

# SMOKE RINGS

## It Can't Happen Here

By SAM RAGAN

Looping the week-end sports loop and the quips and quirks of the weather brings up the question of how many robins does one need to make a spring.

Sometimes the fates take a hand and change things about a bit but we'll bet the Greensboro chamber of commerce is right now red-facedly trying to explain a three-inch snowfall, on Easter, of all things, that caused the postponement of match play in the Greater Greensboro Open Golf tournament. And that crack by Gene Sarazen when he was informed it was time to tee up—"You mean ski up, don't you?"—must have burned up the civic-minded.

### Touchy About It

Southerners who have learned to sell the commodity of winter sunshine and balmy temperatures are a little touchy about the weather subject—especially when it snows in spring when everyone had said that such a thing was unheard of.

But the second 18 holes will be played today and the boys on the so-called winter circuit will sweep through the final round tomorrow, provided old man weather is kind.

Clayton Heafner, whose popularity runs high in Wilmington, almost in proportion to that of Charlotte where mere mention of his name is cause for a special edition, is currently tied with little Ben Hogan for the lead. He was hot when play ended Saturday and we wonder if his game cooled off along with the weather.

### The Twins

Everyone who has followed the destinies of the Piedmont league for the past two years is well acquainted with the status of the Winston-Salem Twins in that circuit. And being aware of that, one can sympathize with Nady Cates, sports editor of the Winston-Salem Journal, who despite the fact that he must be unbalanced in news presentation must uphold the family honor by putting in a good word for the Twins now and then.

Brother Cates comments on 1940 possibilities for the Twins as follows:

"Sports writers are a skeptical lot. Thanks to flamboyant press agency, which frequently must be taken with a grain of salt, men who edit the sports pages, as a class, are unbelievers by habit and tradition.

"The scribes ran true to form in forecasting the outcome of the 1940 Piedmont league race. Although Manager Cal Griffith of the Charlotte Bees stepped out and predicted that Winston-Salem would show the most improvement of all the clubs in the circuit, baseball writers picked the Twins to wind up on the bottom, where they have been for the past three seasons.

"Far be it from me to take issue with my honored contemporaries. I, too, have learned from bitter experience to have a keen respect for the old adage, 'history repeats.'

"The Twins may contrive to duplicate this season their miserable record of the past three years. But I assure you it won't be easy. It takes an effort to be that lousy, as the French would say."

### Odds and Ends

New Hanover's Wildcats will meet Rocky Mount Friday in the first game of the season in Eastern Class A conference play. . . The Blackbirds are an unknown quantity so far as strength is concerned but the boys from the city that straddles the Nash-Edgemore line are always known for making a strong bid in any race they enter. . . Robert Jordan, the Whiteville gridiron flash, is no mean shakes on a baseball diamond either. . . In a game last week he struck out 15 men and allowed but two safeties. . . John (Lefty) Chesne, the Wilmington boy who has one of the best curve balls Chapel Hill has seen, will be on the mound for the Carolina nine against the University of Pennsylvania team this afternoon. . . The meeting of those two teams this afternoon will remind many of an October day of last fall when the Carolina football team rolled over the Quaker eleven 30-6, for on the Penn team will be Frank Reagan, Harlan Gustafson and Billy Koepsel, leading luminaries on the Penn grid team. . . On the Carolina nine will be George Strawless, Jim Mallory and George Radman, who played such a vital part in spanking the Pennsylvania lads last fall. . . Milo Steinborn who will wrestle here tomorrow night, at one time traveled with a circus exhibiting his biceps.

### Indianapolis Triumphs

#### 8 To 4 Over Cleveland

FORT MYERS, Fla., March 24.—(AP)—The Cleveland Indians collected nine hits today, their second largest total this spring, but Indianapolis of the American association defeated the Tribe, 8 to 4, with a five-run attack on Rookie Mike Nymnick.

Al Milnar allowed the association team three hits and two runs in the first four innings and Ken Jungels supplanting Nymnick in the last two frames, yielded only one hit.

Indianapolis scored twice in the first inning, got another run, unearned, off Nymnick in the sixth, then made its five-run assault in the seventh.

The Indians reached Balas for three hits in three innings, Logan for five in four, and Oil for one in two innings.

### High Art Clothes

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# 'CATS' OPEN TENNIS PLAY TODAY

## Snow Halts Play In Greensboro Golf Meet

### JOHNSON STARTS IN TOP POSITION

#### Defending State Champions To Meet Fayetteville Racquet Club In Opener

The Phantom Aces of New Hanover High school will take to the courts this morning at 10 o'clock at Robert Strange playground, meeting the Fayetteville Racquet club in the locals' first tennis match of the season.

Coach Glenward Blomme will throw Lionel Johnson, junior, into the number one spot in an effort to stop the visitors' ace. Johnson is playing a hard-hitting game this season and from his practice sessions looks like a champion, but even champions can be beaten so the local ace is not forecasting anything before the match. Lionel will depend largely upon his smashing service and accurate forehand for his points.

Nelson Taylor, junior, will follow his teammate in the second space. Nelson depends upon a steady forehand and nice net game and the ability to retrieve almost unbelievable shots to down opponents. Playing in the number one and two spots last year Taylor dropped only one match out of thirteen and his singles and doubles play was a big factor in the locals' winning of the state championship.

Occupying the number three berth for the second year is Charles Boney, sophomore, former grammar school champion who did not lose a match last year. Charley is small in stature but packs a wallop in both his drives and service.

Bringing up the number four position is Captain Harold Hinnant, senior, and playing his second year on the varsity. Harold is handicapped by a short right leg, but opponents have been unable to stop him yet. The captain of the Aces did not drop a match all last season and is out to protect his record this year. Sporting a terrific service and deadly volleying game Hinnant all but sweeps his opponents from the court.

Jerould Robinson, junior, a newcomer to the squad, will play the number five. Occupied last year by Captain Steve Peck, lost by graduation, this position is one of the most important on the team and the coaches expect Jerould to more than hold his own with the opposition this year. Robinson has a very fine service and exceptionally strong forehand and will be counted on to fill the shoes of Peck as a doubles partner for Johnson.

John Evans, senior, also a newcomer to the squad, rounds out the first six and is working hard to fill the capable shoes of the graduated Jerry Newbold. John has worked hard this season in practice and has steadily shown improvement in all his strokes. Weak on service he makes up for it in a deadly forehand drive and underspin volley at the net.

### Phillies Blank Chiefs Behind Good Pitching

MIAMI BEACH, Fla., March 24.—(AP)—Three-hit pitching by Walter Beck and Syl Johnson of the Phillies' mound staff shut out the Syracuse Chiefs in an exhibition game today and the Phils won, 6-0.

Beck allowed the International leaguers only one hit in his five-inning service. The only extra-base blow among the Phillies' dozen hits was a three-bagger by Hershel Martin, first man up in the first inning. Martin scored a few minutes later on Ed Levy's roller to short.

### IN THIS CORNER—RED-HOT ROOKIES

BY ART KRENZ



**JOHN RUCKER**  
UP WITH NEW YORK GIANTS IS EXPECTED TO GO FAR BEFORE HANGING UP HIS BASEBALL SHOES... HE HIT 346 WHILE PLAYING THE OUTFIELD FOR ATLANTA LAST YEAR... RUCKER IS A NEPHEW OF NAD RUCKER WHO SOUTHPAWED 10 YEARS FOR BROOKLYN... BORN IN CRABAPPLE, GA... HE IS CALLED THE CRABAPPLE COMET FROM HIS SPEED AFOOT... HE CIRCLED THE BASES... IN 13 SECONDS LAST SUMMER...

### FENSKE'S VICTORY PLEASES MENTOR

Coach Tom Jones, of Wisconsin, Happiest Man On Scene Of Chuck's Triumph

MADISON, Wis., March 24.—(AP)—A sickly lad trained conscientiously for three years and when, in his last meet, he won the coveted emblem, the happiest man on the scene was Tom Jones, venerable University of Wisconsin track coach.

"That boy's accomplishment," Jones said, "means as much to me as all the trophies and ribbons we have gathered here in 23 years."

Jones didn't mention the boy's name. It really didn't matter, because he inferred that a host of anonymous figures were flitting through his mind—boys who to a greater or lesser degree attained their goals under his sympathetic guidance.

It was characteristic of Jones that he disclaimed major credit for successes of the current "king of milers," Charles (Chuck) Fenske, who studied under the Badger tutor for six years.

"Chuck is a fine boy and did all the hard work himself," Jones said. "I have given him more attention than some others, I suppose, but that probably was due to his own sincerity."

While Fenske and others came to the university with preliminary training, Jones' ability to pick inexperienced, awe-struck boys out of gym classes and develop them into letter winners has been a big factor in the production of strong track teams year after year at Wisconsin.

During Jones' tenure, the Badgers have won 11 Big Ten cross country championships and six indoor and three outdoor track and field conference titles.

### Entries For Harness Race Events Increase

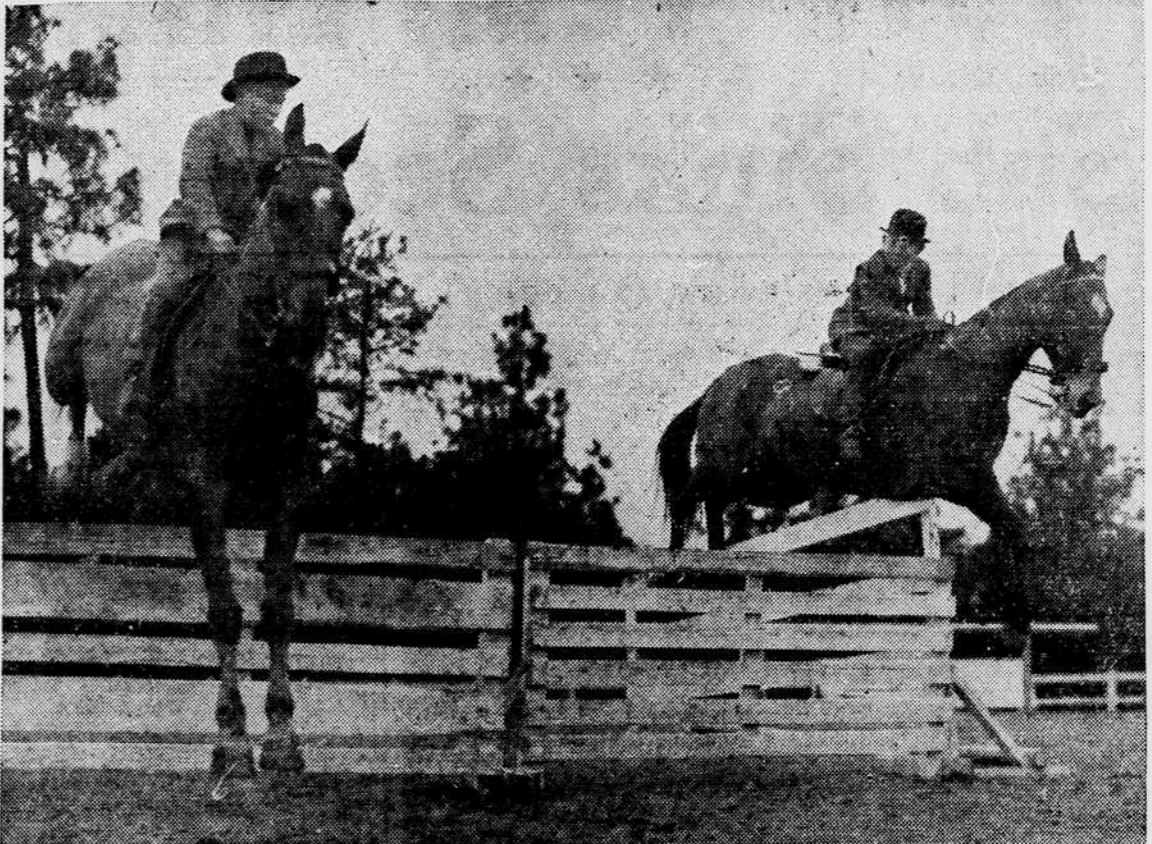
GOSHEN, N. Y., March 24.—(AP)—The Trotting Horse Club of America announced today that the closing of the entry lists for the series of stakes it will sponsor next summer at the grand circuit race meetings at Indianapolis, Goshen, Narragansett Park, R. L. Syracuse, N. Y., Toledo and Delaware, O., revealed large lists of entries in every case.

### First Reduction Made In Ranks Of Dodgers

CLEARWATER, Fla., March 24.—(AP)—The first reduction in the ranks of the Brooklyn Dodgers was made today.

Bill Crouch, righthand pitcher and infielder Bruce Berger were released outright to Montreal, the Dodgers' International league farm, while Sam Nahem, another pitcher, was sent to Nashville of the Southern association under option.

### To Compete In Horse Show Here



"Junebug" Tate and Billy Tate, of Pinehurst, up on "Top Thorn" and "Virginia Girl" will compete against seasoned show riders over the high jumps and tricky outside course at the third annual Cape Fear Horse Show on April 5 and 6.

### 'Cats' Play Whiteville Here Tuesday Afternoon

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla., March 24.—(AP)—The New York Yankees may be champions of the world, but they are only co-champions of St. Petersburg, sharing the title with the St. Louis Cardinals.

The Cards thrashed Oral Hildebrand for nine hits and five runs in four innings to beat the Yanks 6 to 3 today in the sixth and final game of their local exhibition series. Each team won three.

Curt Davis and Bob Bowman combined to check the Yankees' vaunted attack, Davis working the first five innings with a four-hit gait that might have meant a shut-out except for an error by Joe Orenco.

The big gun in the Cards' attack again was the recently acquired Morris Jones, who hit three singles.

### Joe Louis Will Battle Paychek Friday Night

NEW YORK, March 24.—(AP)—Boxing's richest prize, the heavyweight championship, comes up for action on this week's national program, with Joe Louis defending his title for the tenth time since he won it in 1937.

Louis takes on Johnny Paychek of Des Moines, Ia., for 15 rounds or less in Madison Square Garden Friday night.

### Indiana, Kansas To Play For National Cage Title

KANSAS CITY, March 24.—(AP)—Two point-a-minute quintets—Indiana of the Big Ten, and Kansas of the Big Six—tangle Saturday night for the National Collegiate Basketball title already relinquished by Oregon university.

### New Nazi Propaganda Campaign Is Opened

PARIS, March 24.—(AP)—A vigorous new German propaganda drive opened along the Rhine today, the French high command disclosed.

### British Trawler Sunk By Mine, Crew Rescued

LONDON, March 24.—(AP)—The admiralty announced tonight that the 210-ton British naval trawler, the Loch Assater, had been sunk by mine. All the crew members were rescued.

### Escapes Injury

DISNEY, Okla., March 24.—(AP)—Robert Griffith, a workman on the Grand river dam, slipped and bounced 92 feet down one of the dam's slanting arches. Levi Lowder, a labor inspector, found him uninjured, calmly reading a newspaper.

### SECOND 18 HOLES SCHEDULED TODAY

Heafner, Hogan Tied For Lead With Score Of 69; McSpaden Among Leaders

By BILL BONI  
GREENSBORO, March 24.—(AP)—Rodney Snow was the first man to tee off today in the Greensboro Open Golf tournament. By 10 a. m. snow was all over the course, three inches deep, and the second 18-hole round of the \$5,000 Winter Tour fixture had been postponed until tomorrow.

Although the snow started early this morning, an estimated 1,500 galleries turned out by the time the tournament officials decided it would be impossible to play.

Play will be resumed at 9:30 a. m. tomorrow. By then, it is hoped it will be possible to sweep the greens. The boys always can be up in the fairways.

"I wouldn't mind playing in that way," said Jug McSpaden. "At least it would be the same for everybody."

McSpaden will be right up with the leaders when play is resumed. The Winchester (Mass.) pro shot a two-over-par 73 yesterday which left him four strokes off the pace set jointly by North and South Champion Ben Hogan and Clayton Heafner, the "Candy Kid" from Lenoir, North Carolina.

### Chicago Bowlers Hold Lead In National Meet

DETROIT, March 24.—(AP)—The Easter parade idea took hold at the American Bowling Congress championships today with several Chicagoans conducting a march to high spots in the standings.

Nick De Grazia, Italian from Chicago's west side, led the Keglers' parade by smashing over 68 pins to take second in the singles. It was far, however, from the leading 725 which Marty Cassio, Elizabeth J. tailor, posted Saturday.

De Grazia's score, from games 247-20-237, dropped a fellow Chicagoan, Charles Dunn, 35-year-old electrical engineer, to third place. Earlier today Dunn had rolled 257-263-192 for 656. Neither De Grazia nor Dunn did much in the doubles and team event.

just about all there is to know about wrestling.

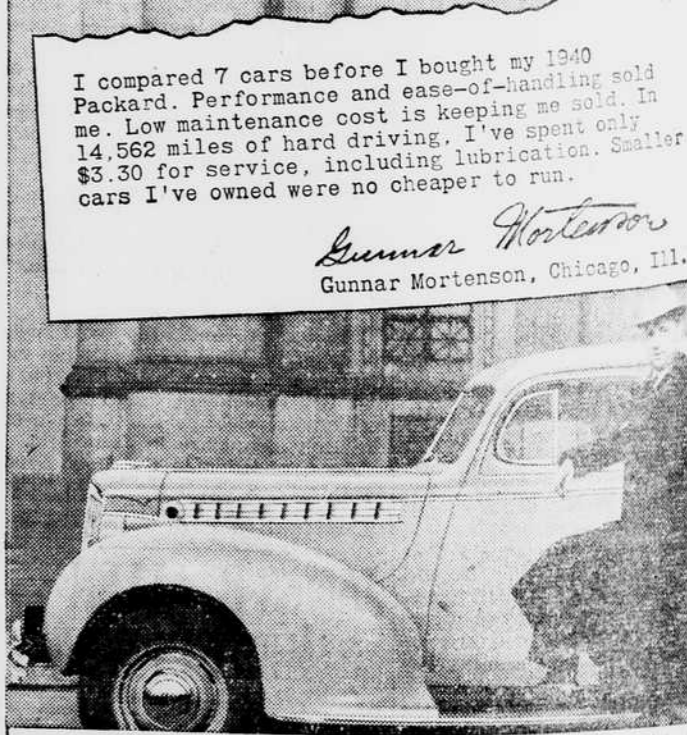
The referee for the two bouts has not yet been named. The winner will get under way at 8 o'clock.

### Tennis Supplies

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The testimonial of Mr. Mortenson (shown above) is not of scores on file at Packard Motor Car Company.

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