

Players Elect Celtics' Bill Russell As Top Pro Cager

Star Wins Three Day Race

NEW YORK CITY (AP) — In the first season in the National Basketball Association, Bill Russell established himself as the leading pro-cager.

The 6-10 Boston Celtics star won a three-day race over Ralph Schabas, of Syracuse, 1-time high scorer in pro basketball, and George Yardley, of Detroit, only player to score 2,000 points in one season in the NBA.

Russell was elected the best player in a vote of the 80 players in the league. None of the players was permitted to vote for a teammate.

With the tally based on five points for first, three for second and one for third, Russell accumulated 238 points, 30 more than Yardley. Yardley was third with 200 points. Russell was named on 91 per cent of the eligible ballots.

His selection as the pro's top cager squelches detractors who belittled Russell's stats while he was a member of the University of San Francisco five years which he led to the national championship for two consecutive seasons.

Russell's greatest asset to the Celtics, winners of the eastern division title, has been his rebounding and defensive work. He set a record in rebounds, surpassing 22,000, during the season. He was a demon on defense, taking shots and intercepting passes in the area of the basket. He had a psychological effect on shooting of the league's big stars. Russell does not rank with Yardley, or Bob Pettit, of St. Louis, as a shooter—his below average of his teammates. Bobby and Bill Sharman—but calling on dunk and lay-up, he averaged 16 points a game. On occasions, the skinny center averaged 30 points.

Young Dodgerookie Draws Much Praise

LOS ANGELES — (AP) — One of the young bright stars in the Dodgers camp this spring is Jimmy Davis, Negro outfielder, who hit 357 for the Kokomo Club of the Midwest League. Tommy, a former Brooklyn basketball, basketball and track star, also stole 66 bases for an all-time league record.

High Court Mixes Fla. Bus Case

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court refused Monday to grant a writ of habeas corpus to three students—one white and two Negro—who were convicted last year of violating a new bus segregation law in Tallahassee, Fla. The court did not say why it did not hear arguments in the case. Its brief order makes the conviction final.

The city maintained that the youths did not follow the proper appeal procedures in the courts.

But attorneys for the students contended that the ordinance is a "subterfuge for continuing the policy of racial segregation" and therefore unconstitutional.

The trio were sentenced to 60 days in jail and fined \$500 each. City Judge John Ridd on Feb. 19, 1957, their convictions and the constitutionality of the ordinance were upheld last November by Circuit Judge W. May Baker of Leon County Court.

The young men are Joseph P. Davis, Jr., of Tallahassee, Fla.; Leonard J. Davis, Jr., of Tallahassee, Fla.; and Leonard J. Davis, Jr., of Tallahassee, Fla. Their conviction came in the last of bus integration cases by Negro groups in several southern cities.



PICTURE OF DISCUST — Cincinnati Redlegs hurler Willard Schmidt turns his back in disgust as Milwaukee Braves' Henry Aaron rounds the bases after hitting his second home run in two trips at the plate against Schmidt. The Braves pounded the Redlegs March 28th on a cold breezy field, to win by a score of 11-1. (United Press Telephoto)



EARL ROBINSON (seated, R.), Univ. of California basketball and baseball star, signs with the Los Angeles Dodgers for an amount described as "substantial" by baseball scout Bill Brenzel (seated, L.). A source close to Robinson said the sum was "in excess of \$50,000." Six-foot one-inch Robinson, who played guard on the U. C. basketball team and shortstop and centerfielder on baseball team. He will report to the Dodger training camp at Vero Beach, Fla. Looking on during signing in athletic office at U. C. in Berkeley are, standing, L. R. George Wolfman, U. C. basketball coach, and Pete Newell, basketball coach. — UNITED PRESS TELEPHOTO.

Jackie Defends Old Teammates In Feud With Ex-Coach Herman

NEW YORK (AP) — Jackie Robinson still sparks them. Even though he's been out of baseball for one year and although his Check Full O' Nuts office is about 2,000 miles from the Dodger's home base in Los Angeles, Jackie remains their "top dog." In a sense, he is at times the ball club's "unofficial spokesman."

Take the Billy Herman incident. For years, part Her-

man was a Dodgers' coach. This year he'll coach the World Champion Milwaukee Braves. Upon leaving the now Los Angeles Dodgers, Herman took a new look at his old teammates. "They lack the desire," he said, to be a hard-hitting pennant contender. They were, in Herman's book, complacent and lazy.

None of the Dodgers replied publicly. But from Robinson a

Basilio-Robinson Handlers Wrangle Over Technicalities

CHICAGO (AP) — Although not a blow was struck, the Carmen Basilio-Sugar Ray Robinson feud began a week ahead of schedule, Wednesday.

The feud, which will be culminated in a 15-round middleweight title rematch in the Chicago Stadium Tuesday, March 25, began in the office of the Illinois State Athletic Commission, where both fighters submitted to preliminary physical examinations for the fight.

It started when the Robinson camp, headed by trainer George Gainsford, raised the question of excessive use of medication during the fight. Gainsford claimed in their last fight in New York Sept. 23, 1957, Basilio handlers used chloroform excessively on Carmen and that it got into Robinson's eyes and bothered him. He asked the commission to look into the practice.

Almost immediately the Basilio camp, led by co-manager Joe Nitars, took up the challenge. He accused Gainsford of being a cry

Bassey Trains For Feather Title Encounter

SANTA MONICA, Calif. — (AP) — World featherweight boxing champion Hogan (Kid) Bassey boxed several rounds here last week in preparation for his title bout with Ricardo Moreno of Mexico in Los Angeles April 1.

The two-fisted Nigerian, first native of that country to win a world boxing title, has pitched his training camp at Ocean Park arena. Moreno is working out at the Alexandria Hotel in Los Angeles.

At last report, Bassey was down to 128 1/2 pounds, 25 pounds over the featherweight limit. Moreno at 125 is under the limit. Title retirement call for the champion and contender to weigh not more than 126 pounds.

baby, saying that nobody would do a thing like that.

Nevertheless, Gainsford was adamant and the hassle went on for a lively period.

Meanwhile, the commission spelled out the rules to the fighters, and was due to issue final warnings on the day of the fight.

The fight, which will be televised from the stadium via closed circuit to movie theatres throughout the nation and overseas in Cuba, has generated a great deal of interest. Somehow, the atmosphere created reminds one of those prevailing during the heyday of former heavyweight champion Joe Louis.

Newcomers Dominate Broncos

FAYETTEVILLE — Following a one-season lay-off, the Fayetteville State Teachers College will participate in baseball again this season.

The present Bronco squad is composed primarily of freshmen and sophomores, a scrappy lot of youngsters. Coach William A. Bryant will, therefore, start the season with a mere handful of lettermen.

Some regulars in other years include catcher Milton Taylor of Tallapoosa, moundman Roosevelt Wright of Burlington, and Sylvester Dobson of Newark, New Jersey. John Reavis, infielder of Piedmont, New York, and Christopher Rankin of Hickory, N. C. A fine crop of new comers are showing up well.

The current schedule reads: HOME: March 25, Shaw University; April 11, Winston-Salem Teachers College; April 15, Bluefield State College; April 18, Elizabeth City College; May 9, A&T College.

AWAY: April 21, Elizabeth City College; April 22, Hampton Institute; April 30, Shaw University; May 15, A&T College; May 17, Winston-Salem Teachers College.

On Sam Jones Redbirds Depend

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (AP) — A sound Sam Jones is being counted on this season by St. Louis Cardinal manager Fred Hutchinson as the Red Birds plunge deep into regular spring training here.

Jones is one of the big 4 of the Cardinal pitching staff along with Larry Jackson, Lindy McDaniel and Vinegar Ben Mizell. Last season the 6' 3" right-hander won 12 and lost 9 for his first winning year in the big leagues. He compiled that record despite the fact that he was often sidelined with injuries—once a laceration in the area of the right knee and once in the elbow of his pitching arm.

It is this record that makes Manager Hutch look forward to at least 15 victories. He bases that feeling on Jones' past record and on a 4-inning job the other day in spring training against the Cincinnati Red Legs. In that performance, Jones struck out 4, allowed 3 hits, but no runs.

There are four Negroes in training here with the Cardinals, the largest number in the history of the organization. Present at the camp besides Jones are Frank Barnes, another pitcher, Curtis Flood and Joe Taylor, both outfielders.

Barnes, a 20-year-old right hander, was a 12-10 pitcher for Omaha last season and turned in a good performance Sunday when he started against the American League champions, the New York Yankees.

suspend any school that is guilty of this infraction and levy a fine. It also provided that such school would not be eligible for participation in the various championships while such suspension is in effect.

In an effort to get a larger number of schools to participate in the track and tennis meets, the conference voted to stage an Eastern and Western Track and Tennis meet with the winners and runners-up moving into Durham for the State meet to decide State Champions. The six-man football championships were awarded West Baden High School of Baden.

The Commissioner's report showed that the conference had grown tremendously and that financial condition was about to be on a more sound basis. The Master Schedules in football were distributed by his office at the close of the meeting. This schedule covers a two year period. The Commissioner stated that several of the smaller schools that had been playing six-man football were moving into the 11-man type of ball beginning with the fall of 1958.

He also announced that the baseball season would begin March 24th, and would close May 15th with State championship being played in the East this year.



HAD TOUGH ASSIGNMENT — Officers of the North Carolina High School Athletic Conference had a tough assignment at the annual meeting of the organization held at A. T. College last Saturday. The state group met continuously from 9:30 A. M. until 4:00 P. M. Among the officers present for the meeting were, left to right: C. A. Harris, Louisville, president; Booker T. Washington, Wilmington, Treasurer; W. B. Reinhardt, Goldsboro, secretary; J. H. Twitty, Cherryville, vice president and Dr. W. T. Armstrong, Rocky Mount, Commissioner.



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