Afro Sports

Ali's sparring mates vie for heavy title

HOUSTON (UPI) — Four boxers, who have been understudies to Mohammad Ali for several years, have been working out in the shadow of the Astrodome for a shot at the now-vacated heavyweight title.

The four will meet Saturday in the domed stadium in an unusual fight doubleheader as the World Boxing Association launches a tournament to find a replacement for Ali.

In the first 12-round bout, slated for 4:30 p.m. (EDT), Ernie Terrell will meet Thad Spencer. Jimmy Ellis will fight Leotis Martin in the second event.

For Terrell, the tournament represents a chance to disprove the proverb: opportunity strikes but once. Terrell, a six-foot, six-inch, 210-pounder with 29 wins and five losses to his credit held the WBA Heavyweight title for a few months after Ali was banned because of a contract violation.

Then last February, Terell was humbled by Ali in the very same ring he will enter Saturday. At 28-years-old, Terrell has been boxing professionally since 1957.

* * *

SPENCER, 24, is next in line after Terrell of years of experience. He had his first pro fight in 1960, and boasts 35 wins in 40 outings.

The 27-year-old Ellis launched his career in 1961, and has posted 26 victories in 31 fights. Martin, 27, the least-known of the four, has bouts dating back to 1962.

Ellis and Martin are the only two of the fighters who have met in the ring before. Both were middleweights and amateurs at the time, and each won a decision. Both are six-feet tall and weigh about 190 pounds.

The Astrodome has a 60,000 boxing seating capacity, but even the most optomistic Houston sports association official does not expect anywhere near that many fans.

It hosted the Terrell fight, which set an indoor fight attendance record of 37,321.

Both bouts will be televised live Saturday on ABC's "Wide World of Sports." A closed-circuit broadcast is scheduled for Mexico, and Great Britain will receive the event via early bird satellite. Negotiations were underway for a hook-up to Japan with the Lani Bird satellite.

* * *

TICKETS for the twinbill range from $25 ringside to $5 for all permanent seats.

The four fighters will each receive a minimum of $50,000 for this quarterfinal affair. Later, the semifinalists will get $75,000, and the two finalists will each receive $125,000.

Both the semifinal and final bouts also are scheduled for the Dome on Nov. 11 and Dec. 2 respectively.

The other four tournament hopefuls are Floyd Patterson and Jerry Quary slated for a meeting Oct. 28 in Los Angeles, and Karl Mildenberger and Oscar Bonavena set for Sept. 16 bout in Frankfurt, Germany.

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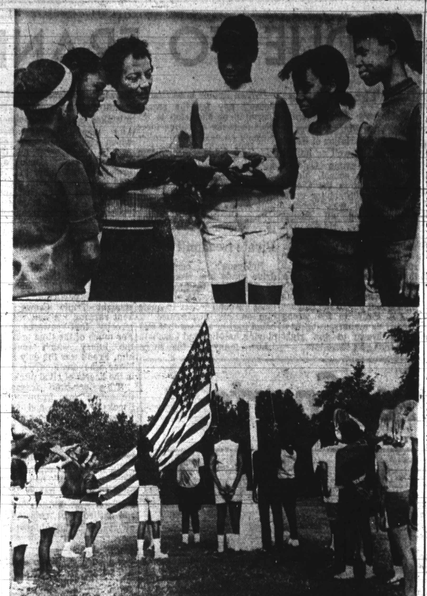

IN MEMORIAM — Photos made Sunday at YMCA's Camp Mohawk in Huntingtown, Md., show presentation of new American flag by Mrs. Louis E. Harmon, in memory of her brother, Charles C. Butler, World War veteran of D.C., who died last April. In top photo Mrs. Harmon presents flag to campers, left to right, Rachael Phillips, Gina Ross, Robin McCullum, Lynn Johnson, Carla Smith. In lower panel, campers stand at attention as flag is raised.

Mohawk's new flag given in honor of vet

A new American flag was raised at the YMCA's Camp Mohawk in Huntingtown, Md., on Sunday afternoon.

It was the gift of Mrs. Louis E. Harmon of Baltimore, and was given in memory of her brother, World War 2 Veteran Charles C. Butler of D.C. He died last April.

Mrs. Harmon the wife of the Baltimore physician who is chairman of Mohawk's campership fund which raises monies to send deserving children to camp.

* * *

THE FLAG raising exercises came as the girls closed their first week of camping. They will be enrolled for three more weeks.

A number of visitors witnessed the excises.

Those who signed the visitors' book were:

Messrs and Mesdames Spencer Lewis, Alonzer Rhodes, Louis D. Parks, Jr., Ellsworth Fitchett, Harold Browner, Stuart Turner, P. Brown, Simon Merritt, Herbert Scott, Charles Lowe, James E. Oliver, Frederick Brown, William Chambers, Leroy Coles, Sr., P. E. Brown;

Mesdames Ruth Corey, Fannie Conaway, Brenda Burley, Jennie McCoy, Rita K. Selby, Annette N. Spriggs, Martha Jerome, Margaret R. Ross, Margarite Hudson, Clara Gordon, Beverly Robinson, Loretta Newkirk

Kitchen, Yvonne Marshall, Jean E. Thompson, Gertrude A. Venable, Etta Pegram, Minnie Jones, and Mattie W. Ashton.

Misses Debbie Grant, Connie Grant, Rita Glenn, Geneva Nicholas, Shelly Grant, Mary T. Keels, Barbara A Keels, Brenda Best, Zuki Jackson, Ruth Comer, Rita Marie Petty, Delores Fitchett, Fenice L. Mannings, Renee Johnson, Bettie Johnson, Leka Merritt, and Zola Dayleson;

Messrs F. A Bailey, Jr., Mike Smith, Mike Bailey, Raymond Terrian, Ralph Tarlton, Ralph Jones, Jerome Nicholas, Ronald Mitchell, Martin Lunch, Brion C. Weila, David Ford, Lionel Thompson, Raymond

Box-seat dancer steals the show

A young lady sitting in the box seats at Colt Nite on Saturday stole the show during the halftime dance contest.

Miss Karen Hawkins, of 2703 Gwynns Falls Pkwy., responded to Kerby Scott's invitation to "stand up and dance in the aisles if you want to."

Miss Hawkins, dressed in a flopping white hat with the nickname "Bunny" on the back, provided a free show for all those who could stand on the benches to see her.

She did all the latest dances, including the currently popular "Funky Broadway" and "Shing-a-ling."

The music was payed by Alana and the Scottsmen, who shook the stadium with "The Land of a Thousand Dances." About 15 young ladies danced on the football field during the contest hosted by Kerby Scott, of TV 11.

THE WINNERS, Misses Deena Majer, Susan Newman, and Pauline Hayes, received trophie. They volunteered to participate after learning of the contest on the Kerby Scott Show, where a public announcement was made.

Disturbed when some of the fans booed certain young ladies, Mr. Scott stated, "The girls are not old enough to realize that it wasn't anything personal. The people just wanted their favorites to win. Some of the girls cried, and I felt just terrible about it."

NOBODY BOOED at Miss Hawkins. Fans came from upper decks to commend her dancing ability.

"Bunny" is 16 and attends Forest Park High School.

After seeing one show, the dancing at the stadium, the fans weren't completely disappointed when the rain washed away the remainder of the game. Score: 14-14.

Laguna, Oritz prep for Shea

NEW YORK, (UPI) — Ismael Laguna of Panama started his sparring sessions by working six rounds with three opponents Thursday in preparation for his world lightweight championship fight against Carlos Oritz Aug. 16.

Laguna worked two rounds each with Tommy Garrison, Mike Cortez and Eddie Limarde, all of New York, in the main ring of Madison Square Garden and also went a full hour with the punching bags.

Ortiz, the champion, is training at Ehsan's Camp at Summit, N.J., and worked two rounds each with two new sparring partners, Thursday. They were Jerry Dracl of Boston and Davey Atkins of Chicago.

The fight will be staged at Shea Stadium.

Costly Dropouts

HOUSTON, Tex. (UPI) — It cost Houston teachers 10 cents per for each dropout in 1966.

The teachers were paid 10 cents per day per student when the schools first opened. Teachers worked to keep enrollment at a peak, since absenteeism hurt their pocketbooks.

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Stokes benefit ball game set

MONTICELLO, N.Y. (UPI) — Wilt Chamberlain of the Philadelphia Tigers and player-coach Bill Russell of the Boston Celtics will be the opposing centers in the ninth annual Maurice Stokes Benefit Basketball game at Kutsher's Country Club Tuesday, Aug. 15.

The two all-star centers notified Jack Twyman, Stokes' lateral guardian, they will oppose each other at tap-off time for the ninth straight year. In Wilt's first appearance in this game, just before he started his professional career that resulted in a new NBA scoring record, he was selected the game's most valuable player.

Red Auerbach, front office boss of the Boston Celtics, who will coach the East All - Stars for the ninth straight year, also advised Twyman that John Havlicek of the Celtics will play in the game along with Oscar Roberson and Jerry Lucas of the Cincinnati Royals and Hal Greer of the Philadelphia 76ers.

Head A&T coach on 2 committees

GREENSBORO, N.C. — Cal Irvin, head basketball coach at A and T State University, last week was appointed to two-important committees.

Irvin was appointed to the Parks and Recreation Commission of the City of Greensboro. The appointment was announced by Forest L. Campbell, Mayor-Pro-Tem, upon authorization by Carson Bain, Mayor of the City.

Irvin was also named chairman of the Rules Recommendation Committee for District II. The appointment was announced by Press Maravich, head basketball coach at Louisiana State University, national chairman of the Rules Recommendation Committee of the National Association of Basketball Coaches.

Only Mich. Chronicle delivered during Detroit's rebellion

DETROIT (UPI) — Only one newspaper was delivered to the heart of this city during the rioting — the Michigan Chronicle, a colored weekly.

Delivery trucks from the afternoon Detroit News and morning Free Press have skirted trouble spots on the city's east and west sides.

The Chronicle, normally hand-delivered by youngsters to homes and businesses in the areas where looting and looting has been most pronounced, has continued distribution on a normal basis.

Liston dares Calif. to show bad rep

LAS VEGAS, Nev. (UPI) — Former heavyweight champion Sonny Liston criticized the California Athletic Commission Thursday for denying him a license to box in that state and dared anyone "to prove that I am associated with anyone who has a bad reputation."

"What can I say?" asked the 35-year-old Liston. "Why did they have to consult with New York — why couldn't they make their own decision?"

Liston appeared before the California Board seven weeks ago to request a license which had been denied to him in 1965. The Board announced its denial this week.

"I've got to make a living and I intend to keep on fighting," Liston said. "I guess I will be Sweden next time, but I'd like to fight here in Nevada."

Two Pirates' players fined

HOUSTON (UPI) — Manager Danny Murtaugh fined two of his Pittsburgh Pirates, Juan Pizarro and Manny Jimenez, $150 each for fighting in the dugout during the first inning of the Pirates' Friday night game with the Houston Astros.

Murtaugh said the incident was all started by a misunderstanding and that after it was over, the players shook hands.

The Pirate manager claimed that Jimenez and Manny Sanguillen were "horsing around" in the dugout in the first inning.

"Juan apparently misunderstood what was going on," Murtaugh said. "Pizarro hit Jimenez and that was about it. Sanguillen was not involved in the fight and wasn't fined. Pizarro and Jimenez are both competitive, sparky players and this was just one of those things."

It was first believed that Pizarro had taken a swing at Sanguillen, prompting Jimenez to jump into the fracas and punch Pizarro. But Murtaugh said Sanguillen was not actually involved.

Houston won the contest, 9-3.

Arvesta Kelly signed by Pittsburgh Pipers

PITTSBURGH (UPI) Arvesta Kelly leading scorer at Lincoln University last season, signed a contract with the Pittsburgh Pipers of the American Basketball League, it was announced Friday.

The 6-feet2 Kelly, who had been drafted by the St. Louis Hawks of the National Basketball Association, became the 11th player to sign with the Pipers.

Marie Yeljenick of Loomtown advocates the soft and sexy and elegant shirt and skirt for nighttime wear. Striking, is a tuxedo in black wool crepe, jacket and cummerbund in black satin and pin-tucked shirt in white.

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Entertainment

AT SAIGON — Jeanne Carroll, jazz vocalist, bells a song. AFRO Correspondent Mike Davis reports her entertainment at the club is superb.

Oily Christmas

KILGORE, Tex. (UPI) This East Texas city probably has the most expensive Christmas trees in the world.

The Chamber of Commerce decorates 50 oil derricks with thousands of colored lights each November and gives travelers for miles a Christmas - tree scene to view.

Watch Care

NEW YORK (UPI) — Watch repairers say you can add life to your timepiece by taking the watch off when you go to bed, play tennis, soak up sun at the beach, wash your hands.

They suggest also that you never tap your watch to start it. On the positive side they encourage you to wind your watch every morning, have it cleaned once a year, have cracked crystals replaced at once.

BEST SELLERS — Aretha Franklin, currently the nation's hottest disk artist, exhibits the three gold records she received from Atlantic. The Franklin singles were "I Never Loved A Man" and "Respect." She also cut an album under the title "Respect," which like the first two, sold over a million copies. At left is Jerry Wexler, Atlantic Records vice president, and at right is Ted White, Aretha's husband-manager.

NEED MORE 'SOUL' SHOWS

Tired GIs in Saigon find relaxation at USO Club

By MIKE DAVIS
AFRO Correspondent

SAIGON — It might have been the Sphinx of Pennsylvaina Ave in Baltimore, or Joe Wells Garden Supper Club on Seventh Avenue in New York City, or even the Twenty Grand in Detroit.

But it wasn't any of these places.

It was the USO in Saigon and the only time you could tell you were in a war zone was when you walked by the door and saw the armed guards and the sandbags.

But inside business was going on as usual and tired GIs, who had come by to see the Monday night show were having a good time listening to the Franz Jackson Original Jazz All-Stars.

* * *

THE ENTERTAINERS had come to Saigon under the auspices of the USO and will tour all of the bases in Vietnam.

The band played Jackson's original composition of "A Night at Red Arrow and then really brought the house down with their rendition of "No Saints."

Hightlight of the program was jazz vocalist Jeanne Carroll, a Mississippi-born singer who now makes her home in Chicago.

Asked why she selected to give up the plush supper clubs of the United States and rough it in Vietnam, the "bonomy sing replied," Anywhere my babies are, I have to be there too. I got to be there, 'cause they're mine."

* * *

THE BAND, along with Miss Carroll, has played a number of concerts at universities and jazz festivals. They have also been featured on NBC and ABC-TV and have made a number of recordings.

Another member of the band is Robare Edmondson, a native of Pueblo, Colo., who has played with Earl Hines, Josh White, Dinah Washington, Coleman Hawkins and Lonnie Simmons.

He excelled as h ewent into ecstatic solos on the bass.

James Herndon, a native of Iowa, has toured U.S. night club circuits with Oscar Brown Jr. and has appeared with Larry Steele's Smart Affairs.

The tall and slender drummer really brought the house down with his lengthy drum solos which reached crescendo after crescendo until he worked the audience up into an ecstatic frenzy.

* * *

OTHER BAND members include Arthur Reese on trombone, Dalton Nickerson on trumpet, and Joe Johnson on piano.

The USO, a club for service men overseas sponsors regular shows and Monday night's show was the first in which a large number of colored entertainers have participated.

"A lot of the entertainers back home," Jackson said, "don't realize how much it means to the boys to have some one care enough to come over here.

"But once they get here they will find that they are appreciated much more than they are in the states."

* * *

THE BAND played traditional old-style New Orleans Jazz and the warm reception they received from the white as well as the colored troops was a credit to their artistry.

"It was an excellent show. It was good. It had soul," commented E-4 Elliott Roundtree, 24, of 1725 S St. NW, Washington, D.C.

Roundtree, who has served in Vietnam for five months, said it was the best show to date for American GIs in Vietnam.

Charge airman, 22, with murder; shot another with .22

ALEXANDRIA, La. (UPI) — A 22-year-old airman stationed at England Air Force base here was charged with murder Friday in the fatal shooting of a fellow-airman.

Police arrested Varner Billops in connection with the fatal shooting of William S. Brisco, 22, of Sumter, S.C. Police said Brisco was shot five times with a .22 caliber pistol.

City detectives said the shooting occurred on the porch of a house, following an argument between the two men.

Former student now ambassador

WASHINGTON (UPI) —In 1961, a young West African student left the United States after nine years of schooling to return to his native Togo and begin practice as a surgeon.

On Thursday, the student, now Dr. Alexandre Ohin, presented his credentians to President Johnson as the new Togolese Ambassador to the United States.

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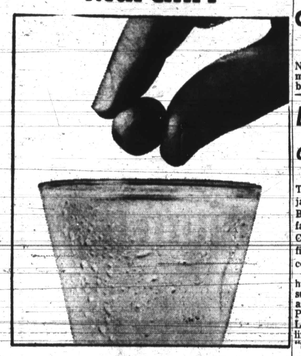

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HOLLYWOOD HAPPENINGS

Ron Pinkard goes from dialogue coach to embryo star on a lark

By WALTER BURRELL

LOS ANGELES — When Navy Corpsman Ron Pinkard met actor Raymond Burr back in 1961 while the "Perry Mason" series was filming in Long Beach, Calif., and appeared in that segment as a bit player, he never dreamed he'd meet Burr again six years later in Hollywood and be signed on as the popular actor's dialogue coach, but that's just what has happened.

For after Ron was discharged from the Navy Medical Corp in '63, he entered the University of Colorado as a pre-med major, switching later to drama. When he first came to Hollywood "to look around" in the spring of this year, nothing exceptional happened.

However, he returned to Cinema City in June, when this writer took him by the set of the upcoming series, "Ironside." He was then introduced to Burr and things started to fall into place.

"I'd be the first to admit how lucky I was," says Ron, "but it took guts too. The first day I met Burr on the dressing room and told him blankly: 'My name is Ron Pinkard. I'm a drama major from the University of Colorado and I want to act with you.'

"I bit down hard on my lip and waited for his reply, but he just stared at me. He was then called back before the cameras and told me to wait for him. I figured, 'well Ron, you've blown it now.'

"WHEN HE came back he said he thought he recognized me and I told him about the 'Perry Mason' segment back in '61. He then told me to choose a scene I'd like to read with him and return in a couple of days. I chose scene from the play, 'The Clown in Three Rings,' which was written by a fellow student of mine named Harmon Watson.

"Burr liked the reading, but pointed out that there weren't any acting roles available at that moment and offered me the position as dialogue coach in the meantime. Naturally, I accepted."

As coach, Ron proof-reads the scripts before Burr sees them, looking for character flaws and dialogue which might not be in character for Burr's role as a wheelchair-ridden detective. They then read the script aloud for several hours as Burr learns his lines.

If there's anything at all wrong with the script, Ron calls it to Burr's attention, they discuss it and Burr decides to retain or omit the line or scene.

Though he's worked with the actor only two months, Ron's opinion of him is unwavering. "Burr is an amazing man, Ron enthuses. "He has a memory like no one I've ever met and is a wonderful guy to work with.

* * *

AFTR MY contract was signed, he called my mom in Denver. He told her how nice it was to talk with her and what great expectation he had for me. He said he was going to be in Denver in the near future and hoped to meet her. He even invited her to come to Hollywood so we could show her around the studio."

Despite the fact that he's well on his way to a spiraling career in show business, Ron drifted into drama on a lark. "Up until the summer of '66 I was a pre-med major," recalls Ron. "Then I noticed a drama course in the catalog and it looked interesting, so I took it.

"Ed Rynolds, the class' instructor and a marvelous director, talked me into appearing in a Shakespearean play, but I needed money to stay in school, so I dropped out to work. The following year, however, I was to do about 15 plays, including the lead in 'Othello' and the role of the Jewish doctor in 'The Devil's Advocate.'"

By then the acting bug had taken a big bite and he was hooked. And at the moment, though he is Burr's dialogue coach, Ron is in turn being coached in acting by Burr and will probably share some roles in Burr's new series.

Ron Pinkard is indeed a talented — and fortunate — young man and is but another of the bright, aggressive young men penetrating the glitter and tinsel-shrouded world of Hollywood.

Basie delivers as always

INDIANAPOLIS (NPI) — The most explosive force in jazz today, William (Count) Basie and his internationally famous orchestra really set Clowes Memorial Hall on fire during their first jazz concert appearance recently.

The 16-piece orchestra took hand-clapping fans back to such old standard favorites as "All of Me," "It's Only a Paper Moon," "I Can't Stop Loving You," "Little Darling," "April In Paris," and "Satin Doll."

As usual, Basie again proved that he is still one of the great in jazz. The arrangements and precise timing of his band were really polished. During the evening he played for the "younger" members of the audience with such numbers as "If Ever I Should Leave You" and "I Can't Stop Loving You."

* * *

HARRY (SWEETS) EDISON, trumpet soloist, brought the house down with his rendition of "Squeeze Me," and on the ending added a few bars of "Pop Goes The Weasel."

The Count also introduced another ace-sideman: "I have a friend, Richard Boone, who has a message he'd like to lay on you." Boone, laying his trombone down, walked to the microphone and proceeded to half-sing, half-talk a blues song, using a mixture of nonsense syllables and English words called "Boonetalk."

He also sang "Fly Me To The Moon" in scat style. Boone was followed by the new band vocalist, Q. Williams who sang such favorites as "Who Can I Turn To."

Just before intermission, Rufus "Speedy" Jones, sensational new drummer, wailed a five-minute solo on his double-bass drum set which had the crowd up on its feet.

NIPSEY RUSSELL disarms the audience with his side-splitting humor during a recent appearance on the "Ed Sullivan Show."

Five Dells head toward stardom

CHICAGO — One of Chicago's most popular recording groups is finally on the move, says their management firm, Galaxy Artist Management.

The Five Dells, long noted for their unique song stylings and their superb stage manner, now recording for Chess Records, have begun the first phase of a program designed to give them maximum exposure and present them in some of the top supper clubs in the United States.

Their most recent smash hit for Chess, "Run For Cover," has been followed by another tune destined to hit the nation's record popularity charts soon. It's entitled "Inspiration."

The guys who make up the group are Johnny Carter, lead tenor; Verne Allison, second tenor; Michael McGill, baritone; Chuck Barksdale, bass and Marvin Junior, lead. They've been together since 1953, where they met as students at Thornton High School in Harvey, Ill.

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