



Channel Four It looks like everybody wants to get into the act—English channel variety—since Shirley May France, showed up in England with a press agent to help her train for the swim. The excuse for this photo—four swimmers stand in front of flags from their countries. From left: Mrs. Willi Van Rijssel, the Netherlands; Phillip Mickham, England; Shirley, United States, and Elna Anderson Denmark.

Brown Bomber May Try Comeback If Lesnevich Wins Heavy Crown

By OSCAR FRALEY
(United Press Sports Writer)
Pompton Lakes, N.J., Aug. 8.—The big man was outwardly relaxed yet there was a measuring quality around his narrowed eyes as he leaned on a corner of the ring and studiously watched Ezzard Charles go through five fast rounds with various sparmates.

Only a few people sprawled in the bleachers huddled around the little ring dwarfed by the huge trees overhead. But their chatter rose above the splat of the gloves as Charles prepared for defense of the NBA heavy-weight championship next Wednesday against Gus Lesnevich. But the big man didn't join in the conversation.

retired, came back and then retired again—this time supposedly for good—was watching his successor critically. It was almost as if he was trying to answer, in his mind, how he would handle this broad-shouldered upstart who has the one thing Joe lacks—youth. Charles finally finished his boxing chores and, as Louis

started down from the ring's apron, Joe beat a quick tattoo on the light bag. "That's about all Joe needs to whip them both," somebody laughed. Louis heard it but gave no heed. He stepped down quickly and walked away under the trees which still dripped belated remnants of a morning rain. The sportswriters cornered him a few minutes later and asked him how Charles looked.

"He looks good," Joe muttered. "Even better than he did in Chicago before he beat Joe Walcott. He looks stronger and more confident. "But he carries his right hand a awful low," Louis grinned with a reflective smile. "And he hits easy, too, with a right hand. And don't forget, that Lesnevich can knock anybody out with either hand."

Joe started talking then about how he plans to make a boxing exhibition tour through Canada in October. "Is that in preparation for a comeback?" he was asked. "Yeah — on the golf circuit next year," he chuckled. But there was something in his eyes which said that maybe it was — and maybe it wasn't. Off in a corner of the little glen which once was Joe's favorite training camp, Jake Mintz, Charles' manager, was holding forth. "Everything I say is spontaneous," Jake announced. "But this championship is 47 to 1 (meaning recognized everywhere but in New York) and I hope Kolnal Eagle (Commissioner Eddie Eagan of New York) recognize the title after this fight."

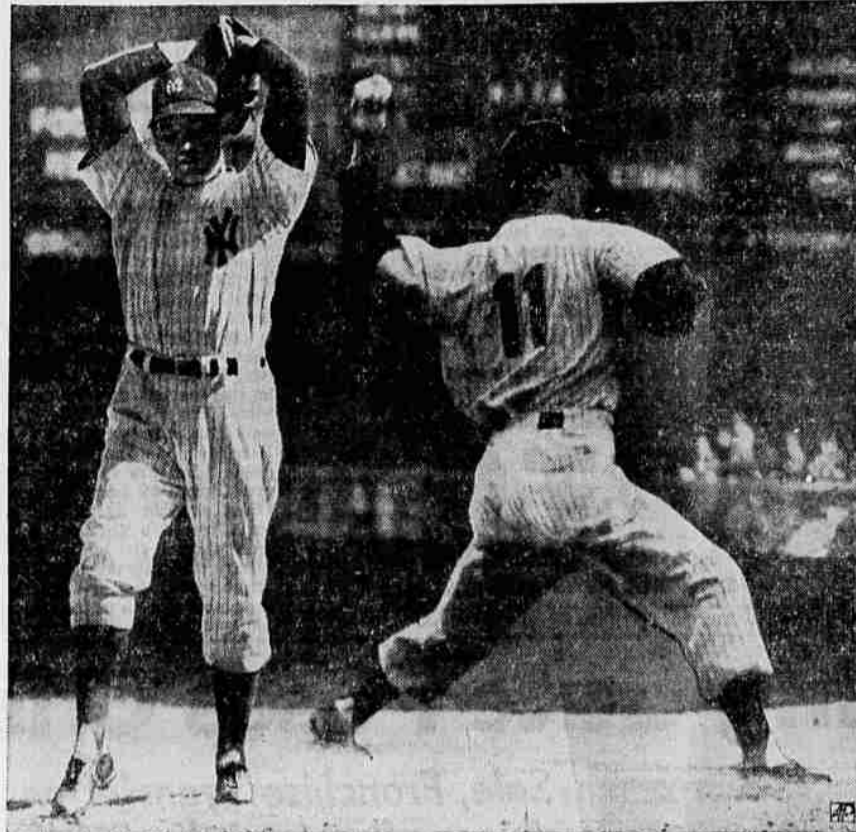
Charles, undressing in the little bungalow used as dressing

quarters, wasn't making any predictions. "But if he gets in the way he will get knocked out," Ezzard insisted. And back in the press headquarters, Louis was telling the boys that such a comatose condition was liable to be either man's pay-off if he got careless. "Well, if Lesnevich won, would you come back and fight him?" he was asked. "He sure be more my age, wouldn't he?" countered the 35-year-old Joe of the 34-year-old Gus. The general opinion was that he would — and they might!



Spaghetti Lover — Renato Renzi, 298 pounds, won a Rome spaghetti-eating contest by finishing a pound in 47 seconds. Then he ate two pounds more because he was hungry.

Reynolds - Page Top Yankee Duet



By FRANK ECK
New York.—When Allie Reynolds gets around to talking salary with the Yankees next winter he should let Joe Page in on the discussion. Joe has been in about everything else Allie has started this season.

Reynolds started 18 times yet finished only three games. On May 10 he stopped the Tigers, 6-1; then his next complete game came more than two months later on July 14 when he beat the Athletics, 6-2. Seven days later he surprised even Page when he pitched a brilliant three-hitter to blank the Browns, 5-0.

Everyone knows the best Yankee pitcher is Vic Raschi, when it comes to starting and finishing games. But among the Yankees their best one-two pitching punch is referred to as "Reynolds-Page." It is an ambidextrous combination, Reynolds the right hander and Page the southpaw.

In games in which the Oklahoma Indian has started and in which Page relieved the record shows 88 innings for Reynolds and 29 for Page. It also shows Reynolds with an 11 and one record and Page with eight and four.

Usually when Allie starts a game the Yankee bench casts an eye on the bullpen. If Page is out there they—and Reynolds—have little to worry about.

It's like the old Yankee pitching partnership of Gomez and Murphy. "I relied on Johnny Murphy to save games for me so often that when I got around to my income tax return I always felt like taking Murphy for a dependent," says Lefty Gomez. From Memorial Day to July 4th, Reynolds started seven games. Twice he felt strong and went eight innings. On the other occasions he hurled anywhere from five and one-third frames to seven innings. In each of these seven starts, the answer was the same, Page.

Joe, hero of the 1947 World series triumph against Brooklyn, finished every game. He helped preserve victory for Reynolds in four games during this stretch, won a game for himself and took the loss in two extra inning games.

Through the end of July Reynolds showed an 11-won and one-lost record, thanks mainly to Page and his fast ball. Reynolds' only setback came on May 1 when Page wasn't around to relieve him in a game against the Red Sox.

Stan the Man Slams Out .588 in Ebbets Contests

By FRANK ECK
Brooklyn, N. Y.—You can sum up the National League pennant race this way: Brooklyn vs. Musial. If the Dodgers can stop Stan (The Man) Musial, they have a good chance to win the National League flag. Musial is hitting .558 in Ebbets field this season.



His slugging average at the home of the Bums is 1.147, based on 39 total bases for 34 official trips to the plate. In his last two games here the St. Louis Cardinal outfielder slashed out seven hits in nine trips to the plate, and five of them were for extra bases to account for eight runs. Even in the All-Star game, Musial led a one-man attack on the Ebbets Field fences, getting a triple and two singles in four trips to drive home two runs for the National Leaguers.

The Dodgers still have three games to play with the Red Birds in Ebbets Field, starting on Aug. 21. They wind up the 22-game season series with three games in Sportsman's Park, St. Louis, Sept. 21 and 22. Maybe by that time the Dodger pitchers will learn to respect Musial. The one solution left for Brooklyn vs. Musial is the base on balls.

Here's what THAT MAN has done against the Dodgers this year:

AB.	R.	H.	2B	3B	HR	RBI	TB	PCT.
34	17	19	2	3	4	11	30	.558

The Kitten Knew Best

Chicago (AP)—During a heat wave a kitten squirmed into a narrow space between two buildings in suburban Glenn Ellyn. Its cries attracted a crowd. When all else failed, a fireman extricated the cat with a hook attached to a long pole. Two days later the kitten was back in the same trap. A policeman, using the same tool, fished it out again. But within 48 hours it was in the tight spot again. Chief of Police Lee Brierton made a personal survey of the situation. He peered in the small opening, felt a cool breeze on his face and called off rescue work. The kitten, he decided, was in the most comfortable place in the neighborhood.

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LONG RUN

Foxboro, Mass. (AP)—Bay State Raceway at Foxboro, Mass., plans the longest and richest harness race meeting in New England history this season, operating 50 nights from Aug. 22 to Oct. 18 with purses totaling more than \$200,000. Ed Keller, currently at Laurel Raceway, has been named racing secretary, with Harvey Hartman and Dr. A. C. Goff of Ithaca, N. Y.

NEW RECORDS

East Lansing, Mich. (AP)—A total of 15 new varsity track and field records, ten outdoor and five indoor, were written into the books during the 1949 Michigan State track season. In addition, two other varsity marks were equalled and two new freshman records were set.

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