



'AB' Swats One Out

With a mighty swing of his broad, compact shoulders, Albert "AB" Allen, first baseman and team leader with the Triangle Trophy entry in the local softball league, smashes a pitch on a flight that will carry it out of the park. Allen and his teammates, one of Durham's top softball teams, regularly hit more than ten home runs in a single game.

Photo by Silas Mayfield

Softball Is Big In Durham

By George King, II
For about 30 million screaming, ribald fans around this country, Spring and Summer mean softball. Durham is no exception, and Hillside Park on South Roxboro Street is a good example. It's a typical Monday night game. More than 100 fans, young and old, men and women, have come to see their favorite

team play and hopefully win. The epithets fly hot and heavy. "You run like a wet chicken," someone yells. "My grandma catches better than you with her eyes closed and a hand tied behind her back," adds another fan across the field. But if the insults are typical, though all in fun, so are the results. Triangle Trophies, one

of Durham's premier softball teams, is "whupping" up on another team that will mercifully remain anonymous. It's the bottom of the fifth inning. The score is 9-2, Triangle's favor, and their first baseman and team leader Albert "AB" Allen strides to the plate. Two men are on. There are no outs, and you can tell Allen is

tired of fooling around. Gingerly the pitcher lofts two pitches toward the plate. Both are outside the strike zone. Allen smiles into his bushy beard. The third pitch was a mistake. The pitcher knew it when it left his hand. He grimaced in painful anticipation. Allen also knew it as he watched the large white ball float toward (Continued on Page 7)



Patience and Hard Work
Make Holloway A Rising Star At Albany State

ALBANY, GA — As a high school junior, Patrick Holloway spent his spare time in the neighborhood gymnasium dunking basketballs. But thanks to Bruce McDaniel, a former world-class high jumper during his collegiate career at Albany State, Holloway was lifted from the basketball court and introduced to the world of track for the first time as a high school senior. It happened that McDaniel, a neophyte coach at Terrell County High School (Dawson), was searching for talented athletes who would be an asset to the track program. After watching Holloway display unusual leaping ability in a "pick up" basketball game, McDaniel issued the 5-10, 170-pounder an

invitation to try out for the track team. In just one year at Albany State, the Dawson, Ga. freshman has established himself among the ranks of premier high jumpers in the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference. Emerging as one of the top collegians in the high jump, Holloway has increased his height by six inches, going from a personal best of 6'2" in high school to consistent back-to-back leaps of 6'8". A relatively quiet, almost shy person, Holloway cleared the 6'8" mark in the high jump at the 1982 Georgia State Track and Field Championships at Carrollton, bringing attention to his feat and marking him as one of the state's forces in the high jump event. Two weeks later and

this time to the surprise of no one, Pat skyed upward with another 6'8" jump at the SIAC Championships at Mills Stadium. Pumped up psychologically that day, he said, "Hey, I really felt a 7-foot jump." In fact, he was disappointed that he did not clear the bar at the 6'10" mark. "I was over at that height twice," Pat lamented, "once by as much as two inches; but each time my hand hit the bar after I cleared." According to his present coach Robert Cross, he could reach the seven-foot mark by continuing to work hard. "Patrick is an exceptional athlete who gets better as time passes by," Cross said. "With a little more hard work and determination, Holloway will be among the nation's best leapers. Holloway, who will be a sophomore in the fall,

says he expects to work on his strength and endurance this summer, especially in building up the leg strength in his lithe body. "Bruce (McDaniel) is also going to work with me on my technique and approach. My immediate goal is to take one step at a time," he added. "Of course, I'm anxious to clear 7-feet, but more important for me is to establish a pattern of consistency and improve on it." Track and field analysts are already predicting that Holloway will clear the seven-foot mark by next year. And if those sport observers' forecasts come true, Holloway will join other great Albany State seven-foot jumpers like McDaniel, Milton Baker, and Maurice Brown.

Hillside's Gym Has A New Name But The School Needs A New Gym

By Elson Armstrong
A number of Hillside High School supporters greeted the recent renaming of the school's gymnasium with mixed emotions. They applauded the honoring of HHS basketball coach, the late Carl "Bear" Easterling, by naming the old gym after him. After all, much of the school's fondest sports memories, many of them associated with the old gym, were etched by Easterling and his superior ability to turn raw athletic talent into finely tuned basketball teams, and make men of boys in the process. But many people believe that a better honor to Easterling, who coached Hillside sports for more than 20 years,

which has been adequate in recent years especially since the school's enrollment has been dropping. Enrollment has been dropping at Hillside, too, in recent years, but since the gym there seats only about 800 people at best, the structure has been extremely inadequate. To some extent the schools' divergent histories play a significant role in their closely related "gym problems". Hillside, for example, still attracts large crowds of fans, and often for big games, Hillside teams have to move to Durham High's gym, or to the facility at North Carolina Central University. And while Durham High's enrollment is mostly black, it seems to get much less fan support, mostly because, according to Bradshaw, blacks who went to Hillside and whose children attend Durham High, tend to support the former all-black school more than they do the former all-white school. Whites who attended Durham High, Bradshaw continued, mostly live in the county now, and their children attend county schools, and that's where their loyalties are. County schools, with their growing enrollments, have newer gyms that appear adequate to accommodate their needs for sometime to come. A possible solution to the problem of Hillside's gym, and some other school problems as well, is the merger of the two schools. But that idea generated such heated opposition a couple of years ago that it has apparently been dropped. Opposition stems from the belief that in most North Carolina cities where former all-white and former all-black schools have merged, the black schools are always submerged into oblivion. Staunch Hillside supporters are violently opposed to any discussion that could bring about the death of Hillside. So the problem appears to be how to get a new gym for Hillside, a more fitting memorial for Easterling, and to do that without killing Hillside. No one has any answers yet.

Analysis

would be to build a new gym and name it for the former coach. No one questions the fact that Hillside needs a new gym to replace the cramped, antiquated "room" that has housed many of the school's athletic and physical education programs since it was built in 1949. But a seemingly unbridgeable gulf separates the need from the reality. Dr. Cleveland Hammonds, Durham City Schools superintendent, says simply that there is no likelihood that Hillside will get money to build a new gym anytime during the foreseeable future. "We don't have enough money for capital improvements in the schools," Hammonds explained, "and the money we have will be spent to modernize school heating systems and make them more efficient, and to bring our classrooms up to snuff. I can understand the sentiment for new gyms, but they are low priority in our current budget."

Willie Bradshaw, Durham City Schools athletic director and a former Hillside coach, adds another facet of the problem: "... the location of Hillside prevents us from building a new gym there since the neighborhood around the school is fully developed. There is just no available space near the school." At Durham's other high school — Durham High — the gym is also 33 years old, but it seats about 3,000 persons

All-Star U.S. Team To Play In Angola

UNITED NATIONS — It was announced recently that a basketball team from the United States will travel to Angola in July and return in August. It will be the first time that such a contact has been made between the two countries which do not have diplomatic relations. The sports tour was initiated and developed by the Phelps-Stokes Fund and St. John's University. The college team will be an all-star team from the Big East Conference. It will be coached by Lou Carnesecca, one of the nation's top coaches. He became coach of St. John's in 1965 and is currently president of the International Federation of Basketball Coaches. The announcement of the trip was made recently at a press conference sponsored by the Organization of African Unity at the United Nations. The spokesman from the OAU said that this was the first contact of this kind between the two countries. Recent meetings between Chester Crocker, the U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Africa, and Paolo George, the Angolan Foreign Minister, have led to speculation that tensions between the two countries might be easing. Coach Carnesecca said, "sports have always been a great vehicle for the dissemination of good will. In sports, people give of themselves in an area where the returns are not readily visible. There is no doubt that both the Angolans and the Americans will gain tremendously from this situation. Victories and defeats are meaningless but the relationships and friendships developed can last forever." Dud Tongall, who became the first African player to star at an American university during his tenure at Fordham, told the audience "it will be really a great experience for the American athletes to go to Africa. There they can learn about the bad days in Angola and see what changes are taking place. It will be a great cultural experience for both the Angolans and the Americans. These

players may become the founders of a long relationship between the American and Angolan peoples." Richard Lapchick, director of the Southern Africa Program of the Phelps-Stokes Fund, is the Administrator for the tour. He said, "it is a propitious time to have a sports exchange with Angola. Sport is the broadest cultural common denominator in most societies. Everyone remembers how the simple exchange of ping-pong teams in 1972 between the United States and the People's Republic of China electrified both countries and led to substantially reduced tensions. The time was right for that exchange and we believe it is right now for the U.S.-Angola exchange in view of the Chester Crocker-Paolo George meetings. We hope that 'dunk diplomacy' will have the same impact as 'ping-pong diplomacy'. Lapchick and Carmine Calzonetti, assistant to the athletic director at St. John's, have been working on the project for almost two years. Calzonetti noted that "it is a dream come true to realize that a series of sports events might bring our nations and peoples together." The team includes Billy Goodwin and Jeff Allen of St. John's, Vern Giscombe and Norm Bailey of the University of Connecticut, Tony Bruin of Syracuse, Steve Beatty of the University of Pittsburgh, Carl Hill of Providence, Frank Dobbs of Villanova, Maftin Clark of Boston College and Sir John Collins of Seton Hall. Financing for the tour has been provided by the following corporations: Gulf Oil, Texaco, Getty Oil, Bankers Trust, Chase Manhattan Bank, Carnation Seafood, Lockheed-Georgia and Adidas. The team will leave on July 24 after a brief training period. It will return on August 9 after playing a total of 7 games in a tournament with two Angolan teams and the Senegalese National squad. The teams and coaches will also give a series of clinics for aspiring Angolan players.



Ms. Stringer To Coach Festival East Team

Jimmy Loopert, supervisor of special projects at the Miller Brewing Company (left), chats with Ms. Vivian Stringer, head basketball coach at Cheyney State (Pa.) and Tom Bynum, head trainer at North Carolina A&T State University (right). Ms. Stringer will coach the East team at the National Sports Festival and Bynum will work with the track and field team at the Festival. The National Sports Festival will be held July 23-31 in Indianapolis, Indiana. Miller High Life is one of the co-sponsors of the Festival.