

# SPORTS CLOSE-UPS

BY FRITZ POLLARD  
(For Global)

## NEW YORK

This Marciano-LaStarza fight coming up in September is the tamest thing to come along in the sports field in a long time. It's a far cry from the days of the old Joe Louis fights when the town would be buzzing for weeks ahead, and excitement would run high.

In those days, hotels and rooming houses would be booked solid a month ahead of the fight date, restaurants and bars would make preparations for increased business, and people would get ready to entertain out-of-town relatives who came to the fight from all over the country, and sometimes out of the country. The heavyweight fight in those days was a colorau contest and Joe Louis ruled the bill as a colorau champion. Negroes felt they had something riding on Joe's every punch, and when he had stalked his prey, and many went to work systematically beating him down, every Negro felt it symbolic of his own struggle to prove himself a man and command the respect of all. But then, Joe was more than a Negro champion. He was such a clean fighter and such a great champion that he brought a distinction to the championship that will be hard for anybody else to duplicate.

Yes, Joe was an all-time great. He reigned in a colorful manner without pretentiousness or gaudiness, and earned respect in and out of the ring. This affair coming up on September is certainly dull and drab in comparison to the days of the brown Bomber.

We see where Mal Whitfield has come up with another record. The Olympic 800-meter champion set the new world record for 1,000 meters this week, clocked in 20.8. The previous record was established last October by Ole Aberg of Sweden. His record was 2:21.3. Also competing in the race at Eskilstuna, Sweden was Reggie Pearman, representing the New York Pioneer Club who finished second.

Roy Campanella is still on his hitting streak and doesn't show any signs of cooling down. He has already set a record for runs batted in among Catchers for the second season, and seems to be making a strong bid for the MVP award again this year. Interviewed during one of his hitting streaks recently, Campy was asked if he thought he would reach Babe Ruth's record. Campy replied that he doesn't think in terms of streaks or records. He just plays each game as it comes along and does his best all the time. Which is probably why he is one of the game's greats.

The Rookie of the Year Award is going to be a tough one this year. Junior Gilliam and Bill Bruton at times seem about neck and neck. However, since Gilliam had a little rest, he returned to second base and has figured prominently in every win the Dodgers have chalked up. As of this date, we would say Gilliam has the edge. He doesn't raise much sand, and he's not a flashy player, therefore, he may not attract attention immediately. But the kid has class and has proved he really belongs. He would have to in order to replace the old firebrand Robinson.

## STEPHENS-LEE HIGH OPENS GRID DRILLS

### ASHEVILLE

Some 55 hopefuls answered the call to Stephens-Lee High School opening football drills being held on the Hill Street School grounds. Included in the first reportees were some 25 candidates out for the first time.

Coaches C. L. Moore and Dodson Blakely face the task of putting together a team which will be able to face up to a tough ten game schedule, with the opening game three weeks away, when the 1953 edition of the Football Bears take on West Charlotte High in the local stadium the night of September 17. Head Coach Moore indicated that the job of getting a formidable team ready will be dependent on the finding of adequate replacements to fill the holes left by graduation last year.

However, one of the most encouraging signs is the return of Wayne Coleman, who last year was hampered throughout the season with injuries. Coleman was Moore's best tailback in the single-wing attack, which he will use again this year. Moore has indicated that he will vary this single-wing offense with the use of the split "T".

Also to be heavily counted on this year will be Co-captains Billie Gardenheight and Arnold Jones. Gardenheight is a tackle while Jones plays end. Both performed well for the Bears last year, who compiled a 4-4 record.

In addition to opening at home against West Charlotte on September 17, the remainder of the Stephens-Lee Schedule is as follows: Sept. 25, Dudley at Greensboro; Oct. 1, Carver at Spartanburg; 8, Brewer, here; 15, Thomasville, here; 22, Gastonia, here; 29, Lexington, here; Nov. 5, Simms at Union, S. C. 12, Winston-Salem, here and Nov. 20, Carver at Spindale.

## Listless Giants Will Finish In Second Division

### NEW YORK

Shackled with a three game loss to the Brooklyn Dodgers, the Giants not only continued to make Cholly Dressen look good as a prophet ("The Giants is dead," he said) but seemed

## MEETING SCHEDULED FOR WORKERS IN DRIVE TO GET \$5,000 FOR HIGH SCHOOL STADIUM

A meeting of all campaign workers in the Negro campaign to raise funds for the Northwest High School football stadium has been set for 5 P.M. Sunday, at West Charlotte High School.

W. Howard Moreland, Chairman of the entire Negro section of the campaign, has set in motion plans to raise a minimum of \$5,000 in the campaign, this sum to be supplemented by \$15,000 to be raised in the white community.

The football stadium facilities at the Northwest High School will cost \$40,000, but \$20,000 of this sum will be allocated to the project by the Board of Education, providing the community raises the first \$20,000.

The meeting has been planned so that "generals," "colonels," and "captains" working under the directions of Howard Moreland may receive their final instructions.

Mr. Moreland was appointed co-chairman of the campaign by a local publisher, Thomas Robinson, who will head the entire campaign.

Mr. Robinson said the Solicitations Review Committee is meeting to consider all details of the campaign. The start of all solicitations is being delayed until the Solicitations Review Committee puts its stamp of approval on the campaign which has been planned so that it will not conflict with the United Appeal which will be launched

October 19.

Mr. Moreland has appointed the following ten "generals" who, in turn, will each appoint ten "colonels" to work with them: C. L. Blake, W. G. Byers, Alexander Dykes, N. G. Edwards, I. T. Graham, J. E. Grigsby, Arthur Grier, William Malone, T. M. Martin, W. H. Moreland, Dr. E. L. Rann and Fred Williams.

The "colonels" already appointed are: Mrs. Gwendolyn Cunningham, Miss Lenora Grier, Mrs. Mable Russell, B. D. Roberts, Mrs. Martha Johnson, Roy Perry, Earl Colston, C. H. Beckwith, W. B. Harrison, Mrs. S. E. Harrison, Miss Buelah Moore, Mrs. Elizabeth Randolph, and Romeo Alexander.

## Opening Dates For Schools In Buncombe County Set; County Schools To Start On August 26th

### ASHEVILLE

County schools will open August 26 and city schools will open a week later on August 31. Allen High School, a private school for girls will begin registration on September 1st and classes will begin on the 3rd.

All schools report being ready to open on schedule, although in the case of Livingston Street School, construction work is still in progress and the building and grounds will not be ready for full unrestricted use.

Both city and county schools are anticipating larger enrollments this year. There will be a marked increase in the number of children entering school for the first time. Children may enter public school for the first time if they are six years old before October 15, 1953.

There have been very few changes in the teaching staffs in the city and county schools. It is known that Black Mountain's Carver Elementary School will add one teacher if there is an increase in enrollment. C. U. James is principal of the county school which is housed in a building new as of last year.

At Shiloh School of which J. C. Daniels is principal, Miss Elsie Allen will be the new librarian, filling a vacancy created by the transfer of Miss Frances Owens of Livingston Street School where she will fill a vacancy created by the retirement last spring of Mrs. Janet Kebe.

It has been reported that Stephens-Lee is to have an addition to the faculty, but the name of the person and the position could not be learned as the principal, Mr. Frank Tolver was out-of-town.

The reports received from most principals stated that their teachers had many varied experiences during the summer just about to end. In addition to the usual number which attend summer school or work in recreation programs, many of the teachers traveled extensively during the summer, with probably Supervisor of Schools, Mrs. Lucy Herring covering the greatest amount of territory with her travel over a great portion of Europe. Mrs. Herring is expected

to return to Asheville sometime next week. All principals report their buildings to be in good shape maintenance-wise. With the exception of construction work which has been in progress all summer on Livingston Street school. No major repairs or improvements took place in the schools during the vacation although at the Hill Street School earth-moving and grading of the front playground was completed.

## MORGAN TO OPEN TRAINING MINUS MANY GRADUATE VETS

### BALTIMORE, MD.

A sensational year in track has not dimmed Morgan State College's love of the gridiron!

That was evident here this week as "official greetings" were sent to thirty-three Morgan football players urging them to report for "duty" September 1.

That will be the initial day of practice for the fifty-three Bear eleven which sees its first real action here September 26 against Central State College of Xenia, Ohio.

Twenty-seven lettermen received the summons to practice. A great many of the returning Bears are last year's freshmen. The veteran Bear squad has been whittled down by graduation of some of the crack Morgan gridgers.

Missing from the ranks will be: Roosevelt Brown, co-captain and All-American tackle who's trying out with the New York Giants; Irvin Locust, 1952 Bear co-captain whom Eddie Hurt often called "the best end in the East"; Carl "Jet" Whitted, game back of Durham, N. C., who is now a second lieutenant in the Army; Haward Quann, Hempstead, N. Y. back; Ernest Lindsay, Baltimore, Md. guard; Matthew Marcus, end from Baltimore, Md., who is also a commissioned officer in the Army. William Buford, tackle of

Asheville, N. C., and Lawrence "Larry" Harrell, back of High Point, N. C., take over the co-captainships vacated by Brown and Locust.

Beyond that, the Morgan coaching staff cannot say how the team will shape up this year.

## Dodger Players In Better Way For \$\$ Raise

### PITTSBURGH

The spectacular drive the Brooklyn Dodgers are putting on in their race to the finish certainly will mean one thing to the Brooklyn front office—a heavy payroll for the '54 season.

For the drive is a team one with almost all of the 26 players contributing to the flourish. Last year it was mostly Joe Black solely responsible for the flag for the rest of the team played only normal and a few below par. Then the owners had only to reward Joe with a 100 percent raise and throw in some extras for a few deserving.

But this year it is different. All of them are standouts from Campanella and Hodges to Fu-

## Howard Gridders May Have To Rely Heavily On 15 Lettermen

### WASHINGTON, D.C.

Fifteen lettermen, including three All-Conference players, will be among the 40 candidates reporting at Howard University Tuesday, September 1st, as practice sessions begin for the 59th year of varsity football at the University.

Three weeks of two-a-day drills have been scheduled for the Howard team. The sessions begin at 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. and will be open to the public.

With the two-plateau system now outlawed, the Howard coaching staff plans to revert to the single-wing offensive pattern. The system was last used at Howard in 1946. Since that time, the Bisons have employed the "T" and "Split-T" formations.

According to the Howard co-

ches, the switch from the "T" to the singlewing was not a matter of preference but a necessity considering the potentialities of this year's team personnel. Three-fourths of the 1952 backfield is gone and the Bisons will not have a seasoned "T" quarterback in this year's squad. Few, if any, of the 1953 Bisons have played single-wing football, but the offensive switch is considered a calculated risk.

September 26, Bluefield at Howard Stadium; October 3, West Virginia State at Charleston, West Va.; 10, Virginia Union at Richmond, Va.; 17, Morgan at Howard Stadium; 24, Johnson C. Smith, at Howard Stadium; 31, Allen at Columbia, S. C.; November 7, Hampton at Howard Stadium; 14, Delaware State at Howard Stadium, and 26, Lincoln at Philadelphia.

## Louis Refuses Mantle Of Race Spokesman

### NEW YORK

Joe Louis, former heavyweight champion, said today he was often troubled by the fact that people generally consider him "a spokesman for the whole Negro race." Writing in the current issue of SEE Magazine, just released, the Brown Bomber told of his constant fear that he "would do or say something wrong and shame or harm colored people everywhere."

Louis stated his "toughest fight" has always been the fight within himself not to "do things that would only stir up trouble and make things worse than ever for others."

"I don't pretend to be any great authority on racial relations," Louis said, "and certainly I don't kid myself that my toughest fight will change the nature of the world."

Louis asserted in SEE that "the American Negro is very slowly but surely winning the fight against prejudice. It's been a hard battle but I think the final round is coming up in our lifetime," he added in the SEE Magazine article.

## Frick Takes Dim View Of Extra Play-Off

### CHICAGO

Though it would make a lot of money for the Milwaukee Braves and the Chicago White Sox and give the west some consolation for not being in the World Series, Baseball Commissioner Ford Frick is dead set against any match between the colorful two clubs, who have the misfortune to trail the Yankees and the Dodgers in their respective leagues.

On commenting about the whole proposition which gets aired before the executive council this week, Frick had this to say: "I don't want games between a couple of second place clubs to detract, in any way, from the interest in the World Series. I have no doubt that the Braves and the White Sox would draw a lot of attendance, but that is hardly a strong argument as far as I'm concerned."

## Haughty Grambling Tigers Shoot For Rainbow After 3 Lean Years

### GAMBLING, LA.

Anybody who doesn't paint a verbal villain mustache on the Grambling Tigers for the coming campaign is considered an old fogy, at least a year behind the time, by local seers.

The haughty Tigers will launch fall drills Thursday with the rainbow in sight after three bitter years of search.

Everybody seems sure of a winner but the coaching staff, who finds the situation extremely embarrassing.

Coach Eddie Robinson and his staff admit the spirit is high, but avow that they will be willing to eat crow if the boys are not suffering compound fractures and triple contusions by mid-October.

Lack of team depth and a belt tightened by one-plateau football are the major problems

facing the staff. However, the final tabulation should be happier than they presently allow.

Chief assets are a wealth of hefty linemen and a fast and shifty backfield featuring ex-G.I. "Bellepepper" Patterson, Big Willie Garner and phantom-hipped Elvin Spears.

## Odds On Bums

### NEW YORK

Betting men are already warning that the Brooklyn Dodgers may for the first time in history be the favorites in the World Series. Of course, as far as Harlem is concerned, the Brooks are already the favorites but they have yet to be so in serious betting circles.

## Lucky Strikes . . . by JOE BLACK



Carl Furillo is enjoying his best season as a ball player this year. He's hitting well over .300 and is

fighting it out for the top hitting honors. His fielding, as usual, has been sensational. And this is the guy a lot of people thought was through because his batting average fell to a lowly .247 last year. There can be no doubt about it, Carl has fooled them all and has made what I really think is the "comeback of the year."

Furillo had trouble with his eyes last season and couldn't see the ball clearly. Just as he would start to swing he would lose sight of the ball. It became a blur. He had an eye operation this past winter and now is as good as new.

Whenever I mention Furillo's name to ball fans, the first thing they ask me is: "Can he really throw that hard?" Well, take it from me. . . he can! He makes the kind of plays that folks will be talking about for years. He plays that tricky right-field wall at Ebbets Field as though he built it.

Furillo broke into organized baseball as a pitcher back in 1946, but he hit and fielded so well that he was switched to the outfield. That was a switch that really paid off for the Dodgers. And here's a switch that will pay off for all you cigarete smokers: Switch to better-tasting Lucky Strike and get a cleaner, fresher, smoother taste. . . puff after puff! Furillo smokes Luckies . . . and so do fellows like Campanella, Reese, Hodges and Snider. So, come on . . . Be Happy —Go Lucky, today!



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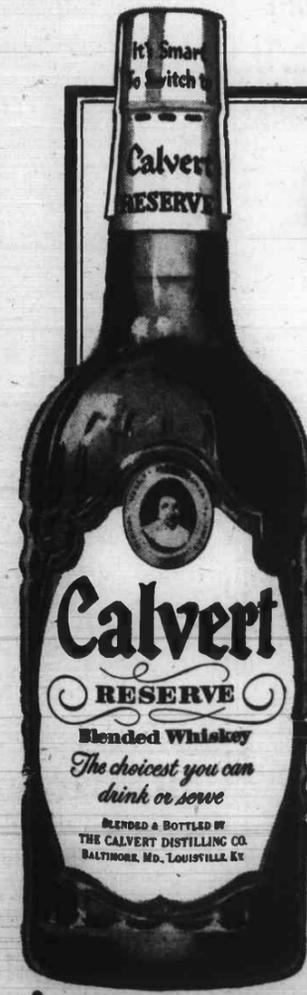
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