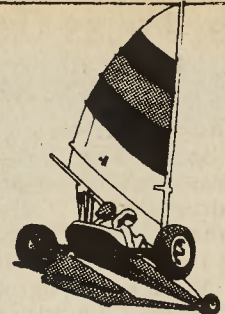




# Sports



## Elson's Pet Peeves

By Elson Armstrong, Jr.

The Air Controllers aren't the only people who have to deal with these days. In the world of sports, there are enough irritating incidents to make you have a headache before your time.

Here are a few of the things associated with sports that make my hair stand on end, my veins pop out, and just plain put me in a foul mood.

- 1- I just can't tolerate people who constantly arrive late for sporting events. Don't these "buddies" realize that there's something sacred about that opening kickoff, first pitch, or opening tap?
- 2- How about those people who jam you in at the stadium parking lot making it impossible for you to move your car. And you can bet that they're usually the last to leave the arena.
- 3- How about the loud mouth that constantly berates a certain player when he can't walk and chew gum at the same time.
- 4- Those obnoxious parents at Little League games. They really ruin it for the kids.
- 5- All the analyzing that goes on during an NFL telecast. Why can't they shut up and let us watch the game.
- 6- Listening to a judge fan tell how bad his team is every year. (Watch them get quiet when you ask how many world series they've won lately?)
- 7- I have this friend who every year picks his

## Black Schools/Administrators Should Support Sports Programs

By Elson Armstrong, Jr.

How many times have you heard this statement: "We're a small black school, we lack the finances, the big predominantly white schools get all the ink, and our administration doesn't care about sports". I've heard it a lot lately and frankly I'm sick of hearing it. It's beginning to sound like a cop-out to me.

Make no mistake, I also know that the big predominantly white schools get the publicity, and they have garbs of money, and you know something, I pat them on the back for it. You can call it social injustice, the breaks, or whatever. Face it. It's a fact of life and it's not going to change any time soon. The bigs are going to continue to get bigger and that's that. And furthermore, I'm 100% behind them.

Before you think that I've gone off the deep end and sold out to the system, let me point out that I do favor the survival of the small, predominantly black schools. But there seems to be a prevailing mood among many black college presidents and their administrators that says that sports should take a back seat to other aspects of college life. To quote me I say "Bull" with a capital B!

What I'm about to say may ruffle some feathers, but that's too bad. I know from talking around Durham's black community that I'm not the only person who harbors the following views.

The reason I said that I heartily back the bigger schools in their approach to sports is that most of them have seen the light. They realize that success breeds success and that a winning football or basketball team can help the school to obtain success in other areas of academia. Cases in point: When North Carolina State went on a winning streak in both major sports in 1973 and '74, their total student enrollment increased greatly — and these weren't the so-called dumb jocks entering CSU. They were future engineers and veterinarians who some day will be valuable alumni.

More recently, the athletic explosions at North Carolina, Fresno State, Alabama, Notre Dame, and UNC have all been followed by tremendous successes in academics.

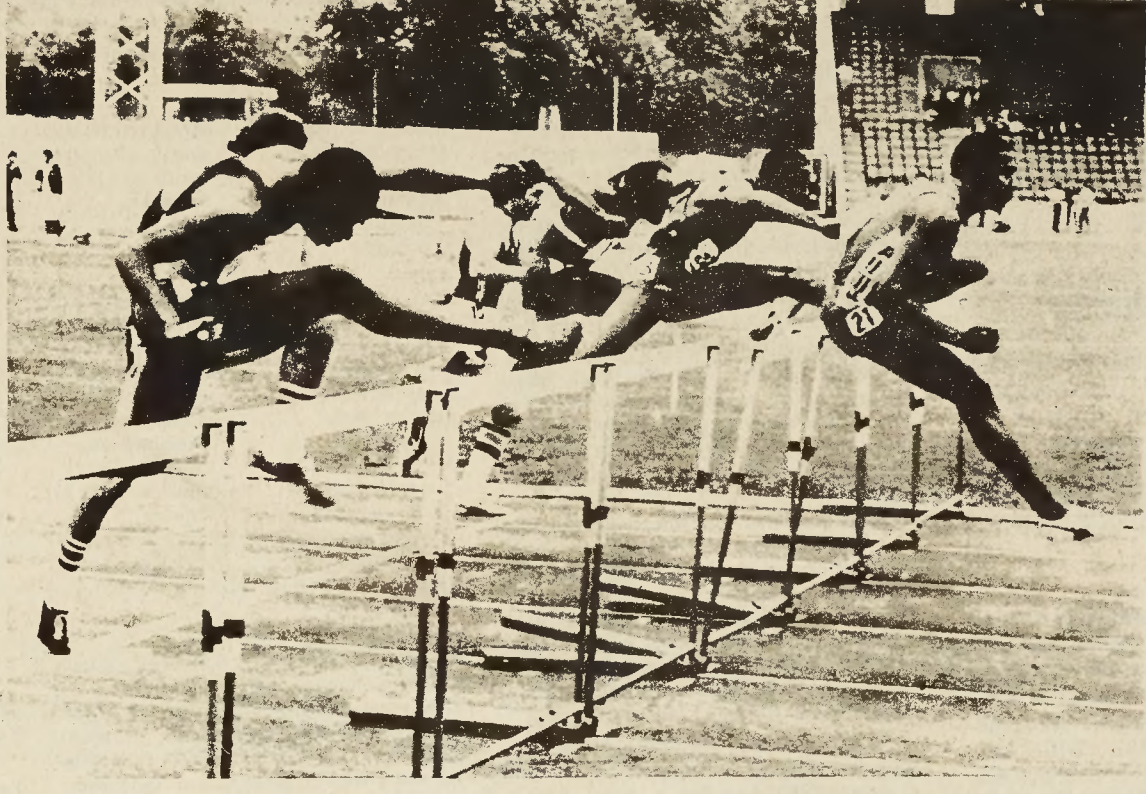
A friend of mine pointed out recently that this is America. America loves a winner, and sports is where winning is most graphic.

Look at Grambling, the most successful (publicity-wise) black athletic program in this country. They've wisely played off the fame of their football teams and bands and you better believe their academic program has reaped much of the benefits.

Unfortunately, most black administrators are too shortsighted. They live in a Black Ivory Tower and they expect to keep their ships afloat by taking what's given to them by the state and sports be damned.

Take heed, you in power. If you keep this attitude, you'll find one day that all the talented students we have head for places like Duke and Carolina — places where they can have their talents utilized.

The black power structure has got to realize that in order to make money, you've got to spend it. If you wonder why the sports programs at ACC schools are always in the media, they should expect just how they got there. Another two cases in point: A few years ago, UNC decided that it wanted to sell out its home football games. So they had a media blitz (remember all of those Carolina Fever signs?) and they invested \$200,000



**Go, Renaldo**

Renaldo Nehemiah (No. 21) USA and world title holder, leading in the London 110 metre hurdle race which he won in a time of 13.17 seconds. On left, Tonie Campbell (USA), second; Mark Holtom (GB, hidden) third; Gault (No. 38) followed by Rod Milburn (No. 1) were beaten in the Amateur Athletic Association's Championships at Crystal Palace Sports Center August 8.

## Quarterback: Johnson or Harris?

GREENSBORO — There is an air of confidence surrounding Thomas Johnson and James Harris as the pair vie for the starting quarterback position at North Carolina A&T State University for the 1981 football season.

Johnson, entering his sophomore season, never took snap from center last season as the Aggies rolled to an impressive 9-3 record. Harris was much more active leading Riverside Junior College to a 7-3 mark in the competitive southern

California JUCO ranks. Despite their lack of game experience on a major level, both feel they have something to contribute to the success of a potential big season at A&T.

"I learned a lot last season watching William Watson and Roland Myers," said Johnson, a 6-1, 180 pounder from Louisburg High School. "Watson is now an assistant coach and has been very helpful in going over technique and other game type situations which will be helpful during the course of the season."

"We have eight starters returning from last year's team, including backs like Charlie Sutton and Waymon Pitts. I feel like I'm a young quarterback with a lot to learn."

"However, with the talent we have, it won't be necessary for me to carry a heavy load. If I can perform half as well as Watson and Myers did a year ago, I feel we will have a great year."

Harris, who was recruited by New Mexico, San Diego State, and Texas A&M, feels that his biggest asset coming into a new situation like A&T is the maturity he

## Herschel Walker Wins Achievement Award

NEW YORK — Herschel Walker, of the University of Georgia, the freshman football player of the century, was honored recently as the winner of the 1981 Tanqueray Achievement Award for excellence in amateur sports at a luncheon in New York City.

Walker, who earned his distinction as the best first year player ever to compete in college football, was the only freshman ever to become a unanimous selection on each of the All-America teams selected for 1980.

The 220-pound, 6-foot 2-inch running back from Wrightsville, Ga., also finished third in the annual balloting for the Heisman Trophy given to the College Player of the Year.

For many weeks after his fabulous finale in the Sugar Bowl against Notre Dame, Walker had to evaluate a million dollar offer to play pro football in Canada against continuing his college career with a head start toward achievement of the best record in history for a running back.

Acknowledging the danger of injuries at a vulnerable position where the hazards of getting hurt are extremely high, Walker finally concluded that he wanted to accept the risk.

"One of the reasons I wanted to stay in college was that I have a chance to fulfill my dream of competing as a runner for the United States in the Olympic games," Walker said when he announced his decision. "I decided to continue to play football at Georgia because I am an American and it did not seem right to leave the country to play pro football."

"I hope some time to have a chance to win the Heisman trophy," said Walker. "I will get my chance. I was proud to come in third in last season's voting. When you are rated third best among all of the players in the country, that means something."

Coach Vince Dooley of the University of Georgia looked back on the youngster's achievements and said "I don't think there is a player in the nation who was more deserving."

"I feel sure he would have won the Heisman if he had not been a freshman," said Dooley. "No one anywhere accomplished more than he did."

John Heilmann, president of Somerset Importers, Ltd., the sponsors of the Tanqueray Achievement Award, said that "Herschel is another fine example of the youth factor in these annual selections."

"Our winners, generally speaking, have made their marks as amateurs while they were teen-agers," Heilmann said. "We are proud to have Herschel as our latest winner, who in his first year at college had such tremendous achievements as a football player. There is every indication he will go on to even greater achievements in college and eventually in the pros."

Walker will need to be superlative to match his accolades received as a yearling. In addition to his NCAA records and selection to the eight major All-America teams, he was the Southeastern Conference Player-of-the-Year selected by United Press International and made it twice as the Associated Press Back-of-the-Week.

This is the 14th annual presentation of the Tanqueray Achievement Award. Included among the previous winners were gymnast Kurt Thomas, boxers Sugar Ray Leonard and Howard Davis, high jumper Franklin Jacobs, basketball player David Thompson, and gymnast Olga Korbut.



**Tanqueray Achievement Award To Herschel Walker**

All-America football star, Herschel Walker, accepts the 1981 Tanqueray Achievement Award for excellence in the field of amateur sports from John E. Heilmann, president of Somerset Importers, Ltd., in New York recently. Walker, a sophomore at the University of Georgia, was honored for his outstanding career as a running back for Georgia. He was the only freshman ever to become a unanimous selection on each of the All-America teams selected for 1980.

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