day Oregon open AAU swimming and diving championships will be held here this weekend. The largest number of entries in the six-year history of the event is expected, according to Leonard Bailey, meet director. Among those performing will be Della Sehorn of Portland who was a member of the American team at the 1952 Olympic games.

NORGAN'S WINS
PORTLAND, Aug. 21 (AP)—Norgan's Beavers of Portland defeated Tongue Point, 1-0, and the Portland Preps beat the American Legion All-Stars, 4-1, Wednesday night in state American Baseball Congress semi-pro tournament contests. The loss eliminated Tongue Point from the tourney.

Many dentists are reported to be moving their practice from eastern and central states to the South and West.

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