

Riggs - Kramer Gross Tops Tilden's Texas Edges SWC Champ Baylor 32-29

AP Newsfeatures

By JERRY LISKA

CHICAGO—Maybe their obvious hankering to bash each other's tennis brains all over the court will wane before Jack Kramer and Bobby Riggs finish traipsing through some 75 matches in this country and a projected junket into foreign lands.

But until it does, Promoter Jack Harris has himself the hottest and most lucrative professional tennis expedition since the play-for-play days of Big Bill Tilden in the early Thirties.

As a matter of fact, after Kramer and Riggs had sailed into each other through their first 21 matches, Harris had counted up a record-breaking attendance of 110,627 and gross receipts of \$219,173 which the promoter enthusiastically said "tops everything, including Tilden's tours, by far."

When Kramer, Davis Cup world-beater and amateur champion of 1946 and 1947, scored his 12th victory here recently, the largest tennis crowd in the city's history—11,522—paid upwards of \$21,000 to watch Jack and Bobby slug it out at the Chicago stadium.

Almost as much as Tilden when he turned professional in 1931, Kramer entered the moneyed ranks with a brilliant amateur record. But whereas Tilden easily hurled such opponents as Vinnie Richards, Bruce Barnes, Emmett Parré, Tib. Lott, and Henri Cochet and had clear sailing until time and Ill-worth Vines slapped him down, Kramer had cocky Bobby Riggs, who net king, waiting to pin his ears back, in Bobby's own words:

"It was a box-office 'natural' from the start and Harris actually was putting money in the bank himself when he signed Kramer for a \$50,000 guarantee and assured Riggs a champion's share of the gate."

The two rivals properly set the stage for a crowd-enticing feud as Riggs confidently opined that "I'm too smart for Jack" and Kramer retorted "Riggs thinks he has a corner on all the tennis brains in the land. I shall try to disprove such a theory."

Kramer, who might be expected to show a prima donna attitude off his amateur record, has taken to the pro game with surprising shrewdness and levelheadedness. "I play better when people are close up and yelling," explains Jack in commenting on tendency of profs to give players the same treatment, by cheers or jeers, that athletes receive in professional baseball, football and boxing.

"Let them rib me or needle me or cheer me when they feel like it," Kramer continues. "I'm a pro now and I'm taking their money. Let them have fun like they do in the ball parks."

There is one time, however, that Kramer wishes the fans would pipe down. That's when he is going for the ball.



JACK KRAMER
Fast ball . . .

"At that second," he says, "you have to do three things—run, watch the ball and swing at the same time. A lot of sudden noise might throw you off. I know that would have bothered me at Wimbledon and Forest Hills when I was an amateur, but maybe by the time this tour is over they could shoot off a cannon next to me and I wouldn't hear it."

Kramer gets quite hot at any speculation that the players will keep even all the way to maintain fan interest in the tour.

"I'm guaranteed \$50,000 for this tour," he snapped, "and I wouldn't carry that Riggs one match for twice as much money. Boy, he sure makes people mad. In New York, one fan razed him all during our match. I asked him why afterwards. The fan replied: 'I just don't like the shape of his head.'"

Promoter Harris, who also has Pancho Segura and Dinky Pails to add a talented foreign touch to the entourage, is gleeful over the fact that Riggs and Kramer are "two competitors who won't give an inch."

After the United States tour closes this spring, Harris plans a swing through Australia, India, New Zealand and South America.



BOBBY RIGGS
Steady ball . . .

Intramural Mat Events Slated To Begin March 10

The 1948 Intramural Wrestling tournament will open Wednesday, March 10 at 4:00 with 21 bouts scheduled for the opening day.

Four of the seven weight classes will be represented on the opening day with the 159 pound class getting started with 12 matches.

Parings for March 10 are as follows:

119 lb. class:
Shelby C AF vs. Skidmore B Inf.
149 lb. class:
Fisher No. 14 vs. Greer A Inf.
Dookery A Comp. vs. Steven B Inf.
Conger L6 TC vs. Currie C Inf.
Foster C Comp. vs. Barker C AF.
Wells C Cav. vs. Cox No. 15
Harrison B Eng vs. Greeves A Eng.

159 lb. class:
Young C Cav vs. Hurley White Band.
Lessor A Eng vs. Dungan C AF.
Burrup C FA vs. Beck A Cav.
Mayo A AF vs. Lesser No. 14
Zutewalt C Comp vs. Potts Mitchell.

Miller A FA vs. Sykes B FA.
Sealy C FA vs. Timmons A Eng.
Williams B FA vs. Holloman A Cav.
Miller A AF vs. Valdes No. 5.
Dempsey Leggett vs. Roach C Comp.
Bussell B Eng vs. Taylor C Cav.
Longfield A Comp vs. Wilson A Cav.

Heavyweight class:
Smith No. 7 vs. Bland B AF.
Rekoff A Comp vs. Kruse B AF.

Last Texas Glove Champ Bows Out

CHICAGO, Feb. 26 (AP)—The last Texas champion in the National Golden Gloves Boxing Tournament bowed out last night.

Elli, Wombourne of Sioux City, La., won over Tom Adams of Fort Worth when the referee stopped the fight in the third round after a deep gash had been cut on Adams' cheek.

The Texas light-heavyweight, ahead on points at the time, protested the referee's decision to stop the fight and was given a tremendous ovation when he left the ring.

SWC Plays Teams From All Areas

Twenty-one inter-sectional games are among the 47 scheduled by Southwest Conference football teams for the next campaign.

Teams from every area, West Coast to the East, are included in the slate.

Oklahoma and Louisiana State will meet three Southwest Conference teams and Tulsa will play two.

Imperfection

SOUTH BEND, Ind., (AP)—Harold J. Zyski, state auto license examiner, contends there are no perfect drivers and he scores applicants accordingly. For example, one chap who did pretty well in chauffeur's license examination was graded 92.

"What's your name?" Zyski asked. "Mauri Rose," replied the two-time winner of the 500-mile auto race at Indianapolis.

Minnesota awarded freshman football letters to 76 players during 1947.

By The Associated Press
Little Al Madsen gave his University of Texas mates their revenge over Baylor. His three points in the last 30 seconds of play last night spoiled the Bears' perfect Southwest Conference basketball record, 32-29.

A packed house of 9,000 persons saw the Longhorns make up to some extent for the licking handed them by Baylor two weeks ago. The result had little meaning in the conference race though as Baylor has already clinched the title.

The defeat was the first for Baylor in 11 conference starts. The victory was Texas' seventh against three defeats and kept them in the running for second place.

Baylor jumped into an early lead, but the Longhorns started to click late in the second half and held a 21-15 lead at the intermission.

Playing cautious ball in the second half, both teams slowed considerably. A field goal by James Owens tied the score at 29-all, then Madsen broke through the Baylor defense to sink a one-handed shot. Then he added a free throw for good measure.

Sports Calendar

Friday—Fish-Bees play Texas Short-horns here at 7:30 p.m. No priority.

Saturday—A&M vs. Texas U. Swimmers, Austin, 3 p.m.

First Spring Training Scrimmage, 5 p.m.

Fencers meet U. of Houston, gym, 2 p.m.

Monday—Junior College Tournament starts, gym, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Texas Christian, Indiana U Meet On Gridiron in 1948

FORT WORTH, Feb. 26—TCU's Horned Frog football team will go on the night shift for the 1948 season.

Five of the Frogs' 10 games will be played under the lights—three of these at home and two on the road.

A contract for a powerful lighting system has been let for the TCU Stadium and should be ready for use next fall. The Arkansas game, Oct. 2; Oklahoma U., Oct. 23; and Baylor, Oct. 30—all in Ft. Worth—will be played at night.

The Horned Frogs have added a new opponent to their schedule for the '48 season—Indiana University.

TCU opens the season, as usual, against the University of Kansas in Kansas City, Mo., Sept. 18—under the lights. The second contest is with Oklahoma A&M, this one in Oklahoma City and also under the lights.

This leaves five opponents to be met on Saturday afternoons—Indiana U. at Bloomington, Ind., Oct. 9; Texas A&M at College Station, Oct. 16; University of Texas, Fort Worth, Nov. 13; Rice, Houston, Nov. 20; and SMU, Dallas, Nov. 27.

Harlingen Defeats Thomas Jeff 26-23

By The Associated Press
Harlingen has joined Denton in the Class AA High School Basketball State Tournament next week in Austin and the other six places will be decided by Saturday night.

The Dist. 16-AA champion defeated Thomas Jefferson, San Antonio (15), 26-23, last night to win the bi-district series, two games to one.

Abilene (3) and Bowie, El Paso (4), open their bi-district series tonight in El Paso while two other playoffs continue.

Crozier Tech, Dallas (8) and Poly, Fort Worth (7), play their second game in Dallas and Texarkana (11) and Lufkin (12) meet again in Texarkana. Crozier and Lufkin have one victory apiece.

Plenty of Sewing

BUFFALO (AP)—When Hal Jackson, now starring on defense for the Buffalo Bisons of the American Hockey League, was a member of the Chicago Black Hawks, he suffered a shoulder injury that required 175 stitches to mend.

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Battalion SPORTS

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These are the trophies which will be awarded to the first, second, and third place winners, plus one for the consolation team, in the Junior College Basketball Tournament to be held here. Coach Marty Karow, left, is the Tournament Director, and W. N. "Flop" Colson, right, is in charge of the arrangements.

KICKING IT AROUND

By ART HOWARD

"Is He Is, Or Is He Isn't?" Is Worry Of Scouts On Townsend's Front Porch

After an interview with Byron Townsend of Odessa, the sports editor of the University of Houston's Cougar, Bob Weatherly, stated that it was his belief that Townsend would go to either Texas A&M or Rice Institute.

Townsend had stated that he was interested in taking Engineering, so Weatherly naturally assumed that he would pick the best Engineering school—since Townsend can take his choice of almost any school in the nation.

What aroused the U. of H. students was the fact that this writer, probably a Liberal Arts man, did for an autograph on a checker, a photograph.

It is doubtful if the new football "Purity" rules will do much good to actually eliminate subsidization to athletes.

Not too long ago, Carlisle had an Indian with a long unpronounceable name, something like "Kinkinnah." He played on Carlisle's team for 13 years before the other schools, Harvard and Yale, raised a hue about the three year eligibility rule.

Next fall this athlete was back in Oklahoma, and a judge asked him how come he wasn't playing football that season. When the boy explained, the judge asked him: "What does Kinkinnah mean?"

The Indian replied, "Under a tree." "We'll fix that," said the judge, "We'll change your name."

So the Indian went back to Carlisle and played four more years as "Underwood."

This illustrates the point that public is not behind the officials in demanding a close check on subsidization . . . they just consider it a necessary evil.

As long as football remains a big-time sport with big gates and large expenses, schools will lure good athletes by one means or another.

No Ticket Priority

There will be no priority on tickets to the A&M-TU freshman basketball game as was announced in the Batt yesterday, W. R. Carmichael said today. The game will be open for everyone to attend.

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J C Teams May Try Out New Rules In Tournament

Probable changes in the national basketball rules, such as allowing more than five personal fouls and letting the coaches get in a huddle with the players during time outs, may be tested in the state junior college basketball tournament at Texas A&M College March 1, 2 and 3.

The experiments, four of them, will be put to the vote of the 16 coaches who will have teams in the tournament.

Tournament Director Marty Karow, who has called a coaches meeting for 8 p. m. Sunday at A&M's DeWare Fieldhouse, states that the changes may be adopted by the National Basketball Coaches Association for use during the 1948 and 49 season.

The proposed changes are:

1. To allow more than five personal fouls per player, with each foul after the fifth being treated as a technical foul thereby giving the offended player the shot, or shots, and the offended team possession of the ball out of bounds after the action from the foul line.

2. To allow the coaches to talk to their players during time outs.

3. To toss up each jump-ball in the nearest of the three circles painted on the court floor.

4. To raise the arm of the player who is charged with a personal foul to clarify in the minds of the spectators as well as the players, coaches and other officials who was charged with the rules infraction.

Karow explained that two of the propositions are not new to spectators of Texas A&M games this season and that the Aggies themselves have tried—and liked—a third proposed change.

The Aggies already have acquired the habit of raising their arms when they are charged of fouls and all Southwest Conference teams have been bringing the jump-balls to the nearest circles.

When the Aggies played Ohio State at Columbus, Ohio, in December, Coach Karow talked to them during each time out. The Big Nine Conference is trying out that proposed rules change this season.

Karow made it clear that the visiting coaches would have the final say about any changes in the rules, but that if any would be tested, he would make a full report of the experiment to the National Basketball Rules Association.

Lev Andrus, Syracuse's brilliant basketball coach, is putting in his 24th season at that post.

There will be NO priority system used for admittance to tomorrow night's game between the Fish-Bees and the Texas University Short-horns.

Marvin Martin, six foot, four-inch cager from Houston, will probably start at the pivot spot. Martin has tallied an even fifty points for the Fish-Bees this season.

Truett Mobley and Guy Wallace should round out the starting five. Wallace five foot nine, is the shortest freshman on the squad but was the best floor man on the court in the Tyler game.

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