

THE SPORTSBEAT

By L. T. Walker
NORTH CAROLINA COLLEGE TRACK COACH
SPORTS THRILLS

There are really two great joys derived from my association with sports. One is the relationship with the athletes I have coached, and the other is the fellowship with coaches, officials and other athletes. (These joys overshadow by far the frustrations associated with the profession.)

The SPORTSBEAT added to the joys already experienced in sports during attendance at the Ninth Annual Philadelphia Inquirer Indoor Track Meet this past week-end. In two days we had an opportunity to live with our athletes and to renew old acquaintances. Thought you might be interested in some of the sidelights of the meet.

Many of the TIMES readers know very little about indoor track. Not so much because of a lack of interest, but mainly because of insufficient contacts with the sport. For other than the Southern Conference Indoor Games held at UNC at Chapel Hill, one would have to travel to Washington, D. C., Philadelphia, New York, Boston, Chicago or some other distant point to see an indoor track meet.

Believe it or not, except for the Duke Slater (Bruce Taylor) era in football and Jack Johnson's dethroning of Burns in Australia in 1908, in boxing, the early efforts in sports toward integration and international good will were made in track.

De Hart Hubbard, who excelled in the 1924 Olympics at Paris, the Michigan streak Eddie Tolan in the 1932 Olympics at California and Ed Gordon in the broad jump were contributing to the conditions now enjoyed by Jackie Robinson, Sugar Ray, Buddy Young, and the tan stars of present day olympic fame.

The SPORTSBEAT enjoyed the privilege the past week-end of seeing and talking with many tan stars of the 1932 Olympics. At the Inquirer Games three gold medal winners from Helsinki were there, Harrison "Bones" Dillard (100 meter hurdles), Andy Stanfield (200 meter dash) and Mal Whitfield (800 meter). There were four others there who placed in other events.

Took time out from our coaching duty to chat with some of the terrific tan thinclads about their big sports thrill. The stories were interesting and varied. Bones Dillard's story is a fascinating one. (Dillard is now a member of the publicity department of Cleveland's baseball Indians.)

Dillard is the only athlete ever to win the 100-meter dash in one Olympiad (1948) and the 100-meter high hurdles in the next (1952). "Bones" was recognized as the world's greatest timber-topper in 1948 and his consecutive winning streak of 82 races is unmatched and will probably remain so. However, his attempt at an unprecedented Olympic double by qualifying in the dash and the hurdles in the trials at Evanston, Illinois almost caused him to miss the boat to London.

To match strides with America's best—Mel Patton, Barney Ewell, etc., in the 100-meters, Craig Dixon, Clyde Scott, among others, in the hurdles—four times in a span of 50 minutes was too much for even the invincible Dillard. "Bones" failed to negotiate the 6th hurdle, faltered and did not finish the race. He qualified in the 100-meter dash and then started the world at London by defeating Patton, La Beach of Jamaica and Barney Ewell as he equalled the Olympic record of 10.3 seconds.

But "Bones" will tell you that his greatest thrill came in 1952 at Helsinki, Finland when he set a new Olympic record of 13.6 seconds while winning the 100-meter hurdles, an event he owns. "Good things come to those who wait," was "Bones" post victory pronouncement. "I waited four years for it." Although he can stride through a 100 yard in about 9.7 seconds with relative ease, Dillard says that he is through with the sprints. "Leaving that for my young fast kids." Is he kidding?

Friday night Dillard convinced me and 10,000 more in Convention Hall that he has no peer in the hurdles. He set a new world's record of six seconds flat in the 50 yard hurdles while matching strides with Art Barnard, Third at the 1952 Olympics, Milt Campbell of Olympic fame and Lee Calhoun of North Carolina College.

Magnificent Mal Whitfield, world's premier Half-miler, was also at Philadelphia. Mal holds the Olympic record of 1 min. 49.2 seconds set in 1948 and equalled in 1952. He feels that he did not break his record set in 1948 because "nobody really pushed me. I did not have to sprint at the end." Whitfield set a new Inquirer record in the 600 yard run. (11 min., 11.3 sec.) He broke the old record held by another tan speedster, George Rhoden of Morgana.

The Sportsbeat greeted Andy Stanfield and Reggie Peerman from a distance. Andy won the 200 meter dash at Helsinki.

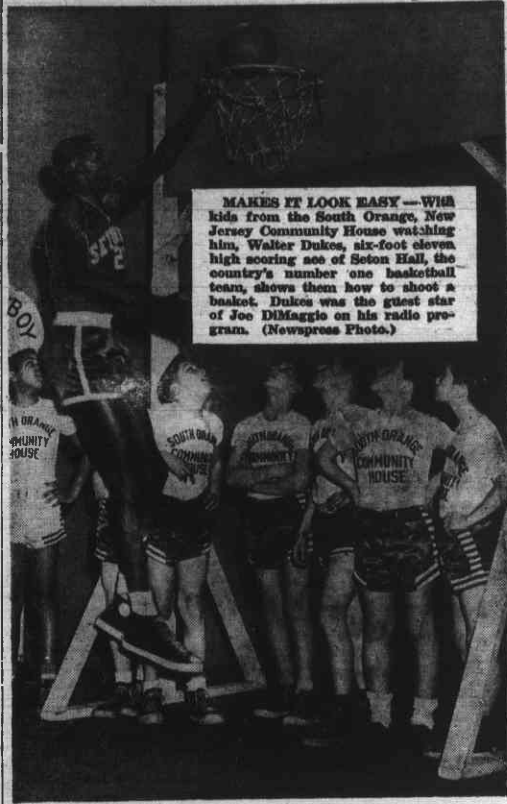
The athletes talked to were high in their praise of the international good will in evidence at the Olympiad (including the Russians when they were on their own). Though each was thrilled about his victory, mere participation in this greatest of all sports spectacles was sufficiently overwhelming to make it "my greatest sports thrill."

SOME SIDELIGHTS: Jim Gathers, member of victorious sprint relay team at Helsinki, was at the Inquirer meet. Jim is the Boys High (Brooklyn, N. Y.) alumnus who almost made it to NCC. (Missed by another coach's breath.)

The John Borican Memorial 1000-yard run, in memory of the Virginia State College alumnus, was not won by a tan athlete for a change. The 50 yard sprint has been won by tan thirls every year of its eight year running. (Cornwell broke the tape for four of the years, Bragy of Morgana two, Stanfield and Mathis one each.)

Dillard has won the 50 yard hurdles events six of the eight years. In its two year representation, NCC has won an Elgin watch, two gold medals and two bronze medals in the six events entered.

NCC Set For Sports Carnival February 6-7



Floyd Brown's Charges Win From Union, Bluefield And West Virginia; Lose To Winston-Salem 'Rams'

Floyd Brown's North Carolina College basketball team racked up an impressive series of victories last week as the Eagles returned home to prepare for a series of events that will culminate in a mammoth sports extravaganza on Friday and Saturday, February 6 and 7.

Beginning here on Jan. 19 when the NCC quint whipped 1952 conference champions Union University, Brown's boys later in the week invaded the mountains of West Virginia.

On Friday night, Jan. 23, the locals met and conquered Bluefield State Teachers' College, 66-63.

Inspired by their Friday night's performance, the Brown basketballers swooped down on the surly West Virginia State College Yellowjackets on Saturday night and moved the Jackets down to the tune of 58-50.

The headlines all sang the saga of Samuel "Sad Sam" Jones, but the smart boys in the grandstands, in the benches, and on the courts, all recognized what the headlines aren't saying: Floyd Brown is developing a first rate basketball team at NCC. Boys and coach know where they are going, or such was the opinion in Durham as early as Tuesday afternoon.

On Tuesday night the Eagles met the Winston-Salem Rams in a contest that the smart money said smugly was a "toss-up." Reports from the home of the Rams said two busloads of fans from the Twin City would accompany Clarence "Big House" Gaines' team to Durham. Gaines' boys were anxious to repeat the win they scored over NCC in Winston on Dec. 16.

will address the banquet, Friday night in the University Homes auditorium.

Representatives from all of the nation's top weeklies will be in town as will daily, wire service and radio personnel. A press conference has been arranged for this group Friday afternoon at 4 p.m. in the recreation room of the Atlanta Life Insurance Company.

The reporters will be able to fire questions at such blueribbon sports performers as Pvt. Don Newcombe, Brooklyn's great pitcher; Pfc. Willie Mays, New York Giants star; Althea Gibson, No. 1 tennis player on the East Coast; Willie Greason, vaunted rookie of the Oklahoma City Indians; Artie Wilson, West coast baseball star; Harry "Suitcase" Simpson of the Cleveland Indians, and Catherine Hardy, olympic star.

Newcombe and Mays will attend the banquet by special arrangements with the Secretary of the Army's Second Army

After the Eagles and the Rams met, the NCC court warriors still face on Saturday night, Jan. 31, the ever dangerous Bluefield State College team in a return affair.

In the first three days of Feb. the maroon and gray wave journeys North to tackle Howard in Washington, D. C., on Feb. 2, and Lincoln at Lincoln, Pa., on Feb. 3.

At the end of the first week in February, Brown and company will take part in a sports attraction labeled here as the "sports extravaganza of the decade." Six teams from two conferences will be seen in swimming, tennis, wrestling, and basketball.

Coach Clarence Palmer's "swimming wonders," the first group of aquatic stars ever to swim in the maroon and gray of NCC in intercollegiate competition, will perform in public for the first time in Durham on Saturday, February 7. Tennessee State University's tank team will furnish the opposition. Tennis teams from A and T College, a wrestling squad from Shaw University and the basketball teams of NCC, West Virginia State and Lincoln University are among the other attractions during the week-end homecoming.

Gala social activities highlighted with coronation of the first annual "Miss Winter Homecoming" will also be on tap for the hundreds of visiting alumni who are expected to attend the two days' celebration.

Special affairs have been scheduled during the time also for the fathers of NCC's men students.

headquarters. Top football coaches of the Southern conference will also attend the press conference and the banquet.

The banquet Friday night will mark the first time that a Negro sports editor has been honored by the awarding of an annual memorial cup. Sylvester McClaire of Bethune Cookman will receive the first annual Lucius Jones Memorial Cup as the Outstanding Football Player in the Southern Conference for 1953.

The cup will be awarded annually. McClaire's coach, Rudolph "Bunky" Matthews, will be honored as the top football coach in the Southern conference. Alkin Hepburn will receive a trophy as the most valuable team player.

Morgan Track Man At Meet

BALTIMORE, MD. Art Bragg, fleet-footed Olympic runner who tied the 50 yard meet record last week in the Boston Knights of Columbus meeting retaining his championship at 5:04 timing, tries a repeat performance this Saturday (Jan. 24) in Philadelphia.

The Morgan State College track ace will again defend his title as 50-yard dash champ in the Philadelphia Inquirer Track Meet.

Otis (Jet) Johnson, of Philadelphia, another Morgan dasher, will run with the Baltimorean in the 50-yarder.

Morgan's one mile relay team, which finished third in the KOC meeting, will also compete this Saturday, running in the Liberty Bell One Mile Relay. Running will be: Josh Culbreth, of Norristown, Pa.; Herman Wade, of Pittsburgh, Pa.; Johnson, and Rogers of British Guiana. Edward P. Hurt, Morgan Track Coach, will accompany the runners to Philadelphia.

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NO ESCAPE—Jimmy Shado (right) of New York tried to cover up to escape the merciless rain of blows thrown by Harold Johnson of Philadelphia during their ten-round boat in New York recently. Johnson won the unanimous decision of the judges, and is next in line for a shot at light heavy champ, Archie Moore. (Newspaper Photo.)

A. AND T. COLLEGE AGGIES CONQUER VIRGINIA UNION

GREENSBORO

A. and T. College's Aggies rang up their fourth victory in their C. I. A. A. campaign last Tuesday night in defeating Va. Union 71-59 on their local court. The Aggies led all the way in evening up their conference record, of four wins and four losses.

On the previous Friday and Saturday evenings the Aggies dropped two in a row to North Carolina College and St. Augustine's College, respectively.

John Flowers led the victors with 24 points. Ed Howard topped Va. Union with 20.

A. and T. 71 Va. Union 61
F - Flowers 24 Howard 20
G - Mims 13 W. Johnson 12
C - Minton 15 R. Johnson 6
G - Lambert 7 Vaughn 5
G - Dorsey 7 Robinson 5

Savannah State Defends Title

SAVANNAH, GA.

The Savannah State College Golden Tigers Cage Team, defending SEAC Champions, are contenders for the honors again with a host of talented freshmen to bolster the four varsity players from last season. In the waning days of '52 the Tigers defeated Clark College at Atlanta and lost to South Carolina State but bounced back to knock over the Allen University Yellowjackets in the first start of the new year. Athletic Director and Basketball Coach, Theo. A. Wright, announced the schedule.

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Fayetteville State Broncos Add Shaw Univ. Bears To Victories; Seek S I A C Championship

Once again the Fayetteville State Teachers College Broncos have begun to click as in former years, and have added Shaw University to their latest string of victories.

Coach "Gus" Gaines finally believes he has found the winning combinations to win another conference championship, after losing a couple of exhibition games rebuilding his inexperienced team.

The Broncos have won four contests in the past few days, defeating Virginia Seminary and Theological College of the EIAC 92-32, Morris College of the SIAC 71-51, Pope Field Air Force 78-54, and the Shaw University "Bears" of the CIAA 79-75.

The "Gaines Skyscrapers" led by Captain Sam "Snake" Williams 6'6" center led the attack against the "Bears" tallying 22 points for his nights work, and Mal "Freeze" Hunter who clinched the game with a one minute freeze. Both boards were controlled by the "Skyscrapers", Jerry "Stretch" Sadler 6'9" forward from Winston-Salem, William "Duke" Lewis 6'5 1/2" forward from Jersey, Lionell King, 6'4 1/2" guard from New York and big Jim Boyd 6'4" guard from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

It was a nip and tuck battle all the way with the largest margin being held by the Broncos, a 11 point lead. Jones was "Mr. Inside" for the Bears scoring 32 points from the center slot with Wilson and Lewis taking care of the outside duties hitting for 15 points apiece.

Little Edward Smith, playmaker from Mamaroneck, N.Y., was the spark for the "Broncos" initial drive along with Edgar Anderson and Ted Bonner meshing the nets for 11, and 10 points.

The Broncos will take on their sister institution, Elizabeth City Teachers College, and the strong Maryland State College on the road this week.

Star Athletes, Sports Writers Set Banquet

ATLANTA, GA. A host of the nation's top flight public relations and press representatives will converge on Atlanta this weekend for the 18th annual 100 Per Cent Wrong Club's banquet. President James Colston of Knoxville College

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