



SPORT



STARS WHO ARE ALWAYS SECOND IN SPORT WORLD

Helen Jacobs, Gehrig, and Venzke are Among These Stars Invariably Second.

BOSTON, Aug. 6—Lou Gehrig, Gene Venzke and now—Helen Jacobs. In any athletic generations but the present one these three might have been transcendent in their particular fields of endeavor. Instead, each has been forced to take a back seat, outshone by a super-star.

Just as Gehrig had his Babe Ruth and Venzke his Cunningham, Helen Jacobs has her Helen Wills Moody. Only on one occasion, the American championships in 1933, when Mrs. Moody was forced to retire by a back injury with Miss Jacobs leading 3-0 in the third set, did Miss Jacobs defeat her nemesis.

The injury forced Mrs. Moody into retirement for two years permitting Miss Jacobs to retain the national singles crown in 1934. But Miss Jacobs' reign as tennis queen was threatened this spring when Mrs. Moody announced that after several weeks of secret practice, that she was going abroad to play in minor tournaments, with the idea, if her play warranted it, of staging a comeback.

When the two Helens entered the All-England championship tournament at Wimbledon, tennis enthusiasts toyed with the idea of seeing Mrs. Moody and Miss Jacobs in the finals. It was an intriguing thought, but Mrs. Moody had not yet established her comeback to the point where she showed anything like her former form on the court. She had been beaten in a minor tournament just prior to the Wimbledon meeting.

The dream meeting materialized when the American Helens faced each other across the net in the final at Wimbledon before one of the biggest crowds that ever jammed its way into the famous stadium.

Mrs. Moody's comeback was complete when she came from behind in the third and deciding set with a magnificent rally to win her seventh British title. In that brief period when her cause seemed all but lost Mrs. Moody rose to the heights of her palmier days and on sheer courage stole the honors from her opponent.

Mrs. Moody spiked the old sports adage that "they never come back," just as Jim Braddock and Discovery had already done this season.

Mrs. Moody's seventh triumph at Wimbledon marked the third time she had defeated her rival from California in the all-England championships. For

Harness Racing Is Picking Up

MODERN FIGHTERS BEST — HEENEY

MIAMI BEACH, Fla., Aug. 6—Tom Heeney, stripped of all but swimming trunks, sipped a cooling drink and snorted:

"Bunk!"

That was his retort to the suggestion that fistiana's modern heroes are softer than the giants of the past era.

"Gee whiz," said the onetime "Hard Rock From Down Under", whom Gene Tunney cracked, "the records prove that's the bunk."

Heeney's contention, whether correct or not, comes from logical reasoning. Painstakingly the New Zealander explains:

"Everything else in the world has progressed. Thirty years ago it was considered an astonishing feat to run the mile in 4:20. Today, Cunningham runs it in 4:06.7. All things which can be checked by time and record show improvement. Doesn't it stand to reason that boxing has likewise advanced?"

"If the truth be known," he continued, "the tales of the prowess of those oldtimers probably have been embellished in the retelling."

Springing to his feet and striking a pose easily recognizable as the favorite of the mighty John L. Sullivan, Heeney chortled:

"Ho, ho, why if one of the boys today put up his dukes like this, standing flatfooted, or waddling around like a beery abdomen, he'd be knocked out in the first round colder than a herring."

HOOF PRINTS

The first winter favorites had their innings in 1929. Walter Dear, 2:02 3/4, and Volomite, 2:03 1/4, alternated as first choice, and the race resulted in an unexampled victory for their trainer, Walter Cox, three others from his stable finished behind as Walter Dear won the Hambletonian for his breeder, W. H. Cane, owner of the mile track at Goshen. Hanover's Bertha 1:59 1/2, was the Greyhound of the next renewal. She had shown her superiority over everything, with the possible exception of Main McElwyn, 2:02 3/4, as

Miss Jacobs it marked the fourth unsuccessful bid for the British title after having gained the finals.

Of course Berkeley Bell, the Tireless Texan, would like to have been nominated for the Davis Cup squad but since he wasn't offered he decided to make the most of his tennis opportunities while the squad was abroad.

His vigorous campaigning has already netted him 27 tennis trophies this season. That alone ought to entitle him to whatever honors go with the title of cup-hunting champion.

In his nine years of court competition Bell has collected 387 trophies. They include cups, watches, cuff links, travelling bags, fountain pens, stickpins, razors and the like.

He recently retired the famous McDougall cup, worth about \$600, when won the eastern clay-court title for the third time. Bell sends most of his trophies to his mother in Austin, Texas, must be assuming the proportions

of a museum.

a two-year-old, twice lowering the record for trotters of this age, and she pulled as favorite in the winter betting. At three she won every race, including the first Hambletonian decided at Goshen.

Silver King and Lawrence Hanover were at times quoted at shorter odds than Greyhound was last winter, but the grey gelding always remained the first choice of the talent. On public form up to date they are not nearly as dangerous as Egan's green, though rapidly improving, filly is, but you never can tell what Doc Parshall or Ben White may be ready to spring on an unsuspecting public when the bell rings for the Hambletonian or the Kentucky Futurity.

BOSTON, Aug. 6—The Boston Athletic Association, organized in 1887, closes its clubhouse doors tonight at midnight.

Officers blamed a falling off in membership and delinquency in payment of dues for the move, but one official said the B.A.A. marathon and the B.A.A. games in the Boston Garden would be continued.

Optimism was expressed, however, that the institution, known for its pioneering in sports, might be reorganized.

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Greyhound and Princess Zabetta Two Unbeaten 3-Year-old Trotters of Season's Campaign.

NEW YORK, Aug. 6—Greyhound, 3:02 1-4, and Princess Zebetta, 2:07 3/4, the two unbeaten three-year-old trotters of this season's campaign, are billed to measure strides this week for one of the minor prizes of Salem's Grand Circuit meeting. Because the gelding had just been purchased at auction for \$900 and the filly for \$150, neither was deemed to be a good enough yearling to enter in either the American or the National Stake when nominations for those \$5,000 races of the Salem meeting closed two years ago, and so they must look on as Protector, 1:59 1-4, Sturdy, 2:04 3/4, and Tara, 2:02 1-2, did when higher priced though not faster ones won the Hambletonian.

Hardly any one expects the daughter of Guy Day, 2:04 1-4, to beat the odds-on favorite for next week's Hambletonian, yet all horsemen will be interested to see how fast she can make him go. Her record, made on the half-mile track at Stunbridge, Mass., is one of the fastest ever reported for a trotter of her age on a two-lap oval. The rules of harness racing used to make an allowance of four seconds to equalize the difference between mile and half-mile tracks, but experience has demonstrated that for some horses it is more than this, while for others it is much less.

E. Roland Harriman's Toronto winner, Fez, 2:04 3/4, and H. Stacy Smith's Pedro Tipton, 2:04, are in the same boat with Greyhound and the Countess. While the latter is a prospective Hambletonian starter neither was nominated in the \$5,000 stakes.

Trainer Used Judgment

Though none of the reporters, press agents or ghost writers at Toronto seemed to think it worth while to enquire why Tilly Tonka was drawn after forcing Greyhound to trot in 2:02 3/4 in the second heat of their race, it turned out, as I suspected and intimated last Sunday, that the great filly had not broken down or been otherwise incapacitated, as might have been inferred by this unusual action when she had second money won, but that her cautious trainer Fred Egan, had stopped her right there at the cost of second money lest another terrific heat might hurt her chance to beat Greyhound in the Hambletonian.

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REASONS WHY TIGERS ARE UP DESPITE ROWE

NEW YORK, Aug. 6—The Detroit Tigers, functioning less efficiently than the team which won the American league pennant in 1934, nevertheless are two and one-half games better off than they were at this stage of the race a year ago.

It was on Aug. 1, 1934, that the Tigers gained a single game lead on the New York Yankees—a lead they never lost during the remainder of the campaign. Today Mickey Cochrane's men rest three and one-half games ahead of the Yankees. The Tigers' rise to their present formidable position is somewhat phenomenal compared with their record of a year ago.

Lynwood (Schoolboy) Rowe, ace of the Tiger pitchers, on Aug. 2, 1934, was in the midst of a ten-game streak, which he eventually increased to 16, and had lost only four games. This season Rowe is far below that peak—he has won nine and lost nine—but still the Tigers are leading the league. The reasons are:

1—The collapse of the Yankees.

2—Increased potency of Detroit bats.

"Hank" Greenberg, Tiger first baseman, leads both leagues in homers, with 28. A year ago he was 11th, with only 15. Charley Gehringer, second baseman, is first in runs scored, with 87—meaning he is getting aboard the bases pretty consistently. Greenberg is fourth, with 83. Greenberg is third in this, with 138, and Gehringer tied for fifth, with 134.

Thus, it takes no mathematical genius to figure where the Tigers will finish if Rowe comes back and his teammates continue at their present clip. Rowe worries because he can't win. He hasn't the confidence he had in 1934. Cochrane is perplexed because the schoolboy is burning them over the plate as fast as he was a year ago, yet he isn't winning. But Cochrane isn't pessimistic because if the Tigers maintain their present pace he figures the pennant will be a breeze. If Rowe fails, Mickey believes the Tigers still have enough on the ball.

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U.S. SHOULD QUIT KIDDING SELF RE TENNIS

NEW YORK, Aug. 6—After eight fruitless years in quest of the Davis Cup, which France snatched from America in 1927, the United States is removed further than ever from a real prospect of recovering the famous international tennis trophy.

False hopes have been erected annually, only to come tumbling down, leaving not only dissatisfaction but frequent bitterness in their wake. It's about time the U.S.A., dominant on the courts for nearly a post-war decade, quit "kidding" itself, discarded alibis and faced the facts.

The salient facts, in retrospect, are that since 1927 America has taken only four singles matches in six challenge flings. Three of these were gained by Big Bill Tilden, the other by Ellsworth Vines. England made a clean sweep of the singles this year and last.

This country has more tennis-playing talent, per capita, than any other nation. It has adequate facilities and coaching for the development of younger players. Tournament play is conducted throughout the year.

Why, with all this apparent opportunity and inspiration, can't the United States develop a team capable of picking up where Bill Johnston and Big Bill Tilden left off?

The answer seems two-fold: First, that no sustained long-range Davis cup plan of operations has been formulated; second, that America's class of top-flight players has proved erratic, undependable or too receptive to professional inducements.

The United States Lawn Tennis Association may have been guilty of too much optimism. It may have used bad judgment in making some team selections. But the governing body can't be blamed wholly, if past performances prove an unreliable criterion or if American players fail to measure up to the expected form.

Sidney Wood was left on the sidelines during this year's challenge round bout, despite the obvious indication Allison could not be counted on for three successive days of top-notch play.

The current American "first 10" is a tipoff. Of the first six ranking players, Allison, No. 1, alone competed in the Davis Cup competition abroad. Wood was benched, Frank Shields and Frankie Parker were not called on, while Lester Stofen and George M. Lott turned professional.

The No. 9 player, youthful Donald Budge, turned in a sensational performance and is the lone cause for optimism about the future. He is a great prospect. His doubles mate, Gene Mako, is ranked No. 12. Together they might develop for a "long pull" in Davis Cup stock investment.

But that's all this or any other nation can look forward to, as long as England's combination of Fred Perry and Bunny Austin sticks together.

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