

Max Baer, Ex-Champ, Dies

By ALEX KAHN
United Press International
Hollywood, Calif. (UPI)—Max Baer, happy-go-lucky former heavyweight champion of the world, died Saturday of a heart attack in his hotel room.

The 50-year-old former champion was preparing for a day of visiting with southern California friends when he was stricken as he was shaving in his poolside room at the Hollywood Roosevelt hotel.

Baer suffered the heart seizure at 8:10 a.m. and managed to stagger to the telephone and notify the hotel's switchboard which called Dr. Edward S. Kozio, the house physician.

The doctor rushed to Baer's bedside, arriving within 10 minutes and began medication as the ex-champion complained of severe chest pains. The fire department rescue squad administered oxygen.

Baer began showing signs of recovery and joked with Dr. Kozio who urged him to go to a hospital for a complete examination and treatment. Then a second attack struck him and he died at 9 a.m.

Rejects Request

The physician said that Baer had rejected his request that the ex-champion go to the hospital and told him he had suffered similar but lighter attacks in the past at his Sacramento, Calif., home.

The burly ex-champion came here Thursday, a day after he had refereed the nationally televised bout at Phoenix, Ariz., between Zora Foley and Alonzo Johnson. Baer had commitments for several television appearances in the next few weeks and indicated he intended spending some time here before returning to Sacramento where he had numerous business dealings.

But the former champion lived to fulfill a 13-year-old promise to the son of his former sparring partner, Curley Owen. Baer had spent most of Friday at nearby Garden Grove, Calif., where he visited with Owen and his friend's 18-year-old son, Ron.

When Ronnie was five, the boy's father disclosed, Baer had promised him that when the boy became 18 he would give him an automobile. True to his word, Baer Friday presented a small foreign-made car to Ronnie before the youngster appeared in a high school football game, which the ex-champion stayed to witness.

Baer won the heavyweight title from Primo Carnera on June 14, 1934, in one of the most savage bouts in the American ring in which he knocked out the huge Italian in the 11th round.

He held the championship for only one year, losing it on June 13, 1935, to James J. Braddock on a 15-round decision in New York City. Baer continued fighting until 1942, quitting the ring after being knocked out by Lou

Cal Nips Stanford

Stanford, Calif. (UPI)—California's late scoring surge nipped Stanford 20-17 in the 62nd annual big game Saturday to nullify one of the greatest passing performances in college grid history by Dick Norman of the Indians.

Stanford was stopped near the goal line just before the half and again with only six yards to go as the game ended with 90,000 fans in hysteria.

Trailing 14-0 at the half-time, Stanford came ripping back to deadlock the count at the end of the third quarter and go ahead 17-14 on Skip Face's field goal from the 23 early in the fourth.

Then the bruising Bear ground game piloted by quarterback Wayne Crow pushed the Stanford line aside on a 68-yard march that won the game when Jerry Scattini romped over from the two.

But it was Norman who was the hero in defeat. The nation's outstanding intercollegiate aerial expert completed 33 out of 37 passes with one interception.

The other national leaders on Stanford's team, Face and Chris Burford, also fared well. Burford upped his receptions for the year to 60 with 11 today; and Face, who had 89 points entering today's game, scored 11 more to bring his total for the year to an even 100.

It was a brilliant ball game for the two clubs who have been picked around all season. After pushing each other around in midfield all during the first quarter, California scored twice in the second.

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Nova in eight rounds. But Baer did not drop out of public sight when he quit boxing. He continued as a referee, a television performer, worked in occasional movies and had his own televised breakfast show in San Francisco.

The big ex-champion kept close to the fight game despite his retirement and made frequent appearances for introductions at fight arenas all over the country in addition to his refereeing assignments.

But he had numerous other business interests in the Sacramento area not far from Livermore, Calif., where he grew up and broke into boxing.

Greeting was Trademark

His "trademark" was his greeting. He hailed everyone, friends and strangers alike, as "champ."

Baer expressed his pride in his son, Max Jr., who despite being almost as powerfully built as his father, showed no interest in boxing but is a good golfer. The son is in the Air Force. His brother, Buddy, also was a well-known heavyweight boxer although he never reached the heights Max did.

In addition to Max Jr., 21, he was survived by another son, James, 17, a high school student in Sacramento, a daughter Maudie, 15, and his widow, Mary.

Baer was born Feb. 11, 1909, at Omaha, Neb., of Jewish-German-Scottish origin. His family brought him to Livermore, Calif., as a youngster and he started fighting in 1929 under the managership of Ancil Hoffman who remained his friend, partner and financial adviser for the rest of his life.

"Thanks to Ancil's foresight in making me take out an annuity, I'll never have to worry about where my next meal is coming from," Baer told friends recently.

A little more than a year after his pro ring debut, Baer on Aug. 30, 1930, knocked out Frankie Campbell at San Francisco in the 5th round of their out and his opponent died from the effects of the blow.

The shock of having killed a man in the ring almost made Baer quit fighting, although he continued box, he was a long time in recovering from the shock and lost four of his next six bouts.



MAX BAER
Ex-Ring Champ Dies.

PALERMO FACES HEARING

Los Angeles (UPI)—Frank Blinky Palermo of Philadelphia faces a federal court hearing Nov. 30 on his request for the withdrawal of wire tap evidence against him in an alleged boxing racket, Palermo, scheduled to go on trial Dec. 8 with four others for tapping the earnings of welterweight champion Don Jordan, contends the firetapping evidence was obtained illegally.

ing as the "Livermore butcher boy."

Last week while he was in Phoenix for his refereeing job, he told UPI Reporter Bill McFarland in an interview that he had "a real good thing going just outside of Sacramento where he was developing a western resort area."

Whips San Francisco

Things are even tighter at the top of the Eastern race, where cold weather will increase the football's strange bounces. The Cleveland Browns and New York Giants, tied for the lead with 6-2 records, and the Philadelphia Eagles (5-3), a game behind, are favored over rivals who are dedicated to "spoiler" roles.

Cleveland entertains the Pittsburgh Steelers (3-4-1) and is favored by nine points. New York, with quarterbacks Charley Conerly and George Shaw nursing injuries, is favored over the Chicago Cardinals (2-6) by 5½ points at Minneapolis. The Eagles are favored over the visiting Rams (2-6) by 3½.

The Packers (3-5) are favored over the Washington Redskins (3-5) by four points at Green Bay in the other game. Coach Red Hickey's Forty Niners came east with a two-game lead but lost half of it last Sunday when they bowed to the Bears, 14-3. Now they face the league's top touchdown tosser in John Unitas. The Baltimore Star has thrown 22 scoring passes in eight games this year and appears almost certain to crack the NFL season mark of 28 set by Sid Luckman in 1943.

The Steelers, 14-9 victors over the Giants last Sunday, tackle a Cleveland team that has swept its last five games and averaged 33 points in

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MEDFORD TRIBUNE SPORTS Western Division Pro Football Race Could Be Resolved

By EARL WRIGHT
United Press International
The San Francisco Forty Niners and Baltimore Colts may settle the National Football league's Western division race Sunday at Baltimore before a sellout crowd of 57,557. The Colts, who have lost only two of their last 12 home games, are favored by seven points.

San Francisco (6-2) leads second-place Baltimore (5-3) by a game. If the Forty Niners win, they will lead the Colts by two games with three to play and will be well on their way to their first division title.

A triumph at Baltimore will assure the Forty Niners of starting their final two-game home stand with a one-game lead even if they lose their last road game to the Browns Nov. 29.

If the Colts win, they will tie for the lead and set up a wild scramble which might also give the Chicago Bears (4-4) a shot at the western crown. The Colts need the game badly because they play the unpredictable Rams at home before ending their regular season with games at San Francisco and Los Angeles, where they have won once in 14 tries.

Eastern Race Tight

The Bears are five-point choices to whip the Lions (2-5-1) at Detroit and will be only a game out of first place if they win and Baltimore

N. W. Dogs To Compete

Reno, Nev. (UPI)—Thirteen dogs, including two national champions, were chosen Saturday to compete in the final series of the National Retriever Trial championships today.

The select field included Nilo possibility, the defending champion Labrador owned by K. K. Williams of Milwaukee, Wis., and the 1957 winner, Spirit Lake Duke, a Labrador owned by Mrs. George Murnane of New York.

Eleven of the dogs surviving the final cut Saturday were Labradors. The other two were Golden Retrievers. The dogs were put through their paces during a cold and windy day. Ice covered the ponds this morning. The schedule called for three-bird water retrieves, two diversion and one blind land-retrieve. The other dogs which will complete in three series for

UCLA Beats USC 10-3 With Pass

Los Angeles (UPI)—UCLA capitalized on a 46-yard pass interference penalty in the fourth period Saturday to score the game's only touchdown and knock Southern California from the ranks of the undefeated by a 10-3 score.

With the UCLA Bruins on their own 47, injured tailback Bill Killmer cut loose with a pass covering nearly half the field. It was intended for Marv Luster, with USC quarterback Willie Wood intercepting. But the officials ruled Trojan halfback Jerry Traynam interfered with the receiver.

That gave UCLA a first down on the seven and UCLA fullback Ray Smith pushed the ball over in three plays. Trailing 0-3 from the first six minutes until the fourth period, UCLA first tied the score on a 31-yard field goal by Ivory Jones and then gained the disputed touchdown before 85,917 fans in Memorial Coliseum.

each of its last four. Bobby Layne, 33, the master passer whose toss to Tom Tracy in the final seconds upset the Giants, is Pittsburgh's key performer.

The Giants, kept on top by a defense that has allowed only 49 points in the last six games, haven't scored a touchdown in their last nine quarters. New York edged the Cardinals two weeks ago, 9-3, on Pat Summerall's field goals.

the championship trophy are: Jibodad Topper, owner James Bryan, Bremerton, Wash.; Pepper's Jiggs, owner Robert Pipper, Seattle, Wash.; Discovery of Franklin, John Olin, Illinois; Di Munde's Danny, Mrs. R. M. Lewis, Maryland; Yankee Clipper of Reo Raj, Roger Reopelle, Minnesota; Bigstone Hope, Bing Grunwald, Nebraska; Staindrop Striker, Stoneybroke Kennels, Illinois; Paha Sapa Chief II, Wilbur Goods, South Dakota; Chino Bacchus, Henry Sears, Connecticut; Macopin Expectation, Mrs. George Murnane, N. Y.; Rocky Mack, Harold Mack Jr., California.

MAIL TRIBUNE, Medford, Or. 11
Sunday, Nov. 22, 1959

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