

The Sporting Page

RUSS, ARMSTRONG TRAINED TO PEAK FOR THURSDAY GO

Jewish Lad Remains 7 to 5 Favorite Over Negro — Odds Seen Tribute to Ross' Record for Mixing

By GAYLE TALBOT.
NEW YORK, May 24.—(AP)—Trained like fighting cocks, to quote their respective managers, Barney Ross and Henry Armstrong did little more than flex their muscles and get a couple of haircuts today in final preparation for their 15-round battle for the welterweight championship tomorrow night.

Both completed training without mishap, and unless one of them trips over the scales at the official weighing-in tomorrow noon, they will enter the ring at the big Madison Square Garden bowl in shape for the scrap of their careers.

Ross, the Jewish lad with the flaming spirit, remained a steadfast favorite at 7-to-5 to defend his welterweight crown successfully against the negro featherweight ruler, whose fearsome record of knockouts in the last two years is unparalleled in modern ring history.

The odds might be considered a tribute to Ross' record of never having done other than fight a man to the limit of his skill and endurance since he became a big-timer in 1932. That, more than the weight advantage, will keep him the favorite until he gets licked.

The record books show that Barney at 28, will be giving away some four years to his ever-pushing, powerful opponent. But those who have watched the clean-cut boy from Chicago fight over the long span think he still can whip Armstrong or anyone else around his weight.

At 142, or thereabouts, Ross will square off at his very best fighting weight. Armstrong, on the other hand, has been forced to build himself up to 136 for the weigh-in.

Tactics Defined.
The tactics defined by the two are pretty well defined. Armstrong intends to dig into his older rival's midsection from the start, and in time to bring Barney's guard down to where he can be walloped soundly on the jaw.

Ross is certain he isn't going to retreat like Armstrong's other victims. He is smart and clever enough, he thinks, to stay in close and outbox Armstrong. He thinks, also, that he can punch harder than Henry, when it comes to a showdown.

Armstrong, quiet and studious as ever, is making no fiery predictions, through his manager, Eddie Mead, says Henry will win by a knockout. He even calls the punch: a right to the jaw. He is very angry because the Ross retinue has suggested that Armstrong is a low puncher when he becomes excited.

The advance sale continued to pick up, and with good weather it looked like over \$150,000 worth of customers might sit in the big saucer, whence no champion ever has escaped with his title.

Sport Graphs

Billy Hulen says:

Ladies Get Break At Grappling Show Next Monday Night

Partly because of a slight drop in attendance the past three weeks, but mainly to offer to many uninitiated women the opportunity to get acquainted with the colorful moan and mangle industry, Promoter Mack Lillard has announced a "ladies' night" for the Decoration Day wrestling program next Monday night, featuring the Black Secret and Junior Heavyweight Champion Duke Chick in the main event.

It will be the first such angle ever attempted here, and if it proves popular the impresario said he might make it a regular occasion.

Wives, sisters, daughters, mothers, aunts, sweethearts, or any other feminine sports fan will be admitted free, providing they are accompanied by someone who purchases either a ringside or gallery ticket. And, it doesn't have to be a male purchaser. Two women can attend for the price of one ticket, and if a reserved seat is obtained the free duet will be for a chair alongside. In other words, everyone, whether male or female, will be given a free ticket with each ticket bought. And, the same will apply to youngsters who buy a seat at the regular children's price scale—a free duet will be given providing, of course, that it is used by a guest whose age comes under the children's rate.

"Ladies' nights" or "days" are nothing new in the sports world, and they have been proved many times to be extremely valuable in acquiring professional baseball fans. Most all sliding in the Table Rock vicinity. Wilson, said shortly, is right now as good, if not better, than any hurler in Ashland, Medford or Grants Pass, and he claimed that if the youngster were given a chance to show his wares the club which obtained him wouldn't be sorry. He'll be chucking for Prospect next Sunday at Talent as the new Jackson county circuit opens its season, Shorty said, so maybe he'll get a tumble from one of the S.O.L. outfits.

We can vouch for Wilson's ability. Four years ago, when he was hardly old behind the ears, he went 14 innings against Ashland, struck out 17 batters, and lost by a mere 4 to 3 count. Bob Hardy was hurling for the Lithians, and it was one of the sweetest pitching battles we have ever seen. Hardy, that day, fanned 23 Gold Hill hitters. The same season, on the Fourth of July in Grants

Pass, Wilson hurled for the Merchants against Ashland and was beaten by one run again—7 to 6, and again it was Hardy who chucked for Ashland.

Mighty little Henry Armstrong, colored featherweight champion, attempts to add the welterweight crown to his collection tomorrow night in the Madison Square Garden bowl, and along with the rest of the sports writers, notoriously the loudest prognosticators in the world, we must stick our own proclivities into the thing and call the turn.

We hereby go on record as picking Barney Ross to retain his welter crown by jabbing Hustlin' Hank to ribbons and belting him out within 12 beats. However, if Barney doesn't produce a KO, he will win the decision in 15 rounds. But, it looks like a knockout to this writer, who doesn't know a thing about prize-fights, and admits it.

So, we'll still take Max Schmeling on the evening of June 22, come what may and regardless of a dream Linn Mills had the other night in which he kept seeing the figure 5 in front of him. Being a Joe Louis man, Linn promptly named the fifth round as the one in which Joe would finish the German. Now, everybody is on record and ain't we having fun.

The Cleveland Indians, who haven't won the American League pennant since 1920 although they often have threatened to take the flag, may turn out to be a very tough team to beat this season in spite of everything.

CRATERS TO PLAY WEED TEAM HERE DECORATION DAY

Negotiations were completed today for an exhibition game between the Medford Craters and the Weed Toolies of the Northern California League, Monday, Decoration Day, at the local high school park. The encounter will give Medford's Southern Oregon league leaders a full program over the holiday week-end, Yreka, Cal., coming here Sunday for a regulation loop engagement.

The Weed club is rated one of the strongest in the Northern California circuit, having won one and lost one in action to date. Medford holds undisputed top spot in the S. O. L. with three victories in as many starts.

Lowell Brown, big southpaw pitcher and first baseman who shut out Crescent City last Sunday with two hits, turned up with a sore arm yesterday. Manager Wally Rickert revealed today, and will probably see no mound service in either game. The soreness is in Brown's left shoulder. Rickert reported, and while it was not believed to be serious, the manager stated he wanted the left-hander to get a good rest for the Glendale game June 5.

With Brown returning to his first base job, Ray Erickson, young right-hander, will probably get the starting call against Yreka. Rickert said, Bill Rathke and Ed George will be held in reserve, and one or the other will toe the rubber against Weed Decoration Day.

Pastor Flattens Crowell In First

LOS ANGELES, May 25.—(AP)—Bob Pastor of New York scored a clean one-round knockout over Chuck Crowell, green Los Angeles heavyweight, before 10,000 customers at the Olympic auditorium here last night.

Pastor, weighing 183, spotted his opponent hanging around.

The Indians, however, have accomplished a couple of notable feats on their current home stand. They climbed back to the lead after dropping to third place in the east. They won six out of seven games from eastern rivals, and they turned back the Yanks twice in two days.

The pitching of Johnny Allen, a former Yankee, and the clouting of Earl Averill enabled the Tribe to win 9-5 yesterday and drop New York into third place. The Boston Red Sox, who took over second with a 5-4 triumph over the Detroit Tigers, invade Cleveland today for a two game series.

Old Lefty Grove and slightly younger Jimmy Foxx brought about Boston's victory. Grove, pitching his way out of frequent trouble rang up his eighth straight victory.

FINE RING CARD FOR FIRST 'LADIES' NIGHT'

For the first "ladies night" ever held here, Promoter Mack Lillard has lined up a fine wrestling program for the Decoration Day card next Monday night at the armory. The Duke Chick-Black Secret main event will be just one star attraction.

The promoter announced today the completion of the card to include Bobby Chick versus Red Lyons in the middle event and Tony Garibaldi versus Floyd Britt in the opener.

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TRIBUNE TROPHY ON BLOCK AGAIN IN SUNDAY SHOOT

Leg winners on the coveted Mail Tribune trophy will defend their titles at the Medford Gun club Sunday, at the ninth annual Mail Tribune trapshoot. Shooting will start at 10:30 o'clock.

The Tribune event will be shot at 100 16-yard targets. The following event for the Peri handicap trophy, will be shot at 50 handicap targets.

The program will also contain a doubles and a "miss and out" event, the latter contest eliminating the shooter after he has missed two targets. Shooters move back one yard

after each shot until the last remaining shooter at the traps wins the event.

Al Reich, well known Pacific coast cashier, will make the trip from Portland to cash the shoot, which will be attended by contestants from all counties south of Salem. Refreshments and lunch will be served on the grounds.

Following is the list of Mail Tribune winners, the year of the wins, and respective scores:

1930 Ed Lampert, Medford	98
1931 B. L. Hardenbrook, Klamath Falls	98
1932 W. W. Bates, Medford	97
1933 H. R. Turpin, Medford	98
1934 S. G. Mendenhall, Grants Pass	100
1935 S. G. Mendenhall, Grants Pass	95
1936 H. Crowsant, Grants Pass	95
1937 John Tomlin, Medford	100

Prefers American Cars
JOHANNESBURG (UP)—South Africans bought nearly eight times more American motor cars and heavy motor vehicles than British during 1937.

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HOW THEY STAND

Coast League	W.	L.	P.C.
Portland	29	23	558
Sacramento	29	23	558
Seattle	28	25	528
San Francisco	27	25	519
San Diego	27	25	519
Hollywood	23	27	481
Los Angeles	24	28	462
Oakland	20	33	377

National	W.	L.	P.C.
New York	21	9	709
Chicago	20	13	608
Boston	13	12	536
Cincinnati	17	15	531
Pittsburgh	15	14	517
St. Louis	12	17	414
Brooklyn	12	22	353
Philadelphia	8	18	308

American	W.	L.	P.C.
Cleveland	21	10	677
Boston	18	11	621
New York	16	11	593
Washington	18	16	529
Chicago	11	12	478
Detroit	13	16	488
Philadelphia	9	19	321
St. Louis	8	21	276

Card of Thanks
We wish to express our sincere appreciation to friends and neighbors for the sympathy extended us during our recent bereavement; also for the beautiful floral offerings—Mr. and Mrs. Jack B. Walker and Family, Mrs. Florence Venham and Family.

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