

# Stanley Ketchel Probably Most Dramatic Figure Prizefight Ring Ever Produced

NEW YORK, March 2 (NEA) — A New York sports columnist writes a story about Stanley Ketchel, and is amazed at the response.

It is not at all surprising because those who saw the Michigan Assassin speak of him as though he fought yesterday, although come October he will have been dead 30 years.

Ketchel was the most dramatic figure in the history of the ring because he crowded so much into such a short time.

Breaking in at 16, the immortal Grand Rapids Pole was shot in the back and killed with his own rifle in the hands of another at 24, and while still the world middleweight champion.

In between, Ketchel scored 49 knockouts in 59 starts, became the first world champion to regain the title by knocking out the man who took it from him, and, weighing less than 160, had the great and six-foot one-inch, 208-pound Jack Johnson on the floor in the 12th round.

There was something about Ketchel that attracted attention, set the crowd punchdrunk with excitement and anticipation while he stood in the corner waiting for the bell.

Old Steve, as he was known, had a look of a champion.

In the opinion of Billy Roche, daddy of referees, and other competent judges, he was the most formidable warrior pound-for-pound they ever saw.

He affected the 10-gallon hat and high-heeled boots of a musical comedy cowboy. He had no formal education, yet talked like a young man freshly graduated from Yale.

A bouncer and waiter before having gloves laced on his hands, he knocked out 32 of his first 35 opponents, had knockout streaks of 11 and 21 in Montana before he got his first big break as an unknown by boxing Joe Thomas a 20-round draw in Marysville, Calif. July 4, 1907.

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Fight news didn't travel fast in those days, but Sunshine Jim Coffroth, the great San Francisco promoter, happened to be at the ring-side. Coffroth was so impressed that he immediately rematched Ketchel and Thomas, then welters, for a 45-

round bout in San Francisco, September 2.

Ketchel bet his end and weight forfeit on himself and, after both were on the deck for nine, flattened Thomas in the 32nd, ending what the veteran Roche, who refereed, considers the greatest fight he ever saw.

It was after Billy Papke caught Ketchel out of shape and with a sneak punch immediately following the opening bell that Old Steve wrote a rule in the battelet that still stands: "Shake hands and come out fighting."

Ketchel had Philadelphia Jack O'Brien's head in the sawdust box as the bell ended their 10-rounder

at old Madison Square Garden in Ketchel's New York box. And the clever light-heavyweight was dead to the world. He knocked out Philadelphia Jack in three the next trip, fought Sam Langford.

The Ketchel shift was a by-word. Ketchel's meteoric career came to a tragic and untimely end when he was shot and killed by Walter Dibley, October 10, 1910, on a Coway, Mo. ranch, where he went to get hold of himself after a New York tear.

There were all sorts of stories, but the truth is that Stanley Ketchel, stout-hearted as he was, lived so fast he couldn't keep up with himself.

# Ducks Fail To Stop Cougar Title Essay

EUGENE, March 2 (AP)—Washington State college cagers close out their 1948 basketball campaign tonight—all in the fight for the northern division, Pacific Coast conference, title.

The Cougars roared back from two wide first half deficits last night to eke out a narrow 62-60 win over the University of Oregon Ducks.

The win, first in three road starts, left Washington State in a position to tie Oregon State for the crown. But only if the Cougars repeat their win tonight over Oregon, and if Oregon topples Oregon State in their remaining tilt Saturday night.

A third team, the University of Washington, also could figure in the title deadlock by winning two remaining games with Idaho—if Oregon State bows to Oregon.

Washington State, fresh from two defeats at Oregon State, started off last night in the same vein. Oregon led 17-8 after 10 minutes of play. WSC knotted it at 20-20 and 21-21, then fell behind 34-24. Another spurt pulled the score to 35-31 at half-time.

The Cougars took a momentary lead at 37-35, only to fall behind again on goals by Oregon's Dick Watkins and Al Popick.

The score was knotted at 39, 44, 49, 51 and 57 before Ed Gayda and George Heathcote connected to send Washington State into a game-winning tally.

Big Roger Wiley, Oregon center, accumulated 17 points for the night's high. Ed Gayda, Cougar forward, hit 15.

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Willie Ritchie, chief inspector for the commission and himself a former champion boxer, said swift changes are needed in California's fight laws to prevent further deaths.

Promoter Joe Lynch said: "I want to go before the grand jury with certain facts on the boxing situation here."

LARGER RING

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Ritchie proposed increasing the size of the boxing ring from 16 to 20 feet square.

This would give a boy who has been taught to box a chance to fight scientifically rather than engage in toe-to-toe slugfests, he declared.

Dr. Frederick Newbarr, chief county autopsy surgeon, in a preliminary report said death of De Catur was caused by a heart condition which would have been difficult to detect in a routine pre-fight examination.

CARELESS WORK

Commissioner Entenza said there has been much carelessness in reporting the true condition of fighters' physical condition.

"We should have closer medical supervision. Present examinations are too perfunctory. Apparently De Catur should never have been allowed to fight."

Promoter Lynch did not disclose what evidence he wished to present to the grand jury. An inquest is planned into the death of De Catur.

Boxers Predict Kayo Victories

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Officials said the damage was beyond immediate repair.

Power Boat Mark Eyed

KELOWNA, B. C., March 2 (AP)—St. Malcolm Campbell may try for a 200-mile an hour speed record on Lake Okanagan.

The British speedster informed the board of trade here by letter he would make such a test if financial arrangements can be made. Currency restrictions prevent financing the trials from Great Britain.

Campbell holds the speed record of 141.74 miles an hour which he set in 1939 on the Detroit river. His craft, the Bluebird II, was powered in that test by a Rolls-Royce engine. It is now jet-propelled and Campbell has expressed confidence it will reach the 200-mile-an-hour speed.

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# Jack Is Garden's Top Card

NEW YORK, March 2 (NEA)—In the 22 years since Madison Square Garden opened many boxers have attracted hundreds of thousands of dollars into the arena. None compares, however, with Beau Jack. When Jack squared off with Terry Young of New York's east side, his box-office mark went well beyond \$1,500,000 a figure that no other boxer approaches.

The amount covers 19 main events starting with the one-time Augusta shoe shine boy's knockout of Allie Stolz, November 15, 1924. Actually the former lightweight leader, now a welter, has engaged in 28, but one cannot be included in the total because it was a war bond show in which he tackled Bob Montgomery. Admission was the purchase of a bond. The combatants contributed their services, and the performance in August, 1944, sold some \$26,000,000 in bonds. Four of the Beau's battles grossed more than \$100,000. He drew \$132,823 with the late Bummy Davis, \$148,152 with Johnny Greco.

Another mark was Jack's 26th Garden appearance, the first six in preliminaries. This topped Tony Canzoneri's 25.

# NOTRE DAME CREASES PERFECT VIOLET MARK

NEW YORK, March 2 (AP)—The terrific wosome of the last college football campaign—Notre Dame and Michigan—found themselves occupying almost similarly titanic roles today in basketball.

Notre Dame was spoiler of the nation's fanciest collegiate cage record—a 64-59 conqueror last night of New York university, last of the undefeateds. NYU had won 19 straight games.

Michigan clinched the big nine

conference championship with a 51-35 verdict over Iowa and virtually assured itself the region four spot in the coming NCAA tournament.

The other big notice on the basketball front was by Kansas State, which by way of contrast is an institution that hasn't won a football game in more than a score of years.

The Kansas Staters captured their first conference championship—the big seven, formerly the big six—by defeating their old rivals, the Kansas City Jayhawks, 61 to 60, at Lawrence.

Kansas State now probably will play Oklahoma A and M, the Missouri valley titlist, for the district five spot in the NCAA eliminations.

The Oklahoma Aggies finished their conference schedule last night with a 48-38 victory over Drake—their tenth win in the circuit without a defeat. They thus became the fourth team in Missouri valley history to go all the way without a slipup.

Curtis Again Has Opening

George Curtis, the big-eared Mississippi, lost his first match on the canvas here last week—to Joe Dorsett—but gets to try again this week.

Curtis is scheduled to meet Bob Cummings in the four-round opening bout of the weekly wrestling card Friday night. Cummings is a good rough grappler and Curtis will have a tough match on his hands to get into the win bracket.

Main event of the evening is the junior heavyweight championship bout between Frank Stojack and Joe Lyman, with Stojack defending in an hour time limit fracas.

One other bout, also for four heats, is being arranged for the middle of the card.

Mills Eliminates Fairview, 21-2

Mills school defeated Fairview 21-2 on the Mills gym yesterday afternoon, eliminating Fairview from the grade school basketball B tournament.

This afternoon at 4:15 Riverside and Mills are playing, and at 5 p.m. Fremont plays Roosevelt. The latter two are undefeated, while the loser of the Mills-Riverside tilt goes out of the double elimination tourney.

Packers Loaded At First Base

YAKIMA, March 2 (AP)—The not unpleasant task of choosing between two hard-hitting first basemen is facing the Yakima Packers' management, Dick Richards, president of the Western International League club, said today.

Richards said the club has signed Vince Pascale, 19, who hit better than 300 in 15 games with San Francisco last season. Earlier they had purchased Diamond Cecil from Salt Lake of the Pioneer league.

Malin Town Team To Meet School

MALIN, March 2—The Malin town team of the Klamath Basin Basketball league will play a benefit basketball game against the local high school quintet tonight in the high school gym.

Game time is called for 8 p. m. Proceeds from the tilt will go into a pot being raised to buy uniforms and playing equipment for a baseball team the Mustangs are planning to field this spring.

Malin high has not participated in baseball for several years. There will also be a town ball club in action next summer.

Directors Meet

Officers and directors of Klamath Baseball, Inc., sponsors of the Klamath Gems, will meet tonight at 7:30 in the Palmerton Lumber company office on Pine street.

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WCS Cops Honors In Forensic Event

McMINNVILLE, March 2 (AP)—Washington State college carried off the honors in the 18th annual Intercollegiate Forensic tournament at Linfield college over the weekend.

Williamette university placed second and the University of Utah was third. No point totals were announced.

West Linn Takes

MILWAUKIE, March 2 (AP)—West Linn captured the district 12 basketball title and a place in the state tournament with a 55-40 win over Milwaukie last night.

It was the final game in a double-elimination series to determine the district winner.

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# Citrus Loop

NEW YORK Converts Receiver

PHOENIX, Ariz., March 2 (AP)—The New York Giants, short on pitchers, are planning to convert Jim Gladd, strong arm rookie catcher, into a hurler.

Gladd, who played for San Francisco last year, is being tutored by Tom Sheehan and Dutch Reuther, former moundmen.

Sole Absentee

SARASOTA, Fla., March 2 (AP)—Ellis Kinder, pitcher obtained by Boston's Red Sox from the St. Louis Browns, was the only absentee as the hose went through their first workout under their new manager, Joe McCarthy.

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GP Quint Bows Out

THE DALLES, March 2 (AP)—The Dalles Ninth Street Market, tabbed as the team to beat in the state AAU basketball tournament, defeated the Grants Pass Legion 53-42 last night.

In advancing through the quarter finals, the market five held a 32-17 lead at half time. Schimpf of the losers took high scoring honors with eight field goals and one free throw for a point total of 17.

Fee's Rollerdom of Portland bowed out in an overtime game to Semler's Vanics of Portland 59-49. In a last-half spurt, Semler's overcame a mid-point 29-19 deficit to tie the game 46-46 at the end. In the overtime Semler's counted seven points for the win.

In a nip-and-tuck battle that saw one player score for the wrong team, Oregon City's Pearson Tavern edged Salem's Page Woolens 44-43. At the half Pearson's led 18-14. Leonard of Pearson's caged a field goal for the Page Woolens—and it counted but not quite enough to change the game's outcome.

In the final game for the night, the Coos Bay Longshoremen defeated Willamina Firemen 57-36.

In tonight's semi-finals, Pearson's and Semler's met in the first game and the Ninth Street Market and Coos Bay in the second.

FIGHTS LAST NIGHT

NEW YORK — Chester Rico, 139, New York, outpointed Al Pennino, 132, Brooklyn, (10).

BROOKLYN—Harold Green, 158, Brooklyn, stopped Chet Vincel, 156, Rome, N. Y., (6).

BALTIMORE — Jimmy Bivins, 185, Cleveland, knocked out Johnny Haynes, 214, Los Angeles, (4).

BOSTON — Al "Red" Priest, 159, Cambridge, outpointed Pete Mead, 159, Grand Rapids, Mich., (10).

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