

Behind The Play In Sports

BY DON DE LEIGHBUR

It's about time that something was said about Coach Edward P. Hurt down at Morgan State College in Baltimore.

In the helter-skelter activity involving sports-reporting, we seldom find time to give credit and sufficient space and detail to those who are doing things and, in this connection, Ed Hurt has been woefully neglected.

Last December 13th the New York Telegram published its tenth annual nation-wide poll of college football coaches to select the "Coach of the Year." In all, thirty-eight coaches were mentioned and Coach Edward P. Hurt of Morgan College, one of this group, was the only Negro considered. This, in itself, should elevate Coach Hurt to a higher status than he has, thus far, enjoyed in the national spotlight, and he deserves every bit of the honor that comes to him.

Morgan College, for the past few years, has been perhaps the greatest football machine in the history of Negro colleges, even greater than the teams Tuskegee used to have when Big Boy Stevenson was running an attack on the color game and when Wu Fong Ward and Hallie Harding were toting the pigskin for dear old Wilberforce. It might be wise to mention here the activities of one, Jazz Byrd, who remains one of the great players of Lincoln University at Oxford, Pa. But, for consistency and taking into consideration all of the factors that a modern football team has to take today to be successful, Coach Hurt and his products at Morgan stand out like a sore thumb.

The Morgan State Bears joined the Colored Intercollegiate Athletic Association (CIAA) in 1930. In its fifteen years of competitions in the CIAA, Morgan has won eleven championships in football, eight in basketball, and three in basketball. Morgan held football honors for the past five consecutive seasons and, not since 1942 in collegiate football competition, has Morgan's goal line been erased.

This long winning streak of Morgan's from 1932 until 1938 is still a good subject for bull sessions and hot stove league chatter by those who like performances to be consistent.

During the six year period, Morgan played fifty-four consecutive games without defeat which established a new national football record. These teams were coached by Edward Hurt and his invaluable assistant, Talmadge L. Hill. The Hurt system has been the source of much study and comment by rival coaches ever since he took over the helm at the Baltimore institution.

To Negro football Hurts brings a modern viewpoint, stressing power play built around the hard-hitting line and tactics that gain in both the air and on the ground. The Hurt-coached football player is drilled thoroughly in the fundamentals and, when he has completed the course, he is an all-around player, capable of taking a position at any spot on the team and performing creditably. That is why study and comment by rival coaches ever since he took over the helm at the Baltimore institution.

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FEELING AT HOME IN THE WATER

By Carroll L. Bryant, Director Water Safety Service American Red Cross

Although man is not naturally at home in the water, his handicaps of structure and habit are more than offset by his advantages. These include his ability to reason, his imitative quality, and one important physical asset. This is a set of swivel or ball-and-socket joints in his



Shoulders and hips which permit a wide range of movement in arms and legs. Swimming animals, though they may have other advantages, are limited to far fewer patterns of swimming action than human beings.

In entering the water, the beginner should take plenty of time to allow for mental and physical adjustments. It is absolutely essential to his self-confidence that he should have a safe place in which to learn, and someone trained in life saving to give help if anything goes wrong.

The nonswimmer should wade in up to the knees and then to mid-thigh depth. At this point he may splash about, scoop up the water with his hands, dash it over the body and gradually get wet all over. It is a good plan for him then to sit on the bottom of the pool, with the water at chin level. In this way he will become accustomed to the pressure of the water on his chest, will find that within a few minutes the breathing settles back to normal and the tense muscles begin to relax.

As the beginner acquires swimming skills he is learning to maintain his balance and to relax. When he has learned to work with it instead of fighting it, he has made a good start toward feeling at home in the water. Then and only then can he make progress with swimming.

The Red Cross offers courses in water safety and swimming. See your local chapter about enrolling.

Sports Foundation Declares War On Juvenile Delinquency In 62 Major Cities

WASHINGTON, D. C. (Special) — War Against juvenile delinquency in 62 major cities from Boston to San Francisco was declared today with the announcement from the National Sports Foundation, an organization composed of Negro athletes and business men, of the selection of Dr. W. Henry (Stud) Greene of Washington, D. C., as Chairman of the Executive Committee and President of the Foundation.

National Sports Foundation is celebrating National Negro Sports Week, in cooperation with agencies located in 62 of the nation's largest Negro urban centers, sports writers, coaches, teachers, physicians and social workers. National Negro Sports Week is the first such celebration in which tribute will be paid to the memory of outstanding Negro athletes. It is to preserve their memory, and at the same time lend substantial aid to agencies combatting juvenile delinquency through the use of sports, that prompted the Negro Sporting News, National sports newspaper, to propose this unique celebration.

The selection of Dr. W. Henry (Stud) Greene, prominent Washington, D. C., physician, to head a distinguished committee of forward athletes is indicative of the high calibre men who will guide the destiny of National Sports Foundation in their first major effort to



DR. W. H. (STUD) GREENE and Howard Universities. He graduated from Howard in 1920 and was the president of his medical class in 1924, when he was awarded his M. D. After serving at Freedman's Hospital as an intern, he served on the staff for 14 years. Atlanta and Fisk alumni will remember "Stud" Greene as an outstanding football and baseball player. He played football at Howard in 1919, under Dr. Morrison.

SPORTS OUT OF ADAM'S HAT

LET'S LOOK AT THE RECORD:

- STARTED CAREER IN 1921 AS PITCHER FOR BOSTON BRAVES
- NOTED FOR HIS "HESTATION BATTER" HE SEEMED TO STOP IN MIDDLE OF PITCH
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- IN '36 TIED NATIONAL LEAGUE OUTFIELDING MARK WITH A .508 AVG. FOR BROOKLYN
- STARTED NO SEASON AS COACH BUT WAS SOON BACK IN ACTION—WOUND UP AS LEAGUE'S 3RD BATTER WITH A .518 MARK

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"Every thinking person must realize the urgent need for betterment of relationships between all races, and certainly your organization seems headed in the right direction to achieve this end."



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CLOSED TENNIS TOURNAMENT PLANNED AT S. C. STATE

ORANBURG, S. C. — Plans are under way for a South Carolina State closed Tennis Tournament and Clinic sponsored by the South Carolina Tennis Association and State College summer school.

Only summer school students and association held annually at Lynchburg, Virginia; Dr. Hubert Eaton, former CIAA Inter-collegiate Tennis Champion American Tennis Association.

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Invited exhibition players include the following: Dr. Ellwood Downing, general field secretary, American Tennis Association; Dr. Joan L. McGriff and Son, famous father and son combination; The Jackson Brothers, national singles and doubles champions; Dr. R. Walter Johnson, Tennis ace and originator of a sanctioned Round Robin event in the American Tennis Association.

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Number One of a series

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