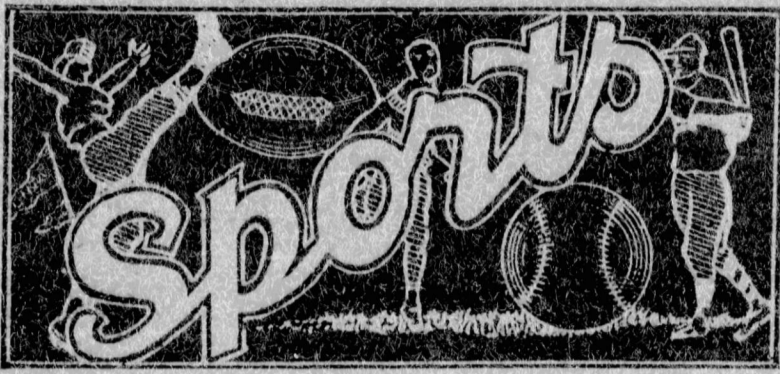


BRANCH RICKEY BLOCKING JETHROE'S DEBUT



STADIUM ECHOES

BY VERNON JARRETT

CHICAGO (ANP). — Tall, easy-to-meet Hank Greenberg, Cleveland Indian, executive, hinted last week that if another Negro is added to the Tribe roster soon he'll have to be great.

It was just a few minutes before the start of the East-West game in Comiskey Park, and he had just explained to reporters that he was "just here to see a good game and not to scout anybody."

This department then questioned Greenberg as to Cleveland's plans for Negro big league prospects now playing on Tribe farm teams — Orestes Minoza of San Diego, Harry Simpson, Al Smith, and Roy Welmaker of Wilkes-Barre.

The handsome sweet king of yesterday defended himself with a big honest grin and said "hold on a second."

"After all, we don't have too many places to put them." We received some criticism for bringing up Luke Easter, you know, some people are already calling us the Cleveland Buck-eyes," he added jokingly.

The Buckeyes are the all-Negro team of the Negro American League.

Greenberg was asked for his comment on Wilkes-Barre's three Negro stars of the Eastern League during his visit to the Pennsylvania team.

"Generally speaking they looked good. However, I have been somewhat disappointed in Al Smith's batting this season. I expected him to really hit that ball this year."

People who believe in telepathy and mind reading may have a point in the Smith case. The third baseman launched a new hitting spree during the Greenberg visit. The following week, he garnered 14 hits in 24 chances twice nailing four in a game.

In the last 46 times at bat he had connected for 24 hits to boost his average from .279 to .326.

Meanwhile, teammate Harry Simpson continued his commanding leads in home runs and runs batted in. The centerfielder is expected to pass the 35 mark in homers and the 100 mark in runs batted in before the end of August.

Greenberg seemed to have enjoyed relating how he met Welmaker, the Eastern League's top hurler. Welmaker wrote the Indians telling them of his qualifications as a moundsman, and Greenberg answered, explaining the regular procedure for tryouts.

And when the Indians opened spring training, up walks Mr. Welmaker displaying Greenberg's letter and demanding a chance to show his wares.

You know he had a lot on the ball, too," Greenberg nodded, "that's why we sent him to Wilkes-Barre for more seasoning."

Welmaker practically built his Eastern League reputation by beating the circuit leading Albany Senators. Even when in a pitching slump he can always review himself long enough to whip the New Yorkers. Welmaker — who may win his 20th game before the first of September — has defeated the Senators five straight times.



TO APPEAR IN CITY OPEN BOXING TOURNAMENT

This group of boxers above will appear in the City Open Negro Boxing Tournament which is being supervised by the Raleigh Recreation Department and sponsored by interested citizens. The card will feature 12 bouts. The entrants will come from Raleigh and other cities in the state.

The local boxers left to right, kneeling are: Leroy Bennett, Jr., Allert Lucas, George Baker, and Milton Cole. Standing, first row, left to right, Joseph Spencer, Carl Baker, Benjamin Moore, Billy Williams and the coach, John Winters. Standing, back row left to right — Jeff Abrams, Otis Hunter, Herbert Smith and Raymond Burnett.

16 YEAR OLD LOSES OUT IN GOLF FINALS

CHICAGO (ANP). — A 15-year-old boy marvel amazed the golf world here last week as he overcame all competition to reach the finals of the second annual Windy City Golf Club tournament held at the Piper O'Leary.

But after giving Gordon Goodson of Harrisburg, Pa., a fight down the line young Willie Brown lost 4 and 3 in the final 36 hole match. Goodson, the 1948 United Golfers association amateur kind, also was medalist by scoring a low of 72 on the par 71 course. Brown scored 73.

WOMEN'S CHAMP

Mrs. Lucy Mitchell of Indiana, Ind., defeated Mrs. Anna Black Robinson of Chicago in the finals for the women's championship Mrs. Cleo Ball of Chicago, former UGA champion, was medalist and won the consolation first championship.

Fish Bowl Classic Pits Shaw Bears Against Pirates

Shaw University's grid prospects will take the field Thursday, September 1, to begin preparations for the 1949 season. Sixty or more candidates will be on hand for the initial drills. Of this number more than forty will be veterans from last year's campaign, since the only seasoned player, Everett Lard, more, end and team captain, was lost by graduation.

Coach Howard K. (Brutus) Wilson, fresh from a six week's study session and coaching school experience at Columbia University, is eager to launch plans for the current offensive. He will be aided by Assistant Coach Thomas Kee, former brilliant quarterback on the before-the-war grid aggregation. Kee assisted Coach Wilson last year and was an efficient scout on the Bear staff.

POINT FOR PIRATES

The Bears will again be pointing for Hampton in their opening game of the season. Last year the Pirates broke Shaw's ten game winning streak, garnered in the Raleigh club's championship 1947 campaign. Many observers say this year's contest will be one of the best of the season.

This year the Shaw aggregation will tangle with Hampton in the second annual Shrine Fish Bowl Classic September 24, at Foreman Field in Norfolk, Va. The locals will lay great emphasis on preparation for this game, which is shaping up as a kind of revenge battle. For the Bears to revive their championship hopes, they will have to whip the Pirates decisively in the Fish Bowl.

The Shaw team will be made up predominantly of seniors. The backbone of the squad will be men like Captain Jim Joyner of Raleigh, who came to Shaw in 1946. Coach Wilson's first year in the institution, they are certain to be fighting to end their career in a blaze of glory.

Among the men who will be playing their first season are stellar performers as Twille Bergamy, AlCIAA allstar and leading ground runner; Bill Wallace and Roscoe Floyd, pile-driving fullbacks; James L. Jackson, new pass hurler; Gladstone Booth, Bill Barn Cannon, Allen Crooms, James Taylor, and Ed Roper, hard hitting tacklers. Leroy West, AlCIAA and John Williams, stalwarts at the guard posts; Bill Pursell, David Mack, and Robert Martin, backfield members; John Goodrich, reliable offensive end; Charles Lee, brilliant and consistent center; John Turner and Leroy Sellers, thumpy ball handlers at quarterback; and John Wortham, Bears' punting expert.

The Bears have their first home

What's Wrong With East-West Classic?

BY LUX VIRGIL OVERBEA

CHICAGO (ANP). — When the East West 4-6 in the 17th annual East-West classic, only 31,967 fans saw the game. Last year more than 46,000 viewed the stars, the contest, and the year before more than 48,000 viewed the stars.

Is the East-West game a barometer to the waning of the popularity of Negro baseball? Why did the game lose 11,000 fans from last year?

WHERE WERE BEST PLAYERS?

There is a question about whether or not the best players in the league were in the game. For example, how is it that Bob Thurman, recently purchased by the New York Yankees for his Newark Bears was not even a member of the West team at the time of his purchase. His stolen base total still leads the league, and his home run record rates high. Or how about Lirminham's Norman Robinson, batting .342 and second on his team to Piper Davis in runs batted in? He would have been a good man in place of either Lloyd (Ducky) Duvenport of the Chicago American Giants or Johnny Davis of Houston. How about Pepper Barrett of the Barons behind the plate rather than Lonnie Sumner?

PLAYERS SOLD FAST

Another reason for the lack of interest in this year's game may be that the Negro American League is selling its players up the river too fast. For example, let's take a look at the players moving up to organized baseball since July 4.

EMPTY BLEACHERS

Now fans complained about the pegged prices for the game, \$3 for a box seat, \$2 general admission, and \$1 for bleachers. The bleachers were mighty empty at that East-West game, and so were numerous other sections. Most people felt that the \$2, \$1.25, and \$0.65 regular major league rates were high enough.

SCOREKEEPER SCOOTs

The official scorekeeper did not even stay in the pressbox after the game to give the newsmen an opening with St. Augustine's Fighting Horses Saturday, October 1, and he was away thereafter until Shaw's Homecoming with Howard University October 29. The schedule is as follows:

Hampton Institute, Sept. 24; Fish Bowl Classic, Norfolk, Va.; St. Augustine's College, Oct. 1, Raleigh; Virginia State College, Oct. 5, Petersburg, Va.; N. C. A. and T. College, Oct. 15, Greensboro; Winston-Salem, Howard University, Oct. 29, Homecoming; Raleigh, Virginia Union University, Nov. 5, Raleigh; Johnson C. Smith University, Nov. 12, Charlotte; North Carolina College, Nov. 19, Raleigh.

All-Star Game To Be Played Differently

Changes for a repeat of the 28-Philadelphia Eagles fitness over the College All Stars are small since the signing of a new contract between the National Football League and the Chicago Tribune Charities, Inc., promoters of the game.

Under the new contract, the All Star game has priority over all other activities of the college players selected to participate. Each player will be insured for \$10,000 against injury or possible loss of income through playing in the game.

This year's game, the worst in the history of the series from the all stars standpoint, was hampered because pro teams skinning the better players withheld them from practice sessions with the college players.

NO PLAYER MAY PARTICIPATE

unless his class has been graduated or he has left college with no intention of returning. Under the new ten year plan, a loophole that may indicate a possible peace between the rival National League and All-America conference was also included.

THIS SECTION STATES THAT SHOULD

the National League champion engage in a playoff with the titlist of another pro league, the promoters have the right to present the winner of said game as the professional football representative in the big game.

HAMS PETE PRESSMEN

Out west it is reported that the Los Angeles Rams, sporting several new Negro faces, fated newsmen both colored and white, to the uh-uh Clark Shamusnessy in the Orange yellow of the 1949 team coached by Show stadium.

AN INTRASQUAD GAME

sponsored by the University of Redbank featured 33 men battling for 32 positions. White Steele, broad jump star, and Paul (Tank) Younger were outstanding in the lineup.

Steele, who has had no college football experience, made the long run of the evening, a 90 yard haul from his own 10 to touchdown territory. Younger was virtually a "futility" "futility" at fullback.

HAMPSON'S NEW COACH

Hampton's new coach will get his first look at his 1949 Pirates charges, Sept. 1, when he expects

Beating The Gun

BY AL MOSES

Even when Brooklyn's Burt Shotton told newsmen on local dailies that he wasn't keen about Don Newcombe coming to the Dodgers with a sore arm, we continued to argue the big guys' fine points in this space.

It was more than just plain faith in one. I had seen the towering colored youth pitch in the Negro League as well as the minors and I know how good he was.

More than that I was on the inside of a promise he had made to his daddy, Di Maggio and other baseball greats who all but burn themselves out trying to keep promises to sick kids, and I banked my newspaper reputation on that promise to Mr. Newcombe, Sr.

As I passed along the sport-conscious streets that make "Harlem" a playground for Americans of all colors, many who read my opinions complimented me on my pitching in the ace of the "Bums" pitching staff.

Suppose you read what Donald Newcombe thought about his chances of playing with Jackie Robinson, Pee Wee Reese and Bruce Edwards, Dodger mates, as he told it to New York Post's Jimmy Cannon recently.

"I look back to that day when I played with zita Mantley's Newark Eagles and if someone told me I was going to play with the Brooklyn Dodgers I'd say you're crazy in the head — get away from me, I'd kick him in the pants and say... stop kidding me."

Cannon says in wading up his piece on Newcombe: "But you wouldn't be kidding Donald Newcombe if you said he is the best pitcher to work for Brooklyn since Dazzy Vance quit."

DO YOU REMEMBER — AL BROWN

We just left Al Brown as we write this he lay in much pain in a hospital ward on Welfare Island with a broken finger — at the spot where charity cases end up.

Only a month ago we told you of our meeting the ex-world bantamweight boxing champion on West 111th Street in Harlem and how he talked with the Panama terror about the evils of narcotics.

Back in '27, we recall accompanying Brown and his pal, the late Gordon Croques, to a luxury liner bound for Paris. Edith Wilson, great blues singer, was on deck to say bon voyage to the dapper, six-foot-

AT THE RINGSIDE

BY LUX VIRGIL OVERBEA

FIVE CHAMPS IN ONE BIG SHOW

Fred Irvin, veteran Negro promoter, will try to do something no one else has ever done before — present five ring champions on one card. He has put up a guarantee of \$16,500 with the Illinois Athletic Commission as a guarantee for the following kinglys:

Ezzard Charles, heavyweight champion; Jake LaMotta, middleweight; Ray Robinson, welterweight; Al Williams, lightweight; and Willie Pep, featherweight.

These titleholders, however, will not be defending their crowns on the scheduled night of the fight, September 2 at Comiskey Park in Chicago; they will merely appear in a series of four round exhibition bouts supposedly for charity. For what "charity" nobody has said.

Each champ has filed contracts agreeing to the exhibition except Willie Pep. According to Irvin, Pep is holding up his contract until he defends his title August 28 against Eddie Compo in Waterbury, Conn.

Charles will get at least \$2,000 for meeting Jackie Lyons of Pittsburgh, LaMotta, \$3,000 for facing Clarence Wilkinson of New York; Robinson, \$2,000 for meeting Charley Dotson of Chicago and Williams, \$2,000 for fighting Art King of Montreal. Pep's purse and his opponent were not announced.

CLAMOR FOR LOUIS

"Everybody" wants Joe Louis to return to the ring, once more to meet Ezzard Charles for the heavyweight championship of the world. This "everybody" means individuals who stand to gain financially out of such a deal.

It is not obvious that Joe Louis is still the best man in the boxing world today. At every fight he attends he gets by far the loudest cheers. He is respected by

the imagination of New York fans as no fighter his weight since George Dixon's time. We felt then that gay Faree would embrace Brown as the Parisians capital did heavyweight Sam McVey some 10 years prior.

Few personalities possessed the intelligence, charm and humor that Al Brown was gifted with.

To see him fighting for life, his legs so emancipated that the bones protruded, or seemed to, caused us to bite hard on our lips.

He could hardly speak this time. A clamp of white gauze formed a mouthpiece and the shiny arms, that once floored a 200 pound sparring partner, were nothing more than pencil-size. Once Brown was reported to have more than \$300,000.

Here indeed was fate writing in the sands of time. We recall lovely women of all nationalities, a stable of race horses (the finest Lincoln car I ever saw back in the lush and roaring '20's, more than 100 suits of clothes averaging \$125 a suit, speaking of acquaintance with European nobility — Prince of Wales etc. members of the protocol of two continents. This pass makes me brush aside an unashamed tear.

N. Y. CUBANS LOOK TO 1950

Hope springs eternal in the breast of gallant old Alex Pompey, the man who pays the bills of the N. Y. Cubans of the Negro American League.

The last appearance of the colorful Cubans made on their home lot, the Polo Grounds, 114th Street and Eighth Avenue on Sunday two weeks ago found Mr. Pompey looking to the 1950 season with characteristic promise.

As I chatted pleasantly with him I wondered how much Negro baseball had a right to hope for, to say nothing of the Cubans who sold three of their brightest young stars to Horace Stoneham's N. Y. Giants of the National League.

LONG ROAD TRIP AHEAD

Every teenager in Harlem knows the Cubans have lost plenty of money this year. While Mr. Pompey was non-committal in this connection, we recalled the intimate chats we'd had and merely had to piece one and one together to arrive at the correct answer. With the conclusion of a southern road trip that is booked solid through September, the Cubans stop off at Kansas City on Labor Day to tangle with the Kansas City Monarchs.

persons in and out of the game all over the world.

Jake Mintz, the manager of Charles, gave the key to the well wishers who want Joe to return to the ring when he remarked in encouraging a Louis-Charles match:

"You owe it to the public and to Charles — it would draw a million dollars."

Evidently, he figures Joe over to the million dollars, too. Reporters seeing Joe at the ringside continuously make chiding remarks to Joe during and after fights. They like to hint that he could whip both men in the ring.

So far the Champ has been able to withstand the pressure and merely smile away their remarks. He probably knows that he can spot a weakness in another fighter immediately, but he also realizes that he himself does not move with the swiftness and certainty that he once did.

His fate might be the same one that met James J. Jeffries when he returned to the ring to try Jack Johnson. Of Jeff did not want to fight again, but his "friends" egged him on, telling him he could do it just once more.

Of course Joe probably gets homesick of the ring when he watches some of the good ones, but for him he is in the best spot — on the sidelines. As long as his International Boxing club can arrange the best bouts possible for the fans he will be doing his part for the game that has helped him so.

LAMOTTA CERDAN

Jake LaMotta will defend his middleweight title September 26 at the Polo Grounds in New York against the man from whom he took the crown last June 16, Marcel Cerdan. Cerdan, who had said he may quit the ring after being knocked by LaMotta, declared that he is in good condition and is ready to fight again.

STANDINGS

NEGRO AMERICAN LEAGUE

EASTERN DIVISION		
W	L	Pct.
New York	6	3 .667
Baltimore	17	11 .607
Indianapolis	15	13 .536
Philadelphia	4	3 .444
Louisville	3	18 .143

WESTERN DIVISION		
W	L	Pct.
Kansas City	17	12 .586
Chicago	8	6 .571
Birmingham	12	11 .522
Houston	9	9 .500
Memphis	13	16 .448

BATTING

AB	R	H	Pct.
L. Davis, Bk	265	59	104 .392
Byrd, Mem	254	53	97 .362
Pigg, Ind	195	22	74 .378
Brown, KC	233	65	107 .373
Davis, Balt	240	45	87 .363
Foranthal, Mem	208	53	97 .362

INDIVIDUAL LEADERS

Doubles — Neal, Ind 26
Triples — Foranthal, Mem and Gilliam, Balt 11
Home runs — Brown, KC, Foranthal, Mem, J. Davis, Houston 12
Runs — Gilliam, Balt 73
Runs batted in — Brown, KC 82
Hits — Brown, KC 167
Stolen Bases — Serrell, KC, 19
Pitchers — Byrd, Balt, 16-2
Strikeouts — Collins, KC, 131

LEAGUE BATS PIPER DAVIS REGAINS

Lorenzo (Pepper) Davis, newly purchased Boston Red Sox farm hand, regained the batting lead which he had held all season until last week. He has an average of .392, a drop of three points from last week, but Len Pigg of Indianapolis dropped 18 points to a third place 379. Boy Boyd of Memphis maintained his 382 average.

Wilford Brown continued to be the league's top slugger. He leads in total bases with 185, total hits with 167, and in runs batted in with 82. He is batting .378, is tied for second in doubles with 22, is third in triples with 10, and second in runs scored with 65. He has played in all 86 of his team's games this year.

GIANTS

As the second half settles down toward the stretch it looks like the Kansas City Monarchs and the Baltimore Elite Giants are the class of the league. The Monarchs have remained on top of the western division throughout the first half and except for the first of the week, the second half, too.

The Elite Giants are the class of the east. The New York Cubans do not play enough games, it seems, to stay on top because when they slump they have no chance to catch up and improve.

NEW ORLEANS (ANP) — In an effort to stem the increasing

life of police brutality here, a citizens' committee of Negroes organized last week and formulated plans to combat the growing evil.

A steering committee has been appointed to work out an immediate program of action. Plans include a citywide committee having as its objective the focusing of publicity on all cases of alleged police terrorism.

stars going up to the majors?

Will the quality of Negro baseball fall too low to meet competition from white teams featuring colored players?

For 17 years the East-West game has been THE game in Negro baseball. If it dies the game dies, too.

LANE SAYS HEAD ASKS TOO MUCH MUNEY FOR STAR

BY VERNON JARRETT

CHICAGO (ANP). — White Sox General Manager Frank Lane declared last week that Branch Rickey is so opening the Major League debut of Montreal's Manny Delgado.

Lane told ANP that he was interested in the fastest man in baseball and would like to purchase him at a reasonable price. But the shadow of Branch Rickey, Dodger President, has again taken across the contract talks.

"Rickey is the spring chicken," said Lane, "and I, Rickey, asks — as published \$200,000 for his services he is doing better a deal."

"I think Rickey had enough on the ball to have been given a break in the majors last season. I saw him in the little world series between the best of the international at League and the American Association."

"He is probably the fastest man in uniform I have ever seen. But who is going to pay an exorbitant price for a man that has not been tested in the majors?"

According to reliable sources the White Sox wanted to purchase junior last year, but Rickey placed a \$40,000 price tag on his head. This year the price has been ruminated up to the \$300,000 mark.

Meanwhile in Chicago the White Sox executive is not alone in his opinion of Rickey's handling of Jethroe. Many Negroes, who like Rickey better than they do the White Sox front office, agree with Lane on this point.

Lane told ANP, "Jethroe is not only the property of a baseball team, he is also a human being with a future of his own. Apparently baseball is his business, he should not be kept in the minors for the best years of his life. Mr. Rickey should consider that when he talks 'shop about Jethroe."

Branch Rickey, Jr., and Lane met in Cleveland last week to begin negotiations, but nothing final was decided according to Lane.

UNITE TO HALT COP BRUTALITY

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A steering committee has been appointed to work out an immediate program of action. Plans include a citywide committee having as its objective the focusing of publicity on all cases of alleged police terrorism.

SUBSCRIBE TODAY!!

G & W William Penn Blended Whiskey

more than 60 blenders to report for training. The new member is Harry R. (Big Jeff) Jefferson.

Among the stalwarts expected to return from last year's squad are: Captain Bill Corbin at tackle; AlCIAA "Scamp" Lewis and Malcolm Allen, at ends; Al American Luther Goodall at guard plus veterans Jim Dilard, "Kiki" Carroll, Richard Williams, James Bryson, Lloyd Poole and Arnold Tharmond in the backfield. Hampton will open its schedule Sept. 24 in the Fish Bowl game with Shaw at Norfolk's Foreman field.

BISHOP TIGERS

The Bishop Tigers of Marshall, Tex., will play a nine game schedule including seven conference games, according to Shannon D. Little, director of athletics.

Bishop will open against Langston Sept. 24. Other games will be against Prairie View, Texas State, Sam Houston, Arkansas State, Southern Texas College, Grambling, and Wiley.

LANGSTON LIONS

C. F. (Zip) Gayles, director of athletics, announced a 10 game schedule for the Langston Lions. The schedule follows:

Bishop, Tennessee State, Lincoln (Mo.), Texas College, Southern Sam Houston, Wiley, Arkansas State, Prairie View, Texas State.

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