

Sports

SAILOR BOY OUTPOINTS STRIBLING

Idol of South Wilts Under Body Blows—Margin of Victory Slerfder—Georgia Boy Makes K. O. Bid on Fourth—Gate Estimated at \$400,000.

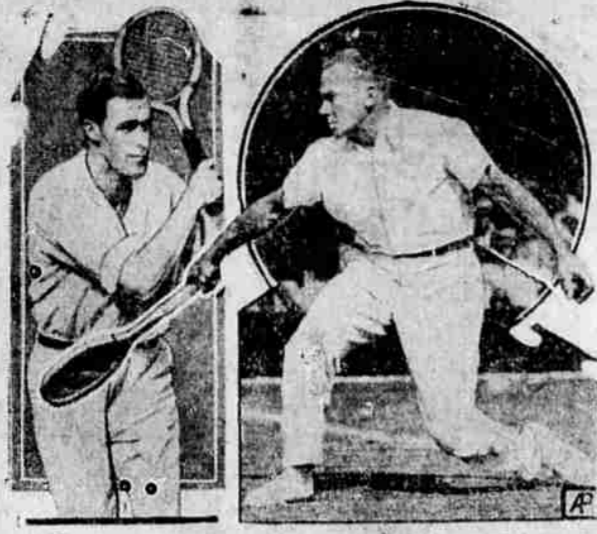
By Alan J. Gould. (Associated Press Sports Editor.) MIAMI BEACH, Fla., Feb. 28. (AP)—The impetuous fling of youth, it seems, isn't enough. Young Stribling, idol of the south and a veteran of pugilism despite his 24 years, had his fling last night, but at the end of the glamorous melodrama of Miami Beach, the official decision went to Jack Sharkey, the stout, chunky and hard-hitting sailor from down east. In a ten-round match that was alternately fast and dull, hard fought and close, but punctuated with few real moments of thrilling excitement, Sharkey overcame a big bend on points piled up by Stribling in the first six rounds and won with a strong finish throughout the last four rounds. The battering Bostonian had his hand lifted as the victor by Referee Lou Magnolia of New York, but his margin of victory was thin and far from convincing, either to a majority of experts or to most of the crowd of 40,000 that was packed in the picturesque setting of Flamingo Park. Magnolia, sole arbiter of the battle, did not hesitate to lift Sharkey's hand, nor did his score sheet, showing six rounds for the Boston boxer, three for Stribling and one even, leave room for any doubt in his mind. Ringside critics, although widely at variance in their opinions, were not far from unanimous in agreement with the verdict. The majority, in a poll taken by the Associated Press, credited Sharkey with no more than a single round's margin. But only about one out of every 12 in the critical group assented around the ring believed Stribling was entitled to victory or at least a draw.

Stribling Game. Stribling, outwitted and out-boxed, but not out-gamed, fought the more spectacular fight. He furnished the one big moment of drama in the fourth round when he caught Slerfder with an overhand right that staggered the Boston sailor and made his knees sag momentarily. Then, as at other times, however, the gallant Georgian was unable to follow up his advantage. Sharkey, in better fighting condition, was woefully slow, ineffective and wild at times, but he fought the more businesslike fight. He won by the colorless but nevertheless effective method of pounding Stribling's body until he was sore, bruised and blotchy red. That punishing mode of attack slowly but certainly took the steam from Stribling's own offensive. Stribling showed up his pliance and wore down his resistance in a bout that was filled with plenty of pushing and pulling and hugging. Of the crowd of some 40,000, about 25,000 contributed to an astonishing "gate" estimated at \$400,000 for the venture that Tex Rickard planned as a big gamble and which his successors, led by Jack Dempsey and "Big Bill" Carey, saw through to success only after many misgivings. Probably thousands in the crowd came to see how it could be done, skeptical perhaps to the last, when the gates finally were closed and a sell-out announced.

Great Show. It was, altogether, a great show in which the big fight itself seemed in the end only a major item, the climax but not the whole thing. For the famous figures of sports, of business, politics, and society, this spectacle was something to see. Stribling made the big gamble and lost, but the crowd applauded him for it. Naturally enough, the personal sympathies of most of those in the arena, coming from the south, were with the Georgian. But he had neither the stamina nor the punching power to sustain an offensive that up until the last few rounds gave him the chance to win. Stribling threw everything he had into the first half of the fight. When the big bid for a knockout in the fourth failed, he seemed to lose spirit. After the sixth, he was a tired youth, always dangerous, but steadily being beaten into submission by a wearing, tearing body-attack. His father-manager, "Pa" Stribling, asserted his son's chances were dimmed after the fourth round by a recurrence of a war (11) in his left arm, first brought on by a rib injury a week before the fight. The Stribling left, he said, was almost useless in the last half of the battle.

Horse Mourns Master. NEW YORK, Feb. 28. (AP)—Brownie, who for 17 years helped Police Sergeant James A. Dowling regulate traffic in low Manhattan, has refused to eat since the sergeant's death. He has whimpered constantly since bearing reversed stirrups, he took part in the funeral procession.

PLAN EUROPEAN TENNIS INVASION



Restored to amateur standing, Big Bill Tilden (left) plans a tennis invasion of Europe this spring with Francis T. Hunter.

Baskets and Bankboards

By Forrest C. (Phog) Allen (President National Association of Basketball Coaches) Due to the development and interest in the two major games, baseball and football offensive play have long been standardized. New style basketball is leaning more toward offense, toward a standardized offensive. In order to make the game more attractive, as well as to make goal shooting more effective, many styles of offenses are in use today. The three-man hard driving, the four-man quick breaking, the five-man shuttle guard, the delayed and the straight-stall offenses, with their many variations, are the sum total of basketball offenses in use at present. Three-Man Hard Driving. This is the general type of offense now in use in the state of Indiana, the mecca of basketball. This applies to the high school, the independent and the college teams of that section. In this type of offense the rear or back guard seldom takes a shot for goal. The running or floor guard is the feeder only unless he happens to be a crack long shot artist and finds one of the three offensive men open for a pass. Generally this guard shoots a pass to one of the trio on offense and they, in turn, take up a hard, rapid drive for goal. Four-Man Quick Breaking. This is the general type of offense that finds favor in the west—along the Pacific Coast. It is the type mentioned in my last article. In this offense the floor guard

"Please pardon my frown... but someone in the studio just coughed... and spoiled our love scene"

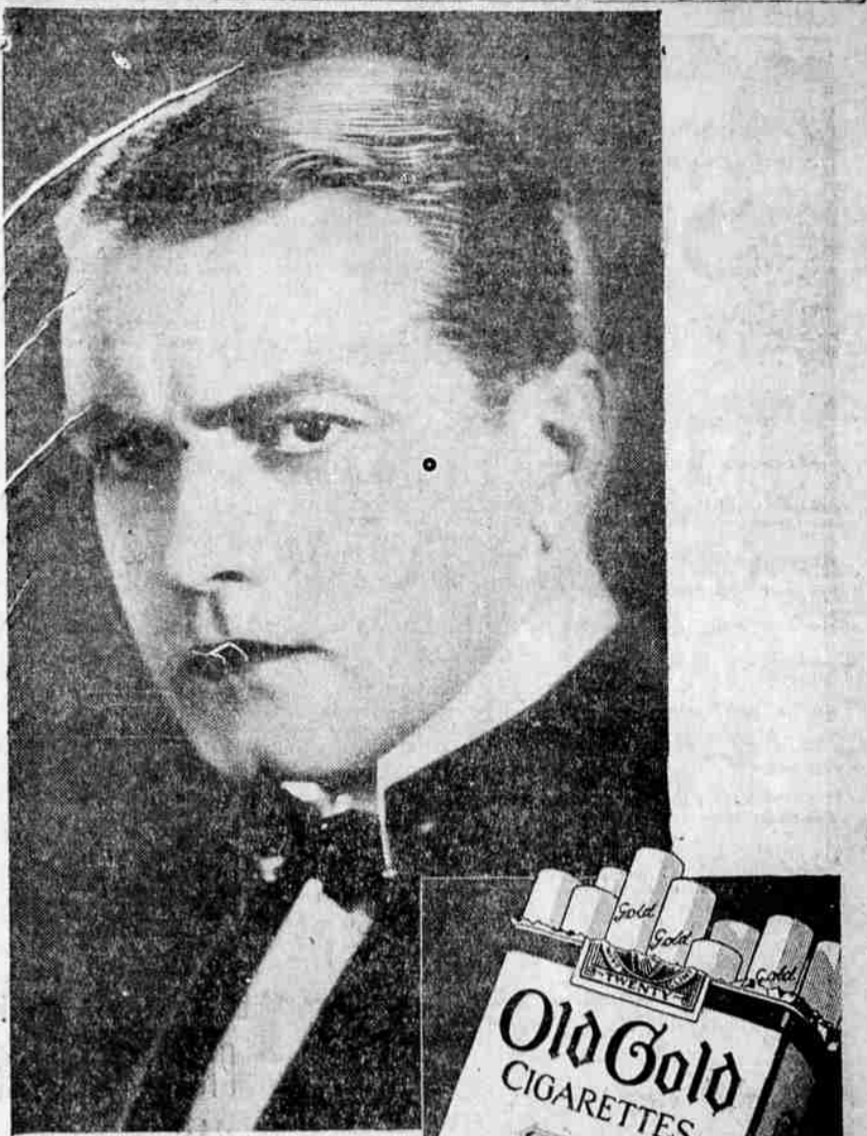
"They've often called the movies 'the silent drama.' But there isn't much silence during the making of a movie."

"It's in the making of a 'Talkie' that studio silence is required. No one is allowed to make any noise, but the players. For the slightest sound in the studio registers on the sensitive recording mechanism. And an uninvited cough's a calamity."

"The other day someone coughed during the recording of a love scene. Since then OLD GOLDS are the order of the day. For as all Hollywood knows, there's not a cough in a film-ful."

(SIGNED) Richard Barthelmess

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BLAZING the SPORTS TRAIL

By Alan J. Gould. (Associated Press Sports Editor.) No other single tennis event of 1923 was so significant to the game's new era or so interesting to the public at large as the rise of 17-year-old Helen Wills of California to the national women's championship. There was some feeling that Mrs. Molla Bjurstedt Mallory, the seven times champion, had come close to the end of her reign. Her defeat in the final was not so unexpected as was the margin by which Miss Wills won at 6-2, 6-1, in something like 23 minutes at the newly opened Forest Hills stadium. Even more astonishing to the experts was the masculine-like power of the California girl's game, the smashing strokes that marked a distinct plane now generally regarded as higher than that once occupied by Suzanne Lenglen. Mrs. Mallory was a hard hitter but never approached the all-around power of Miss Wills' game. It is one of the competitive mis-

advised yet well enough equipped to threaten the long and formidable reign of Mrs. Mallory, but she was nevertheless the homebred hope. It was not that any of the more enthusiastic tennis devotees here any ill-will toward Mrs. Mallory, but it was no secret that those in power yearned to hand the big championship trophy to a product of American courts after so long a period of domination by the sturdy and gallant sportswoman from Norway. Miss Wills was well guided in her swift and dramatic rise to the top. To her father's patient teaching she ascribes her early development in that California cradle of tennis that has turned out Bill Johnson, Helen Jacobs and so many other stars. The finishing touches, however, were applied by the generous tutoring of Hazel Hotchkins Wightman. Herself a former national champion, wife of

a tennis executive, born strategist and teacher, Mrs. Wightman recognized the remarkable possibilities in Miss Wills' game and sought to develop them. How well she succeeded was quickly evident.

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