



By Joe Williams

1933 Ring Champions Don't Last Long

Sharkey, Jeby and Corbett III All Failed

Ross May Lose Title Back to Tony

NEW YORK, Aug. 12.—One reason there isn't a great deal of interest in championship fights these days is that the champions don't stand up very long. Before you can get to know much about them they are knocked off.

Three of these mushroom champions were beaten this year. Jack Sharkey was belted out in his very first appearance as defender of the heavyweight championship. Ben Jeby didn't last a year as the middle-weight champion. And Young Corbett III set no record for continuous service as the welter-weight champion.

You can not get excited or sentimental about champions who arrive in one fight and disappear in the next. It seems to me the old champions lasted longer. Some of them had to retire because they had completely cleaned up their divisions. There was no opposition left.

Perhaps this indicates the old champions were better. There can be little question but that most of them were far superior to such champions as Sharkey, Jeby and Corbett the Third. Of course, Sharkey wasn't a legitimate champion. A poisonous decision lifted him to the throne. Jeby didn't have anybody to beat. He was a second-rater who stood out in a second-rate field. Nobody will ever mention him in the same breath with the Ketchels or the Grebs, except to get a laugh. Jimmy McLarion exposed Corbett the Third as an impostor. A roaring right to the jaw and Corbett the Third was stretched out cold.

ANOTHER champion who may not survive even his first year as a title holder is Barney Ross of Chicago. He won the lightweight championship from Tony Canzoneri. They are going to do it all over again here next month and it's no cinch that the result will be the same. In fact, Canzoneri is likely to go into the ring the favorite.

This is another peculiar commentary on the modern champions—very few of them can muster enough popular enthusiasm to establish them as the betting favorites. Sharkey wasn't the favorite over Carnera. The price was even money. Lou Brouillard was a 7 to 5 favorite over Jeby. He should have been a 1 to 50 shot. That's how far he stood out.

I don't recall what the price was when Canzoneri defended his title against Ross, but it was pretty short. Most of the smart money went on Ross. It was generally understood that if Canzoneri lost the boys would play a repeater in New York later in the summer. Two fights are always more profitable to champions and their managers than one. Whether this thought influenced the ardor with which the smart money backed Ross I don't know.

VERY likely the business forces behind the two gladiators had this return bout in mind all along. I suppose that is why the Chicago bout was limited to ten rounds. The Illinois legislature passed a bill extending all championship fights to fifteen rounds. The thought behind it was to permit the state to compete with New York for big matches.

Canzoneri and Ross could have gone fifteen rounds, which would have emphasized the importance of the championship, but for some reason they decided on the shorter route. The repeater is to be over the fifteen-round course. There wouldn't be much promotional sense in bringing the boys back in another ten-round. Maybe that's why they passed up the fifteen-round at Chicago.

I haven't the slightest doubt that Canzoneri tried earnestly to win and that Ross simply proved to be too much man for him on that particular occasion. But if the New York Italian wins his title back on the return match next month, I am afraid the skeptics will be most out-spoken in their squawks.

Cubs Rap Bucs to Take Second Place; Nats Increase A. L. Lead

BY JACK CUDDY

United Press Staff Correspondent

NEW YORK, Aug. 12.—Threatening to repeat for the National League pennant, the Chicago Cubs held second place today after wresting the position from Pittsburgh with an 8-to-2 victory, their seventh win in eight starts, Friday.

A five-run spurt in the fifth clinched the contest for the Cubs, enabling them to top the Pirates by half a game. They now are three and a half games behind the New York Giants.

Larry French was sent to the showers in the fifth when the Cubs

combined four singles, a double and a wild pitch for their rally. French, Hoyt, Chagnon and Harris allowed Chicago eleven hits. Guy Bush held the Pirates scoreless until the ninth, when Gus Suhr hit a home run with Tie Traynor on base.

St. Louis downed Cincinnati, 8 to 5. Pepper Martin and Ernie O'satti led the Cardinal attack with four hits in four tries each. The Reds made twelve safeties off Vance, Hallahan and Dean.

Smashing from behind with a six-run burst in the ninth, Washington beat Boston's Red Sox, 8 to 4, extending the Senators' American

League lead to four full games over the idle New York Yankees. Boston had a 4-2 lead when Henry Johnson was removed from the mound for a pinch-hitter in the eighth, but his successors, Piggars, Brown, Andrews and Welch were snowed under. Six pitchers worked for Washington. Alvin Crowder getting credit for his eighth win of the season.

Detroit tied the American League record for five double plays in one game, but lost to Chicago, 2 to 0.

When Ted Lyons allowed only seven scattered hits, shading Fred Marberry in a tight pitching duel. Marberry, who also allowed seven safeties, weakened in the seventh when a double, triple and single resulted in two runs.

Young Net Stars Clash in Finals

By United Press

CULVER, Ind., Aug. 12.—First and second seeded players in both divisions of the national boys' and junior tennis championships, all Californians, met today in the final matches.

In the junior division, Gene Mako of Los Angeles, runner-up in last year's tournament, opposed Donald Budge, Oakland, Calif. Mako kept up his terrific pace Friday by beating George Ball, El Paso, Tex., 6-4, 6-2, while Budge ousted Jay John Chicago city titleholder 6-4, 6-4.

In the boys' division, Robert Riggs of Los Angeles, and Robert Harmon of Oakland, were matched for the title.

British Girls in Final Net Tilt

By United Press

RYE, N. Y., Aug. 12.—For the third successive year an all-British final was slated today in the women's singles of the eastern grass court tennis tournament, with England's two top-ranking players, Mary Heeley and Dorothy Round, competing for the title. Miss Round, diminutive Sunday school teacher, is favored to win.

In the men's singles, Fred Gandy, Thomas B. S. Seward, George Clegg and Seward, and Harry and Grace Bunn and Hartnett, French, Hoyt, Chagnon and Harris.

Cincinnati 612 601 601 5 12 0

St. Louis 600 631 22s 5 12 0

Mills and Bresnahan; McLean, Penner, Hartnett, Nachand and Erickson.

Only two games scheduled.

AMERICAN LEAGUE

St. Louis 100 600 620 8 11 0

Washington 600 600 602 2 9 0

Brown and Hartnett; French, Hoyt, Chagnon and Harris.

Washington 100 600 606 8 11 1

Thomas, B. S. Seward, George Clegg and Seward, and Harry and Grace Bunn and Hartnett, French, Hoyt, Chagnon and Harris.

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