

Behind The Play In Sports

BY DON DE LEIGHUR

NEW YORK — The sports scene for 1946 looks as the most momentous as regards the Negro since 1941 when we first projected a world heavyweight champion on the horizon in the person of Jack Johnson. The days of the world's greatest boxing or not, will be on the Negro this spring and summer mainly because Negro athletes will occupy the spotlight.

Already the wheels have started turning to wheel the first big Negro subject on the scene at the proposal of Jackie Robinson and Louie John Wright, who by the time you read this, will be going through their first paces as full-fledged aspirants for places on minor league teams in organized baseball down at Daytona Beach, Fla.

Then along will come June with its heavyweight championship fight here in New York involving a world idol — Joe Louis, and Billy Conn.

June 28 and 29 will focus the spotlight on San Antonio, Texas, where for the first time in history, Negroes will be given the permission to compete in a National AAU outdoor track and field championship on a basis of equality in a Deep South.

Baseball Has Its Role

Meanwhile, Negro Baseball, which in spite of being the product of Jackie Robinson and a John Wright, will be launching another season in its series of seasons, and the eyes of the baseball and other sports worlds will be on it as never before to see if there are other Robinsons and Wrights waiting in the wings for good candidates for minor and major league deals.

Perhaps, I am inclined to say that Negro Baseball, as projected by Robinson and Wright in spite of itself and clarification is undoubtedly due on that point. What I am pointing out is the inability of organized Negro baseball to see the glorious possibilities it has in being the source of players who can be given the chance to get into the big show.

The bitter opposition over the years by some of the operators in Negro Baseball to the advancement of their players from the strictly racial moulds, in which they are born, has played not a small part in the failure of other major league owners and officials to follow the example set by Branch Rickey of the Dodgers in signing up Robinson and Wright. Negro Baseball must open its eyes and be responsible for the transfer, sale or entry of future Negro players into the Big Leagues.

There is no doubt that Negro Baseball faces its most prosperous year in 1946. A glance at what is going on among the white major and minor league clubs will furnish a clue as to what can be expected at the box office for Negro baseball attractions. If the season's prospects will only simulate Negro opportunities to take a different view of the situation and of their role in it, 1946 will be a milestone year in the history of the Negro in professional sports.

The Big Fight

Louis vs. Conn marks the return of the Big Boys to the boxing scene. For the duration of the war, the sports world has been awaiting this one fight. It is the ultimate of ring entertainment and the charge for pride on the part of the race with which he is identified.

Predictions are already being made on every side as to the outcome. Few doubt that Louis will deposit Conn in the Land of Nod as he has done in most of his other fights, especially in return encounters.

What is outstanding about this fight, however, is the spectacle of a 31 year old Louis engaging in what may be the swan song of his spectacular career. There are some who think that Louis may get enough money out of this fight, plus huge sums from investment programs and other deals being cooked up by Mike Jacobs to be in a position to quit the ring for good with the title or make a defense of his crown but once a year until he is ready to renounce it. Whatever turns out, the fact remains, however, that Louis and Conn, a Negro and a white fighter, will make history in 1946.

AAU Has Its Troubles

The AAU Championship in Texas are involved in a nationwide controversy over whether Negroes of northern cities should go South to compete in face of the record of segregation and discrimination Down There to which their people have been subjected ever since the Union was formed.

Those who favor participation point out that to close a door newly opened without entering it is bad politics and that to run away from a battle is cowardice.

Those for a boycott of the meet advance the excuse that it has already been proven that Negroes can run and jump and that no purpose will be served by our top runners and jumpers going South to show their talents to white southerners who have never seen Negro stars compete against whites.

By June, the matter will be settled one way or the other. Mean-

BEATING THE GUN

BY ALVIN MOSES

NEW YORK (ANP) — Two weeks to face the recent boxing show at the Golden Gate arena was predicted that Harlem fans would savor the Harry Wiley-Acosta show staged under the franchise of the Sportsman A. C. My assistant pointed back to me that some 2,000 fans turned out to see sensational bouts at the Youngstown, Ohio, heavyweight contender, put the smile on rugged Billy Frazee, Philly.

The 194 of the second canto of a scheduled 10 rounder. The rest of the card was filled with action and fans enjoyed the first pre-set of bouts in the Golden Gate arena since April, six years ago.

This edition will always be in Harry Wiley's corner. Soldier, unionism and sportsman, he has the background to bring to fans that type of class fight fans will shell out the old dough-boys to watch. Now that you are clicking on all fours Harry, you add your ass to go right on out there and give the Jacobs crowd, St. Nick, Bway arena, et al, a real run for their professional money.

THE MELTING POT

Elmore Harris, one of the finest athletes ever to come out of the South (Morgan College) shapes up like did the late lamented Johnny Brown when Brown was the world's most famous runner at 100 yards for 1,000 yards. Along the backyard which I call "Elmore's Backyard" (1325 S. Street and 7th Avenue to 15th and 7th) athletes and men who go to their sports in a big way are bemoaning the mysterious death of their high jumper who ever lived, while a board ship "Carney" made Adolph Hitler's trunk-face turn out in the 1936 Olympic games when the won a 6 foot 7 3/8 in. leap against the world's best. This sounds very similar to me, Brown, et al. strike you? Promoter Larry Atkins, the Mike Jacobs of Cleveland, is prepared to offer the loser of the Joe Louis-Conn shindig \$100,000 for an August engagement against the winner of the proposed Jimmy Byrnes-Jersey Jones. Walcott fight which has that neck-of-the-woman all about.

Had a visit from George "Rotation Slim" Houston, rated by me as the greatest Negro pocket-billiardist alive. "Slim" wishes his many New York friends to know that he is well and hearty, and doing all right with his popular Philly billiard emporium. The fastest

Southport Team Eligible For Tourney

SOUTHPORT, N. C. — The boys' basketball team of the training school is eligible for first rating in the tri-county tournament to be held at Whitville, which is composed of Brunswick, New Hanover and Bladen counties. The team has won 7 out of 10 games to date. They defeated Rocky Mount last week by score, 24-8.

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Ill. High School In Win Column

Benton, Ill. (ANP) — The all-Negro Douglas High school basketball team of Mounds, Ill., staged the biggest upset in the Illinois P. C. P. basketball championship tournament here Thursday night as defeating Wats Frankfort, an all-white team, by 55 to 51. The Frankfort quintet had been rated the second best prep team in the state by the Associated Press.

RALEIGH TIGERS SET TO MEET DATE

RALEIGH — The Raleigh Tigers are scheduled to meet the Blue Devils of the Raleigh Training School on March 27th as the date of their training period, locally, unless earlier playing dates are arranged. The announcement was made Thursday night at the local club held its second meeting of the year. Although at the present more than thirty players have stated their intention of trying out for the club, the local management is still trying to land a galaxy of hard-bitten ball players, including carefully efficient battery men. Among the names to contact by the local office were Johnson, heavy hitting catcher; Rudolph Als, red Waverly Bullock, outfielder; Little Bear Unstead, infielder; outfielder and Cozenza Davis, lanky first baseman, shortstop.



Joe Louis visits with Branch Rickey, Bell Gaddy and Gordon Heath. (ANP)

Chalky Wright Gets Booming Nod

More Than 10,000 Fans Turn Out For Great Disappointment

By HARRY LEVETTE

Los Angeles (ANP) — Displeased Chalky Wright fans were loud in their accusations that the veteran boxer San Bernardino had not done his best against Enrique Bolanos at the Olympic auditorium last week.

Chalky, veteran of 18 ring seasons, managed to lose an unanimous decision to Enrique Bolanos at the Olympic last Tuesday by turning in a very listless fight.

His cleverness and hard right hand being legend, many fans dug up recollections of Chalky's mysterious one-round K. O. at the hands of Henry Armstrong several years ago before Hank became triple champ.

Just last year, Wright won from Bolanos very handily. Last week, more than 10,000 came to see the same Wright catch punches with his gloves and only halfhearted to lose. Still others said that when the bout was a banker, it would be one of those things.

Bolanos was ready. From the word go, he went about the business of winning an easy fight on points. Missing much of the time, he nevertheless connected with enough blows to have a big edge at the end.

Wright fought hardly moving out of his track. In the fifth he came across with a little action—

hard rights and lefts to the head and body—and again in the seventh; but Bolanos was un-ruffled. Enrique weighed 134; Wright 135 pounds of "business" pugilist say fans.

A FRIEND AT COURT

By William Henry Huff for ANP

Did I rather have a friend at court Than gold stacked up on gold? A friend will take a good report And speak in language bold. When others by their cunning try To shelve my urgent cause; That is the only reason why In picking friends I pause.

Being 1945 collections of used kitchen fats made up about one-tenth of all this country's production of inedible tallow and grease.

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never fail to re-unite the separated, cause happy marriages, overcome enemies, rivals, lovers' quarrels, evil habits, stumbling blocks, and bad luck of all kinds. I lift you out of sorrow and trouble and start you on the path of happiness and prosperity. There is no heart sad or home so dreary that I cannot bring sunshine into it. In fact no matter what may be your hope, fear or ambition, I guarantee to tell it all before you utter a word by me, and after I am finished, if you are not entirely satisfied and if I do not faithfully fulfill every claim I make, then you pay me not a cent.

IN STUDIO TRAILER AT HUNTER WALL SERVICE STATION 1 Block from Raleigh City Limits, on Rocky Mount Highway, Rt. 64, Opposite Longview Gardens, look for Trailer and Hand Signs. Readings Daily and Sundays — Separate Room for Colored. Licensed Reader — First Time In Your County

ALLEN U. BOWS TO BRONCOS

BY JOHNNY BUTLER

FAYETTEVILLE — Fayetteville State Teachers College speedily pronounced Bronco coach, promoter and player's outboard Yellow Jacket, Alvin U. Bowers, February 23, as the Fayetteville coach and player on an all-time basketball team.

Each year, each school with 23 to 25 boys for the Bronco, Bowers and Coach W. A. Gaines first stringers play only a minute of the game, but each time the strings would stop to rest, Bowers would get up to mark the strings and get into the game. Each stringer put on a freezing act with four minutes still remaining. Allen never had a chance to place their hands on the ball again. Rubin was high score for Allen with 9 points.

Joe Powell, prominent Wilmingtonian, who has been elected vice president of the Carolina Semipro Negro Baseball League, at the recent meeting in Durham, Mr. Powell is operator of Hillcrest Cafe, Wilmington, and owner of the Wilmington Red Sox. He says the league season begins in Wilmington on or about May 15, but that exhibition games will get underway as early as April 14, with many outstanding teams appearing in Wilmington.

Mr. Powell wishes only persons who think he can make the league team to come out next Thursday night at Hillcrest community center, where plans for spring practice will be discussed.

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ASSETS	LIABILITIES
Cash	Policy Reserves Required by Law
Bonds and Stock	Other Policy Reserves
Loans to Policyholders on this Company's Policies	Policy Claims Incurred but not reported
Mortgage Loans (including \$39,465.52 F.I.A.)	Employees' Retirement Fund
Real Estate (including Home Office Building)	Dividends to Policyholders
Interest and Rents Due and Accrued	Reserve for Taxes
Net Uncollected Premiums Due and Deferred	Reserved for Real Estate Fund
All Other Admitted Assets	Other Liabilities
TOTAL ADMITTED ASSETS	General Voluntary Reserves and Surplus
\$14,430,144.97	1,684,161.33
	TOTAL LIABILITIES, CONTINGENCY FUNDS, SURPLUS
	\$14,430,144.97

CONSISTENT PROGRESS

During the year just closed, the assets of the company rose to \$14,430,144.97, as against \$11,880,684.76 at the close of the preceding year—a gain of \$2,549,460.21. Surplus and general voluntary reserves stood at \$1,684,161.33, including the 1944 amount

by \$393,780.37. This figure lends added security to statutory policy reserves in the sum of \$11,213,109.81 as required by law. On December 31, 1945, insurance in force totalled \$100,547,410.00 as compared to \$89,565,841 at the end of 1944—a gain of \$10,881,569.00.

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minutes to go and both teams tied. The outstanding players for the Teachers were Wilfron, Dave Ford, and Vines. Outstanding play was shown by Wilfron and Coleman. However both teams played well. For Teachers the best play was by a N. C. team this season. They held the State title and will take part in the Annual Colored Intercollegiate Athletic Association Events. The teams defeated by the Teachers are Johnson C. Smith, St. Augustine's, Shaw University and N. C. State College for Negroes.

One city that helped VA solve its problem of getting office space was Muskogee, Okla. Citizens bought an office building and gave it to Veterans Administration outright. The purchase was made through an approved bond issue.

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