

# Pitcher Jones Sam Sees Cards As Pennant Contender



## Strikeout King Optimistic About Future Of His Team

FAIRMONT, West Va. (AP) — Sam Jones, the National League's strikeout king, is quite optimistic about the 1959 St. Louis Cardinals Jones wintering at his home at Monongah, W. Va., says emphatically he believes the Red Birds will be "top contenders" this season.

As to how many games he thinks he might personally win this season, Jones says "I'll be going for all I can."

"I have been working here driving a truck — in this way I get in a lot of walking which helps me keep in shape. With the pitching we got, I can't see many bad days ahead for the team."

**RATES CARDS WITH BEST**  
"Do you see an immediate pennant for Mr. Busch (August A. Busch, Jr., president of Anheuser-Busch, Inc., and owner of the St. Louis Cardinals)?" Jones was asked.

"I think we've got as good a team as the best of them and I think we'll be a top contender," he replied immediately.

Said Sam, who was second in the league last year with an earned run average of 2.68, started 35 games winning 14 and losing 13. He would have had a greater score

in the win column if given stronger support and better hitting by his teammates.

**BETTERS DEAN'S STRIKEOUT RECORD**  
He beat the strikeout record of Dizzy Dean by fanning 235. Dean had held the record since 1933 with 199. It was also the most strikeouts by a National League pitcher since 1935, when Van Lingle Mungo fanned 228. Jones pitched 234 innings in 1958, averaging 8.1 strikeouts per nine innings. The big West Virginian had also led the league in strikeouts in 1955 with 19 and in 1956 with 176. He also issued the most bases on ball last year with 107.

Jones says he'll show up at spring training not more than two or three pounds overweight. Dean was written to all Cardinals warning them of excess weight during the winter layoff, stating that the spring season at Florida is not to be used getting into shape.

Jones spends some of his time here practicing with his two boys, one seven and one five. Both have ambitions of following in daddy's footsteps at present.



## Bill Russell NBA Rebound Leader

NEW YORK CITY (AP) — At the halfway point of the National Basketball Association season, Bill Russell continues to dominate in rebounding, as was to be expected.

The seven-footer of the Boston Celtics, in 38 games, had grabbed off 869 for a per game average of 22.9. His top performance was 40, against the Cincinnati Royals Dec. 12. He also set two rebounding records in the War Memorial at Syracuse Jan. 7 when he snatched 12 in one period and 29 in a half. He already held the court's record for rebounds in a single game with 30.

**BAYLOR ALSO EXCELLS**  
Baylor also was third in rebounding. He had picked off 620 for an average of 15.5. Russell and Woody Sauldsberry, of the Philadelphia Warriors, are among the leading scorers. Russell had 650 points for a 17.1 average, and Sauldsberry, 554 in 37 games for a 15-point average.

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Walter Duke, the tallest member of the Detroit Pistons, held fifth position among the rebounders. Duke had cleared the boards 321 times in 39 games for a 13.4 average.

**GREEN TRADED**  
One of the surprising developments of the season was the St. Louis Hawks, Green, from the Cincinnati Royals to the St. Louis Hawks. Green, who rejoined the Royals this year after being in service for two seasons, has been subject to dizzy spells most of the season. At one time, it was feared that he had a brain tumor or clot, but it later was discovered that he was suffering from a contusion.

## Sonny Ray Decisions Maravilla In Boxing

CHICAGO (AP) — Sonny Ray, who holds the distinction of being the only man to defeat Jesse Bowdy three times, added little to his prestige last Wednesday night when he won a unanimous 10-round decision over Rogee Maravilla, a virtual unknown from Napa, Ida.

The best that could be said of rebounding for the Jackets. Shutes, Smith and Davis continued their free throw battle. Shutes connected on seven of nine and now has 42 of 51 for the season. Arnold Smith made six of eight to give him 41 of 51. James Davis had one for one to total 36 of 45.

Maravilla is that he was a game warrior who never gave up. He even out-fought Ray in the closing rounds of the fight, although by then the Chicago light heavyweight had tired badly.

Ray floored Maravilla with a right to the jaw in the very first round. Maravilla took a nine count and from there on through the 10th managed to remain erect. Ray was clearly the better boxer and far speedier than Rogee. A set puncher, Maravilla managed to land only a few solid blows. At close quarters Ray weaved and bobbed and scored with short punches to the body.

The last two rounds were the most spirited. Both fighters engaged in two-fisted action which enveloped the small ringside crowd of 1,277.

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## NCC Cagers Make Early Bid To Clinch Tourney Berth By Sweeping Win Over Pirates

DURHAM — North Carolina College's basketball Eagles, making their bid for visitation honors in the CIAA, swept two of their games last week. The wins came over Elizabeth City and Hampton's high-flying Pirates here on the Eagles' homecourt, and the loss tagged on them by Winston-Salem's fast-breaking Rams on the victor's hardwood.

The Eagles topped the Pirates of Elizabeth City for the second time this season by a lopsided score of 79-59. The game was the first after a long holiday lay-off, and both clubs looked tough in spots. However, the Eagles were able to come back and put away their fourth conference victory against 1 loss, while Bobby Vaughn's Pirates suffered their third conference loss of the season against four victories.

Fresh James "Duke" Martin, the squad's second leading pointmaker, dropped in 14 markers in this affair to pace the Eagles' offensive. His teammates, Carlton "Ding-Dong" Bell, third leading rebounder in small college ranks, was runner-up with 10 tallies and a convincing 22 rebound total off both boards.

Floyd Brown, Eagle mentor, went to his reserve strength to pull this game off the fire, and the likes of Walt Benjamin, 6-2 frosh; Clarence, 6-3 junior, Preston "Trees" Lewis, 6-6-2 junior pivotman; and James "Panthull" McMillan, a 6-4 frosh jumping jack, came through in winning style.

The reserve unit score 38 of the total points tallied by the Eagles, with Benjamin leading the attack with 9 tallies, followed by Washington and Lewis, with 8 markers each.

The Pirates of Hampton swooped into the Eagles' nest next, only to fall as their Pirate brethren did, as victims of the Eagles. The Pirates, coached by Frank Zutty, were highly regarded as one of the highest scoring teams in the conference, going at a clip of 80 points per game. However, the NCC Eagles dropped them 73-69, winning their fifth CIAA tilt, while handing Hampton its second defeat in conference play.

The Eagles took the lead early in the game and were never behind after that, but the Pirates full court press which looked the best seen in this area in a long time, put a real scare in the Eagles. Behind 32-21 with less than 3 minutes in the first half, Zutty sent his charges in the fullcourt press and right away proved effective as they cut the Eagles' lead to five points. At the halftime buzzer, the Pirates had crept to within three points of the Eagles, 33-35.

The Eagle quintet pulled away again at the opening of the second half but the Hampton five put on the all-court press in the last 4 minutes to close the gap again.

On the strong board work of William Ward, and the basket-making of Nat Trader, the conference's leading scorer, Hampton pulled within two points of the

Eagles, 64-61. But with 2:30 seconds of the tilt remaining, Ward fouled out, leaving the Pirates weak under the boards, and the Eagles sailed the game away, 73-69.

Martin, the Eagles' new scoring sensation, fired in 27 points to lead all scoring, followed by Ward and Trader with 25 and 21 markers respectively.

The sterling backcourt play of Donald Burke, 6-3 senior and captain of the squad, really sparked the Eagles' offense. Backcourt has been the sore spot in the Eagle offense all season, but the rejuvenation of Burke led the Eagles to one of their best games of the 59 season. Burke dropped in 12 markers to assist the scoring total of the Eagles.

Against Winston-Salem there last Saturday, NCC played a hard-fought, only to lose 67-65 in a real thriller in the last 10 seconds, the visiting Eagles put up a staunch battle, only to watch a 5 point lead slip from their grips in the closing moments because of three costly mistakes.

Don Burke, whom Floyd Brown claimed "played the best game I have ever seen him play," along with Carlton Bell paced the Eagles in their bid for victory over the Rams. Burke dropped in 11 points before fouling out, and did a beautiful job of defending the highly regarded Cloe Hill Ball tossed in 19 points, and cleaned both boards for 24 rebounds.

Hill paced the Rams fast breaking attack with 2 tallies, followed by Rufus "Bumpy" McClendon with a flurry of 14 points.

With four more games on tap before the cage season reaches the halfway mark, Brown will be pushing his Eagles to take advantage of the homecourt environment in an effort to try to clinch a tourney berth before then.

After the scintilla break, the Eagles will face the hardest part of their schedule with 6 of their remaining games on the road. 12 games will be reeled off in the CIAA's 14th Tournament at North Carolina College February 26-27-28.

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## PROMISES TITLE FIGHT — Fighter Sugar Ray Robinson smiles after presenting his bid to the National Boxing Association's executive committee at a hearing in New York City last Wednesday. The committee sympathized with Robinson's tax problems and accepted his assurances of the title defense before June. As a champion, Robinson is expected to defend his title once every six months. He hasn't fought since last March. (UPI PHOTO).

ST. LOUIS, Mo. (AP) — Sam Jones, the National League strikeout king, cashed in on the record last week when he signed his 1959 contract with the St. Louis Cardinals for a reported \$20,000.

Bing Davis, general manager, announced the signing, saying the curveball artist was given a "substantial increase." He received \$17,000 last season.

Jones, in 1958, struck out 223 batters for a league record. He also posted a 2.88 earned-run average while winning 14 games and losing 13, and led the league in bases on balls with 107.

Jones is said to have the most wicked curveball in baseball.

## Lenny Moore's Son Is Recovering From Burns

CUMBERLAND, Md. (AP) — The year-old son of Baltimore halfback Lenny Moore is recovering from scald burns suffered in an accident while visiting his grandparents recently.

Young Moore was scalded about the face when he accidentally tipped over a cup of boiling water from a stove just before the Pro Bowl football game in which his father starred at Los Angeles. He was rushed to Memorial hospital but later was reported in good condition.

Notified of the accident, Moore went on to play a sensational game for the losing West squad. He set up one touchdown with a brilliant run to the East's one-yard line.

## Allen Quintet Breaks Jinx; Beats Benedict

COLUMBIA, S. C. — (AP) — There was joy in the Allen University gym last week. The Yellow Jackets beat rival Benedict College for the first time in four years and six games.

The score was 67-50 and Coach Lafayette Lacy got a long-awaited ride down the court.

It was a close one until the last five minutes when Allen began to pull away. The two clubs had battled to a 31-31 deadlock at halftime and stayed neck and neck until the Jackets got hot in the latter stages.

Willie Long scored 20 points to lead the winners. Henry Shutes followed with 15, James Davis had 13, and Arnold Smith, 12. Eddie Murphy topped the Tigers with 19 and Levi Jones followed with 15. Long and Charlie Davis thrilled the 1,000 fans with their terrific

## GOOFIN' OFF BY "SKINK"

The Shaw University basketball team is a scrappy organization, for a little bit they'll topple over many of the best in the CIAA—ditto for St. Augustine's.

Laurelburg Institute is about the toughest basketball unit in Eastern Carolina high school circles.

The Roxboro semi-pro basketball outfit, led by former Person County High School stars, Samuel Elliot, Dennis Bobbit, and "Thee" Brooks, is beginning to look more and more like a basketball team.

The Hillside team of Durham is repaying every team that stomped them last year.

The fourteenth Annual C. I. A. A. Basketball Tournament will get underway at the North Carolina College gymnasium Feb. 26, 27, 28. It's the best basketball attraction this side of heaven for fans along the eastern seaboard.

Pete Wilder, a great baseball performer for Shaw University a few years back was at one time connected with a large New York advertising firm that devoted their major interest to sports. Pete hobnobbed with such celebrated, nationally-known figures as New York boxing judge Frank Rabess, Columnists Jimmy Powers, the late Bill Conum, television commentator Joe Bostic and others. Pete covered many games at the Polo Grounds for the Negro weeklies and strips for outstanding sports columnists.

A letter from "Pete to Goofin' Off" seemingly was inspired by an article appearing in Goofin' Off last week an "Great Players and Super Stars".

I had the pleasure of witnessing the following game with Mr. Wilder as he so well relates in the letter at hand.

Quote:

In reading your column last week, I was really pleasantly surprised. I never shall forget the Sunday afternoon in late September, 1944, I met you at the entrance of the Polo Grounds. The Cuban Stars were to play the Newark Eagles. In a thrilling game that was deadlocked, 1-1, at the end of nine frames, Len Hooker, formerly of the Raleigh Grays was matching "Schoolboy" Johnny Taylor, of the Cubs, pitch for pitch. For the Eagles there were such stars as "Lenny" Pierson, "Half-Pint" Watkins, Larry Doby, "Hunky" Parks, "Cheerokee" Davis, Bob Harvey and Ray Dandridge.

For the Cubans there were "Rabbit" Martinez and 11-Blanco at shortstop and second base, respectively. "Showboat" Thomas at first base, "Blue" Perez at third, Eddie Brooks in the outfield. (The two other outfielders' names have slipped from my memory). Bill Lonsday was the catcher. The game rocked along until the thirteenth frame. "Rabbit" Martinez singled; Blanco bunted down the third base line; Lenny Pierson moved up first base line; Ray Dandridge moved over like a flash to take the throw at first base. Willie Wynn, rookie catcher for the Newark Eagles, grabbed the ball and threw it a mile behind Dandridge and when the ball had been retrieved by Bob Harvey in rightfield, Martinez had scored the winning run.

I ran down to the dressing room to greet all of the boys for they were getting ready to make their annual barnstorming tour.

When I met Ray Dandridge, I said, "Ray is was a real tough one to lose." "Well," he said, "it is the mark of a rookie to blow under pressure." P. S.—It might be revealing to note that "Lenny" Hooker was at one time a member of the Raleigh Grays' "Schoolboy" Howard, the fireball right-hander for the Raleigh Grays and the Asheville Blues, was a member of the Cuban Stars.

Bill "Lefty" Saxton, a member of the Cuban pitching staff, had pitched here for the Charlotte Black Hornets against the Grays. "Hunky" Parks, for the Eagles had been Sexton's catcher.

## 'Platters' Member Is Sued For Divorce

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Herbert Alfred Reed, a member of the famed "Platters" singing group was sued for divorce by his wife Florence. Attorney for Mrs. Reed said she would name in court a Los Angeles woman as a correspondent in the divorce action if Reed contests her suit.

Mrs. Reed charged her husband with cruelty and with committing adultery with the woman. The complaint listed "community holdings property valued at \$10,000 plus household furnishings and a 1958 Cadillac.

**WANTS \$750 MONTH**  
She is asking \$750 a month alimony for the support of their two

## Mary Fisher Clicks As A Single Act

LOUISVILLE (AP) — Talented songstress Mary Ann Fisher, who has been a mainstay with the Ray Charles Singers, recently joined the ranks of free-lancers in the theatrical profession.

A native of Henderson, Mary Ann worked her first job as a single New Year's Eve at Club Movocco, one of the city's most fashionable nightspots.

She is also in the midst of contract negotiations for a possible tie-up with Atlantic records, a leading independent discery.



**MOORE HONORED** — Boxer Archie Moore displays the powerful right that helped earn him the Edward J. Neil plaque presented to him at the Boxing Writers' Dinner at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, New York City, last Thursday. The light-heavyweight champion's performance against Yvon Durelle in Montreal makes him a strong favorite for "Fighter of the Year." (UPI PHOTO).