

Marciano Death Revives Joe Louis Miscue Memories Dreyfus Acquires Smokler Builders

the business beat



LAWRENCE J. YOUNGBLOOD of 21420 Gill, Farmington, has retired after nearly 43 years with Detroit Edison Co. He has been field superintendent in the company's construction and maintenance department since 1963 and joined Edison in 1926 as an apprentice bricklayer in the Trenton Channel Power Plant.

By W.W. EDGAR

Rocky Marciano, the retired undefeated heavyweight champion of the world whose life was snuffed out in a plane crash a few days ago, once played the villain role in one of the few mistakes Joe Louis ever made in his colorful fighting career.

that it had to happen.

IT NEVER WOULD have happened had Joe listened to his friends who had urged—begged—him not to accept the fight after being out of actual competition for several years.

But Joe wouldn't listen. It was the second costly mistake he made in his career. The first came in the summer of 1936 when he decided to set his own training standards while preparing for the first fight with Max Schmeling. He wouldn't listen to those who had advised him in the past. He thought Schmeling would be an easy target.

Marciano mistake left a scar on his life.

When the fight still was in the talking stage Louis was warned of what might happen. Sitting with a group of his closest friends one afternoon Joe pointed out that Marciano was a swinger and should be easy to hit.

"You just step inside the swing," he said, "and let him have it."

As Joe spoke he was wearing a slight patch on his cheek to cover a gash that had been inflicted in an exhibition two nights before in the Boston Garden where Joe was picking up some extra change.

Joe, that means your legs are not as fast as they used to be. They aren't carrying you out of trouble. And your chin is soft now and you cut easily."

The once invincible Brown Bomber sat and listened politely. But he wasn't convinced.

"Remember Joe," another friend explained, "if Rocky does connect—and you go down, most of the glamour of your career will go with you. Instead of being a colorful retired champion whose name is known round the world, you'll just be another knocked out heavyweight."

It was no use.

Joe's mind was set on the bout.

And as it was predicted, he wound up on the floor, lying flat to the fatal "10."

Smokler Builders

The Dreyfus Corp. of New York has acquired all the stock of Smokler's Shadwood in Livonia, the Farmington Village Townhouse development in Farmington Township, Smokler's Kings Mill Townhouse development in Northville, and the Dreyfus Development Corp.

Smokler stockholders turned in all their shares for 377,694 shares of Dreyfus common, which closed last week on the New York Stock Exchange at \$27.75. That amounts to an \$11.2 million deal.

Smokler principals are Bert L. Smokler, M. L. Berman and Charles O'Neil.

LOCALLY, THE Smokler firm is best known as builders of Smokler's Shadwood in Livonia, the Farmington Village Townhouse development in Farmington Township, Smokler's Kings Mill Townhouse development in Northville.

Dreyfus is manager of the Dreyfus Fund, the Dreyfus Leveraged Fund and investment advisor to the Dreyfus Osborne Trust.

Dreyfus President Howard Stein described the Smokler firm as "one of the best balanced entities" in the building industry. "Its operations are diversified as to location and more importantly encompass many facets of the residential development industry."

STEIN INDICATED THE Dreyfus Development Corp. may contemplate additional expansion in real estate construction and land development.

Smokler has been in the business for 24 years operating principally in the Michigan and Metropolitan Washington, D. C. areas. In previous years projects were also built in Kansas City, Omaha and Topeka.

The company produces a variety of dwelling units including single family detached houses and multi-family structures such as townhouses and garden apartments. Multi-family housing construction has dominated company production since 1963.

Smokler's multi-family house production has predominantly been of townhouses, condominiums, and cooperatives for sale or rental under the various FHA and other federally insured programs.

Golden Tee Golf Center Operating

Tom and Marge King, owners of the former All Star Golf Range in Farmington, are now operating the Golden Tee, a golf center, on 14 Mile just west of Northwestern Highway.

The pro shop was moved from the previous location and spruced up for the new business.

The Golden Tee is situated on 30 acres of rolling land with a wooded background. It has 1,500 feet of frontage and more than 100 golfers can be served at one time, either on the cement tee line or on the grass area.

King has conducted a teaching program during the summer with classes from the Redford and Farmington YWCA. He also offers private instruction.

Cadillac Promotes 4

Four key changes in Cadillac Motor Car Division's engineering department were announced by Carlton A. Rasmussen, chief engineer for the division.

Promoted to positions of greater responsibility, are L. Robert Papenough as assistant chief engineer—chassis; Fred H. Cowie, assistant chief engineer—administration; Ralph R. Anderson, staff engineer—body and Donald W. McDaniel as assistant staff engineer—body.

The realignment of top engineering positions results from the appointment of Robert J. Virant to technical director for the engineering research department at General Motors Research Laboratories.

Virant Attends Insurance Class

LIVONIA

Floyd C. Virant, 35283 Elmira, Livonia, has returned from a three-week stay at Bloomington, Ill., where he attended an insurance claim management course at the corporate headquarters of State Farm Insurance.

Virant is a claim superintendent at the company's service center, 9333 Telegraph Road in Taylor.



By W.W. EDGAR

If performances during the first week of the bowling season furnish a basis by which to judge, all scoring records for the season are in jeopardy.

Reports from all sections of Observersland are that the scoring was the best ever for the first week. And in some cases, the scores were high for the various establishments.

In other years the bowlers dread the first week on the theory that the pins were new and the lanes were "stiff" and this combination was not conducive to good scores.

"The only reason I can see for the change this year," Fred Hamlin, owner of Farmington Lanes, explained, "is that more and more people bowled through the summer. As a result they are in better shape and take the season opening in stride."

Aan Sedlock, instructor at Garden Lanes, in Garden City, set the pace for the women when she topped the All-Star league on opening night with a 709 series. It was the first 700 series ever recorded for an opener.



AN EXPERT in applying top bandages is Mrs. Audrey Gabel, of Livonia, one of the few successful women trainers of thoroughbreds she has had a stable at every meeting conducted in the Detroit Race Course.

Livonia's A. Gabel A Rarity; Successful As Horse Trainer

To followers of thoroughbred racing, a line which has appeared frequently in the Daily Racing Form for 25 years— "Owner, C. & A. Gabel, Trainer, A. Gabel"—has a tone of anonymity.

However, to their neighbors of the last 18 years on Hagerty Road in Livonia, those initials have meant Clarence and Audrey Gabel, one of the few successful family teams offering the unique twist of the wife rather than the husband, being the trainer.

Mrs. Gabel first obtained a license as a thoroughbred trainer in 1944 and was the first woman in Michigan—and only the third in the United States—to have such a title.

Feeling there might be prejudice in the minds of patrons against such feminine inroads of what had been solely a male domain, she requested that she be listed in the published racing records simply as "A. Gabel."

Although any such prejudice

has evaporated as more and more women have entered the field, Mrs. Gabel retains the she readily has stable of five thoroughbreds for competition at the Detroit Race Course.

HER HORSES finished in the money five of the first six times they ran at the current DRC meeting. Dams Scott, a three-year-old filly, placed a two seconds, while Admiral Boag, a four-year-old gelding, has finished both first and second.

Also in her charge are Double Val, a three-year-old gelding, who has had one second place finish at the DRC; Sashay Around, a two-year-old filly, and Mackie Pal, a nine-year-old gelding which Mrs. Gabel concedes rather reluctantly is nearing the end of his career after bearing the Gabel colors for five years.

"Born in Michigan's 'thumb' area, on a farm near Bad Ax, Mrs. Gabel learned to ride at

the age of five and admits to a lifelong love of horses.

THE GABELS have made it a point to raise their string near home at the Detroit Race Course every year since the plant opened in Livonia in 1950, and 1951 is recalled as the most successful season of all.

That summer, led by a hard-hitting gelding named Bullet Cee, the Gabels visited the winner's circle 23 times. During the year, Bullet Cee posted 10 wins in 12 starts, finishing second in his other two tries.

AFTER THEIR MANY years as Livonia residents, during which "C. & A. Gabel" have raised four sons, they also have kept horses on their Hagerty Road farm.

However, they have sold that site and will move early this September to Salem Township, west of Plymouth.

The horses? Yes, they'll go along, too.

Chamberlain Goes Into Mortgages

Formation of a new mortgage banking corporation has been announced by B.F. ("Bud") Chamberlain, chairman of B.F. Chamberlain Co. realtors.

The new firm, directly related to the parent Chamberlain organization, will be named Lincoln-Rowe Mortgage Corp. with offices at 28075 Woodward, Farmington Woods.

President of Lincoln-Rowe is William H. Peters, formerly executive vice-president and general manager of the Royal Oak Mortgage Co.

CHAIRMAN OF THE board will be Marlin R. Hemphill, of Royal Oak, former school board president who recently returned to the south Oakland area to work with the Chamberlain organization.

In addition to the post with the new mortgage company, Hemphill is also vice-president and director of finance for all Chamberlain companies as well as executive vice-president of B.F. Chamberlain Management Co.



German At Bank School

Carleton A. German Jr., of the Livonia National Bank, was among 1,345 student bankers from 27 states, Puerto Rico, Argentina, Nigeria, and Central America who recently completed the annual two-week residence session of the Graduate School of Banking at the University of Wisconsin in Madison.

The school, sponsored by the Central States Conference consisting of the bankers associations of 16 states, requires attendance for two weeks each year for three years for graduation. A total of about 400 seniors received diplomas at the school's 1969 graduation exercises on Aug. 29.

Wise Shoppers Will Be On The Look-Out For News Of Demery's Big September 10th NITE OWL SALE

In Wednesday's Observer Newspaper



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