

# ROBINSON'S ALL-STAR PERFORMANCE CERTAIN



## Beating The Gun

BY AL MOSES

NEW YORK (ANP) — Watching a clocksmith work like Jackie Robinson, a 100 percent improved batter since George Sisler polished him up, one naturally gets into discussions on the swatting prowess of the D-dog and Larry Doby.

Doby is "Mr. Powerhouse" the sort of pulverizing hitter that was the late Josh Gibson. Today Luke (Luscious) Easter, of the Padres of San Diego, Pacific Coast League WRIST ACTION SUPERB

We would like to see a film on Doby after he swatted those two long blows that made the sport headlines this season. I can imagine that the concentration of back, arm and shoulder muscles for a 400-foot smash on his part might be like to strongman Tom Davis of the 136th Street YMCA when lifting prodigious weights. It is amazing how wrist hitters, past and present, of the D-by type power a horsehide out of this world.

Baseball men who watch the climb of this modest ex-Newark Eagle of Effie Manley's lighter moments did she ever have any) with her NNL outfit, say he will be a consistent 300 hitter of the Paul Waner type in less than two seasons — but that may never come.

We say this despite the fact that Larry is our friend about whom we are enthusiastically scribbling a tale-or-so as you readers well know. The scientific hitters of the Jackie Robinson type pose a reflective picture that links boxing and baseball fans closely together. Fight fans of course divided into two schools, the one who thrills to the sharpshooters Jackie Delaney, Ray Robinson type and the other that goes over the Paul Berhan-back-Jake Lablota (blom-cha-down) breed.

The Jack Wilson, Enos Slaughter, Stan Musial, Ralph Kiner, Hank Greenberg, Zack Wheat, Harry Hellman fence busters are so rarely on speaking terms with the Willie Keller, Ed Stanky, Jackie Robinson, Lou Boudreau, Hal Chase, Beauty Bancroft, Johnny Evers, Buck Herzog, George Burns type of delicate-tooth swingers who fashion more singles and doubles than they do triples and round-trippers. The thrill of Doby at bat is something that creates awe and brings the "John Henry legend to thought, Jackie Robinson at bat is a page out of the fiery "Three Musketeers" or even modern day Douglas Fairbanks and Errol Flynn's movie showing them leaping from deck-to-deck of some plastic ship with a raking sword that fairly shrieks — "touche-touche-touche."

**NEVER SHOULD HAVE HAPPENED**

With Ezzard Charles the Heavyweight champion and Walcott title bout a memory, we are thinking back to an all-colored World Heavyweight championship contest that never should have received official sanction.

**BOUDREAU MAKES CLEVELAND TICK**

The resurgence of Bill Veck's Cleveland Indians as we near the July 4th "Gypsy-guessing" deadline brings us around to a discussion of a man, Lou Boudreau, Cleveland's playing-manager, often called by writers a "class guy."

No we cannot agree with that statement in its entirety as far as Boudreau is concerned. The Cleveland "front office" and we do mean President Bill Veck, has not even eye-to-eye with the debonair Frenchman in this or other baseball seasons. But all baseball men agree on one thing: Lou Boudreau does an honest and extremely creditable job on the diamond whether as shortstop where he has few equals around as catcher, first or third baseman and, of course, as a fast-rate field thinker for the whole

## CHARLES SECOND NEGRO TO WEAR DIAMOND BELT

CHICAGO (ANP) — The huge diamond-studded world heavyweight championship belt once worn by such giants as Jack Johnson and John L. Sullivan, fitted loosely around the slender hips of Ezzard Charles, 15th man to win the title.

The 181-pound boss of the heavy division accepted the Police Gazette jewelry with genuine modesty, following its presentation at the Palmer house by Commissioner Abe J. Greene of the National Boxing Association, in the presence of the nation's top flight boxing writers.

The Great John L. was the first titlist to wrap the silver and gold cord-like belt around his frame, following his Sullivan-Kilrain fight in Richburg, Miss., in 1889. Gazette world heavyweight belts were also worn by Corbett, Fitzsimmons, Jeffries, Johnson and Wildard.

The award was discontinued during the first World War and not revived until the disputed decision following the first Walcott-Louis fight.

H. H. Boswell, publisher of the Police Gazette, previously recognized Louis as champion and following the fight presented the belt to Walcott, viewed by the Gazette as "new champion."

**NOT WANTED**

On June 19, the Massachusetts State Boxing commission created quite a stir in fight circles when it announced the indefinite suspension of Welterweight champion Ray Robinson and his manager George Gainsford for failure to cooperate with the Texas Boxing commission merely said for "failure to fulfill contract."

**QUESTION DELUGE**

Dear Al Moses:

Did Dick Norfolk, one of the greatest 175 pounders I ever saw, ever fight Arthur Pelley, the man who is alleged to have killed Luttery McCarthy, greatest of the "white hope" heavyweights who came along after Jack Johnson, toyed with Jim Jeffries? — Bobby Saunders, Hartford, Conn.

A. Yes. While it may not generally be known, Kid Norfolk was heavyweight champion of Panama. He won that title from none other than Arthur Pelley of Calgary, Canada, by knocking Pelley out in 13 heats. Norfolk spotted Pelley somewhere between 30 and 40 pounds, a feat as remarkable as Stanley Ketchel's was against Jack Johnson, Norfolk incidentally was not a native of Panama but of Baltimore. His Christian name was Willie Ward.

**DIDNT SAY SO — RED BARBER**

Over a national radio hook-up during the broadcast of the Dodge-Chicago Cubs baseball game on Sunday, June 19, the old redhead, "Red Barber," gave an entirely different version to Jackie Robinson's alleged salary demands next year upon Branch Rickey. Local writers and special-staff correspondents had Robby asking for a "gate cut" with a contract on a lucrative bonus plan. Said Red Barber:

"I had a long chat with Jackie Robinson in the dugout before the game and Jackie says he has talked with no one at all concerning his next season's salary demands. He feels that at the end of the present season that will be time enough to talk with Branch Rickey in this connection. I guess Rickey is satisfied with what he is getting for what he is paying this year, ave?"

**White Sox Manager Accused of Striking Youth In Ball Park**

CHICAGO (ANP) — Frank Lane, general manager of the Chicago White Sox baseball club, has been accused of striking a Negro youth whom he caught sneaking into the ball park with five white boys.

Lane was arrested June 14 on the complaint of Edward Wallace, 15, who charged him with assault and battery. Lane has denied striking the youth.

**REDS GIVE NEWCOMBE FIRST LOSS**

CINCINNATI (ANP) — Big Right-hander Don Newcombe, lost his first major league assignment last week against the Cincinnati Reds, the first team to fall victim to his fast ball. The Red won 4 to 3.

Newcombe gave up nine hits, two bases on balls, struck out one batter in 11 innings of pitching. Jackie Robinson continued to bat at a terrific pace, by hitting three for five, including a double, and scored once. Roy Campanella's double to right center field in the ninth drove in one run to put Newcombe back in the running and extended the game two extra innings.

Two home runs off Newcombe, one by First Baseman Ted Kluszowski in the second and another by the third by Center Fielder Harry Walker, proved to be his undoing. He is now credited with four wins and one loss.

## AT THE RINGSIDE

REFLECTIONS FROM A BIG FIGHT

During and after the heavy-weight championship fight between Ezzard Charles, one could not help but think of the utility and frustration of Jersey Joe Walcott's quest for the coveted title.

At the beginning of the fight most of the fans were rooting for Charles, but before it was over they sympathized with "old man" Walcott. After the first few rounds it was obvious that Walcott was fighting two opponents — Father Time and Ezzard Charles.

Old age took enough zip out of Walcott to make him good prey for Charles. Through much of the early part of the bout he was the aggressor but the new champion-to-be was too sharp that night. He did a bit of effective counter-punching and never gave Walcott a chance to do much damage.

Walcott in his bout was a man who had a sharp fighting brain, one that knew how to maneuver out of the way of punishing blows, how to lash out a punch at the right moment, a brain that was at home in the ring. In thinking matter one would call him the world's champion.

Unfortunately his body had fought its best fights years ago. It had passed its peak. The rubbery legs carried on because it was their job to hold up a tired body. Walcott fought a brainy battle but it was not enough.

Charles appeared as a left-down in champions after Joe Louis. He will probably make an adequate champion, but not a very colorful one. He will have to put a different kind of fight if he wants to capture the fans' imagination. A special interest at TITLE BOUT

As per usual Joe Louis received the biggest ovation from the crowd. He is assistant to the Illinois State Athletic commission physician, Dr. J. M. Houston. They were at the ringside, and also examined the

fighters before the bout.

All in all, Negroes had more to do with this match than any other big event in the nation's history. Joe Louis is director of boxing of the sportspersons, the International Boxing club. Both fighters were Negro. A number of the police officers on duty at the park were Negroes.

One of the members of the Illinois Athletic commission, which sanctioned the bout, is Ralph Metzger, the first member of his race to serve on this board.

The third man in the ring of the first bout was Bill Doby, which probably makes him the first Negro referee on a heavyweight championship card in modern boxing history. He refereed the bout between Joe Mottzelle and Walter Basler, two white boys.

And to top the promotion, all details of the evening were carried out on time. Most of the preliminary fights were uneven and dull. They demonstrated a kind of hopelessness the heavyweight division is in today when Louie is in some.

The preliminary bout attracting the most interest from sports writers and fans featured the best sparring partners from the two training camps — Gene Jones of Camden, N. J., from Charles' camp and Richard Hagan of Chicago from Walcott's camp. It ended in a draw.

Before the fight both men were considered two of the brightest looking young prospects in the ring. Jones had all but outfought Charles in sparring sessions and Hagan had trained with Walcott and Joe Louis.

Neither man, however, loosened up enough to demonstrate any of the fire he had shown in training sessions. Jones was a bit smothered but never threw any hard blows. Hagan, a man with explosive fists, was on the defensive most of the time.

## "Lost Colony" To Open Ninth Season Saturday Night

MANTEO, N. C. — The Lost Colony, Paul Green's internationally famous symphonic drama officially opens for its ninth season here in the Waterside Theatre on Saturday night at 8:15 o'clock.

On Friday night, eve of the official opening, a special full dress preview of the show will be presented to members of the North Carolina Press Association. A special full dress preview of various new and improved scenes along with the actors who make the show will be held on next Thursday night for the press photographers of this and other States.

Under the rigid direction of Samuel Selden, members of the cast have been rehearsing for The Lost Colony each day and night since early June. Director Selden has stated that he believes this will be the best trained cast to ever appear in the epic drama since its premiere here on Roanoke Island back in 1937.

Most of the actors having roles this year have played roles for more than just one season. They are so well versed that in an emergency many of the actors could act as stand-ins for other members of the cast.

On two recent visits here Paul Green who wrote the play has commented favorably on the progress that is being made for his ninth season premiere next Saturday. Green has changed the lines in the script for several of the cast members with minor speaking roles and he has added one very dramatic scene which will be shown as Act II gets underway.

General Manager John W. Parker is managing The Lost Colony for his second season. He has cut corners in operational expenses and directed one of the most varied pre-season public relations campaigns in the show's history. The corner cutting he has done will in no way lower the high standards and qualities that have made The Lost Colony outstanding.

## BANKHEAD HURLS 5-HITTER WINNING NO. 7

MONTREAL (ANP) — Dan Bankhead, loosely of the Memphis Red Sox and first Negro pitcher to be signed by a major league team in modern times, hurled a five-hitter for Montreal last week to shatter the Newark Bears, 12 to 0.

He struck out six men, gave up three bases on balls and aided his own cause by batting three for three. This was Bankhead's seventh win against one loss this season.

He was signed by the Brooklyn Dodgers from the Memphis team in 1947 and got a home run his first try at bat, although he lost the game for the Dodgers.

Sammy J. Brown, center fielder and former Cleveland Muckler, star, supported Bankhead by hitting one for four, scoring one run, and stealing two bases. The day previous against Newark he also batted one for four, scored two runs and stole two bases.

## 25,392 FANS PAY \$246,546 TO SEE TITLE BOUT

CHICAGO (ANP) — A crowd of 25,392 fans paid \$246,546 to see Ezzard Charles take the heavyweight championship in a 15-round championship bout with Jersey Joe Walcott last night.

Net gate was \$184,910 with radio and television receipts of about \$70,000. Each fighter received \$4,227.50 for his 25 percent of radio and television receipts.

There will be no rematch if the words of James D. Norris, a director of the International Boxing club, promoters of the fight can be believed. From fans' reaction a rematch would draw less money which means that Walcott will never be champion.

Mentioned as likely opponent for Charles' next defense are Joey Maxim, the American light heavyweight champion, and Lee Savold, who meets Bruce Woodcock in London for the British version of the heavyweight crown.

Publicity man Harry Mendel's hope to have the President of the United States at the ringside was shattered when President Truman sent him the following message:

"Dear Mr. Mendel: In reply to your telegram, it will be impossible for the President to attend the heavyweight championship fight in Chicago on June 22. Sincerely yours, Charles G. Ross, secretary to the President."

## FANCEE SPONSORS TENNIS MEET

The Florida A. and M. College announces a Tri-State Tennis Tournament to be held on the college tennis courts July 4-8 with five national champions participating. All clubs in Alabama, Georgia and Florida are invited to participate in this initial Tri-State Tourney according to Walter Austin, Fancee's Tennis Coach.

A series of exhibition matches will be played on the courts July 4 commencing at 10:00 A. M. The drawing for the tournament will be held in Lee Hall Auditorium July 3 at 8:00 P. M.

The several national tennis champion title holders who will participate in the tournament are The Peters Sisters, National Doubles Champions, of Tuskegee Institute, Geo. Stewart, National Men's Singles Champion, of South Carolina State College, Althea Gibson, National Women Single Champion, of Florida A. and M. College, and Helen Mundy, National Girls Champion, of Florida A. and M. College. William Wiggins, Jr., of the Florida A. and M. College Demonstration High School, who is Florida High School Tennis Tournament Champion will head the Junior group.

## SILAS GREEN PLAYS IN RALEIGH

RALEIGH — The Charles G. Green, who set a background for the Negro Memorial Auditorium, Wednesday night.

Presented by W. P. Jones, its new owner and manager, Silas Green marked his 35th annual tour of the South and Southeastern states.

The Streetline, a dance routine of wide renown featured Elizabeth Jones and her chorus of Brown beauties, who set a background for the indelible laughmakers, Silas Green and his pal Liza.

This year's story of Silas Green and all of his money was new and different in many ways, yet it was the same lovable and laughable story of Silas' bawling rich and running into a hilarious and painful series of incidents in trying to keep it.

A new Slim was in the show this year and he was probably better than his predecessors.

The hit number of today as well as the typical music of the Silas Green Show were given out by an eight piece band. The cast was somewhat smaller than in recent years.

## 'OLD GRANDAD' IN FINAL BOUT

Only a few of the thousands of fans stayed to see the final bout of the night — one between Al Smith and Johnny Wilson. There was a bout that made a wrestling match appear on the level.

No, the fight was not fixed or anything like that. It's a corny story but here it is:

In one corner is Al Smith of New York wearing a well worn, care about the trunk. If you thought Walcott was old, then you could say that this man could have been his father. He was balding in several spots and had a pot, and well he got to the other fellow — Johnny Wilson of Camden, N. J., a fine built, or bronze man with the age, reach, and every other advantage you want to name.

Just as the fans expected, young Wilson bombarded Smith all over the ring, even flooring "Old Grandad" in the second. Fans wondered who he even got up.

The third round revealed his secret. Young Wilson was so tired he could hardly hold up his gloves. Then grandad started his rally. He did not telegraph his punches, he announced them, but they landed. However, he was too tired to do too much damage.

Later on both men were hanging on to each other for rest when one zinged and the other seared and both tumbled to the canvas. So the "fight" went on for six tortuous rounds probably for the men as well as the spectators. The judges mercifully called it a draw.

Although it is believed that Walcott will retire, it is expected that old grandad Al Smith will continue to fight until he gets a crack at the title.

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## ROBBIE STILL LEADS IN ALL STAR POLL

MILWAUKEE (ANP) — Now in the midst of his best season in baseball, second baseman Jackie Robinson maintained his lead among National League players in the voting for the 1949 All Star 12-man team.

The 15th annual game will be played on the Dodgers' home grounds, Ebbets Field in Brooklyn July 29. Voting for all stars ends June 29.

Robinson has more than the next two men combined in the vote for second base honors with 592,294. With this vote he maintains a slight lead over Stan Musial, top vote getter last year in the poll. Musial, star outfielder of the St. Louis Cardinals, has 586,204 votes.

Both men are behind Ted Williams of the Boston Red Sox in the American League. The hometown outfielder leads all players with 643,229 votes.

Roy Campanella of the Dodgers remained close to Andy Semick of the Philadelphia Phillies in the close race for National League catcher. Campy has 371,604 votes to 339,858 for Semick.

Over in the American League Larry Doby remained in sixth place among outfielders, but lost ground in the voting. He has 319,628 votes. His failure to reach the top he had last year is probably keeping him from leading league ballots. Although he bats in the Cleveland Indians cleanup spot his batting average, batters around the 200 mark and his RBI total is not very high.

On the other hand Jackie Robinson leads the majors in batting and stolen bases. He leads his league in runs batted in, and is either tied for first or second in doubles and triples, and is near the top in runs scored.

## SOFTBALL

ADULT LEAGUE			
	W. L.	Pct.	
Elliott	2	0	1.000
Scott Park	3	1	.750
Eastside	2	1	.666
Edgewood	2	2	.500
Turner's	0	2	.000
State Street	0	2	.000

  

LEAGUE LEADERS		
BATTING		
	AB	Pct.
B.H. P.	7	1.000
Johnson, A.	4	1.000
Austin, P.	4	.750
Lee, Silas	3	.666
Pitts, N.	3	.666
Burton, H.	3	.666

  

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