PSEUDO-LIBERALS FROM UNDER THE RUG

By SAM LACY

Suddenly, not only the sports fans of the nation, but the entire reading public is being shocked by the rash of newspapers and magazine articles deploring "the plight of the colored athlete on college campuses". At long last, racism has been discovered. Like the Western Hemisphere was here long before 1492, racial disunity existed in Oregon, California, Michigan, Wisconsin and New York, just as it did in Alabama and Mississippi for many years prior to its sudden discovery in 1968.

I begin this piece this way because I think it should be pointed out to America's pseudo-liberal publications that they're not scoring any real "beats" . . . except on each other.

Followers of this space — and those of other established columns in essentially colored journals—have expressed some amazement that the fad of "exposing" racism in sports has recently saturated the daily press . . . from the Wall Street Journal to the Police Gazette.

For a while, I wondered where they had been for lo these many years. . .why suddenly they've come out from under the rug to blink at the truth. . .Then it occurred to me that there had been one vital and dramatic development to pinpoint the whole new concept.

Boycott threat

It was the announcement, deemed inconsequential at the time, that came out of a Sunday meeting in Los Angeles last winter . . .Colored athletes were seriously considering a boycott of the United States cause in the 1968 Olympic Games. . .Just about no one gave more than passing thought to the threat.

Older athletes pooh-poohed it, younger athletes figured it would be time to talk about it after they learned whether they would be good enough to be affected by the move.

But when Tommie Smith and Lee Evans, the two San Jose State College track sensations, described how they—despite their heroics on the field—were known by their professors only as "the fastest n . . . on campus," many of the colored football and basketball stars in other North ern colleges commenced to evaluate their own lives.

Basketball hit

Then UCLA All-Americans Lew Alcindor and Mike Warren let it be known that they, too, sufficiently resented second-class citizenship in America to withhold a desire to compete for Uncle Sam at Mexico. They declined invitations to try out for the U.S. Olympic basketball team. . .Then Elvin Hayes of Houston, and Westley Unseld of Louisville, two more All-Americans, disqualified themselves. . .While both signed lucrative contracts to play pro ball, there are many who believe that their motives were not governed entirely by monetary pursuits.

Within weeks after the withdrawls of Alcindor, Hayes, et al, several outstanding white players announced their unavailability for Olympic competition. . .Neal Walk of Florida, Larry Miller of North Carolina, and Don May of Dayton, each of whom held high All-America status, pulled out of the trials. . .Walk, who still has a year of college remaining, said he needed the time for study. . .Miller and May said they needed the pro money that was awaiting them.

Clairvoyance?

Since any of these fellows could have commanded virtually the same bonus (with the NBA and ABA waging their continuing battle for talent), it is to be wondered whether they foresaw too much weakness in the U.S. cage squad to want to become associated with it. . .If that is the case, their judgment appears, at the moment sound. . .The United States has never lost a basketball game in Olympic competition.

But the other day, when the team which will represent Uncle Sam at Mexico City, returned from a tour of Europe, it reported the loss of a 5-game series to the Russians (3-2) and the dropping of two games to such impotent international competitors as Finland and Yugoslavia.

Then they took over

But back to the original point of this piece. . .It was not until that small, inconsequential Sunday morning announcement in Los Angeles, that colored athletes began to take stock of themselves.

That's when the campus strikes commenced. . .that's when the athletic departments were grabbed by the throats and told to straighten up. . .that's when a general review of coaching practices and attitudes was "urged"...that's when appointments of colored coaches in places like the University of California, Michigan State, Washington, Southern California, UCLA, Minnesota and Missouri suddenly became commonplace.

That's also when the pseudo-liberal writers took over.

Slip is tip

You may be ready to jump me for this attitude toward people who appear inclined to help eradicate the problems by exposing these racist conditions . . .You may wonder why I call them pseudo-liberals. But you wouldn't if you kept a careful watch on their behavior.

One of them, Joe Sargis of the United Press International, stumbled the other day. Shortly after discussing the shabby treatment of colored stars at a West Coast school, Sargis reverted to the pre-Stepin Fetchit, Amos-and-Andy, Aunt Jemima, Little-Black-Sambo era. . .reporting on victories by Earl McCullouch and Lennox Miller, the University of Southern California, "gold dust twins."

SAM LACY

A to Z

Strawder quits NBA Pistons

PEORIA, Ill. (UPI) — Joe Strawder, 6-foot 10-inch starting center the past three seasons for the National Basketball Association's Detroit Pistons, announced his retirement from the Pistons Thursday night.

Strawder, 27, said during a television interview he was retiring because of numerous injuries and inability to get along with the Piston management.

Strawder, who has a year to run yet on his present contract with Detroit, said he was suspended "indefinitely" from the team at one point last season, but was allowed to return to action near the end of the year.

He said he was suspended because he missed a team plane flight.

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STRAWDER said he has undergone six operations over the last three years after suffering knee and back injuries which seriously hampered his play.

Strawder said he was unsure if he would return to basketball. He said he is considering going into public relations work.

Strawder, a native of Belle Grade, Fla., is a graduate of Bradley University here.

Wilt 'no villain,' just doing job for self and club

LOS ANGELES — Quietly but firmly, Wilt Chamberlain let it be known last weekend that he is not the villain "many people" try to make him out to be, and that his chief aim in life is to do "a good job for myself and my club."

Wilt emphatically denied that he had "any serious differences" with his former team,the Philadelphia 76ers, and expressed complete confidence in a good relationship with the Los Angeles Lakers.

THE FABULOUS 7-foot, 2-inch star of the National Basketball Association discussed the trade which sent him from Philadelphia to Los Angeles last week in exchange for three players, and explained some of the details which previously had remained muddled.

"Many people have tried to point me as some sort of villain in my negotiations," Chamberlain told the AFRO. "I am not that at all.

"I have a talent to sell and anyone can buy who has the money to pay for it. It's as simple as that.

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"A MAN builds a house or makes an automobile. It is in his judgment a better house or a better automobile than the others which are being sold. He takes a look at the others, sees what they're bringing on the market, and reaches an assessment on his own

"That's all I do. Maybe I'm a little more stubborn than another fellow, but some people have a higher regard of themselves than others.

"If I don't get what I think my house is worth, I just don't sell. The buyer doesn't have me facing him with a gun. He has a choice to make — he wants me or he doesn't.

"Does that make me some kind of villain or monster?"

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"YOU SEE, that's what I meant when I said I try to do a job for both myself and the club.

"I couldn't play ball for anyone if I thought I was being undermined. I wouldn't be happy, so I'd be unable to make them happy.

"The greatest mistake that can be made in professional sports," he added, "is for a team to have hopes of a winning record with dissatisfied athletes.

"I'd never be one of that kind."

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DOES WILT think the treatment he receives from his various bosses now — or will eventually — cause dissension among his teammates?

"That really isn't my concern," he replied. "There may be a discontent here or there, but in the long run if I help them pick up that extra dollar or so in the playoffs or championships, they'll forget their irritations.

"Really, though," Chamberlain added, "I regard all these fellows as pros. They're in the same league with me; all they have to do is demand what they think they're worth and get it or get out. I'd be for them 100 percent.

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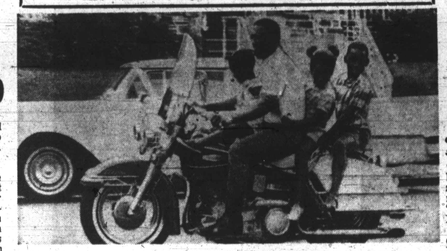
IS IT TRUE, as far as Wilt can say, that the trade between the Lakers and 76ers, was a straight player deal, with no cash involved?

"I have no way of knowing, and I'm not able to see that it concerns me."

Would he suppose that it was due to the high state of his salary and the long term of the contract, that the Los Angeles Club pleaded inability to meet any cash demands by his old club?

"That, too, is not my business." SAM LACY

AFRO Sports



FUN FOR THE FAMILY — While talk of title defenses fill the air, New York-Massachusetts.... heavyweight champion Joe Frazier cuts up fun touches with his family. Philly slugger is shown on motorcycle with children (left to right) Weatta 4, Jacqueline 6, and Marius 7.

College prexy admits racism on his campus

EL PASO, Tex. — Discontent among the colored athletes at the University of Texas El Paso, exposed by a national sports magazine this month, is "deep running and justified," UTEP president James Ray said Friday night.

"I've learned a great deal from these articles," Ray said. "I had no idea there was this much discontent among colored

"Many of the damaging parts of the articles can't be refuted." he said.

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IN A HALF-HOUR television interview, Ray discussed the series of articles which cited open discountenance among colored athletes and stirred outrage over quotes on which athletic director George McCarthy called the athletes "N . . rs."

Ray said he expected the N.C.A.A to investigate charges the UTEP players were being paid, but termed such statements "very loose charges and a disservice" by the magazine reporter.

"In nearly all instances, he took down statements as facts and failed to check them out," Ray said.

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THE AMERICAN way of life segregates these boys, not UTEP, Ray said, noting the colored athletes voiced discontent over being left out of some parts of campus life.

"It's a matter of life that it's a shock when a colored athlete is seen walking across campus holding hands with a white girl," the president said.

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HE SAID the boys complained they had been misled in their expectations from UTEP, but added, "it is only natural to oversell" when coaches were recruiting players.

"Because you want a good team, you bring some boys from outside their natural environment. They become unhappy," Ray said.

He said he expected the series of articles to have a serious impact on recruiting athletes to the El Paso campus in the future.

Ellis-Frazier feelers for Astrodome revealed

HOUSTON (UPI) — Promotor Fred Hofheinz said this week the undisputed world championship might be settled in the Astrodome Jan. 15.

Hofheinz said he would try to arrange a meeting between champions Jimmy Ellis and Joe Frazier, if Ellis whips Floyd Patterson in Stockholm Sept. 14, and if Frazier wins the next fight, either with Jerry Quarry or Boone Kirkman this fall.

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FRAIZER'S MANAGER, Yank Durham said in Philadelphia he has not heard anything about the proposed fight and had no word at all from Hofheinz.

"But we'll fight Ellis anytime," he said. "Anytime he wants to get squared away, we're willing to talk."

Durham said one of the conditions for Frazier to fight in any city is that he must be recognized there as champ before obligations are made to any promoter.

"We must have that," he said.

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HOFHEINZ SAID he would go into the fight negotiations with two big trump cards.

"First is the contract I have with Ellis in the name of Sports Action, Inc., which has all his ancillary rights," he said. "The other is that that week in January in Houston will see about 50,000 non-Houstonians in town crying for entertainment in the Astrodome.

ELLIS IS recognized as the champion by the World Boxing Association after winning an elimination tournament. Frazier is recognized by five state athletic commissions—New York, Massachusetts, Maine, Pennsylvania and Illinois.

Hofheinz said Ellis, because of the contract with Sports Action, would probably agree. And, he said Frazier was interested.

"He's just like Ellis, sitting back and waiting for the best deal," Hofheinz said.

He said he considered Madison Square Garden in New York City the main competition for staging of the bout.

Olympian turns pro

DETROIT (UPI) — Earl McCullouch, the Detroit Lions No. 1 draft choice from the University of Southern California, ended months of speculation on whether he would try for the U.S. Olympic team when he inked a National Football League contract last weekend.

McCullouch said he chose to sign with the Lions now because he wanted to take part in this year's All-Star game and become a member of the team this season.

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"I HAVE been wrestling with the decision for a long time," said McCullouch after putting his name on the contract.

"It hasn't been an easy one to make.

"But while I have had many goals as a collegian, one of them always has been to become an outstanding professional football player. That time has now come," the 22-year-old speedy receiver said.

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AS ONE of the best hurdlers and sprinters, the 5-foot-11, 178 pound flanker was rated a top prospect for the Olympic Games this year. He was the leading pass receiver on USC's national champion team in 1967 with 30 receptions for 540 yards.

Rated the fastest man in the world for 20 yards, McCullouch holds or shares many national and world records. He ran the first leg on USC's 440-yard relay team which holds a world's record of 38.6 seconds.

Timmy Brown to follow Jim Brown in show business

The glittering world of show business has lured another Brown away from the National Football League.

Timmy Brown, the flashy offensive halfback obtained by the Baltimore Colts in an off season trade with the Philadelphia Eagles, Friday quit pro football to devote his time to acting and singing.

Brown, who commuted between Philadelphia and New York last season to take acting lessons, joins another former NFL great, Jimmy Brown of Cleveland, in the football player-to-actor transition.

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THE COLTS, who announced Brown's retirement Friday night, said the deal which sent defensive back Alvin Hammond to the Eagles will stand. A Colt spokesman said Joe Kuharich, the Eagles' coach and general manager, would "make some adjustments and might substitute a draft choice."

Brown had been expected to utilize his breakaway running talents as a complement to Johnny Unitas' passing and Colt officials hoped the combination could produce the NFL title which bearely eluded them last season.

The Colts were unbeaten until the final game of the 1967 season when they lost to the Los Angeles Rams, who lost the Western Conference title to Green Bay, the eventual world champion.

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BROWN WAS consistently one of the league's most versatile running backs in his nine-year pro career, amassing more than 12,000 yards in total offense. The 31-year-old speedster from Ball State College (Ind.) set a total offense record of 2425 yards in 1963 and became the first back in NFL history to return two kickoffs for touchdowns against Dallas in 1966.

Brown, who became injury prone in his last few seasons with the Eagles, was traded to Baltimore Jan. 31 after a mild feud with his former club.

He was drafted by Green Bay upon graduation from Ball State and spent a year on the Packer taxi squad before being unconditionally released. Brown signed with Philadelphia as a free agent.

TIMMY BROWN

Rosey Grier may quit grid to sing

SEATTLE (UPI) — Roosevelt Grier says his career as a professional football player may be over because the Achillies tendon he injured last season hasn't responded to surgery.

Grier, in Seattle to plug his latest record, "People Make the World," told newsmen he may leave the Los Angeles Rams and become a full time entertainer.

"I just don't see how I could play with the foot hurting," he said. "It hasn't come around like I thought it would."

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GRIER, A Penn State graduate, also said he may be through with politics.

As a champaign worker for the late Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, it was Grier who wrestled Sirhan Sirhan to the floor in the Ambassador Hotel and took away the suspect pistol.

Grier said he hasn't been able to muster much interest in politics since. Although a Democrat, the 6-5 tackle who weighs about 300 pounds, said he presently favor Republican Gov. Nelson Rockefeller of New York for the presendency.

"His philosophy is closer to what I feel should be don," he said.

GRIER PLAYED eight seasons with the New York Giants before going to the Rams where he performed for five seasons.

As for the future, "I just want to be a good entertainer," he said.

Grier has cut one album and several single records and has a weekly television show in Los Angeles.

The Outdoor Scene

Nine whooping crane eggs taken from the Canadian wilds late in May have hatched at the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center in Laurel, Maryland, and Interior Secretary Stewart Udall hailed the achievement "a major success in man's battle to preserve this rare bird."

The cooperative expedition involving the Canadian Wildlife Service and Interior's Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife resulted in the removal of the eggs and one newly hatched whooper from the nests.

IN 1941, only 15 whooping cranes were counted at their winter home at the Aransas National Wildlife Refuge in Texas, but conservation efforts since have reversed the tide, Udall said.

Last year the wild population had climbed to 48 and 22 cranes in captivity.

The captive stock is expected to increase further if eggs produced by a mating pair at the San Antonio Zoo produce live young.

The Zoo is artifically incubating one of the eggs, another was left under the birds, and three were shipped to Patuxent.

Former AFL star Faison, coaching

SAN DIEGO, Calif. — Earl Faison, 29, four-time All-AFL defensive lineman, succeeded Walt Cubley as line coach at Lincoln High School last weekend.

Faison was American Football League rookie of the year with the San Diego Chargers in 1961, and was All-AFL in 1961, 1963, 1964 and 1965. A knee injury halted his career in 1966.

Besides coaching Faison will teach at Lincoln. He is qualified to teach social studies and physical education.

Big three?

NEW YORK (UPI) — Gary Player, one of pro golf's "Big Three," hasn't won a tournament since the 1965 U.S. Open.

Bob Foster signs for Polite bout

NEW YORK (UPI) — Heavyweight champion Bob Foster, making his first ring appearance since winning the title from Dick Tiger, will meet Charley Polite in an over-the-weight bout in Springfield, Mass. July 29.

Foster began training at Grossinger, N.Y. on Friday for the bout. After meeting Polite, Foster plans to have several more non-title bouts including one against Roger Rouse in Montana.

Keino defeated at 10,000 meters

OSLO, Norway (UPI) — World record holder Ron Clarke of Australia, won his second consecutive race against Kenya's Kipchoge Keino Thursday night by outdistancing Keino and the field in the 10,000 meters race at Bislet Stadium.

Clarke was timed in 28:18.6 in easily beating the Kenya runner.

Keino, competing in his first 10,000 meters event, finished third behind countryman Naftali Temu, runnerup in 28:27.4.

Clarke and Keino battled it out during the most of the race until the Aussie cut loose with two laps remaining.

Soc 'er to 'em

SANTOS, Brazil (UPI) — Veteran superstar Pele, the world famous forward of the Santos soccer team, draws an annual salary of $400,000.

AFRO Sports

CENTER ATTRACTION — Leroy (Hurricane) Roberts gets a shot at bigger matches and money Thursday night when he meets Dick DiVeronica at Civic Center. The latter, a product of Canastota, N. Y., is unbeaten in Baltimore.

REGISTER to VOTE
August 12, last day to register to VOTE in Sept. 10 PRIMARY

Tenn. State fires coach

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Ed Martin, head basketball coach at South Carolina State College, was appointed Monday to replace fired Tennessee State University coach Harold Hunter.

Martin, who compiled a 246-87 record in 13 years at South Carolina State, will bring his assistant Don Corbett with him to TSU.

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HUNTER WAS fired at the predominantly colored school, formerly known as Tennessee A and I, after a series of disagreements with the administration.

Hunter said he has until September to decide whether to stay at the school as a faculty member.

He has been at odds with the university administration over scheduling of basketball games with AAU teams rather than with regular college teams.

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DURING HIS nine years at TSU, Hunter had a 155-58 record.

The university said the school's basketball program had deteriorated during the past few years.

Martin led South Carolina State to nine post season playoffs. The Bulldogs played in six College Division NCAA tournaments and three NAIA playoffs, reaching the playoffs eight straight years.

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Colts 'shaped up,' ready for camp

Veteran players of the Baltimore Colts, already "shaped up" for the most part, are prepared to join their rookie teammates tomorrow (Wednesday) morning at Western Maryland College.

According to Tony Lorick, John Mackey and Willie Richardson, three of coach Don Shula's offensive mainstays, most of the team "can be ready to play in ten days or two weeks."

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THE INTEREST in training camp apparently didn't come about as suddenly as it appears. Like many players on other NFL teams, they were not willing to wait for differences to be ironed out in the strike deadlock between management of the players association.

"Heck, we've been holding our own workouts," declared Willie Richardson when questioned by the AFRO. "A group of us —including Tony (Lorick) and (John) Mackey — have been conducting our own drills out at Bryan Mawr for almost a month.

"We've been pacing ourselves, running, exercising, and otherwise preparing. We were all satisfied things would get squared away, and none of us wanted to be caught cold, so that we'd have too far to go to get ready."

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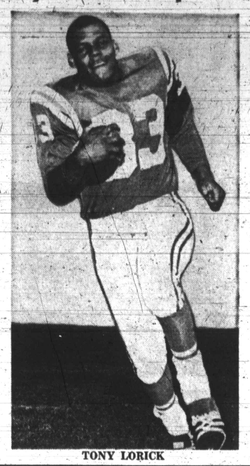
AMONG THE established regulars who have been drilling with Johnny Unitas, Lorick, etc., were Roy Hilton, who was the starting defensive end at the close of last season; Bob Vogel, the all-pro tackle; bonus baby Ray Perkins, a split end from Alabama, and Jim Ward, the strongarmed young stand-in at quarterback for Unitas.

Meanwhile, the classy Bob Grant from Wake Forest, was a standout in the early drills of rookies in camp since Sunday.

Grant was the No. 2 draft choice and is regarded by Shula and other Stoed officials a "can't miss" of the future. SAM LACY.

ROY HILTON



TONY LORICK

TENNIS DOUBLE — Bessie Stockard of Washington, D.C., annexed two titles in the Baltimore Open tennis tournament at Baltimore over the weekend. Miss Stockard copped the women's singles, then teamed with Willie Thomas, also of D.C. to take the mixed doubles crown.

D.C. entries cop Balto. net titles

Entries from Washington, D.C., captured six of ten titles decided in the Sunday finals of the Baltimore Tennis Club's annual tournament at Druid Hill Park.

The powerful captial city aggregation also shared in a seventh victory and narrowly missed an eighth.

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LEADING THE vanguard was Bessie Stockard, who came out of the tourney a double champion. The youthful Miss Stockard won women's singles honors, defeating Ruby Pennington, also of Washington, in straight sets, 6-2, 6-3.

For Miss Stockard, it was her second singles crown in eight days. The previous week, she won the women's final of a tournament sponsored by a local daily newspaper.

Within two hours after taking the singles trophy, Bessie teamed with Willis Thomas, still another Washingtonian, to defeat Elaine Busch of Philadelphia, and Roosevelt Thomas of Washington, 6-4, 6-2.

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OTHER D.C. winners were Dr. Thomas Calhoun in men's singles, Weldon Rogers in the 16-and-under boys' bracket, Bob Miller in senior singles, Dr. Calhoun and Wilbur Jenkins in men's doubles, and Edgar Lee, who paired with John Manna of Philadelphia, in senior men's doubles.

Dr. Calhoun turned back fellow-townsman Norman Fitz, 6-3, 6-2. Rogers defeated Dana Nottingham in the younger competition after bowing to Davie Williams of Newport News in the 18-and-under finals. Rogers' victory was by a 6-1, 6-4 margin.

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MILLER CAME from behind to down Ronald Fleurleteau of New York City, 6-8, 6-2, 6-0.

The Calhoun-Jenkins duo acquired the doubles crown via a 6-3, 7-5, win over Dr. Clyde Freeman and Norman Fitz. And, the Lee-Manns team whipped Baltimore's Rip Williams and Al Brown of Newark, 6-1, 6-1.

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A PAIR of Newark girls, Doris Henderson and Sylvia Hooks, took the women's doubles championship. They defeated Ann Koger and Elaine Busch.

Miss Koger's younger sister, Pat, however, captured honors in the 18-and-under bracket among the girls. She bested Odette Haylock of Baltimore, 6-3, 6-4.

BIGGEST CACHE — Renee Powell of Cleveland, newest member of the professional golfing tour, bagged her biggest payoff Sunday in the LPGA Open tournament at Columbus, Ohio. Miss Powell, only in her second year on the circuit, tied for seventh behind winner Carol Mann, and received $1,070 of the prize money. Her 215 was nine strokes off the winner.

August date set for Gypsy Joe, Emile

PHILADELPHIA — The middleweight bout between Gypsy Joe Harris of Philadelphia, and former champion Emile Griffith, twice postponed has been rescheduled for Aug. 6 at the Spectrum here.

The original date of July 8 was postponed until July 15 because of a groin injury Griffith received in a recent fight. It was again postponed after Griffith reinjured himself during a training session last week for the August fight.

Dr. Wilbur H. Strickland, Pennsylvania State Athletic Commission physician, examined Griffith and announced Tuesday he was fit for the August fight.

'Big Train' Lincoln upsets Joey Orbillo

LOS ANGELES (UPI) — Amos "Big Train" Lincoln moved back into the ranks of heavyweight title contenders Thursday as a result of his upset victory at the Olympic Auditorium over Joe Orbillo.

Lincoln, 209, unleashed a powerful two-handed attack in the 10th round that staggered the dazed Orbillo, 191, and resulted in a unanimous decision for the veteran.

Orbillo, at one time ranked on a par with Jerry Quarry as one of the leaiting young heavyweight prospects, appeared sluggish but landed occasional jabs to keep the bout even for nine rounds.

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The Barbados police force, founded in 1835, was the first police force in the British West Indies.

Floyd plans Swedish home

STOCKHOLM (UPI) — Former world heavyweight champion Floyd Patterson will become a resident of Sweden following his world title fight against Jimmy Ellis here on Sept. 14.

According to the Stockholm newspaper, Expressen, Patterson has decided to buy a house in Sweden where he, his wife and small daughter Janene will live half the year. The other half of the year they will spend in New York.

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FLOYD MARRIED Janet Seaquist almost two years ago. His wife is a daughter of a former Swedish policeman who moved to the United States many years ago.

"We want to buy a house in Sweden because I love Sweden and the Swedes, and Janet rather wants to have a house in the country where her father grew up," Patterson said.

Patterson has had three previous fights in Sweden and is extremely popular here.

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