

KATAN WINS LIVELY WRESTLING BOUT

Fall Taken From Blomfield

TORPEDO TACTICS DECIDE CONTEST

John Katan beat Lofty Blomfield by one fall in a lively professional wrestling bout in the Wellington Town Hall Monday night. The bout was very even; Blomfield took the initiative much of the time, and three times strove to apply an octopus clamp, but on each occasion Katan wriggled through the ropes. Katan obtained his fall in the fifth round, when he broke out of a full-nelson by climbing the ropes, and projected himself head-first at Blomfield, torpedoing him in the face and sending him to the mat, where he pressed him. There was a packed house.

Sergeant Blomfield was greeted with an enthusiastic reception by a crowd whose temper had been whetted by a lively professional preliminary. He was seconded by another army sergeant, in uniform. He appeared in better physical trim than for some seasons, bronzed and fit. Katan at 16st. 10lb. had an advantage of 2lb. He stripped magnificently, and set about Blomfield in workmanlike style.

The bout was distinguished by plenty of straight wrestling with only intermittent outbursts of rough play. There was a brief exchange of jolts in the first round, but for the rest the wrestlers exchanged grips in lively style. Blomfield making an initial attempt at an octopus clamp without success.

Katan shaped a manual deathlock, but relaxed when Blomfield pulled his ears smartly. He complained, and the referee, Mr. Alf Jenkins, warned Blomfield for lodging some hearty fisticuffs. Blomfield repeatedly massaged Katan's features with his knuckles, till checked by a rap on the nose. "Watch his shoulders," suggested Katan, holding Blomfield down with an arm-bar. "I'm watching his throat," retorted the referee. Katan shifted his knee from Blomfield's Adam's apple to his ear, only to replace it on his victim's windpipe as soon as opportunity offered.

It was in the third round that the bout became lively, when Blomfield delivered a fusillade of jolts, and sent Katan bouncing and slithering across

the mat with hard headlock throws. Katan picked Blomfield up in a crutch-hold, but the referee prevented him pitching the New Zealander into the crowd. While the altercation was proceeding Blomfield took advantage of it to tumble Katan in among the ringsiders.

Katan floored Blomfield with a powerful and impressive throat-hold in the fourth session. Blomfield tied Katan's leg in the ropes, and pulled it; Katan sought a ruling from the referee on this gambit. Blomfield frog-marched Katan in a full-nelson, driving his knee into the base of Katan's spine. He belaboured Katan with forearm blows, hunting him around the ring. Katan fastened a crucifix, and whenever Blomfield tried to rise sent him crashing backward to the mat.

Katan opened the fifth round with jolts and smart flying-mares, tossing Blomfield heavily. Blomfield obtained a head-scissors, and Katan belied as Blomfield bumped his head on the mat. Blomfield battered Katan with forearm blows, tossed him with a headlock, hauled him backward by the ears, and, applying a full-nelson, forced him violently to the mat. He lifted him to his feet to repeat the manoeuvre, but when he lifted Katan for a third bump on the mat, Katan suddenly planted both feet on the top rope and precipitated himself headlong at Blomfield, at point-blank range. His head took Blomfield in the face, and sent him to the mat underneath his assailant; there Katan briskly pinned him.

Blomfield appeared little the worse for the fall, but he soon fell victim to Katan's hammerlock. "Ask him, or I'll break it off," said Katan to the referee, in a stage whisper. But somehow the arm adhered to its owner, and Blomfield turned the tables on Katan with a hammerlock of his own.

Both matmen were warned for doing forbidden things to one another's face. Blomfield took Katan into a corner, and climbed the ropes to get at him from a better angle; the referee pulled him down to earth again. Katan protested to the referee when he stopped a bunny punch.

Blomfield now took the initiative strongly. He tripped Katan and shaped the first convolutions of an octopus clamp, but Katan slipped under the ropes. Blomfield was disentangled by the referee; he promptly jumped on Katan, who still lay prone. Then he endeavoured to form another octopus-hold. Again the referee separated them in the ropes. Blomfield applied an excruciating toe-hold, of the step-over variety, but Katan declined to submit.

The final round was marked by a last, and equally fruitless, effort by Blomfield to entwine Katan, who again wriggled into sanctuary. The bout ended without further fall.

ARMY RUGBY

Trial Match Played

Ngaruawahia Team Wins

VICTORY OVER PAPAKURA

A Rugby trial match between teams representing the Papakura and Ngaruawahia Military Camps was played at the Show Grounds on 23rd April under ideal weather conditions and in the presence of about 4000 spectators, a large majority of whom were soldiers from the respective camps. The Ngaruawahia fifteen proved successful by 14 points to 3.

In view of the fact that both teams were depleted through the absence of players suffering from the effects of vaccination the standard of play was good. The teams filed on to the field to the accompaniment of loud cheering, Second-Lieutenant C. S. Pepper leading Ngaruawahia and Corporal S. Hadley captaining Papakura.

As the teams reached the centre of the field the Papakura Military Band, under the conductorship of Captain J. Buckley, played a verse of the National Anthem, an impressive spectacle being the standing to attention of the teams, the soldiers and the spectators.

The trial was confined to soldiers of the second echelon, with but the few exceptions of third echelon men being called upon to fill vacancies caused by the arm soreness of those who would otherwise have been included.

The Ngaruawahia team, which wore red and black jerseys, thoroughly deserved its victory. The forwards were heavier and did better in the rucks and on the line-outs, while the backs were a superior combination. They passed more accurately and found gaps in the defence and but for a tendency of the inside men to hold on a fraction too long and kick when openings presented themselves, the side would have scored more points.

The most prominent backs in the Ngaruawahia team were R. F. Kinder (fullback) whose handling of the ball and line-finding were very accurate, J. Campbell (centre), who made some nice openings, one of which led to a try by a forward, and R. Paterson, wing-threequarters, formerly a Wellington representative. C. S. Pepper, H. O. Crawford-Smith and H. Johnson were conspicuous in a hard-working pack.

Compared with the opposing backs the Papakura rear division was weak. The half-back, M. Shalfoon, and centre, K. J. Hanna, did good individual work, but there was a lack of understanding and too much kicking, with the result that the wingers, D. Flett (former Auckland representative) and J. R. McKenzie, had no chances on attack. Flett did some good defensive work, his speed and sound tackling saving his side several times.

The Papakura forwards worked hard under the able leadership of Hadley, who outhooked Johnson, the ex-Ponsonby front-row man. The pack gained a lot of valuable ground only to see it repeatedly lost through

mistakes and weak tackling of side backs.

Tries for Ngaruawahia were by Watson, Crawford-Smith and sey. Evans converted one and kicked a penalty goal. Shalfoon scored a penalty goal for Papakura.

Major J. G. C. Wales was Chaplain-General G. V. G. ex-South Island representative Second-Lieutenant A. G. Douglas, Sergeant-Major F. and Gunner W. Batty, three New Zealand representatives assisted in the selection of the players, Sergeant-Major being one of the line umpires.

AUCKLAND BEATS

2 GOALS TO

Soccer in Auckland had its kick-off on Saturday, April 24, a representative team defeated a team from the North by two goals to one. As a rule the Auckland team is an excellent team, but this eleven is not likely to be as good as that of former years, having a decided effect on the position of the team. On Saturday was noticeable that the Auckland team was not so much in evidence as in previous years.

WELLINGTON BATTALION RUGBY

Whenever the 22nd (Wellington) Battalion of the Expeditionary Force sends its 15 men out to play on the Rugby field they will be in the colours of the Onslow Battalion. The club, which is one of the best in New Zealand, has proposed to add a new battalion with 18 jerseys. This effort was prompted by the fact that Lieut.-Colonel L. W. Anderson, officer commanding the battalion for some time coach and instructor to the club, and several club representatives are going with the battalion.

BOXING BRIEFS

Al Stock, prominent welter-weight, has enlisted and will be going into camp any day.

Frank Pearcey, boxing at the Auckland Gymnasium, has been picked up with the forces recently. He had a most successful amateur, winning the weight championship of Auckland twice and the Auckland championship in 1929. He has been remarkably successful as a professional boxer, Neville Vic Caltaux and the McKays being his pupils.

An American writing in the New York paper says that many of the motor-cycle, he gave Hitler the pillion. A pity he didn't fall off!

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