

SPORTS

BEFORE YOUR EYES

with Lenny Anderson

Bill Veeck's Mission Proceeds Apace

BILL VEECK, the big syntax and franchise man from the Midwest, still is kicking the major-league thing around Los Angeles.

"Already," he said the other day, "I am out of pocket \$50,000 on this particular venture." He says it with a knowing smile which leads the bystander to infer that friend Veeck has plans for getting the 50 grand back, or he wouldn't have sunk it in the first place.

So far, the money has gone for paying architects, engineers, bleacher movers, surveyors and others in the slide-rule crowd for drawing plans for a big-league park and deciding where best it could be located.

There's talk, which Veeck declines to confirm, that plans are about completed for enlarging Wrigley Field from 25,000 to 55,000 and clearing a few surrounding blocks for parking.

"Now, here is the funny part about this project," Veeck told some listeners the other day. "It is almost no trouble at all to raise the money for it. The big thing is to get the park."

He went into an explanation of the tax advantages accruing from investment in a venture of this sort, but the arithmetic involved, though rudimentary to the average millionaire, was a bit beyond us. The point seems to be that a deal of this nature is a good investment if you have a few thousand knocking around that won't be going for anything but taxes, anyway.

It all takes time as well as, yes, a little money, but Veeck feels that Los Angeles will have a major-league franchise by next season, and if not then, by 1956 at the latest.

He would like to see the West Coast go into the big leagues with a one-two entry, Los Angeles and San Francisco, but so far his efforts to electrify San Francisco with the idea have not been overly successful. Unless they catch the missionary zeal suddenly and soon in the Bay area, it looks as though L. A. will make the plunge alone.

Veeck is sold on Los Angeles' potential as a major-league city.

"Given an eighth-place team," he said, "Los Angeles would draw 1,000,000 persons. Give them a good team here and who can predict what they would draw? The sky's the limit."

"Getting a good team together is no great problem if you have the money. At St. Louis (the Browns), we never were able to field much of a team because of the fact that every time we got hold of a good player, we had to sell him to meet our expenses. Here it would be different. You would have money coming in the gate all the time, and the good players you developed, you would be able to keep, and then if you saw someone you needed, you would be in a position to go out and acquire him."

"However," he concluded, rising to leave, "always remember that I'm an optimist."

If so, he's in the right place.

L. A. LEFTOVERS: Los Angeles police shook down a couple of thousand juveniles at the Coliseum Relays the other night, arrested 80 and culled from these cunning rascals an assortment of some 200 toys, including pistols, hatchets, knives, blackjacks, tire irons and similar playthings. The youngsters were planning a chummy little gang fight after the races. . . . The gate for the week at Wrigley Field was a shade under 21,000, which isn't quite enough to stay solvent. . . . The season seven weeks gone and Seattle has yet to meet Hollywood, and what's more, won't for another month, and what's more, who wants to? . . . Artie Wilson has been looking real gone, man, around first-base. . . . J. Priddy looks as though he is the man for the job at second, if the pins hold up. . . . The Sunday quake that jolted the so-called Southland ran through the second-deck press box at Wrigley Field like a massive shudder, causing a small, panicky minority to streak for the exits. I came right back, though.

Greer Tops N. W. Pros

YAKIMA, May 25.—(AP)—A trio of veterans was prepared today to make an assault on the Professional Golfers' Association crown at St. Paul July 21-27 as the Pacific Northwest's entry.

Heading the Northwest's delegation will be Joe Greer, who earned the top spot rather handsily yesterday as he burned up the Yakima Country Club course in a 13-under-par 131 performance over the 36-hole distance.

The host pro put together nine-hole rounds of 32, 33, 33 and 33 to get the top qualifying spot and retain the Pacific Northwest P. G. A. championship he won last year.

Eddie Hogan of Portland earned the second qualifying spot for the national meet by finishing second to Greer with 135. Chuck Congdon of Tacoma was third in the field with 137, but was not competing for a qualifying berth. That went to Ray Honsberger of Seattle, who had 140.

Expected competition from Leo Gaulocher of Olympia, last year's sectional runner-up, and Harold West of Pendleton, the Oregon pro match-play champion, failed to develop.

West withdrew after he took a 75 for the first 18 holes. Gaulocher slid to 147, far off the winner's pace.

Other scores yesterday included: Bobby Litton, Vancouver, Wash., 143; Dick Haskell, Seattle, and Dave Killen, Eugene, Ore., 144; Joe Steiger, Eugene, Jim Russell, Walla Walla, and Bob McKendrick, Portland, 146.

Hugh Starkweather, 55, of Eugene, Ore., won the seniors' division, for pros aged 50 and over. With the title he earned the right to enter the national professional senior tournament.

Meyer had allowed three straight hits and was removed by Walt Alston, manager, after walking Jake Thies, pitcher. On his way to the bench he berated the umpire.

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All Sorts of Sports:

ST. LOUIS, May 25.—(AP)—

Larry Goetz, plate umpire, calling a disputed play in last night's protested game between the St. Louis Cardinals and Chicago Cubs "a case of lousy umpiring," says he will report there were two conflicting decisions on the play.

Goetz made the statement after the game, which the Cubs won, 6-2.

The Redbirds were trailing, 4-1, and had the bases loaded with one out. Wally Moon hit a low line drive to left. Ralph Kiner fielded the ball at his shoe tops and when Hal Dixon, third-base umpire, held his hands low in the customary "safe" sign, Cardinal runners circled the bases.

Kiner returned the ball to Gene Baker, who stepped on second and the umpire there, Tom Gorman, ruled Del Rice was out in a double play. Gorman maintained Kiner had made a fair catch. One run scored on the play, which was called a sacrifice fly.

Eddie Stanky, Cardinal manager, protested. He said Rice would have held the bag and would not have been doubled except for Umpire Dixon's sign of "fair hit."

Goetz said after the game:

"It was a case of lousy umpiring. But there was nothing we could do about it at the time. Umpire Dixon called it a fair hit and has never changed his decision. Umpire Gorman, who was in perhaps a better position to see the play, insists it was a fair catch. That's the report I am making."

Goetz will make his report to the National League president, Warren Giles.

• SHOO, 'CAT!' — TACOMA. May 25.—(UP)—Men and dogs hunted a cougar near the Meadow Park golf course here today after Earl L. Irwin reported he was approached by one on the sixth hole early this morning.

Irwin, owner of a highway department store, said he beat the cougar off with his No. 8 iron.

The cougar weighed about 75 or 80 pounds, Irwin said. The golf course borders on the heavily wooded Chambers Creek area. Irwin said he was playing golf alone.

• LARSEN UPSETS SEIXAS. PARIS, May 25.—(AP)—Art Larsen of San Leandro, Calif., today upset the Wimbledon champion, Vic Seixas, in the men's singles quarterfinals of the French international tennis tournament, 6-4, 1-6, 8-6, 6-1.

Budge Patty of Los Angeles and Paris gained the semifinals by overwhelming Sven Davidson of Sweden, 6-4, 6-0, 6-4. Davidson had beaten Australia's Ken Rosewall yesterday.

Tony Trabert of Cincinnati, United States champion, defeated Mervyn Rose, Australian national titleholder, 7-5, 4-6, 6-4, 6-2, to complete the semifinal bracket.

Maureen Connolly of San Diego, Calif., the defending champion, gained the quarterfinals in the women's division by defeating Angela Buxton of England, 6-1, 6-0.

• ORIOLES GET ABRAMS. DETROIT, May 25.—(AP)—The Baltimore Orioles today bought Cal Abrams, 30-year-old Pittsburgh Pirate outfielder, from Pitcher Dick Littlefield and an undisclosed amount of money.

• COLLINS IS COLLINS. ELIZABETH, N. J., May 25.—(AP)—Now it's official: When Joe Collins appears in the New York Yankees' baseball line-up it will be Joe Collins in name as well as person.

Union County Judge Milton A. Feller has approved the application to change Joe's last name from Kallion to Collins.

The first baseman has carried the name Joe Collins since he entered professional baseball 12 years ago. He stated the difference in name created confusion.

• TURKS WIN ON MAT. TOKYO, May 25.—(AP)—Turkey tonight upset the defending and Olympic champion, Russia, for the world amateur and free-style wrestling title, beating St. Louis, 6-2.

• YESTERDAY'S STARS. Associated Press. May 25.—(AP)—New York Giants: Drove in four runs with two home runs and a single as New York beat Philadelphia, 5-4.

Pitching: Jim Davis, Chicago Cubs; scattered seven singles in his first major league start, beating St. Louis, 6-2.

• CHAIN-STORE EDUCATS. AKRON, Ohio, May 25.—(UP)—Akron University's Zippers seldom play to a full house on the gridiron, but an Akron chain store plans to fix that for next fall's opener.

The Rubber Bowl, with an 18,000 record crowd to date, has been sold out to the store, which will merchandise the tickets along with soap powder and hamburger. The bowl's capacity is 32,000.

• SEALS BRING WIN STREAK HERE TONIGHT. By LENNY ANDERSON. San Francisco's sizzling Seals, winners of 13 of their past 15 games, open a seven-game series with the Seattle Rainiers tonight in Sicks' Stadium.

Bogged down in eighth place by a floundering start, Tommy Heath's troops began to find themselves two weeks ago against Los Angeles, winning six straight from the Angels, and following with seven victories in eight games last week against the Portland Beavers.

The Seals vaulted over the Angels into sixth place, Sunday by sweeping a double-header from the Beavers while Los Angeles was falling twice before the Rainiers. Seattle, tied with Sacramento for third place and four and a half games out of the league lead, holds a two-game bulge over the onrushing San Franciscans.

A three-game week-end winning streak in Wrigley Field was not quite enough to bring the Rainiers home with the series victory. The 4-3 loss was their fourth minus week of the season against three series victories.

The first and most convincing of these was a 6-1 series triumph over San Francisco the first week of the season, the setback that originally sent Heath's hearties to the league salt mines.

Though they were gone but a week, the Rainiers return with a cast that their followers may have trouble recognizing. Artie Wilson is at first base, Manager Priddy at second and Don Malott has replaced Merrill Combs at shortstop. If Priddy and Malott can continue to avoid the injury jinx, the inner defenses look more solid than at any previous time this year.

New faces in the "young movement" San Francisco line-up making its first appearance of the season here tonight include Jim Westlake at first base, Jim Baxes at shortstop and Gordy Brunswick, an ex-Rainier who was a San Francisco batting hero Sunday, Bob DiPietro and Ted Beard in the outfield.

'Lousy Umpiring'—Goetz; Golfer Clobbers Cougar



HEAVY HEART: In New York last night—Joe Baksi dejectedly cupped his head in his hand after he was told his manager, Lee Feureisen, 56, died of a heart attack as Baksi was losing a decision to Bob Baker of Pittsburgh. Baksi, a heavyweight, was attempting a "comeback" after being out of the ring several years.—A. P. wirephoto.

The French international tennis tournament, 6-4, 1-6, 8-6, 6-1. Earlier, Enrique Morea of Argentina eliminated Gardner Mulloy of Coral Gables, Fla., 6-3, 6-4, 6-1.

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Also new to Seattle fans is tonight's probable starter, Ken Holcombe, a well-known ex-major-league right-hander who has two victories and four defeats with San Francisco so far. Lefty Gene Bearden (4-5) is scheduled to pitch for Seattle.

(See Page 29 for Coast batting and pitching records.)

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Sweeny, Strafaci In British Golf Wins

By Associated Press.

MUIRFIELD, Scotland, May 25.—Robert Sweeny of Palm Beach, Fla., 1937 champion, and Frank Strafaci of Garden City, N. Y., today led a small corps of Americans into the third round of the British amateur golf championship.

Sweeny, an international socialite, defeated Lieut. Col. A. A. Duncan, captain of last year's British Walker Cup team, on the 20th hole.

Strafaci, who has become a strong favorite with Scottish fans, won his second match in as many days by eliminating A. R. Timms of New Zealand, 4 and 3. Sweeny drew a first-round bye.

Five of the first six Americans to play today won their

matches, reversing yesterday's opening-day procedure, which saw the defeat of 13 of the 24 United States players in action.

Among yesterday's winners were Frank Stranahan, winner of this tournament in 1948 and 1950, and Bill Campbell of Huntington, W. Va., towering Walker Cup star. Both were idle today.

Today's other winners included Capt. Malcolm Stokes of Garden City, N. Y.; Harold Ridgely of Havertown, Pa.; Larry Carpenter of Springfield, N. J.; Hamilton W. Wright of Sharon, Conn., and Dick Davies of Annandale, Calif.

James G. Murray of Pittsburgh advanced by default over John Foreman of India.

Uniformed personnel contributed to America's big day. Capt. Stokes is an Air Force doctor, Ridgely an Army master sergeant, Carpenter a 23-year-old Army intelligence officer who saved up a year's pay in order to compete.

British hopes of keeping the title at home were buoyed when Joe Carr, the defending champion from Ireland, won his second match by beating Robert Neill of Scotland, 4 and 2.

Again today as players tackled the 6,806-yard, par-72 Muirfield course, a cold wind blew off the Firth of Forth and there was a slight drizzle.

Sweeny had a one-hole edge over Duncan at the 18th tee, but drove into the rough and missed on his recovery attempt. Duncan squared the match with a par.

They halved the 19th in par 4's. Sweeny won on the 20th with a regulation 4 when Duncan underhit a 9-iron approach and caught a trap.

Strafaci sank a 30-foot putt on the 15th to close out his match with Timms. The New Zealander left five putts hanging on the rim of the cup. After going out in 38, two over par, Strafaci nailed two birdies on the way in.

Carpenter sank a 15-foot putt on the 19th to beat Vernon Beath of New Zealand. Captain Stokes, who formerly lived in Tulsa, Okla., advanced with a 4-and-3 victory over George Hendry of Scotland.

Ridgely downed J. R. Cater of Scotland, 6 and 5. Playing superb golf, Ridgely went 3-up on Cater on the outgoing nine and then won three of the four inward holes.

Wright defeated J. R. Ness of Scotland, 5 and 4. Davies triumphed over Wallace McArthur of Scotland, 1 up, holing three putts for more than 15 feet on the back nine.

Three Americans were ousted today by Scottish opponents. Robert Wells defeated Jack Penrose of Miami, Fla., 1 up; Robert Haggart eliminated Chuck Kimes of Leesburg, Ga., 5 and 4; and Eddie Hamilton turned back Ken Worthington of Wilson, N. C., 2 and 1.

In late matches today Joe Walter Case of Hendersville, N. C., and Barton J. Bridgeford of San Francisco advanced to the

fourth round. The former defeated J. W. Howard of England, 2 and 1. The latter won from C. H. Elliott of England, 3 and 2.

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Second, it neutralizes the deposits on your spark plugs so they can fire as they should—on time.

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