

Behind The Play In Sports

BY DON DE LEIGHBUB

NEURO FANS LIKE BOXING, BASEBALL, REST

NEW YORK — It's an old adage among veteran sports writers on colored papers that the Negro fan knows best, two major sports: boxing and baseball. In recent years, baseball is forging to the front as a favorite spectacle for the colored sports follower, but strange as it may seem, football is still lagging in comparison with boxing and baseball. Of course, many colored fans get their kicks watching the boys on the eluder paths, the tennis stars, the golfers, and even ping pong players, but these sports are definitely in the minor class in general interest.

A study of sports pages in the colored press over the years reveals that baseball and boxing have enjoyed the emphasis and still occupy the column one position as more fans join the lists of those who want to know who knocked out who and is Satchel Paige greater than Bobby Feller.

I got to wonder why football wasn't further up on the list as a major interest of the colored fan. Among white fans, football is tops along with boxing, baseball, golf, basketball.

The colored sports fans have also a keen interest in horse racing, and countless thousands play the dogs with an ideal in profit. However, regarding football in relation to the colored fan, it might be explained this way:

Football is primarily a college sport, for the institutions at Oxford, Pa. (Lincoln University) and at Zenia, Ohio, (Wilberforce University) Negro colleges and universities are confined to have the Mason and Dixon Line.

A comparative few colored athletes make the big time white college elevens in the North and interest week to week in the football adventures of Dartmouth, Harvard, Northwestern, Ohio State, and other universities and colleges. In the South, however, many colored students already in college or in the high school systems in such university cities.

The record won't show, I'll venture to say, a colored college football game that has attracted a crowd of 50,000 or more fans. Negro baseball has done it with the annual East-West Game in Chicago's Somerville Park where for two years in a row the attendance hit the 50,000 mark.

You don't measure the drawing power of professional boxing by the number of fans in the park or arena only. Instead, the figure is arrived at by computing the price scale. Thus a million dollar fight counts for more than 100,000 fans paying \$15 a head. Undoubtedly, Joe Louis would draw 100,000 fans at such prices. So would Ray Robinson, Beau Jack, Henry Armstrong, and many others whose names suggest themselves as top attractions.

Boxing doesn't take too much technical knowledge on the part of the fan to understand. In fact, it requires little or none. It is a primitive sport in which the elemental aspects of combat are stressed — one man against another with nothing but the hands as weapons.

Everyone understands such a contest.

Football calls for eleven men, all with the designated task to perform and going about their various chores according to a complicated, involved strategy. Only one man carries the ball and the visual confusion usually confounds the fan seeing a football game for the first time.

The Negro's preference for football is natural. It is the national pastime and is wide open for visual enjoyment.

Every man on a baseball team usually gets the chance to handle the ball. All get a chance to bat and with no time limit as in other major sports such as boxing, football, it offers the greatest amount of visual pleasure next to boxing.

Slowly, football is catching on, but not to the extent that it should. The brand played by colored college elevens has considerably improved over that played in the early days when the fans got an overdose of the fundamentals, kicking, running and occasional passing, based on brute force.

The colored press sports pages are doing a yeoman job in arousing interest in Negro college football. In fact they should be given most, if not all of the thanks due for the publicity job done on this phase of sports over the years.

Meanwhile, baseball and boxing will still occupy the top spot for the colored fan to enjoy sports as are consistent in interest and appeal.

Caballero Wells To Enter France

NEW YORK CITY (WDL) — Consternation and a new wave of protest greeted publication in the New York Times of a report, later denied, that Laro Caballero, intertidal Spanish Loyalist Legion leader, had been shot to death by German SS guards while he and other prisoners were being taken to a concentration camp. The report, now considered false, came from Madrid.

A news blackout during which not even his family and close friends received any word followed the report May 12, that Caballero was freed from the Oranienburg concentration camp by the Red Army. Inquiry by Aron S. Gilman, chairman, Workers Defense League, brought assurance from the Russian Embassy that this report was correct. The letter said:

"In reply to your request regarding the whereabouts of Laro Caballero we wish to inform you that it is true that he was liberated by the Red Army. At the present time he is awaiting permission from the French authorities to go to France. His health is quite satisfactory."

Milton Dall of Hartford has 4 acres of corn and soybeans, planted the first week in April, that is furnishing good grazing for 40 hogs, reports Jack Kelley, Extension agent, specialist at State College.

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PREDICTING THE WINNER - - By Collier

POSTWAR CHAMPIONSHIP

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION

PLANNED ECONOMY

TAAF Nine Takes Birthday Beating From Ft. Benning

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, Ala. — Before a capacity crowd of its anniversary celebration at Tuskegee Army Air Field today the strong "Tigers" baseball club from Ft. Benning (Reception Center), Ga., retaliated for their defeat from the TAAF "Wahawks" earlier this season by walloping them 14-2, winning undisputed title as the best Negro diamond nine of the Ground and Air Forces in this area.

After shutting out their Army visitors for the first two innings, the TAAF team opened up with the critical hits of the game in the last half of the second inning, scoring their two and only runs in the contest. A single by Williams, TAAF's first baseman (Elizabeth City, N. C.), was followed by a triple from Roberts, catcher (Foster, Ohio), who brought in the first score and later stole home base on an error by the Tiger catcher.

This lead, however, was lost early in the fifth inning when Davis, winning Tiger batter, connected for a home run scoring Nixon to tie the score. With TAAF's number one mound man Louis Primus in leave, the Wahawks were unable to tame the hardhitting Tigers, who featured the professional antics of the Cincinnati Reds star, George Oliver. Opening a slaughterer in the 6th inning, the Benning Nine ran up eight scores, and four more in the last four innings, thus administering a

surprise birthday whipping to TAAF's losing pitchers: Jones Kukey and Williams. It was the Wahawks' third loss in her 23 games for this season.

Statistics show that the Raleigh Social Security Board's office received 3,357 applications for duplicate account cards in 1944, compared with 1,162 in 1943. These figures show a marked decrease over the totals of the previous year. J. H. Fingle, manager of the office, stated that he was encouraged by the showing made in this area since it indicates an increasing awareness by individuals of the importance of social security account cards and a desire on their part to cooperate in saving of manpower and money for the United States Government.

"The reduction in the number of requests for duplicate account cards could not have been made possible without the cooperation of the press and workers. Through newspapers the attention of the worker has been called to the necessity to hold on to his social security card. It is our hope to show a still further reduction in the number of lost cards that must be replaced in 1945," Fingle said.

Alabama suggests 1,500 bream and 100 bass in stocking an acre of fertilized pond; 500 bream and 30 bass, if not fertilized.

An extraordinary windpipe development enables the whooping crane to whoop.

Basic Releases More New Recordings

LOS ANGELES, Calif. — August will be a big month for Count Basic, what with the Columbia Recording Corporation releasing no less than two top drawer discs by the "Jump King of Swing" and his band this month.

The Basic platter of "Jimmy's Blues" and "Tues Miller," which was distributed nationally last week, will be followed late this month by a new Basic coupling of two original jump specials, "Feather Merchants" and "Ain't It The Truth."

The Count, who's holding forth on the stage of the Orpheum Theater in Los Angeles this week, has just waxed four more sides for Columbia at that firm's west coast studios. Now this he has caught up with his recording activities and amassed a considerable backlog of material on wax. It is expected that Columbia will turn out two new Basic discs per month.

A number of rumors, which circulated throughout the music trade recently and had the "Jump King" switching from his present recording affiliation to either the Victor or Decca label, were definitely squelched this week by Milton Ebbins, the Count's personal manager, who announced that Basic has just renewed his Columbia contract in one of the most lucrative deals ever given any recording artist. It is no secret in the trade that both Victor and Decca have been attempting to lure Basic into their folds for several years, but Columbia has always managed to come up with an offer to top both competitors.

After concluding at the Orpheum on Monday, August 13, the Basic band will hop to San Francisco on Wednesday to open a week's engagement on the stage of the Golden Gate Theater.

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MARINES DEFEAT ALL STARS 6-2

GREENSBORO — About five thousand fans saw the Negro Marines from Camp Lejeune defeat the selected All-Stars in the sixth annual All-Star game played here in Memorial Stadium Sunday August 12.

Preceding the game the fans chose Miss Lucy Mae Wamble as "Pin-up Girl" from among half a dozen contestants. A Danville, Va., team and Bugle Corps also added to the festive occasion.

The Leathernecks opened strong in the first inning and pushed across two runs to begin their scoring then offered ample support as Schuyler Taylor who was on the mound.

Again in the fourth and sixth innings the Marines added two more. The All-Stars tallied two runs in the sixth after placing men on base in the fifth.

The Marines used Taylor until the seventh when he was removed following an injury. He was replaced by Wilbur Baham.

Fourteen players were used by Manager Ezekiel Day as he sought to effect a clicking outfit during the fray. Horton, Johnson and Gandle saw duty on the mound.

The game was presented by veteran sports promoter A. J. Hammonds.

PUBLISHING BUSINESS FOR MAX SCHMELING

NEW YORK (CNS) — Max Schmeling, who achieved lasting fame in the sports world by KOing idol Joe Louis, is reported to be into the publishing business in order to reduce German youth. Schmeling, a Nazi Paratrooper reported dead several times, claiming that it is "very hard to find any confessed Nazi in Germany."

Schmeling's brown once served as inspiration for the Nazi youth movement.

CHALKY WRIGHT KO'S JORDAN

NEW YORK (CNS) — Fresh from a stirring win over Bobby Ruffin, Willie Joyce, "unwounded" light weight king of the world, faces Tippy Larkin, rugged NY puncher at Madison Square Garden. Larkin, science but rated heavy on punching power, Larkin holds 10-0 record over some of the top ringsters of the 135 pound division. In Joyce he will be meeting classiest of all ringmen.

A small amount of soda can shorten the cooking time of green peas about half without loss of vitamins. Use only a pinch.

Cash on the Clothesline

OKINAWA (Delayed) — On Okinawa, they hang their money out to dry, according to Technical Sgt. Stanford Opatowsky, Marine Corps combat correspondent.

The last note on the value of money came just after a Marine amirac driver was paid. Making a run to a ship in the harbor, he was soaked when a wave broke over his vehicle.

Returning to his bivouac area, he pinned the money to a line with clothespins, left it to dry, and went about his business.

Afraid someone would steal it?

"No," he said. "The money wouldn't get any good out here." But, he added, "everybody might swipe my line—that's what bothers me."

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wrapped, should be applied beneath the thighs and arms, over the abdomen. In no case should the first aider attempt to force any liquid down the throat of the victim, and alcoholic stimulants should not be used.

The Red Cross classes in proper use of first aid procedure are open to all. Join one at your local chapter.

DRIVE IN CLEANERS

Cash and Carry

325 S. Bloodworth St.

GET A CAN OF SWEET GEORGIA BROWN

HAIR DRESSING POMADE

Remember, however, that artificial respiration is never used if the victim is breathing.

The prone pressure method of artificial respiration taught by the American Red Cross in its life-saving and first aid training courses was devised in 1903 by Dr. E. Shrigley Shaler of the University of Edinburgh. With modifications it has been developed to a point of remarkable effectiveness and simplicity. Knowledge of its application is invaluable in the resuscitation of any accident victim who has ceased to breathe.

The person who is nearly drowned will be in need of at least three things: rest, warmth and oxygen. To prevent failure of the overtaxed heart, the rescuer should see that there is no further physical exertion on the part of the victim. A tragic example is that of the man rescued from the water and hauled to the deck of a nearby ship, who was in the act of thanking his rescuer when he dropped to the deck and died.

Pending the arrival of a doctor, the victim should be switched in blankets or any kind of covering. Hot water bottles, hot bricks or heating pads, properly tested and

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DOCTORS WANTED TO AMPUTATE HIS LEG A FEW YEARS AGO, BUT BIG METZ KEPT THE LEG AND BECAME ONE OF THE COUNTRY'S GREATEST PRO GOLFERS!

BILL KELLEY, PITTSBURGH ATHLETE, WAS BLUNDED BY A FOOTBALL INJURY BUT CAN NOW JUMP FIVE FEET, FIVE INCHES!

TOMMY SPIEGAL WAS ONCE A VICTIM OF INFANTILE PARALYSIS—IT PUT HIM IN BED FOR 2 YEARS—BUT HE TOOK UP EXERCISE TO REBUILD HIMSELF AND BECAME ONE OF THE COUNTRY'S OUTSTANDING LIGHTWEIGHT FIGHTERS!

REDDY KILOWATT

... Reddy Runs a Race CAROLINA POWER & LIGHT COMPANY

LET'S TAKE A LOOK AT VALUE NOODLE TONIGHT!

I'M GOING OVER TO JOHNNY'S HOUSE, REDDY—GOOD NIGHT!

IT'S A LONG WAY TO JOHNNY'S HOUSE SO WEE WILLIE RUNS ALL THE WAY!

REDDY! HOW'D YOU GET HERE SO QUICK???

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Number Two of a series

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DON'T ...

... let a cut-back in jobs and general post-war reduced employment hamper the opportunities of your boys and girls. The more you patronize Negro business, the stronger and larger our intra-race enterprises will become. When you buy insurance from North Carolina Mutual agents your premium dollars do double duty by protecting your family's future and making more career jobs for your sons and daughters.

"The Future Belongs To Those Who PREPARE For It!"

NORTH CAROLINA MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

C. C. SPAULDING, President DURHAM, N. C.

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