

# Behind The Play In Sports

BY DON DE LEIGHEUR

It will be interesting to note how history will treat Jack (Lil Arthur) Johnson. The sports writers of his day were very kind — that is, when being kind would have meant the difference between living in comfort and peace in his old age, and in trying to eke out a living by performing in a flea circus at the age of 67 years.

The former champion has been assisting a number of larger cities in the Seventh War Loan Campaign. Recently in Brooklyn, he participated in a boxing exhibition which raised a record total of \$3,000.00 in bond sales. He was awarded about New York by Fred Irvin, the sports promoter, and around gymnasiums and in news-rooms the story of the great "Lil Arthur" envenomed many a dull moment. It was back a half century.

Johnson annexed the world's heavyweight championship belt December 26, 1908, when he knocked out Tommy Burns in Sydney, Australia in the 14th Round of a fifteen-fight fight. Between that date and April 5, 1915, when Jack took a "tumble" in Havana, Cuba, he lost his crown to the giant Jess Willard, his footsteps were dogged from one end of the world to the other, ending in final imprisonment at Fort Leavenworth.

Jack blamed his troubles on two incidents of history: One, that he was born a Negro, and the other, that he was whipped by Jim Jeffries. He bases his consciences on both by saying that the former, he couldn't avoid, and the latter, could have been avoided only by "lying down."

Today in the autumn of his life, Jack seems to have no hard feelings against sports writers who, he charges, picked the one thing in his life to emphasize which they know would arouse the deepest prejudices of the public — his marriage to a white woman. Among sports writers whom Johnson still admires, however, are Bill Corum, Damon Runyon, and the late Hype Igo.

Jack believes that if he had been just an ordinary fighter with no championship ambitions, nothing would have been said about his being married to a white woman, although 30 years ago such marriages were not as readily accepted as they are today. But Johnson felt the storm would blow over.

Using the money he earned in the Jeffries fight, Johnson opened his famous restaurant, Cafe de Champions, at 1st and Federal Streets in Chicago, hoping that the passion that had been whipped up against

## RILEY VS. HOOD PROMISES EXCITING MATCH

CHICAGO. (CNS) — Hard-punching Hubert Hood, a Chicago youngster, is being favored over O'Dell Riley, a spectacular Detroit heavyweight when the two meet at the Margiford Gardens. Riley and Hood are the principles of promoter Irving Schoenwald's outdoor boxing show.

him would die down. Not only was Jack maligned and harassed, but his wife, Etta, also was the object of a bitter attack, which culminated in her committing suicide. This incident served to increase the attack on Jack.

Then came the wide search for a white hope. It will be recalled that after Johnson had won the championship from Burns, Jim Jeffries had come out of retirement in the hope of returning the boxing crown to the white race. Johnson's humiliation of the old warrior in Reno, Nevada July 4, 1910, knocking him out in 15 rounds, 45 ring history.

Between the time Johnson won the championship, and that hot July 4th at Reno, he fought championship bouts with Jack O'Brien (six-round draw), Tony Ross (six-round draw), Stanley Ketchell (knocked out in 12 rounds), and Al Kaufman (10-round no decision).

But all this availed Johnson nothing. He stuck to his restaurant while the sports writers combed the world for someone to beat him. Finally, they came up with Fireman Jim Flynn, and on July 4, 1912, Johnson met Flynn in the ring at Las Vegas, New Mexico, and beat him unmercifully. It was Flynn who had helped insult on Jack, much in the same fashion that Max Schmeling jibed Joe Louis, only more bitterly and with sharper sarcasm. The Ku Klux Klan entered the picture, sending a message to Johnson the day before the fight which said:

"Lie down or we'll string you up."

Johnson's victory over Flynn simply tossed salt into an already festering sore. The newspaper barbed against him, went so high and political pressure became so strong that a law was passed prohibiting the exhibition of championship fight films. The law was later changed, shortly after Johnson left the country.

The champion's meeting with Lucille, Cameron in his restaurant and his subsequent marriage to her set him off on his journey around the world. He had hired her to work as his secretary, and to avoid any scandal he had arranged for her to live at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Curley. Although Curley's reputation was above question, it was not long before Jack was told he had "better watch out," that his troubles had "just begun."

Johnson was even named the new champion of the world, near the top brackets of fistiana until Joe Louis emerged in the early 1930's. Harry Willis notwithstanding.

Most people admit now that Johnson got a bad break. Perhaps that is why sports writers and others have been so kind to Joe Louis and other Negro fighters. But as for Lil' Arthur, what will history have to say?

There are 14 special corn production demonstrations in Edgecombe County using large amounts of complete fertilizer and sodium nitrate, some with hybrid strains and others with local varieties.

## Twenty-Two Coaches Attend Va. State School

PETERSBURG, Va. — The Virginia State College first annual Football and Basketball Coaching School opened June 20 with a total enrollment of twenty-two coaches. Frank J. Murray, head coach of football at the University of Virginia, was instructor in the technique of football coaching; and John D. Lawther, head coach in basketball at the Pennsylvania State College, was instructor in basketball.

Although the Coaching School was organized primarily for the benefit of high school coaches, two veteran coaches were present — Edward P. Hurt, head coach and director of physical education at Morgan State and Gideon E. Smith football and track coach at Hampton Institute, along with Sylvius Moore, head coach in football at Hampton Institute.

H. R. Jefferson, who is directing the School for the Physical Education Department of Virginia State College, is much pleased with the enrollment and considers it a very good beginning. Enrollment in the School are: six coaches from North Carolina, two coaches from the District of Columbia, one coach from Maryland, one coach from West Virginia, and twelve coaches from Virginia.

The program is composed of lectures in the classroom and demonstrations on the athletic field and on the basketball court. Several members of the Virginia State College football and basketball teams are present to aid in the demonstrations.

Many of the coaches are predicting that there might be a swing in "T" formation in football by either Morgan College, Hampton Institute, or Virginia State College. Coach Hurt, Moore, Smith, and Jefferson are showing great interest in the demonstrations by Coach Murray, who is one of the nation's greatest exponents of this type of football. The School closed June 30, and it is the plan of the College to continue this program each year in an effort to provide all the athletic coaches of this section of the country with an opportunity to study all the prevailing systems in vogue. The following coaches were enrolled: District of Columbia: Perry L. Jacobs and William E. Brown; Maryland: Edward P. Hurt; North Carolina: Andrew C. Lancaster, David Kelly, Wellington S. Lancaster, Curtis G. Mabray, Wilford M. Wooten, and J. Edelin; Virginia: James B. Cooley, George E. Wood, Van Buren Luke, K. L. Jones, Leroy Porter, Morris Taylor, Lawrence H. Hamlar, Sylvius Moore, Gideon Smith, John L. McGuff, Jr., David M. Muckle, and Albert T. Edwards; West Virginia: Charles V. Harris.

## LEARN TO FLOAT

BY CARROLL L. BRYANT  
Director Water Safety Service  
American Red Cross

Before learning to swim, learn to float. It's just as important as swimming, and, if properly done, it has the advantage of requiring no effort. There is more than one way to float, of course, but the most common way is on the back.

First of all, the learner should get rid of the notion that floating is a matter of maintaining his body in a horizontal position parallel to the surface. In persons of average buoyancy, the body, from chest to knee, will be suspended at an angle



of about 45 degrees, and the legs below the relaxed knees will hang nearly perpendicular. The floating posture can be assumed by placing the hands on the bottom of the pool, behind one, until by leaning backward the back of the head (to about the level of the ears) is submerged.

If the head is allowed to rest in the water with only the face above the surface, and if the arms are extended gradually to the side and then somewhat beyond the head, the chest and torso will be buoyed up, the back will be naturally and comfortably arched, and the legs, if relaxed and allowed to flex at the knee, will take care of themselves.

Once the technique of floating has been mastered, other learning activities will follow logically. These include practice in breath-holding, with the face buried in the water; rhythmic breathing, which is the evenly repeated process of inhaling through the mouth above the surface and exhaling through the nose in the water; and practice in keeping the eyes open under water.

This chapter, if relaxed and allowed to flex at the knee, will take care of themselves. When the beginner has satisfied himself by experiment that the body's natural buoyancy will serve to keep him at the surface, he will not, later, divide his stroking movements and waste energy.

Call your Red Cross chapter for information about courses in water safety and swimming, and enroll.

## GIANTS DEFEAT YANKEES IN SUNDAY GAME

BY PETE WILDER

RALEIGH — Trailing by the score of nine to two, going into the last part of the eighth inning, the Raleigh Giants rallied to tally four runs on six hits, and four hits and four runs in the ninth to tie up the game. Greensboro scored in the ninth on a walk, a passed ball, a single and a fielder's choice. That was all the scoring until the 11th inning.

With Bill Wilder, rhiming as a relief pitcher for the Giants, the Yankees scored on a walk to Walker and Day's double. The Giants came back to tie the score when Foster singled advancing to second on a passed ball, stole third and scored on a fielder's choice.

Two singles and an error failed to score for the Gate City Crew in the twelfth.

With one down for the locals, Bill Wilder singled sharply to left. Symms went out to first, unassisted, advancing Wilder to second. Evans then doubled to tight center scoring Wilder with the winning run.

The Greensboro Club had bunched three hits with three errors and a base on balls to score five runs in the 3rd. A hit batsman, a base on balls, an error and a double drove in two more runs in the fifth, a double and single, a double steal and a single produced two more in the seventh and an apparent victory before the Giants upurge.

Hezekiah Day, manager of the Yankees and longtime sought as second baseman for the Grays, led this club's attack with two for three, followed closely by Walker and Bates, both with two for four times at bat.

Green and McDonald with two for four and Evans with 3 for 6 times at bat, led the Giants offensively, while the work of Paul

## Archie Moore Wins Over George Kochan in 6th in Baltimore Bout

BALTIMORE, Md. (CNS) — Last Monday night a capacity crowd at the Coliseum saw the brown Archie Moore, light-heavyweight "uncrowned" champion win over Courageous George Kochan by scoring a Technical Knock-out.

Moore outboxed Kochan, and made him miss repeatedly. And although he kept up fairly well in the first five rounds Moore had George well under control in the 6th. Beginning with long range punches in the first round, Kochan must have felt himself secure, but Archie's flows carried weight and as a fighter would say, "authority."

In the 4th round however Moore began giving such strength to his blows, and getting Kochan in several spots, that Kochan's eyes became misty. In the 5th Archie won decisively.

The "left-tail" round, round 6, was a most exciting and vicious one with Archie Moore peppering Kochan with both fists. George was just about out in the middle of the round so the Referee stepped into the picture, stopping the one-sided (Moore) match.

Thus, Archie Moore had chalked up another winner to his already long list, and was ready to move on to Cleveland where he matched with Lloyd Marshall. His manager, Jimmy Johnson, seems pleased that Archie keeps well-trim and gives his fans a good fight wherever he has a bout.

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