

## Sports Roundup---

By EDDIE ASH



## All Roads Lead to the Roaring Road Saturday

ALL ROADS are a cinch to lead to the World's Greatest Race Course Saturday, so look for a day-long flow of traffic in the track area as speed fans wheel in and wheel out for the second set of the 500-mile qualifications.

All around the town and over the state frenzy over the time trials has been spreading, mainly because the populace expects a field day this time since only seven cars of the scheduled 33 starters have made the grade thus far.

Qualification addicts don't have to be told to shove off for the track early any more. All they ask is that the Speedway be ready, too, early, and with all gates open.

The gate tenders won't want for customers. It will be a steady stream. Splendid place, out in the open, to spend a Saturday off. That "Saturday off" is the key to the huge attendance at these time trials. It wasn't always that way.

Some years ago the 500-mile qualifications were witnessed by sparse crowds. The largest part of the adult population of the city and environs wasn't free on Saturday. Either had to work until noon or all day.

Then came the five-day, 40-hour week. What a break that turned out to be for the Speedway and its time trials. Which have become an attraction almost equal to the five-century classic itself. In the days when Saturday was just another workday, no special days were set aside for qualifying, which gives you an idea of how times have changed. All roads lead to the Roaring Road and this week end is building up to be the daddy of them all in pre-race activity in Gasoline Alley.

QUINCY TROUPE, the big catcher, is getting very little action with the Cleveland Indians except to warm up pitchers in the bullpen. Not much work there, either, with Al Lopez' mound starters going as well as they are and needing only occasional relief. Troupe has been at bat only 10 times with one hit. With a hitting average of but .100 don't be surprised if he's shipped to Indianapolis. Chances are he'll catch for Cleveland in the exhibition with the local Tribesters here Monday night. Big Troupe used to throw the gloves in amateur boxing competition. In his younger years he fought in the St. Louis Globe-Democrat Golden Gloves tournaments.

Seems as though Indianapolis' Frank E. McKinney saw the handwriting on the wall and knew his baseball when he sold out his controlling interest in the Pittsburgh Pirates in mid-season of 1950. National League baseball writers say the current Pittsburgh lineup is the worst ever seen in either major league. Well, that's pouring it on pretty thick. There have been a few woefully weak dungeon teams in the majors down through the years. But the current Bucs really are awful. Winner of but five games in 32 starts.

THERE'S AN interesting "piece" on Harry (Kid) Matthews and his manager, Jack Hurley, in Look magazine this week. Boxing fans here will recall the days when Billy Petrolle, the Fargo Express. Hurley's star welterweight, fought in Indianapolis rings. Petrolle now is chairman of the Pioneer National Bank in Duluth, and has a quarter of a million put away. When Hurley first took over Kid Matthews, he was skeptical of the boxer's fighting qualities. As a test, Hurley put Matthews in a ten-rounder against a second-rater. The Kid won, but the cage manager was unimpressed. "If you fight like that on the street," said Hurley, "they wouldn't even arrest you." Now Matthews, a light heavyweight turned heavyweight, is gunning for fistiana's top crown.

The Indianapolis Indians play the Kansas City Blues at Victory Field on the night of June 7. But Tribe Pitcher Bob Chakales won't be there. He'll be in Richmond, Va., on his wedding night. The big righthander, who was recently optioned to the Hoosier Indians by the parent Cleveland Indians, will marry Miss Anne MacKenzie Robinson in the Virginia city June 7, according to the wedding announcements.

JACK DEMPSEY says he doesn't mind refereeing professional wrestling matches but wishes some of the big musclemen would overcome their desire to get extra publicity by taking a swing at him. The former world's heavyweight boxing king said, "One grappler bit my finger so badly during a tag match I nearly got lockjaw. But he had an alibi. I had my hand on the rope at the time and he said he thought he was biting the rope." All of which goes to prove a wrestler is never without an alibi.

## 10 Colleges Are Entered In Big State Track Meet

BLOOMINGTON, May 22—Ten Hoosier colleges planned today to send 166 athletes to the 27th running of the Big State track meet here Saturday. Notre Dame has won 16 titles since the meet began in 1923. Indiana has taken nine and tied one year with Purdue. The meet was not held last year, the year before it was a three-way affair between Notre Dame, Purdue and Indiana and it was discontinued for two years during the war.

The title is expected to be dominated by the big schools again this year despite a ruling calling for six places to be scored and limiting of each school to three entries in each event.

LITTLE STATE champion Washash and runner-up Ball State are expected to give their larger cousins a tussle but Notre Dame and IU still figure to run away with most of the glory.

Only two marks appear in danger when the thirlies take the field Saturday.

Notre Dame's Jim Harrington, who became all-time Irish champ

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## Welsh Rare Bits

By Jack Welsh

Walt Faulkner's race car is termed "a tank job." In boxing, it means to lay down but in the "500," the only thing he'll lay down is a lead foot.

Chico Vejar signed yesterday for another fight with Chuck Davey in June. That's just like an "actor"—always wanting a return engagement.

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## Novi Threatens '500' Speed Records

## Chet Miller Is 1st Driver to Go 140 In Speedway History

By BILL EGGERT

WHEN CHET MILLER said, "It was no trouble at all," he meant it and everybody believed him.

It was just after the 49-year-old race driver had passed three cars on a practice run yesterday at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway and had become the first chauffeur in history to tour the 2½-miles at 140 miles an hour.

Never a 500-mile winner in 18 appearances here, Miller wriggled into the No. 21 Novi Pure Oil Special at 5:15 p. m. yesterday and after lap stopped watches at 1:04.2. He never got out of the track's groove and Firestone tire experts were outwardly enthused at the minimum tire wear.

I, too, clocked him at 1:04.2 but tried to stuff my watch in a pocket because I didn't want anyone else to know that I couldn't squeeze a stop-watch with any degree of accuracy. But Anthony Granatelli, a 500-car owner, saw it and from there on it was pit-area news.

Lou Welch, owner of Miller's Novi and the one Duke Nalon already has qualified, said, "Maybe, it's best to do it when there isn't any pressure. I knew Miller could do it."

Speedway President Wilbur Shaw, who also saw the unofficial record-lap, remarked, "We old men got the stuff."

Novi crewmen later calculated Miller's Novi reached a peak of 176 mph on the backstretch where the asphalt provides higher speeds.

MILLER has more Speedway miles in competition and practice than any driver at the track today. When he first raced at Saginaw, Mich., in 1924, many of the current-day drivers weren't born.

Although he made his first Speedway appearance in 1928, and wrecked the eve of the race, Miller probably has 10,000 Speedway miles to his credit. He was Welch's first driver in 1934. That was when Miller qualified a Bohnthal Special at 109.252 and went over the southwest wall on his 12th lap.

The closest Miller has come to winning was in 1933 when he finished third in the IBEW Special.

Miller reports he knew he was running fast by virtue of his turn speed and quick hop across the north and south short stretches.

And you can put him down as the driver, who may become the first to qualify at 140 or better for four laps Saturday. A burned piston kept his car immobile last Saturday.

On the basis of the ease with which Miller did yesterday's run, it's obvious there are several additional mph's under the Novi hood. And to refute all rumors, there hasn't been any compression taken out of the Novi engines this year. If anything, according to Welch, there's been some added.

Miller's 140.187 lap was the climax to a day that had 37 cars on the track between 10 a. m. and 7 p. m., indicating the rush this week-end for the remaining 27 places in the starting lineup.

THERE are other cars threatening to better Freddie Agabashian's 138.010 qualifying record set last Saturday. Bill Vukovich of Fresno, Cal., had one lap yesterday at 135.5 in the Howard Keck Fuel Injection Engineering Special. And his crew is digging for more speed.

Then there was the 33-year-old rookie, Eddie Johnson of Richmond, Va., who passed his driver's exam here last week and also had a 136.5 lap yesterday in the Central Excavating Special Vukovich qualified last year.

ALSO crowding into the qualifying picture is Alberto Ascari, who buzzed the track in 132.7 in his Ferrari Special. That was the fastest any of the four Ferraris have gone yet. It was accomplished after his Italian crew members had installed a new gear ratio. They want several more miles-an-hour and hope the minimum qualifying speed will be no higher than 133.

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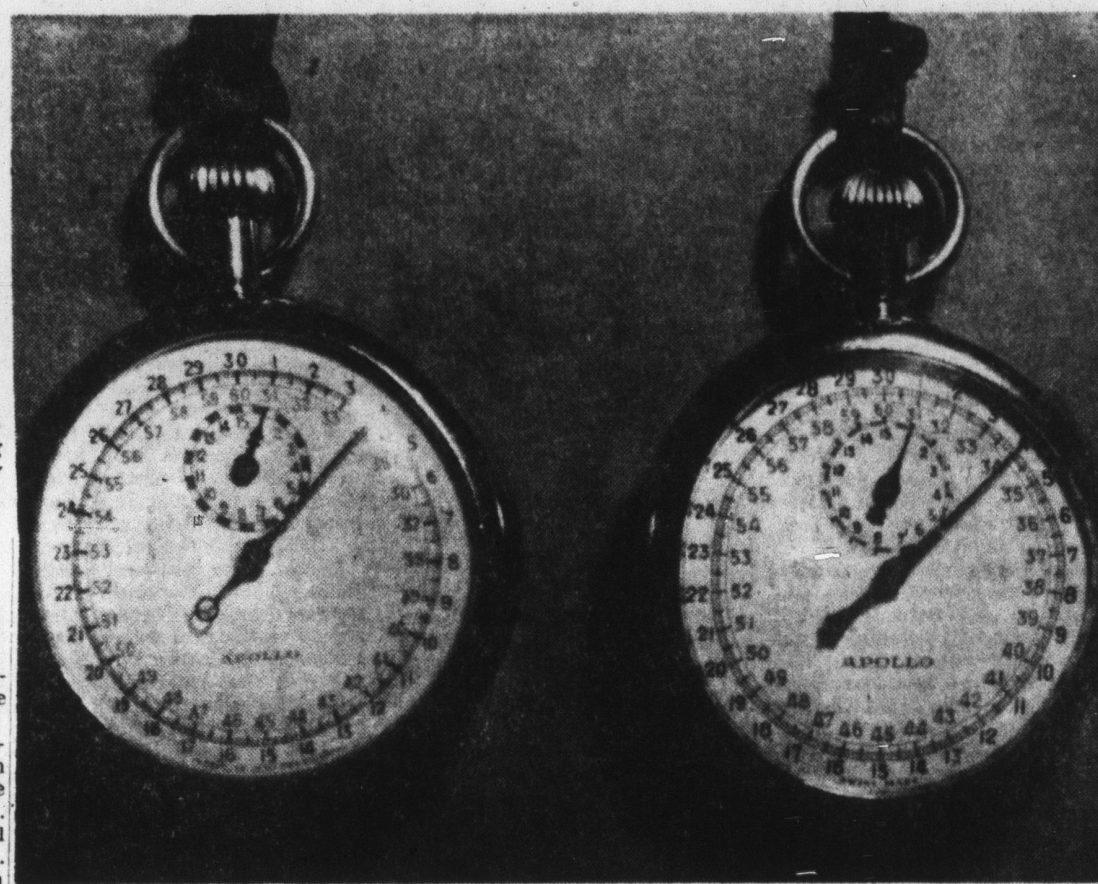


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AFTER THE 140-LAP—Speedway President Wilbur Shaw (left) congratulates Owner Lou Welch (center) and Driver Chet Miller (right) after Miller was clocked unofficially yesterday at 140.187 miles an hour during a practice lap. It was the first time any driver had reached 140.



TWO ALIKE—A pair of watches were stoppe d at 1:04.2 indicating Miller's 140.187 mph lap.

## Seattle Buys Hurler From Louisville

SEATTLE, May 22 (UP)—The Seattle Rainiers announced today they have bought right-hand Pitcher Bill Evans from the Boston Red Sox.

Rainier General-Manager Earl Sheely said Evans is with Louisville of the American Association.

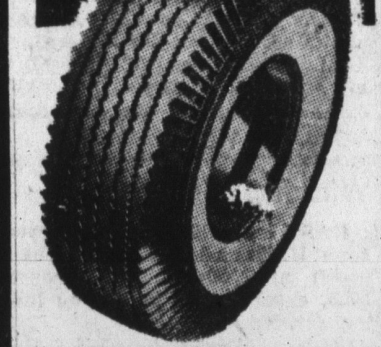
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When the Browns moved to new and larger quarters in the park last winter, Vecek decided to turn the former business office into a five-room apartment for himself, his wife, Mary Frances, and their infant son, Mike.

The living room will overlook the ballpark ticket windows so the Browns' owner can "count the house" without moving out of his home.

**Additional Sports On Page 30**

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## LaMotta Eyes Bout With Randy Turpin

By United Press

DETROIT, May 22—Burly Jake LaMotta, who left a sick bed to defeat Eugene (Silent) Hairston, turned his eyes to England today and a possible match with Randy Turpin, the king of British empire middleweights.

The 30-year-old LaMotta said after taking an easy, unanimous 10-round decision from Hairston before 10,233 Olympia Stadium fans last night, he was sick all last week with a stomach ailment but didn't consider calling off the fight.

Jake now is in a strange situation. James D. Norris, president of the International Boxing Club, has promised him a crack at the light heavyweight title. However, LaMotta must wait until Joey Maxim and Ray Robinson, present middleweight champion, meet next month to decide who will wear the light heavy crown.

LANOTTA said regardless of the Maxim-Robinson outcome, he would take on whichever fighter the IBC chooses—which might be Robinson in an overweight match if Maxim retains his championship.

There was no doubt LaMotta who scaled 168, defeated Hairston. Judge Jack Aspery favored Jake 55-45. Judge Joseph Lannahan liked him 52-48 and Referee Clarence Rosen gave him a 53-47 edge. There were no knockdowns in the fight.

## Davey, Vejar Rematched

By United Press

DETROIT, May 22 — Chuck Davey, the southpaw welterweight from Michigan State College, signed yesterday for a 10-round rematch with Chico Vejar at Detroit's Olympia June 11.

Davey gained a unanimous decision over Vejar in Chicago May 7. He floored the Stamford, Conn., welterweight four times, using a murderous left to the stomach.

Master boxer and holder of a master's degree in education at MSC, Davey will be making his first appearance in Detroit as a main event.

Vejar, a New York University drama student, had lost only one fight in 40 professional bouts until he met his match in Davey. Davey never has been beaten in 33 fights although he boxed to one draw.

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