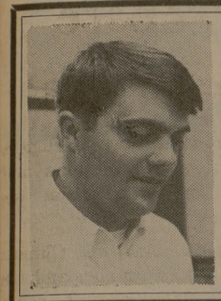


Sports Around The Nation

Sports Aplenty

Hats Off To Randy

By GARY SHERER



The north end of Kyle Field was silent as the eyes of the 3,000 spectators were all on the 260-pound athlete standing in the shot put ring.

Randy Matson, Texas A&M's world record-holder was the subject of the intense attention. The 6-6 giant gazed out at the long yellow line that lay at the end of the series of expanding white lines, with markers telling the distance of each line.

The yellow one, of course, was Matson's world record distance.

With trained concentration, Matson leaned back and, with the 16-pound sphere held tightly against his jawbone, coiled in readiness to toss the round steel ball on his first throw of the afternoon.

The occasion was "Randy Matson Day" April 22. The citizens of Bryan-College Station and the students and administration of Texas A&M had all combined to name this day for Randy.

Matson was competing with the Aggie track team in a tri-meet with Texas Tech and Baylor.

The stillness of the air was then shattered with a loud grunt as Matson's huge frame pushed the shot into the air and the steel ball fell to earth some 5 inches past that long yellow line.

"It was brought out recently that equipment manager S. M. Meeks had purposely put the yellow line at 71 feet, or 4 3/4 inches further than Matson's world record mark.) The crowd gasped and then let out with a chorus of cheers for the outstanding effort.

They had just witnessed sports history in-the-making as, after the throw was measured, it read 71-5 1/2 feet and a new world record.

This writer had seen world marks set before on television but never in person. My emotions at the moment ran from happiness for Randy to luck on my part to have been there to witness the tremendous feat.

It has been a distinct pleasure for me to know Randy Matson and to realize what a credit this athlete is to his school and nation. On the few occasions I have had to speak to Randy he has always conducted himself in a polite, humble way.

After my first interview with him, I ran into Randy between classes the next day. I mentioned to him that I hoped I hadn't asked to many questions that he had been asked hundreds of times before.

Randy grinned and replied, "Those are the kind I can answer." It's hard not to be impressed with someone when they give you answers like that.

Of course, Randy has impressed many people with both his prowess with the shot put and with his modesty in the face of great praise.

On Monday of this week, the Texas House of Representatives gave Randy still another honor. They awarded him with a resolution praising his world-record effort.

The resolution read in part, "this is a token of the appreciation of this House for the sportsmanship, hard work, perseverance, integrity and academic achievement of James Randel Matson."

This is a great honor for anyone, when a state's political body pays tribute to one person. For Randy Matson, it was certainly well deserved.

The Pampa native will be back in action May 26 when he will throw in the Gulf Federation Meet at Beaumont. Since he has layed off for the past two weeks, he will after that, try to compete every weekend. On June 3 he will be in Houston, San Diego on June 10 and the NCAA finals at Provo, Utah on June 15-16.

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Archer Captures Colonial Tuneup

FORT WORTH, Tex. (AP) — George Archer, the California cowboy, fired a record-equaling five-under-par 65 Wednesday to sweep pro-amateur honors in a prelude to the \$115,000 Colonial National Invitation Golf Tournament.

Archer whipped around the Colonial Country Club course in 32-33-65 and tied the record set by Ben Hogan in 1964 and equaled by a quartet of others. Archer won \$500.

The current Greensboro Open champion missed only one green and dropped birdie putts ranging from 5 to 10 feet. He did not bogey a hole.

Kermit Zarley, with a 67, took second and a paycheck of \$425. Five deadlocked at 68, including Tommy Aaron, Tommy Bolt, Juan Rodriguez, Ken Still and Mason Rudolph. They split \$1,450.

Six others cracked par by a stroke with 69s. They were Rod Funseth, Harold Henning, Rocky Thompson, Joe Campbell, Billy Casper and Bobby Nichols. They won \$152.50 each.

BALTIMORE (AP) — Although winner of the Kentucky Derby, Proud Clarion was rated no better than the co-second choice Wednesday to take Saturday's \$150,000-added Preakness at Pimlico as the field for the second leg of the Triple Crown for 3-year-olds grew to nine.

Blair Wilkinson, who has made the Pimlico betting line for 30 years, pegged Florida Derby winner In Reality as the 5-2 choice to take the 1 3/16 miles of the Preakness despite the fact Mrs. Frances A. Genter's Florida-based ace hasn't raced in seven weeks.

Proud Clarion, who gave John Galbreath's Darby Dan Farm its second Kentucky Derby victory in four years, was quoted at 3-1 along with Mrs. Edith W. Bancroft's Damascus, who ran third in the role of the favorite in the Derby.

Barbs' Delight, beaten one length as he finished a surprised second to Proud Clarion at Churchill Downs May 6, followed the leading trio at 5-1 with the others — Great Power, Reason to Hail, Ask the Fare, Favorable Turn and Misty Cloud — lightly regarded for this the richest of all Preakness renewals.

Entry fees of \$1,000 each are due by 10:30 a.m. EDT Thursday. It'll cost another \$1,000 to be in the starting gate Saturday. Post time is 5:30 p.m. EDT with television CBS slated for 5-5:45 p.m.

In addition, the owners of Barbs Delight will have to come

up with another \$10,000 Thursday morning to make the son of Bagdad eligible for the rich run for the Black Eyed Susans. He was not named originally for the Preakness and the \$10,000 represents a supplementary fee.

Victory, on the basis of nine starters, will be a record \$139,500. Other awards are \$30,000 for second, \$15,000 for third and \$7,500 for fourth.

The Preakness will be followed two weeks later by the Belmont Stakes, the final jewel in the Triple Crown.

KANSAS CITY (AP) — Allan Sydney Lewis is a rarity in major league baseball—a specialist in pinch running and base stealing for the Kansas City Athletics. So far, he's made five steals in six attempts.

"He's doing his job," said Manager Alvin Dark. "Sure, he's on trial—so is everybody on the club. Each one has to do his job."

When Lewis comes in the game, everybody in the park knows what he's going to do. It's a lot of pressure.

Lewis isn't an ordinary rookie. He's 25 years old, the father of four children and a veteran of six years in the minor leagues.

"Yes, it's hard for me to get any kind of lead off first," Lewis said. "The pitcher is watching me all the time. I have to make up for it by developing extra speed in my start."

The idea of a pinch-running specialist was that of Charles O. Finley, owner of the A's. Lewis stole 116 bases for Leesburg in the Florida State league last season. The figure caught Finley's eye.

Lewis has appeared in nine games as a pinch-runner, scored four runs, including the winning run in two games, and stole five bases in six tries.

He's a 6-foot, 175-pound native of Panama, proud of his speed.

"I was timed in 9.6 for 100 yards in baseball clothes back home," he said.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. (AP) — Rookie Don Thomas of El Cajon, Calif., escaped uninjured Wednesday as his Gerhardt-Offenhauser car hit the wall at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

The racer went out of control in the northeast run, spun, skidded 430 feet and hit the wall with the right front corner. Damage did not appear to be extensive.

Thomas was practicing in preparation for an attempt to qualify for the 500-mile race May 30.

DENVER, Colo. (AP) — The Denver Broncos announced that Floyd Little, All-America halfback from Syracuse, signed a contract with them Wednesday for the 1967 American Football League season.

Salary figures were not disclosed, nor was the length of the contract.

This was the first time since the AFL began operating in 1960 that the Broncos have signed their No. 1 draft choice.

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Quarterback King Hill and field goal specialist Sam Baker have signed 1967 contracts with the Philadelphia Eagles of the National Football League, the club announced Wednesday.

Major League Highlights

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Tito Fuentes' two-run double in the sixth inning carried the San Francisco Giants to a 4-2 victory over the Chicago Cubs Wednesday.

ATLANTA (AP) — Joe Torre's leadoff homer in the ninth inning powered the Atlanta Braves to a 4-3 victory over the New York Mets Wednesday night.

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Pinch hitter Tim McCarver smashed a lead-off home run in the ninth inning, lifting the St. Louis Cardinals to a 3-2 victory over Philadelphia Wednesday night.

CINCINNATI (AP) — Pete Rose drove in one run and scored another and Tony Perez drove in two as the National League-leading Cincinnati Reds won their fifth straight game, 3-1 over the Pittsburgh Pirates Wednesday night.

WASHINGTON (AP) — Willie Horton belted a pair of home runs and Jim Northrup crashed a grand slam following three walks in the third inning as the Detroit Tigers defeated the Washington Senators 8-1 Wednesday night.

KANSAS CITY (AP) — Rick Reichardt and Don Mincher drove in two runs each as the California Angels snapped a six-game losing streak with a 7-3 victory over Kansas City Wednesday night.

BOSTON (AP) — The Baltimore Orioles crashed seven home runs, four of them in a nine-run seventh inning, and outslugged the Boston Red Sox 12-8 Wednesday night.

NEW YORK (AP) — Leon Wagner's grand slam home run and a two-run shot by Fred Whitfield staked Cleveland to an early lead over New York Wednesday night and the Indians held on for an 8-7 victory over the Yankees.

CHICAGO (AP) — The American League-leading Chicago White Sox bombed out Jim Kaat, who had beaten them nine straight, in a three-run fourth inning Wednesday night and went on to defeat the Minnesota Twins 5-4.

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SHE'S THE CHAMPION AT 880
Cheryl Pedlow, 19, Indianapolis, Ind., who is U. S. track and field federation women's 880 champion, runs with men's track team at Indiana State University in Terre Haute, Ind. She keeps in shape this way—keeps tabs with coach by mail. (AP Wirephoto)

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