

THE HIGH ROAD

L.W. PRENTISS

The New Attack on Highway Accidents

The accident rate on freeways with median strip dividing the highway and control of access is about one-third of the accident rate for all other highways, and this fact alone is a good justification for the construction of freeways. But it is a great oversimplification, of course, to think of freeways as "safe" and all other roads as "unsafe". As we all know, some sections of conventional highways are relatively free from accidents while other sections have accident rates substantially above the average. Every police department and every ambulance driver knows certain spots where accidents happen again and again.

President Johnson called attention to those hazardous highway locations in his recent letter to the Secretary of Commerce in which he called for a "safety priority program" to meet the urgent need to reduce traffic accidents.

In turn, Secretary Hodges wrote to the governors of the 50 States urging that they give high priority to programs of safety improvements to facilitate their completion "well in advance of the time they would be scheduled on the basis of general traffic needs."

And Federal Highway Administrator Res. M. Whitton has announced that the Bureau of Public Roads is adopting "as liberal an attitude as possible" in determining whether safety improvement projects recommended by the States are eligible

for participation in the Federal-aid highway program.

Specifically, Mr. Whitton said that the Bureau of Public Roads will be receptive to project proposals on the Federal-aid systems involving the widening of narrow traffic lanes and narrow bridges, the installation of traffic control devices including protective devices at railroad crossings, the reconstruction of dangerous intersections for the better channelization of traffic, the flattening of side slopes and the removal of fixed roadside obstructions to provide a clear recovery area for vehicles out of control, reconstruction to improve sight distances on curves and hills, and the installation of guardrails, guide posts, delineators, highway lighting and fencing. Fortunately, practically all of these safety measures will be incorporated in any ultimate modification or major overhaul of the ABC roads.

The number of lives that can be saved through this program has not been estimated. Much will depend, of course, on the willingness and ability of the States to allocate highway funds to spot safety improvements. There are other highway needs which also demand priority attention.

But, as President Johnson put it, "In a society such as ours where human life and health is valued so highly, there is a special obligation to use our scientific abilities to bring this problem of highway traffic safety under control."



JAMES (BUDDY) JOHNSON is shown on the right with a fellow teammate during a recent track exhibition.

Couldn't Make Team At Ligon, But

Hampton's James (Buddy) Johnson Sets Records For Pirates Now

James (Buddy) Johnson, a graduate of J. W. Ligon High School here, who could not make the track team while in high school, is one of Hampton Institute's stars on the cinder path. He joined the team in the fall of 1961, his freshman year, and participated in his first meet as a Pirate in the spring of 1962. His most outstanding feats that spring were: 100 - 220 yard dash and low hurdles.

As a member of the cinder squad in 1963, Johnson paced his fellow trackmen to a remarkable season. Competing against such schools as Johnson C. Smith, Virginia State, Delaware State, Fort Eustis, Norfolk State, Winston-Salem State College, Elizabeth City, Fayetteville, Maryland, Union and North Carolina College, he excelled.

Hampton was unbeaten and "Buddy" was carving a name for himself in three events — intermediate hurdles, high hurdles and the relay. The climax of the 1963 season for "Buddy" was an invitation to the Tidewater Track Club to participate in the Junior (19 years and under) Decathlon at the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Va. During this meet there were headlines in the town's daily paper reading "Johnson Pacing Tidewater Decathlon Meet" and "Jim Johnson Sets New Junior Decathlon Mark." "B u d d y" accumulated 4,740 points, which topped the 4,155 points by Rick Brown in 1961. He became the new junior decathlon champion. In spite of pulled muscles,

Johnson was the standout for Hampton during the 1964 season, winning numerous first places.

He has a number of awards as mementos of his performances on the cinder path.

The youth plans to surpass his present record in 1965.



FORMER CHAMP AND HIS GRANDSON—World's Fair, N. Y.: Former heavyweight boxing champion Jersey Joe Walcott proudly shows his grandson, Nathaniel Streeter, a picture of the famous fight he lost to Rocky Marciano. However, Nathaniel is more interested in the photographer than his grandfather's narrative June 2nd. The photograph is one of a series of "Great Moments in Sports" at the Schaefer Center Rotunda. (UPI PHOTO).

LIVING With SPORTS

ARGENTINA'S SOCCER TRAGEDY

BY CHARLES J. LIVINGSTON
CHICAGO (ANP)—Life is full of lessons in which we learn from the successes as well as the mistakes and even tragedies of others. This is true of sports as of any other human preoccupation.

Sports, in fact, only recently was taught a painful lesson by that uncompromising teacher of fate, the Grim Reaper. He reached out and snuffed out the lives of more than 300 fans at a soccer game in Argentina simply by exploiting the idiocy of a single knucklehead fan.

This character—the knucklehead—was infuriated by the referee's decision to disallow a goal that would have given the hometown team a tie in the game between Argentina and Chile. So he decided to take rushed on to the field to tackle matters into his own hands, and beat up the referee. He was seized and carried away, but the damage was already done. Mr. Knucklehead had triggered a riot among the more than 70,000 fans in the stands.

The police, fearful of the worst, shot tear gas bombs into the stands to disperse the crowd, and when the smoke cleared, the more than 300 Amigos had died and hundreds of other lay maimed and injured, all because of Mr. Knucklehead.

What does this mean to American sports fans? Plenty. It is clear lesson that we, like our South American Amigos, must be even vigilant and diligent to act against the unruly in our midst, be he plain hooligan or the more dangerous racist, lest he trigger similar tragedies in our ball parks, stadiums and public places.

We have had several ugly incidents of our own, but the Argentine tragedy sadly dramatizes for us the extent of the agony and heartbreak that can be wrought by one bonehead, emotional, headstrong or prejudiced fan taking matters into his own hands with the indirect acquiescence of other well-intentioned

fans who merely sit and laugh at his behaviour.

Who can forget the sickening incidents of racists, bigots, and even the police, invading the playing fields in the South in their vain but dangerous efforts to prevent Jackson Robinson from integrating baseball?

Imagine for a moment the proportion of the riots that could have resulted from the acts of such racists, had the authorities not persisted in their action against them and fate been so kind. Many hundreds more, perhaps thousands, than those who died in Argentina might have been sacrificed merely to satisfy the selfish desires of the anti-Robinson bigots.

There have been other ugly incidents of a non-racial nature on the American sports front at high school football games, boxing matches, and baseball games, in which individuals and groups endangered the safety of others by taking matters into their own hands and brawling on the fields and in the stands.

Some misguided mortals are inclined to laugh off the conduct of loudmouths, profaners and drunk exhibitionists at baseball and football games. They even regard the knuckleheads and botheads who invade the playing field to seek personal vengeance as being simply "nuts," although such characters are no more goofier than those who laughingly condone their vagaries.

People, it seems, must be jolted by something big—some tragedy, usually—before they are prompted to act against the bad-actors and wrongdoers in their minds. Sports fans are no exception here.

There are also others who feel that American sports fans are too mature to participate in a full scale riot, such as took place in Argentina. How foolish and misguided a viewpoint. The Argentinians have been going to soccer matches for years in integrated crowds commonly

Va. State Whips NCC In Regionals Of NCAA

Virginia State College used a 15-man team to upset heavily-favored North Carolina College in the NCAA Regional Track and Field Championships last week.

In winning the meet in their own Rogers Stadium, the Trojans won first in only one event (javelin), but captured several runner-up and other places to amass 67 points to NCC's 59.

North Carolina won the 100 (Ed Roberts), 220 (Roberts), and 440 (Andy McCray) yard dashes, 120 high hurdles (Dick Hearn), broad jump (Norm Tate), triple jump (Tate), high jump (Norman Thomas), and 440 hurdles (McCray), but didn't have the depth to cope

ranging to upwards of 100,000, in a general atmosphere of friendliness. They were measured sports fans, and yet the awful tragedy occurred.

Let the tragedy of Argentina be a lesson to American sports fans and officials alike.

with Virginia State.

Regional records were set by McCray (47.3 in the 440), Thomas (6'9" in the high jump), and Bill Walsh of Mt. St. Mary's (13' in the pole vault).

Maryland State, winners of the Atlantic Coast Regionals for two previous years, did not participate in the event.

Court Date Keeps Liston From Ring

KINGSTON, Jamaica (ANP) — Because of his scheduled court appearance in Denver, Colo., to answer charges of reckless driving and carrying a concealed weapon, former heavyweight champion Sonny Liston was unable to keep a date here last week to act as guest referee on a boxing card at National Stadium.

Filling-in for Liston was another former heavyweight champion—Jersey Joe Walcott.

Although it was announced beforehand in the newspapers, the ring-side crowd expressed disappointment that Liston could not appear.

The fight card was presented at the stadium here two days before Liston was fined \$600 on the two charges and given a 30-day suspended jail sentence. His attorneys asked Judge Dan D. Diamond for a 10-day stay of execution before paying the fines because they want to "take a long look at the severe penalties."

The charges and fines stemmed from Liston's arrest last March 10 for driving 76 miles an hour in a 20-mile zone. Patrolman James Snider, who made the arrest, said Sonny was searched and found to be carrying a .22-caliber pistol.

JEALOUSY TRY NAME IS WOMAN

NDOLA, Northern Rhodesia (ANP)—The green eyes of jealousy cost Mrs. Susan Mwananshiku \$2,940 here last month, all because she thought Miss Elizabeth Ndweni, 26, was responsible for her not being able to get a lift to town. Mrs. Mwananshiku had attended a party at Miss Ndweni's home in the suburbs and had asked several of the men to give her a lift back to town. When no one offered her a ride, she became angry and set fire to the furniture and clothing of her hostess.

Halfback Sues Mag. For Libel

ST. LOUIS (ANP) — Jimmy Hill, star defensive halfback for the St. Louis Cardinals and former Sam Houston college standout, last week filed a \$2,150,000 libel suit against Sports Illustrated Magazine and the Pierce News Agency of St. Louis, charging the two news media of publishing an article picturing him as a dirty football player.

Hill said the article slandered him maliciously and held him up to "public contempt and ridicule." He said that as a play in which he and quarterback Bart Starr of the Green Bay Packers suffered injuries, he had been booed at games by spectators.

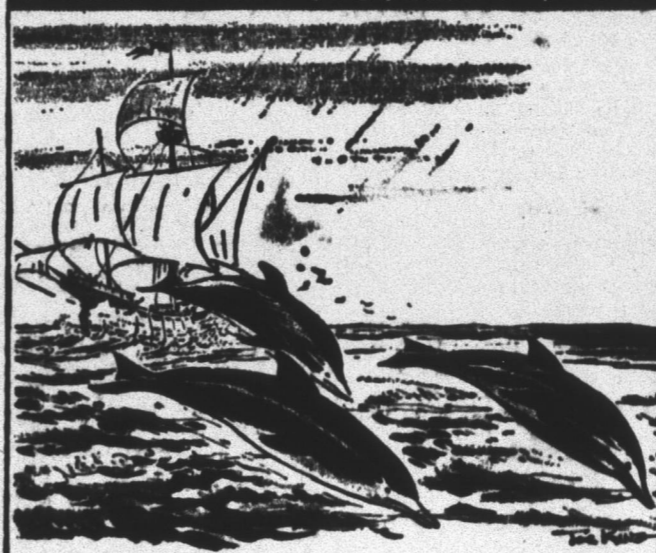
Officials of Time, Inc., which publishes Sports Illustrated, were not available immediately for comment. Officials of the Pierce Agency, which distributes the magazine locally, refused to comment.

Jack Montrey, Hill's attorney, said the star is asking for \$150,000 in actual damages and \$2 million punitive damages. In other words, Hill intends to make the agencies pay dearly for the alleged slander.

The article in question appeared in the Nov. 11, 1963, issue of Sports Illustrated.

Commenting on the play mentioned in the article, Hill, a 10-year veteran in the National Football League, pointed to his own injury. "He (Starr) kicked me in the mouth accidentally and kicked my two front teeth out," he said.

What in the WORLD! by TED



Playful Nuisance

A plan for feeding the hungry while ridding the seas of a pest has been proposed by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

The idea is to popularize porpoise meat as a high-protein food. In turn, the increased kitchen demand would cut down the excess porpoise population—an enemy of commercial fishing.

While fishermen welcome the proposal, FAO concedes that "the porpoise has public sympathy on its side." Since ancient times, FAO notes, the porpoise and its cousin, the dolphin, have been regarded as "noble,

Termites are responsible for more property damage per year in the U. S. than tornadoes, lightning, and arson combined, the Catholic Digest reports. Last year their ravenous appetites cost us around \$200 million.

Title Opponents Emile Griffith And L. Rodriguez Have Troubles

LAS VEGAS, Nev. (ANP) — Welterweight champion Emile Griffith, and challenger Luis Rodriguez, both in training here for their June 13 title, are both having eating problems.

Griffith is overweight and must constantly watch his weight, exercise more and eat less.

Rodriguez is not confronted with the problem of reducing, but he was having trouble getting the kind of grub he wants to eat.

When he first arrived from Miami Beach, he wanted to cook his own food in his hotel room, but the management refused to let him. He finally settled to eat what they cooked if he could give them his own recipes, which include several fancy spanish dishes.

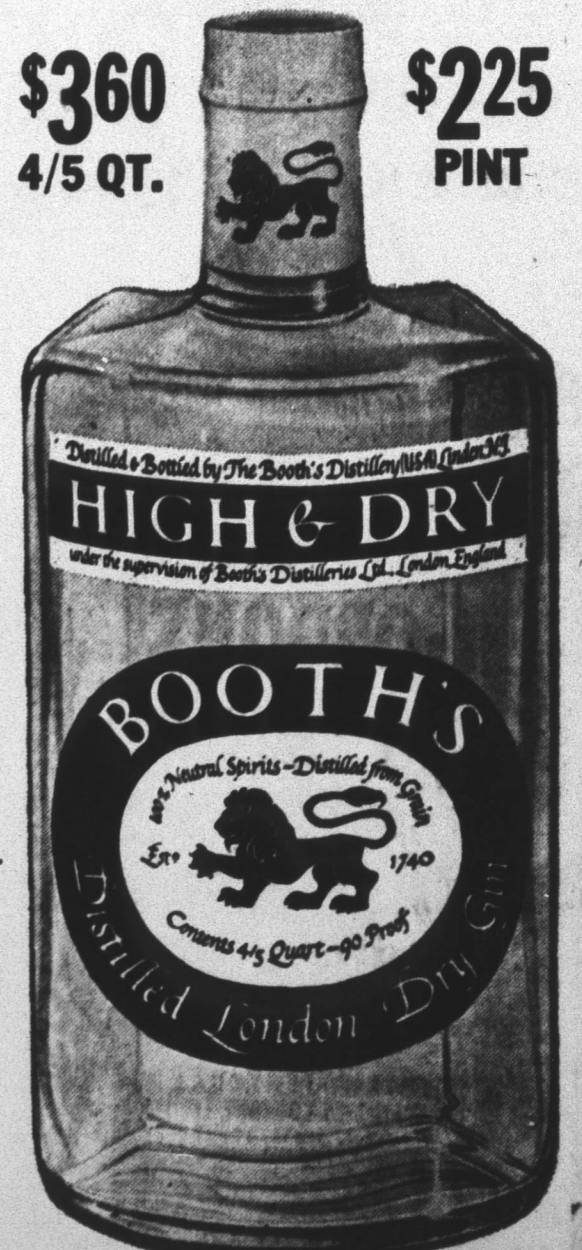
The hotel doesn't cook them exactly to his liking.

BE SURE you're right, then check your figures.

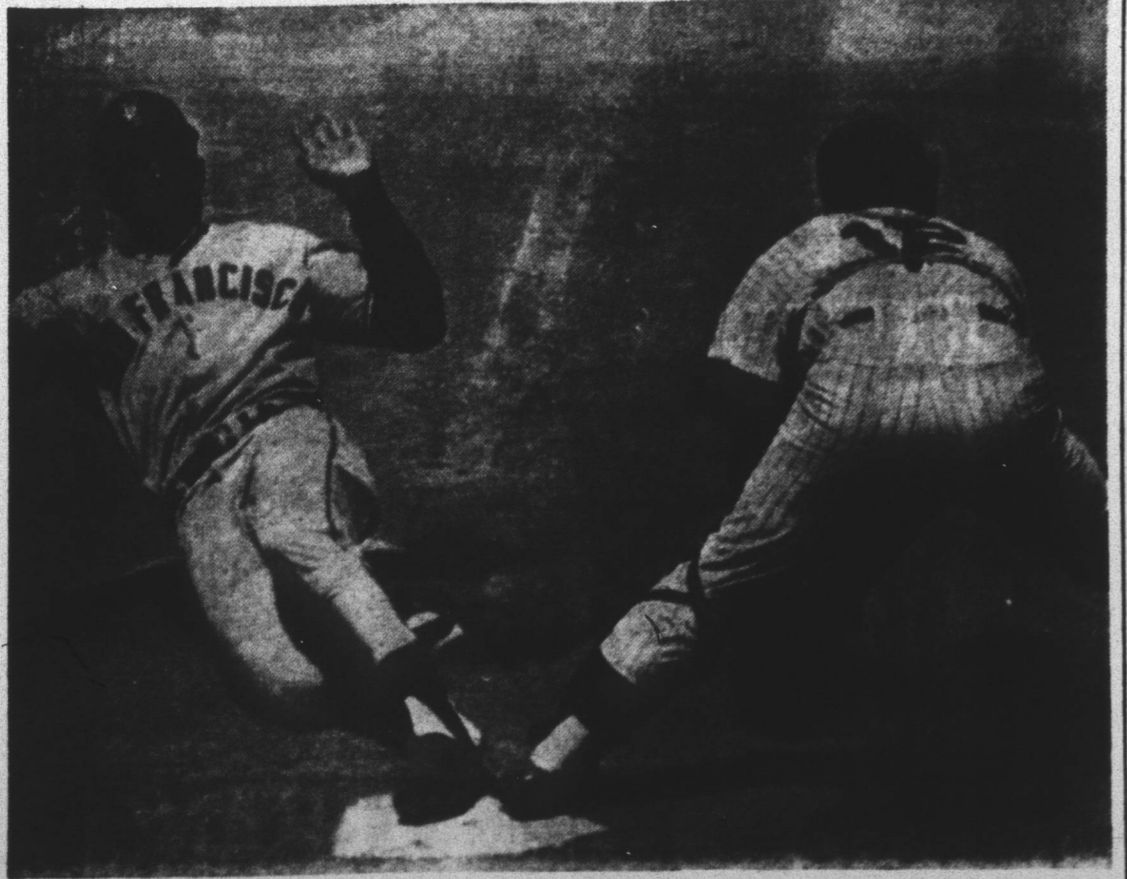
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MAYS SLIDES HOME SAFELY—Sluggo Willie Mays of the San Francisco Giants slides into home plate safely after he tripped and came in when Roy MacMillan of the New York Mets dropped the outfield relay during first inning of their game in Shea Stadium, New York, May 30. Catcher is Jesse Gonder. An enthusiastic crowd of 38,472 fans watched the Mets trounce the Giants, 6-2, for the second straight day.



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