

SPORTRAIT 5-4 SX

ADV FOR PM MON MAY 5 1969

TODAY'S SPORTRAIT

(REG. U.S. PAT. OFF.)

BY JOE SARGIS

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SAN JOSE, CALIF. (UPI)--JOHN CARLOS ISN'T MAD AT ANYONE.

HE HARDLY COULD BE. IT JUST ISN'T IN HIS MAKE-UP. HE'D JUST AS SOON FORGIVE AND FORGET RATHER THAN PURPOSELY UPSET ANYONE.

IT FIGURES, IF YOU KNOW CARLOS, THE BIG, HAPPY-GO-LUCKY SPEED BURNER WHO EASILY FILES YESTERDAY INTO THE "YESTERDAY BASKET" AND TALKS INSTEAD ABOUT TODAY, TOMORROW AND THE NEXT DAY.

"I'M NOT SORRY FOR ANYTHING I'VE EVER DONE," HE SAID THE OTHER DAY SHORTLY AFTER RUNNING THE FASTEST 100 YARDS IN HISTORY. "I'VE ALWAYS TRIED TO DO WHAT I THOUGHT WAS RIGHT AND I NEVER ONCE DELIBERATELY HURT ANYONE."

OF COURSE, HE WAS ALLUDING TO HIS FIST WAVING ON THE VICTORY STAND AT THE 1968 OLYMPIC GAMES IN MEXICO CITY, AND OTHER SITUATIONS WHERE SOME PEOPLE WERE OFFENDED BY HIS BEHAVIOR.

"PEOPLE WILL THINK WHATEVER THEY WANT TO THINK AND MOST OF THE TIME YOU ARE JUST WASTING YOUR BREATH TRYING TO EXPLAIN HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT A SITUATION," HE SAID, NEVER ONCE MENTIONING MEXICO CITY.

"I FIGURE EVERYONE HAS A RIGHT TO HIS OPINIONS, INCLUDING ME. I'M NOT MAD AT ANYONE. I HAVE MY THING AND I'M DOING IT THE BEST WAY

I KNOW HOW."

HIS "THING" IS RUNNING FAST AND IN THE SAN JOSE STATE INVITATIONAL LAST WEEKEND HE FLASHED THE CENTURY IN A FANTASTIC NINE SECONDS FLAT. HE HAD AN EXCESSIVE AIDING WIND TO HIS BACK, BUT WIND OR NO WIND NO ONE EVER HAS RUN THE 100 THAT FAST.

CARLOS' COACH, BUD WINTER, CALLED IT ONE OF THE GREATEST PERFORMANCES OF ALL TIME, AND WINTER IS NOT THE TYPE EASILY TAKEN TO EXAGGERATION.

"IF HE HADN'T THROWN HIS ARMS UP IN THE AIR IN THE VICTORY SIGN BEFORE HITTING THE WIRE HE MIGHT HAVE EVEN CLIPPED OFF ANOTHER SECOND," SAID WINTER. "RIGHT NOW, THERE IS NO TELLING HOW FAST HE REALLY CAN RUN."

WINTER, WHO RECRUITED CARLOS FOR SAN JOSE STATE, CALLS JOHN A "CHARACTER." HE MEANS IT IN AN AFFECTIONATE WAY.

"WHAT TRACK AND FIELD NEEDS IS MORE GUYS LIKE HIM," SAID WINTER. "SURE, HE TALKS A LOT, AND HE STUNTS, AND HE LIKES TO VISIT WITH THE CROWD, BUT HE CAN RUN, AND THAT TAKES CARE OF ALL THAT OTHER STUFF. GIVE ME A MAN WHO CAN PERFORM AND I'LL OVERLOOK EVERYTHING ELSE."

SOME FANS GET THE IMPRESSION CARLOS IS A SHOWBOAT, A ONE MAN SHOW INTERESTED ONLY IN HIS OWN PERFORMANCES. THEY COULDN'T BE MORE WRONG.

"JOHN IS A TEAM MAN ALL THE WAY," SAID WINTER. "HE TAKES A DEEP INTEREST IN EVERYTHING WE ARE DOING AS A TEAM AND HE IS READY TO RUN ANYTIME YOU ASK HIM TO."

A COUPLE OF WEEKS AGO, CARLOS GAVE FANS IN KNOXVILLE, TENN., A SAMPLE OF HIS VERSATILITY. HE RIPPED OFF A 9.5 IN THE 100 WITH THE WIND IN HIS FACE, THEN ANCHORED THE SPARTAN 440 AND 880 YARD RELAY TEAMS TO 39.5 AND 1:22.7 VICTORIES.

TWO WEEKS AGO AT THE MT. SAN ANTONIO RELAYS HE WON THE 100 IN 9.2, FASTEST CLOCKING FOR THE DISTANCE THIS YEAR UNTIL HIS WIND AIDED NINE FLAT LZST WEEKEND.

"I'M JUST NOW GETTING INTO TOP SHAPE," CARLOS SAID. "BY THE TIME WE HIT FRESNO (THE WEST COAST RELAYS) THIS WEEKEND I SHOULD BE JUST RIGHT."

ONE DAY LAST WEEK CARLOS PREDICTED HE WILL DO AN WIMI OR 8.9 100 THIS SEASON.

"I KNOW I CAN DO IT IF SOMEONE RUNS WITH ME THE FIRST 50 YARDS," HE SAID. "THAT'S THE RECORD I WANT BECAUSE NEXT YEAR I'M GOING TO CONCENTRATE ON FOOTBALL."

CARLOS, AT 6-4 AND 190 POUNDS, WOULD BE IDEAL AS A FLANKER BUT HE WANTS NO PART OF THAT. HE SAYS HE IS GOING TO TRY OUT AS A RUNNING BACK.

"A MAN MY SIZE WHO CAN RUN WOULD HELP A TEAM MORE AS A BALL CARRIER THAN A 'FANCY DAN' PASS CATCHER," HE SAID. "I'D LIKE TO CARRY THE BALL BECAUSE I DON'T THINK ANYONE CAN CATCH ME IF I GET PAST THE LINE."

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NO AMOUNT OF PRODDING THESE DAYS CAN GET CARLOS TO TALK ABOUT MEXICO CITY. AS FAR AS HE IS CONCERNED THAT'S A CLOSED BOOK IN HIS LIFE, BUT LEE EVANS, HIS SAN JOSE STATE TEAMMATE, REVEALED AN INTERESTING FOOTNOTE TO THE 1968 OLYMPICS THE OTHER DAY.

EVANS, CARLOS AND TOMMIE SMITH WERE THE PRIME MOVERS BEHIND A PROPOSED BLACK BOYCOTT OF THE OLYMPIC GAMES. WHEN THE PROJECT FELL THROUGH THE THREE PROMISED SOME SORT OF DEMONSTRATION AT THE GAMES.

SMITH AND CARLOS RAISED GLOVED FISTS DURING THE VICTORY CEREMONY FOLLOWING THE 200 METER DASH, THEN WERE DISMISSED FROM THE AMERICAN TEAM. EVANS WAS SO SHAKEN UP HE AGONIZED OVER COMPETING IN THE 400 METER RUN THE FOLLOWING DAY AND HAD JUST ABOUT MADE UP HIS MIND TO SCRATCH WHEN CARLOS PAID HIM AN UNEXPECTED VISIT.

"JOHN CAME TO SEE ME," SAID EVANS, "AND HE TOLD ME TO RUN. 'JUST GO OUT THERE AND DO YOUR THING,' HE SAID. 'WE'VE ALREADY DONE OURS. WINNING THE RACE FOR YOURSELF AND THE TEAM IS THE BIG THING.' "

ADV FOR PMS MON MAY 5

JH/CP804PPD

LA '69

SAN JOSE, Calif. AP - San Jose State's John Carlos bettered the world record in the 100 yard dash Saturday afternoon but his time of 9.0 seconds can't be accepted for a new mark because of aiding wind.

Carlos, who last week ran the year's fastest time of 9.2, was clocked in 9.0 on three of the four first place watches. The other watch had 9.1. But the aiding wind of 15.6 miles an hour was well over the allowable 4.473 m.p.h.

Second in the race, but far back, was Spartan teammate Ronnie Ray Smith with Billy Gaines third and Charlie Greene

fourth, all timed in 9.3.

Carlos leaped off the blocks into an immediate five yard lead and didn't lose a yard of it. With just inches remaining in the race, Carlos was so confident he had a world record, he threw his hands high over his head. It may have cost him a tenth of a second.

“This was the race of the century,” said San Jose State Coach Bud Winter. “Track needs a guy like this to brighten things up. There is no doubt he could get the world record this year. He'll have a chance in the big meets coming up.”

DH 7pps May 3

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