

Out of Sports

By BRUNO L. KEARNS
Sports Editor

OUT OF THE mailing bag and via the desk phone came some interesting news and views, some nice words and some...
But that's what makes life worth living. That's what makes the freedom of speech and press such wonderful privileges.

The indignant woman that called just "had to speak her mind," she said.
We tried to assure her that the article editorializing on the Eton Park incident was not meant to destroy the achievements of the Little League and that we were not anti-Little League, as she put it loudly. But the receiver on the other end came down with a bang and we were left with only the echoing in the void.

Mrs. E. W. phoned she was a little more polite. She questioned the article, gave her views, said thank you, and took it easy on the ears.

A CALL from a man was interesting. He was emotionally upset, but in a different corner. "It is not just something we said about the parents, they are at fault every time something happens at the fields," he bellowed. "There should be a fence with 25 feet distance between the stands and the bench," he retorted.

There was some truth to what he said, and he had a good point about the fence, and we gratefully thanked him for calling. Remember the expression out of Julius Caesar which says that the evil that men do lives after them, and the good is often interested with their bones?

WE TRIED to keep this in mind by not delving into names and personalities in the editorial. We know that the good far outweighs the evils in Little League.

We didn't think the article hands us to be "anti-Little League." It seems some people agree. Art Farrell, president of the National League dropped us a line to say he believed the editorial was a benefit rather than harm the Little League during the season, and for your coverage of the National League all-stars.

WE WERE happy to get a note from Al Bates, the state director of Babe Ruth baseball. "Many thanks for your cooperation and for calling the Babe Ruth tournament," he wrote.

A few letters from several mothers with a word of thanks for mentioning their sons' athletic achievements, and a call from a youngster, 11 years old, asking if we're going to print the final batting statistics, made up the week's mail.

ALL IN all we were happy to give each other a good hug. We were able to be different leagues, and we hope that the 1955 flag goes into the respective places labeled with the success stamp.

Couple guys who have given up their breathing team in Little League baseball and the Little Football League are Dick Sengstack and Eric Jacobson. Dick is the general manager of the Birmingham Tigers football team and Eric is in the full-time of it as registrar for the more than 150 boys whose applications have made them candidates for the team.

Its a constant task with little thanks and no compensation, but that's the tale of success for Birmingham's youth who have gained through the self-sacrifice of guys like this.

SO AS football time nears, and the end again hit, we mailed and phone, can say it all part of the game, and we are happy to be part of it all.

Mrs. Berry Gets A Tourney King

MIAMI BEACH, Fla.—One of the Gulf Stream's fighting fish—the mighty Kingfish—fell to the angling skill of Mrs. Glenn Berry, 867 Madison in the Miami Beach Summer Fishing Tournament.

The denizen is expected to take a tourney citation.
Mrs. Berry mastered the 22 pound King while waiting for wheel aboard the Yacht Playmate captained by Eddie Wall.

Rained Out Net Matches Sunday at Oakland Hills

Rain halted action in the annual Invitational Men's Doubles Tennis Tournament at Oakland Hills last weekend, but the top three seeded teams will continue play in the semifinals and the finals this Sunday.

At 11:00 a.m. in a lone quarter-final match remaining, Belton and Howser will meet Towney and Bailey.

The semi-finals will get under way at 12:30 p.m. with Bogley and Bicknell facing the winner of the remaining quarter-match.
In the other semi-final Don McKay and Fred Otto will face Berksky and Bailey of Toledo.



LINED UP on the edge of the dugout before trotting onto the field against Bay City in the Little League tournament game at Midland are these Birmingham National League All-Stars. The Nationals lost a 3-3 game to Bay City after drawing a bye in the first round of the tourney. Hamtramck won the state title by beating Bay City the same day.



Roberta Gubbins, 13-year-old, is one of the top women in the sport. She is the Michigan Open Champion.

The Gubbins Gal Can Really Aim

Being the only girl her age in the neighborhood where she lived in Flint seven years ago was a big factor in influencing the young but presently renowned life of Roberta Gubbins.

Instead her dad, an outdoorsman and officer of the Oakland County Sportsman's Club, bought her a .22 caliber rifle for her 11th birthday.

Immediately afterward, at the age of 12, her father enrolled her in a junior rifle club, and since then Roberta has been "pistol-packing" her way to a string of titles.

Her little den on Buckingham is a showcase of ribbons, medals, trophies and plaques she has accumulated in the past seven years.

In her first rifle competition in 1948, she placed second in the Junior Girls division, and two years later at the 14-year-old girls won the Women's State Title, at the Rifle championships held at Ionia, Michigan.

At 17 she won the Michigan State Outdoor Open championship which included competition against men and women alike with 3186-205.

In 1953 she was named to the International Women's team after placing fourth in the Nationals.

This weekend Roberta leaves for Washington, D.C. where she will again compete in the National Rifle and Pistol Matches, which will be held from August 20 to the 23rd.

She has already walked away with the Women's and State Open Championships held at Waterford, July 10-11, and was High Lady at the Regionals held in Bristol, Indiana, July 20-31.

A JUNIOR at the University of Michigan, Roberta has one unique distinction at the school. She is the only girl on the Wolverine Rifle team which won the 1955 Big Ten title.

"It may seem awkward at times, being the only girl on the team," says Roberta. "I remember the surprise of one of the locker room managers at a Big Ten match."

"You're with a Big Ten rifle team?" he asked. He scratched his head and showed her to the girls locker room.

TODAY, Roberta, 19, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Gubbins, 16245 Buckingham, has become nationally prominent as one of the best marksmen in the country, and all because she wanted to keep pace with the other kids in the vicinity.

All the boys in her neighborhood were getting "BB" guns for Christmas, so she also wanted one.

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Little Football League Drills Start Monday

Opening drills for the Birmingham Little Tigers in the Little Football League start Monday at 4:30 p.m. at Pierce Field.

More than 150 applications have been turned in by boys 9 to 12, according to team registrar Eric Jacobson.

HOWEVER, no boy will be permitted to participate in any of the drills until he returns the physical examination report from his family physician.

The medical slips were passed out to the boys at a meeting last Saturday, but those who still have not obtained them can do so at the drills on Monday.

First week of drills call for calisthenics, and no equipment is needed by the boys. Sweat clothes, jeans and T-shirts are the only things needed next week.

FIRST body contact drills will begin Monday August 29 at Pierce Field.

Uniforms will be issued to 70 boys, 35 of which will comprise the varsity with the other half as

the freshmen team.
Coach Bill Guay and a staff of 15 assistants will handle the 150 boys who are expected for the opening sessions.

THERE is a weight limit of 125 pounds for the varsity squad and 85 pounds for the freshman team. The Birmingham Little Tigers will open the league season Saturday September 17, as the first of a six game schedule.

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Olympic Team Trials At Metamora Show

The preliminary trials to select a United States three-day Equestrian Team for the 1956 Olympics will be held in conjunction with the Metamora Hunter-Breeder Show September 2-4, according to Brigadier General F. W. Boye, executive secretary of the U.S. Equestrian Team, Inc.

General Boye said that this is the first time for the Olympics event to be held in the Midwest, and it is expected to attract the best national riders, and their mounts.

THE THREE-DAY event has been considered one of the most exciting to be ever devised for horse and rider.

The trial will be completed with 17.1 mile cross-country, including two miles of steeplechase with 12 to 14 jumps, five miles of roads and trail, both natural obstacles, five miles of cross-country with over 30 jumps plus five miles of warm-up.

The event will be one of the most important national competitions for the John W. Wofford Hunt Club starting today, August 18 and continuing through Saturday.

A SOPHOMORE at Birmingham high school, Tom is among seven swimmers under 16 who will compete in the championships at Mt. Pleasant, Mich. on Sept. 2-4.

He will compete as a member of the Camp Chicago, Ontario team.
Coaching the team is Matt Math, former University of Michigan and United States Olympic swimmer.

AS A FRESHMAN at Birmingham last year, Tom swam in the breaststroke events. In the Canadian events he is expected to swim freestyle and on the relay.
The group left for Montreal Tuesday. Sixteen of the contingent are collegiate swimmers.

LAST YEAR, 18 year old Duff Stockton of Seattle who had 31.5 seconds for the 100 yard freestyle at the University of Washington in Seattle also won the driving contest with a 433.5 yard drive. Miller was third with a 416 drive.

LAST YEAR Baldwin competed in the National Tourney at Baltimore.

Williams specialty

Tom Williams grand dam home on August 28, 1948. The mare was the twelfth of his career. He finished the year in baseball with the ninth man in batting. He had 10 home runs and 27 RBIs.

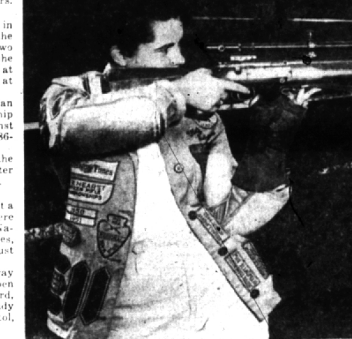
Among the top winners at the horse show Saturday which closed the 1955 Oakland County 4-H fair, was Sandy Wells, 12, and her quarter horse, Sun Min. The two emerged with the "grand champion under saddle" award plus first prize.

The Troy 4-H Horse club rode and per person took first in western pleasure and placed in other classes. Sandy also placed in the foal class with the originator. She has raised on a bottle.

OTHERS FROM the area who ended the show in the winner's circle were James Garlick, 13, of Bloomfield Hills, English experienced rider. Garlick also placed first with his entry in the foal class.

The Birmingham Eccentric SPORTS

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AIMING HER way to the National Rifle and Pistol Matches in Washington, D.C. next week is Roberta Gubbins, 13-year-old, sharpshooter who is one of the top women in the sport. She is the Michigan Open Champion. (Eccentric photo.)

Pontiac Dog Show Sunday

A total of 550 dogs, representing 63 breeds, have been entered in the Pontiac Kennel Club Show to be held Sunday August 21 at Wager stadium, Oakland Avenue in Pontiac.

The working group of dogs followed by the Sporting Group represent the leading entries.

JUDGING will commence at 9:00 a.m. and continue until all entries and breeds have been judged.

Starting times for some of the more popular breeds are listed as follows: 9:00 a.m. Boxers and Golden Retrievers; 10:00 a.m. German Spantans and Bull Terriers; 11:00 a.m. Springer Spaniels and Great Danes; 12:00 p.m. Beagles and Irish Setters; 1:00 p.m. Boxers and Bull Terriers; 2:00 p.m. Boxers and Bull Terriers; 3:00 p.m. Irish Setters and Bull Terriers.

At 2:00 p.m. the Junior Showmanship classes will be held, giving boys and girls a chance to display their talents at handling dogs.

Another feature will be the obedience classes, wherein the owners take their dogs through paces of obeying commands.

GROUP judging will start about 3:30 p.m. and Best in Show will be held at 5:30 p.m. with prizes and ribbons awarded to winners in all classes and breeds.

Braves Best In National LL Statistics

The National Little League champion Braves with power hitters Steve Jacobson and Jim Stenger captured the top batting honors in the final season statistics.

Polo at the Gibsons a Family Affair

Rich Gibson, Birmingham business man and a prime mover in the efforts of the Birmingham Kiwanis in behalf of underprivileged children, is one of the finest natural polo players in the Midwest.

THAT IS the opinion of no less an authority than Capt. Jack Ivory of the Ivory Rangers, one of the foremost market men in the country and a keen appraiser of polo talent.

"Rich has got class," says Ivory, who uses that accolade sparingly. "If he had elected to devote full time to polo, he could be one of the best players in the country."

ALTHOUGH GIBSON plays polo strictly for the fun of it, he has come along faster than any other prominent player in recent years with the exception of Ivory himself.

Both pin houses are completing interior remodeling work and are in readiness for the league season, which will get underway right after Labor Day.

BOWLING Lanes Ready to Open

Pin action gets started at the local bowling lanes, with Birmingham Bowling opening the season today and Bloomfield Lanes beginning on Monday.

RICH GIBSON, (right) Birmingham polo star, chats with captain of the Ivory Rangers, Jack Ivory, (left) and Mike Wacker at the Ivory polo grounds, 8 Mile and Lahser roads. Gibson is highly rated in Michigan polo circles.

TICKETS will be on sale at both organizations in Birmingham.

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JIM HINDS of the Braves took the league pitching honors with a 62-2 record. He was followed by Ed Stenger took honors in the doubles department with 24 in 10 hits and 12 runs in total bases with 24. Clutch-hitting honors, however, went to Greg Frontiera of the Pirates who had a .411 batting average with four homers and 18 runs batted in.

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