

# BEATING THE GUN

By BILL BROWER  
CHICAGO—(ANP)—One of the new things in sports is to pick the New York Yankees for the American League pennant. Like 'em or not, the Yankees are the indomitable team in baseball and it's wishful thinking to go against the form that.

Frankly, the Yankees long ago lost a place in my heart. This was largely because of the New York's team reluctance to use ten players when the old Brooklyn Dodgers and old New York Giants were setting the pace in this regard. This is no longer a valid argument for rooting against them. As the 1963 campaign gets underway, the Yankees have four ten players on the roster. This is more than Chicago, Washington, Boston, Los Angeles and Baltimore and as many as Cleveland and Detroit. Only Kansas City and Minnesota have more on their squads among American League teams.

So on the basis of skin pigmentation of personnel, there is now no reason to remain a Yankee-hater. Perhaps not. But old prejudices die slowly. So, we suspect, we will be pulling for a team like Baltimore--with only two players--to finish ahead of the Yankees. But logic also tells us that Manager Ralph Houk's team will take its third consecutive pennant. That would be five in a row for the World Champions, who haven't lost the AL flag since 1939, when Chicago and Cleveland finished ahead of them.

One of the reasons the Yankees might prove unbeatable again is Elton Howard, the only ten regular. With two home runs in his first two games, Ellie looks like he is ready for a big season. After a great season at the plate in 1961, Howard dropped below .300 in batting last year. This is an oddity, as if his pattern is abided, Ellie will have another .300-plus season in '63.

Hector Lopez already is proving himself useful, filling in for the injured Roger Maris in the early games. Major Houk also has Lopez waiting in the wings in the event Joe Pepitone flunks his test at first base.

Houk also hopes that Al Downing, the left-hander who spent part of the 1961 campaign with Yankees, is ready. Downing, author of a no-hitter last season with Richmond in the International League, was impressive during spring training.

Pedro Gonzalez, a recruit infielder who was voted the outstanding freshman performer in the Yankee training camp, apparently has it made as a utility player.

Baltimore acquired Al Smith, the veteran outfielder, from the Chicago White Sox in one of the biggest player transactions in the off-season. Smith is expected to give the Orioles right-hand punch among the outfielders.

Manager Billy Hitchcock also is high on Joe Gaines, an outfielder purchased from the Cincinnati Reds. Gaines is fast and showed signs of developing into a consistent hitter in spring training. So much so, in fact, that he was slated to open in leftfield the first game of the season. Ironically, Gaines suffered a muscle pull running out a home run in an exhibition game.

Veteran Billy Burton and Chico Fernandez are starting their third seasons with Detroit and the Braves are hoping for a productive season from the two veterans. Jake Wood also in his third Bengal campaign, has been shunted to the bench, but either Chico or Dick McAuliffe,

second baseman, slip, Wood will slip into the lineup. Jake did well in spring games. Bubba Morton, the Howard grad, unable to break into one of the best outfields in baseball (Bruton, Al Kaline and Rocky Colavito), is valued as pinchhitter.

The Minnesota Twins, who were surprising second last year, have virtually the same team this season. Vic Power, happier than ever, should have another good year, both at the plate and in the field. Lenny Green, the Twins' centerfielder, is one of the most underrated players in the game. Earl Battey, behind the bat, is a standout receiver, probably among the top two or three receivers in the majors. Zerro Versailles is a coming shortstop. Pedro Oliva, a young outfielder, is a fine hitter but may be sent out for further development.

Another surprise team last year, Los Angeles Angels, also have much the same cast, with Leon Wagner and Felix Torres retaining starting roles in the outfield and at third base. Julio Navarro is being used as a "long Man" in the Angels' relief corps.

Cleveland's Jim Grant, a right-hander who spent half of last year in the army, is looking for a banner year on the mound. Ellis Burton, acquired via waivers from the Houston Colts, was a surprise starter in rightfield. That left Willie Kirkland and Willie Tasby, outfielders, on the bench. Walter Bond, the big outfielder, appears

headed back to the minors. Earl Wilson, a no-hit pitcher last year, might be Boston Red Sox ace. Roman Mejias, the Cuban outfielder, has been slotted in leftfield, with Felix Mantilla expected to see plenty of action as a utility man.

One of the best hitters in the AL is Floyd Robinson, the Chicago White Sox outfielder. The Pale Hose chances for a high finish also depends on the work of Juan Pizarro, the Puerto Rican southpaw who was something of a disappointment last year. Grover (Deacon) Jones, a strong hitter, is being retained by Manager Al Lopez as a pinch-hitter.

Kansas City has high hopes for Bill Bryan, who started the season as the regular catcher. He is a rookie. Ed Charles has been reinstated as a regular third baseman, and Jose Tartabull started in center. Both are second-year men. So are John Wyatt, a strong right-hander, and Manny Jimenez, an out fielder. Wyatt rates as one of the best relievers in the league, and Jimenez was the AL leading hitter for several months last season.

One of the premier ballplayers in the League this season might be Chuck Hinton, the Washington outfielder, who batted .312 last year for the last placers, the Minnesota Twins. Hinton is expected to lead the way for the Little Blues in their quest for trophies. He will have good support from Gilda, a junior, who won the girls singles last year. Goodson, a senior, teamed up with White to take the Eastern championship in the boys' doubles.

Other players for Ligon will be, Jesse McKay, C. J. Hayes, Juan Coffield, James Coffield and Doris Morgan.

The schools participating in the tournament will be Sampson County from Clinton, Little River from Bahama, P.S. Jones in Washington, Hillsdale of Durham, Williston from Wilmington and Ligon.



LEARNING HOW TO PLAY THE NET — Coach George Jones instructing Gilda Adcock on some defensive maneuvers while playing the net.

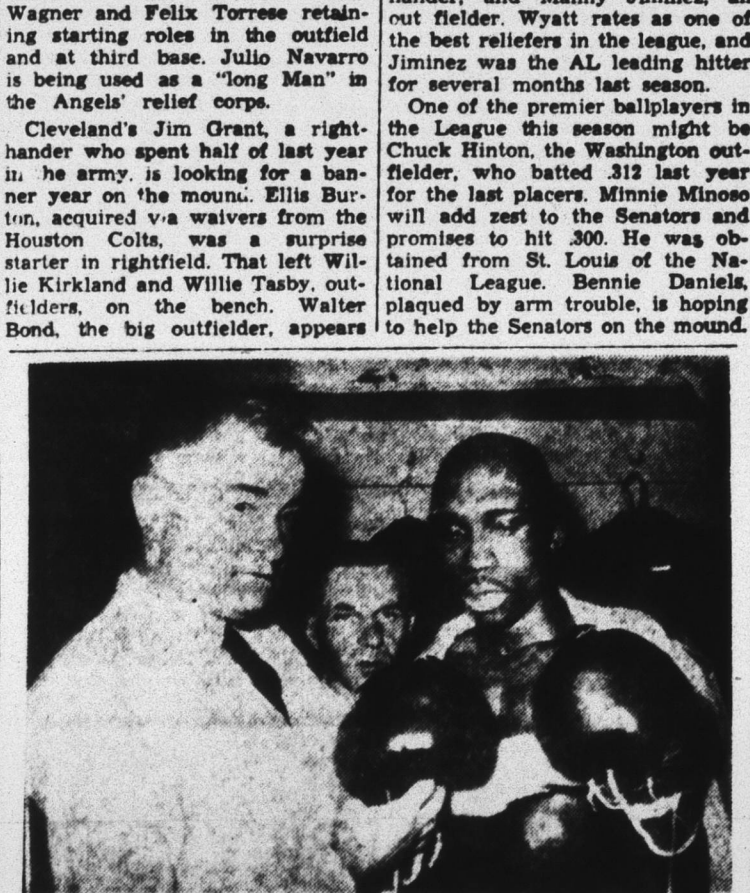
## Eastern District Tennis To Be Held At Ligon

The J. W. Ligon Junior-Senior High School will host the Eastern District Tennis Tournament May 3 and 4. Games will be played on the courts at Ligon and at Robert's Center.

Willie White, a junior at Ligon and the Negro High School state champion last year is expected to lead the way for the Little Blues in their quest for trophies. He will have good support from Gilda, a junior, who won the girls singles last year. Goodson, a senior, teamed up with White to take the Eastern championship in the boys' doubles.

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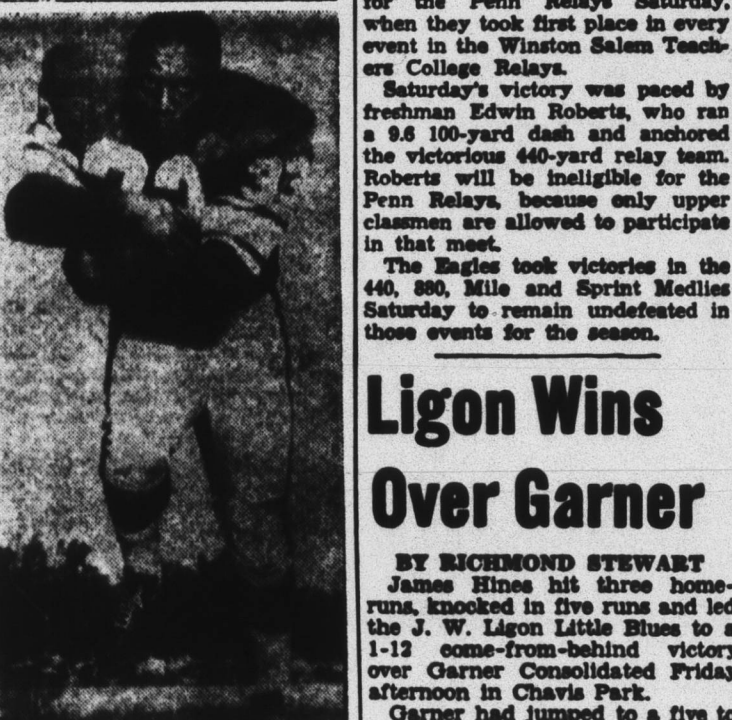
SAFETY AIDS PUT INTO EFFECT — Trainer Freddy Brown puts new ten-ounce boxing gloves on hands of Lucius Allen, one of the fighters that appeared in one of the evening's bouts at Sunnyside Gardens, Long Island City, Queens, N. Y. (Center) Allen's manager Jose de Maria. (UPI PHOTO).

## Shaw Bears Shut Out Hampton Pirates

The Shaw University Bears stopped the Hampton Institute Pirates 12-6 here Saturday. This was the fourth win against one loss and two ties for the Bears this season. The Bears scored 7 runs in the first 4 innings while holding Hampton to only 2 runs during this period. In the 6th inning Shaw's starting pitcher, Bernard Wilder was relieved by Haywood Moye after giving 2 hits to Hampton, one of which was a home run. Hampton scored three runs in this period and one in the 7th to trail the Bears by only one run (7-6). Coach Lytle then put in Right Hander Alvin West who held the Pirates scoreless for the remainder of the game. The Bears had a big inning in the 8th and scored 5 runs. The Bears' leading batters were William Hartfield (3-4), Theodore Powell 3-5, Robert Height 3-5 and Jimmy Howard 2-2, for Hampton Stephens was 2-2 and Stallard 2-4. Edward had only 1 hit which was a homer.

The Bears lost to Howard University 16-8 on Tuesday and on Friday night they tied the 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg, 9-9. The game was a night game called because of curfew.

Thursday, April 25, they will host



RECOVERING FROM GUN-SH OT—Mel Triplett who was recently acquired by the Cleveland Browns football team, was recovering from a gunshot wound in his left hand that police in Toledo, Ohio said resulted from a domestic argument. (UPI PHOTO).

## Negro Golfer Gets "Hole In One"

GREENSBORO (ANP) — Pete Brown, one of only two Negro golfers playing in the Greensboro the money winners. Brown won a great distinction when he hit a "hole-in-one" to become the only contestant to accomplish the feat.

Although he finished way below the money winners. Brown won a special "pot" set aside for persons accomplishing the rare feat.

Ranking Negro golfer Charlie Sifford, who won \$620 in the tournament, and Brown were the only two Negro players in the tournament. Sifford played the first Negro golfer to play in the Greensboro tournament several years ago.

## ROBINSON-DOWNS MATCH IS OFF

LONDON, England (ANP) — Former world middleweight champion Sugar Ray Robinson last week suffered another of his recent setbacks when Terry Downs of England, another ex-world champion, suddenly and without explanation cancelled his May 14 rematch here with Robinson.

The cancellation was announced by Downs' manager, Sam Burns. Asked if Downs, who defeated Robinson in a recent bout in London, was anticipating retirement, Burns said: "This is a matter for Terry himself."

In between, Willis tells of his struggles as a diminutive player to succeed in his chosen sport at a time when the emphasis in baseball is on power. He tells of his poverty as a youth, his later struggles in the minor league and his faith in his ability to succeed. He credits his Christian upbringing (he is the son of a Baptist minister) with buying in his confidence as an individual. But Maury quickly points out: "Just because my father was a preacher doesn't automatically make me a devout Christian. It is something I have had to acquire."

Adds Maury appropriately: "It's what you have inside that counts."

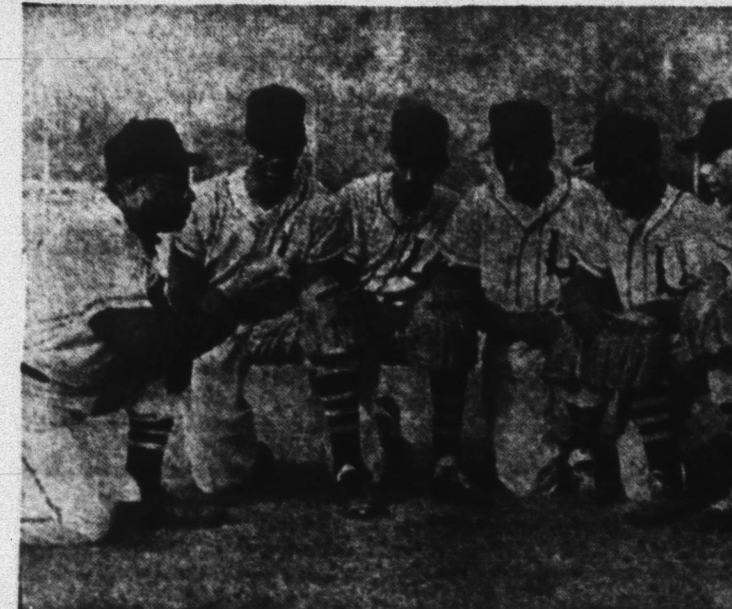
As a player, he credits Milwaukee's Bobby Bragan, Maury's manager, with hitting him to become a switch hitter.

Hitting from both sides of the plate gives Willis an edge on opposing pitchers and puts him in a position to exploit his speed and dazzling base running.

Willis frankly admits that his record-breaking season in 1962 makes him "the man to stop" for every major league club this year. "What can I possibly do for an encore?" he asks.

Willis' superior accomplishments have been more than recognized by the sports world. As a result of his record-breaking performance in 1962 (he also came through with some fancy fielding and key base blows), he has been voted the NL MVP and was awarded the \$10,000 diamond-studded Hickok belt as "Professional Athlete of the Year." Other awards include being chosen "Athlete of the Year" by the Associated Press and "Major League Player of the Year" by the Sports News.

Sports fans can't afford to miss reading this fascinating success story by Willis, one of the most colorful players in the game today.



LIGON HIGH INFIELDERS — Coach H. E. Root instructing his infielders on defensive moves. They are: (from left to right) Carlton Barber, Bobby Allen, James Dickens, Robert Allen, Milton Matthews, Nathaniel Walton, and William Powell.

## NCC Netters Beat Howard

WASHINGTON, D. C. — North Carolina College's tennis team posted its 8th victory of the season without a loss by defeating Howard University, 9-0, here Saturday.

The summary:

Joe Williams def. J. Christian, 6-0, 2-4, 6-2; Eli Singleton def. W. Calender, 6-3, 1-6, 7-5; Alfred Poe def. J. Bryant, 6-1, 6-3; George Logan def. Leon Creed, 7-5; 6-3; Michael Holt def. Robert Fitzhugh, 6-1, 6-0; Paul Wright def. W. Walker, 6-0, 7-5.

Williams and Singleton def. Christian and Calender, 6-1, 8-6; Poe and Logan def. Bryant and Creed, 7-5, 6-3; Holt and Wright def. Fitzhugh and Walker, 6-0, 6-2.



FOOT IN GLOVE? — Dodger catcher John Roseboro (C) holds Cubs Don Landrum's left foot in his glove after Landrum scored from second under the throw from center on Billy Williams' hit in the first inning in Los Angeles. Umpire Frank Secory calls him safe. (UPI PHOTO).

## THE WEEK IN RECORDS

BY ALBERT ANDERSON  
DINAH'S BIOGRAPHICAL DISC TOPS JAZZ FARE

CHICAGO (ANP) — To this writer it has always seemed that Dinah Washington blossomed suddenly upon the jazz scene. From the time Dinah joined the Lionel Hampton orchestra back in the early 1940s, she has been a national singing sensation; a singer who sings the blues as it ought to be sung with richness and soulful inner meaning.

But if evidence is needed to pinpoint various stages of Miss D's development, it is contained in her recently released Mercury album, "This Is My Story," which spotlights many of her songs. This biographical disc is the feature of this week's review. Details of this and the other disc in the review follow:

"THIS IS MY STORY" — Mercury LP (2-103). Tunes: "Salty Papa Blues"; "It Ain't Fair (to Love You)"; "Mixed Emotions"; "Since I Fell for You"; "Time Our For Tears"; "Stormy Weather"; "I Wanna Be Loved"; "Tell Me Why"; "I Loved You"; "Trust in Me"; "Make Believe Dreams"; "Unforgettable"; "This Bitter Earth"; "Harbor Lights"; "What A Difference A Day Make"; "Baby, You've Got What It Takes"; "Dream"; "Cold, Cold Heart"; "Such A Night"; "Won't Cry Anymore."

"Dinah, Brook Benton, vocal; Joe Newman, trumpet; Billy Byers, trombone; others unidentified. Quincy Jones, conductor.

This album is really a summary of Dinah's biggest hit tunes. . . The story lies in the rich and vivid thoughts associated with each. . . Needless to say, most of the tunes are taken from old masters, but Dinah's style remains unmarred by the mechanics of reproduction. . . The songs are in two categories: old sentimental ballads and blues, and other tunes with which Miss D has had great success recently. In the latter class are "Harbor Lights," which she sings with a great deal of romantic feelings, and "September. . ." which she swings lightly and still retains the melody. . . These two songs alone are well worth the price of the disc. . . But then there is added thrill in "Salty Papa," the song-story of a vexed lover; the poignant ballad, "Stormy Weather," and, of course, Dinah's own specialties, including, "I Wanna Be Loved," "I Don't Hurt. . ." and "Teach Me. . ." Some of her recent singing duets with Benton are also presented here. Those who have followed Miss Washington's career will experience many vivid memories listening to this LP, and the younger set will enjoy it just as much for its rich entertainment value. . . A WONDERFUL SALUTE TO THE QUEEN OF THE BLUES.

"STITT MEETS BROTHER JACK" — Prestige LP (7944) featuring Sonny Stitt and Jack McDuff. Tunes: "All Of Me"; "Pam Ain't Blue"; "Time After Time"; "Ring In In"; "Nothin' Further"; "When Sunny Gets Blue"; "Thirty-Three, Ninety-six." Personnel: Stitt, tenor sax; McDuff, organ; Eddie Diehl, guitar; Art Taylor, drums; Ray Barretto, conga.

Stitt, playing is always marked with artistry and intelligent improvisation. . . He displays these qualities anew on this disc, consisting mostly of original tunes. . . Sonny is heard at length, but McDuff has only a few solos and plays a somewhat complimentary role. . . The organ provides Skill and Company with plenty of room for riffing and other cliches, but the top tune in the set is the standard, "All Of Me," with its rich melodic trills.

Whereas his alto playing is rich and light in Stitt's tenor tone is full-blooded and throaty. He is outstanding with both instruments. . . Although Stitt is the star, everybody cooperates on this disc. . . A SOLID ENTRY.

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## Maryland State Plans To Top CIAA Track Meet

Maryland State College is expected to win its third consecutive CIAA Track and Field Championships when the eighteen member conference meet is held at Virginia State College's Rogers Stadium, May 10 and 11.

Morgan State and North Carolina College should provide extremely tough competition for the heralded Hawks in the forty-second Annual Championships.

Hampton, Smith, Winston-Salem, Virginia State and Norfolk State are also expected to pick up a few points.

With hurdler Russ Rogers, all-around performer Charlie Mays, weight man Al Santio, and record setting distance runner Bob Jones, Maryland should have several first place winners.

North Carolina's Andy McCray and Hampton's Toby Clark are outstanding middle distance men, and Norfolk State's Joe Thornton should get a prime test in the dashes.

Several high schools will participate in the Scholastic Championships, which will be run with the collegiate finals on Saturday afternoon.

## 2 Schools Ready To Drop Barriers

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (ANP) — Two Southern Conference schools — Georgia Tech and Tulane — have officially declared that they are willing to join the University of Kentucky in its desire to break with conference tradition and lift the color bar against Negroes in athletics.

Kentucky, which has been integrated for several years but never fielded colored players had previously stated its willingness to play against Negro athletes and to have them on its own team.

Georgia Tech and Tulane gave affirmative answers to the question put to them in questionnaires sent to all 11 other members of the conference by U. K. and sports writer Larry Boeck of the Louisville Courier-Journal.

Vanderbilt gave what was considered an indirect approval. "It is public knowledge that in recent years Vanderbilt has competed against integrated teams," Alexander Heard, the school's chancellor replied.

The University of Florida refused to comment "on speculation about possible changes in policy." Louisiana State and Tennessee declined comment, and Howell Hollis, acting athletic director of the University of Georgia, said the question was referred to President A. C. Adair, who was out of town.

The only negative answer from those polled came from Mississippi State University. Officials of the school said it would not compete against Negroes at home. They had no comment on the question of integrated Kentucky teams.

The MSU basketball team, after being refused permission in three previous years to go to the NCAA, went this year as the SEC champion despite opposition from Gov. Ross Barnett and state officials.

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FIGHTING FOR THE BALL — Celtics Bill Russell and Tommy Heinsohn (partially hidden) and Laker Elgin Baylor fight for the ball off the backboard in a flurry of hands and shots without scoring a point. (UPI PHOTO).

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