

Launch Birmingham Physical Fitness Program

See story, pictures 2-E

The Birmingham Eccentric

BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN

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SPORTS

SECTION E

In This Section
Sports
Business Briefs
Classified Ads

Speaking of Sports

The Yankees Spur Interest in Rodeo

By DAVE PHILPO
Sports Editor

From golf pro to rodeo baron . . . That's a mighty wide range and Ralph Yankee frankly admits that it would hardly have been possible had it not been for his wife, Gay.

When I talked to Yankee (of 2115 W. Lincoln, Birmingham) he was striding around the wide open spaces of the Michigan State Fairgrounds, attending to the many last-minute details that go into the staging of a professional rodeo.

"INITIALLY, WE planned a children's rodeo at the driving range," he explained. Yankee owns a 40-acre spread and driving range at Franklin and Square Lake roads.

"Gay went to Milford to talk to a cattle contractor about how to set up a rodeo. Neither of us had ever been closer to a horse or steer than a bleacher seat."

"When she found out about professional rodeo, she would have nothing but that. This necessitated renting the fairgrounds and bringing in the cattle, horses and top cowboys."

WHEN THE RODEO opened Monday night (it will run through Sunday) it represented a lot of hard work by the Yankee man-and-wife team.

Mrs. Yankee, who is an interior decorator with her own shop in Birmingham, found time to contact Ken Roberts of Ozark, Mo., who is manager of the Detroit rodeo.

Roberts, in turn, spread the word around by members of the Rodeo Cowboy Association that more than \$15,000 in prizes would be awaiting the top riders in Detroit from June 24 to 30.

More than 100 cowboys are competing for the prize money and points for the national all-around cowboy crown to be awarded in bareback bronc riding, calf roping, saddle bronc riding, steer wrestling and Brahma bull riding.

ADDED ATTRACTIONS are the clownish antics of Bunky Boger and his trained Brahma bull, Honest John, and a spectacular chariot race as staged in the movie, "Ben Hur." Performances begin each night at 8 p.m. and matinee will be given at 2 p.m. Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

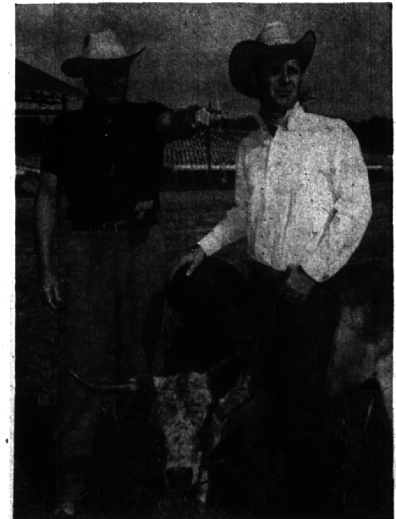
The Yankees were married in 1954 while he was an assistant golf pro at Country Club of Detroit. (She was his second pupil.)

YANKEE, WHO became a member of the Professional Golfers Association in 1951, was runner-up for the Southern California PGA championship in 1952.

The couple has lived in Birmingham for eight years. If Detroit's first professional rodeo is a success, Yankee hopes to construct a lighted, 18-hole, par-3 golf course behind his driving range.

He said that early ticket sales indicate that more than 100,000 persons will attend the rodeo.

The Rodeo Cowboys Association shipped 145 head of special livestock to Detroit, including buckskin horses, saddle horses, Brahma bulls and Bragga roping calves.



RALPH D. YANKEE (left) of Birmingham points to the area where rodeo clown Bunky Boger will perform with his trained Brahma bull, Honest John. Yankee, a golf pro, brought professional rodeo to the Michigan State Fairgrounds Monday. The competition will continue through Sunday, with matinee performances for the final three days.

Tempo Increases at Detroit Horse Show

Miller Paces Giants' 18-0 LL Victory

Amazing Terry Miller of the Giants in Birmingham Little League's National division not only pitched a no-hitter last week but also went four for four at the plate to lead his team in an 18-0 romp over the Dodgers.

The Cardinals, who won two games during the week, are assured of at least a tie for first place in the first-half National standings. With four games to go, they boast an 11-0 record, while the Giants in second spot have a 6-4 record with five games remaining.

THE PIRATES (5-5) and the Dodgers (5-6) still cannot be counted out for second place honors.

Tigers are in full command of the American League with a 9-1 record, followed by the Indians (7-4) and the Phillies (7-4).

In the Seals 12-1 win over the Mud Hens in the Federal majors Lee Foltz clouted two home runs and Ron Wharton and Barry Tetrault each hit one. The Seals are tied with the Orioles for the league lead, both with 2-1 records.

Two games in the Continental League will be played off Friday. The first-place Bisons (6-1-1) will play the second-place Jets (5-1-1) and the second-place Lions (5-1-1) will meet the Olympics.

IN THE AMERICAN minors, the Colts (6-1) are out in front but are being pushed by the Giants, Packers, 49ers and Redskins, all tied for second at 5-2.

Other minor leaders are the Falcons (9-1) in the Federal North division and the Bears (8-2) in the Federal South circuit. The Maroons (7-3), the Hawks (6-3) and the Leafs (6-3) are not far off the Bears pace.

In T-ball action, the Spartans (6-0) are ahead in the American. (See VICTORY, 2-E)

Local Drivers Will Compete At Waterford

Six local drivers and their cars will compete in the ninth annual race Saturday and Sunday at the Waterford Hills race course.

Those registered for the races, to start at 3 p.m. Saturday and noon Sunday, are Bob Gubbins, Warren Sublette, Kenneth Nielson, Bill Barber and William Schumaker, all of Birmingham; and Jerry Thompson of Troy.

THE OAKLAND County Sportsman's Road Racing Club conducts five weekend programs during the season. In the opener last month three new lap speed records were set at the course.

All three of the new record-holding drivers are expected to be back in action again this week. Glen Lyall (Garden City) driving a Lotus Super 7; Gene Henderson (Dearborn) piloting a Volvo; and Bill Gahand (Grosse Pointe) with a GEM Delta. All will have their hands full as other drivers try to beat their time marks.

Waterford's one and one-half mile course has 11 turns and a combination of hills and straight-away to give spectators untold excitement as they watch the cars race. The entire course is asphalt-surfaced so there is no dust or dirt to slow down or interfere with the driving.

A CROWD of over 4,000 spectators witnessed the Spring Sprints last month, and track officials are hopeful of topping that mark this week. A large bluff overlooking almost the entire course provides ample viewing of the track.

Waterford Hills is located just six miles north of Pontiac, and a quarter mile east of U. S. #10 in Waterford. Parking is provided on the grounds.

Orchard Lake Ace

Biren Ellice of Midland made the first hole-in-one of the year at Orchard Lake on June 19. It came on the 195-yard, 13th hole and was scored with a 3-iron. Ellice was accompanied by William Bachman, a member of the country club.



ALISON CRAM, SKY'S PICTURE and PETER FOLEY
All hopeful of honors in the Detroit Horse Show.

Gajda, Burkemo Win Early Open Praise

Two Birmingham area golfers shared the spotlight at different times in the U. S. Open at Brookline, Mass., last week but both were little early with their best play.

Bob Gajda, head pro at Forest Lake Country Club, grabbed the spotlight immediately by firing a 2-under par 69 for the first-round lead on the tough 35-56-par-71 layout tabbed "The Country Club of Brookline."

His was one of only five sub-par rounds recorded in the tournament. Gajda slipped to 80-84-80 to finish at 313 and collected \$300.

WALTER BURKEMO, 44-year-old former PGA champion and pro at Franklin Hills, was only one stroke behind leader Jacky Cupit at the end of 54 holes with a 72-71-76 total.

Burkemo slipped to a 76 in the



BOB GAJDA
First round leader.

Area Clubs Note Two Holes-in-One

Two aces were recorded at Birmingham area golf courses Saturday.

G. J. Connelly picked a No. 4 iron to ace the 145-yard 11th hole at Birmingham Country Club and Max Steinway of Huntington Woods made his hole-in-one with a 4-iron on the 209-yard No. 6 hole at Knollwood Country Club.

Early Deadlines In Effect for July 3 Paper

To give our employes opportunity to observe the Fourth of July holiday, The Eccentric will publish on Wednesday, July 3, instead of Thursday, July 4.

This means that all deadlines will be advanced one day. All advertisers and news contributors are asked to bring their copy to our offices at 1225 E. Bowers, Birmingham, as early as possible for next week's issue.

Lucia Aces No. 11 Hole at B'ham CC

Pete Lucia, 21, of 6140 Lahser, Bloomfield Township, aced the 140-yard, No. 11 hole recently at Birmingham Country Club. He used a 7-iron for the first hole-in-one of his golfing career.

Lucia is a junior member of the club and is the son of Mr. and Mrs. L. J. Lucia. His was the fourth ace recorded at Birmingham CC this year.

The blanket of gladioli which crowns the winners of the Michigan Mile winner each year at the Detroit Race Course symbolizes the State's worldwide leadership in the production of these flowers.

BURKEMO, WHO missed last year's Open because of an infected finger which prevented him from competing in the sectional trials, said he had "practiced harder for this tournament than any in the past three years."

By virtue of his high finish, Burkemo will not have to qualify for the Open next year and will get an invitation to the Masters as well—which are his two main aims.

Gajda, 46, has been a pro since 1947 and has played in seven or eight opens and PGA championships. He was runner-up twice in the Michigan Open.

WDGA Tourney In Final Round At Knollwood

Final round of the 35th annual Women's District Golf Association stroke play championship will be played today at Knollwood Country Club.

Entries in the 54-hole event total 78, with 25 competing in the championship flight against last year's winner Mrs. John Hume Jr. of Essex CC and 1961 champion Sally Werner of Forest Lake.

Regular rounds were played Tuesday and Wednesday and the ladies will start teeing off today at 8 a.m. Prizes will be awarded for three low gross and three low net in each flight.

IF THE LOWEST score for 54 holes is made by two or more women, the tie will be decided by another round on Friday.

Players tied for other low gross placements will play off the tie with a minimum of three holes until the tie is broken.

More than half the entries in the tournament are from Birmingham area clubs.

President of WDGA this year is Mrs. Fred M. Brock, 3677 Brookside Drive, Bloomfield Hills.

Hornberger Cops Junior Tourney

Troy Hornberger, 16, who plays golf for Seaholm High School, shot a 69 Monday to win the Junior District Golf Association tournament at Lakewood.

Hornberger, representing Oakland Hills, fired a 32-37 in winning the second tournament of the eight-week TDGA schedule. In the first flight, Carl Burkemo, son of Franklin Hills pro Walter Burkemo, shot a 39-35-74.

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BOH Event Ends Sunday Evening

The Detroit Horse Show—one of the largest outdoor horse shows in the United States—moved into its third phase today at the Bloomfield Open Hunt.

The show, which continues through Sunday, opened Tuesday with six dressage events on the polo field. Horses and riders appeared in the main show ring for the first time Wednesday as the tempo of the show was stepped up.

Classes listed for today through Sunday include open green conformation hunters, maiden equitation (nine years and under), green novice conformation hunters, equitation (12 and under), handy working hunters, green jumpers (knockdown and out).

WORKING HUNTER appointments, lightweight green working hunters, middle and heavyweight green working hunters open jumpers, lightweight, middle and heavyweight conformation hunters and green jumpers.

Mr. Deliberate, owned by Mrs. E. E. Fisher and Mrs. Robert Egan and winner of the reserve conformation championship at the Grosse Pointe Horse Show last week, is the favorite in Saturday morning's ladies' conformation hunters competition for the W. D. McCullough Memorial Trophy.

Another among the favorites is Blue Monday, owned and ridden by Peter Foley of Birmingham, which won the working hunter class at Grosse Pointe.

ABOUT 20 riders from the Open Hunt will compete in the show, according to Robert Egan.

Competitors move into the ring at 8 a.m. today and Friday. The events will start at 9 a.m. Saturday and 9:15 a.m. Sunday.

There will be a one hour break at noon each day and the show will continue from 1 to 5 p.m. Evening times are 7 p.m. until the scheduled events are completed.

Several special events have been scheduled during the show.

CHARLES D. GRANT, 1219 E. Square Lake Road, and his horse, Shining Gold, a palomino stallion, will demonstrate the art of training the "high school" horse to respond instantly and dramatically to the silent command—commands from the rider so subtle they can't be seen.

Grant has won more Prix St. George dressage classes at the Royal Winter Horse Show in Toronto than any other rider on the North American continent.

At the Detroit Horse Show he will also demonstrate the movements used in the Spanish Riding School in Vienna, Austria, and the movements used in the Olympic Games. He will perform twice each day.

OTHER SPECIAL attractions are Bud Carrell and Rose, boomerang and bull whip expert; the Arabian Horse Troop, a colorful precision drill team; the Oakland University Chorus Men's Octet on Saturday; and the parade of 1963 cars, including advanced experimental models.

The Detroit Horse Show, founded almost 50 years ago, is one of seven shows in the United States lasting five days or more to be accorded an honor rating.



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