

Sugar Ray, Fullmer Open Training For May 1 Bout



CHAMPS UNDER WRAPS — Well-bounded against the chill, heavyweight champ Floyd Patterson tries a little roadwork at Greenwood Lake.

N. Y., April 9th. The champ's getting in shape for his coming exhibition bout of the U.S. — (United Press Photo).

Middleweight Championship Title Sought By Robinson

CHICAGO — (ANP) — Middleweight champion Gene Fullmer and Sugar Ray Robinson, the man Fullmer defeated last Jan. 2, last week officially opened training for their title rematch in the Chicago Stadium here May 3. Fullmer, who pitched camp at the swank Tam O'Shanter Country Golf Club here, went five rounds in his initial workout with sparring partner John Brunetti of West Jordan, Utah, and Jesse Poole of Los Angeles. Both are middleweights. At Greenwood Lake, N. Y., Robinson boxed four rounds. He went two rounds each with Lee Williams and Otis Woodward. Said Robinson afterwards: "I'm going to work real hard probably every day, until I leave for Chicago, April 29. I'm going to keep at it until I feel I'm in top shape." Robinson is expected to establish training quarters at the Joe Louis gym on the southside. The International Boxing Club is promoting the fight. It predicts a gate of over \$200,000.

Johnny Holman Wins Victory Over Massive South African

PORTLAND, ORE. — (ANP) — Johnny Holman of Chicago last week won another victory. The lumbering heavyweight, after dropping successive bouts to Eddie Machon and Willie Pastrano, fought the range against Ewart Potgieter, massive South African, and pounded him at will to score a 10 round decision in a feature bout here. Potgieter, a giant of a fighter, outweighed Holman, 220 pounds to 203. However, his size made little difference to Holman, who used his strength to a punching base. In the very first round, Holman staggered his man with a sharp right to the head. Ewart, who recently put another fighter in the hospital, seemed defenseless against the usually slow Holman. What few punches he landed seemed to have had little effect on the Chicagoan. There were no knockdowns, but at the end of the fight Potgieter's stomach and sides were a mass of red welts from the constant pounding. The only semblance of a knockdown came after Potgieter absorbed the right in the first round. He stumbled backward a few steps, spun around a bit, and half fell over the ropes. However, he was able to hang on for the rest of the round.

Beating The Gun

BY BILL BROWER FOR ASSOCIATED NEGRO PRESS

Within the week another major league baseball season will get under way. Missing this year — from active participation — will be Jackie Robinson.

Jackie, who has entered private business at a salary of \$50,000 a year, was one of the most dynamic influences on baseball in the last decade. Not only did he have talent for becoming one of the game's great stars, which he was, but he had the knack for making news. Thus, to say that he will be missed, is to make the understatement of the year.

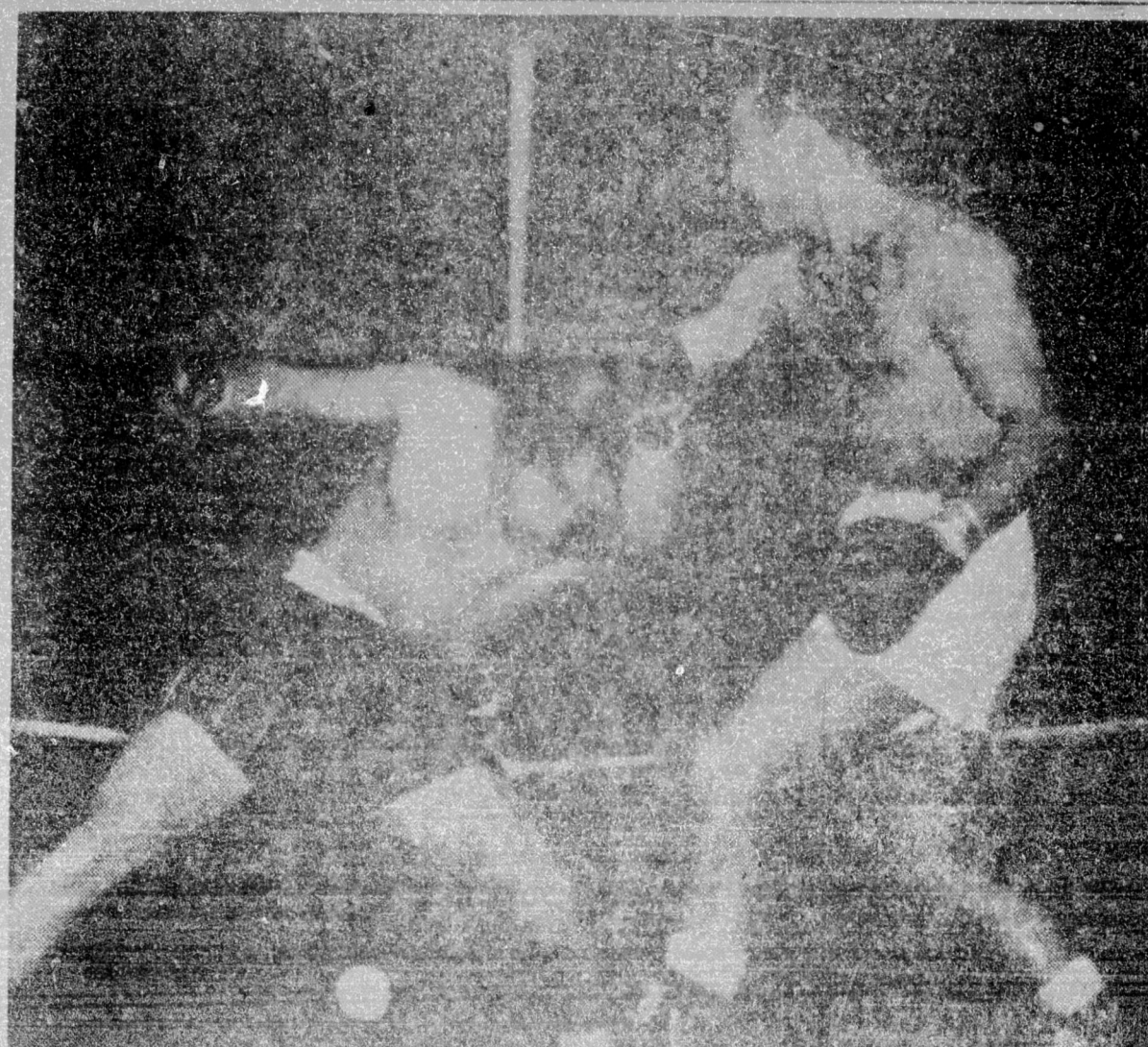
The big question, of course, is how much will the Brooklyn Dodgers miss him. Actually, if Jackie had chosen to remain in baseball, that would still be an intriguing question. The Dodgers had traded him to their arch rivals, the New York Giants. Robinson's retirement left a sour taste in some mouths. But nobody could dispute that it was his prerogative.

But to get back to a central point, how badly will he be missed by his old teammates?

This is the testimony of Walter Alston, manager of the Dodgers:

"Robinson you knew, had a special talent for getting the club fired up emotionally, particularly for a big series, and that was important. 'That is a most difficult question to answer, how do I know whether we will miss him or not?'

Surely, Alston is right on the score that Jackie could arouse fellow Dodgers when the stakes were big. But Jackie not only aroused them, he contributed a vital bit himself. As a fierce competitor, no one ex-



WINS UPSET DECISION — Lightweight Ralph Dupas, a hometown favorite in New Jersey, won an upset decision over Martinez.

leaves (left), tried to duck a punch but is off-balance anyway, by Tim Martinez, of Paterson, New Jersey, in the early part of their 10-round fight in La. April 8th. Dupas won an upset decision over Martinez. (United Press Telephoto).

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BASEBALL COMMENTARY

CHICAGO — (ANP) — Baseball season is under way. The National League pennant race is under way. The American League pennant race is under way. The National League pennant race is under way.

Only two major league clubs are without them — the Detroit Tigers and the Boston Red Sox, both A1 teams.

Shortstop seems in the cards for Aaron, the 25-year-old Milwaukee outfielder who last year became the second youngest in his league to win the NL batting championship. Aaron had the batting equipment to improve substantially over his 23% mark in 1956. He will be shooting for a .250 average.

But fishing for such occasions was nothing new for Robinson. The Dodgers, coincidentally, were embroiled in a winning tussle with the Yankees in the field and at bat, that carried Brooklyn to pivotal victory over the Braves.

There is a strong reason to hold that the Yankees will get the best of the Yankees. The Yankees will get the best of the Yankees.

But adherents of Mays think he will give rivals a run for their money, not only for the batting leadership but for the triple crown as well. The New York Giants' fabulous centerfielder will be seeking to regain his ranking as one of the top stars in the game.

Yale Jackie had his moments. In the rivalry with the Yankees. His biggest of course, was in 1956. The Dodgers had been held scoreless for 18 minutes by this Yankee pitcher.

After having been frustrated that afternoon in more than one situation, Robinson made an attempt to take base the biggest prize.

His established standards. He batted only .296, drove in 84 runs and hit 26 home runs. He also stole 40 bases. Giants manager Bill Rigney, the best encouraging Mays to hit the ball when it's pitched rather than going for the home run. Rigney thinks Mays will get his share of home runs, all right, but believes by "just meeting the ball" he could hit .300 for the season.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

BY CHARLES J. LIVINGSTON FOR ASSOCIATED NEGRO PRESS

BASEBALL: The 1957 baseball season gets under way Monday, April 16 with the Baltimore Orioles meeting the Washington Senators in the nation's capitol.

However, real competition opens Tuesday, with all 16 clubs participating. On the latter date Boston will be at Baltimore, Detroit at Kansas City, Chicago at Cleveland, and Washington at New York in the American League, and Brooklyn will be at Philadelphia, Milwaukee at Chicago, St. Louis at Cincinnati, and New York at Pittsburgh, in the National League. The National League race should get a lively one, but in the junior circuit, the Yankees are almost a sure bet to repeat as champions. Many baseball experts snickered that the Philadelphia Phillies pulled a boner in doling out \$20,000 cash, a pitcher and three infielders for the Brooklyn Dodgers prize shortstop, Chicago Fernandez. Among those criticizing the Phillies for shortsightedness was the Ole Master himself, Casey Stengel, whose Yankees have made a habit of winning the American League pennant. Said Stengel of the Phillies: "They (the Phillies) are always running around trading for this fellow and that fellow. Why don't they look under their noses? They've got a pretty good shortstop in that fellow (John Kennedy) who plays shortstop for them now."

He struck out had once in a game against the Yankees, but he moved cool and like to hit. It might be added that the Dodgers are pulling a boner with the years crowding in on Pee Wee Reese, the "Bum" can ill afford to part with a promising shortstop like Fernandez, even with Junior Gilliam, Charlie Neal and Don Zimmer around. Zimmer, considered by many as the eventual replacement of Reese, lacks the all-around class to compare with Fernandez. Hank Aaron of the Milwaukee Braves and Gene Baker of the Chicago Cubs were the two hottest batters in final weeks of spring training. They were hotter than the proverbial firecracker. Allen University Yellow Jackets of Columbia, S. C., last week caught the Yankee fever and went on a winning spree. Stretching its winning streak to seventh straight, the team rocked South Carolina State in a baseball doubleheader, 5-4 and 19-7, and then pounded Tuskegee Institute, 15-8.

BOXING: Much printers ink was used up over the last fortnight in reporting a hassle which actually bears little import to the general fight public.

Center of the controversy was Ralph Dupas, who was accused of being of Negro parentage. Andie's accusers claimed he was born Ralph Duplessis and later changed his name and crossed the color line. But Dupas won the argument, as the Louisiana State Athletic Commission sanctioned a pending bout between the New Orleans fighter and white Vince Martinez. Dupas later won the fight. The point herein made is that the overwhelming majority of the fight public is not concerned with the color of

A fighter in deterring his right to fight. The public asks one question: is he a good fighter, or a bum?

A quiet faced reportedly going on between Jim Norris of the International Boxing Club and Gus D'Amato, manager of Floyd Patterson. Insiders say that's the reason the newly-crowned champion has not yet been signed up for the lucrative June defense promised him after his conquest of veteran Archie Moore. It seemed that neither Norris or D'Amato wants to give ground. Somebody had better make up his mind or Floyd might soon find himself on the short end of a basewise. The Internal Revenue collectors may despise Ted Williams for his recent blast at the bureau for hounding Joe Louis, but the rank-and-file sports fan is with the Boston slugger on that score. Joe has long had the sympathy of fight fans.

ROLLING IN TEXAS: Despite the noise created by designing segregationists, integration in the South is making headway.

Last week the Parker House Golfing Club, of Chicago, sent its Bowling team to Fort Worth Tex. to compete in the American Bowling Congress tournament there. Although the first Negro team to enter the ABC was Allen's Supermart of Inkster, Mich., in 1952 at St. Paul, Minn., the Parker House all-Negro squad will be rolling in the deep South, where the journey is being held for the first time.

"Sweetwater" Clifton Missed By Many Fans

NEW YORK — (ANP) — The sweetest promise by coach Vince Boryla is really getting under way, what with the trading away of favorite Sweetwater Clifton and Harry Gallatin. Clifton, one time captain of the New York Knickerbockers, was the first Negro player signed by the local outfit and had won a warm spot with the fans who follow the court game. Clifton's departure leaves the Knicks with ten Ray Felix and Willie Naulls as members of the Knickerbocker team.

Don Newcombe, who won the National League Most Valuable Player award and who was voted baseball's outstanding pitcher last season, has a more formidable target this year.

A 27-game winner with the Brooklyn Dodgers in 1956, he will be striving to become the first 30-game winner in more than two decades.

The rookie sensation of the spring training grind has been Andre Rodgers, a Bahamian shortstop for the New York Giants. With only three seasons of organized baseball under his belt (he batted .267 for Dallas in the Texas League last year), Rodgers is touted as a prime rookie-of-the-year aspirant. He formerly played infield and soft ball in the West Indies.

Rookies Show Well With Bums, Giants

NEW YORK — (ANP) — Baseball fans are awed over the stirring rookies of the New York Giants and the Brooklyn Dodgers. Especially are they eager to have a look at slugging Jimmy Roseboro, the youthful fan catcher, being groomed to take over the catching chores of the champs.

And along the banks of the Harlem River, they gawped over this big Andre Rogers, who ever heard of a name like that, and Ossie Virgil, two newcomers expected to make the Giants' club. Only dillydilly

Sluggers Selects Hospital To Receive A Television

CHICAGO — (ANP) — Chicago slugger and star shortstop Ernie Banks has designated Project Hospital, Chicago, as recipient of the 24-inch RCA Victor color television set he will receive for his appearance on NBC-TV's "Smile to Baseball" on Saturday, April 14 (WNR) Channel 5, 8:00 p. m. in color and black and white.

Each of the 18 major league baseball stars appearing on the program will select a hospital of his choice to receive a color set to be sent out in his name. Chicago White Sox pitcher, Billy Pierce, who will also appear on the program, has selected the Children's Ward at Mayberry Sanatorium, Northville, Mich., to receive his color set.



READY FOR BATTLE — British Empire featherweight champion Horace "Kid" Bassey, 24, strikes a fighting pose as he looks at a photo of his future opponent, Aligned Berrios, April 10th. Bassey, a native of Nigeria who now lives in Liverpool, England, will meet Berrios, of Puerto Rico, in a 12-round bout in Washington, April 26th. The bout will be the next in a series of featherweight elimination contests for the title recently vacated by Sandy Saddler. Looking on is Bassey's manager, George Biddis. — (United Press Photo).

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