

Negro Baseball Boycott May Ruin Southern Group

Boycott Protests Absence Of Race Players In Dixie

NEW ORLEANS—(ANP)—The statement last week by a top official of the Southern Association baseball organization that the association may fold unless more fans start coming to games, gives credence to a disclosure that a boycott of the league by Negroes has been highly effective.

The boycott, initiated last year without fanfare and publicity, is in protest to the absence of Negro players in the lineup of any of the eight clubs of the association, and Jim Crow seating. It began here when five prospective Negro players were dropped from the New Orleans Pelicans' roster before the season got under way. It has since spread as far as Atlanta, where an 80 per cent drop in Negro attendance at home games was reported.

The boycott is listed as unofficial. But there is nothing unofficial about the results. A recent tabulation of attendance figures shows a drastic 20 per cent drop so far this season, in contrast to a three per cent increase for the same period last year. The tally also shows that five teams have lost 67,992 in paid admissions. The remaining three clubs, league-leading Birmingham, second-place Memphis and fifth-place Little Rock have shown increased attendance. The reason for this, league officials stated, is that "more whites are attending

games." The league's attendance woes were further explained by Earl Mann, general manager of the Atlanta Crackers and Vincent Rizzo, general manager of the Pelicans Mann said:

"The entire Southern Association may have to fold unless more fans start coming to games."

Said Rizzo: "There is definitely a boycott but I don't want to comment on it further."

Clarence Laws, field secretary for the Louisiana branch of the NAACP, commented that the boycott has been about 95 per cent effective here.

When it first started here, club officials called a conference with Negro leaders in an effort to settle the dispute. But when it got under way, the baseball men found themselves confronted not only with the request for qualified Negroes on the teams, but with demands for integrated seating in the home stadium. The conference ended in a stalemate and Negroes quickly formulated a "stay-at-home" policy which has since spread to other association cities. It is reportedly spreading over Dixie.

So effective has been the boycott here, that at a recent Pelicans game, only four Negroes were counted in the audience.



Clowns Invade Charlotte's Griffith Park Next Week

CHARLOTTE—There'll be fun for everyone as well as one of the best baseball games available on Thursday night, June 7, when the nationally famous Indianapolis Clowns and New York Black Yankees come into Charlotte as they tour the nation in their barnstorming appearances. The game will be played at Griffith Park, starting at 8:00 o'clock.

The Clowns, as usual have their top stars in excellent shape, and are bound to please even the most enthusiastic fans. In addition there will be a hilarious diamond funshow headed by the ever-popular clown Ed Hamman, who has toured major and minor league parks all over the country.

ED Hamman gave up his personal appearance tour to take over as road manager of the Clowns, and adds to the amusement of audiences with his backhand throws from third to first, which have been copied by N. Y. Yankee pitcher Tommy Byrne. Ed is great in his pepper games and his line of chatter as he personally goes among the fans through the stands.

Prince Jo has more than replaced Goose Tatum as the Number One player-comic on the club. His antics send fans into gales of laughter and his playing ability has them leaning to their feet with rousing cheers.

So for grand entertainment and a topnotch baseball game, come on out and witness these professional touring clubs in action.

The pre-clinicals are just bubbling with excitement because their vacation begins immediately after the capping, a whole three weeks, we can hardly wait.

Farmers' intentions as of early March indicated as new high in soybean plantings and some increase over last year in flaxseed acreage.

Leo Johnson, a Charlotte boxer who announced his retirement from the ring nearly two months ago, is returning to the ring to take on John Hoye in an eight-rounder.

Willie Oliphant, who upset Johnny O'Brien, former featherweight champ, in his last local appearance, is returning to battle two-fisted Jimmy Carter in a six-round preliminary encounter.

The last bout on the card has Billy Goffrey, a middleweight who clouded with the authority of a heavyweight, tangling with Nike Alcaraz, also a six-rounder. Alcaraz, a Mexican who recently moved to Charlotte, is formerly of the 82nd Airborne Division team at Fort Bragg.

Wright, Hall, Johnson and Oliphant are the Negroes on the card. Johnson and Oliphant will be trading punches with white fighters.

The fights are scheduled for 8:30 o'clock. Seats are on sale at the Coliseum and at the National Hat Shop. Seats are being reserved for both white and colored.

The complete card: Main event: Nino Valdes, Havana Cuba vs. Ken Hammer, Detroit, heavyweight, 10 rounds.

Semifinal: Dale Hall, Los Angeles vs. Chubby Wright, Reading, Pa. heavyweights, 10 rounds.

Preliminary: John Hoye, Brockton, Mass. vs. Leo Johnson, Charlotte, heavyweights, eight rounds.

Preliminary: Robert Oliphant, Charlotte vs. Jim Carter, Lincoln, Pa. welterweights, eight rounds.

Preliminary: Bill Godfrey, Greenville, S. C. vs. Nike Alcaraz, Charlotte, middleweights, six rounds.

slugger Duke Snider. Together the two form a fearsome duo for defending pitchers. Campy, however, is considered far and wide as the teams' strategist.

This is plainly indicated in Carl Erskine's classic explanation of how Campy handled him in his recent no-hit pitching effort. "Campy was wonderful," said the jubilant Erskine. "He kept slowing me down. I never saw him so deliberate."

Erskine's praises for Campy were similar to those of another Dodger here, Johnny Podres, after pitching the classic which broke the Yankees back in the last World Series, also credited the hefty backstop with calling the shots which won the game.

Erskine's no-hitter highlighted Campy's return to the lineup after an absence of several days. Roy suffered an injury on the Brooks recent western tour.

Wrestling? 'It Beats Stealing;' Joe Louis

Louis Sees Wrestling As Money Maker

New York — Former heavyweight champion Joe Louis, who has returned to the ring as a wrestler in order to square his tax debt, knows that wrestling is a bad act, but feels that "it beats stealing," the new issue of Look Magazine said Monday.

Although his fights grossed more than 4 1-2 million, Joe is hopelessly in debt and owes the Federal Government nearly a million in taxes. He sees wrestling as the only way to even his debt.

"Look at it this way," Louis says in Look. "Primo Carnera made more as a wrestler than a fighter."



'EZ TAKES A DRUBBING—Bronx heavyweight Wayne Bethea (right) moves in on ex-world heavyweight champ Ezzard Charles with both barrels in the fourth round of their recent bout at St. Nick's arena in New York. Bethea scored a unanimous decision over the former champ from Cincinnati. (Newspress Photo).

Bobby Boyd, Milo Savage Fight Set

CHICAGO (ANP) — Bobby Boyd, fourth ranked middleweight contender, and Milo Savage, rated third, will clash in a nationally televised 10 rounder in the Stadium here June 6, the International Boxing Club announced last week.

The signing of Boyd and Savage brings together two of the foremost challengers for Sugar Ray Robinson's middleweight laurels. It also gives Boyd the chance to avenge a defeat suffered at the hands of Savage in New York last April 18. Each fighter is risking considerable prestige.

Boyd is perhaps better known nationally, because of his stunning upset of Eduardo Lamsue, former No. 1 contender, here recently. Savage held Lamsue to a draw, also in a recent bout.

Boyd, who said he was anxious to fight for the championship, sports a record of 40 victories, six losses and two draws. Savage has won 33 fights and drew 9.

However, Boyd is enjoying a winning streak of eight straight fights, and has scored 21 knockouts as compared to 19 for Savage.

Boyd's last five victories have come in the Stadium against such notches as Gory Fullmer, Gusse, Holly Mims and Geo. Johnson.

Meantime, Bernard Glickman, Boyd's manager, said he was hap-

56 Aggie Athletes Awarded Honors At Sports Affair

GREENSBORO — Fifty-six Aggie athletes were presented monograms, last Friday night, (May 18) at the annual All-Sports Banquet held at A&T College.

The two-top awards, the Jack Gibson Memorial plaque named for the star football player who played on the 1951 championship team, went to Eddie Wells, an outstanding basketball player and Roland Eller, baseball catcher for the past four years was voted the Philadelphia Alumni medal, Eddie Favors, Greensboro, an officer of the Letterman's Club, made the presentations.

Len Ford, star defensive end for the Cleveland Browns professional football team, was the principal speaker at the dinner meeting held in Murphy Hall. Speaking from the subject, "Work," he selected the letters of the word and explained that each had tremendous significance in success. He urged his young audience to wear well and to avoid

giving in until your goals had been finally accomplished. "Organization," he said "is the real key to the success of the Browns and is necessary to realization of any achievement." He explained the "R" as meaning a resolve to put one's best into his efforts and the "K," a subtle suggestion to kneel down and pray. "A sincere belief in God will help you along life's way," he advised. "Stick with it," he concluded "whether on the gridiron, diamond or on the field of life, then you will get a fair share of the good things of life."

He was introduced by Bert Piggsott, football coach and a former teammate of Ford on the Los Angeles Rams in 1948.

Surprise gifts to each member of the coaching staff, handsome watches, were presented by Ralph Johns, a local merchant.

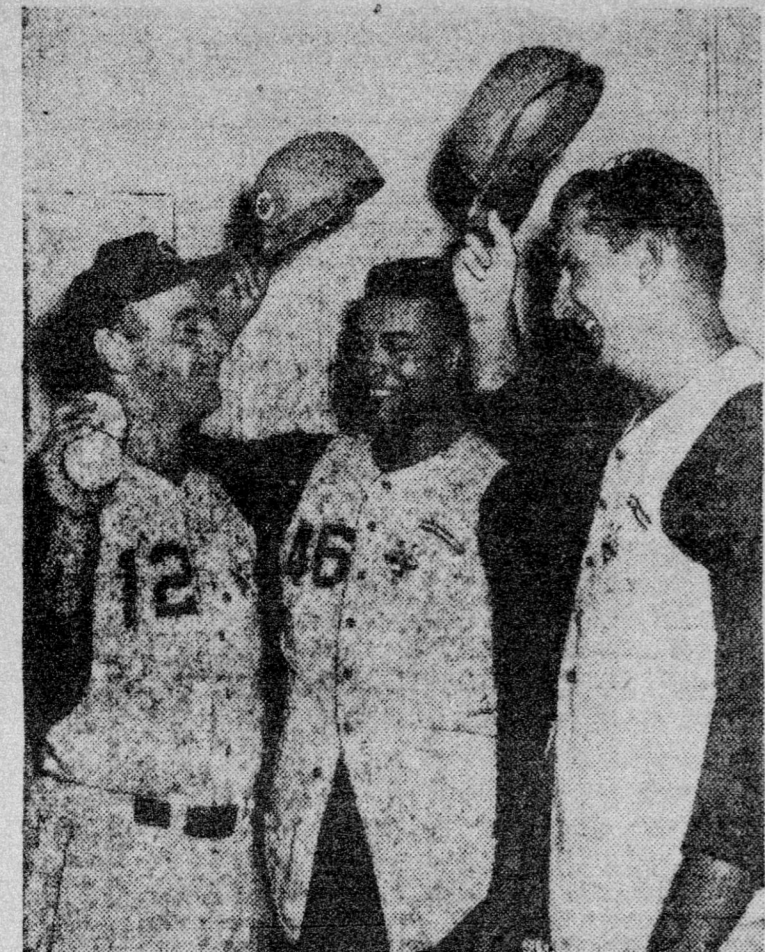
Remarks by Bill Bell, athletic director and head coach and Warren T. Gibbs, president of the college, rounded out the program. Dr. A. A. Bost, Greenville, N. C., brought greetings from the Alumni. L. A. Wise, chairman of the Athletic Committee was master of ceremonies.

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SALUTING THE HERO—Cincinnati Redleg Ray Jablonsky, left, holds two balls, symbolizing the two homers he powered in a recent game with the Dodgers at Ebbets field. His tenth inning clout gave the Reds the edge, 7-6, and Ray gets a salute from teammates Brooks Lawrence (center) and Herschel Freeman. (Newspress Photo).

At The Ringside

BY CHARLES J. Livingston for ANP

RAY ROBINSON: A ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME FIGHTER

After an absence of nearly three weeks, the writer is back at the Ringside. Back to work, and like other men who earn their living working, I should perhaps be cursing the unkind gods of poverty for ending my brief respite. But such an attitude does not prevail at present, mainly because the task which I have set about to accomplish is a delightful if not rewarding one. For now I write about Sugar Ray Robinson, the greatest first fighter, pound-for-pound, that ever laced on a pair of mitts.

Just a fortnight or so ago, Robinson demonstrated anew his resourcefulness and tenacity in ring warfare by again trouncing Carl Bobo Olson.

This time as a crowd of more than 200,000 fans watched in the gathering twilight of Los Angeles' Wrigley Field, Robinson stopped Bobo for the fourth time in four meetings on a knockout in the fourth round. He struck the pastel-colored Hawaiian with a cruel left hook which left him prostrate at 2:51 of the round.

Up until that time, Ray had boxed carefully waiting for the plodding Olson to open up. When he did, Ray countered and it was all over.

Ray Robinson, three-time middleweight king, has protected his title not only against Olson, but also in spite of the barbs and sneers of critics who for months have been picturing him as a decrepit figure tottering from old age.

But even Ray's great comeback and his stunning performances against Olson can't seem to satisfy the skeptics. They are either too proud and callous to admit their error, or they just fail to recognize Robinson for the exceptional fighter that he is, A Once-In-A-Lifetime Fighter.

Still disbelieving that a man of 35 can so remarkably refute the old ring adage: "they never come back," the skeptics are blaming Olson's last

two defeats by Robinson on Archie Moore. "Archie finished him," they cry. "He can't take it anymore." Moore ruined him. Yet if anyone started Bobo down the knockout trail, it must be Robinson. Ray knocked him kicking in their very first meeting in Philadelphia in 1950, and has repeated the act two more times. All told he has whipped Bobo four times. He virtually owns him.

Skeptics may hide behind excuses but we writers must always be frank in admitting our mistakes. In Sugar's case there is an even greater responsibility to do so—because he won so magnificently. For never before in the long history of the prize ring has a fighter ever regained the middleweight title twice. Ray did it, and therefore is by logic an exceptional fighter—in a class by himself.

Ray at 35 has more fight left in him than perhaps any of the present day contenders. He has lost the blazing speed that once made him famous, but his hands can still do what his brilliant mind tells them to do. His coordination is good. Does he still punch fast? Ask Bobo Olson. He will tell you that he didn't even see the punch that clipped him the last time out. Ray is tops. I'd take him in his prime over any other man who ever boxed.

Erskine Credits Campanella With "Bums" Success

BROOKLYN (ANP)—Here in this so-called "Platbush" town round Roy Campanella is heralded as the man who gives the world champion Brooklyn Dodgers the big lift.

Managers, coaches and plain observers have singled out Campy as the key man in the Brooklyn lineup, along with

Bourbon de Luxe



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