

# Patterson Being Ready Sets '56 Outdoor Ring Program

**By HARRY GRAYSON**  
NEA Sports Editor

NEW YORK — (NEA) — Jim Norris doesn't even have to settle the squabble between the International Managers' Guild and Commissioner Julius Heland to line up a rousing summer outdoor schedule in one sitting.

All Promoter Norris has to do is get his mind off-the-row-about nothing-much-at-all and back on the only end of the week busting business in which ringworms are interested.

Cus D'Amato pronounces Floyd Patterson ready for anyone who stands between him and Rocky Marciano and for the heavyweight champion in September.

That sets up a June meeting between Patterson and the ancient and honorable Archie Moore.

Norris could put these two matches anywhere and get nothing but money.

Patterson, the Olympic champion of 1952, has won 28 of 29 as a professional, knocked out the last nine. Now 21, he will be a full-grown heavyweight by mid-summer. He has the style, speed and punch that make old-timers and near-old-timers excited.

Ray Robinson and Carmen Basilio could be another big match for 1956.

It looks like the fourth edition between Sugar Ray and Bobo Olson will not take place in San Francisco or anywhere else, Feb. 24, as scheduled, by the way.

Instead, there is talk of Robinson continuing his comeback along about that time against Tiger Jones at Miami Beach. Tiger Jones, the television standby, dealt Robinson a sound pasting before the Harlem Hot Shot got a new lease on his ring legs.

Sid Flaherty attempted to force Olson back within range of the

Robinson guns, but the crestfallen former middleweight leader doesn't want any more of what he has taken in three previous trips, during which the Sugar Man twice placed a lily in his hand.

"Why should Olson want more?" asks Emperor George Gainsford, one of Robinson's multiple managers, seashore. "Especially when he knows he can't win and has to take the short end of a fight which won't draw too much."

When he does elect to try again, Olson should be made to prove himself against some sort of a legitimate opponent. The Hawaiian-Portuguese-Swede has turned in four consecutive bad fights in two of which he was knocked out acting like a bloke who had never before been hit squarely on the whiskers.

When Bobo Olson got to kicking around, he lost his stamina and fell apart.

# U. S. Winter Chances Dark Report Experts

**CORTINA D'AMPEZZO, Italy** — In the cold and snow of Oslo in 1952, the United States sent a chill down the spines of the winter sports countries.

The Yanks took home four Olympic gold medals—and that's four more than anyone thought they could win.

Will the American upstarts do it again this year in the seventh Winter Olympiad, which opens here a week from tomorrow?

The answer in this Alpine village high in the north of Italy, is "No," if you care to listen to the experts.

Most folks connected with the games here think the Americans will win two gold medals and maybe a third. But they're sure it won't be four. Many of the Americans themselves admit that the odds are against them winning four.

The first-place finishers in the Oslo games were Mrs. Andrea Mead Lawrence in the women's slalom and giant slalom, Dick Button in figure skating and Ken Henry in the 500-meter speed skating.

Mrs. Lawrence and Henry are back again, but Button has turned professional. Strangely, neither Mrs. Lawrence nor Henry are expected to repeat.

Mrs. Lawrence, who has had three children since the last Olympics, has been coming along slowly and it's doubtful if she'll hit her top form by the time the games get under way.

Henry, who is now 27—a grey beard as speed skaters go—has been erratic recently and has not inspired confidence among his mates. His performance in the Swiss International Championships at Davos today will be watched closely.

America's best bets are two figure skaters—Teny Albright of Newton Center, Mass., and Hayes Allen Jenkins of Colorado Springs, Miss. Albright, once a victim of polio, was the women's world champion in 1953 and Jenkins has captured the men's world crown the past three years. They are regarded as almost sure winners.

The United States bobsled team would be the favorite if it had more chance to practice on the run here. The Yanks have whipped down the treacherous chute only five times, while the Italians, using their "home" course, have tried it 60 times.

# BOWLING SCORES

| COMMERCIAL LEAGUE   |           |
|---------------------|-----------|
| W                   | L         |
| Pepsi Cola          | 48 21     |
| St. Pauli           | 47 24     |
| Dugan and Mest      | 45 23     |
| Ellington Lumber    | 43 23     |
| Bicks               | 41 25     |
| Carl's Meats        | 38 26 1/2 |
| VFW                 | 37 29     |
| Griggs Foods        | 35 41     |
| Oregon Tech Faculty | 28 48     |
| Superior Trow       | 24 48     |
| Great Northern      | 19 41     |
| Weyerhaeuser        | 19 41     |

  

| FRATERNAL LEAGUE    |               |
|---------------------|---------------|
| W                   | L             |
| Facies              | 28 1/2 16 1/2 |
| K of C              | 32 23         |
| Sons of Italy No. 1 | 32 23         |
| Elks                | 46 20         |
| OTI Sports Equip.   | 31 43         |
| Sons of Italy No. 2 | 28 47         |
| Pioneer Tobacco     | 24 48         |
| Case Implement      | 26 46         |
| Parker Postage      | 28 44         |
| Ballard and Bennett | 20 48         |
| Jim Olson Motors    | 13 1/2 34 1/2 |

  

| Last night's results:     |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| Superior Trow 2 Griggs 2  |  |
| Weyerhaeuser 2 VFW 1      |  |
| Hicks 4 Great Northern 0  |  |
| Carl's 4 Dugan and Mest 0 |  |
| Ellington 4 Oregon Tech 0 |  |

  

| Last night's results:         |  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Rate 3 Ballard and Bennett 1  |  |
| Case 4 Jim Olson Motors 0     |  |
| Sons No. 2 3 Parker 1         |  |
| Pioneer 4 OTI Sports Equip. 0 |  |
| Sons No. 1 3 K of C 1         |  |
| Elks 4 Elks 0                 |  |

  

| High team game—Ellington Lumber 949    |     |
|--|-----|
| High team series—Ellington Lumber      | 226 |
| High individual game—Al Woldt 200      |     |
| High individual series—Windy Jones 581 |     |

  

| Last night's results:         |  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Rate 3 Ballard and Bennett 1  |  |
| Case 4 Jim Olson Motors 0     |  |
| Sons No. 2 3 Parker 1         |  |
| Pioneer 4 OTI Sports Equip. 0 |  |
| Sons No. 1 3 K of C 1         |  |
| Elks 4 Elks 0                 |  |

  

| High team game—Sons of Italy No. 1    |     |
|---------------------------------------|-----|
| High team series—Sons of Italy No. 1  | 213 |
| High individual game—Jim Barson 236   |     |
| High individual series—Jim Barson 583 |     |

  

| Sunny Jim Fitzsimmons, 81-year-old trainer of Nashua, is celebrating his 25th straight year of winter racing in Florida. |  |
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|--|--|

# Sports World Filled With 'Floorwalkers'

**By OSCAR FRALEY**

NEW YORK (UP)—Joe Lapchick, the coach of the New York Knickerbockers professional basketball team, is called "the floor-walker" because of his restless anxiety before a game and it's a tipoff on how most athletes "die in the dressing room" just prior to an event.

Almost any football player will tell you about the "butterflies" flitting through his innards as he waits for the opening whistle, many a muscular behemoth churns inwardly behind the professional mask known as a poker face.

Excitement, tension, anxiety and in some cases, even physical fear, causes a surprising number of them to become physically ill as they sweat out the torturous hour preceding action.

"I never was able to eat before a game and can't now even when I'm merely coaching," Lapchick admits candidly. "The worst time was in 1927, when I was an experienced pro, and our Celtics were playing Cleveland for the world championship. We had won the first two games, too, so you'd think the heat would have been off. But my knees shook so badly I could feel them knocking."

Joe Louis, in the days when he was ruling the heavyweight roost, struck anticipatory terror into the hearts of his opponents which became almost unbearable for them in those final few minutes before the action started. Many an opponent had to be virtually locked in his dressing room to keep him

from taking a powder and several had to be pushed into the ring.

There is at least one case on record in which one boxing figure actually "died in the dressing room." Tom O'Rourke, one of Max Schmeling's entourage, was sitting beside the Black Uhlan in the dressing room just before the first Louis fight when he fell over dead with a heart attack.

Byron Nelson, one of the golfing greats, frequently was physically ill just before teeing off in some of his most important matches. Yet, once he hit that first tee shot, Lord Byron was first calm and cold, and looking at his poker face, you'd never know there was a nerve in his body.

One of the most tense men in hockey before a game is Montreal's Maurice "The Rocket" Richard, and it communicates itself to the whole club. The Rocket, quiet and tense to the point of breaking, becomes so super-charged that he can't see a friend two feet away as he prepares for action. The team takes on this character and the Montreal dressing room usually is so quiet you can hear the proverbial pin drop. But once on the ice, brother, they make enough noise to suit anybody.

Tippy Larkin, a battler whose courage never was questioned, once climbed through the ropes, stripped off his robe with professional aplomb—and discovered that he had forgotten to put on his trunks.

Excited? Who's excited? Why, all of them, naturally.

# Hutchinson Scouts For Mound Power

**BRADENTON BEACH, Fla.** (UP)—Fred Hutchinson, new manager of the St. Louis Cardinals, is spending his winter trying to scout new pitching power.

Hutchinson hasn't made any deals so far, but he and Cardinal General Manager Frank Lane may get together soon to cook up some trades.

"Pitching is our biggest weakness," Hutchinson said, "but we also need some right-handed power hitters to help us out."

The Cardinal manager pointed to his pitchers' earned-run average of 4.56 for last season, worst in the National League, as testimony to the need for improvement and new blood.

"What we need is two or three 20-game winners, then we'd be in good shape," he said.

Hutchinson, however, didn't discredit the present Cardinal mound staff and said he expects his pitchers to be stronger in 1956.

# TIME OUT



"You Gidley fans interfere with their shooting just once more, and I'll forfeit the game to State!"

# Olympic Sled Time Trials Cut By Crash

**CORTINA D'AMPEZZO, Italy** — The Olympic bobsled time trials were suspended temporarily Wednesday after a Belgian sled hurtled off the course, badly injuring the driver.

First victim of the pre-Olympic preparation here was Charles Desorger, 25-year-old Brussels architect who suffered a broken arm, contusion of the spine and a bruised left knee.

It was the third bobsled crash in two days. Norwegian and French sleds piled up Tuesday.

Even after the trial runs were suspended, there was another accident. Daredevil Marquis De Portago of Spain plunged off the course but neither he nor his brakeman was injured.

Time runs were called off for the day pending repairs.

At the time of the Belgian accident, the Italians were showing new evidence of their superiority.

Umberto Dalla Costa whizzed down the icy runway in 1 minute, 26.67 seconds, best time recorded for the day. The best American time was 1:28.08 by Waightman (Bub) Washbond of East Hartford, Conn.

Meanwhile, officials were sharply criticized for permitting Italians early access to the bobsled run.

Art Tyler of Rochester, N.Y., the usually soft-spoken veteran of the U.S. squad, said the committee "fumbled" official handling of practice runs over the course. Other foreign entries agreed.

The foreign teams had been notified the Olympic bobsled run would be opened for practice Jan. 17. But when they arrived, they found the Italian team had been practicing over the run since Jan. 6.

"It's questionable whether with the limited amount of practice time left it's still possible we can overcome the Italians' advantage," said Tyler.

The United States had been co-favorites with Italy and Switzerland in the final races, which begin Jan. 27. But Italy has the favorite role all to itself now, particularly since its top driver, Edgleno Monti, set a course record for a two-man sled in 1:22.88 Tuesday.

# Coast League Adopts Split Week Sched

**LOS ANGELES (UP)**—Pacific Coast League teams have adopted a 168-game schedule for 1956 in which split-week series will be played throughout the 23-week season.

The season will open April 10 and close Sept. 16. Teams will play 24 games each against other clubs in series ranging from three to five games. Previously most PCL series were seven games.

The league adopted the new schedule yesterday by a 7-1 vote after deciding a previously adopted schedule was unworkable. President John Holland of the Los Angeles Angels and league president Leslie O'Connor worked out the new schedule, which still may be revised, for the last part of the season.

Series will open on Tuesday and last through Thursday. Clubs then will switch opponents for single games on Friday and Saturday and Sunday doubleheaders. There will be no games on Mondays except for holidays.

Season openers are Los Angeles at San Diego, Seattle at Hollywood, Portland at Sacramento and Vancouver at San Francisco.

Pacific Coast League baseball makes its debut in Vancouver, B.C. on April 27 when San Francisco travels to meet the former Oakland club which transferred its franchise.

Most teams will start training March 12.

# Mantle Goes Under Knife, Returns Pact

**NEW YORK** — Mickey Mantle was rolled into the operating room of Lenox Hill Hospital today to have his tonsils removed.

Before he underwent surgery, he revealed:

1. That he had sent back his contract to the New York Yankees unsigned.

2. That his leg misery, which hampered his play in the World Series, is better.

3. The Yanks would win the American League pennant again this year.

The husky outfielder said he had not been asked by General Manager George Weiss why he had returned the contract without his signature. But he expects to be called into Weiss' office before he heads back home to Oklahoma.

He said he'd tell Weiss that he wants more money than he has been offered. But he hastened to add that he's certainly not a hold-out, and hinted that he won't be surprised if he signs before leaving New York.

Weiss, it was believed, offered Mantle about \$25,000 and Mickey would like the figure to be closer to \$30,000.

He declined to confirm the figures but admitted, they were "hot."

"As for the ailing leg, he said: "I just tested it the hard way by racing my twin brothers, Ray and Roy, and I beat them. As long as I can finish ahead of them in a race, I won't worry about my speed."

# Sports Cont'd From Page 11

**TUESDAY'S FIGHTS**  
By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**MIAMI BEACH, Fla.** — Jimmy Morris, 154, Miami, outpointed Joe Miceli, 149, Brooklyn, 10.

**HOUSTON, Tex.** — Paul Jorgensen, 129, Houston, outpointed Lauro Salas, 129, Los Angeles, 10.

**HOLYOKE, Mass.** — Sammy Walker, 159, Springfield, Mass., knocked out Bob Bolton, 160, Providence, 12.

"I'll be working with 11 players who have been up from the minors just one year, and five who have been up only two years. Any of these boys are potential stars and we're looking for them to develop," he said.

"This year, I think St. Louis will be a much better team. We may not win the pennant—Brooklyn's the team we'll have to beat to do that—but we'll wind up a lot better than seventh, where we finished last season."

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