

Behind The Play In Sports

BY DON DE LEIGHUR

DEHART HUBBARD MENTIONED AS COMMISSIONER

NEW YORK — Much conversation has been heard about appointing a commissioner for Negro baseball. For years, since the abortive experiment with the late Major R. R. Jackson of Chicago failed to work out satisfactorily, there has been quite a hue and cry in the hinterland for someone with faith and honest judgment to step in and sort out the tangled mess of the Negro version of our favorite pastime.

Before the Major Jackson experiment, there was Commissioner Fordynand Q. Morton, who incidentally is actually a commissioner by virtue of his place on the New York Civil Service Commission. He approximated more closely the Negro conception of a Judge Landis than anyone else but certain things happened and the commissioner was ousted.

To successfully sit in the chair of commissioner for Negro baseball, one has to have the experience of riding a buck and bronco. P. T. boat in the middle of a quail sitting while riding the whip-thrip at Coney Island in New York or Riverview Park in Chicago, and running through the revolving tunnel, all with perfect equilibrium in other words, ladies and gents, it's a tough job in anybody's league when one sits down to handle the affairs rugged, tough, uncompromising bunch of brethren who own the various clubs in organized Negro baseball.

CEM POSEY'S DELICATE HAND

Of late, there has been a sort of concentrated campaign on foot to oust through Judge W. C. Huston of Washington, of the E.K.S. as the 1945 Negro league commissioner. The movement stems from Homestead, Pennsylvania, where resides one, Cumberland Posey, who owns the Homestead Grays, which play out of Washington, using their own stadium. Griffl's Stadium. Curn has become increasingly insistent on getting W. C. out of the cold into Negro baseball somewhere. Curn has done quite a lot of lution-holding, ear-whispering, and back-slapping on the subject and has thus succeeded in squeezing W. C.'s big toe through the door but that is all if indications from the West and certain parts of the East are any criterion of public opinion on this move.

Several years ago Posey, the scholarly Thomas Wilson of the Baltimore Elite Giants and president of the Negro National League, and one or two others, carried on a major war against naming Dr. C. Powell of New York as commissioner, who was sponsored for the post by Efa and Abe Manley of the Newark New Jersey Eagles.

BASKETBALL IN PUERTO RICO

BY HAROLD PREECE

Puerto Ricans don't like to see anything caged — except basketball.

They swore to get out of the cage that the American Sugar Trust has locked them in when 30,000 of them gathered at the Puerto Rican independence congress, in San Juan, a few weeks ago.

But their star athlete's from the University of Puerto Rico did some mighty good work of putting basketball in cages when they met pretty good players from this country at the annual basketball tournament held in New York's Madison Square Garden during the recent Christmas holidays.

It was the first time that these darkskinned lads — future leaders of what will be the next free colored republic of our hemisphere — had ever played on the American mainland. They liked the boys that they went up against, and they liked everything that they saw in New York from the hot dog stands on 42nd Street to the pigeons begging for peanuts in Bryant Park.

On the whole, the boys from Puerto Rico did some pretty good handling of the ball there in the big Garden. Maybe they were a little bit weak in their defense and a little bit off in their shooting since basketball, unlike baseball, is still a new game to Puerto Ricans.

But players like Guani Fernando Pabre who set on the team of St. John's College in Brooklyn plenty of ans for their marbles.

When the Latin American teams get that pass play developed to a fine art, our best cage squads may have a hard time maintaining U. S. supremacy in the go d natured and friendly game of basketball.

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J. C. Smith Bulls Defeat Winston Teachers, 33-26

WINSTON-SALEM — The Golden Bulls of J. C. Smith University, Charlotte, for the second time this season took the measure of the "Fighting Teachers" of Winston-Salem Teachers College in Winston-Salem, by the score of 33-26. The Teachers all but upset the dupe sheet in its return game, at half time they enjoyed an eight point lead, by the score of 22-14.

The game in general was well played, and the sportsmanship showed by both teams, was an credit to their respective institutions. For the visitors Pass was high scorer with ten points, but the work of

ST. AUG. LOSES THRILLER, 42-41

By Alexander Chalmers, Jr.

RALEIGH — St. Augustine's College of this city lost a thrilling game to Bluefield State in an overtime period by the score of 42-41 last Saturday. The score at the end of the regular time was 33 all.

Bluefield took a 1-0 lead at the beginning of the game. This lead they held for five minutes only. St. Aug jumped into a 4-1 lead on two field goals by little Joe Saunders. St. Aug's Stanley and Saunders ran this lead to 19-7 with five minutes to play in the first half. At this point the Saints tried to keep the ball from Bluefield as much as possible, but the Big Blues' S. Walker got five more points before the half ended with St. Aug leading 21-12.

The second half was one of the most thrilling ever played in Taylor Hall. At the end of the third quarter the Saints lead had been cut to 27-23. Woods and P. Brown tied the score at 33-33 as the regular game ended.

After the rest period the Saints got hot again when Joe Saunders put three successive set shots through the hoops and Stanley got one to run the lead to 41-33, but three of the Saints' starters had fouled out earlier in the game, and this spelled the margin of victory. The Saints were unable to freeze the ball. S. Walker put Bluefield in the lead with four goals after Yeld had made a free throw with only ten seconds to play. The game ended 42-41.

Joe Saunders of St. Aug. took individual scoring honors with 18 points. Stanley of St. Aug. was next with 16. S. Walker with 15 and P. Brown with 10 lead the Bluefield attack.

Half-time score: St. Augustine's, 21; Bluefield 12.

Officials: P. Williams and J. Keck.

There are two openings; October 27 and November 3.

Abandoning football during the season of 1944, Shaw athletic officials will be faced with the problem of complete re-organization, including that "common war-time" problem of finding experienced players around whom a nucleus can be built and making an addition to it coaching staff.

An application of 1 1-2 pounds of 4-9-3 fertilizer per square yard is recommended for tobacco plant beds by the State College Extension Service. Topdress with nitrogen, where necessary.

Shaw To Resume Football Next Season

RALEIGH — Shaw University will resume competitive inter-collegiate football next season, it was announced this week by Coach

SHAW DROPS OPENER TO BLUEFIELD

By Alexander Chalmers, Jr.

RALEIGH — In what started out to be a close game, was a complete run away for Bluefield Teachers of Bluefield, West Virginia, over Shaw University, as Bluefield walked off the floor with a 54-27 win last Friday night.

Bluefield took a 1-0 lead but Shaw tied the count when Bowers made a charity too good. The game was tied seven times in the first half. Shaw held a 15-11 lead at one point in the first half, but this was soon overcome by Bluefield's S. Walker and T. Walker. The first half ended with Bluefield leading 23-21 after Yeld broke a 21-21 deadlock.

After intermission it was a different story. Bluefield quickly ran their lead to 43-21 after ten minutes of play in the second half. At this point Bowers made a free throw to break the ice in the second half. Bluefield then ran their lead to 50-25. At this point the second quarter entered the game. They held Shaw to two points while collecting four themselves. The final score was 54-27.

S. Walker with 18 points, and T. Walker with 16, paced the Bluefield attack against Shaw. Bowers scored 11 for the losers.

In a preliminary game the Shaw Barrettes defeated the Bluefield girls 30-12, holding the losers to one point in the second half. The first

half ended 13-11 in favor of Shaw. Johnson and Harris scored 11 and 8 points respectively.

Half time score: Bluefield 23, and Shaw 21.

Officials: P. Williams and Keck; Edmonds, timekeeper; Barfield, scorer.



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