Durham Eagles Off To A Good Start

Hard Hitting Eagles Take Two Conference Games

DURHAM — The Durham Eagles have come through their first two Carolina Semi-Pro League games successfully. They went to Columbia, S. C. last week and won from the Columbia All-Stars 6-5, and returned to Durham Athletic Park Wednesday night May 15, to trounce the Wilmington Red Sox 8-1.

Many attractions were featured at this first league game in Durham. President L. E. Austin of the Carolina League was present to speak and to toss out the first ball. He also introduced League Sec'y C. M. Winchester and all of the players of both teams. The Hillside High School band played, and lucky ladies were given free nylon hose.

The stands were packed for this first Negro League game ever to be played in Durham Athletic Park. Pitcher Lefty Jenkins held the Red Sox to four hits as Prince's wild throw from third to first base accounted for the only run for the visitors. The fireworks started in the third inning when Mann, Bill Barbee and Lum Barbee crossed the plate behind their own batting and that of Roosevelt Ashford.

The eighth inning was another big one for the home team. Five runs came in as a result of clean hits as well as errors in the Wilmington infield.

Batteries: D. Green, Baham and Roney; for Durham Jenkins, Ashford, Cameron. Umpires: Johnson and Henderson.

Max Schmeling Jailed

NEW YORK (CNS) — According to a Hamburg radio report, a British tribunal has sentenced the boxerful Max Schmeling to three months in prison and fined him 10,000 marks (about 1,000 dollars) for building a house in defiance of authorities.

The former boxing champion has been ordered to halt construction of the house, but he had resumed two months later despite the warning.

—V—

Louis Is 22 Years Old

POMPTON LAKES (CNS) — Joe Louis celebrated his thirty-second birthday training to defend his title, June nineteenth. Before a large crowd at his training camp Joe did four fast rounds. Lanky Al Hoseman getting one of the Champion's heavy punches was barely banging on at the end of three minutes. Jimmy Bill, Park Daniels and George Fitch all went a round with the Brown Bomber.

THOSE gloved fists of Champion Joe Louis pack plenty of wallop. That's the verdict of gagster Joe Laurie, Jr., of "Can You Top This?" fame (NBC, Saturday, 9:30 p.m. EDST) as he gingerly feels the Brown Bomber's mighty mitts during a recent visit to his training camp at Pompton Lakes, N. J. Louis, who fights Billy Conn in the Yankee Stadium, June 19, boxed a few rounds while Laurie served as the second. Said Laurie, "On second thought, I'm so small, you'd better call me a split second!"

BEATING THE GUN

BY ALVIN MOSES

MELTING POT

NEW YORK (ANP) — THE BLACK YANKEES, baseball club of the Negro National league, must pick up or the 1946 season will be a mighty disasterous one for them from a fans-point-of-view if not from a financial one. Something is wrong with the team spirit as well as the calibre of the players themselves. The rich local field deserves two high class colored ball clubs to keep pace with the N. Y. Yankees, Dodgers and N. Y. Giants. Pompez's Cubans are a colorful club, full of dash and fire and each season there is an influx of new blood.

"Soldier boy" Semler has a parlay everything on a good club or fine games in which his outfit is part of the attraction, playing to the smallest crowds. We are not pulling any punches in this brief epistle to owner Semler for letters are beginning to pour in at this early part of the season asking for a campaign for a new club-roster, also eliminating of the word "Black" in the Yankee setup. One letter writer says in the later connection: Why in blazes must they be known as the 'Black Yankees'. Is it because Bill (Bojangles) Robinson was the pet of the Yankee club of the American league? or is it because we just feel the urke to name everything black that is composed of colored personnel? — Somehow, I just don't get it, all and I know at least a hundred neighbors in my town who feel the same way. Fight against this thing, Alvin, like I know you can." Walter Beckett, Newark.

OPENLY, AND NOT IN A WHISPER, certain better (colored) are calling the recent (Monday, May 6) Cecil Hudson-Tommy Bell fight — a phony. Now, I've seen Bell, Youngstown, O., dogger, in there with Jake (one man riot squad) LaMotta and on the strength of Bell's fight against the Italian-Coughie Ed say the Hudson-Bell fight looked queer. But, one never knows, does one? Bell has earned a great reputation based on straight and honest efforts. I would be the last one to run a red herring across such a record.

HOMER GILLS, but recently an active coast Guardsman in the service of Uncle Sam, was a big gun in New York University's annexation of the Metropolitan Intercollegiate Athletic Association outdoor track and field championships, held on Thursday, May 9, at Van Cortlandt Park Stadium, Bronx. Coach Fred Von Elling of NYU had banked heavily on the colored twins, Maurice and Stanton Callender, but the two kids retired from track competition for the balance of the '46 season. Thus the importance of Gills' shot in taking both the 100 and 220 sprint events, assumed important proportions in NYU's final total of 93 points. In an exhibition 440 yard race, that thrilling quarter miler Elmore Harris, Shore Athletic Club of N. J., spun around the saucer in 49.8 to lead Hal Bogow (white) and the veteran star Jimmy Herbert, Grand Street Boys Club, by two and five yards respectively. Milford Parker, placed behind Fordham's Frank Leary in the college quarter mile raced in the fast time of 0:50.1 — Gills, was timed for the century in 10.1 and the furlong in mediocre time.

Dr. Reginald Weir, graduate of CCNY (City College of New York, class of '31), was among the important guests who attended the "Celebration of 100 years of Sports at City College," in addition to the special tribute to retiree Prof. Herbert Hollon, for 40 years a faculty member there, on Friday night, May 10 — Weir was once national Negro tennis champion.

"CONN-LOUIS LAMBLION GATE ?"

Jack Dempsey tells Mike Joe Louis, even less, and Mike Jacobs prefight prediction of a four-million-dollar gate (gross of course) have a true ring. For the sake of Joe Louis, a fighting champion second to none in boxing's long history, I pray that he pockets enough (when Lex people finish with him) to lay aside a comfortable sume as against his day of retirement. And while on the Louis subject, what in tarnation is wrong about him receiving $18,000 a year for use of his name in the forthcoming west 125th Street restaurant deal? Braddock, Jack Dempsey and other champions have received (and still are) large sums for this modern arrangement between sponsors and titleholders in all of the sport fields, so what?

A well known Broadway columnist of a N. Y. Daily newspaper stated the aforementioned a few days back and we haven't had chance to comment upon it up to now.

MEMORY DEPARTMENT

Across the battlements of time, in the ageless halls of Valhalla, we pause to send a hearty hello to our former operative GORDON CROQUES, great fellow, beloved by fellow men and women. And, kindly St. Peter, remember me to SAM McVEA, Jamaican Kid, Johnny Borican, Benie (DeWitt Clinton) Poser to name but a few mates of ours.

—V—

PEEPING AT THE RALEIGH TIGERS

RALEIGH — The Raleigh Tigers made its first trip last week when they visited Darlington, S. C. on Thursday and Winston-Salem on Friday night. At the Darlington spot, the locals romped to a 3 to 2 victory while Jimmy Mack, diminutive right hander, shackled the Darlington Blue Sox. Haggie Smith, Tiger's shortstop hit for the circuit during the melee. Rain caused a postponement at Winston-Salem where the Pond Giants were to be played.

Saturday evening the Pond Giants proceeded to disappoint the local fans for the second successive Saturday. Local mongols are not playing this club in Raleigh for quite a long time, out of respect to the faithful fans.

Sunday, May 19, the locals journeyed to Hamlet. At that point, the Hamlet Red Sox administered a timely spanking by the score of 5 to 4.

This week end the Tigers are planning to play the Zulu Giants at Chavis Park at 4:00 P. M. The Zulu Giants are always a feature with Chatmey, elongated eight pounder slated for the starting assignment.

Sunday morning the Hillside Cubs, once known as the Daisy Dukes, will come to Raleigh for the first time. Monday evening the two clubs play their last game of the season at 3:00 P. M.

Monday night at 8:15 the Tigers jump to Greensboro to play the A. and T. Bulldogs.

Tuesday and Wednesday, South Carolinas' own Columbia All Stars here on their first visit to the city.

May 30, the Tigers go to Hartsville, S. C. for the Decoration Day. In an effort to present a hustling ball club, Owner Arthur Dove is planning to have two hard hitting outfielders ready for regular play by June 1st. Cecil Perkins and James Brown are the heavy hitters now being sought.

—V—

And His holy spirit, the only power victorious over death, He wants all men everywhere to enjoy, when nothing else is left.

SHORT SPORTS By John M. Lee

AN ITEM OR TWO ABOUT A SPORT OR TWO

NEW YORK — The fight hungry fans hereabout are growing restless under the strain of waiting for the Louis-Conn brawl to come off, and lately they have taken to speculating their imaginations while trying to figure out possible endings for the big-fest. Most of the talk indicates that Jolting Joe will dust Conn off early in the first session and call it a night. Recent pictures of the two fighters give Louis all the best of it. Hardly is rumored of all fat and it has a healthy firmness. His arms are big and powerful, and they look like two pistons, sharp and precise, ready to shoot into action with unerring skill.

Conn, at least in his picture, looks to be trimmed down enough, but there is a suggestion of softness about his body. On the strength of the pictures recently published, Louis is the winner and still champion. The impatient, and unpredictable fight fans, however, are not taking the argument of any set of pictures as the final authority. They're betting on Joe to win by a knockout, but they're not letting that stop them from thinking and talking about a win by Conn.

Billy, some of them say, can be clever about keeping out of range, and consequently might be able to go the full distance. In answer to the observation that going the distance will not necessarily mean taking over the championship belt, the talkers answer back by saying that if Conn can go the distance, it will mean the Joe has slipped and will have given a bad enough performance to earn the scowl of the judges.

Some of the more pessimistic souls point out the possibility of Conn digging up a boy-maker from somewhere and tucking Joe in peaceful after tagging him up by dancing around him for a few rounds. The boys laugh that one off even though it is pointed out to them that Joe can be had.

Occasionally you hear some mention of a stand-off, with caution on the part of both boys calling the play. Finally everybody agrees that there won't be a draw in this battle, and that fan and away Joe Louis is the gladiator. Then they start all over again speculating. By the time the fight really comes off, everybody will be mad, but they won't stop them from filing into the ring rounds and really finding out — it comes out.

A REAL CHAMPION

Bill Robinson, the corporal (Bojangles) of the dancing feet who celebrated sixty years in show business a few weeks back gets this sports channel because of his ability to beat all comers running backward. Bill who is not alone the kind of sweet personality you want to bring to your bosom is never idle in retirement, and is willing to accept top dancer. Because he has been able to continue as the world's greatest exponent of happy, dancing feet, for well over half century, he probably has earned the right to be labelled a great athlete independent of his unique dancing ability. Bojangles has his own way about him, and he never has secured of being a conformist, but he has demonstrated on more than one occasion that he does have a charitable heart. If there is still one I'll bet he would readily agree to put in one of his reverse runs for the benefit of the Negro College fund. It certainly would be worth trying, and it would bring in a few needed plus the added advantage of turning the spotlight on the college fund drive which isn't as generally known about as some of us may think.

A NEW WHITE HOPE

There has been a lot of wrong guessing as to the purpose of Jack Dempsey's new syndicate in the boxing field. Of course, we all know that it is primarily to make some money for Jack and his backers, and there is a report that Jack has idealistically set out to break Uncle Mike Jacob's stranglehold on the game so that some new blood can be infused. Whatever it may be, this one thing is certain, the Manassa Mauler has never given up his hope that a new white hope will be found who will be able to hang on to the title and not go letting some big, brown pleasingly come along and knock it off his lily-white crown. Jack has never been too fond of the Negro heavies, and at one time he was so eager to see Joe Louis dethroned, he would predict that any white second rater could whip him — IF Dempsey has always considered Louis as a sort of accident that happened when everybody wasn't looking. It will harden his arteries for keeps when Joe knocks over Conn next month and notifies the world. Dempsey included, that he is the best who ever did it, and that he intends to remain the best until he gets tired of it all and retires undefeated. The only way to put a new white hope on top is to produce a better man than the guy who now sits on the throne. Wishful thinking won't do it.

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GREENVILLE, S. C. — Region Six which is composed of North Carolina, Georgia, South Carolina and Florida is sponsoring a Camp and Aquatic School for Negro Professional and Volunteer Scouters, at Camp Stanley A. Harris, May 26 to June 1, at Greenville, S. C. The aquatic school is the first ever to be sponsored by the National Council of the Boy Scouts of America for Negroes. The aquatic school will be directed by Captain Fred C. Mills, National Health Director of Scouting Services. He will be assisted by H. H. Hayshert, Assistant Director of Health and Safety and Fred Maise, Field Executive, Norfolk, Va. The Camp School will be directed by Wm. T. Lawrence, National Director Scouting Activities. Benj. Mitchell will represent the Oconee Service Council at the Camp School. He will also serve as the assistant Camp Director at Camp Whispering Pines July 8 to August 4th.

Buddy Johnson And Boys Claim Good Baseball Team

NEW YORK — Johnson's Buddies, the new baseball team recently formed by Lionel Hampton's orchestra, are now ready to take on any and all comers in their quest for the world championship of the major leagues.

During their engagement at the Apollo Theater this past week, the Johnson nine, anchored by their collective batting eyes and growing arm, by working out at early morning practice sessions.

Coach Joe Bess, the team's road manager, hopes to line up a full slate of games to be played on New York diamonds, during the Johnson aggregation's appearance at the Savoy Ballroom in Harlem, which gets underway May 31. Buddy has invited Jackie Robinson, star shortstop of the Montreal Royals, in the International League, to be the team's temporary coach and hopes to have Jackie toss out the first ball when the minions make their New York bow.

Maestro Johnson himself will be unable to play on the team. His skillful piano-playing hands have been insured for $100,000 for the past several years by a national insurance company. Doctor Bess recently notified Buddy that any injuries he sustaining to his hands in playing baseball would not be covered by his policy.

After trounching all local challengers, which they feel sure they will do, Johnson's Buddies would like to cross bats with the Mary Jones nine, presently recognized as diamond champs of the band business. The Johnson crew hope to face the James boys, one of the local ball packs in American farms is using about nine more tractors than in 1945.

The AAA, which recently passed its thirteenth birthday, now officially titled Production and Marketing Administration.

championship game, all proceeds from which would be turned over to worthy charities.

—V—

Savannah NAACP Youth Begins Movement To Boycott Ball Park

SAVANNAH, Ga. — The NAACP Youth Council closed its activities for Youth Week at a mass meeting attended by more than one thousand people here last week.

A resolution adopted by the body set in motion a city-wide effort to boycott the Savannah Baseball Club as a result of its discriminatory action against Jackie Robinson of the Montrealers.

The resolution declared the action of the Savannah Baseball Club, and the city council as a partner, to be against not just two Negro ball players, but against the entire Negro population; that the club did not deserve the support of Negro fans and all Savannah Negroes were urged to refrain from attending games at the Municipal Stadium.

—V—

Blue mold, which appeared in just one of the 13 Turkish tobacco beds in North Carolina last year, has not been reported in 1946 plant beds.

BOOTLEG CONCTION DANGEROUS DRINK, REPORT

JACKSON, Miss. (ANP) — A drink made from "ange," a derivative of denatured alcohol, and coca-cola or pepsi-cola seven is flourishing here, it was reported last week. The mixture, which produces a crazy type of drunkenness, is extremely dangerous, authorities declare, and say it may be the basis for an "excursion of crime."

—V—

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