

San Jose

Negro Students' Angry Protest

From Page 1

what they say has been years of smoldering resentment among Negro students into a dynamic force for betterment.

Edwards is a giant of a man, bespectacled, goateed, charismatic. He speaks with an eloquent sarcasm. When he started to speak at 11 a.m. yesterday he had an audience of 50 — more white than black, mostly students, a hippie or two, a small knot of young men wearing Black Panther buttons. When he finished, an hour later, he had an audience of perhaps 500.

CHORUS

"We haven't got to the point," said Edwards, "where we're going to have to burn it all down. But we're getting there. And if we can't solve racial problems on a public California campus, then we might as well forget about Newark and Detroit and Watts. Because it's hopeless, and we might as well say that Brother (Rap) Brown and Brother (Stokely) Carmichael are right!"

As Edwards continued, the Black Panthers acted like a Greek chorus, accenting his points: "Sock it to 'em, Brother!" "Run it on down, Brother!"

"There's supposed to be a housing law," Edwards complained. "But there's no sign it's being enforced. Black students are sleeping in bath tubs, in basements. They say there's a housing shortage, I can show you 'vacancy' signs everywhere, but they're not vacant for Negroes."

MOTEL

"Why, I know for a fact that five black San Jose football players are being forced to live in a motel. Why can't they find these athletes a place to live?"

(The college says it will not list any housing that is not open to all races. Housing director Robert L. Baron says that student housing is very scarce, but denies that Negroes are discriminated against.)

"Black athletes can't get into fraternities," Edwards charged. "Myself, I don't believe in that fraternity nonsense; but at the start of every year the white athletes get set up with dates and dances, but not the blacks."

"They go everywhere to recruit black athletes — they went all the way to East St. Louis, Illinois, to get me — and then they expect us to give our blood and sweat and our bones and get nothing in return."

PROGRAM

Edwards then outlined a week-long program that the United Black Students — among them Lee Evans, a star 440-yard dash man — plan to carry out:

- The college administration building and the Physical Education building will be picketed.
- A formal resolution of complaints and demands will be printed and distributed on campus.
- Appeals will be made to other Negro groups.

"Unless there is concrete evidence by 11 o'clock Friday that the administration has taken steps to correct

these conditions," Edwards warned, "then we'll act."

"We'll disrupt everything. There will be no football game this Saturday night. We'll send men out onto the playing field."

"We'll block off Fraternity Row and we'll pitch tents in front of the fraternity houses. And let me tell you this, if any Neanderthal type decides to throw garbage on us or get smart like that, he'd just better have his hospitalization papers in order."

LAUGHTER

This got the biggest hand — and the most derisive laughter — of all.

When Edwards finished, he was followed to the microphone by spokesmen for Negro students at San Jose City College and San Francisco State College. Each offered support, each warned against trusting "white liberals."

The college's President Clark made a quiet, conciliatory speech. He said he agreed with Edwards. He said perhaps the problem was that the white community was unaware of what was going on.

HEARINGS

Complaints should be heard, President Clark said. And it was announced that open hearings would be held every afternoon this week in the college's Engineering Building.

Several others took the microphone as the crowd started to drift away. Among them was a white girl who asked Edwards why he had chosen to go to San Jose State instead of a school in St. Louis; another white girl who said "exploiting capitalists" were basically the trouble; a shirtless hippie who said, incoherently, that he was ready to join up; and a Black Panther who indicated his group would help — either violently or non-violently.

Edwards concluded: "You heard what he (the Panther) had to say. That's where it's at. If things don't get better than this, Uncle Tom won't be able to cool it any longer."

Angry Negroes at San Jose State

J.F. Chromele
7/19/67

By William Chapin

Militant Negroes at San Jose State College threatened yesterday to sabotage campus life unless the administration comes up with "a fair deal" for members of their race.

They charge deep, if subtle, discrimination at the huge State university — in housing, on the athletic fields, and along fraternity row.

They put forward their protests, bitterly, loudly, at an outdoor rally yesterday morning on campus. And the administration — in the person of president Robert D. Clark — was there to listen.

The rebellion (and it sounds like a rebellion) is being led by Harry Edwards, 24, a former basketball star at San Jose State and now a faculty member in the sociology department.

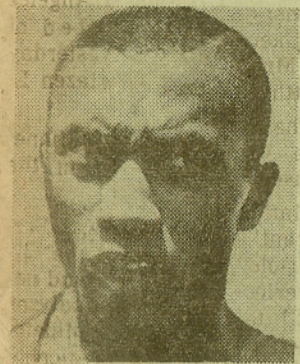
He and his fellow militants have banded together as the United Black Students for Action; they hope to change

9/22/67

Art Rosenbaum

THERE IS NO ready answer for the racial tension at San Jose State. Harry Edwards, a Negro and former basketball player for the Spartans, now a member of the faculty in the sociology department, charges discrimination against Negro athletes.

He is correct, but to what degree at San Jose State as compared with other institutions in the United States and the world? There is discrimination in all things and among all peoples.



Tommie Smith

SJS president Robert D. Clark was conciliatory when Edwards charged that five Negro football players were housed separately (in a motel) and that black athletes were ostracized at social events. Edwards and his United

Black Students for Action gave the administration until 11 o'clock Friday (today) to prove it is doing something to correct the grievance, or there would be disruptive trouble. His first specific was a "sit-down" on the football field tomorrow night for the San Jose-Texas at El Paso football game.

President Clark won the opening round. He cancelled the football game 36 hours before the Friday morning deadline.

He would be first to admit it wasn't a knockout — one round doesn't make a fight.

★ ★ ★

IT WAS REPORTED that cancellation of the game may have been a national first, on a threat of racial violence.

A hint of bigger things to come was contained in an interview from Tokyo, quoting Tommie Smith, the San Jose State world record-setting sprinter and quarter miler, as stating that the civil rights situation in the United States was "lousy."

Negro trackmen on summer tours were not content to gripe about the "lousy" conditions. They met many times to discuss a boycott of the Olympic Games next year in Mexico. American Negroes are very prominent on the Olympic victory stand.

"Yes," Smith confirmed this week at San Jose, "I did say there was a possibility of a boycott. I don't want to be placed in the position of advocating, or leading, a boycott.

"I say this: if conditions do not improve and if the majority votes for boycott, I am with them."

★ ★ ★

DISCRIMINATION? YES, it's there. The prominent Negro in spirts is betwixt. He likes the white man's money. For the most part, he joins no causes.

What of those not so prominent? Recently I heard of an "interesting" case. It was nearing the time to make final cuts on a pro football team. One Negro came to the coach's office.

"I know you can't keep an odd Negro on the squad," he said. "And I know I'm the Negro to be cut. Will you trade me now, instead?"

On the road it is customary to pair off, as roommates, like athletes — backs, linemen, offense, defense, Negroes. With an even number of Negroes there is no difficulty at two-to-a-room. The "odd" man gets cut.

★ ★ ★

I WAS PARTY to a racial friction in the late '40s when Pacific played a football game against Louisiana State U. at Baton Rouge. Pacific's best running back was a Negro. With him, there was a chance to beat the mighty L.S.U.

Mysteriously, it seemed, the star back hurt his leg and was declared out of the game. It was indicated he would stay home in Stockton because he could not play. There were stirrings and rumors. The player was included on the tour, and during the game he sat in the radio booth as spotter of Pacific players.

Every meal for the team had been arranged in advance, except lunch in New Orleans. All of us in the party, about 50, trooped into a restaurant. The one halfback was easily spotted and the maitre de explained we would be welcome, but "the black must eat in the kitchen." All of us trooped out, noisily.

The athletic director went scouting, and finally found a restaurant with an upstairs banquet room to take us.

It was a triumph of sorts. There was an evident smugness among some administrators, as though the problem couldn't happen "back home." It has, and worse.



The Olympic Power Play

MILTON GROSS
NY Post

So Tommie Smith has said, "Hell, no, we won't go," and Lew Alcindor, who first was quoted as unequivocally backing a boycott of next year's Olympics by Negro athletes has said he'll make up his mind when the time comes.

Every track buff knows Tommie Smith, he's a blur on the cinders or boards, but it has become clearer that he does not speak for every Negro or all Negro athletes, who could represent the U.S. in Mexico City. He's the most exciting sight on the track and field scene with his sunshades, yellow Chevy and nine world sprint records at San Jose State.

Nor could anybody mistake Alcindor, at 7-1, the most celebrated college basketball player in the land who led unbeaten UCLA to the NCAA title last season and likely will do it again.

Very few people know Gus Heningburg. His only connection with sports is as a sometime basketball official in New Jersey, but he also happens to be the Assistant to the President of the NAACP legal defense and educational fund and has spent considerably more of his life than Smith and Alcindor have lived in protest. He has been in the vortex of the growing dramatization of discontent and frustration of black America. He's all for it, but only if it serves and does not defeat a purpose.

Gus Heningburg says, "If you're going to say hell, no, we won't go, then you've got to say We won't go all the way. If Smith of Alcindor or any other Negro athletes are to be consistent about boycotting the Olympics then they ought to give up their scholarships.

"There's a real inconsistency in saying I'm going to continue to play ball for college, which is part of the society I'm protesting against, but I'm not going to Mexico City. If they make real sacrifices for the position they're taking, they must quit San Jose State and UCLA and cut out all athletics. Then they'll be saying I'm willing to sacrifice material things to dramatize my discontent. That would hit the nation in the gut where it hurts. If you're not prepared to pay the price, the nation will not really respect the protest."

Heningburg attended the black power conference last summer in Newark, where the Olympic boycott was only one of many resolutions adopted in the black revolution. Last Thursday the boycott plan was formalized in a youth conference in L. A. at which 50 to 60 Negro athletes were among 200 attending.

The first word was that the boycott was unanimously approved. Then the closed door vote was disclosed instead to have been by acclamation—anonously, as Alcindor put it. Among those originally said to have acclaimed it was Mike Warren, Alcindor's teammate. Warren later said he didn't attend the meeting.

* * *

"I," says Heningburg, "would like to organize a protest effort by college athletes, but I don't think the Olympics is the place. There could be a much greater impact than the one proposed."

Heningburg can't run as fast as Smith or jump as high as Alcindor, but has so much more of a deeper appreciation of practicality, what can be achieved and how it must be done.

"Unless," he said, "there is unanimity, it will fail. There is not unanimity. There is discussion and disagreement back and forth. There are guys who have aspired all their lives to go to the Olympics. The Negro participated in athletics for recognition. In our society athletes get recognition that can be achieved in few other areas. The Olympics is the ultimate in achievement and to say don't do it, puts them in a real bind.

"There are mixed emotions," says Heningburg. "They do wish to represent their country. Historically, every effort to get Negroes to be disloyal has failed. What comes through very strongly is loyalty to country, despite the many problems at home. You go to the Olympics to represent your country and you get glory. You go to Vietnam and get shot at. It's not much different. It's the reason the guys are troubled."

Heningburg continued: "What it comes down to is, is this a good idea or not and I say no because I don't believe it would serve the purpose intended. Some form of protest is in order on the part of Negro athletes representing the U.S. in international or national competition in the face of continued discrimination at home. I feel strongly that every effective opportunity should be used, but I don't think this is an effective method to do it."

Whether or not the boycott comes off—and the Olympics will go on with or without the Negroes who patently dominate not only track and field, but most of our sports—there are other implications here which Heningburg pinpoints.

"The real black power advocates recognized early the high visibility of Negro athletes," he said. "Every kid in L. A. looks up to Alcindor. Athletes have been very special targets for the black power groups for special purposes. The time Malcolm X recruited Clay for the Muslims it was like opening a recruiting booth. Negro kids respect Negro athletes. They're reaching out to thousands of kids who would follow and lots of athletes are done in the process. Many of them begin to think the sun rises and sets on them. Their own perspective becomes distorted."



ALCINDOR

Tommie Smith Tells Negro Threat to Boycott Olympics

BY PHILIP FRADKIN

Times Staff Writer

9/23/67

SAN JOSE—Two Negroes, both holders of world track records, said here Friday there is a "good chance" Negro athletes will boycott next year's Olympic Games in Mexico City because of racial slights by white athletes.

Sprinter Tommie Smith, 23, generally regarded as the "fastest man alive," said:

"If the Negro athletes walk out of the Olympics, the U.S. is going to hurt. We, as Negro athletes, are a corps of power in the sprints, long jump and hurdles. If we have to do it, we will boycott the Games."

Smith holds 10 world records in the sprints and relays. His San Jose

State College teammate, Lee Evans, 22, has tied one world record and shares, as Smith does, in the three relay records the school holds.

The two athletes, both members of the executive committee of the United Black Students for Action, made their comments in an interview after the UBSA announced that it agreed to proposals made by the college administration to end racial discrimination in social groups, housing and athletics.

Both said no formal move has been made among Negro athletes to boycott the Olympics but that discussions were held at various track meets last summer. Evans said, "there is a pretty good chance we will boycott the Olympics. We

almost broke out of two meets this summer."

Evans said "The press didn't know about it" but long jumper Ralph Boston led the rebellion among Negro athletes which did not materialize.

(However, Boston, in an interview at Nashville last July, expressed doubt that Negro athletes would comply with a request by the National Conference on Black Power to boycott the Games.

"I don't think this particular movement will go over," Boston said. "Something might happen to cause it, but as things are standing now, I can't see it.

"I don't see that anything at all would be accomplished by Negroes

boycotting the Olympic Games," he said. "We at least have this much freedom. If we boycott the Olympic Games we are throwing it away.")

One of the grievances, Evans said, was the inclusion of a white runner on a previously all-Negro relay team "for appearance sake." He said all the Negro runners were faster than the Caucasian.

Smith said, "It is very discouraging to compete with white athletes.

"On the track you're Tommie Smith, the fastest man in the world, but off it you are just another nigger."

Smith continued, "I am one athlete. I can't tell the others what to do. It would take the agreement of all the Negro athletes to set it up."

On a recent trip to Tokyo with a U.S. track team, Smith said he talked about the idea with Negro athletes. Both runners said they had been approached by "Negro leaders" who recommended that they boycott the Games.

Neither would identify the Negro leaders. They said they were not Black Nationalists.

(A boycott resolution was passed at the National Conference on Black Power last July at Newark after it was requested by Negro comedian Dick Gregory. Gregory allegedly made the request because Cassius Clay was stripped of the world heavyweight title.)

Smith said the problem is more

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BOYCOTT THREAT

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acute at home than abroad. It exists at San Jose, but is more aggravated at track meets at UC Santa Barbara and in the Los Angeles area, he said.

No organization has been established, nor has anything been formalized. "We are just talking about it at track meets," Smith said. Robert Bronzan, director of athletics at San Jose State College, when asked about the possible boycott said:

"I think this could happen. The Olympic Games are symbolic. It is their manifestation of deeper feelings about racial discrimination.

"The Negroes feel if they can represent the U.S. before the world, why can't they be treated as full citizens at home?"

These are storm warning flags our politicians should heed."

San Jose's athletic department building was picketed last week by members of UBSA, who claim the department practices racial discrimination in locker and room-mate assignments on out-of-town trips.

Proposals Accepted

The department also has been accused of not treating prospective Negro athletes the same as white athletes when they visit the campus before enrollment.

College president Robert Clark has promised to end racial discrimination in housing, fraternities and sororities and athletics. The Negro groups Friday accepted his proposals and promised to work with the college.

Wednesday Dr. Clark announced that tonight's scheduled opening football game against the University of Texas (El Paso) in Spartan Stadium would be canceled. It was believed to be the first time a major intercollegiate game was canceled because of possible racial violence.

Involved in 3 Incidents ^{KNOXVILLE} ^{NEWS-SENTINEL}

Ralph Boston Won't Join Olympic Boycott

FROM KIM KOFFMAN

NASHVILLE, Sept. 23 (AP) — Ralph Boston, Negro who holds the world's long jump record, said Saturday he was involved in three incidents—none racial—during summer track meets.



Boston

And he contended a proposed Negro boycott of the 1968 Olympics "doesn't make a lot of sense."

Boston's comments came in response to a disclosure by Tommie Smith, San Jose State sprinter who also is a world record holder, that Negroes may boycott the Olympics in Mexico City because of the way they are treated by white athletes.

Lee Evans, Smith's teammate at San Jose State, said Boston led abortive rebellions by Negro athletes at two meets this summer.

In a meet at Los Angeles, Boston said Jerry Bright, Arizona State white athlete, was chosen over George Anderson, Southern University Negro, for

a relay team. He protested, he said, but was told Bright was chosen because he "was more practiced in passing the baton. That was that."

At Minneapolis, he said, the incident concerned Tommie Smith, an A&I runner, and A&I coach Ed Temple and said he preferred to let "Temple tell you what happened." Temple could not be reached.

At Montreal, he said, the incident involved return airline tickets.

"There might be a boycott," said Boston, but "it doesn't make a lot of sense. I can't see what is to be gained by asking a boy who has been in training for five or six years just to compete in the Olympics suddenly saying, 'No, I won't do it.' If an American can go to Vietnam and die, why can't I go to Mexico City and run."

Boston said he had never experienced any problems with white athletes on or off the track.

(Boston will be in Knoxville Nov. 4 for The News-Sentinel Invitational Track Meet at U-T's Tom Black Track—The Sports Editor).

JIM MURRAY

Life Goes On Whether Tommie Runs or Not

Tommie Smith is the short-distance runner who always runs the 220 with his dark glasses on. Sometimes, it seems he goes through life the same way.

Tommie Smith, a sage of 23 years, has just issued an ultimatum to the Republic that, unless things are improved considerably for Tommie Smith, he will not compete for this country in the 1968 Olympics.

Horrors! Reflect on the implications of this for our country! Tommie Smith has given us just 10 months to shape up or he will positively not let us pay his way to Mexico City, house him in an Olympic Village with the greatest athletes from all over the world, feed him, press a probable gold medal in his hand, put his picture on Page One from coast-to-coast, and probably give him a ticker-tape parade up Broadway. He will deprive us of the privilege of making him a millionaire professional halfback.



He has shaken up a multitude of two persons. The implications are clear. If Tommie has his way and a boycott of Negro athletes is accomplished, a terrible thing may happen: Italy may win more gold medals than the U.S. Could anything be more disastrous? How would we ever explain THAT at the Compton Relays. Track and Field News would be bound to misunderstand.

Just suppose the dissatisfaction spreads and the weightlifters and the kayak pairs team and the fours-with-cox defect, too?! What if we lost the full-bore rifle shoot? Great Heavens, Lyndon — DO something!

Getting Mighty Bored

Don't get me wrong. I wish I could run the 200 meters faster than anyone in the world. I rank it 2,001 in the list of things I wish I could do. Right behind playing the harmonica, but well ahead of wiggling my ears.

The impressive thing about Tommie is that he had to work hard to develop this talent. He had to put his shoes on. The running part of it, he fell out of bed one morning with.

I don't know about you, but I'm getting mighty bored with downy-cheeked youngsters trying to general manage the world just because they have an interesting little athletic talent.

One of the grievances Tommie and his teammate, Lee Evans,

listed was the presence of a Caucasian on the relay team whose clockings clearly indicated he wasn't entitled to be there. No, don't know whether they kept this boy over from an underprivileged area of the locker room whether they just thought they would be athletically uplifted by being taken out of the white ghetto of backward athletic progress. (Or, maybe he made it up as an athletic version of the "2% which provides in some universities that 2% of the student body who come under the minimum academic requirements be admitted anyway on the chance they were merely the victims of an inferior academic background.")

Delusions of Grandeur

The point is, discrimination should be fought on all fronts not by pointing the gun at you. Tommie Smith is either the beneficiary of some bad advice, or he—as young athletes are wont to have—an exaggerated idea of his own importance.

You see, these youngsters are to be blamed. They are recruited by drooling coaches, juvenile athletes, or athletic directors whose principal objective in life is "to win the State." The kids' opinions are solicited by everybody from national magazine writers to regional politicians. Pretty soon, run the world from the starting block or the foul line seems a natural thing to do. (The sovereign state of California, for example, recruited a top basketball player into a Mahal of educational buildings erected at considerable taxpayer expense, and the boy's first utterances were that the state was a "phony" and "playing a game with the rest of the country.")

I think someone has convinced Tommie that one of America's great goals in this century is to win the 200 meters at Mexico City, even to win the Olympics. Actually, you're not supposed to score in an Olympics. The object is to win an individual gold medal, not a national one. Then, you get the medal, and you wait for the Dallas Cowboys to draft you and pay you \$100,000 to play wingback for them; or the Giants sign you money at you until you say "no" to play free safety.

They won't call off the Olympians if you don't show up, Tommie. Somebody will win the 200 meters clocking of 23.5, perhaps, but there'll only be a handful of people in the world who'll know that time. And if, at some future time, you come upon a groggy beggar in Pakistan and tell him

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MURRAY COLUMN

Continued from First Page

can run faster than anyone in the world for 200 yards," don't be hurt if he answers, "That's nice, but can you fix a toothache?" And try and remember that there may be some kid in a hovel in the Andes right now who might make you look as if you were hobbling if he could get a scholarship to San Jose State.

In the meantime, don't go to the Olympics. Pout. That'll distress the bigots. You'll be able to tell because they'll be dancing in the streets. And drowning their sorrows in champagne.



Citizen News
9/29/67 P
BOB COX



Hard Times

LARRY MERCHANT

Will the French Canadians boycott the Canadian Olympic team? Will the Chinese revisionists boycott the Chinese Olympic team? Will the Scottish nationalists boycott the British Olympic team? Will the Turks boycott the Cyprus Olympic team, if Cyprus has an Olympic team? Will Melina Mercouri run the marathon for Greece? Will there be two Olympics, one for oppressed minorities? Doesn't anyone want to play nice any more?

Which is to say, in the wake of the threatened Negro boycott of our Olympic team, that these are hard times. All over.

These are hard times and honest men differ on how to make them easier, on whether they can be made easier, on what the urgency and priorities are. Even a nation's toys are drawn into the passions of the day. It has been inevitable in this nation since it first became obvious that Black Power no longer meant Jimmie Brown going off tackle, Willie Mays hitting one upstairs, Wilt Chamberlain stuffing.

The singular reality of the threatened boycott is that it won't work. It won't work because Negroes themselves are divided on whether it is the right protest, at the right time, for the right reason. It won't work because if Tommie Smith or Lew Alcindor decides he must make his moral stand here, a kid will fall out of bed in Bogaloussa, La. who can run the 220 a tenth of a second slower than Smith and decide he'd like to go to Mexico City and win a Gold Medal, and another one will amble off a playground in Indianapolis holding a basketball between two fingers and thinking cool thoughts too. And if America wins a few less medals, that won't destroy the union, or add \$10 billion to the poverty program, if that is the answer, either.

It won't work on almost any terms imaginable, or negotiable, and yet it is not an ignoble gesture. It comes from an anguish that white men can only guess at. Some young athletes who have escaped the ghetto because they can run and jump are willing to stand up for those who have a smaller chance of escaping because they can't run or jump. Whether or not we feel they are mistaken, misguided and misled, there will be many Negroes who will be more uplifted by such a gesture than by yet another soul brother designated "world's fastest human."

Harry Edwards, the San Jose State College sociology professor trying to organize the movement, says, "This is our last chance to avert a racial catastrophe in this country." He overdramatizes, but this point of view must be heard. The fact that a Smith and an Alcindor would consider such a gesture must be taken as further warning of the mood of many Negroes.

* * *

The Olympics certainly seems like the wrong place and time for such a protest because it is the one parliament on earth where a man is truly judged on what he can do, not on where he comes from or what he looks like.

But Edwards feels that America's political use of the Olympics, for propaganda purposes, can be exploited by Negro militants for their purposes. He says that we use the Olympics to "propagate the hypocrisy that the Negro is equal." He says we try to sell our way of life to the undeveloped countries with our inferior excellence. Therefore, the threat of a boycott by a Smith, who is more famous in Europe and Asia than in his own country, would be another lever in the fight for equality in the underdeveloped inner America.

Maybe that is so. But how can it be measured? By what drop in what bucket? Harry Edwards answers that the bucket will overflow if there are enough drops in it.

* * *

There are others with different answers. You can't win if you don't run. You have to compete, to work through the institutions. Win enough races on tracks and you will ultimately help win the race. Harry Edwards is trying to tell us that this isn't working, that it's too slow, that a warning to act now through a boycott by a few athletes is better than a warning by riots in the streets.

Perhaps the issue can be defined through a secondary boycott suggested by Edwards, the boycott of the New York Athletic Club meet. Because the NYAC has never been, shall we say, eager to recruit Negroes as members, why should Negroes, he asks, compete in their meet? No Negroes, no meet. A track meet without Negroes would be like a flower show without roses. Who would go?

The Rafer Johnsons, Jesse Owens and Ralph Bostons reply that the best way to combat the NYACs is to run in their meets and win everything. Carl Stokes wouldn't be mayor of Cleveland if he didn't run. And Maury Wills, who like every professional Negro athlete, has stayed in the background of the Negro movement, says he contributes to the cause by being a good citizen and setting a good example.

These are hard times and honest men differ, but only few would aver, as one writer did recently, that in this society "a man can walk away from his environment, a black man or a white man." The walking is a lot easier if you are white. If you are black, it is easy only if you can run and jump.



EDWARDS

Boston Disclaims Boycott

If Ralph Boston, world record holder in the long jump, is one of the leaders of a threatened Negro boycott of the 1968 Olympic Games, Boston doesn't know anything about it.

Boston, when contacted at his Nashville, Tenn., home Thursday night, dispelled all rumors that he was working with San Jose State's flashy twosome, Tommie Smith and Lee Evans, towards a boycott by America's Negro athletes of the Mexico City Olympiad.

(Evans had been quoted this past week as saying Negro athletes on a 10-day European tour this summer "almost broke out of two meets" and that "Ralph Boston led the rebellion among Negro athletes that didn't materialize.")

"As of this moment," Boston told me over the phone, "I have talked to no one — or no one has approached me — in reference to boycotting the Olympics."

Boston, who earlier in the day received a clean bill of health from Southern Calif. Striders Athletic Director Whitey Taylor as to his alleged participation in the movement started by Smith and Evans, wanted to clear his name from any implication in the threatened boycott.

The situation evolved around the forced cancellation of San Jose State's football game last Saturday night because of threats of a Negro "sit-in" in protest of reported racial discrimination in athletics and fraternities on the San Jose campus.

'Good Chance Of Boycott'—Smith

Smith, in a story in a metropolitan Los Angeles paper Saturday, said there was a "good chance" that the United States' Negro athletes would boycott the Olympics next year.

As to the problems in Europe, Boston told me, "As far as I noticed this summer, nobody had any problems in Europe, racially or otherwise. The trip was short—we ran five out of the ten days — we didn't have time to have any problems."

Taylor, also on the trip, seconded Boston. "Tommie Smith wasn't even in Europe. I was there, and there was no racial prejudice towards anyone."

In reference to some of the statements being attributed to Smith and Evans, Boston said, "I know both of them very well — or thought I knew them well — and I really don't believe some of the stuff that's been attributed to them in the newspapers."

"For example, I don't believe the Tommie Smith I know said that about being 'just another nigger off the track.'"

(Smith reportedly said, "On the track you're Tommie Smith, fastest man in the world, but off it, you're just another nigger.")

Would Participate For Good Cause

"I have not even talked to anyone who considers himself a leader of any group or sect," Boston explained. "All I know of this situation is what I have read in the newspapers here (in Nashville). The only people I have discussed this with have been sportswriters who have asked me about my part in this."

When I asked Ralph the \$64,000 question — would he participate if a boycott of the Olympics was called?—he said, "First, you have to have a solid basis to boycott the Olympic Games. If I felt they had a legitimate purpose to serve by a boycott . . . I'd definitely go along."

"But I don't even know what the situation is at San Jose State—I've never even been to the campus. What is the problem there?"

Ralph Boston obviously isn't one to be throwing away four years — or a lifetime — of training for something less than a great crusade.



Styles in SPORTS

By MAXWELL STILES

Question Unclear

10/17/67

It is not quite clear to this columnist just where fact begins and speculation leaves off in the case of the statements attributed to Tommie Smith and Lee Evans, both of San Jose State, that American Negro athletes may boycott the 1968 Olympic Games at Mexico City. The question mark in my mind is whether these men actually are in the process of leading or joining such a boycott, or whether they have merely been asked to do so.

In either case, it would be a big injustice themselves and to the Negro race. Such a boycott would hurt only themselves. The United States Olympic team could do very well in Olympic track and field, swimming and most of the other sports while being hurt chiefly in boxing and basketball.

Track and field is the major Olympic sport and it is in this aspect of the Games that Smith and Evans either are leading a crusade or have been asked to do so. I would not want to criticize them just because they have been asked to do something; not, in fact, until they do it. I might, however, show them the true picture and will do so now.

The first I heard of this thing was when I was in Kansas City with the California Angels. A story in one of the Kansas City papers read as follows:

"San Jose, Calif. (AP) — Tommie Smith, world-record-holding sprinter at San Jose State, feels there is a good chance Negro athletes may boycott next year's Olympic Games in Mexico City.

"Smith and teammate Lee Evans said Friday they had been approached by Negro leaders who asked that they boycott the games because of the way Negro athletes are treated by white athletes. Neither would identify the Negro leaders.

This story suggests the matter has not gone beyond an approach by unidentified Negro leaders that they boycott the games. In Track & Field News, it is asserted: "Smith has also stated through an international wire service and on national TV that Negro athletes may be 'forced' to boycott the U.S. team."

No Support For Gregory

Three years ago, comedian Dick Gregory tried to induce U.S. athletes to boycott the Tokyo Olympic Games. He found little or no support among members of his race, who went to Tokyo and performed splendidly. They were a credit to our country and to themselves and I think each of them who won a gold, silver or bronze medal is proud of having done so.

Evans was quoted in a news dispatch from San Jose: "The press didn't know about it, but long jumper Ralph Boston led the rebellion among Negro athletes which did not materialize." This had to do with a purported bit of trouble during a 1967 European tour involving "racial slights by white athletes."

Boston was contacted at his Nashville home by this newspaper's Bob Cox. He told Cox he didn't know anything about such a "rebellion" and that he certainly did not lead one.

As to the problems in Europe, Boston told Cox: "As far as I noticed this summer, nobody had any problems in Europe, racially or otherwise."

I have travelled with integrated football, baseball and track teams for many years. Not once have I seen any discrimination against a Negro teammate by a white boy, or vice versa.

Without in any way wishing to belittle the achievements of our fine Negro Olympic athletes, it is a fact on record that had American Negro athletes boycotted all the Olympics since the War the U.S. would have lost 34 per cent of the individual gold medals we won. Since and including the 1932 Games in Los Angeles it would have been 31 per cent.

Only Individual Suffers

The important thing to remember is that the Olympic not competitions among nations, but among individual athletes. "Points" are all unofficial. If Smith and Evans wish to give the gold medals they could win, that's a horse on them nobody else suffers.

Here's the breakdown from 1948 through 1964, not counting the relays which would have been up for grabs:

1948 — We would have lost the 100 to LaBeach of Panama, long jump to Bruce of Australia, the 800 to Wint of Jamaica, women's high jump to Tyler of Britain. We would have ret the 200 with Patton, the vault with Smith, the highs with P the 400 hurdles with Cochran, the shot with Thompson, decathlon with Mathias. Lose 4, win 6.

1952 — We would have lost the 800 to Wint of Jamaica, long jump to Foldessi of Hungary. We still would have won 100 with Remigino, the 200 with Baker, the vault with Rich the high jump with W. Davis, the javelin with Young, the with J. Davis, the 400 hurdles with Moore, the decathlon Mathias, the shot with O'Brien, the discus with Iness. Lose 10, win 10.

1956 — We would have lost the 400 to Haas of German high jump to Porter of Australia, the decathlon to Kuznetz of the USSR, the women's high jump to Hopkins of Brita Pisaryeva of the USSR. We would have retained the 100 at with Morrow, the 800 with Courtney, the highs with J. Davi 400 hurdles with G. Davis, the discus with Oerter, the ha with Connolly, the shot with O'Brien, the vault with Ric the long jump with Bennett. Lose 4, win 10.

Would've Lost Six

1960 — We would have lost the 400 to Kaufman of Germany, the highs to Lauer of Germany, the long jump to Ovanesyan of the USSR, the decathlon to Yang of Taiwa women's 100 to Tyler of Britain, the 200 to Heine of Ger We would have retained the 400 hurdles with G. Davis, the with Bragg, the shot with Nieder, the discus with Oerter. Lose 4, win 4.

1964 — We would have lost the 100 to Figuerola of Cuba, 200 to Roberts of Trinidad, the women's 100 to Klobokov of Poland, the 200 to Kirszenstein of Poland. We still would have won the 400 with Larrabee, the 5,000 with Schul, the 10,000 Mills, the highs with Lindgren, the 400 hurdles with Cawle vault with Hansen, the shot with Long, the discus with C Lose 4, win 8.

OVERALL SINCE THE WAR — Lose 20 gold medals otherwise would have won, or 34 per cent; retain 33, or 66 per cent.

The prospects for 1968 is that we'd lose the 100, 200 high jump, long jump and women's 800, which our fine stars could win. We still should win the 1500, highs, 400 high vault and shot. Tossups would include the 800, discus, ha, decathlon, women's 100, high jump and javelin. Not a chance in the other events, integrated or not.

'Olympic Boycott a Mistake'

LAS CRUCES, N.M. (UPI) — Miguel de Capriles, chief of mission for the U.S. Olympic Committee, said Friday Negro athletes would be making a great mistake if they carried out threats of boycott against the 1968 Mexico City Olympics.

De Capriles said he did not think the Negro athletes would boycott the games, but added it would be "perfectly stupid to take any position of that kind." He acknowledged that some prominent athletes, including San Jose State sprinter Tom Smith, had recently mentioned

the possible boycott action because of alleged discrimination. De Capriles' comments came at a luncheon at New Mexico State University, where a "hands across the border" seminar honoring former Mexico president Dr. Miguel Aleman was underway.

"It is not entirely impossible that someone may talk loosely, but we have no reason to believe there is anything to it. At the present time, we think that is kind of loose talk without any basis of fact," De Capriles said. "I think our history, certainly in the Olympics, the

participation of all our people without regard to race or creed is so clearly self-evident that it is ridiculous to place any credence upon any kind of discriminatory situation," he said.

Asked if Negroes might take it as a means of pressuring, De Capriles said:

"I think it would be a great mistake if they did. I don't think the will. Of all the things in which the United States has successfully eliminated the race question, sports is the number one example. So it would be perfectly stupid to take any position of that kind."

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Smith, Evans Innocent

Nov 1, 67

Tommie Smith and Lee Evans, two very fine gentlemen as well as track athletes of world renown, are NOT, as has been reported elsewhere, leading a move to boycott the U.S. Olympic team at the 1968 Olympic Games in Mexico City. This is the word I have just received from the two young men themselves, as well as from their coach at San Jose State, my good friend Bud Winter.

It was as I had suspected, and as I wrote it in a recent column. They have been ASKED by a few unnamed Negro leaders to lead such a boycott, but they are not doing so. There's a big difference here.

Last night I talked to Winter on the phone. I asked him if Tommie, in Tokyo, had said, "On the track I am the world's fastest human. Off the track, I am just another nigger." I asked Bud, if Tommie had said that, did he mean he's just another nigger" to Bud Winter, to sports writers, to white athletes, to American barnstorming team managers, to the hosts of these track meets, or just TO WHOM.

"I don't know if he said it exactly that way," Winter replied. "If he did, it had nothing to do with sports or the people in sports. He and his bride, Denise Paschal, had been looking for a home to rent near the school. Tommie thought that because of his standing as an athlete he might be accepted, but a lot of home owners gave him a lot of double talk. If he was 'just another nigger,' it was to some of the landlords around San Jose.

"Tommie's image as the All-American Boy has been hurt by this. It all started in Tokyo when he was asked, 'In the United States, are the Negroes now equal to the whites in the way they are treated?' The obvious answer was NO. Next question, 'Are they treated as equals in California?' The obvious answer was NO.

Negroes Not Interested

"And then he said, 'I think conditions are getting better.' But they didn't quote him on that.

"It's a national thing but Ralph Boston and the others never will go along with it unless it is unanimous among all Negro athletes. They asked Evans to join the Viet Nam protests but he said, 'Don't quote me on that.' Evans is in a big enough controversy already."

Winter agreed with this writer's remark that it never can be unanimous unless all the pros like Wilt Chamberlain, Willie Mays and Mike Garrett refuse to play ball and turn back those \$275,000 and \$100,000 contracts; unless all the Negro boxing pros boycott the ring and the world championship tournaments; unless Johnny Mathis refuses to make records; unless even Dick Gregory himself, the man who first suggested the boycott of the Olympic Games, himself boycotts the night-club stages and TV appearances.

Tommie Smith's statement, in part, sent to this writer, follows:

"I have not made any precise open appeals to Black athletes to boycott the Games. I, as an individual, cannot tell another Black competitor that it is his duty to forget a goal he has sought for himself in this field.

"My conception of the greatest amateur athletic achievement is to win a gold medal in the Olympic Games. From now until the Games, the events which occur in our society will probably influence the decision of many Black athletes.

Boycott Unpopular

"Hopefully, a boycott of the Games never will be needed to bring about necessary changes in our country. But, if a boycott is deemed appropriate, then I believe most of the Black athletes will act in unison.

"Another area of recent attention is discrimination encountered in athletics. Recent newspaper articles charged me with saying that I encountered hypocritical behavior by White athletes. These charges are erroneous. What I did say was that many non-athletes are hypocritical. Athletics is one of the few fields in which a Black man is treated as an equal by his peers."

And here's one from Lee Evans:

"I want to make it clear right now that I never said I was mistreated by white athletes. I number them among my very best friends. Athletes at San Jose State are not distinguished by color—we laugh together, attend social functions together, and participate both in actual competition and practice sessions together.

"We have fine camaraderie on our track team at SJS and have always fought for our successes and records as a unit. The same is true of the national teams I have participated on.

"Track, in my eyes, is one of the sports where I see no animosity between races.

"For example: If there were any types of dissension on our relay teams, we couldn't function, let alone break any records. Some of my most happy memories have come while competing with athletes of all colors and nationalities on the field of sport.

"I want this clear once and for all. I have suffered great anguish because of his MISQUOTE and I want my many white friends to know I realize I never was mistreated by ANY athlete."

(Thursday—Coach Bud Winter issued a lengthy statement on this subject, not covered in our telephone conversation. Space has run out for today, so see Styles in Sports on Thursday for Winter's complete views that he has asked us to use in full or not at all.)

Bud Winter, track coach at San Jose State and recognized as the nation's No. 1 coach of sprinters and quarter milers, is quite concerned about the situation created by certain quotes and misquotes recently attributed to his two star athletes, Tommie (Jet) Smith and Lee Evans. On Wednesday this column reported a telephone conversation with Winter plus statements released by the two athletes. Winter had issued a longer statement which he requested be used in full, if at all. It was held over until today. Here it is:

"I answer to the question as to how I feel about Tommie Smith's statement that there is 'a good chance that Negro athletes may boycott the 1968 Olympic Games,' I wish to state as follows:

"First, I want to say that Tommie Smith has been one of the greatest champions of all time, not only with his athletic performances but because he has always conducted himself as an ideal champion. He has been loyal, he has been a fine team man, he has always said the right and gracious thing and in general has worn the crown well.

"You can't blame him for trying to help his race. A victory over hate and bigotry would be even more important than winning the Olympic Games. As I ponder this, I thought that maybe we should consider not what the public thinks about it but what God thinks.

"It is self evident that the course that best fosters the brotherhood of man is the one to follow. The question then becomes, 'What is the best method of achieving this end?'

"Maybe boycotting the Olympic Games is one of the few remaining peaceful methods of pricking the public's conscience to act immediately for racial equality.

"However, I have always thought of the Olympic Games as the one common ground on which the nations and peoples of the world could get together. I thought the one movement that epitomized the brotherhood of man was the Olympic movement which emphasizes these ideals.

Inspirational Sight

"If you could have seen the youth of the world, from both sides of the Iron Curtain, arm in arm, singing 'Auld Lang Syne,' at the 1964 Olympic Games in Tokyo, you too, would believe that many of the world's hates and problems could be resolved on the playing field of sport.

"I spent most of this summer working in the black country of Jamaica, assisting with a program of sports to combat juvenile delinquency and build up their Olympic effort.

"We worked in the cities, out in the jungle, and even in the prisons. So you see, in a way, I am dedicated to using sports, not boycotting them, to assist the youth of the land and to foster the brotherhood of man.

"Tommie Smith and Lee Evans, two of the greatest Negro athletes in history, have only said that they MAY follow Negro leaders' suggestions that they boycott the Olympic Games. (Note—That's the way this column wrote it two weeks ago while others were crucifying them as if they already were leading such a boycott).

"I pray that the United States can clear up the problems of racial inequality in the next ten months and that they (Tommie and Lee) will never have to be confronted with a final decision on such drastic action.

"I am appalled that Negro leaders have been driven so far as to consider boycotting a movement that epitomizes the very thing for which they are fighting.

Leaders Should Think!

"These leaders should ponder long on whether they would be doing their cause more harm than good in enforcing such a boycott."

Winter told me that Tommie Smith is very active in the ROTC at San Jose State and at one time was the No. 1 officer in the ROTC there.

Tommie is highly respected everywhere. He deserves his chance to win Olympic Games gold medals.

I do not believe a boycott of the Olympic team would bring racial equality or the end of black ghettos in this country one day earlier. It might have the exact opposite result by alienating many friendly white men from the black man's cause.

About all it would do would deprive some of our finest athletes, some of the most wonderful young men in our nation, of receiving the same medals that were won by Jesse Owens, Rafer Johnson, Eddie Tolan, Milton Campbell, Ralph Boston, Bob Hayes, Henry Carr and so many others who were so proud to stand there on that high step while the band played, just for them, "The Star Spangled Banner."

If our nation's wonderful athletes like Tommie Smith, Lee Evans, Art Walker, Barbara Ferrell, Madeline Manning and Eleanor Montgomery are to forego these memorable medals, let Wilt Chamberlain turn back his \$275,000 contract or whatever it is and boycott the NBA. Let Willie Mays, Roberto Clemente and Henry Aaron boycott major league baseball and all of that big money in six figures some of them are making.

Let Mike Garrett, Dick Bass and the others turn in their contracts, and the money, to the clubs that own them in the NFL. Let the trumpets of Louie Armstrong and Al Hurt be silent and Dick Gregory spurn the night-club stage. Let Charles Sifford boycott the money tour of golf as once it boycotted him until this writer personally influenced the then National PGA president, Horton Smith, to bring about a rules change in the PGA that would permit qualified Negro pros to play for money on the tour.

Let all this take place and I'll see some sign of unity.

Tommie Smith Denies Leading Negro Boycott

LEMOORE (AP) — World record holding sprinter Tommie Smith said Wednesday night he would "give his right arm to win a gold medal in the next Olympics" and that he is against any possible Negro boycott.

Smith, a Negro, spoke to about 200 at a dinner given in his honor in his Central California hometown.

He told the audience a meeting will be held Nov. 23 at the UCLA campus at which all leading Negro athletes of Olympic caliber would be on hand or

represented by correspondence.

Smith said a decision would be made at that time on what action these candidates would take toward competition in the 1968 Olympics in Mexico City.

He explained nearly all of them have agreed to act together and that either all or none would participate.

He predicted there is a 75% chance the group would decide against a boycott.

Denies Movement

Answering a question as to what the Negro athletes might expect to accomplish by refusing to enter competition, Smith said some felt it was far better than rioting or marching to bring to the American public the fact members of his race were hoping for better treatment.

He strongly denied he had started the boycott movement. He explained that until a Japanese reporter asked him if he thought a boycott against Olympic Games was possible by members of his race, such an idea had never entered his head. He said he answered in the affirmative in the same manner anyone would say it might be possible for a man to reach the moon next year.

Olympic Boycott to Be Discussed in Talks Here

SAN JOSE (AP) — Talks that might lead to a Negro boycott of the 1968 Olympic Games in Mexico will begin Thursday at a Black Youth Conference in Los Angeles.

Harry Edwards, holder of San Jose State's discus record and a former basketball player, said Tuesday the three-day conference will be for Negro youth 15 to 30 in the seven western states. He added "all American Negro world class athletes will be there."

Edwards, a 24-year-old sociology teacher at San Jose State college, declined to say which athletes, amateur or professional, would attend.

The meeting, called the Olympic boycott workshop, is only "one of many workshops" and will be attended by 1,000 persons, Edwards said.

Negro Group In Boycott Meet Today

From The Los Angeles Times

LOS ANGELES — A boycott of the 1968 Olympic Games in Mexico City by American Negro athletes is expected to be one of the primary subjects for a three-day Western Regional Black Youth Conference which opens here today.

San Jose State college track stars Tommie Smith and Lee Evans will be among the many Olympic hopefuls attending the conference.

Smith said he realizes the importance and significance of the Games:

"But I am not willing to sacrifice my manhood and the basic dignity of my people to participate in the Games.

"And I am quite willing not only to give up participation in the Games but my life if necessary if it means that it will open a door or channel by which the oppression and injustice suffered by my people in America can be alleviated."

San Jose State College Asst. Prof. of sociology Harry Edwards, who will lead the discussion of the pros and cons of an Olympic boycott, said now is the time for black people to use their resources to stamp out what he called the oppression which has destroyed generations of Negro youths.

Negro Youth In Olympic Balk Talks

LOS ANGELES (AP) — An undisclosed number of Negro professional and amateur athletes met in a closed session in a South Los Angeles church today to discuss whether to boycott the 1968 Olympic Games.

The meeting was one segment of a three-day series of Black Youth Conferences. The athletic portion was called by Harry Edwards, sociology teacher at San Jose State College.

Edwards declined to identify any of the athletes with the exception of two San Jose State sprinters, Tommie Smith and Lee Evans.

Smith and Evans have said in letters to associates they want to participate in Olympic Games in Mexico City but that if a majority votes to boycott, they'll agree.

They also said if a boycott is not agreed upon—and neither felt such action would result — a strong statement should be adopted calling for correction of alleged discriminatory practices involving Negro athletes.

Newsmen were to be barred from the meeting, but Edwards said a statement would be issued after the afternoon session.

About 1,000 are expected for the overall three-day meetings but no estimate was given regarding the athletes' session.

PAYTON JORDAN of Stanford is accentuating the positive in viewing a meeting of Negro athletes at UCLA on Nov. 23, with possible boycotting of the Olympic Games the issue.

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"I've heard about the meeting, but I am confident these men are highly intelligent and will realize the overall importance of the Games to our country," says Jordan, who is head coach of the 1968 U.S. Olympic track team.

"To boycott the Games would only hurt their cause—they won't win any points in this way," he adds.

San Jose State star Tommie Smith said this week he opposes any such boycott. Any position taken by Negro athletes in regard to Mexico City will be as a body, one way or the other.

"Frankly, I feel this meeting will only re-affirm the thinking of these young men in their desire to do what is best for the whole nation," Jordan stresses.

The question of whether American athletes flopped in the Pre-Olympics last month in Mexico continues to rage.

George Haines, highly respected Santa Clara swim coach, declares "if we were supposed to go down there and win the cold war, then we would have sent down droves of kids and done it."

Haines will coach the men's Olympic team in '68.

But while Jordan and Haines brush off the Pre-Olympic defeat, track coach Bud Winter of San Jose State is alarmed.

"I think the attitude in the U.S. is smug toward our showing," he avows. "The Russians started preparing for Mexico City one

hour after the Olympics closed in Tokyo. Our preparation has been sketchy and disorganized.

"We do everything helter-skelter. It's only tribute to the individual athletes we have had that our country has done as well as it has in the past.

"But I, for one, am worried. The rest of the world is catching up. We must organize like never before and work harder than ever to keep our edge. And you can't accomplish this when people are smug."

Winter proposes the government set up an Institute of Sport, operated by a five-man panel and harnessing all the resources of American industry.

"The 3-M Company has been experimenting for years with all-weather tracks," Winter says. "Other firms are involved in various aspects of sports. All this knowledge should be coordinated and put to use."

Time for Experimenting

JORDAN SAYS he looks at the Pre-Olympics for what they were — competition at the Games site for the purpose of experimentation.

"I'm not the least concerned we didn't win all the gold medals and come home to the sound of roaring bands," he states. "There is no reason to be alarmed. Our showing last month is not indicative of how we'll do next year.

"We didn't have many of our top athletes available. Many who competed were not our best people and there's no way to know they'll even be on our team. We were studying the altitude and other problems. We achieved what we wanted to find out."

Jordan attacked "negative thinking" toward the American team.



PAYTON JORDAN
... Not fretting

"I've been deluged with correspondence and telephone calls from people wanting to help," he adds. "People like coach Frank Potts of Colorado, who has a deep knowledge of high altitude training; Ted Haydon of Chicago U., who's a great handler of distance men, Stan Wright, Western Illinois, and many, many others.

"It's not my personality to take the responsibility for the whole U.S. track picture on my shoulders. We have fine people who want to work and I'll give them a chance to do so."

Food a Major Problem

JORDAN SAYS the altitude isn't the only concern he has about our showing in Mexico.

"We also must be very careful of the food. It nearly destroyed us in Rome in 1960. We have to let our kids know we don't expect them to be out on the town before they compete.

"In three days roaming around Mexico City they could lose what it has taken them a lifetime to build. But these athletes are intelligent and realize what can happen. We just want to remind them.

"As far as altitude, we're not going for world records. We just want to run faster and jump higher and farther than the opposition."

Jordan predicts that if any running records are to fall, they will come in the 400 meters or shorter events.

Jordan has dealt with the Russians before.

"They attempted a little psychology last month," Payton explains. "It's the oneupsmanship approach. We know the Russians, we respect them and we like them—they're fine guys. But they don't disturb us and no one here should be disturbed."

If optimism is contagious, the U.S. team ought to be something.

The Irony of A Boycott

Art Rosenbaum

IT IS AN IRONICAL proposition, this plan for America's black athletes to boycott the 1968 Olympic Games in Mexico City. Negroes have fought to make the phrase "equal opportunity" next to sacred, and if ever there was an equal opportunity enterprise at the highest level, the Olympics qualify.

The road up to Olympic status may be fraught with discrimination and other blocks. There are many reasons why gifted young athletes do not reach the top—lack of money, bad coaching, breaking a leg, discrimination, etc.

For those who survive to become Olympic eligibles, however, racism is not a factor. The man who runs fastest or jumps highest is best.

Get there first, irrespective of race, color or creed, and you win the Gold Medal.

Achievements are measured by clocks, tape measures, scales and numbers on the scoreboard. How elementary! If the minds of men could be graded so simply, maybe the world would be better. (I said maybe).

★ ★ ★

ANOTHER IRONY is the Olympic creed itself. Admittedly, creeds are often warped to the desire of the warper, but the key words in the success of these Olympiads through continuing world strife are these: individual glory.

The Olympics glorify the individual, and only through the individuals are the nations also glorified. You may ask . . . why do the national teams parade around the stadium? Why are national points scored? Why national flags, and national anthems, etc., etc.

Well, yes, these are disturbing questions every four years. To be practical, individuals could not stage the Olympics. Nations must endorse them. Pride in country is an important commodity when the teams march by during the Opening Ceremony.

As for the points, these are newspaper devices for reader guidance. They are no part of the official Olympic record.

But here's another question: what greater goal is there for black man, white man or yellow man than individual glory?

★ ★ ★

THE BOYCOTT IDEA is political. It is a device to bring world attention to the civil rights problems here. More than mere attention, it is hoped the boycott will create an atmosphere of world disfavor.

The word "Olympic" is magic. It has survived despite wars of nations, and despite its own inner intrigues, by the amazingly simple virtue of its own code. To repeat, the Olympics honor those individuals who run, jump, lift or score best.

The Olympic Games are highly publicized everywhere. You know that the altitude of Mexico City has been the subject of a billion-billion words. Just say "Olympic" in the world press and you'll get ink.

So the boycott idea is already a success. They know about it in Pakistan, Vietnam, Moscow, Buenos Aires, Montreal and Fargo, North Dakota.

Will an actual boycott be as successful? Maybe. Maybe more.

It's not an easy question to resolve for the Tommie Smiths, the Lee Evans and other Negro eligibles. Smith has stated he would give his right arm for an Olympic Gold Medal, but will go along with the majority. From what one reads, the power of boycott may rest with a majority of non-Olympians in 1968, many of whom have added fat pay envelopes to their athletic glory.

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YES, THERE IS IRONY throughout in this boycott proposition.

On television recently, there was a penetrating satire, a play called "A Day of Absence." The all-Negro cast appeared in white face. On that day, every Negro disappeared, and the United States was in a turmoil. All the menial jobs — sweeping streets, shining shoes, baby sitting, manning doors, maiding, chauffeuring, cleaning latrines—were not done. It was catastrophic. At the end of the day the Negroes reappeared and the country was "right" again.

This proposed "day of absence" at the Olympics takes another theme. The absentees would not be the menials, "boys." They would be boycotting an opportunity to stride with the cream of world youth on equal footing.

Strange, bitter irony.

Will Negroes Boycott?

Nov 23, 67

And so, according to assistant professor Harry Edwards of San Jose State College and what was reported from behind closed doors as a unanimous vote of 50 or 60 black athletes, the black men of this country will refuse to compete in the 1968 Olympic Games at Mexico City. Tommie Smith and Lee Evans of that school, the Doubletime Doubletalk Duet, joined in the "unanimous" vote. And yet, an hour or so after he had returned to the campus, Tommie-Jet, a splendid athlete who seems to have his mind made up for him by the last person who talked to him, and, apparently, they come in relays, recanted to this extent:

He told a San Jose Mercury-News reporter, "Harry has taken it upon himself to make a statement. He was not authorized to do so. No, I will not verify it. I'm giving no statement."

Tommie seems to be more confused than Cassius Clay, who in many ways is goofy like a fox.

Smith and Evans have given out a series of conflicting statements recently that makes you wonder just where they really do stand. My impression is that they are being pressured from all sides and are right in the middle, not knowing which way to turn.

Through their coach, Bud Winter, they have refuted early remarks attributed to them as misquotes or misunderstandings. My latest communique from them, through Winter, was an expression of their appreciation to me for not going off half-cocked and for defending them as not yet actually doing what some black leaders had asked them to do.

The only point I seem to have cleared up is that neither Smith nor Evans bases any criticism he may have to make, or any action he may take, against other athletes, white or black, or any of the coaches or administrators. It is all only a part of the massive tide that is moving the black man toward that greater equal share in our nation's opportunity than he has had up to now.

No One Disputes Their Right

On this basis, no one can dispute their right to stand up and be counted in a cause for which their people are fighting. If they do not want an Olympic Games gold medal, that is their business. It is their right to decline, although I think they might listen to Bud Winter when he advises them:

"I am appalled that Negro leaders have been driven so far as to consider boycotting a movement (the Olympic Games) that epitomizes the very thing for which they are fighting."

Tommie took an opposite point of view here this week when he was quoted in a local newspaper: "I am not willing to sacrifice my manhood and the basic dignity of my people to participate in the Games."

A week or so ago he said he would give his right arm to win an Olympic Gold Medal.

For the life of me, and I am a very understanding man always sympathetic to the plight of the black man, I cannot see where Tommie would sacrifice his manhood or the basic dignity of his people by participating in the Olympic Games, the most powerful movement on earth working toward the brotherhood of man.

Did Jesse Owens sacrifice his manhood or the basic dignity of his people when he won those four gold medals under the nose of Adolph Hitler at Berlin in 1936?

Did Bill Russell and K.C. Jones sacrifice their manhood or the basic dignity of their people when they led the United States to victory over the Soviet Union basketball team at Melbourne in 1956?

A Little Honesty Requested

Did Wonderful Wilma Rudolph, Wyomia Tyus, Mal Whitfield, Ralph Boston, Milton Campbell, Rafer Johnson, Floyd Patterson, Cassius Clay, John Davis or Harrison Dillard?

This column would be grateful to Bud Winter if he could get a little consistent honesty and integrity out of Tommie Smith and Lee Evans. Is they is or is they ain't?

All this doubletalk, all these conflicting statements, all this wavering back and forth, is becoming quite as irksome as it is tiresome.

Harry Edwards suggested in a statement here that competition in the Olympics is "to be utilized as performing animals for a little extra dog food."

Did Jesse Owens think of his gold medals as no more than a little extra dog food. Did Rafer Johnson, Otis Davis and Lee Calhoun? Would Lee Evans or Tommie Smith?

Loss of our fine black athletes would be a severe but not a crippling blow to the U.S. team. The boycott would hurt our basketball and boxing teams perhaps more than any other sport. It would ruin or women's track team but not our men's team in that sport.

In 1964 at Tokyo, 37 per cent of our track athletes were black. The figures are 26 percent black (17 of 66 athletes) for our men, 75 per cent (15 of 20) for our women. Our black athletes, men and women, won six gold medals in track including the women's relay, our white athletes seven.

Of 10 gold medals in the 100 and 200 meters for men since the War, four were won by American Negro stars, four by American white sprinters, two by whites from other nations. American Negro girls won four, non-American whites six.

Sports of The Times

Pride and Prejudice

Nov 24

By ROBERT LIPSYTE

THE sports establishment has always enjoyed patting itself on the back for its treatment of Negroes. In 1936, Jesse Owens was allowed to win four gold medals in the Berlin Olympics; in 1947, Jackie Robinson was allowed to start the revitalization of baseball, and several Southern football conferences have been "integrated" recently for the sake of a few extraordinary black players.

This is not to say that sports is unjustified in its pride, even though its motives are usually economic. The sports establishment has often been ahead of the rest of the nation, and, more important, has given thousands of Negroes personal fulfillment, college educations, wealth. Millions of Negroes have been able to cheer, to be exalted by, to try to emulate, black heroes. William Bradford Huie, the author and an acute observer, said recently that "the poor whites who value a man who can win a football game, who can fight" have also been educated by seeing Negro athletes on television.

Perhaps it is the strength, the sense of personal worth, the feeling of obligation to the black community and the confidence engendered by sports

that produced the announcement from Los Angeles that a number of leading Negro athletes, including Lew Alcindor, might sit out the 1968 Olympics, as well as competitions involving South Africans and the New York Athletic Club. It is a great sacrifice for an athlete to give up a chance to test himself against the best competition in the world.

Sense and Sensibility

The athletes who announced their intention to support this so-called boycott are all college students, all involved in the tremendous pressure being exerted upon campuses these days by black activists. The resolution is an old one from last July's National Conference on Black Power in Newark. At that time, a resolution was passed calling for an Olympic boycott unless the heavyweight boxing title won by Cassius Clay and stripped from Muhammad Ali was returned.

The behind-the-scenes politician of that resolution was said to be Dick Gregory, the civil rights activist and comedian, who had starred in track at Southern Illinois University but couldn't buy a meal in downtown Carbondale. An effort by Gregory several years ago to persuade Negro athletes to boycott a U.S.-U.S.S.R. track and field meet failed. The suggestion was a little too early in the game.

Persuasion

The stripping of Ali's title was symbolic, to Floyd B. McKissick, among others, of the nation's intent to "castrate any black man who stands up for the truth." To many Negro athletes, it was proof that sports status was a fragile platform the white man could always snatch away. It was already very well known that Negroes usually make less money than whites of comparable talent, in salary as well as outside endorsements for the professional athlete, in post-college jobs for the man who remains an amateur.

Perhaps most important, however, for this new generation of black athlete, is the sense of obligation to the black community. Competing for the United States in such an ideologically-merchandised event as the Olympics might seem hypocritical to those who believe that this country has offered black Americans only "tricks and tokenism"; civil rights legislation that doesn't work, an antipoverty war that doesn't help the poor, political oppression and police-state tactics on the street.

What would a boycott accomplish?

It would, at least, give many young Negro athletes pause to re-evaluate their own goals, their own identity whether or not they finally, and painfully, decide to make the team.

It would, at best, embarrass the country into taking more positive steps toward improving housing, education, job opportunities for black Americans.



The New York Times
Lew Alcindor

Olympic boycott urged

FIN 06 2467P

By RON GOBEN
Times Staff Writer

SAN FRANCISCO — Details of a proposed 1968 Olympic Games boycott by American Negro athletes were revealed today by Black Power advocate Harry Edwards.

It was done against a background of nationwide reaction by Negro athletes — both for and against such a boycott.

Edwards, San Jose State College sociology professor, described three resolutions passed at a black youth conference in Los Angeles Thursday aimed at keeping Negro track and field stars out of the Mexico City games.

The principal resolution called for a boycott of the Olympics, but there were two other resolutions urging Negro athletes to refuse to participate in competition with South Africa or Rhodesia, or with the New York Athletic Club.

Edwards discussed the resolutions at a press conference in the St. Francis Hotel after he addressed 200 delegates to the Conference of Associated Student Governments, a college organization.

He heads the United Black Students for Action on the SJS campus, which protested discrimination there this fall.

Edwards said athletes attending the Los Angeles meeting voted unanimously for the boycott. He implied there would be widespread acceptance of the boycott by Negro athletes principally because white America has forced them to live in ghettos where opinion will be on the side of the boycott.

A resolution urging Negro athletes to boycott the 1968 Olympic Games was passed unanimously Thursday at a meeting in Los Angeles which included UCLA basketball star Lew Alcindor and San Jose State track standouts Tommie Smith and Lee Evans.

The opening session of the three-day Western Regional Black Youth Conference was marked by a fracas outside the Second Baptist Church in South Los Angeles where the delegates met.

The violence erupted between about 50 followers of Black Power advocate Ron Karenga and a small group of pickets from the Marxist-Leninist branch of the Communist Party, U.S.A.

Police said three or four pistol shots were fired. One of the pickets, William Thrash, 17, was wounded in his right wrist by a bullet. Punches were thrown.

RACISM

Edwards, who summoned the athletes, said he hoped the boycott would have the effect of placing the issue of racism in America either before the United Nations or the World Court.

"We hope to bring to the world arena the attention of the entire world that America is as guilty of racism as South Africa," Edwards said.

Edwards, a Negro, said "about 50 or 60" Negro athletes attended the meeting. In addition to Alcindor, Smith and Evans, he said Mike Warren, guard on the UCLA basketball team, and Otis Burrell, former University of Nevada high jumper, also were present.

Smith, who holds the world records for the 200 meters and the 220-yard dash, said before the meeting he was not willing to "sacrifice my manhood and the basic dignity of my people to participate in the games. I am quite willing not only to give up participation in the games but my life if necessary if it means that it will open a door or channel by which the oppression and injustice suffered by my people in America can be alleviated."

Smith had said earlier this month he would "give his right arm to win a gold medal in the Olympics."

Stanford track coach Payton Jordan, who has been named head coach of the U.S. Men's Track and Field Team in next year's games in Mexico City, commented today that if the Negroes "don't wish to participate they have that right."

COERCION
Jordan suggested "there must be some coercion to have an individual who has worked so long and hard (to qualify for the Olympics) to change his mind in the middle of the stream, but I don't know all the reasons. "I really feel very badly,"

Jordan said, "that an individual might be denied this opportunity if he wants it. It's too bad," he added, "that the liberal loud-mouth gets all the attention, and the person who speaks rationally is not heard."

Jordan said until the Olympic trials are held, none of the athletes are under his jurisdiction. "There is a lot of time yet, and a lot of great athletes are waiting to take their places. Young, new ones are coming up all the time. That's the beauty of America, there is always someone waiting in the wings."

Arthur Lentz, executive director of the U.S. Olympic Committee, said in New York: "The (Continued on page 2, col. 2)

JIM MURRAY 'Apartheid,' U.S. Style

It was in 1936 that that great champion of the oppressed and the underdog, Adolf Hitler, contemptuously dismissed the great showing of the U.S. track and field team in the Berlin Olympics as a triumph for its "black auxiliaries." An American team with anything but pure Aryans on it, he implied, was beneath contempt.

From that day to this, no other man has had the temerity, not to say bigotry, to suggest that black Americans should not be on this country's Olympic team. But now, Hitler has company. An assistant professor of sociology, Harry Edwards, doesn't think there should be any blacks on that team, either.



Sociologist Edwards is going to punish the white world by boycott, by depriving it of the privilege of having its pants beaten off by black athletes on the track.

He is doing this to publicize the fact that "America is just as guilty as South Africa ever was." (It's interesting to note, in this connection, that South Africa doesn't have any black athletes on its Olympic team, either.) Prof. Edwards has his own form of "apartheid" going.

As a first step in publicizing, Edwards barred the white press from his meeting. Next, he did all the talking.

Then, he was asked what could be done about black athletes who might not go along with his boycott of the Olympic team. "These people have to live in black communities," he said darkly.

This is a refinement of a World War II tactic in which the fellow with the monocle (Conrad Veidt?) would say, "As you wish, Otto, but just remember you have a mother and father living in Germany."

Just what the eminent sociologist is after, is the least bit obscure. To be sure, he is flushed with success. He marched into his own Rhineland earlier this year when he forced cancellation of a San Jose State football game with a Texas team (one which, ironically, is one of the few Texas teams to be massively integrated).

What baffles this writer is what Sociologist Edwards hopes to gain by removing black Americans from the athletic scene. It wasn't too long ago, most of us were conscience-bound to urge just the opposite. Just ask yourself—What does the Negro in America owe to his athletic image?

A very great deal. A very, very great deal. Lincoln wrote the Emancipation Proclamation. Athletics implemented it.

Now, hear me out. I'm not patting US on the back for it. But just take Joe Louis, for example. A Southern white supremacist spends his life telling his kids the black man is inferior. But the kids can see. And read. And hear. And count. Who's that on the floor, daddy? Billy Conn? Or Joe Louis? It can't be Billy Conn, daddy, can it? After all, he's white. That can't be Joe Louis getting his hand raised? Tell me again, daddy, who's inferior? I keep forgetting.

Take the 1936 Olympics. Who's that winning the 100 meters, daddy? The 200? The long jump? Who's that hurrying out of the arena with a scowl on his face? A white dictator? That can't be Jesse Owens, winning, can it, daddy? Must be some Aryan.

Who helped the young black kid in America to achieve self-respect more? Jackie Robinson? Or some sociology professor?

I can't help but feel it's the most self-defeating form of social protest short of holding your breath in a corner. Hitler must be roaring with laughter someplace. But Harry Edwards is alive and living in San Jose.

Coach
Travis
Sat Nov. 25 1967

Coach Scoffs At Boycott Of Olympics

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (UPI) — Track coach Ed Temple, whose Tennessee A and I stars included Wilma Rudolph, scoffed today at the decision of some 60 Negro athletes to boycott the 1968 Olympic Games in Mexico City.

"Bob Hayes is doing pretty well for himself after winning a gold medal in the 1964 Olympics," Temple said. "I imagine that gold medal came in pretty handy when he got his bonus with the Dallas Cowboys."

Hayes also opposed the Negro athletes' decision in Los Angeles.

Temple, who twice coached the United States' women's Olympic Team, said he did not want his famed Tigerbelle to get involved in the controversy.

L.A. Times Sat Nov. 25, 1967

Boycott Extension Slated to Include New York AC Events

SAN FRANCISCO (UPI)—Harry Edwards, San Jose State College professor, said Friday a proposed boycott by Negro athletes of the 1968 Olympics will be extended to include events connected with the New York Athletic Club.

Competitions in which South Africa and Rhodesia were represented also would be boycotted, he said.

Edwards, who called a meeting of black athletes in Los Angeles Thursday, was in San Francisco to address the Associated Student Government of the U.S., a college leadership group. While talking to the students, the Negro teacher made a militant speech on black power.

In amplifying Thursday's meeting of black athletes, Edwards, an assistant sociology professor and former athlete, said the conference passed three resolutions.

In addition to voting to boycott next year's Olympic Games, which will be held in Mexico City, Edwards said the athletes also voted on the resolutions against the New York AC and Rhodesia and South Africa.

The New York AC, one of the

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Mal Whitfield, an Olympic gold medalist in 1948 and '52, condemned plans of a Negro group in the U.S. to have American Negro athletes boycott the 1968 Olympics in Mexico City. "It would be wrong to boycott the Olympics, which have given Negro athletes so much international recognition," Whitfield said from Kampala, Uganda. "Members of the so-called boycott movement have not been able to give any solid reasons for

11/25/67

NYAC BOYCOTT

Continued from First Page
nation's oldest athletic clubs and a steady source of supply for U.S. Olympic teams, annually sponsors an indoor track and field meet in Madison Square Garden. The resolution said the club allows only white Christians as members.

The two African nations mentioned by Edwards are common targets of U.S. Negro groups.

Edwards refused to speculate on what effect a Negro boycott of the U.S.

Olympic team would have on the nation's chances of winning the overall team title next year.

In New York, a spokesman for the New York Athletic Club said that "it is absolutely untrue" that the organization does not admit Negro members.

The NYAC spokesman said the organization would issue a formal statement today, and he declined further comment.

Boycott Would Bring More Grief Than Good

News item: "A group of Negro athletes, including UCLA basketball star Lew Alcindor and San Jose State track stars Tommie Smith and Lee Evans, voted unanimously Thursday to boycott the Olympic Games..."

American Negroes struggled for years to reach the mainstream of American sports. And they finally made it. But now some of them—a few of them—are swimming furiously away from the mainstream.

Their determination to withdraw is a product of frustration. They have decided, or have been led to believe, that their people will never achieve social and economic equality in American society. Rather than fight a hopeless situation, they have elected to get out.

The trouble is that no course of action could be more hopeless than the one these Negro athletes propose to follow.

What can it accomplish for the American Negro?

Suppose that all Negro athletes refuse to compete for the United States in the Olympics and that the U.S. squad is so weakened it finishes behind Ecuador. Will the white majority in the United States then be disposed to treat the Negro more generously? Or will it be angered and resist the Negro's demands even more resolutely?

We suspect that the latter response is far more probable and that the Negroes who voted Thursday to become athletic dropouts will bring their people less good than grief.

Why the Olympics?

We also question why these athletes selected the Olympic Games as the target of their boycott. If you asked them, they would doubtless tell you there is no reason a Negro should serve a white establishment that has mistreated their people.

But if Lew Alcindor would be serving the white establishment by playing basketball for the United States in the Olympics, is he not serving the same establishment by playing basketball for UCLA, a university operated by a white-dominated state?

It seems here that Alcindor's

position will be inconsistent until he announces that he will not only not play in the Olympics but also will not play again for UCLA and, furthermore, will not subsequently play in the white-owned and operated National Basketball Assn.

In other words, he will be inconsistent until he says he will stand by his convictions even if it costs him money to do so.

We know of a number of militant Negroes who are playing professional sports in the United States. They are all helping make money for white men. But, significantly, perhaps, they are also making money for themselves.

Is it the position of the militants that it is permissible to serve a white master if the pay is good and to refuse to do so if only Olympic gold medals are at stake?

We are inclined to question the sincerity of a man who says he will take a stand against something only if the price is right.

But the main thing is that withdrawal is not the Negro's answer. In this country, sports have given the Negro an effective means of communicating with the white majority, of demonstrating that he can fit in. Destroying this line of communication hardly seems calculated to serve the Negro's cause.

Opportunities Grow

Twenty years ago, when the Dodgers broke the color line in major league baseball by calling up Jackie Robinson, many people were skeptical and some were even indignant. But today people watch the Dodgers play with five or six Negroes on the field at once and scarcely give it a thought.

Maybe Negro ballplayers still can't make as much money on endorsements as whites. Maybe they can't buy houses in some neighborhoods. And it is hard to argue that their annoyance at these restrictions is not justified.

But they have substantially more opportunity today than they had 20 years ago. And they'll no doubt have more in another 20 years than they have today.

The militants argue, again with understandable impatience, that changes should be made immediately. And, if a majority of Negro athletes comes to accept the thinking of those who met here Thursday, there may be some immediate changes. The American Negro may take a dramatic step backward.



Olympic boycott

(Continued from page 1)

officers and committee members have been aware of this situation for a long time. They resent being used as an attention-getter no matter how worthwhile the cause may be."

In case of a boycott, Lentz said normal procedures would be followed where athletes become ineligible or found they could not compete. "We would drop down to the next eligible man among those who competed in tryouts."

Asked what will happen to Negro athletes who ignore the boycott, he said, "I don't think anything will happen."

Edwards said Negro athletes who participate in the Olympics do not gain the prestige accorded to white athletes. "What have we got to lose?" he asked, in explaining reasons for the action.

Professional athletes would not be asked to participate in any type of boycott, he said, because they are paid — often extremely well paid.

In his speech, Edwards likened the U.S. to a luxury liner run by "psychological or medical incompetents" and "perhaps the captain himself is bordering on insanity."

Negroes, he said, are "riding in the cargo hold" of the liner despite the fact that they did not even ask to come aboard but were "shanghied."

Veteran Olympian Ralph Boston, holder of the world record in the long jump, commented in Nashville, Tenn., on the proposed boycott, saying "it doesn't make sense."

Negroes Disagree on Games Boycott

Rafer Johnson, Boston Critical of Stand; Clay Praises Action

BY CHUCK GARRITY
Times Staff Writer

There was a lack of unanimity among Negro athletes throughout the nation Friday after a group meeting in Los Angeles Thursday voted to boycott the 1968 Olympic Games.

A group including UCLA basketball star Lew Alcindor and San Jose State track stars Tommie Smith and Lee Evans attended the Los Angeles meeting that produced a unanimous vote to boycott the Mexico City games. Harry Edwards, a 24-year-old associate professor of sociology at San Jose State, served as spokesman for the group and said 50 to 60 Negro sports figures attended the meeting.

While Edwards called the boycott "a significant stand," there were other prominent Negroes around the country who disagreed.

UCLA's 1960 Olympic decathlon champion, Rafer Johnson, now a Los Angeles television sportscaster, said he didn't feel the group meeting in Los Angeles was representative of all Negro athletes.

Olympics Fair to Negro

"I was approached in 1960 about not going to the Games, but I told them I was not interested," Johnson said. "I made the team on my ability. I think if an athlete has the ability to make the team, he should be allowed to go. The Olympic Committee and Olympic organization always have been fair to the Negro."

Johnson, who covered the meeting as a newsmen, not a participant, said his feeling about Olympic participation was one of the individual against individual, "not America against Russia or South Africa. I'm there representing me. I'm on the American squad. But it's me, Rafer Johnson, against Vasily Kuznetsov (the Russian who dueled Johnson for the gold medal and world record in 1960)."

Ralph Boston, the Olympic long jump champion in 1960 and world record holder in that event, said he feels the boycott "doesn't make sense. I don't think this (boycott) would be the thing that very many people would go along with. I'm sure there are some people who feel that way, but I'm not one of them."

Both Johnson and Boston pointed out that in order to boycott the Olympics Games, athletes first must qualify for them.

"The ones asking others not to go don't have the ability to get there anyway," Johnson said, pointing out that only Smith, Alcindor and possibly Evans from among the group attending Thursday's meet-

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MAKES IT OFFICIAL—Harry Edwards, San Jose State College professor, addresses a news conference at San Francisco Friday—confirming that a group of Negro athletes that met in Los Angeles Thursday voted to boycott the 1968 Olympic Games. Edwards was the originator of the boycott plan. Times photo

NEGRO BOYCOTT

Continued from First Page
ing could make an Olympic team.

Boston pointed out the difficulty of making an Olympic team—the training, the competition and the fact the games are held only every four years.

Were it the World Series or the National Basketball Assn. playoffs or pro football playoffs, "something that comes around every year, then maybe I'd go along with it," he said. "But not the Olympics."

Jesse Owens, who won four gold medals in the 1936 Berlin Olympics, criticized the boycott.

"I deplore the use of the Olympic Games by certain people for political aggrandizement," Owens said. "There is no place in the athletic world for politics."

Owens was snubbed by German dictator Adolf Hitler after winning the 100 and 200 meters, the long jump and anchoring the victorious U.S. 400-meter relay team.

"It is my personal experience that the Olympic Games have been one of the greatest areas in which personal achievement is rewarded culturally, and, eventually, financially and economically," Owens said.

Art Walker, America's best triple jumper, was invited to attend the Thursday meeting, but chose not to.

"I intend to compete if I make the team," Walker, a Los Angeles resident, said.

"Personally, I'd be proud to represent my country. I love my country. I'm also proud to be a Negro."

"I'm not exactly sure what they (the group voting to boycott) are trying

to accomplish. I don't think a boycott would accomplish anything.

"This country is no Utopia, by any means—but it's my country," Walker said.

Charlie Greene, six-time NCAA sprint champion from Nebraska, said, "It comes down to a matter if you're an American or if you're not. I'm an American and I'm going to run."

Cassius Clay, the Olympic light-heavyweight boxing champion in 1960 and later world heavyweight champion, said, "Giving up a chance at the Olympics and a gold medal is a big sacrifice. But anything they do that's designed to get freedom and equality for their people, I'm with 1,000%."

Clay has been stripped of his world title for draft evasion.

In New York, Arthur Lentz, executive director of the U.S. Olympic Committee, said, "The officers and committee members have been aware of this situation for a long time. They resent being used as an attention getter, no matter how worthwhile the cause may be."

Asked what the Olympic committee would do in case such a boycott came about, Lentz said:

"We would follow the same procedures we always have in the case where athletes become ineligible or found they could not compete. We would drop down to the next eligible man among those who competed in the tryouts."

In 1964, 50 of the 362 U.S. Olympic athletes for the games in Tokyo were Negroes. Of the 126 medals won by Americans, 22 were won by Negroes.

o Split on Boycott

Negroes Split on Boycott

From Page 23

disputed by two of the athletes he said attended the meeting.

The closed-door vote which Edwards said was unanimous actually was a vote of acclamation — "everything was done anonymously" — said Lew Alcindor, All-America basketball star at UCLA.

His teammate, Mike Warren, said he didn't attend the meeting as Edwards had announced. But Warren declined to say more.

"I haven't made up my mind," Alcindor said of a boycott.

Expressions of support for Edwards' plan came from Cassius Clay, former world's heavyweight boxing champion who won an Olympic gold medal in 1960, and Lee Evans of San Jose State, member of the U.S. team which broke the world 800-meter relay record last year.

EVANS' STAND

Evans said he wouldn't participate in the Games if it meant "slamming the potential door to freedom in the face of black people."

Commented Charlie Greene, six-time NCAA sprint champion from Nebraska:

"It comes down to a matter if you're an American or if you're not. I'm an American, and I'm going to run."

A Negro spokesman told the San Francisco Examiner that the split among athletes appears to be along 'generational' lines, with older ones generally opposing the boycott. Greene, however, would seem to defy this analysis.

The U.S. Olympic teams won't be selected until next year.

Arthur Lenz, executive director of the U.S. Olympic Committee, said those who run the games "resent being used as an attention getter, no matter how worthwhile the cause may be."

Athletes who refuse to try out, Lenz said, will be eliminated from consideration, and the next eligible man among those who competed in the tryouts will be named.

CHURCHMAN'S VIEW

In Los Angeles, Bishop R. E. Alexander, coordinator of Friendship Though Sports, Inc., said any Olympics boycott would only hurt the Negroes' cause.

"That each of these athletes should believe their athletic powers are such fine commodities that the poor will be regenerated with their display of super-ego is indeed a tragedy," Alexander said.

Meanwhile, a denial was issued by a local leftist who supposedly was involved in a shooting scrape at the Black Youth meeting.

Michael Lasky, identified as a Communist Party official who allegedly suffered face cuts in a clash with Black Power militants, said he was nowhere near the church where the conference took place.

Avery: U.S. Can Manage

LOS ANGELES — (AP) — America's Negro athletes were divided in their reaction today to plans of one group, hoping to illustrate racial discontent, to boycott the 1958 Olympic Games.

Announcement of the boycott was made here at the Western Regional Black Youth Conference.

A spokesman for the games expressed dismay at the proposed action, but said the Negroes who refuse to compete will lose most.

Avery Brundage, president of the international Olympic committee, said the United States can find enough talented white athletes if necessary to represent it in the October competition in Mexico City.

In the 1964 Olympics at Tokyo, 22 of the 126 medals won by Americans went to Negroes.

After hearing of the decision, Brundage said in nearby Santa Barbara:

"These misguided young men are being badly advised. If these boys are serious, they're making a very bad mistake."

BRUNDAGE BACKED

Several Negro athletic stars — including Rafer Johnson and Ralph Boston — echoed Brundage's comment that those who refuse to compete would "only be depriving themselves of an opportunity that comes once in a lifetime."

In addition to announcing



CHARLIE GREENE
"I'm American and I'll run"

plans to boycott the Olympics, a spokesman said 50 or 60 Negro athletes voted with 150 other young men at the Thursday conference to refuse participation in any sports event in which there are participants from South Africa or Rhodesia.

Harry Edwards, 24-year-old assistant professor of sociology at San Jose State said, "The black man has to be given everything that's due him." The boycott, he said, will be also extended to include events connected with the New York Athletic club.

CLUB DENIAL

A spokesman for the New York club, which annually sponsors an indoor track meet in Madison Square Garden, denied the statement by Edwards that it restricts membership to white Christians.

Two other public statements by Edwards, bearded sponsor of the boycott, were

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J.A. Times Fri NOV. 24, 1967 P

Negro Group Votes to Boycott '68 Olympics

BY JEFF PRUGH
Times Staff Writer

A group of Negro athletes, including UCLA basketball star Lew Alcindor and San Jose State track stars Tommie Smith and Lee Evans, voted unanimously Thursday to boycott the 1968 Olympic Games at a meeting marred by an outbreak of shooting and violence.

The boycott was announced by professor Harry Edwards of San Jose State, who called the athletes

together. The meeting was closed to white reporters and was held in conjunction with the three-day Black Youth Conference being conducted at the Second Baptist Church in South Los Angeles.

After the meeting, Edwards commented on the athletes' stand: "This is a significant stand because I know of no other group of people who can make our feelings known. I hope the country can see what these black athletes have done. This is our last chance to avert a

racial catastrophe in this country." Edwards, 24, is a sociology professor who also led a protest against alleged discrimination against Negroes which resulted in the cancellation of a San Jose State football game last September.

He ruled out any possibilities that the athletes' position will be softened before the Games are held next October in Mexico City. The reason, he said, is because "the black man has to be given everything that's due him."

Asked what effect the boycott will have on the United States' athletic image and its chances in the Games, Edwards said:

"If we finish first, that's beautiful; if we finish 14th, that's beautiful, too.

"This country is not for us, so why should we worry about the country? I think our message will be carried to the rest of the country because most of our athletic power—about 80%—is here on the West Coast." Meanwhile, outside the church,

about a half hour before the meeting of athletes was adjourned, violence erupted between a small leftist group of pickets and about 50 young Negro followers of militant Black Power advocate Ron Karenga.

Three or four pistol shots were fired a block away, and one of the pickets, William Thrash, 17, of the pro-Communist United Front group, suffered a bullet wound in his right wrist and was later treated and

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J.A. Times Fri NOV. 24, 1967 P

NEGRO OLYMPIC BOYCOTT?

Continued from First Page released at Central Receiving Hospital.

A man wearing fatigues and identified as Michael Lasky, leader of the Communist group, suffered severe cuts about his face when he was attacked with a placard stick.

Punches were exchanged between a picketer and a Karenga follower, and the fighting spread quickly. Two youths were taken into custody.

Statement Due

Later, when the meeting of athletes adjourned, Edwards announced the Olympic Games boycott, but said he will release an official statement today in San Francisco, where he will address the National Conference of Student Body Governments.

Edwards, however, acted as spokesman for the group. He estimated the number of athletes attending the meeting to be "about 50 or 60." Among the athletes in addition to Alcindor, Smith and Evans, said Edwards, were Mike Warren, guard on the UCLA basketball team, and Otis Burrell, ex-Nevada high jumper.

Also attending were two UCLA football players, split end Ron Copeland (who is better known as a world-class hurdler) and defensive tackle Hal Griffin. Both left the meeting about 1½ hours before its adjournment to attend football practice.

Alcindor, who was college basketball's player of the year last season, and Smith and Evans—members of San Jose State's world-record 880 relay team—refused to comment on the boycott.

Changes Attitude

About two hours later, however, Smith indicated that the announcement may have been premature. "Harry has taken it upon himself to make a statement," he told a San Jose Mercury-News reporter. "He was not authorized to do so. No, I won't verify it. I'm giving no statement."

Smith, who holds the world record of 19.5 for the 200 meters and the 220-yard dash, had said earlier this month that he would "give my right arm

to win a gold medal in the Olympics."

He also had said Wednesday that he would join a boycott. "I am quite willing not only to give up participation in the Games, but my life, if necessary, if it means that it will open a door or channel by which the oppression and injustice suffered by my people in America can be alleviated."

While holding court with reporters Thursday afternoon, Edwards was asked about Negro athletes who might not sympathize with the boycott and decide, instead, to try out for the Olympics.

"These people have to live in black communities," the professor said, "and this will have a bearing on whether they compete. I don't think they will."

Then Edwards explained why the boycott is centering on the Olympic Games, as opposed to inter-school competition within the U.S.

"This is our way of pointing out," he said "that the United States has no right to set itself up as leader of the free world. It's a simple fact that America has to be exposed for what it is. America is just as guilty as South Africa ever was."

"We're going to put this question before the United Nations. We want to take it out of the sphere of civil rights and bring it into the sphere of human rights."

Former Negro Olympians Op

Los Angeles, Nov. 24 (AP)—Negro athletes threatening a boycott of the 1968 Olympic Games to illustrate their feelings of racial injustices ran into opposition and support from their race today.

Harry Edwards, a teacher of sociology at San Jose State College and former athlete there, said 50 to 60 sports figures attended a meeting yesterday in Los Angeles and unanimously endorsed a boycott.

Edwards, 24, commented, "This is a significant stand because



Opposing Negro boycott of Olympics as proposed by sociology prof Harry Edwards (right) are (from left) Ralph Boston, Jesse Owens and Bob Hayes.

I know of no other group of people who can make our feelings known.

"I hope the country can see what these black athletes have done. This is our last chance to avert a racial catastrophe in this country."

The meeting on the Olympics was part of a three-day Black Youth Conference held at the Second Baptist Church in South Los Angeles. Before the session adjourned, violence erupted outside between a picketing leftist group and followers of a militant "black power" leader.

ONE 17-YEAR-OLD suffered a bullet wound in his wrist. Police identified the wounded youngster as William Thrash.

Olympic gold medal winner Ralph Boston, holder of the world record in the long jump, commented in Nashville, Tenn., on the proposed boycott, saying, "It doesn't make sense."

He said, "I don't think this would be the thing that very many people would go along with. I'm sure there are some people who feel that way, but I'm not one of them."

IN WASHINGTON, Norvell Lee, who won a gold medal boxing at the 1952 Olympics, said, "I don't know who the people are behind the boycott, but they don't realize what they're doing at all. The young athletes are ill-advised."

"Athletics is the only field in which the Negro has been treated well."

"The athletes, if they carry out the boycott, will be doing more to hurt themselves and their image than anything I can imagine."

OLYMPIC SPEEDSTER Bob

Hayes said in Dallas he would have participated in the 1964 Olympics no matter what, and had no idea why other Negro athletes were threatening to boycott the 1968 Games.

Hayes, now a flanker with the NFL Cowboys, said the boycott would hurt the U.S. effort considerably if it goes through. Hayes won gold medals in the '64 Olympics for the 100-meter dash and the 400-meter relay. He said Negro Olympians "had some problems before we left the States" in 1964 but refused to say what they were.

"But nobody thought of going this far with it," he said. "I don't think any sort of problem would have kept me from participating. I just overlooked it and when we left it worked itself out. There was no problem in the team itself, or if there was, I didn't know about it."

RAFER JOHNSON, the Olympic decathlon champion in 1960, said: "I think if an athlete has the ability to make the team, he should be allowed to go. The Olympic Committee and the Olympic organization always have been fair to the Negro."

Art Walker, American record-holder in the triple jump, commented: "I have no intention of going along with this group."

ASKED IF HE'LL refuse an Olympic bid, Lew Alcindor, UCLA's 7-foot-1 basketball star, said, "I haven't made up my mind. I'll wait until the time comes."

Alcindor said he believes it is highly debatable if any progress in race relations has been made since 1863. "If you're in a racist society, it's up to you to do something," he said. "You have to react. We don't catch hell because we're Christian. We catch hell because we're black."

CASSIUS CLAY, who won an Olympic boxing gold medal in 1960, said "Giving up a chance at the Olympics and a gold medal is a big sacrifice. But anything they do that's designed to get freedom and equality for their people, I'm with 1,000 per cent."

Clay was stripped of his world heavyweight championship on

A Denial

A spokesman for the New York Athletic Club said last night "it is absolutely untrue" that the organization does not admit Negro members.

The conference of Negro athletes in Los Angeles had resolved to boycott all NYAC sponsored events because of its alleged racial policies.

conviction of draft evasion.

Edwards said that among those attending the Thanksgiving Day meeting were Lew Alcindor and Mike Warren, basketball stars on UCLA's collegiate championship team, sprinters Tommie Smith and Lee Evans of San Jose State, and high jumper Otis Burrell, formerly of Nevada.

Later, Warren said, "I did not attend" the meeting and declined to make any other comment.

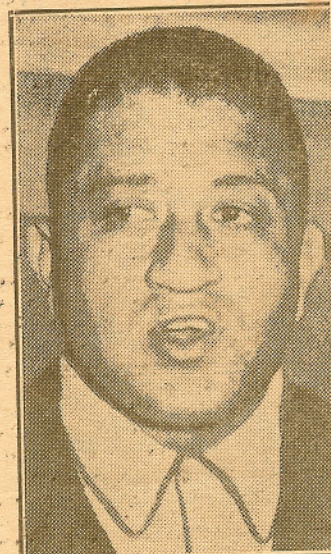
ALTHOUGH MEMBERS of the United States Olympic teams won't be selected until next year, Edwards said Negro athletes supporting the boycott were among those most likely to be chosen.

He said he does not believe the position will be softened because, "The black man has to be given everything that's due him."

Edwards said he expects all

'Foolhardy'

Lincoln, Neb., Nov. 24 (UPI)—Don Newcombe, former Negro pitcher, said today it would be foolhardy for Negro



Don Newcombe

Athletes to boycott the 1968 Olympic Games.

It would accomplish no good and only harm the Negro's program for civil rights.

Newcombe admonished Negroes who "use their race as a crutch." He said they were not being honest with themselves.

"I've traveled to many nations and I don't know of any other country as great as the United States," he said.

Former Negro Olympians Rap Boycott Plan

(Continued from page 32)

Negroes to support a boycott move. "These people have to live with a bearing on whether in black communities and this they compete."

JESSE OWENS, who won four gold medals in the 1936 Berlin Olympics, criticized the threatened boycott.

"I deplore the use of the Olympic Games by certain people for political aggrandizement," he said in Chicago. "There is no place in the athletic world for politics."

In New York, Arthur Lentz, executive director of the U.S. Olympic Committee said: "The officers and committee members have been aware of this situation for a long time. They resent being used as an attention-getter no matter how worthy the cause may be."

IN THE 1964 Olympic Games at Tokyo, 50 of the 362 U.S. athletes were Negroes. Of the 126 medals won by Americans, 22 were by Negroes.

Lentz added, "In answer to queries of what the Olympic Committee would do in case of such a boycott, we would follow the same procedure we always have in the case where athletes become ineligible or found they could not compete. We would drop down to the next eligible man among those who competed in the tryouts."

In San Francisco, Edwards, originator of the boycott plan, held a news conference today.

He said the Los Angeles meeting actually adopted three boycott resolutions—against the 1968 Olympics, against the New York Athletic Club and against any event in which Rhodesians or South Africans participate.

HE CLAIMED the New York club ignored Negroes except just before athletic events in which they were needed.

San Jose Mercury Fri Nov 24 1967

Negroes To Boycott Oly

By SCOTT MOORE
Mercury Staff Writer

Gold medal favorite Tommie Smith of San Jose and fellow Negro athletes decided Thursday to boycott the 1968 Olympic Games.

The decision was disclosed by Harry Edwards, San Jose State college professor, after a closed meeting of 200 young Negroes in Los Angeles.

Smith refused to confirm the report. "Don't print that. Harry is not authorized to say anything," the nine-time world record holder said at his hotel room.

Lee Evans, an SJS teammate of Smith, stood beside Edwards and backed up his unofficial account of proceedings during the Black Youth Conference.

An official statement was in preparation Thursday night. Edwards said he expects to release it at a scheduled address in San Francisco today.

At least five Olympic Game candidates were known in attendance at the meeting, while Edwards said others telephoned or wrote their support of the boycott decision.

"America has to be exposed for what it is," the 24-year-old

sociology professor and former SJS basketball star declared.

"This is Uncle Sam's last chance. We're going to put this question before the world," he added.

Smith's remarks before and after the meeting differed sharply.

"I am not willing to sacrifice my manhood and the basic dignity of my people to participate in the games," he told reporters before the session.

He added at the same time: "I am quite willing not only to give up participation in the games, but my life if necessary,

if it means that it will open a door or channel by which the oppression and injustice suffered by my people in America can be alleviated."

But afterward he angrily said: "Harry has taken it upon himself to say this. No, I won't verify it. I'm giving no statement."

The track star added, "I'm only one athlete out of a number at the meeting. The newspapers are not authorized to say anything."

Other athletes at the meeting in addition to Smith and Evans were Lew Alcindor, UCLA bas-

try

Fair

Fair through Saturday except for high cloudiness is forecast by the U.S. Weather Bureau. Thursday's high was 65, low 39. Last year's range was 56-35. Details on Page 38.

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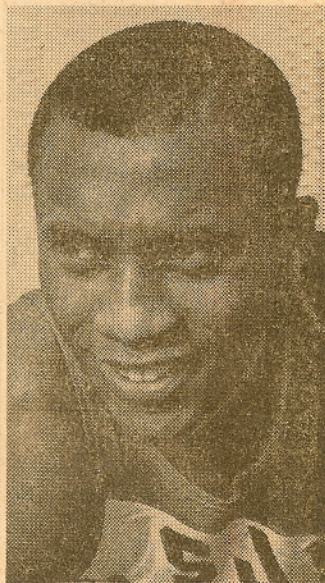
ketball star, and his teammate, Mike Warren.

One other also attending was Otis Burrell, ex-University of Nevada high jumper.

The great bulk of participants were students from universities and colleges of several western states. Edwards was a principal organizer.

He said he has talked by telephone and written Negro athletes throughout the United States who have assured him they will abide by the decision made Thursday.

No members of the U.S.
(Concluded on Page 2, Col. 1)



TOMMIE SMITH
... SJS star mum

Negro Snub Of Olympics

(Continued from Page 1)

teams which will participate in the Olympics have been selected, although some athletes who attended the conference are considered leading choices.

Smith, in fact, has been rated one of the nation's top hopes for winning one or more gold medals. He already holds nine world's records, including relays.

Evans ran on two world-record relay teams.

Edwards said he hoped the action of boycotting the games next October in Mexico City would place the issue of racism in America before the United Nations or World Court.

"Is it not time for black people to stand up as men and women and refuse to be utilized as performing animals for a little extra dog food?" he asked.

He added: "Would not an excellent beginning point be the 1968 Olympic Games?"

Edwards also said, "We hope to bring to the world arena the attention of the entire world that America is as guilty of racism as South Africa."

The 6-foot-8 Edwards has been a leading spokesman of anti-discrimination.

He led a week-long protest over alleged discrimination at San Jose State College last September. The crisis resulted in cancellation of a football game.

The conference Thursday was enlivened by a fracas involving 50 young followers of a militant Black Power leader and a small leftist group.

Delegates to the conference remained inside a church where they met while the disturbance outside was quickly brought under control.

Several pistol shots were fired and several minor injuries were reported. Three persons were arrested by police.

An observer described the scene as "a running gun battle."

A man who identified himself as a local Communist Party member was beaten up by the mob before police arrived in 20 squad cars.

Asked for comment concerning the boycott decision, Smith's SJS track coach and trainer Bud Winter said, "I am appalled."

He declared: "The way to get brotherhood of man is through the Olympic Games, not by boycotting them."

"I have worked with the black man and I understand his problems, but boycotting just is not the way to solve them."

Winter expressed hope that the boycott will not come to pass.

"I just hope something in the next 10 months can resolve the problems so they can in clear conscience participate in the games," he said.

The 1964 Olympic Games assistant track coach further said:

"Smith and Evans are two of the greatest Negro athletes in history. I pray that the United States can clear up problems of racial equality in the next 10 months so that they will never have to be confronted with such drastic action."

Winter concluded, "I am appalled Negro athletes have been driven so far as to consider boycotting a movement that epitomizes the very thing for which they are fighting."

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Divides Negroes

LOS ANGELES (AP) — America's Negro athletes were divided in their reaction today to plans of one group, hoping to illustrate racial discontent, to boycott the 1968 Olympic Games.

A spokesman for the games expressed dismay at such a possibility but said the Negroes who refuse to compete will lose most.

Avery Brundage, president of the International Olympic Committee, said the United States can find enough talented white athletes if necessary to represent it in the October Games in Mexico City.

In the 1964 Olympics at Tokyo, 22 of the 126 medals won by Americans went to Negroes.

After hearing of the decision announced by a black youth conference in Los Angeles, Brundage said in nearby Santa Barbara:

"These misguided young men are being badly advised. If these boys are serious, they're making a very bad mistake."

Several Negro athletic stars including Rafer Johnson and Ralph Boston echoed Brundage's comment that those who refuse to compete would "only be depriving themselves of an opportunity that comes once in a lifetime."

In addition to announcing plans to boycott the Olympics, a spokesman said 50 or 60 Negro athletes voted with 150 other young men at the Thursday conference to refuse participation in any athletic event in which there are participants from South Africa or Rhodesia.

Harry Edwards, 24-year-old assistant professor of sociology at San Jose State College, said, "The black man has to be given everything that's due him." The boycott, he said, will be also extended to include events connected with the New York Athletic club.

A spokesman for the New York club, which annually sponsors an indoor track and field meet in Madison Square Garden denied the statement by Edwards that it restricts membership to white Christians.

Two other public statements by Edwards, bearded sponsor of the boycott, were disputed by two of the athletes he said attended the meeting.

The closed-door vote which Edwards said was unanimous actually was a vote of acclamation — "everything was done anonymously" — said Lew Alcindor, All-American basketball player at UCLA.

His teammate, Mike Warren, said he didn't attend the meeting as Edwards had announced. But Warren declined to say any more.

"I haven't made up my mind," Alcindor said of a boycott.

The U.S. Olympic teams won't be selected until next year.

jerry izenberg AT LARGE

The protest

On Thursday, a man named Professor Harry Edwards read a statement out in Los Angeles which claimed that a group of Negro athletes has voted to boycott the 1968 Olympic Games. Mr. Edwards, an associate professor of sociology at San Jose State College believes this will serve as a vehicle to dramatize the racial problems which exist within America today.

We do not live in the best of times and you cannot argue against the proposition that these times become even more difficult if you have been born a Negro in a society which is so far removed of total equality that it makes you shudder.

Consequently, you would have to think that every voice has to be listened to whether you like it or not. Whether it has to be accepted, simply because it is another voice, remains to be seen.

* * *

THE IDEA OF A boycott is not a new one but Mr. Edwards seems to have carried it further than anyone else. If you believe the Associated Press—and we had better because this paper is paying for the service—then he has apparently received affirmative pledges from Lew Alcindor and Mike Warren who play basketball for ULCA, and Tommie Smith and Lew Evans, who are members of the San Jose State world record mile relay team.

It is worth looking here, however, at where and how the pledges were taken, who comprised the body which cast its vote and exactly what Mr. Edwards claims is happening.

The vote was taken by 200 representatives to what was called a Black Youth Conference in Los Angeles. It may, therefore, be assumed that the people this vote represented number 200 of whom four were athletes.

* * *

UNFORTUNATELY, noise has always been a measuring stick in this country. Somebody should ask exactly when the more than 12 million other Americans who share Mr. Edwards' skin color deputized him to speak for them.

If the four athletes in question choose to boycott as a matter of conscience, they are not going to get any argument here. This is their business and nobody—least of all someone who does not walk in their shoes—has the right to question them.

But when someone says 200 people speak for a large mass of Americans who don't know them, never saw them and have yet to be heard on the same subject, it's an entirely different matter.

Second, and perhaps more important in terms of logic, is the reason Mr. Edwards gives for focusing his attention on athletics.

He claims that Negro athletes in the United States have been exploited and their plight will be taken to the United Nations.

* * *

TO TAKE THE CASE, which Mr. Edwards says exists over exploitation of Negro athletes, to the UN, is just a little too much. Under the juvenile structure which often motivates college football or the greed which equally motivates professional boxing, athletes get exploited. They do so in all sizes, shapes



Lew Alcindor . . . may skip Olympics

and colors. They do not get exploited because they are black or white. They get exploited because people cheat them and will cheat them as long as they can get something out of them no matter who they are or what the color of their skin.

But on the whole, major league baseball and football players are paid more than most people reading this. When salary negotiations roll around, management is color-blind to everything except earned run averages and number of touchdowns scored.

* * *

IF MR. EDWARDS really wants to go to the UN, he can do one of two things. He can lay it on the line about color bars which keep kids out of college or grown men out of jobs for which they are qualified or out of houses which they can afford to buy. Or else, he can buy a ticket for a guided tour because that's all he's going to get if he plans to make a case about the exploitation to Negro athletes.

It is foolish—and you would like to believe that a professor of sociology couldn't possibly be that foolish—to believe that an enormous number of athletes are being exploited in this country because of their color. It is even conceivable that in Mr. Edwards' state of California there are amateur (most people call them college) athletes who may earn more illegally than a professor of sociology.

* * *

FINALLY, BEFORE people assume—as someone apparently wants them to assume—that 200 kids speak for 12 million people as to the form they would like a protest to take, a man named Willis Reed has a few words on the subject.

Mr. Reed plays for the New York Knicks and he is no longer an amateur. Since Willis Reed and Professor Harry Edwards belong to the same minority group, the floor now belongs to Willis:

"I think it's a matter of identity. How do you block out or throw away what bought you that identity? You can't find a country anywhere without terrible internal problems. But Americans will go to the Olympics and Americans will win gold medals and you can't go around telling people only one group is capable of winning. And if they win without you, then what?"

"Olympic athletes do not only bring something to their country. They bring something to themselves. If individuals want to stay home that's nobody's business but their own, but to me it doesn't sound like a very smart plan."

S.F. EXAMINER NOV. 20 1967

PRESCOTT SULLIVAN

Boycotting Wrong Store



A reader in Chowchilla raises the following question: "How would the United States fare if the threat of Negro athletes to boycott the U.S. team in the 1968 Olympics is carried out?"

The answer, we fear, is not so good. In the men's track and field competition, to which these observations shall be limited, the U.S. team might be weakened to the point where it finished behind Russia and Germany, in that or reverse order.

Negroes have accounted for 34 percent of the gold medals won by the U.S. and 18 percent of all medals—gold, silver and bronze—won by this country's Olympic track and fielders since World War II.

That's a heap of medals. The figures, however, are not presented as a precise measurement of the degree to which the U.S. would be affected without the support of Negro speed and muscles in Mexico City next October.

It need not be as bad as all that since white athletes can be expected to pick up some of the slack by placing higher than they might if they had their Negro countrymen to beat for first, second or third.

Is that clear? Well, suppose you think of it as being something like what happens at the office when old Picklepuss, the boss, retires and everybody moves up a notch.

So, let's say the figures, provided by Dick Drake, of Track & Field News, are subject to trimming because some of the medals which normally would be won by Negro athletes in the '68 Olympics may still be won for the U.S., anyhow.

But don't get to singing. The boycott will hurt, if it is imposed. It will be keenly felt in the sprints, the relays and the jumps, other than the pole vault, and it could well bring about a first defeat for the U.S. in the track and field phase of the Olympics.

But, will it come off? We doubt it. Too many great Negro athletes, past and present, believe that it would do more harm than good and are speaking out against it.

Among them are Ralph Boston, an Olympic long jump champion; Bob Hayes, who as the world's fastest human won two gold medals in the 1964 Tokyo Olympics, and the incomparable Jesse Owens, who afflicted Adolph Hitler with a case of ulcers by winning four gold medals before Der Fuehrer's pro-Aryan eyes at Berlin in 1936.

Says Boston: "I don't feel I can go along with the boycott. I don't feel that the Games should be used as a political crutch. I don't feel that politics should enter into the Olympics at all."

Says Hayes: "I don't know what they're doing. I don't know what's going on. I don't think any sort of problem would have kept me from participating."

Says Owens: "These developments are very disappointing to me. I've always found the Olympics to be one of the greatest areas wherein personal achievement is rewarded.

"The Olympics help bridge the gap of understanding in this country. Out of the Games' individual rewards can come the help needed to bring about and foster what we call the full way of American life."

Owens is so right. Individuals are the Olympics. The Games recognize no national boundaries—no racial barriers. They recognize all men only as individuals.

The practice of keeping team scores is a newspaper innovation. Officially, no team scores are kept because there are no teams.

No U.S. team. No Russian team. No German team. No teams at all. Officially, the contestants are individual members of the family of mankind whose countries are nameless.

So, when boycott leaders speak of avoiding the Olympics as an "excellent beginning" toward an all-out fight against oppression one must wonder if they didn't get their notes scrambled somewhere along the line.

What is so "excellent" about it?

As staunchly as the Olympics have upheld the dignity of all men, it would occur to many people, including Jesse Owens, that this is a boycott against the wrong store.

S.S. Jackie Robinson, who 20 years ago broke the color barrier for Negroes in big league baseball, said he had "mixed emotions" about the proposed Negro boycott of the Olympics.
Planer Nov 27 1967
Robinson said his first reaction was to oppose the move but then after thinking about it he became "more sympathetic if the leadership is right and their motives are correct."

S.S. NEW YORK (UPI) — A spokesman for the New York Athletic Club said Friday that "it is absolutely untrue" that the organization does not admit Negro members.
A conference of Negro athletes held Thursday in Los Angeles had resolved to boycott all NYAC - sponsored events because of its alleged racial policies.

Smith's Boycott Decision Is Final

(Continued from Page 1)

Brundage, interviewed for television station KNXT, said the athletes by boycotting would only be depriving themselves of an opportunity that comes once in a lifetime."

In New York, Arthur Lentz, executive director of the U.S. Olympic Committee, said, "The officers and committee members have been aware of this situation for a long time. They resent being used as an attention-getter no matter how worthwhile the cause may be."

In the 1964 Olympic Games at Tokyo, 50 of the 362 U.S. athletes were Negroes. Of the 126 medals won by Americans, 22 were by Negroes.

Lentz added, "In answer to queries of what the Olympic Committee would do in case of such a boycott, we would follow the same procedures we always have in the case where athletes become ineligible or found they could not compete. We would drop down to the eligible man among those who competed in the tryouts."

Jesse Owens, who stole the show at the 1936 Berlin Olympics, criticized the threatened boycott, declaring:

"I deplore the use of the Olympic Games by certain people for political aggrandizement. There is no place in the athletic world for politics."

Owens, now 53, won four gold medals in the Berlin Olympics to the consternation of Adolf Hitler, the Nazi dictator who declined to congratulate the Negro from Ohio State University.

He was a sprinter as is Tommie Smith, a top Olympic hopeful from San Jose State, who said in Los Angeles Thursday he would join the 1968 Olympic boycott to help the Negro plight in the U.S.

There was some support, though, for the proposed ban endorsed at a meeting of from 50 to 60 Negro athletes in Los Angeles Thursday night.

Ralph Boston, the world long jump record holder, voiced opposition.

"I don't think this would be the thing that very many people would go along with," said Boston. "I'm sure there are some people who feel that way, but I'm not one of them."

Rafer Johnson, the Olympic decathlon champion in 1960, said "I think if an athlete has the ability to make the team, he should be allowed to go. The Olympic Committee and the Olympic organization always have been fair to the Negro."

Art Walker, American record-holder in the triple jump, commented, "I have no intention of going along with this group."

Asked if he'll refuse an Olympic bid, Lew Alcindor, UCLA's 7-foot-1 basketball star, said, "I haven't made up my mind. I'll wait until the time comes."

Alcindor said he believes it is highly debatable if any progress in race relations has been made

I shouldn't then you can come up with them."

The lanky Smith declined to estimate how many Negroes may compete in the games nor the number who would boycott them.

"I can't tell you," he said. "But in track competition, the boycott will have an effect on the total points."

He explained, "Most of the power of the United States' Olympic track team is Negro competition in sprints."

Smith estimated he possibly would win two gold medals if he had planned to participate in the competition.

"I was not thinking of running in more than two events, but I wouldn't like to point those specific races out," he said.

He also declined to point out when he actually decided himself to participate in a proposed boycott.

"I had been thinking about it earlier," he said. "I did quite a bit of thinking about it."

When asked if he has misgivings about giving up a chance to win gold medals and possible world fame, Smith said:

"So far I have not won my freedom. So winning gold medals for a country where I don't have freedom is irrelevant."

Smith was joined at the meeting, a Black Youth Conference, by his teammate on the SJS track team, Lee Evans.

Evans, who himself shares two world records, also expressed support for the Negroes' Olympics plans.

He stood beside Edwards as the boycott intentions were announced and declared his backing of them.

Edwards, who is an SJS sociology professor and former basketball star, elaborated on the plans Friday during a national student convention in San Francisco.

He spiced his boycott remarks with a militant Black Power speech at the session of the nearly solidly white Associated Student Governments.

Edwards compared the United States to a luxury liner headed for the rocks of racial discrimination and suggested "perhaps

★ ★ ★

'Concern' Spreads

Olympic Games officials in Mexico City expressed deep concern Friday about the possible adverse effects of a threatened Negro boycott.

Bud Winter, San Jose State College track coach and 1964 Olympic trainer, said he was telephoned from Mexico City by Dave Curasco, Olympic attache there.

Although Curasco sought information concerning the announced boycott, Winter interpreted the 45-minute conversation as concern for the Games' success.

Winter is the mentor of Tommie Smith, who affirmed Friday that he definitely will participate in a boycott.

★ ★ ★

the captain himself is bordering on insanity."

He said the Olympics boycott was one of three resolutions approved by the Los Angeles gathering of 200 Negroes, including athletes, from throughout the nation.

The other measures call for boycotting the New York Athletic Club, a steady source of supply for U.S. Olympic teams, and track events in which South African or Rhodesian athletes participate.

The Athletic Club resolution alleges the club allows only white Christians as members and ignored Negroes except before events in which they are needed.

Both African nations mentioned by Edwards are common targets of U.S. Negro groups and usually are represented in the Olympic Games.

The 24-year-old bearded Edwards later said he was responsible for organizing the Negro conference and hammering out the three resolutions.

He refused to speculate what effects a Negro boycott of the U.S. Olympic team would have on the nation's chances of winning the overall team title.

Edwards was asked what would happen if a Negro athlete went to the games.

"I don't think there are very many who are going to participate for white folks and come back and live in the black community," he said. "And black athletes have to live in black communities."

In the 1964 Olympic Games at Tokyo, 50 of the 362 U.S. athletes were Negroes. Of the 126 medals won by Americans, 22 were by Negroes.

(Concluded on Page 69, Col. 1)

NOV 27, 1967 P. 5) Mercury

OLYMPICS BOYCOTT FINAL

'Will Not Turn Back,' Tommie Smith Vows

By SCOTT MOORE
Mercury Staff Writer

Track star Tommie Smith vowed Friday "I will not turn back" from an Olympics boycott decision which he admitted probably would deprive him and perhaps the U.S. of two gold medals.

The San Jose State College athlete promised to abide by a resolution to boycott the 1968 games he and other young Negroes passed Thursday at a Los Angeles conference.

Smith, who holds or shares nine world records, said during a telephone interview from Los Angeles that he and other athletes unanimously voted in favor of boycotting.

"I will give anything for competition and gold medals. I will go so far as to give my right arm,

but not my manhood," he said. "It is just that simple."

The resolution originally was disclosed by SJS professor Harry Edwards. He claimed 50-60 sports figures voted with Smith.

Opposition and support was voiced Friday by leading Negro athletes toward any plans to sit out the games next October in Mexico City.

Smith said "I will not turn back" when asked if his decision possibly could change before the actual Olympic competition.

But when further asked if the decision is absolutely irrevocable, he replied:

"Right now I'm standing where I stand. But if you can come up with some good answers why

(Concluded on Page 67, Col. 6)

Oakland Tribune
CAMPBELL Nov. 27/67

DISAPPROVES OF BOYCOTT

PLAINFIELD, N.J. (AP)—Negro athletes who boycott the 1968 Olympic Games to show their racial discontent are "throwing away a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity," Milton Campbell, a Negro and the U.S. winner of the 1956 Olympic decathlon gold medal, said yesterday.

"It would do more good for the athletes to participate and prove that Negroes are equal both physically and mentally than to boycott the Olympics," the 33-year-old Campbell added.

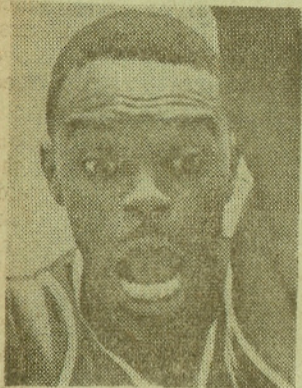
"I don't think a world event like the Olympics is the place for this kind of action, especially in a sporting event," he said.

Olympic Action And Reaction

Art Rosenbaum

YES, THE OLYMPIC boycott resolution by the Black Youth Conference, and its endorsement by a number of Olympic class athletes, is a sticky one.

It has already done part of the intended . . . I was about to use the words, "intended damage," but that is a point of view. Maybe you'd prefer, I wrote, "It has already achieved part of the intended benefit."



Ralph Boston

The intent is to alert the world to United States racism and discrimination. The fact that the Olympic Games themselves, at the ultimate level, are not discriminatory is beside the point according to Harry Edwards, who described himself the other day as the leader . . . "it was my idea to include the Olympic boycott on the

Conference agenda, not any organization's."

The Olympic story was headlined in Japan and other Asian countries. Tetsuo Ohba, Japanese Amateur Sports Federation head in Tokyo, was quoted expressing surprise at "the depth of America's racial problems" and added, "The Negro athletes made the Olympic Games worth seeing."

The local man from Reuters, the British news service, said: "The Olympic story was major news in Britain. It was not a main headline because we had another lead story of special interest to us."

That would be the devaluation of the pound.

★ ★ ★

I DOUBT THAT the Olympic Games as a sports extravaganza will suffer seriously from a boycott. As of this minute, the number of black absentees is indefinite, but already five prominent track men, of world class ability, have refused to be voted out of the Olympics. They are Ralph Boston, Charlie Green, Art Walker, Jimmy Hines and Ralph Stebbins.

One basketball star, Elvin Hayes, was positive in his stand. "It is not a one-color country, it is an all-person country." He indicated he would be proud to be eligible.

Few leaders who represent the "silent middle" of American Negroes have cared, or dared, to criticize the activists publicly. Now comes an interesting twist. If the Olympic business is forcing young black people to take sides, can the leaders avoid head-to-head debate?

Should the boycott threat be abortive, and flop, the whole world will know it. Internationally, the propaganda blow could turn on the propagandists. This is more than a sports event.

★ ★ ★

YES, THERE IS more than one point of view. In a recent debate at San Jose State, Edwards, assistant professor of sociology at San Jose, opposed Louis Lomax, author and TV commentator. This was a rare confrontation between Negro leaders of the violent vs. non-violent schools.

Famed historian Lomax spoke of the Martin Luther King sit-in movement, and said he thought non-violence had produced distinguished results . . . "It is a perversion of history and of our cause to suggest that because everything hasn't been done, that nothing has been done . . . one has only to move through the working file of America . . . to see black and brown men behind counters . . . to know something is happening to this country."

Edwards rebutted that Lomax's generation, along with Dr. King, had failed "to reach white folks in those areas which really brought the Negroes into the streets, in sit-ins, which really gave the dogs access to the Negro . . . the very notion of Negroes moving defensively has a great deal to do with the attitude of my generation, not only toward the movement, but also toward whites."

★ ★ ★

ONE MAY CONCLUDE that Edwards and Co. take little stock in statements from former athletes Jesse Owens, Jackie Robinson, and Rafer Johnson, whose words of caution represent "another generation."

Edwards led a previous San Jose State campus threat to sit-in on the football field before a game, the particular contest — San Jose vs. Texas of El Paso — was cancelled by the school president. At the time Edwards spoke of his own athletic background—he had been recruited madly, had been promised "the world," but in common with others discovered he was expected to conform and to be ghetto-ized.

Edwards is 24. He is 6 feet 8 inches tall and came here with large credits in track (discus) and basketball. As an athlete, he was a disappointment to the "mad recruiters." As a student, he was super.

The point of view can swing 360 degrees. It has gone so far that a white San Jose faculty member ("f'God's sake don't use my name") suggested that Edwards' failure to become an Olympian has created in him an "envy-block" against those who might succeed.

★ ★ ★

TAKE ANOTHER VIEW. Darrell Horn, a white track enthusiast and athlete, is the co-organizer of the Athens Club track team. He is also a veteran (over 30) broad jumper of world class.

Horn said, "It would be a shame if the Negroes did not compete. They have so many super athletes.

"In my opinion, the boycott won't go. The dedication necessary to achieve an Olympic berth is too total for any athlete. I know. In my events, the broad jump and triple jump, the USA would have to go down three or four places to find a Caucasian."

Then Horn paused . . . "Say, I might make the Olympic team yet."

EDITORIALS

Ralph Boston had the words for it

As Ralph Boston, a veteran United States hero of the Olympic Games and, incidentally, a Negro, said, "it doesn't make sense."

Boston was commenting on the announcement by Harry Edwards, assistant professor of sociology at San Jose State College, of a boycott aimed at keeping Negro track and field stars out of the 1968 Olympic Games at Mexico City.

According to Edwards, the resolution was adopted unanimously Thursday at a Black Youth Conference in Los Angeles attended by San Jose State sprint stars Tommie Smith and Lee Evans and UCLA basketball whiz Lew Alcindor, among others. White newsmen were not admitted to the meeting, and Smith's remarks afterward indicated some disagreement about what Edwards was authorized to disclose.

It was Edwards who organized a protest of alleged discrimination by the United Black Students for Action on the San Jose State campus earlier this fall. That led to the cancellation of a football game when outsiders threatened to intervene with violence.

In that case, Edwards voiced specific charges of discrimination against Negro athletes on campus. College officials conceded some of his points.

But this time Edwards has not listed any specific complaints of bias against black contenders for the U.S. Olympic teams, which have not yet been chosen for 1968. Instead, he is trying to organize the boycott "to bring to . . . the attention of the entire world that America is as guilty of racism as South

Africa."

That's hogwash only a white South African would buy. Edwards really is prodding Negro sports stars to mount a sacrificial general protest—sort of like a Buddhist monk in Saigon burning himself—in a way that seems most inappropriate and unfair to them.

Were he saying black athletes must be treated just the same as whites, yellow and red athletes on the U.S. team, we could wholeheartedly agree. Could bias be shown in the handling of the U.S. team, most sports fans in this neck of the woods would support him in a demand for equal treatment.

But Edwards is not doing this. Instead, he is pressuring such great competitors as Smith and Evans to forego their chance to win gold medals and world game "because white America has forced them to live in ghettos." Without examining the accuracy of that claim, let us note that it is too general a protest to have much effect. It is not likely to revolutionize living conditions, certainly not before next October.

Would a boycott cost the U.S. team victory? Technically no, for there is no official team track and field score in the Olympics. Besides, while it would be a shame for such stars as Smith and Evans to forfeit their once-in-four-years chance for global recognition and fulfillment, some talented rivals are nipping at their heels who would love to "make the plane" to Mexico City and vie with the best amateur competitors of many nations, races and creeds.

To echo Ralph Boston once more, "it doesn't make sense."

M. Register 11/27/67p

Negro Threat to Boycott Olympics

A Black Youth Conference opened Thanksgiving Day in Los Angeles, but many of the angry young men conducting the three-day session do not feel thankful. So bitter are they, that their goal is a boycott of the 1968 Olympic games by U.S. Negro athletes to protest what they consider the "racist" atmosphere of this country.

Not all negro athletes feel this way. Some are not so eager to forego the honors and thrills of Olympics participation, which include the opportunity to inscribe their names in the most prestigious record book in world sport. Others feel that boycott action could accomplish nothing of value.

That such a boycott could drastically reduce the number of medals won by U.S. athletes has been conceded, but a conference spokesman insists that "destroying" the United States in the international meet at Mexico City is not the aim. It is, rather, "to bring to everyone's attention that the United States is as racist as South Africa ever was."

This extreme analogy cannot be supported by reality, but the strategy probably would be effective in one way. An all-white U.S. team at the Olympics would be an embarrassment before a multi-hued world which already has a grossly exaggerated impression of U.S. race relations.

We doubt that inflicting such embarrassment could gain the reforms which the young Negroes as well as many whites desire. But the impact of Negro athletes, as a body, rejecting the once-in-a-lifetime honor of Olympics representation—in an effort to gain the all-of-a-lifetime honor of equal recognition as human beings is not to be dismissed lightly.

The United States was very conscious of its "democratic idealism" after the 1936 Olympics held in the ultra-racist atmosphere of Hitler's Germany. Eight of the 11 gold medals won by U.S. track and field contestants went to Negro athletes, four of them to the incomparable Jesse Owens.

But pride in Owens's accomplishment has often been tinged by an erroneous self-congratulation: "See what we're good enough to let the Negro do in our great country." Seldom is the other side of the coin recognized: "Without the Negro, we could have won only three gold medals." We have long accepted the honors the Negro can bring us in athletics; we have deprived ourselves of his full contribution in too many other fields.

Perhaps the mere threat of the Negro boycott will serve to remind the nation that 90 per cent of its population cannot accomplish what 100 per cent of it can. But bitterness which would be generated by carrying out the threat could cancel out any benefits to be gained from such an object lesson.

Olympic Team Will Survive Boycott By Negroes

THIS MAY COME as a startling surprise to Negro athletes who have indicated that they will not try out for the U.S. Olympic Games team that will compete at Mexico City next October, but the United States will survive.

To be sure the U.S. team can use the services of boys like Tommie Smith and Lee Evans, but the boys who do get the opportunity to make the team because of their withdrawal will probably try a little harder for the honor and glory of the USA. Even without certain Negro athletes the United States will win its share of gold medals.

The modern Olympics were revived after a lapse of 15 centuries in 1896 largely through the efforts of a young French baron, Pierre de Coubertin of Paris. History tells us that he was motivated by the conviction that a better understanding among men of all nations would be the result of the revival of the Olympic

By *Louis Duino*

Sports Editor



Games. De Coubertin said then that the intent of the competitions was to crown and honor individuals. Team triumphs did not enter his mind although later generations have placed great emphasis upon unofficial point scoring.

Better understanding among men — has been achieved by competition in the Olympic Games. The Games have fostered better understanding among men of all nations until the Black Youth Conference took its

boycott stand on Thanksgiving Day. It is indeed a sad move for the Negro athletes who have been given equal treatment and equal opportunity to succeed in the field of sports. A gold medal won in the Olympic Games has opened many a door for the Negro athlete. America is filled with successful former Negro athletes who have been given an opportunity because they were successful in world competition.

★ ★ ★

RALPH BOSTON, who holds the world long jump record, is one Negro athlete against the idea of a boycott. Track and field has provided Ralph with the opportunity to travel the world and make many friends. He has been a popular athlete, acclaimed by people of all races, color or creed. No one has enjoyed the life of an athlete more than Boston.

One point the graduate of Tennessee State makes (Concluded on Page 74, col. 4)

DUINO'S NOTEBOOK

(Continued from Page 73)

about the boycott idea is that you can't boycott something until you make the team. Boys like Smith and Evans are assuming that they can win their way through the trials and win places on the team. No athlete is ever a certainty for the team until he goes through the final trials test. The year 1968 will see the development of Olympic Games candidates that are not apparent candidates today. They always develop fast during an Olympic year. Who knows, somebody may come along who will outshine the current stars and go on to win for the USA.

Negro Stars Rap Boycott

SF Exam - Nov 26, 67

A boycott of the Olympic Games by Negro athletes, proposed by the Black Youth Movement, found little support yesterday from prominent Negro athletes and coaches around the nation.

Among those who didn't concur were Elvin Hayes, basketball star; Ralph Stebbins and Jim Hines, both sprinters and track coach Ed Temple.

MY COUNTRY

Hayes, Stebbins and Hines all were quoted as critical in UPI reports from Houston.

"This is my country and I would do anything for it,"

said Hayes, 6-8 All-American cager from the University of Houston. "It is not a one-color country — it is an all-person country."

He said he is planning to wait to sign a pro contract until after the Olympics "if I can make the team."

"I have seen prejudice — I have lived in it all my life. But sports have enabled me to get a good education and have a better life than my parents had."

Stebbins, a mid-year graduate of Grambling, La. College, who has run a 9.2 second 100 yard dash and won a gold medal in the 1964 Olym-

pics on the 400-meter relay team, said:

DON'T THINK

"I don't think it (the boycott) can accomplish anything. For a track man, the Olympics is the ultimate goal."

Stebbins is on the "taxi" squad of the Houston Oilers.

He said of the boycott backers:

"I don't know what their main aims are, but I don't think this is the solution."

Hines, co-holder of the 100 yard and 100 meter world dash marks said he had not heard of the boycott idea. He said he was once approached

to boycott the Commonwealth games in Canada earlier this year but he turned down the idea.

Temple, track coach for the famed Tennessee A & I Tigerbelles and twice coach of the United States women's Olympic track team, said he did not want his own team to get involved in the controversy.

RUN TRACK

"I just want them to do their school work and run track," said the man who coached gold medal winners Wilma Rudolph, Wyomia Tyus and Edith McGuire.

"Bob Hayes is doing pretty well for himself after win-

ning a gold medal in the 1964 Olympics," Temple said.

"I imagine that gold medal came in pretty handy when he got his bonus from the Dallas Cowboys.

Hayes also criticized the boycott move when it was first proposed.

DOING WELL

"Henry Carr (200 meter gold medal winner) is doing all right with the New York Giants football team and I think the medal kinda helped him," Temple added.

"Hayes Jones is an airline executive and don't you think that gold medal opened a door or two?"

Smith: Rebel With A Cause

AN ANGUISHED young man named Tommie Smith apparently has withdrawn from the list of candidates for a gold medal in the 1968 Olympics in Mexico City.

The decision must have been tortuous for the San Jose State track star, the heir apparent to the title of the world's fastest human.

No one, save Smith himself, can appreciate his predicament.

Certainly, his move to pass up the Olympics is an unpopular one with the masses.

Followers of track and field, in particular, are disappointed Smith will not try his mettle against the world's finest runners.

It is on the track where man is judged only by how he disports himself in competition against another man. This is one of the biting ironies of the situation — that sports, which abhors prejudice — should be used as the vehicle for protest.

Smith, by design or otherwise, has become a cause celebre on a nationwide racial stage. He has thrust himself, or been thrust, into a position where he, as a person, probably cannot win.

Smith has shown himself to be intelligent and sensitive.

By *Dan Hruby*



While his stand may seem militant, people who know him well say he is really is not.

But as an international figure, he now is pictured as a rebel with a cause.

Tommie surely has been assaulted with advice, from one side and the other, for several weeks. His remarks have vacillated somewhat, indicating his own position has been unsettled.

Smith is the point man on the platoon of racial unrest.

His mail runs the gamut from well-wishers to ugly bigots.

The young turks in the Negro movement feel Smith must sacrifice himself for the cause. Only a person of his stature can successfully make a case, they argue. Similar action by a lesser person would only draw yawns.

But questions must keep popping into the sprinter's mind.

"Why me? Should I throw away all I have worked for in athletics? Are the people advising me trying to help our race, or do they have their own axes to grind?"

When Smith insists he would give up his life to better conditions for the Negro people in America, one has to conclude he is sincere and thinking clearly. And once that conclusion is drawn, one must admire his courage.

Smith has many friends, black and white, perhaps more than he realizes.

Some must be telling him, "Tommie, be sensible. Weigh all the angles before doing anything rash. The Olympics are a wonderful thing. Go to Mexico City. Win your gold medals. Announce even that you did it to bring honor on your race, if you must put this on a racial basis. But don't close the doors on the opportunities that lie ahead for a man with your qualifications."

It is one thing to say Negroes plan to boycott the Games, but it is another to get everyone to act in unison.

If Smith and but a handful of others go along with the boycott, the palpable effect on the American team will be of no consequence.

If every Negro boycotts the Games, which seems very

(Concluded on Page 44, Col. 1)



TOMMIE SMITH
... The Big Decision

DAN HRUBY

(Continued from Page 43)

remote at this juncture, the effect could be impressive.

San Jose State professor Harry Edwards, who is rallying Negro athletes in the cause, must realize the difficulty in convincing any three persons to agree on the time of day.

He also must be aware his greatest chance for success is not the actual boycott, but the publicity such a move would engender. Indeed, the plan already has achieved much of its goal.

After Watts, Newark and Detroit rioting, there can be few people in the world who don't know a racial problem exists in America.

So an Olympic boycott by Negroes wouldn't be telling the world anything. It would, however, be re-telling something in a big way.

Edwards and other Negro militants thus are not acting to hurt U.S. chances in the Games. If that were the case, their best bet would be to urge a boycott of the U.S.-Russian meet. In such a direct confrontation, American prestige would suffer when the dual meet points began to show a Russian trend.

Remember when the cry, "Win it for the Gipper," fired young men to emotional peaks?

Today, we fear, the Gipper would have to make it on his own.

ARTHUR DALEY



Better Step: Participate

From the New York Times

MEXICO CITY — A man's perspective doesn't necessarily change by a shift in locations but somehow or other the overpowering Mexican sunlight seems to bring into sharper focus a matter of grave importance and inherent explosiveness. This is the move to have America's Negro athletes boycott the Olympic games that will burgeon in all their glory here in Mexico City next October.

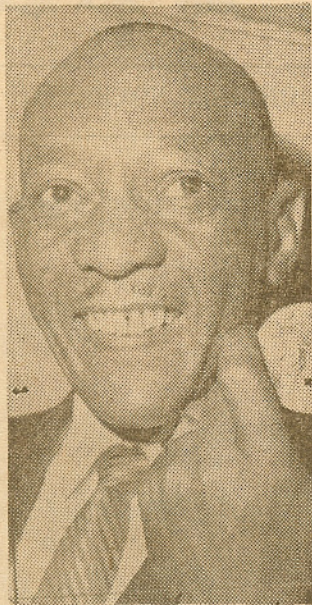
It is designed by its advocates to be a dramatic way of notifying the world of the vehemence of the Negro protest against their greivances in the United States. When news of this contemplated step crossed the border, though, it was filtered so much by its entrance on to the huge international stage that a tourist wonders if the impact would be so negligible as to be not worth the effort.

Pedro Ramiriz Vazquez, chairman of the Organizing Committee, dismissed it as "an internal problem of the U.S.A.," while reasserting that Mexico City was making preparations to "greet the youth of the world." He made that statement in Paris, prior to leaving for Moscow. He thereby gave extra emphasis to the international character of next year's festival and appeared to brush off as an insignificant fragment any such boycott movement.

It would be the equivalent of a secondary boycott except that it could not possibly achieve its objectives. The United States still will compete here next autumn. If it could halt American participation, there might be some excuse for going through with the threat. But it won't. America will still gain a major share of gold medals, whether they reach white hands or black.

A lily-white team will gain fewer golds but the difference will not be appreciable and a dozen or so fine Negro athletes would sacrifice life-time dreams and the opportunity of instilling boosts of pride to members of their race. Jesse Owens, who should know, deplored the boycott threat and denounced it as "political aggrandizement."

Owens is himself the best possible argument for Negro participation. He competed in the 1936 Olympics in Hitler Germany where the gospel of white aryan supremacy predominated. But Jesse proved to the world that the master race was not quite as masterful as Hitler would have liked everyone to believe. Jesse won both sprints and the long jump and anchored the 400-meter relay team, to gain four individual gold medals.



JESSE OWENS
... Deplores Boycott

Berlin Incident Recalled

There was one incident at Berlin that I never can forget. Jesse had a highly dramatic duel with Lutz Long of Germany in the jump. Officials disallowed his first leap on a foul of dubious authenticity. On the second takeoffs into space by both Owens and Long the measurements were declared identical to the millimeter, a happenstance that I still refuse to believe.

But on his third jump Jesse went farther than the white aryan could have gone if shot from a cannon. The Ohio Stater had set a new Olympic record beyond 26 feet and had won another championship. A curious thing occurred immediately thereafter. Throughout the Olympics the Nazi press had contemptuously referred to "The Black American Auxiliaries" and Hitler greeted no Americans.

When Owens won, I put my glasses on Der Fuehrer in his tribune of honor. He paced impatiently back and forth, waiting for Lutz Long to be brought to him. And what was Lutz Long doing while the master of the master race angrily awaited him? The blond German was walking along the runway, arm draped over Jesse's shoulders in congratulation. Thus did he demonstrate for the world to see that sportsmanship cannot be bound by fuzzy theories of race, creed or color. This was Olympic idealism in its ultimate form.

A boycott by America's Negro athletes would not put the slightest dent in the Olympics. It's the wrong place for it anyway because this always has been the least discriminatory vehicle in the world of sports. So has the United States part of it. The stampede of Negroes to track and field probably had its inception in 1924 when De Hart Hubbard won the long jump and they have played a major role in the international show ever since — not because they were black but because they were best.

Athletic Skills 'Victimized'

It's my strong feeling that Negroes can do far more good for their cause by participation than by boycott. Art Lentz, executive director of the U.S. Olympic Committee, said that his group "resents being used as an attention-getter, no matter how worthwhile the cause may be."

An Olympic championship is so rare and cherished a prize that it has to seem that such standouts as Tommie Smith, Lew Alcindor and others of their transcendent skills are victimized by those who would use them to promote a boycott that has no chance of serving its purpose.

It isn't a confrontation of an organization that discriminates against Negroes. This would be understandable. Instead it's a distortion of its professed purpose. It would deprive Negroes as a whole of the inspirational lift that victory in the Olympics would provide and it would deprive individual Negroes of international recognition that is their birthright.

Indiana No. 3?

Los Angeles

Indiana, which plays USC in the Rose Bowl January 1, should be ranked No. 3 behind the Trojans and Tennessee, USC coach Johnny McKay said yesterday.

Associated Press

The Sporting Tiger

A Holier Than Thou Platitude

4-23-67
Ron Fimrite

THAT NOW notorious black boycott of the Olympic Games has served, if nothing else, to dredge up a batch of presumably extinct athletic purists.

These are the people who hasten to remind the rest of us that the Olympics do not recognize team competition, therefore the threatened walk-out of some Negro athletes cannot hurt the United States team because there is no such thing as a United States team.

Oh, if that were only true.

The fact is, about 100 percent of those who follow the Games regard them much the way they would a track meet between, shall we say, California and Stanford.

We journalists abet — if indeed we did not invent — this profanation of original intent by printing “unofficial” box scores and point totals.

We also wryly observe that the Russians have their own scoring system, which recognizes events, like hair-pulling or rope-tugging, beyond our ken.

★ ★ ★

THE OLYMPIC Games for us is mainly men's track and field with a little swimming thrown in on the side. Thanks to our Negroes, we usually “win” in track, and thanks to our teen-agers, we usually “win” in swimming.

I must say I wince a bit when I hear cavemen like Avery Brundage talk of “the true Olympic spirit,” “the glorification of individual endeavor” and such nonsense.

Brundage's knowledge of the current sporting scene approximates Theodore Roosevelt's. The very word, individualism, has a hollow ring to it these collective days.

No, drat it, the Olympic Games, for all the resounding verbiage, rate as just another team sport. And what they do not do is foster individual enterprise. What they do is help perpetuate the nasty nationalism that threatens to bury us all.

But you can't, as the man said, eliminate an evil by pretending it isn't there.

But Russians — the Rhodesians, for that matter — consider athletes from their country as playing on their “teams.”

★ ★ ★
THERE IS MUCH flag-waving and anthem too-thing during the course of the games, and what happens, I fear, is that the individual competitor gets lost somewhere in the rampant chauvinism. “Now if Smith can only win the 200 meters, we'll move ten points ahead of the Russians.”

Lon Simmons, in a thoughtful radio analysis of the boycott situation, dates the Olympic emphasis on “teams” to 1936 and Hitler's master race runners. It was an American Negro, you will recall, who punctured the Aryan bubble.

Significantly, the various nations involved in that competition were soon to be lined up on opposite sides of a battlefield. And the Olympics, more's the pity, have been very much like little wars ever since.

Basically, I much prefer watching team sports to individual matches, but I would be kidding myself if I suggested they contributed much to the cause of sportsmanship.

Competitors who represent only themselves — boxers notably — are much more inclined to display the traditional virtues of the sporting life.

★ ★ ★

THESE, OF COURSE, would include a charitable attitude to the opponent and, frequently, a becoming modesty.

Ah, but in team sports, where it is much more difficult to assess blame and credit, the competitor has much more latitude. “We would have won if . . .” is a frequent reprise.

No, it's all well and good to speak of the Olympic Games as something special, something above it all. But the fact remains, they are no better than the rest of us.

And methinks the boycotters know their fellow man all too well.

*Ballard Tribune
Tues Nov 28, 1970*

Reagan Disapproves Plan To Boycott the Olympics

SACRAMENTO (UPI) — Gov. Ronald Reagan today expressed his personal disapproval of plans for a group of Negro athletes to boycott the 1968 Olympic Games.

The California governor was asked at a news conference to comment on the move by Harry Edwards, 24-year-old assistant professor of sociology at San Jose State College, to spearhead the boycott.

Reagan was asked if he felt this was a proper role for a state employe.

“No, I don't,” he replied.

A newsman noted that Edwards is not a permanent employe and faced a contract

deadline Friday and asked Reagan if he felt he could be re-hired.

“I could give you a personal opinion, but I'm not sure that would be proper,” Reagan said. “I don't want any idea that we're offering political interference to anyone working for a state college or the university.”

But he added: “Personally, I disapprove greatly of what he's trying to accomplish. I think a great many young athletes are going to be victimized on an emotional basis and make some decisions they are going to regret for the rest of their lives.”

Nix Boycott

City News Sat Nov 25, '67

Walkout Declared Unpopular

SAN FRANCISCO (UPI) — Bob Hayes, Ralph Boston, Rafer Johnson and old Jesse Owens, four Negro track stars who know what the Olympics movement is all about, took exception today to a proposed boycott of next year's games by a group of Negro athletes led by a college professor.

"I don't know what they are doing," said Hayes, the man who won two gold medals in the 1964 Olympics at Tokyo. "I don't know what's going on. I don't think any sort of problem would have kept me from participating."

Boston, one of the world's all-time long jump kings who, at age 30, is still hoping to make the 1968 U.S. team for the games in Mexico City, was even more puzzled by the movement of a group of West Coast Negro athletes. The group is seeking to keep every Negro athlete in the country out of the competition to pick next year's team.

Professor Rapped

"This whole thing has been picked up by people who are not athletes," said Boston in referring to assistant sociology professor Harry Edwards of San Jose State, who called some 50 to 60 Negro athletes to a meeting of the Black Youth Conference in Los Angeles Thursday.

"I don't feel I can go along with the boycott," continued Boston. "I don't feel the games should be used as a political crutch and I don't think politics should come into the Olympic Games at all."

Rafer Johnson, the nation's greatest decathlon star and now a newsman for the National Broadcasting Company, attended the Black Youth Conference, but as a reporter and not as an athlete.

'Committee Fair'

"I made the team (in 1960) on my ability," said Johnson. "I think if any athlete has the ability he should be allowed to go. The Olympic Committee has always been fair to the Negro."

Owens, who blew Hitler's racial superiority theory sky high during the 1936 Olympic Games in Berlin, said Negroes can't use the Olympic movement as a whipping boy.

"I deplore the use of the Olympic Games by certain people for political aggrandizement," said Owens. "There is no place in the athletic world for politics."

"The Olympics help bridge the gap of misunderstanding of people in this country," added Owens. "I feel individual reward is the great thing because out of it can come the help needed to bring about and foster what we call the full way of American life."

Don Newcombe, former Dodger pitching star, said the boycott would hurt rather than help the Negro cause.

"I've traveled to many nations and I don't know of any other country as great as the United States," he said, adding Negroes shouldn't "use their race as a crutch."

Admits Responsibility

In essence, the dissenting group led by Edwards is seeking to dramatize Negro shortcomings in the United States. Edwards takes full responsibility for starting the movement, which earlier this fall figured prominently in the cancellation of a San Jose State football game.

"The United States has failed to use its power —

Continued on Next Page

'Boycott Not for Me,' Says UCLA Hurdler

L.A. Times Thu. Nov 28, '67

Ron Copeland, star hurdler and pass-catching football player at UCLA, said Monday he has no intention of joining the Negro boycott on the 1968 Olympic Games.

Copeland said he attended the meeting which produced the boycott resolution last week, but he and Hal Griffin, a defensive tackle on the football team, left before the vote was taken.

Anxious to Compete

"I was there only for about a half hour," said Copeland, "and it was only to find out what the meeting was all about. I found out right away that it was not for me. I am very anxious to compete in the Olympic Games."

Professor Harry Edwards of San Jose State, who called the meeting, "was trying to influence and not discuss," said Copeland. "He was giving his viewpoint as if he were one of the athletes."

Walkout

City News cont.

Continued from Preceding Page

governmental or economic — to effectively alleviate the problems of 22 million black people in this country," reads one of the resolutions adopted by the Black Youth Conference.

The conference also singled out the New York Athletic Club and Rhodesia and South Africa as practicing racial prejudice.

"The New York AC has worked effectively and meticulously to maintain within its ranks only white Christians," reads the conference's second resolution. "Black track and field athletes have unanimously voted to boycott anything even remotely connected with the NYAC."

A spokesman for the club called the charge "absolutely untrue."

UCLA STAR AGAINST PART IN BOYCOTT

Oakland Tribune Thu. Nov. 28, '67

LOS ANGELES (UPI) — UCLA track and football standout Ron Copeland said yesterday he attended the Thanksgiving Day meeting here which produced a resolution calling for Negro athletes to boycott the 1968 Olympic Games.

However, he said he had no intention of taking part in the proposed boycott. He attended with Bruin defensive lineman Hal Griffin.

FRI NOV 24, 1967 P

Olympics Boycott

off the

L.A. Times
CORE Leader
Thurs. Nov. 30 67 P
Seeks Boycott
of All Sports

NEW YORK (AP)—The Congress of Racial Equality confirmed Wednesday that Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Floyd B. McKissick, its director, plan to hold an all-day meeting this week, with the Negro athlete boycott of the 1968 Olympics a prime subject for discussion.

A group of Negro athletes, including two members of San Jose State College's world-record mile relay team, voted last Thursday in Los Angeles to stay away from the 1968 Games in Mexico City.

Lincoln Lynch, CORE's associate national director, said he thinks the boycott "should be extended to all black athletes who take part in every phase of athletics in the United States."

"Muhammad Ali (heavyweight boxer Cassius Clay) has given up millions for his conscience and beliefs," said Lynch. "The least others can do is back him up and make the country realize people are prepared to make sacrifices to point up the racism which exists everywhere."

Approved By 200 in L.A. Meet

Prof. Harry Edwards of San Jose State, a leader in the Negro athletes' civil rights movement, will spell out details of the Olympic Games boycott voted yesterday when he addresses a student government conference here today.

He will speak at 11:15 a.m. at the St. Francis Hotel to the national conference of the Associated Student Governments of the U.S.A.

The decision to boycott the Olympics was approved unanimously in Los Angeles by some 200 delegates, including 50 athletes, attending a session of the Western Regional Black Youth Conference.

The session, held in the Second Baptist Church, was marred by a shooting scrape outside the building.

Followers of Ron Karenga, a militant Black Power advocate, clashed with eight other Negroes and a white man identified as Michael Lasky, a local Communist Party officer.

Members of Karenga's group, their heads shaved and wearing orange and yellow shirts, lined up with crossed arms outside the meeting site.

They apparently were taunted by Lasky and his band, who shouted "Down with bourgeois Negroes." Then the battle began, with several pistol shots fired and fists flashing. Lasky and his supporters were caressed and pummeled by Karenga's men before police intervened.

Lasky suffered severe face cuts and William Thrash, 17, one of his followers, was shot in the wrist.

Though the athletes' session was closed to the public, Edwards spoke to reporters afterward and said he would reveal in his talk today details of the resolution.

Among delegates in attendance were Tommie Smith

Negro Vote To Snub Olympics

—From Page 55

and Lee Evans, the AC San Jose State track greats, Lew Alcindor and Mike Warren, the UCLA basketball stars, Bruin gridders Ron Copeland and Hal Griffin, and high jumper Otis Burrell.

Smith had been reported as saying that he would give his right arm to win an Olympics gold medal in 1968, but he later asserted that the quote had been taken out of context. He amplified yesterday.

"I am not willing to sacrifice my manhood and the basic dignity of my people to participate in the Olympic Games," he said.

"I am quite willing not only to give up participation in the Games, but my life if necessary if it means that it will open a door or channel by which the oppression and injustice suffered by my people in America can be alleviated."

Passage of the resolution apparently indicates a hardening of attitude by the black athletes because earlier indications were that the boycott would be voted down.

Edwards said he expects all Negro athletes in the U.S. to avoid the Olympics because "there people have to live in black communities and this will have a bearing on whether they compete."

Moreover, the boycott is apparently nation-wide because athletes from other sections who could not attend reportedly sent proxy votes.

Edwards, Smith and Evans had been involved in a protest earlier this year at San Jose State which forced cancellation of a football game because of discrimination against Negroes.

Yesterday Edwards asked, "Is it not time for black people to stand up as men and women and refuse to be utilized as performing animals for a little extra dog food?"

"Would not an excellent beginning be the '68 Olympic Games?"

"This country is not for us," he asserted. "This is our way of pointing out that the U.S. has no right to set itself up as a leader of the free world. America has to be exposed for what it is — America is just as guilty as South Africa ever was."

YOUNG IDEAS

By DICK YOUNG



On the Subject

"If these boys choose not to represent our country in the Olympics, they do not deserve to be signed up by the pros. They should be blackballed. I for one wouldn't spend a dime to see them play."

—Ben Bongiorno, New Rochelle.

"I can't see how an Olympic boycott could profit the image of the colored person. It could only create bitterness at this time."

—Joseph Freda, Whitestone, N. Y.

"If it weren't for the white fans going to the games, where would the Negroes get so much money for playing? I think the white fans should start a boycott against Negro players."

—A. Kahn, Brooklyn.

"Maybe John Q. Public will get his time at bat and hit back where it hurts. Perhaps, just perhaps, the guy who pays the tab on all these sports events will be less than frantic to shell out cash to see the easily-led gladiators who voted against competing for the country that gave them their chance."

—Albert Casano, Boonton, N. J.

We Should Be Getting Closer Together

Most of the letters said that, or something pretty much like it, and it is terribly wrong, this threat of a counterboycott. It drives us only farther apart, at a time when we need so much to get closer together. That is what the noise-makers want dearly to see. That is what the Rap Browns want, and the Harry Edwardses, and the Lincoln Rockwells.

The backlash boycott is a threat to use muscle, to throw weight around; financial weight, majority weight. It is a pressure tactic and a pressure tactic cannot be right whether the pressure is applied by white or black. It is an evil thought, because it helps nothing.

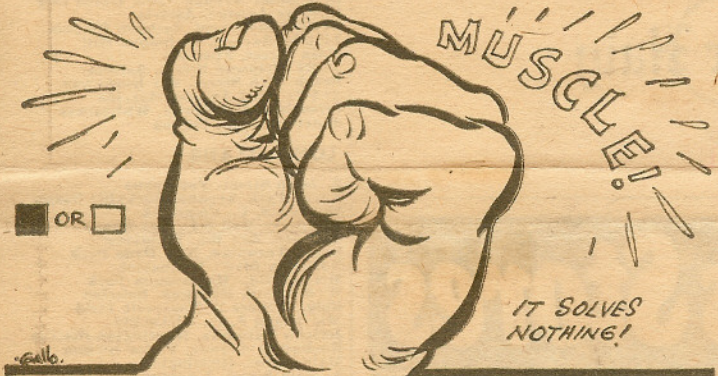
"How can you say that America is so great when you took this land from my poor red brother, the Indians, and you brought black men here from Africa to build a heaven for yourself?"

—John Abel, NYC.

"Where else but in America would it take 400 years for two Negroes to become mayors of large cities? Understand the white man? We understood the white man too well; his history of rape and robbery."

—Amos Payne, NYC.

"I, a Negro, feel that the future of this country depends on cooperation between all our citizens, white and black, and on this basis I disagree with the athletes who choose not to participate in the Olympics, but at the same time I can understand their frustra-



tion. The future depends on all Americans recognizing the legacy of 200 years of slavery and the following decades of oppression."

—Hugo Mason, Brooklyn.

Most colored people reacted like that. Most are bitter, and with substantial cause. They have lived poorly, and they have been treated poorly. They have had some opportunity, but not enough, not nearly enough. We must understand that. We must all understand that, and try to correct it.

Why Blame the Present Generation?

On the other hand, there is something for the Negro to understand. He must understand that I did not bring him over from Africa in chains, and I did not make him slave in the cotton fields, and neither did any other white man who rides the subway alongside him every morning and every evening. I'm a little tired of being told of what happened 300 and 400 years ago, because I can hardly remember that far back.

The thing is now! Now! Now! Stop griping about what happened to your great-great-grandfather, when you have trouble remembering what your grandfather looked like. Don't give me that hypercritical hogwash about the poor Redman who had his nation stolen. I didn't steal it, and I'm quite sure not too many colored families lie awake nights worrying about it. How many poor Indians have you seen being taken to lunch in Wilt's Restaurant?

Let's talk about now, and try to act about now, and let's try to think along lines of what is right and wrong, not what is black and white. That's the only way we're going to lick this thing, in the Olympics or anywhere else.

"Such a column on the threatened Olympic boycott is a great antidote to the big-lie poison which is being used among our boys and girls, both Negro and white."

—Charles B. Maniscola, Brooklyn.

"I am proud of men like Jesse Owens who had the guts to speak up against the boycott."

—Louise M. Gilbert, Bainbridge, N.Y.

"Thank you. A sense of fair play and love of country may offset the political extremism and ideological confusion raging rampant in our country today."

—Joseph Coltelli, College Point, N.Y.

"I only wish the article would have appeared on the editorial page instead of the sports page."

—A. Comforti, Bronx.

I wouldn't tell my editor, but I think more people saw it this way.

Shows You What This Gal Knows

"Hurray for you. So you once shined shoes, and now you have risen to eminence as a sportswriter and broadcaster. Just how far do you think you would have gone in either field if you were born black-skinned?"

—Rhoda M. Kestenbaum, Old Bridge, N.J.

The world is full of popoffs who don't know what they're talking about. Bob Teague, with whom I had the pleasure of covering the baseball beat, became a top sportswriter and now is a headline newscaster for NBC television. He did it with black skin, and he did it much faster than I did.

SS. Mercury Photo - Nov. 20, 1970

Boycott Wrong Says Negro Ump

PHOENIX, Ariz. (UPI) — Negro athletes threatening to boycott the Olympic Games are "wrong, all wrong," Negro major league umpire Emmett Ashford said Wednesday.

Ashford, an umpire for 17 years — two with the American League and 15 in the minors — said only "impressionable kids" are involved in the threatened boycott.

"The ones who came up the tough, tight way aren't complaining," said Ashford. "Just look at gains the Negro has made in sports. It's been his major stepping stone."

Ashford, who umpired in the old Arizona-Texas League in the 1950s, returned here this week for off-season work with a beer distributing company.

100
164
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640

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1164

SCORECARD

CAUSE FOR ALARM

There appears to be a dim possibility, and it is only that, that some of the far-out leaders of the civil rights movement may call on Negro athletes to boycott the 1968 Olympics. The possibility arose when Tommie Smith, American Negro sprinter, was interviewed by Japanese journalists—with no Western newsmen present—during Tokyo's recent World University Games. Asked about the racial situation in the U.S., Smith—who attends San Jose State and holds nine world records—pithily described it as "lousy," then went on to say:

"Depending upon the situation, you cannot rule out the possibility that we Negro athletes might boycott the games in Mexico. Just this morning I was talking with my friend Charlie Craig [Negro triple jumper] about this problem."

Later Smith vehemently denied that he was advocating a boycott, and said he was merely suggesting the possibility.

But Jim Fowler, white leader of the U.S. delegation to the University Games, declared that the possibility was "a very real one."

"Certainly," he said, "some of the Negro leaders may be thinking along these lines. Another difficult hot summer and more problems in some of the big cities and they might see an Olympic boycott as a strong piece of propaganda."

And Madeline Manning, a 19-year-old sociology major at Tennessee State and one of the world's best women at 800 meters, reflected soberly: "It would be very difficult to refuse if our people asked this of us."

So it could conceivably happen. And if it does, it will be a disappointment to sportsmen all over the world. It would be a disappointment especially to millions of Americans, many of whom would blame it all on civil rights extremists. For the athlete, a decision to boycott the Olympics would mean giving up a lifelong dream. It would mean that all the sacrifices, the long hours of training, the pain, had been for nothing.

It would mean, too, and some Olympic prospects would justify themselves in this way, that the athlete put certain values higher than U.S. success or his own participation in the Olympic Games. It would be his way of saying, "I care enough to do something."

19TH HOLE THE READERS TA

BOYCOTT (Cont.)

Sirs:

I find it quite ironic that the most militant Negroes have chosen athletics as their "field of agitation" (*A Step to an Olympic Boycott*, Dec. 4). In sports, and specifically in the Olympics, Negroes have found a place of equality, if not superiority. To boycott the Olympics would be foolhardy at best. Tommie Smith, Lee Evans and the others would be hurting themselves—far more than they could possibly help the civil rights cause. A boycott would serve only to stir up hatred toward the "unpatriotic" Negro athletes who refuse to represent the U.S.

JAY BEDECARRÉ

Concord, Calif.

Sirs:

Certainly any individual has every right to participate or not participate in events such as the Olympics as his conscience desires and his abilities dictate. However, it would seem that, as a group, these new militants are making statements designed to denigrate, rather than advance, their cause.

First, it is obvious that nonwhites have been an enormously important factor in the U.S. Olympic successes since the time of Jim Thorpe. But the argument that a lack of nonwhite participation in 1968 will stir white Americans to a feeling of further sympathy, understanding and cooperation is nonsense! I suspect the average American will feel a further sense of disenchantment with the Negro's disinterest in America—which has already been amply evidenced by the horrible riots of the past few summers.

Second, the policy statement of the boycotting group included points to the effect that "this country is not for us" and that the Negro athletes are "performing animals." The obvious reaction must be to say, "Swell. Sorry to see you leave your homeland, but

go elsewhere." This harsh but understandable point of view from the white community does absolutely nothing to further the Negro's needs in the U.S.

I suggest that Negro objectives could be truly moved ahead if the Negro athletes adopted a "win everything in Mexico City" strategy and then widely broadcast these results as an example of the Negro's continuing contribution to his country.

JOHN T. THOMAS

London

GAMES EXECUTIVE ACCUSED OF BIAS

Leaders Urge the Return of Clay's Title—Ask Voice in Olympic Policies

By FRANK LITSKY

Leaders of a proposed Negro boycott of the 1968 Olympic Games demanded yesterday that Avery Brundage of Chicago resign as president of the International Olympic Committee.

Dr. Harry Edwards, the organizer of the proposed boycott, called Brundage "a devout anti-Semitic and anti-Negro personality." Edwards spoke at a news conference at the Americana Hotel.

Other speakers were Dr. Martin Luther King, president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference; Floyd McKissick, national director of the Congress for Racial Equality, and Louis Lomax, the author and columnist. All supported a boycott.

Edwards is 25 years old and 6 feet 8 inches tall. He is an assistant professor of sociology at San Jose State College in California. Brundage is an 80-year-old millionaire with large hotel interests.

Edwards previously had listed five demands he said must be met if the boycott were to be called off. He said there was now a sixth demand, the resignation or ouster of Brundage.

Edwards Charges Bias

He said Brundage had made anti-Semitic statements at the University Club, Fifth Avenue and West 54th Street. He also said Brundage had denied the use of the Montecido Country Club in Santa Barbara, Calif., to organizations with Negroes or Jews as members. Brundage holds controlling interest in the country club.

Brundage, in a telephone interview from Chicago, said the charges against him were "just an attempt to get publicity." He said the members of the country club ran its affairs.

Roy Smith, the manager of the country club, said by telephone that the club had been used "numerous times" by organizations whose members included Negroes and Jews. In New York, the University Club said no spokesman was present.

Edwards listed these demands by the men who advocate an Olympic boycott:

¶Resignation or ouster of Brundage.

¶"An end to discrimination against Negroes and Jews by the New York Athletic Club."

¶Reinstatement of "Muhammad Ali, alias Cassius Clay," as world heavyweight boxing champion. Boxing bodies declared the title vacant when Clay refused induction into the United States Army.

¶Appointment of an additional Negro track coach for the United States Olympic team. At present, the only Negro on the four-man coaching staff is Stan Wright of Western Illinois University.

¶Appointment of a Negro to the United States Olympic Committee.

¶No competition between United States teams and the "lily-white" teams of South Africa and Southern Rhodesia.

"No one looking at the six demands," said King, "can ignore the truth in them."

"An athlete is on the field only two or three hours," said McKissick, "then becomes a black man again and is subject to discrimination."

"Clay's loss of the heavy-

weigh title," said Lomax, "was a total castration of the black people in this country."

Lomax said he had a "long list" of Negro athletes who had agreed to go along with a boycott. He declined to disclose the names because he said some athletes who had declared themselves had been subjected to "tremendous pressure."

Another source said that the list included Ralph Boston, Tommie Smith, Lee Evans, Otis Burrell, John Carlos and Lew Alcindor. Alcindor, a junior at the University of California, Los Angeles, is college basketball's outstanding player. The others are world-class track and field athletes.

Boston previously had opposed a boycott. Yesterday, from his mother's home in Laurel, Miss., he said he still did and that his name was being used without permission.

"I don't think anything good would be served by boycotting the Olympics," he said. "I've worked too long and too hard."

Lomax said Boston had withdrawn from the New York Athletic Club's 100th annual indoor track meet Feb. 16 at the new Madison Square Garden. Boston said he had not, but he left the door open.

"There are no Negroes in the club," he said, "but I realize it's a private organization not supported by public funds. But if there was a Negro boycott of the meet—a total boycott—I probably would go along."

Arthur G. Lentz of New York, executive director of the United States Olympic Committee, said the Negro leaders apparently wanted a Negro member on the board of directors rather than on the committee itself. In either case, he said, the committee itself could not designate members.

"We are made up of representatives of about 250 organizations," Lentz said. "At our last biennial meeting, some delegates were Negroes. The 54 members of our board are appointed by certain of our major organizations. None of those 54 is a Negro, but all could be if every organization named Negroes."

Hayes Jones, appointed yesterday by Mayor Lindsay as Commissioner of Recreation, said he was opposed to a boycott. Jones was the Olympic 110-meter high hurdles champion in 1964.

"Actually," he said, "the Olympic meets began to bring all races from all countries under one roof as a unit. I feel very strongly that the entire judgment is the finish line, who hits the tape first. It's not a question of pedigree but of intestinal fortitude. I don't see that a boycott would basically prove anything."

Calland Tribune
Whitfield Against Boycott
Fri Dec 1, 1968

KAMPALA, Uganda (AP) — Mal Whitfield, an Olympic gold medalist in 1948 and 1952, today condemned plans of a Negro group in the United States to have American Negro athletes boycott the 1968 Olympics in Mexico City.

Whitfield, a Negro runner from Ohio State, won the 800 meter run in the 1948 and 1952 Games and also earned a gold and silver medal in the 1,600 meter relays.

He is now East and Central African regional sports and youth officer for the U.S. Information Service, criticized the recent Black Youth Conference in Los Angeles, which proposed the Negro boycott and said it was wrong to link the Olympics with the civil rights struggle in the United States.

"It would be wrong to boycott the Olympics which have given Negro athletes so much international recognition," Whitfield said in an interview.

Members of the so-called boycott movement have not been able to give any solid reason for such a move. The alleged discrimination by the New York Athletic Club has nothing to do with the Olympics.

Fri Dec 1, 1968
Games Boycott Gets Support From Jackie

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) — Jackie Robinson, the ex-Brooklyn Dodger who was the first Negro to play major league baseball, expressed support Thursday for a move by some American Negro athletes to boycott the 1968 Olympics.

Asked whether he thought "it is right" for Negro athletes to refuse to take part in the Olympics, he replied:

"Well, I feel we got to use whatever means to get our rights here in this country. And I don't go for violence . . . But when, for 300 years, Negroes have been denied equal opportunity, some attention must be focused upon it.

"And I think this is what these youngsters are trying to do. I'm afraid the leadership may not be right. I know very well this is not going to work. However, I have to admire these youngsters . . ."

Chronicle Fri Dec 1 1968
Quote of the Day
 "I think the chief aspect of the Olympic Games is that youth, independent of the color of their skin, country or religion, should get acquainted with each other in competition."—PEDRO VASQUESZ, organizing committee chairman.

WE WERE sipping an after dinner drink with coaches Julie Menendez and Charles Walker and track and field official Steve Chelbay at the Elks Club a few nights ago just talking about Tommie Smith and Lee Evans.

12/13/67

Chelbay pointed out that Smith may not be invited to meets that are used as qualifying events for the Olympic Games team. In this case Tommie would not be in position to boycott the Olympic Games team.

Another argument that makes sense is that neither Smith nor Evans will be ready for the winter indoor meets because they are not in running condition. Winter conditioning is important if these boys are to make a show in the spring.

Smith may be losing interest in track and will try to make it in professional football. Tommie is a married man with responsibilities. He's going to become a father soon and the responsibilities gain momentum. His wife, the former Denise Paschel, wants to become a teacher and she still has a lot of schooling to do. It could come to pass that running will no longer be a part of Tommie's life by the time the Olympic Games come around.

Robinson Backs Bo

Compiled from the AP

One of baseball's greats is in favor of a move by Negro athletes to boycott next year's Olympic Games, while two national women's champions are against it.

In still another development, the Congress of Racial Equality will treat the boycott as a "prime subject" at an

all-day meeting this week in New York.

Jackie Robinson, ex-Brooklyn Dodger and the first Negro to both play major league baseball and make the Hall of Fame, responded favorably to the boycott idea.

"I say we use whatever means," Robinson, a business executive and advisor to New York Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller,

said in a television interview.

"I feel we have to use whatever means to get our rights here in this country. And I don't go for violence.

"But, when, for 300 years, Negroes have been denied equal opportunity, some attention must be focused on it," he said.

Oakland's Cherrie Sherrard,

Boycott

national hurdle champion and the American record holder, said today she can't see any reason for a boycott at this time.

"I'm against it, but really unfamiliar with the whole thing. I want to make a thorough study before saying anything more," she declared.

Willye White, long jump champion who's aiming for her fourth Olympic Games,

feels that boycotting the Olympics is "boycotting the nations of the world in a great display of equality and friendship.

"I can suggest specific issues and more specific methods of protest in behalf of Negro athletes than this boycott proposal which seems to be centered around San Jose, Calif.," Miss White said.

She referred to San Jose State College Professor Harry Edwards, 24, who led a group of about 200 Negro athletes at a meeting in Los Angeles last week.

"The question could be brought up why don't we have

Negroes on our Olympic swimming, gymnastics and many other Olympic units beyond track, basketball and boxing," Willye said.

"This is something that could be protested directly to the U.S. Olympic Committee."

Lincoln Lynch, a national CORE director, said he thinks the boycott "should be extended to all black athletes who take part in every phase of athletics in the United States."

He cited Cassius Clay as having "given up millions for his conscience and beliefs," adding that he didn't know the exact day of the meeting.

The Sports Wire

Olympic Boss Regrets Boycott

From AP, UPI Reports

Pedro Ramirez Vasquez, chairman of the organizing committee for the 1968 Olympics in Mexico City, expressed regret Thursday over reported plans of a group of United States Negro athletes to boycott the Olympics.

"It's a domestic problem of the United States," he told a news conference in reply to a question.

"I think the chief aspect of the Games is that youth, independent of the color of their skin, country or religion, should get acquainted with each other, achieve recognition and not miss this opportunity to meet their contemporaries.

"Concerning me personally, I would like very much to participate and in my place would do my best to participate. I think it is worth it for all sportsmen to participate in the Olympics.

"For us, we express very great regret if some sportsmen will not be able to participate because of domestic reasons."

Ramirez Vasquez arrived in Moscow Sunday on a ceremonial European tour promoting the 1968 games.

In reply to another question, he said he welcomed very warmly a recent appeal by the city of Grenoble, France, for a worldwide truce next year in honor of the Olympics. Grenoble will be the site of the Winter Olympics.

Giving details of the games, he said there will be some 8,000 participants, exceeding the record 6,000 at the 1964 Tokyo Olympics. There will be 1,100 newsmen covering the games, he added.

Sports Editor's Mailbox

To the Editor

Frankly, I am startled and amazed at the attitude of a group of outstanding Negro athletes who threaten to boycott the 1968 Olympic Games in Mexico City.

In the area of sports, both amateur and professional, the Negro has received more opportunities than in any other endeavor. Fine colleges have offered him athletic scholarships. Amateur athletic clubs have welcomed him. These clubs have spent time and much money helping Negro athletes develop and go on to greater things via the Olympics and professional sports.

For example, our club, the Grand Street Boys' Association, has been sponsoring amateur athletics for more than 35 years — without distinction as to race, color or creed. It has been my pleasure and privilege to be the chairman (unsalaried) of the club for 35 years.

Our "graduates" include many appreciative young men who have gone into the professions, into businesses of their own, into good jobs with large corporations and into professional sports.

Most of the great Negro athletes got their start either in amateur athletic clubs or on college teams. In pro basketball, men like Wilt Chamberlain, Cazzie Russell and Oscar Robertson are earning their fortunes. Nobody needs to be told about Jim Brown and many others in pro football, or Jackie Robinson, Roy Campanella, Don Newcombe and so many others in baseball.

In boxing, Joe Louis, Floyd Patterson Ray Robinson, Henry Armstrong, Archie Moore and Cassius Clay are just a few ex-

amples. In track and field, the names are even more numerous: Jesse Owens, Mal Whitfield, Andy Stanfield, Willie Davenport, John Thomas, Ralph Boston, Charlie Greene, Charlie Mays, Russ Rogers, Bob Hayes, Ben Johnson, Mel Walker, Corny Johnson and dozens of others.

It is my sincere hope that men like these will convince those with short memories that boycotting the Olympics isn't the answer to racial injustice.

I would hate to think I have wasted 35 years pursuing the goal of equal opportunity for all people.

MICHAEL HOWARD
Chairman, Sports Committee,
Grand Street Boys' Association, Inc.,
131-135 West 56th Street,
New York, N. Y.

To the Editor:

I look forward each year to your compilation of local college basketball schedules. They are a great help in arranging a schedule of games to attend. Last week you omitted one very important schedule, that of Rutgers University, which made a third-place finish in last year's National Invitation Tournament. I hope you make it available in the near future.

FRANCIS A. HARDING JR.
East Brunswick, N. J.

The omission was inadvertent. Here is the Rutgers schedule:

- Dec. 1, Pittsburgh (Rutgers won, 100-74);
- 6, Pennsylvania; 9, Colgate, away; 11, Princeton, away; 13, Columbia, away; 16, Delaware; 18-19, Tampa Invitation, at Tampa, Fla.; 22, Florida State, away;
- Jan. 4, Dartmouth, at Madison Square Garden; 20, Boston Univ.; 25, Fordham, away; 27, Lafayette.
- Feb. 1, Georgetown, away; 3, Bucknell; 6, Army, away; 10, Lehigh; 13, Connecticut; 17, Delaware, away; 19, Gettysburg, away; 24, Lafayette, away; 27, Lehigh, away.
- March 2, Penn State; 7, N.Y.U. at Madison Square Garden.

Stifling a Lifelong

Wash Post 12/10/67

The following interview with Negro track stars Tommie Smith and Lee Evans of San Jose State was conducted by Dick Drake, managing editor of Track and Field News. It took place shortly before Smith and Evans announced they would support a proposed boycott of the Olympic Games by American Negro athletes.

By Dick Drake

LOS ALTOS, Calif. — Tommie Smith has been pictured in the press as a militant Negro leader or as an athletic stooge for extreme black groups. The press generally has wasted no time in scoring the merits of a boycott. What Smith has said, in effect, however, is twofold: (1) I am concerned about the problems facing my race here and now, and (2) the Negro athletes might conclude that boycotting the Olympics would be an effectual tool in our battle for racial equality. Talk to Smith and Lee Evans and you will learn that their desire to participate in the Games is intense. They would have perhaps more to gain by winning a gold medal than the next white guy. And so, you must come to the question, what is it they feel so strongly about that they would sacrifice much personal glory and why would they consider jeopardizing their track careers? Reams of copy have been devoted to the possibility of such a boycott—and much of it based on misinformation—but little of it has dealt with the question of why the blacks would forfeit an opportunity to compete in the world's most important athletic event that many of them have already devoted countless hours striving to reach.

Thus, I invited Smith and Evans to my apartment to express into an unbiased tape-recorder their views through a series of questions which I had hoped would shed some light on the confusion and would unearth some of the deep-seated feelings which might result in U.S. black athletes taking such an action as boycotting the Olympics. The transcription that follows represents the opinions of two Negroes, who through personal insight, education, athletic achievement and world travel are becoming aware of the problems faced by the U.S. black people and who are motivated and prepared to accept the responsibility of sacrificing their own personal achievement for a cause they believe would aid in the cause of racial equality. As two nonmilitant, nonextremist Negroes, they are simply verbalizing the feelings of resentment and dissatisfaction perhaps typical of many of their brothers. As two prominent Negro athletes, their opinions about the possibility and effectiveness of a boycott do not necessarily represent the attitudes or desires of other Olympic Negro hopefuls.

QUESTION: What is the objective of such a movement? What do you and others hope can be achieved with a boycott? Do you think any concrete results can be achieved? Or is it merely symbolic?

EVANS: In terms of what I have put into the sport, I think that I will be really hurt. But then you begin thinking about what the Negro has been going through in this country. When you come back from the Olympics with a gold medal, you might be high on the hog for a month, but after that you would be just another guy. Look at Bob Richards on TV. Why don't they have Bob Hayes or Henry Carr advertising on TV? If they had them advertising Wheaties, some of the white people in the South might stop purchasing their product. As for myself, I would be most interested in seeing something done now so that things would be different by the 1972 Olympics.

SMITH: There have been a lot of marches, protests and sit-ins on the situation of Negro

ostracism in the U.S. And I don't think that this boycott of the Olympics would stop the problem, but I think people will see that we will not sit on our haunches and take this sort of stuff. We are a race of proud people and want to be treated as such. Our goal would not be to just improve conditions for ourselves and teammates, but to improve things for the entire Negro community. You must regard this suggestion as only another step in a series of movements. Maybe discrimination won't stop in the next ten years, but it will represent another important development. As far as being spit on, being stepped on, being bitten by dogs, the first dog that bites me I'm going to bite back. We're not going to wait for the white man to think of something else to do against us—as in politics, which is currently working against us. And it doesn't do any good to put an Uncle Tom into high position. I have worked for a long time for the Olympics, and I would have to lose all that. But I think that boycotting the Olympics for a good cause is strong enough reason not to compete.

EVANS: I think Negroes are realizing that the white man doesn't go by his own rules, such as in civil rights. To the extent that I think things would be different for the American Negro by 1972. I am willing to consider boycotting. We are men first and athletes second. Professional athletes are even quitting now because of prejudice.

QUESTION: Of the Negro athletes you've talked with, what per cent would you say support or would support a boycott?

EVANS: You have to go to different sections of the country. I think in California, it would be 75 per cent right now. But if you go to the South or Southwest these are the guys who are catching the most hell in the streets and they just don't understand the need for a boycott. The schools in the South simply aren't the same as in the West. So, these guys aren't aware of what's happening. The schools don't get them to thinking, and the guys don't read about the problems. They don't think about their jobs and what their parents were doing. They're just thinking about themselves and what the Olympics would mean.

SMITH: Some of these guys from the South look at you funny. But look at it this way. How would you like it if you said something in California and you got back to your home in the South to find a double-barrel shotgun sticking in your front door? I think the guys are more afraid than anything.

QUESTION: What has motivated your current activist roles?

SMITH: Thinking.

EVANS: Thinking.

SMITH: Like Lee says, as a senior in high school I looked upon my ability as something no one else had, and looking at this ability alone I neglected to realize there might be something else to life than just track. It's only been in the last two years that I have begun to see that there are problems, and that I must learn to cope with them. And I'm starting by looking at myself.

QUESTION: Could you give up athletics tomorrow?

SMITH: I would give up athletics tomorrow if the cause were strong enough, I would give up athletics in a minute to die for my people.

QUESTION: Why boycott only the Olympics? Why single them out for boycotting, while continuing to compete for a school which has been charged with discrimination and in a country where it exists

ing Goal Isn't Easy



Associated Press

TOMMIE SMITH, LEFT, AND LEE EVANS
... 'the fastest niggers on campus'

EVANS: The school is just a part of this country—I can't dig why the U.S. voted to permit South Africa to compete in the Olympics. That was what I was told, anyway. They send this cat Paul Nash to run here in the U.S. If I went to South Africa, they wouldn't let me run in no damn meet with Paul Nash. But he can come here and run with us. I'm supposed to be an American, but I'm not treated as one. Coach Stan Wright wrote Tommie a letter telling him that he should consider himself an American first, a Negro second. But nobody else considers me an American first. You read any kind of book or magazine. Even Track and Field News says Negro Stan Wright. The first thing you're told or see is that you're a Negro, but still you're supposed to be an American. If you publish a picture, people can look at it and tell if you're a Negro. So you don't have to mention it.

SMITH: What kind of logic is this to let Paul Nash come to America to compete for South Africa? Lee or (Ralph) Boston or myself cannot go as Americans to compete in South Africa. Now if we are Americans, if (Jim) Ryun and I are both Americans, why can't I go to South Africa and compete in the same meets? If we can't go there, why can they come here?

EVANS: This is where you can hit them the hardest. This is one of the major areas where the U.S. gets its international sports propaganda. The Olympics are a big thing, and the press helps to create this. So, if the people want us (Negroes) to help promote U.S. sports propaganda, they can help us, too.

SMITH: Why should we boycott the Olympics instead of the meets at our college? A good percentage of the Negroes are in college because of a scholarship. Now, if we discontinue athletics, the scholarship almost means our lives to us. I got my education through a scholarship. If I had discontinued competition, it would have meant that my scholarship would have been taken away. Therefore, I wouldn't have gotten an education and gotten as far as I have, and so I wouldn't know what I'm talking about. Education is a prelude to a later advancement in life: knowledge. Therefore, unless

you have the financial background, discontinuing athletics wouldn't be advantageous to any cause. You have less to lose and more to gain by boycotting the Olympics than at San Jose State—because this is the way you have hit the hardest.

QUESTION: When did you sense a change in your opinions?

SMITH: It began when I started walking and thinking I am a Negro. I wish I could give you a definite date. I said, "Here's a white man, I'm a Negro. He can walk into this store, why can't I." I took a class in black leadership; it started me to thinking. What the hell is going on in the U.S.? I'm a human. What kind of rights do I have? What kind of rights don't I have? Why can't I have these rights?

EVANS: I started reading. That's what gets on campus. They only talk to us because

QUESTION: How do your professors at San Jose State regard you in general?

EVANS: They know us as the fastest nigger on campus. They only talk to us because we're athletes. They don't talk to the next Negro who passes by.

SMITH: Often, they say congratulations to me. I say, "Thank you. What did I do?" I say, "On my marriage or on a test?" And they say, "No, on your world record." They never talk about my marriage or academics.

EVANS: You are a fast nigger. They don't say nigger but that's what they mean.

SMITH: There's one coach who doesn't think that the Negroes can have any sentimental value. And when he looks at you, he regards you only as an athlete. And he tries to find the easiest classes for you so you can get through college. Now, how the hell are you going to get an education with 15 units of badminton?

EVANS: You get a sheet from them that says what it takes to get through college.

SMITH: I'm taking a couple of courses that I have no interest in. But I have to take them. Look at ROTC, for example. As a result of my lack of interest, I'm not getting good grades. Why should I go to Vietnam and fight for this country and come back when my equality will still be half taken away? If I could come back here just like my white friends, I'd be happy to be a lieutenant in the Army.

The following statements by Tommie and Lee were issued to the press at large, and will serve as their concluding comments to this interview.

EVANS: My own position on a boycott is this: the Olympics are something that I have dreamed of participating in ever since I first learned to run. This does not, however, mean participation at any price. And my own manhood is one of the prices that I am not willing to pay. A second and more important price that I am not under any circumstances willing to pay is that of slamming a potential door to freedom in the face of black people. If this door can be opened by my not participating, then I will not participate.

SMITH: The Olympic Games are and always have been of extreme importance and significance to me. I did make the statement that I would give my right arm to participate and win a gold medal, but it was taken out of context as I am not willing to sacrifice the basic dignity of my people to participate in the Games. I am quite willing not only to give up participation in the Games but my life as well if necessary to open a door by which the oppression and injustices suffered by black people in the U.S. might be alleviated.

Seeks to Speed Up Games

Sports of The Times

By ARTHUR DALEY

Long Range Viewpoint

MEXICO CITY, Nov. 27—A man's perspective doesn't necessarily change by a shift in locations, but somehow or other the overpowering Mexican sunlight seems to bring into sharper focus a matter of grave importance and inherent explosiveness. This is the move to have America's Negro athletes boycott the Olympic Games that will burgeon in all their glory in Mexico City next October.

The boycott is designed by its advocates to be a dramatic way of notifying the world of the vehemence of the Negro protest against grievances in the United States. When viewed in the sweep of international events, however, the boycott makes a tourist wonder if its impact would be worth the effort.

Pedro Ramiriz Vazquez, the chairman of the Organizing Committee, dismissed the boycott as "an internal problem of the U.S.A." while reasserting that Mexico City was making preparations to "greet the youth of the world." He made that statement in Paris, prior to leaving for Moscow. He thereby gave extra emphasis to the international character of next year's festival and appeared to brush off as an insignificant fragment any such boycott movement.

Proof of the Pudding

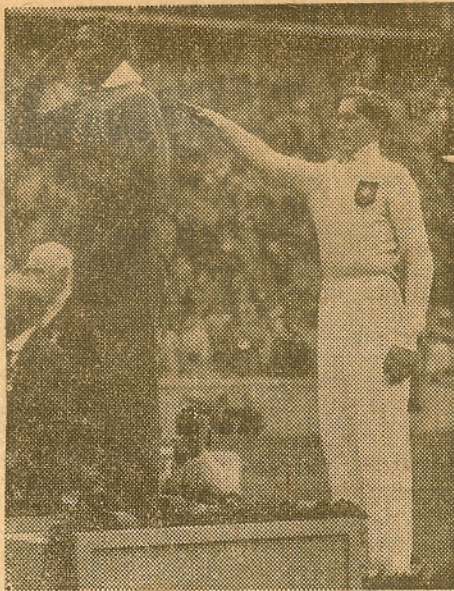
It would be the equivalent of a secondary boycott except that it could not possibly achieve its objectives. The United States still will compete here next autumn. If it could halt American participation, there might be some excuse for going through with the threat. But it won't. America will still gain a major share of gold medals whether they reach white hands or black.

A lily-white team will gain fewer golds, but the difference will not be appreciable and a dozen or so fine Negro athletes would sacrifice life-time dreams and the opportunity of instilling pride in members of their race. Jesse Owens, who should know, deplored the boycott threat and denounced it as "political aggrandizement."

Owens is the best possible argument for Negro participation. He competed in the 1936 Olympics in Hitler's Germany, where the gospel of Aryan supremacy predominated. But Jesse proved to the world that the master race was not quite as masterful as Hitler would have liked everyone to believe. Jesse won both sprints and the long jump and anchored the 400-meter relay team to gain four gold medals.

There was one incident at Berlin that I never can forget. Jesse had a highly dramatic duel with Lutz Long of Germany in the jump. Officials disallowed his first leap on a foul of dubious authenticity. On the second takeoffs into space by both Owens and Long the measurements were declared identical to the millimeter, a happenstance that I still refuse to believe.

But on his third jump Jesse went farther than the Aryan could have gone if shot from a cannon. The Ohio Stater had set an Olympic record beyond 26 feet and had won another championship. A curious thing occurred immediately thereafter. Through-



The New York Times

Jesse Owens with wreath of victory. He defeated Lutz Long, at right, of Germany in the long jump in 1936 Olympics, held in Nazi Germany.

out the Olympics the Nazi press had contemptuously referred to "the black American auxiliaries" and Hitler greeted no Americans afterward.

When Owens won, I put my glasses on Der Fuehrer in his tribune of honor. He paced impatiently back and forth, waiting for Lutz Long to be brought to him. And what was Lutz Long doing while the master of the master race angrily awaited him? The blond German was walking along the runway, arm draped over Jesse's shoulders in congratulation. Thus did he demonstrate for the world to see that sportsmanship cannot be bound by fuzzy theories of race, creed or color. This was Olympic idealism in its ultimate form.

Wrong Place

A boycott by America's Negro athletes would not put the slightest dent in the Olympics. It's the wrong place for it anyway because this always has been the least discriminatory vehicle in the world of sports.

It's my strong feeling that Negroes can do far more good for their cause by participation than by boycott. Art Lentz, the executive director of the United States Olympic Committee, said that his group "resents being used as an attention-getter, no matter how worthwhile the cause may be."

An Olympic championship is so rare and cherished a prize that it has to seem that such standouts as Tommie Smith, Lew Alcindor and others of their transcendent skills are victimized by those who would use them to promote a boycott that has no chance of serving its purpose.

It isn't a confrontation of an organization that discriminates against Negroes. This would be understandable. Instead it's a distortion of its professed purpose. It would deprive Negroes as a whole of the inspirational lift that victory in the Olympics would provide and it would deprive individual Negroes of international recognition that is their birthright.

Brundage Cites Record As Defense

Lausanne, Switzerland

Avery Brundage, president of the International Olympic Committee, said yesterday it was "a monstrous lie" to call him anti-Semitic or anti-Negro.

He told an interviewer his record as a sports official was the best reply to charges made against him by Black Power leaders in the United States.

"My record speaks for itself," he said.

The accusation against Brundage came from Dr. Harry Edwards, a San Jose State College professor and head of a boycott committee. He said Brundage owns and operates a country club in Santa Barbara where no Negroes or Jews are allowed to use the facilities.

Brundage said he owns the Montecito Country Club, a golf club near Santa Barbara, but takes no part in running the club.

"The club is entirely run by the members and I have nothing whatever to do with its operation," he said. "I only go there two or three times a year and I haven't played golf in 40 years."

He recalled that in the 1920s, when he was president of the Amateur Athletic Union, he once had the American track and field championships removed from New Orleans because the organizers refused to allow Negroes to compete.

"I have opposed racial and religious discrimination all my life," he said.

Associated Press

We Get Letters

A Times Daily Dec. 13 '71

Well, as the fellow said, the customer's always right. Stand back so's you don't get any on you.

Gentlemen, on the count of three, aim for that fellow in the glasses. Ready? Fire!

"Dear Murray:

"As a moderately avid sports fan I often read your column and I am often dismayed by what you write . . . I find several things highly objectionable in your column. First, you charging Prof. Edwards

with racism just because he attempts to organize a boycott would be laughable . . . It is serious in two ways.

"First of all, calling for a boycott of the Olympic Games — another of the sacred cows this

society seems to batten on like flies on (deleted by editor), hence a target for boycott — is not proof of racism. You appear to make much of the fact that Prof. Edwards did not invite the white press. This is understandable. Sports reporters, as the stable favorites among the kept women of American journalism, are accustomed to flying around the country as guests of the teams they cover (Editor's note: The Times pays its own way.) and here you are not even invited to a meeting by some upstart professor.

"Therefore, you accuse him of being undemocratic. Yet the whole tenor of your article shows how right he was to exclude you . . . It is fairly easy to understand what seems to be your basic philosophic position, though I suppose that's too weighty a word.

Too Much Politics?

"I share some of the values that sports seem to inculcate . . . Yet these values often become deplorable when transferred to the political arena. What I'm saying is, most people involved in athletics as competitors or over-involved as spectators and (deleted by editor) tend to become political reactionaries.

"Thus, I say it is understandable you have such difficulty understanding how young men like Alcindor or (deleted by editor) or, for that matter, not-so-young men like Jim Brown . . . can still retain a sense of social conscience, some kind of existential tie with those less gifted and less fortunate.

"Perhaps this letter may be useful to you now, though I am not optimistic enough to believe it can make any serious impression on anyone as fluent in cynicism. However, I am sending copies of this letter to the student dailies at UCSB, where I am employed, and at UCLA where people like Alcindor or (deleted by editor) may not need support but are certainly deserving . . .

Yours, Sanford M. Dorbin"

—Pompous, isn't he?

"Dear Mr. Murray:

"Perhaps you should try window cleaning or an occupation in the same lines, something that will limit your narrow-minded ideas to a few people and stop the spread of what I can only describe as 'rubish' (sic). How your editor ever passed this collection of scribel (sic) immaturity I will never comprehend. Your remark about lack of team play (in soccer) really puts you at the bottom of the Primary School as far as observation goes . . .

Yours faithfully, Chris Baylis
Panama City, Panama"

—What's the matter, Chris, cat got your tongue?

"Dear Jim Murray:

"Your column of Nov. 29, 'Apartheid: U. S. Style,' is a little out of line when you state that 'South Africa does not have any black athletes on its (Olympic Games) team.' South African black athletes had in fact already been selected to go to the Olympic Games in Tokyo, but South Africa

Please Turn to Page 8, Col. 4

MURRAY COLUMN

Continued from First Page

was barred from the games because of a hassle within the International Olympic Committee. Mr. Frank Braun, chairman of the South African Olympic Games Committee, has stated that South African teams at the games will in the future be selected by a committee of whites and non-whites from candidates nominated by each population group separately.

Yours truly, J. B. Mills
Consul-General, South Africa"

—South Africa was barred because of a hassle within South Africa.

"Dear Mr. Murray:

"You are certainly not John Lardner, and surely not Ring . . .

William Gault
Santa Barbara"

—My style runs more to Ring Magazine than Ring Lardner, Bill. I've been able to put your books down, too, on occasion.

"Sir:

"I am one of those 'Anglo-Saxon people' but I do not believe in stabbing a man in the back because he happens to be a Black Muslim or a Lavender Lady. I do not believe in tearing a man to bits because of his religion . . .

James R. Lockwood AF1680630
APO San Francisco 96239"

—Neither do I. But since when is genocide a religion?

"Murray:

"If these athletes want to boycott the Olympics why should you care? WE don't care.

(Signed) Puzzled."

—That's precisely why I DO care.



Athletes Threatening Boycott Are Making Mistake—Owens

Eugene Reg. 12/14/67 From AP, UPI Reports

Jesse Owens, former U.S. Olympic team track star, says he is convinced that some Negro athletes who threatened recently to boycott the 1968 Olympic Games are making a mistake.

Owens, the winner of four gold medals at the 1936 Olympic Games, pointed out, "These athletes going to the Olympics will have the opportunity of exerting a great deal of influence in their communities. They should go and represent this country."

Owens, now the head of a Chicago public relations firm, made his remarks following an address to 50 rookie policemen here Wednesday.

"Sports go a long way to bridge the gap of misunderstanding," he said. "The Negro has a role to play in professional sports and amateur sports as well."

He said he does not feel the Negro athlete has been exploited, adding that Negroes like Wilt Chamberlin, Willie Mays, and Bill Russell are among the highest paid athletes in the world.

"People don't care who is on the team," Owens said. "They care about what the team is doing."

Seattle: Vernon Freed

Mickey Vernon, manager of the Vancouver Mounties of the Pacific Coast Baseball League, has been dismissed as a defendant in the \$75,000 damage suit brought by catcher Merritt Ranew of the Seattle Angels.

The Superior Court suit here was filed by Ranew as the result of a fight during a game in Vancouver May 11, 1966. Ranew suffered a head injury and did not play baseball for the remainder of the season.

Judge James W. Hodson dismissed Vernon Tuesday on grounds that Washington courts should not assume jurisdiction because the incident occurred in Canada.

The action leaves Santiago Rosario, a Mounties player, and Vancouver Mounties Holdings, Ltd., as the only defendants.

Ranew's suit charges he was assaulted by members of the Canadian team and asks compensation for loss of earnings in addition to the \$75,000 damages.

Bloomington: Pont Absent

Indiana's football players should be in shape for their first Rose Bowl game. But Coach John Pont may not.

The players have been working out on their own to keep in trim since their bowl-clinching victory over Purdue Nov. 25 until formal practice was resumed today.

However, Pont has become a "man-on-the-go" since bringing the Hoosier Cinderella team to glory.

He's been in demand for speaking engagements—in Washington, D.C., Elkhart, Ind., among other cities. And Friday he has another engagement with Sigma Delta Chi in Indianapolis.

Meanwhile, the players will workout once-

a-day through Tuesday, with only a break on Sunday. Pont said the practices would be the same as those of the regular season.

Pont said all 76 members of the team will leave for California Dec. 21, but only 44 can suit up and the rest will be spectators for the Jan. 1 battle against top-ranked Southern California.

New York: Trade Possible

The New York Mets and Chicago White Sox reportedly are close to dealing left-fielder Tommy Davis of the Mets for centerfielder Tommy Agee of the Sox.

Manager Gil Hodges wants the deal made, said general manager Johnny Murphy of the Mets Wednesday. "We are doing our darndest to swing it for him." The interleague trading deadline is midnight Friday.

Agee, 25, an outstanding fielder, hit .234 last season after a .273 year in 1966. Davis, a two-time batting champion, hit .302 for the Mets.

Los Angeles: Trojans Running

Southern California's football Trojans are doing lots of running in their first week of preparations for their Rose Bowl game with Indiana.

Coach John McKay sent his national championship club through another 90-minute drill Wednesday and stressed running for conditioning again. The Trojans opened workouts Tuesday for the New Year's Day classic at Pasadena, Calif.

Southern Cal's Wednesday drill was in temperatures in the 40s. McKay noted his players weren't used to the cold and quipped, "I might take them back to Indiana because I hear it's warmer back there."

Sports Shorts

SPOKANE — David Chapman, Washington State high school high jump champion, was in satisfactory condition Wednesday. The East Wenatchee youth's neck was broken while he was practicing on a trampoline at Washington State University, where he is a freshman, Monday. He was reported paralyzed from the neck down, but a hospital attendant said Wednesday Chapman has feeling in his hands and can move his arms.

MELBOURNE—World record holder Tommie Smith of San Jose State was beaten in his specialty Wednesday night as Australian sprinter Garey Eddy scored a narrow victory in a 220-yard race at Olympic Park. Both runners were clocked in 21.2 seconds on a track slowed by rain.

WASHINGTON, Pa.—Former major league infielder Dick Groat was appointed as assistant national accounts executive Wednesday with a steel firm that employed him during the off-season for the last 19 years. Groat retired this past season after 13 years service with the Pittsburgh Pirates, St. Louis Cardinals, Philadelphia Phillies and San Francisco Giants.

S.J. Murray Dec 16, 1967

Negroes' Boycott Strikes A Nerve

By ROBERT LIPSYTE

(C) 1967 New York Times
News Service

NEW YORK — "If there is a religion in this country, it is athletics," says Harry Edwards, an assistant professor of sociology at San Jose State College. "On Saturdays from 1 to 6 you know where you can find a substantial portion of the country: in the stadium or in front of the television set. We want to get to those people, to affect them, to wake them up to what's happening in this country, because otherwise they won't care."

In the last few weeks, Edwards has, as he says, "struck a nerve." Late last month, he urged a boycott of the 1968 Olympics by Negro athletes, a move denounced by the sporting establishment and by many Negroes, but supported, at least in theory, by many young black athletes. The other day, in New York, flanked by Dr. Martin Luther King and Floyd McKissick, Edwards demanded the ouster of Avery Brundage, the doyen of American amateur

sports and an alleged racist, among six prerequisites for a cool Olympics.

Edwards is a product of the American collegiate athletic system. Born in East St. Louis, Ill., deserted by his mother early and raised by a father who worked as a laborer, Edwards did poorly in school and ran the streets. But he was also en route to becoming 6 feet 8 inches tall and 240 pounds, and so he was rescued. As a high school student he became all state in track and starred in football.

On an athletic scholarship at San Jose State, Edwards was captain of the basketball team and set a school record for the discus throw (180 feet). He was "brutal enough" under the back boards, he says, to have received offers from two pro football teams, Minnesota and San Francisco, but he had realized by this time that his "longest suit" was scholarship. He took his master's degree in sociology at Cornell on a Wood-

row Wilson fellowship, and returned to San Jose State last year. Edwards is 25 years old.

Earlier this season, Edwards caused the cancellation of the school's first home football game when he led a protest against housing opportunities for black athletes. Many football players, he says, were living in motels miles from the school while campus housing was vacant for whites.

The other night, Edwards sat on a corner of his bed in a midtown hotel room and spoke, slowly and carefully, about the long-range goals of his proposed boycott.

"We're not just talking about the 1968 Olympics," he said. "We're talking about the survival of society. What value is it to a black man to win a medal if he returns to be relegated to the hell of Harlem? And what does society gain by some Negro winning a medal while other Negroes back home are burning down the country?"

Edwards watched a plastic-tipped cigar grow cold. "We must reassert the basic masculinity of the black people and force the white man to stop taking their services for granted in a country where we can't take simple things, like personal safety, for granted, where we can't drive across our country and expect to be our country and expect to be served food or treated with humanity.

"I think the time is gone when the black man is going to run and jump when the white man says so, and then come back home and run and jump some more to keep from being lynched."

Edwards said it was time for "the auction block to come down. Black masculinity is no longer for sale." Most black men on scholarship at white colleges are athletes, he says, and the "badminton education" they receive leaves them at a serious disadvantage in the employment market unless they go into pro sports. More and more, Edwards says, colleges are becoming "farm teams for the pros."

Edwards' activism, he says, has brought speaking offers from all over the country. With humorless earnestness, Edwards says that the speaking fees will be used for a scholarship fund.

Edwards Adds To Campaign

Los Angeles

Harry Edwards, San Jose State's vociferous young professor of sociology and trailblazer of the campaign for a Negro boycott of the 1968 Olympic Games, has expanded his crusade and demands acceptance of "the whole package."

Added to his list is a demand for reinstatement of Cassius Clay (Muhammad Ali) as heavyweight boxing champion and wants a ban on New York Athletic Club events.

Edwards said he plans to confer in New York today with Negro civil rights leaders Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Floyd McKissick.

Edwards told a news conference at the Greater Los Angeles Press Club his boycott campaign now includes five steps, and the threatened moves would be withdrawn only if the complete package is accepted "by various persons in authority."

He outlined the steps as follows:

- A boycott by Negro athletes of the Olympic Games.
- A boycott of all New York Athletic Club events because, he said, the club has not had a Negro or Jewish athlete on its teams in this century.
- A demand that all-white teams from Southern Rhodesia and South Africa be banned from Olympic competition.
- Reinstatement of Clay as WBA heavyweight champion, a position from which he was deposed because of his conviction for draft evasion.
- Desegregation of the United States Olympic Games Committee and assignment of more Negro coaches to the U.S. Olympic teams.

Edwards said about a dozen Negro athletes have joined his boycott campaign.

Basis for the campaign, he said, is "You do not accrue prestige when you go to the Olympics, because when you come back you're still a nigger."

Questioned about opposition to the boycott expressed by such prominent Negro athletic figures as Jesse Owens and Rafer Johnson, Edwards said, "I don't reconcile their stand. In this movement we have not tried to destroy dissent."

United Press

TOMMIE SAYS 'NEGROES WILL ACT IN UNISON'

BRISBANE, Australia (AP)

— Tommie Smith, San Jose State Negro sprint star, said Sunday U.S. Negroes will act in unison on the question of boycotting the Olympic Games. *Oakland Tribune*

Smith, who arrived yesterday to compete in an international athletic meet, said Negro members of the U.S. Olympic team will take a vote and act together.

"If the majority decide on a boycott I will not run. This is just like sit-ins and marches. It might not cure the problem 100 per cent but it would knock on the door of equality," he said. *Dec 15, 1967*

JIM MURRAY

Tommie-Jet Sounds Off

2 A Times Then Jan 46

The young man sitting opposite me in the airport dining room was wearing a fashion-tailored, cable-stitch sweater, hip-hugging tailored slacks, an expensive jacket and buckle-top reptile shoes. The wardrobe had to cost more than the annual take-home pay of a Tibetan leather worker or 19th century chimney sweep. His pretty wife, on his arm, was soon to present him an heir or heiress, obviously, and he had just come off a sleek, multi-million dollar jet and had been in the past few months touring the romantic places of Asia and Australia.



If ever a young man seemed to have it made, it was Tommie Smith.

But Tommie Smith was smoldering. He obviously considered himself one of 25 million captives of a society which prefers him as a kind of talking field animal. The United States of America won no points with Tommie Smith the day he and his bride were turned away from an available San Jose apartment house. To Tommie, the country is not a democracy, it is a hypocrisy.

Tommie Smith has devised a unique and simple punishment: If he cannot live in an American apartment house, he will not live in an American Olympic village, either.

To many of us, the unique thing about the punishment is its ineffectualness. Tommie has tilted his lance at a windmill. He has punished the lion by sticking his head in its mouth. The only beneficiaries of Olympic Games are Olympic athletes. It is an enormous economic burden to countries hosting it and participating in it. It is of minimal value as a propaganda medium because, in an age when men throw rockets at each other, no one is impressed with discuses. National aims extend beyond the shot put ring.

But, since I thought a man about to practice athletic immolation should be allowed to give HIS side of it, I approached Tommie and Mrs. Tommie at the airport.

"How do we know YOU'RE not prejudiced?" Mrs. Smith asked resentfully.

I assured them I was prejudiced. I was prejudiced in favor of being able to live wherever they could pay the rent and I encouraged Tommie to tell his story as it looked from there behind those expensive clothes.

'Prejudiced Town'

It all began in the Red River Valley—not the one you see in the movies but a bleak land of tenant cropping, 18 hours a day in the choking sun and overalls your father slept in because he dast not be late for the boss' shape-up in the morning.

At the age of 7, Tommie came west in a pre-historic vehicle called a "labor bus" in a migration of cotton-choppers and grape-pickers imported to California's great Central Valley, the town of Lemoore, where Daddy was indentured for three years just to pay the bus fare.

"Lemoore is a very prejudiced little town," Tommie said quietly. "You're a Negro, you're something that walks and works and eats, nothing more."

The white kids rode to school at 289 cubic-inch displacement with the radio playing. Tommie went there in another bus. Dad went there with a broom.

Was there any overt brutality? Tommie bristled. "They wouldn't dare!" he growled. "Anybody who would dare lay a hand on me was in for it. It was little things—like five of you walk in a store and they

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MURRAY COLUMN

Continued from First Page

watch you every step 'til you leave. You can almost see them pushing buttons to alert the community."

Tommie escaped from his environment on cleats at 9.3 seconds at a time. He got a scholarship at San Jose State. They took the basketball away from him as soon as they got a clock on him in the gym. He got a job with an auto dealer. He is able to go to school and raise a family at the same time.

"I could have said, 'I got mine—let the other guys get theirs.' But I didn't. I won't. I am willing to stick my neck out."

What are his aims? Well, they are surprising things. In addition to free choice in apartment hunting, they are things like Negro admission to the New York Athletic Club and admission to campus fraternities. Boycotting an international movement for such petty aspirations seems like burning a barn to kill a mouse. But Tommie, of course, is 23 years old.

There are those who think Tommie Smith not running is like Rembrandt not painting, Caruso not singing. European cinder scholars have made a case that he is the greatest runner in all history of runs from Thermopylae to Bob Hayes.

Whether Tommie is indeed a late scratch in the Olympics, he will run at the L.A. Indoor Invitational at the Sports Arena Jan. 19. Already, several past ticket-holders have sent back their applications. They propose to boycott Tommie Smith. Misguided as I take him to be, I cannot be persuaded you demonstrate the un-wisdom of a boycott by boycott. I can only cheer Tommie Smith the runner in the hopes that wisdom will some day be able to do the 220 in 19 flat, too, so it can catch up to him.

DAN HRUBY



Smith Remains Undecided!

1/6/68

Out On A Limb

TOMMIE SMITH, he with the twin afterburners, is still standing on a question mark.

"My position on the boycott remains the same," said Tommie in San Jose Friday before he left for his evening appearance in the All-American Games at the Cow Palace. "I have not yet decided what I will do about the Olympics.

"I'm going to wait and see how the situation looks later on and then make my decision."

Wherever Smith goes, he is dogged by TV cameras, radio microphones and scribes with sharp pencils.

"People have been after me quite a lot," he said. "I just explain my position and let it go at that."

The great San Jose State sprinter, holder of nine world records, has been entangled in controversy since a late summer trip to Japan in which he was quoted to the effect he might support a Negro boycott of the Olympic Games in Mexico City.

Smith is well-aware he has to qualify for the team before he could boycott it.

In his recent trip to Australia, he met with much good feeling.

"The Australians are terrific sports fans," Tommie said. "I was there at a special invitation of Ron Clarke, not the government or anyone else. It was summer there. The temperature was 94 degrees in a couple of places."

The quick change from cold to hot may have had some effect on his performances, Smith admitted.

The Aussie newsmen didn't let Tommie forget his involvement in the racial question.

"It seems everywhere I went they wanted to talk to me about it," Smith said. "There was one guy who was really eager. He kept trying to persuade me I was wrong. Darn if he didn't almost do it, too."



RON CLARKE
... A Cold Stare

Champs Boycott

BALTIMORE (AP)—At least six world track record holders plan to boycott the New York Athletic Club's indoor meet next month unless the club drops discriminatory membership practices, according to Dr. Harry Edwards, leader of a movement to have Negroes boycott the U.S. Olympic team.

• John Carlos, East Texas State, world record holder in the 300-yard dash and winner of the 100 and 220-yard dashes at the Pan American Games.

• Bill Gaines, independent, world record holder in the 60-yard dash.

• Martin McGrady, Central, Ohio State, world record holder in the indoor 600-yard run.

• Kirk Clayton, a California junior college student, who holds the world record in the 50-yard dash.

• Tommie Smith and Lee Evans, who are members of two relay teams which hold records for the 88-yard and mile relays. In addition to the relay records, Smith has set records in the 220-yard and 200-meter dashes. Evans holds records for the 400-meter and 440-yard dashes.

Ed Caruthers Is Against The Boycott

Outland
Tribune
Rec 4, 1968

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP) — Ed Caruthers, the nation's most consistent high jumper, is opposed to the proposed Negro boycott of the 1968 Olympic Games in Mexico City.

"I'm in sympathy with what they're trying to do," the University of Arizona senior said today. "But boycotting the Olympics is all wrong. Athletics have been mighty good to the Negro."

Caruthers cleared seven feet 23 times last season and jumped a record 7-2½ in winning the Pan American Games.

"Our participating in the Olympics has given the young Negro kids something to look up to," said Caruthers. "It is a prideful thing to be able to participate in the Olympics."

He said he had received several letters from Harry Edwards, a former San Jose State athlete who advocates a boycott of the 1968 Olympics so "the country can see what these black athletes have done."

Jackie Robinson Backs Negro Olympic Boycott

Special to The New York Times

BINGHAMTON, N. Y., Dec. 13—Jackie Robinson, the first Negro in baseball's major leagues, had a word of commendation today for Negro athletes who have threatened to boycott the 1968 United States Olympic team.

Robinson was here as Governor Rockefeller's representative at a New York State Conference of Mayors' seminar on civil emergencies.

"My first impulse was that it would only make America's image worse than it is already," Robinson told the Binghamton Press sports editor, John W. Fox. "But when I thought over the willingness of someone like Smith [Tommie Smith, the San Jose State sprinter], who earlier had said he'd give his right arm to compete in the Olympics, to make such a sacrifice by not going, it is to be commended."

San Jose Mercury 12/14/67p

DEMANDS CLAY'S REINSTATEMENT

Edwards Expands Boycott Plans

LOS ANGELES (UPI) — Harry Edwards, a young college professor who is spearheading a campaign to persuade Negro athletes to boycott the 1968 Olympic Games said Wednesday he has expanded his goals to include a ban on New York Athletic Club events and a demand for reinstatement of Cassius (Muhammad Ali) Clay as heavyweight boxing champion.

Edwards, a Negro and a part time instructor of sociology at San Jose State College, said he plans to confer in New York today with Negro civil rights leaders Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

and Floyd McKissick on expansion of the threatened boycott.

Edwards told a news conference at the Greater Los Angeles Press Club his boycott campaign now includes five steps and the threatened moves would be withdrawn only if "the whole package" is accepted by various persons in authority."

He outlined the steps as follows:

—A boycott by Negro athletes of the Olympic Games.

—A boycott of all New York Athletic Club

events because, he said, the club has not had a Negro or Jewish athlete on its teams in this century.

—A demand that all-white teams from Southern Rhodesia and South Africa be banned from Olympic competition.

—Reinstatement of Cassius (Muhammad Ali) Clay as heavyweight champion, a position from which he was deposed because of his conviction for draft evasion.

—Desegregation of the United States Olympic Games committee and assignment of more Negro coaches to the U.S. Olympic teams.

Edwards said about a dozen Negro athletes have joined his boycott campaign.

Basis for the campaign, he said, is this — "You do not accrue prestige when you go to the Olympics because when you come back you're still a nigger."

Questioned about opposition to the boycott expressed by such prominent Negro athletic figures as Jesse Owens and Rafer Johnson, Edwards said, "I don't reconcile their stand. In this movement, we have not tried to destroy dissent."

Stanfield calls Olympics 'movement for unity'

By IKE KUHNS

In American sports lore, Andy Stanfield has won a justifiable place as an Olympic champion. His achievements on the track are still talked about when the conversation gets around to great Olympic athletes.

That's why Stanfield, now a respected principal of a private school in Newark, is concerned by the recent talk of a Negro boycott of the 1968 Olympics in Mexico.

As a Negro himself, Stanfield has no illusions about the fact that the Olympic gold medal he won in the 200 meters in 1952, and the medal he pulled down as part of the United States' champion 400-meter relay team in the 1956 Olympics have enabled him to move in circles he might never have reached.

MEDAL MEANINGFUL

"That Olympic title means something," he told an audience at an Olympic fund raising dinner in Newark. "I have been projected into situations that never would have happened if it hadn't been for sports and it has made it easier for me to work towards raising the standards of those around me."

The school Stanfield operates trains people from low income background in computer and other automated skills.

"That's why I feel that a number of Negro athletes recently have been misled and misguided," he continued, "into a concept of thinking they can do more for the black race by refusing to participate in the 1968 Olympic games. This is utterly ridiculous."

To the former Seton Hall star, who set a host of indoor and outdoor track records during his career, the contrary is true.

"They can be assets by taking part in the American athletic dream of winning an Olympic title as an American and thereby bolstering their race as many other Negro athletes have done in the past," Stanfield stated.

OWENS PAVED WAY

Jesse Owens is the man Stanfield points to as the best example of this concept.

"Owens was a champion

long before Jackie Robinson became a baseball great," he says, "and as a result of Jesse's pioneering, all sports today are well integrated."

Stanfield recalls his own Olympic days and the joy of many nations, finding that no matter where a person was from, he was basically the same.

"We're living in troubled times where race is some-

times pitted against race," he continued, "and this does not exemplify the Olympic movement whose aim is to bring people, races and countries together in a radiant union."

Stanfield also criticized the recent remarks of Avery Brundage, chairman of the U.S. Olympic Committee. "He was wrong to say to the Negro, 'We don't need you,'" Andy said and the statement was seconded by Steve Evanoff Jr., New Jersey's general chairman for the Olympics.

"Two wrongs don't make a right," Evanoff added. "Had it not been for the Olympic medals that Negroes won in Tokyo, the U.S. never would have won the championship."

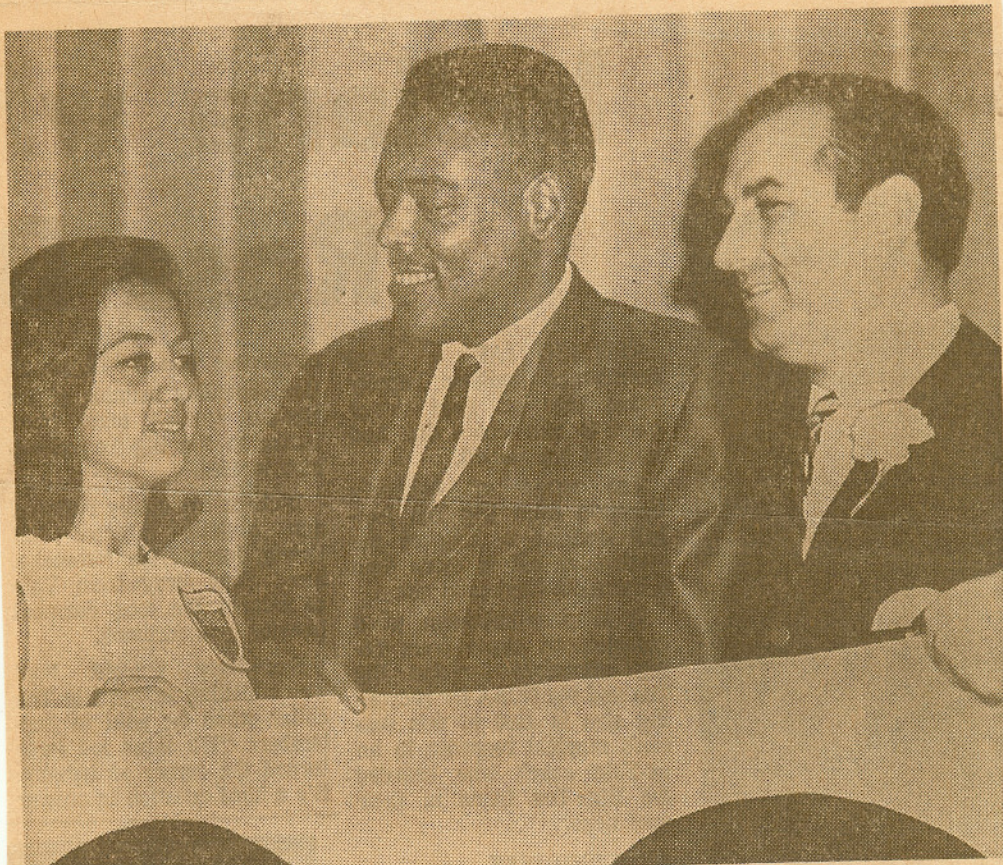
But to Stanfield, who is working every day to help underprivileged people struggle toward a better life, the Olympics have a far deeper meaning than just winning titles.

"This is the kind of thing that is the opposite of war and the feeling of competing as an American with athletes from all over the world is something you have to experience to understand," he said. "I believe any athlete who boycotts the Olympics would do more harm than good to himself and his race."

NFL Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE						
Capitol Division						
	W	L	T	Pct.	Pts	OP
Dallas	8	3	0	.727	271	204
Philadelphia	5	6	0	.455	271	312
Washington	4	5	2	.444	283	278
New Orleans	2	9	0	.182	173	304
Century Division						
	W	L	T	Pct.	Pts	OP
Cleveland	7	4	0	.636	266	239
New York	6	5	0	.545	311	311
St. Louis	5	5	1	.500	272	279
Pittsburgh	2	8	1	.200	223	274
WESTERN CONFERENCE						
Central Division						
	W	L	T	Pct.	Pts	OP
Green Bay	8	2	1	.800	261	131
Chicago	5	6	0	.455	178	180
Detroit	3	6	2	.333	202	225
Minnesota	3	6	2	.333	193	240
Coastal Division						
	W	L	T	Pct.	Pts	OP
Baltimore	9	0	2	1.000	331	137
Los Angeles	8	1	2	.889	317	159
San Francisco	5	6	0	.455	201	265
Atlanta	9	1	1	.100	130	345
GAMES TODAY						
New York at Cleveland						
Atlanta at Los Angeles						
Chicago at San Francisco						
Dallas at Baltimore						
Green Bay at Minnesota						
New Orleans at St. Louis						
Philadelphia at Washington						
Pittsburgh at Detroit						

SUNDAY STAR-LEDGER, December 3, 1967



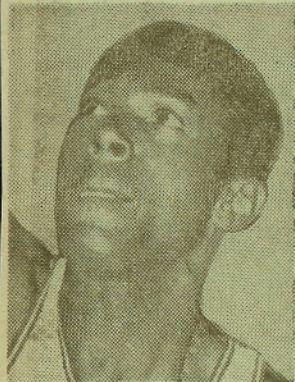
Andy Stanfield, center, former Seton Hall star and gold medalist in 1952 Olympics, is presented flag by Essex County Olympic committee for his contributions to the Games. At left is Honey Scriffignano, secretary of Essex County Olympic committee and, right, Steve Evanoff, Jr., wrestling coach at Seton Hall and member of the 1964 Olympic team

The Boycott Rises Again

Art Rosenbaum

MOST OF THE QUOTES in the press regarding the proposed Olympic Games boycott by Negroes have been anti. That is to say, practically everybody—black and white—said the whole idea was for the birds.

It could be expected that ex-athletes, those from a less volatile generation, would speak against the proposal. However, many Negroes with Olympic ambitions also expressed themselves strongly in opposition to Prof. Harry Edwards of San Jose State, the local leader of the movement.



Gene Johnson

Not true. The boycotters have only been regrouping for another public charge. Something will probably break in the next few days, certainly over the weekend, and then the battle for headlines and for world awarness will begin anew.

★ ★ ★

THE BIG STORY is a planned meeting with Dr. Martin Luther King in New York City, probably on Saturday. A spokesman for Dr. King said two weeks ago, "Dr. King applauds this new sensitivity among Negro athletes and public figures, and he feels this should be encouraged."

That led Harry Edwards to state, categorically, "Dr. King now backs the boycott." Edwards also said, "When we meet with Dr. King and Floyd McKissick, national director of CORE, "we will discuss not only the boycott but King's summer massive civil disobedience plan in Northern cities and the whole human rights struggle."

Ever since the boycott was voted by acclamation in a Los Angeles meeting, Edwards and his forces have been writing, phoning, wiring and otherwise ringing up recruits to speak out publicly for boycott. The story is far from dead.

★ ★ ★

THE RIGHTS and wrongs of the boycott are pretty much diffused for most by-standers. On the one side, there are accusations of racism, discrimination and misuse of talent. On the other sides are accusations of politics, power-madness and deprivation of individual rights.

Gene Johnson is a Negro. He was a 7-foot high jumper for the University of California. He has traveled the world with AAU track and field groups. It is his claim that the true issue is being obscured. He states:

"There is a tremendous credibility gap in the treatment accorded our Negro stars and the black masses in general. The United States exalts its Olympic star athletes as representatives of a democratic and free society, when millions of Negro and other minority citizens are excluded from decent housing and meaningful employment. This is where the credibility factor enters.

"I would like to pose this as a question: what would be the fate of a Ralph Boston, if he were not a 27-foot broad jumper, or of a Charlie Greene, if he were not a 9.2 sprinter? They would be quote faceless black men caught in the same system of racial discrimination as many other black citizens.

★ ★ ★

"I AM PROUD" (Johnson continues) "to see that those proposing the boycott have enough social awareness to realize that this struggle of the man in Fillmore, Watts and Harlem is their struggle also. The efforts of Negroes in athletics has benefited only the athlete involved.

"The Civil Rights movement or struggle requires the aid and contributions of all black men regardless of station in life. Negro athletes should not be exempt, nor should they divorce themselves, from this struggle.

"The fact that a great sacrifice is involved, such as foregoing an opportunity to participate in the Olympics, points to the urgency. Undoubtedly many Negro athletes will not agree to the proposed move. This is their opinion and it should be respected. However, my hat is off to Tommie Smith, Lee Evans, Otis Burrell and Lew Alcindor. I am also certain that millions of American Negroes will take heart that they have not been overlooked by those of us 'who have it made within the system.'"

That, says Johnson, is the crux of it. The established athlete, the star, takes his money and quits the scene.

★ ★ ★

I AM NOT SURE that Gene Johnson (or Harry Edwards) can count on great support among the Afro-Americans.

What about Alcindor, who may become the most publicized Negro in the Olympics? He was at the boycott meeting. He raised his hand. Later he said he wasn't sure.

More recently he said, "I am a basketball player. I am not a sociologist. I am not a politician nor a political scientist."

Alcindor also said, "Black people are trying to survive politically and socially. Being black, I see this more readily. The black man is totally conscious of powerlessness. He doesn't want paternalism. He doesn't want help. He wants recognition as an equal."

Will Alcindor go to the Olympic Games? That will not be known for many months.

What Racism? Olympian Asks

JOSH CULBREATH is an American . . . a Negro . . . an ex-Olympian. Last week, he got on a local television show and expressed his views on the proposed Negro boycott of the Olympic Games. They were strong views.

"I feel I'm entitled to voice my opinion," Josh said Thursday. "I feel I have as much right to voice my opinion as Harry Edwards has to voice his . . ."

Edwards is the San Jose State faculty member who is leading the boycott movement. Culbreath hopes he fails and believes many other American Negroes hope so, too.

"I've talked to some of them," Josh said. "I talked to Bill Sharpe and Ira Davis, for example, and they both thought the same way I did. They couldn't understand it at all."

The proposed boycott took shape on Thanksgiving Day, when Edwards, wearing a Malcolm X button, met with some 200 Negroes in a Los Angeles church. Among them were Tommie Smith, one of the world's great sprinters, and Lew Alcindor, one of the world's great basketball players. Culbreath doesn't question their right to meet or their right to boycott. He does question their thinking.

Josh is 35 now and in business. Eleven years ago, he competed in the Melbourne Olympics. In addition, he participated in dozens of international events, including the 1959 Russian meet, in which he won the 400-meter hurdles for the United States.

CULBREATH has been out of competition for several years, but his feeling for the Olympic Games and for his sport have grown, not diminished. He has no bitter memories, he said, only happy memories. Wonderful memories.

"What nauseates me," Josh said, "is that so many



FRANK DOLSON

Continued from 1st Sports Page

of the things they're saying aren't true. Joe Citizen doesn't know that. He hears some of these things and he reads them and maybe he believes them . . . Harry Edwards painted that picture as black as he could."

The picture was one of discrimination within the U. S. Olympic organization; of segregated housing for Olympic athletes. It was such a nasty picture that Josh Culbreath was shocked.

"I don't feel an individual such as Harry Edwards should speak on behalf of all American Negro athletes," Josh said. "He's looking at this down a one-way street . . . To me, it's a shame so many outstanding athletes get involved. I don't think they've really thought it out. I don't think they realize the harm they're doing. So many kids . . . black kids and white kids . . . try to emulate them."

"I feel you can't knock the Olympic Games. They're too clean. Read the history of the Olympic Games and you find it's a time of peace . . . a time when men lay down their arms. I don't think the American Negro has ever been treated more royally (than in the Olympics). You shake hands with competitors and they don't wait to see whether the hand they're shaking is black or white."

CULBREATH made many friends in the 1956 Olympics and throughout his track career. The friends were all colors and the friendships, in many cases, were lasting. Among his friends are a white hurdler from South Africa, who still sends Josh Christmas cards, and a white miler from North Carolina.

"I saw Jim (Beatty) at an Olympic Committee meeting and nothing had changed," Josh said. "We embraced, we were so glad to see each other. All of us are like that. We get together, we're like a bunch of nuts reliving the past. Parry O'Brien . . . Don Bragg . . . Jim Beatty . . . Al Cantello . . . all of us. I remember in Rome, the night before he ran, Jim was so nervous he couldn't sleep. At one o'clock in the morning he was sitting in one of those open-air cafes. I was sitting there with him . . . for two hours . . . We all felt the same way. Ira Davis and Bill Sharpe and Ira Murchison . . . all of us. We didn't go to the Olympics as Negroes. We went as Americans and we were treated as Americans."

"They talk about segregation, but we weren't barred from selecting roommates. I didn't want to room with Eddie Southern or Glenn Davis (his rivals in the 400-meter hurdles), not because they're white but because I didn't want their problems bugging me before we raced."

"You don't think of any racial problem in the Olympics or in the Pan-American Games. You eat at the same table, live in the same dorms, go to the same parties."

"I don't know how anybody can make some of these doggone statements because they aren't true. I don't see what good can come out of the (Negro) boys closing the door of opportunity on themselves."

"I feel sorry for Harry Edwards and the rest of them. They never took part in the Olympic Games. They don't know what they missed."

Sat. Dec. 16, 1977

Brundage Denies Bias Allegation

LAUSANNE, Switzerland (AP) — Avery Brundage, president of the International Olympic Committee, said yesterday it is "a monstrous lie" to call him anti-Semitic or anti-Negro.

He told an interviewer his long record as a sports official was the best reply to charges made against him by Black Power leaders in the United States.

"My record speaks for itself," he said.

The accusation against Brundage came from Dr. Harry Edwards, a San Jose State College professor and head of a boycott committee. He said Brundage owns and operates a country club in Santa Barbara, where no Negroes or Jews are allowed to use the facilities.

Brundage said he owns the Montecito Country Club, a golf club near Santa Barbara,

Bias Charge Brings Denial By Brundage

Continued from 1st Sports Page

but takes no part in running the club.

"The club is entirely run by the members and I have nothing whatever to do with its operation," he said. "I only go there two or three times a year, and I haven't played golf in 40 years."

He recalled that in the 1920s, when he was president of the Amateur Athletic Union, he once had the American track and field championships removed from New Orleans because the organizers refused to allow Negroes to compete.

Boycotters Urge Avery To Quit

NEW YORK (AP) — Civil rights leaders supporting a proposed Negro boycott of the 1968 Olympic Games demand that Avery Brundage step down as head of the International Olympic Committee.

Dr. Harry Edwards, associate professor of sociology at San Jose State College and organizer of the proposed boycott, called Brundage "a devout anti-Semitic and anti-Negro personality."

Edwards spoke at a news conference yesterday along with Dr. Martin Luther King, head of the Southern Christian

Continued Page 41, Col. 6

Negro Heads Urge Brundage to Quit

Continued from 1st Sports Page

Leadership Conference, and Floyd McKissick, national director of the Congress of Racial Equality, who both endorsed the boycott plan.

In a telephone interview with Brundage in Chicago, the New York Daily News quoted Brundage as terming the discrimination charge a smear and saying, "The Olympics are one event that has always been free from discrimination of any kind."

Brundage said the Negro athletes who have aligned themselves with the boycott are depriving themselves of a "once in a lifetime opportunity" but added "it is, of course, their right" according to the newspaper.

Edwards, who previously had listed five demands to be met before the proposed boycott would be called off, yesterday added a sixth, the demand for Brundage's resignation.

The 25-year-old sociologist said Brundage owns and operates a country club in Santa Barbara, where no Negroes or Jews are allowed to use the facilities.

In his support of the proposed boycott plan, King said the SCLC viewed the boycott as "protest against racism and injustice which is what we're working to eliminate." He added: "No one can look at the six demands and ignore the truth in them."

McKissick said a boycott would remind people that "an athlete is only on the field two or more hours, after which he becomes a black man again subject of the same discrimination other black men must live in."

Also present at the conference was Negro author Louis Lomax who said a "long list" of Negro athletes had agreed to go along with the boycott and predicted it would "cripple" the U.S. effort.

In 1964 at the Tokyo Olympics 22 of the 126 medals won by American athletes went to Negroes.

Edwards first announced the proposed boycott Nov. 23



AVERY BRUNDAGE Urged to resign

in Los Angeles at a Black Youth Conference. Among the Negro athletes present at that meeting were Lew Alcindor, UCLA basketball star, and Tommie Smith and Lee Evans, world-class runners at San Jose State.

Beyond the ouster or resignation of Brundage, the demands Edwards listed were:

—An end to the discrimination against Negroes and Jews at the New York Athletic Club.

—The reinstatement of "Muhammad Ali, alias Cassius Clay" as world heavyweight boxing champion.

—Appointment of a second Negro coach to the U.S. Olympic team.

—Appointment of a Negro to the U.S. Olympic Committee, and

—No competition between the U.S. teams and the "lily-white" teams of South Africa and Southern Rhodesia.

Boycott Idea Not Confined To Olympics

Harry Edwards, a young college professor who is spearheading a campaign to persuade Negro athletes to boycott the 1968 Olympic Games, said Wednesday he has expanded his goals to include a ban on New York Athletic Club events and a demand for reinstatement of Cassius (Muhammad Ali) Clay as heavyweight boxing champion.

Edwards, a Negro and an associate professor of sociology at San Jose State (Calif.) College, said he plans to confer in New York today with Negro civil rights leaders Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Floyd McKissick on expansion of the threatened boycott.

Edwards told a news conference at the Greater Los Angeles Press Club his boycott campaign now includes five steps and the threatened moves would be withdrawn only if "the whole package" is accepted by various persons in authority.

Steps Outlined

He outlined the steps as follows:

—A boycott by Negro athletes of the Olympic Games.

—A boycott of all New York Athletic Club events because, he said, the club has not had a Negro or Jewish athlete on its teams in this century.

—A demand that all-white teams from Southern Rhodesia and South Africa be banned from Olympic competition.

—Reinstatement of Cassius (Muhammad Ali) Clay as heavyweight champion, a position from which he was deposed because of his conviction for draft evasion.

More Negro Coaches

—Desegregation of the United States Olympic Games Committee and assignment of more Negro coaches to the U.S. Olympic teams.

Edwards said about a dozen Negro athletes have joined his boycott campaign.

Olympic Boycott Misses Target

12/13/67

Newark Eve News

By FRANK GETLEIN

Washington

A group of mostly West Coast amateur Negro athletes have stirred up fans and other athletes by announcing that they plan to boycott the coming Olympic Games. Their reasons are two: Vietnam and the general inequality of life in the United States for Americans who happen to be Negro.

The hawks in their hawkcoats have fluttered round the fact that this is un-American and will get nobody nowhere. The Olympics, they point out, are certainly one place where Negroes have always—or if not always, exactly, at least recently—gotten the breaks they deserve. Why torpedo the Games? Who knows? White Americans, introduced to the custom of treating Negro athletes as equals—or even superiors—at the Olympics might well carry the custom over into everyday life and then the whole problem would be solved. It could happen. What about Jesse Owens?

The hawkish horror at the Olympiad boycott need hardly concern us. The time to worry about that is the first time the same patriotic folks show the same patriotic concern about the un-American nature and sales to Negroes. Until and sales to Negroes. Until then there is just the faintest tinge of hypocrisy about their worry over Negro refusal to participate in the Olympics.

But there are other grounds for dissenting from the dissent of the non-participating Negro athletes.

Injustice to Ali

The most important of these grounds is that the Negro non-contending contenders have got the whole thing wrong. There is no connection whatever between Negro participa-

tion or non-participation in sporting events and either the war in Vietnam or the quality of education in Negro school districts. Therefore, any Negro boycott of the Olympics to protest those facts misses its target by more than somewhat.

On the other hand, there is a present case of injustice to a Negro that does relate to the sporting life. This is the notorious swindle being perpetrated against the real heavyweight boxing champion of the world, Mohammed Ali, whose original name was Cassius Clay. Because of Ali's views on the war in Vietnam and because he has become a minister of the Black Muslim faith, a bunch of backroom boxing promoters have ganged up on him to declare he is not the champion and that they will determine who is the champ-

ion by a series of matches in various parts of the country.

Athletes, amateur or professional, have a right to withdraw from participation if they choose. But if they want to withdraw for purposes of protest, then the injustice protested ought to bear some relation to the form of protest. If the Olympic Negro candidates were to boycott the Games on behalf of Mohammed Ali, such a relationship would exist and there just might conceivably be a chance of attaining justice for a great Negro boxer being done dirt by white rascals.

The whole question is one that ought to be reviewed by thinking Negroes, including those engaged in sports. There is a Jewish proverb: "If the rich could hire other people to die for them, the poor could make a wonderful living."

But that is what we all do

in organized, professional sports of violence. We hire the poor to die for us, a little. At this time, the poor out for hire in that line of work are Negro as they used to be slavic, used to be Italian, used to be Irish. The principle endures. The first and the easy way for the poor to escape from poverty is to be physically talented and willing to take the job of dying—a little—for the sake of the rich.

If a man has the money to buy a couple of ringside seats why should he subject himself to being clouted in the nose and pummeled in the guts? Yet the cultivation of taste proceeds at a much slower pace than the acquisition of money; hence many a man with the price of the pasteboards still feels the urge to clout and to pummel. He therefore pays others

to do it for him. In the surrogate called college football, he and his fellows have demeaned the whole structure of higher learning for the sake of vicarious visceral voltage. In the surrogate called boxing, he and his fellows have raised a whole profession, largely recruited from the poor, for the same purpose.

But if one class enters into a tacit contract with another, the employing class ought to stand by the terms of the contract. These imply that as long as a boxer can beat any opponent who comes along, he is champion, with all due payments and perquisites.

In boxing, the white sporting types have finked out on Mohammed Ali. The Negro amateurs—tomorrow's supply to meet the constant need of people to die for us—therefore have every reason to boycott the Olympic Games.

Evans object of hate

By GARY TOBIN

SAN FRANCISCO—"Go back to Africa" was the heading on the three-inch long rectangular piece of paper.

Lee Evans had just taken it out of his pocket to show the knot of reporters standing about him.

"I've gotten a lot of these in the last few weeks," he said. "I don't even know how many letters Tommie and I have received that say 'Hey Nigger' or 'Blackie go home.'"

Evans is a 20 year-old junior at San Jose State and Tommie is Tommie Smith, a 22-year-old June graduate of the same school. They are the world's two best middle distance sprinters. Between them, they hold or share a dozen world track records.

But right now Evans and

Smith are topics of discussion because of proposed Negro boycott of the 1968 summer Olympics.

Evans reiterated his intention to carry through with the boycott Monday at a press conference. "However, if certain of our demands, ones which I feel are reasonable, are met then I will compete," Evans said.

"I would say for myself, and I think Tommie and most others would agree, that if a Negro was added to the U.S. Olympic committee and athletes from South Africa and Southern Rhodesia were barred from competition in the U.S. (American Negroes are not allowed to compete in those countries) then I (we) would compete in the Olympics," he said.

"I tried to say that in Los Angeles after the boycott work-

shop, but no one would listen. All they wanted to do was to get us to say we would boycott.

"I don't believe I was ever under so much pressure in my life," Evans said. "The situation isn't much better now. This 'Back to Africa' card is nothing. I've gotten so much hate mail . . . you can't believe."

The particular piece he was talking about was a crude representation of a one-way ticket to Africa put out by the American Nazi Party. Evans also said he had received caricatures of a Negro sleeping with an ape and pictures of monkeys with his name on them.

"Mainly, they seem to be coming from Los Angeles, Beverly Hills and a place called Hacienda Highlands. Some people even sign them," Evans said.

Evans said he had cooled

down since the November boycott meeting in L.A. At that meeting, an undetermined number of Negro athletes voted to boycott the 1968 Olympics if certain of their demands were not met. San Jose State professor Harry Edwards is the coordinator of the movement.

"I think most of us will compete if our demands are met. But I can't really speak for everyone," he said. "I know one athlete who'd make the team with no problem but will not compete no matter what. He

*Palo Alto Times
Sports*

mail campaign

made up his mind when he was 11 not to ever compete for the U.S.

"You see that's what people don't understand," he said. "We're not really an organization; we're athletes who are concerned about the way our people are being treated.

"You say if I win a gold medal then I'll be treated better than if I boycott, but what about the millions of Negroes who are not athletes. Will they be treated any better if I compete? That's what I'm concerned about."

Evans said he realized some of the boycott demands would not be met. "For example, I doubt whether we can succeed in getting Muhammed Ali (deposed heavyweight boxing champion) reinstated. But I'm not really sure that's a concern

of amateur athletes — its a matter for the professional athletes."

"I really believe, however, that our main proposals will be met," he said.

Evans said the recent development in regards to Avery Brundage (president of the International Olympic Committee) might change the entire situation. "When he said that Negroes could be replaced on the Olympic teams with little trouble, I couldn't believe it. I think that statement developed a lot of sympathy for us."

Among the supporters of the boycott are such disparate political figures as Nelson Rockefeller, Republican governor of New York, and Robert Kennedy, Democratic senator from New York. "Bobby phoned us in Los Angeles and said he sympa-

thized with us and I read Rockefeller said he agreed with us in principle," Evans said.

Evans also said reports that neither he nor Smith were in training were false. "I ran 56.0 for 500 yards two week ago. That's the fastest I've ever run. And Tommie is in Australia now running a series of races.

Evans and Smith intend to continue their training regardless of the boycott situation. Both are entered in the All-American indoor meet Jan. 5 in the Cow Palace.

"You don't know how much I want to run in Mexico City and Tommie feels the same way," Evans said. "But I can not run if we don't see at least some action on our demands. One thing is for sure, if the majority votes to boycott then I will not run."

Lee Evans *SF Chronicle* Lists Aims *12/19/67* Of Boycott

By Darrell Wilson

San Jose State's Lee Evans, who attended a press luncheon yesterday to publicize the All-America track meet January 5 at the Cow Palace, naturally was asked about the proposed Negro boycott of the Olympic Games.

Evans, twice National 400-meter champion, said, "I hope to run, I want to run, but I can't say whether I will."

The 20-year-old junior, who naturally realizes that he must qualify for the Games before the issue will arise, indicated that all the published demands would not have to be met before the boycott could be lifted.

He said, for instance, that reinstatement of Muhammad Ali was beyond the power of the AAU. The three things he mentioned as "reasonable demands" were: Another Negro, preferably Ralph Boston, on the 27-man Olympic Committee (there are three Negroes on the committee at present); assurance that South African athletes will no longer be invited to compete in this country and a change in the "discriminatory policy" of the New York Athletic Club.

As we see it, the movement — whether logical or not — is an attempt by privileged Negroes, world-famous athletes, to help the unprivileged.

The boycott's objective is to call attention to the fact that great Negro athletes are honored, while rank-and-file Negroes are refused living quarters.

AAU officials admit the injustice of this double standard, but believe the boycott will hurt, not help the cause. They argue that Negro athletes can better serve these aims by winning international athletic honors.

Meanwhile, the All-America track meet should be a smasher.

The 60-yard field, for instance, includes many of the world's best: Charlie Greene, Jim Hines, Billy Gaines, Mel Pender, and possibly Tommie Smith.

Smith, now running for the Santa Clara Youth Village, is scheduled to go in the 440 against Evans and other great ones. Smith was chased to two world's records, 44.5 in the 400 meters and 44.8 in the 440, by Evans last summer.

DAILY NEWS, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1967

Negro Ban Will Flop: Alcindor

By Larry Fox *12/24/67*

Los Angeles, Dec. 20 — Lew Alcindor, who says he's "very far away" from making his own decision on whether to participate in the proposed Negro boycott of the 1968 Olympic Games, today predicted that the maneuver would be a flop.

"I don't think anything will develop about the boycott. It will be pretty much forgotten by the time the games come around," Alcindor said in an interview before UCLA's basketball practice in the national champions' sparkling Pauley Pavilion.

ALCINDOR, THE 7-1½ All-America from New York, has been prominently mentioned as a participant in the Thanksgiving Day meeting here that called for a boycott of the Olympic Games in Mexico City next October by Negro athletes as a civil rights protest. The meeting was run by Dr. Harry Edwards, a sociology professor from San Jose State.

"A lot of people think this was my boycott, but I just attended the meeting," Alcindor pointed out. "I haven't taken a stand as yet on the boycott, but a lot of people seem to have taken a stand for me. Any decision I make is very far away."

Alcindor said backers of the boycott are disappointed at the poor response from Negro athletes. They apparently expected a tidal wave of support. Instead, they've received only a trickle of backing even after Edwards held the second press conference in New York recently in which he called for the ouster of International Olympic chairman Avery Brundage.

"IT (THE BOYCOTT) didn't come off as well as they thought because they didn't get the support of as many athletes as they expected," Alcindor admitted.

Alcindor said he had received many letters because of the prominent mention of his attendance at the meeting. "Some reaction was favorable, but I got a lot of bad letters too," he said. "Some people told me to leave the country and others said I should go back to picking cotton."

2 A Times Negroes Enter *Jan 9, 1968 P* New York AC Indoor Meet

NEW YORK (AP)—Despite a call to Negro athletes to boycott the New York Athletic Club's annual indoor track meet, "Negro athletes too numerous to mention" have entered the competition here Feb. 16, the meet director said Monday.

The leaders of a movement to have Negroes boycott the Olympic Games as a protest against American racial policies have also asked Negroes to shun the games of the athletic club, which they charged discriminates against Negroes.

Ray Lumpp, the meet director, admitted that entries had not been received from world record holding sprinters Tommie Smith of the Santa Clara Valley Youth Village and Lee Evans of San Jose State, who have been among those saying they might participate in the boycott movement.

Among those Negroes who have entered the meet, Lumpp said, are long jumpers Ralph Boston, the world record holder; Jerry Proctor, Bob Beamon and Charlie Mays.

Carlos Changed; Says He's Tired Of 'Hate Letters'

Special to The New York Times

VILLANOVA, Pa., May 18—The moustache and goatee were gone, the voice was unusually soft and the conversation concerned a wife and 3-year-old girl.

"I'm getting tired of the hate letters," John Carlos said today. "It's kind of disgusting for my wife. She shouldn't have to read them to me over the phone. And I've got a wife and daughter to consider now."

Carlos, the San Jose State sprinter, voted the outstanding athlete of the first Martin Luther King International Freedom Games, is not leaving the Black Movement.

"But I'll be more discreet," he said. "I'm thinking about young black kids and the kids like my daughter. I want to help them."

Carlos in conversation and Carlos in front of 13,122 fans were different persons. He still waved to the crowd, jogged in front of the stands and took the boing and cheering with the same defiant smile he had shown during his days on the streets of Harlem.

But those who remember Carlos for his black-power demonstration on the Olympic victory stand in Mexico must now consider what he called his "new image" as a member of the rapidly growing corps of black athletes who have turned to Robert (Pappy) Gault for guidance.

Gault is physical education director of the Seafarers International Union School of Seamanship in Piney Point, Md. Carlos, Bob Beamon, Ronnie Ray Smith and several other leading black athletes will work as counselors, compete for the school's amateur track team and preach individuality but a commitment to purpose.

"I'll still stick by my guns," Carlos said. "Look at Dr. Martin Luther King. He was fighting for the same thing. Well, I'm still going for the same thing. Let's just say I'm changing tactics."

For some athletes, today's meet was their farewell to track.

Ralph Boston changed from his track uniform to a blazer and slacks and assumed his role as a television commentator after ending a successful long-jump career with a fourth-place effort of 24 feet 9 inches.

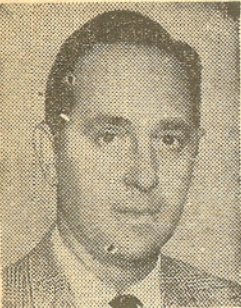
Tommie Smith, Carlos's partner on the victory stand in Mexico, was 15 pounds overweight at 195 and finished third in the 200. He also hinted that "this could be my last meet." Smith was drafted by the Los Angeles Rams pro football team.

12-22-67 N.Y. Pos

WORKING PRESS

Cazzie Discusses The Boycott

LEONARD LEWIN



SEATTLE.

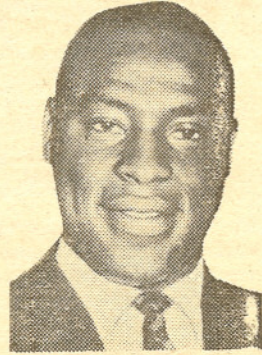
This was on the plane that carried the Knicks here from Los Angeles. One of the dressing room visitors at the Laker game had been Lew Alcindor, and the presence of the seven-foot UCLA basketball star brought to mind the Negro movement to boycott the Olympics.

Cazzie Russell, the fun-loving basketball player but serious-minded citizen, was chatting about the situation that has split the Negro community. "Let's look at the pros and cons of this thing," he suggested. "Let's leave me out of this, so we can be objective. I have no side because I'm on the positive side and the negative side."

Cazzie qualifies as an expert because he was in the basketball trials and appreciates the status of the Olympics. He also is a Negro, so he can understand the sociological and humanitarian drives that are involved. "I don't want people to think that because I haven't said anything about this," he explained, "that I haven't thought about it."

The question that has arisen out of the boycott movement started by Dr. Harry Edwards of San Diego State seems to be whether the right strategy is being used.

"It is obvious," Cazzie pointed out, "that the people who believe they can help things by boycotting the Olympics are interested in the impact. They feel the United States is putting on a big front—that it is the land of the free and the home of the brave, yet a man cannot participate in the New York A. C., for example, because he is a Negro or a Jew. They feel that it seems to be fine for the Negro to fight in Vietnam but when he comes home, he faces all the contradictions. He can't get certain jobs, he can't go into certain restaurants, and because his skin is different, it's astonishing if he's seen with Caucasian girls."



RUSSELL

The boycott Negroes, according to Caz, feel the U. S. is covering up all these things. "Since the reason for the Olympics is to communicate human relationships between people," he said, "they (the pros) feel a boycott will dramatize their position. If you come from Afganastan, for example, I (an American) am trying to impress you that my counrty has its best foot forward. But we contradict ourselves when we even sing that we are the land of the free and the home of the brave."

The Dr. Edwards cult seems to feel that boycotting the Olympics will get direct action and affect a change. "The idea," Caz said, "is to embarrass the United States in the eyes of the world. If there are no Negroes in the Olympics, people will start asking questions and the United States will have to explain why."

That brought up the question as to whether the means justifies the end. "That brings us to the cons in this situation," Cazzie said. "Dr. Edwards, Dr. Martin Luther King and the others who are for the boycott had their say and now the other side must offset it. Now Jesse Owens and Rafer Johnson say it's going to hurt the Negro if he doesn't participate. They are not saying Negroes do not have serious problems in the United States that need to be corrected, but they seem to be questioning the method."

The problem the antis have convincing the pros is an obvious one, Caz feels. "Owens and Johnson will be considered affluent people who have either outgrown the problems of the ordinary Negro or never really suffered like many of them," he said. He cited himself as an example.

"I was brought up in a pretty good neighborhood," he explained. "We didn't have any rats in our house, but I saw them running around in the lots and know what they look like. I also had a good education and make good money as a basketball player. So, if I told someone who had nothing what I think should be done, he would want to know what I know about suffering. But I am still a Negro and I can't change my skin, like they can't change theirs."

Cazzie has had his problems with people and public places, and appreciates how much more difficult it is for those who don't have a name to open locked doors. "Still," he pointed out, "I think people might understand more what it is all about if you were a son and you could not take your mother and father to a place to eat."

That is a symbol of the Negro degradation in its simplest form. "I think," Caz said, "Johnson and other Negroes who are aware of the Negroes' problems do not think an Olympic boycott is the answer if it creates other problems. If it didn't create better relationships between Negro and white, that would be another problem."

Caz feels the antis have considered that the manner of dissent, and the expression thereof, has become a vital issue in the society. "They (the antis) no doubt feel that those who want to boycott the Olympics do not believe the belligerent approach will solve things," he said. "They (the pros) don't want to hurt anybody and feel that a boycott is better than walking up and hitting a committeeman in the eye. But they say, 'we have asked, we have begged and now we are going o do something else,' so they go to the boycott and believe that will take care of it."

This brought up another point. "The shame of it is that the Negro has to fight for his freedom at all," Caz said.

Cazzie shook his head. "Violence or belligerence is not the answer and I don't care what it accomplishes," he offered. "What do you gain if you cut out a cancer, but still kill the patient?" That is why he feels Johnson, Owens and his own teammate, Willis Reed, have taken sides against those who sincerely believe an Olympic boycott will cure the cancer.

CARLOS 5/3 SX

BY JOE SARGIS

SAN JOSE, CALIF. (UPI)--CONTROVERSIAL OLYMPIAN JOHN CARLOS RAN THE FASTEST 100 YARDS IN HISTORY SATURDAY, CLOCKING A FANTASTIC NINE SECONDS FLAT, BUT THE EFFORT WON'T EVER BE RECORDED AS A WORLD MARK BECAUSE HE HAD AN EXCESSIVE AIDING WIND BEHIND HIS BACK.

EVEN SO, NO ONE EVER HAS RUN 100 YARDS THAT FAST.

CO-WORLD RECORD HOLDER BOB HAYES ONCE RAN A 9.1 CENTURY WITH AN AIDING WIND. HE HOLDS THE WORLD MARK WITH THE SAME CLOCKING ALONG WITH THREE OTHERS.

CARLOS, WHO INCURRED THE WRATH OF MANY AMERICANS FOR RAISING A CLENCHED FIST DURING VICTORY CEREMONIES OF THE 200 METER DASH IN LAST YEAR'S OLYMPICS, PREDICTED EARLIER THIS WEEK THAT HE WOULD ONE DAY CLOCK 8.8 OR 8.9 FOR THE 100.

"I THINK THIS WAS MY DAY, WITH OR WITHOUT THE WIND," SAID CARLOS AFTER HIS BRILLIANT SPRINT IN THE SAN JOSE STATE INVITATIONAL TRACK AND FIELD MEET.

HE BOLTED OUT OF THE BLOCKS AHEAD OF A CRACK FIELD AND LED ALL THE WAY, WINNING EASILY OVER RONNIE RAY SMITH, BILLY GAINES AND FELLOW OLYMPIAN CHARLIE GREENE. ALL THREE WERE CLOCKED IN 9.3.

THE WIND WAS MEASURED AT 15.6 MILES PER HOUR, WELL OVER THE ALLOWABLE 4.4.

SAN JOSE STATE TRACK AND FIELD COACH BUD WINTER CALLED IT ONE OF THE GREATEST PERFORMANCES IN TRACK HISTORY.

"THE WAY CARLOS JUMPED OUT OF THE BLOCKS, I WAS SURE HE WAS ON HIS WAY TO A WORLD RECORD PERFORMANCE," SAID WINTER. "AT BEST, I DON'T THINK THE WIND HELPED HIM BY MORE THAN A TENTH OF A SECOND."

CARLOS CAME BACK A HALF HOUR LATER TO BEAT SAN JOSE STATE TEAMMATE LEE EVANS IN THE 220-YARD DASH. THIS TIME CARLOS WAS CLOCKED IN 20.5, WELL OVER THE WORLD RECORD, WITH EVANS SECOND IN 20.7.

THERE WERE A NUMBER OF OTHER FINE PERFORMANCES WITH MARION ANDERSON OF SAN JOSE STATE WINNING THE LONG JUMP WITH A LEAP OF 26-5 1/2; SAM CARUTHERS, ALSO OF SAN JOSE STATE, BEATING OLYMPIAN CHRIS PAPANICOLAOU IN THE POLE VAULT WITH A LEAP OF 16-6, AND JEOFF VANDERSTOCK, ANOTHER OLYMPIAN AND FORMER WORLD RECORD HOLDER, TAKING THE 440 YARD INTERMEDIATE HURDLES IN 52.4.

Carlos Triumphs a

SPRINTER NAMED MEET'S TOP STAR

Carlos Is Changed; Says He's Tired Of 'Hate Letters'

He Clocks 20.3 Seconds—
Davenport Wins Hurdles
—Seagren Vaults 17-7

By NEIL AMDUR

Special to The New York Times

VILLANOVA, Pa., May 18—The "new" John Carlos—clean-shaven and soft-spoken—showed the same old speed today while beating the finest field ever assembled for a 200-meter race in the first Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. International Freedom Games at Villanova Stadium.

Breaking alertly from the starting blocks, taking the turn without the loss of momentum and overpowering his five challengers, the 23-year-old Carlos was clocked in 20.3 seconds. He won by two meters (about 6½ feet).

Running in Carlos's long shadow were Lee Evans, the Olympic gold medalist at 400 meters, who finished second today; Tommie Smith, the Olympic 200 champion; Ronnie Ray Smith, another Olympian; Bill Hurd of Notre Dame; and Peter Norman, the 200 silver medalist from Australia.

Carlos's triumph, his second-place finish behind Charlie Green in the 100-meter dash and his superb anchor leg for yard relay team, earned him San Jose State's victorious 440-the meet's outstanding athlete award.



United Press International
John Carlos

Special to The New York Times

VILLANOVA, Pa., May 18—The moustache and goatee were gone, the voice unusually soft and the conversation concerned a wife and 3-year-old girl.

"I'm getting tired of the hate letters," John Carlos said today. "It's kind of disgusting for my wife. She shouldn't have to read them to me over the phone. And I've got a wife and daughter to consider now."

Carlos, voted the outstanding athlete of the first Martin Luther King International Freedom Games, is not leaving the Black Movement.

A capacity crowd of 13,122 watched the 21-event track and field program, while millions were viewed the competition on national television at the opening part of a spring and summer weekend package from the Columbia Broadcasting System.

Emotion Grips Olympians

What they witnessed were some excellent performances, on a relatively slow cinder track, by Olympians who seemed caught up emotionally in the Southern Christian Leadership Conference's charity presentation. Proceeds from the meet will be used for S.C.L.C. charities.

Willie Davenport scored his 22d straight victory in the high hurdles in the fastest time of the season, Dave Romansky set an American record in the mile walk and Al Oerter won the discus with a toss of 201 feet, then talked of the "bug that would really have to bite" for him to train and try for a fifth gold medal at Munich in 1972.

Herb Germann sneaked through on the inside in the stretch and edged Frank Murphy by two yards in the 800-meter run, a day after Murphy posted the fastest mile of the season, 4:00.5.

Long after the television cameras had shut down and most of the crowd had gone, Bob Seagren ventured into track and field's version of outdoor space by making three fine, but futile, attempts at 18 feet in the pole vault.

Seagren, the world record holder at 17 feet 9 inches, cleared 17-7, the best since the Olympics. A small, but loyal band of followers, yelled, "Pull, Pull," in an effort to aid his first attempt at 18, but Seagren dislodged the crossbar on his descent.

He hit the bar during his ascent on the second jump. On the third jump he showed the strain of five hours of competition, as he failed to attain any lift after planting his pole.

Hurdler Feels No Pain

Not even a bloodied left hand could keep Davenport from catching Leon Coleman and preserving the most impressive winning streak in the sport. Spiked in the hand as he swung his arm out to drive over a hurdle, Davenport beat Coleman by inches in 13.3 seconds, easily the fastest performance of the year and only one-tenth of a second off the world record.

Greene beat Carlos in a

"But I'll be more discreet," he said. "I'm thinking about young black kids and the kids like my daughter. I want to help them."

Carlos in conversation and Carlos in front of 13,122 fans were two different people. He still waved to the crowd, jogged in front of the stands and took the boing and cheering with the same defiant smile he had shown since his days on the streets of Harlem.

But those who remember Carlos for his black-power demonstration on the Olympic victory stand in Mexico must now consider his new arena as a member of the rapidly growing corps of black athletes who have turned to Robert (Pappy) Gault for guidance.

Gault is physical education director of the Seafarers International Union School of Seamanship in Piney Point, Md. Carlos, Bob Beamon, Ronnie Ray Smith and several other leading black athletes will work as counselors, compete for the school's amateur track team and preach individuality but a commitment to purpose.

"I'll still stick by my guns," Carlos said. "Look at Dr. Martin Luther King. He was fighting for the same thing. Well, I'm still going for the same thing. Let's just say I'm changing tactics."

thrilling 100 by "psyching myself up before the race" and bolting out of the blocks quickly.

Evans entered the 200 after having run three quarter-mile and two 220-yard races on the West Coast yesterday. Smith, who was third, looked more like a 195-pound flankerback as he ran his first 200 since Mexico City.

"This could be my last meet," the former San Jose State sprinter said. "For me to run 19.7 or 19.6, I'd have to lose weight and train."

Smith said he was 15 pounds overweight and was considering a pro football career. He was drafted by the Los Angeles Rams.

Greenberg Falls at Junior Net

WESTBURY, L.I., May 18—Tony Michelman of New York upset top-seeded Richard Greenberg of Rockville Centre, L.I., 6-1, 6-3, today in the quarter-finals of the junior boys' division of the North Shore hard-court tennis championships. In the Boys'-under-16 division, Michael Oppenheim of Great Neck, L.I., defeated Howard Nelson of Roslyn, L.I., 1-6, 6-3, 6-4, to gain the semi-finals.

Summaries of Dr. King Meet

THE SUMMARIES

FIELD EVENTS

Discus Throw—1, Al Oerter, New York A.C., 201 feet; 2, Dick Drescher, Maryland, 183-4; 3, Ken Dietz, Pennsylvania, 177-11; 4, Ernie Soudek, Ann Arbor, T.C., 167-3; 5, Charles Washington, Philadelphia Pioneer Club, 158-8.
Long Jump—1, Norm Tate, Grand Street Boys, 25-3/4; 2, Charley Mays, Grand Street Boys, 25-1; 3, Bob Beamon, unattached, Piney Point, Md., 24-11/2; 4, Ralph Boston, unattached, Knoxville, Tenn., 24-9; 5, Marion Anderson, San Jose State, 24-1.
High Jump—1, Frank Costello, Sports International T.C., 6-10; 2, Ron Jourdan, Florida, 6-10; 3, Mike Bowers, Ann Arbor T.C., 6-8; 4, tie among Lonnie Dalton, West Chester, Lew Hoyt, Quantico Marines, and Mike Neer, Washington and Lee, 6-6.
Pole Vault—1, Bob Seagren, Southern California, 17-7; 2, Bob Sprung, Tennessee, 16-6; 3, John Pennel, Southern California Striders, 16-0; 4, Pete Kowzun, unattached, Washington, 15-6; 5, Peter Chen, Sports International T.C., 15-6.

TRACK EVENTS

5,000-Meter Run—1, Jack Bachelier, Florida T.C., 13 minutes 57.4 seconds; 2, Kerry Pearce, Texas-El Paso, 14:23.2; 3, Bill Clark, Quantico Marines, 14:25; 4, Tom Donnelly, Villanova, 14:27.6; 5, Dick Buerkle, Villanova, 15:02.8.
100-Meter Dash—1, Charles Greene, U.S. Army, 0:10.1; 2, John Carlos, San Jose State, 0:10.1; 3, Ronnie Ray Smith, San Jose State, 0:10.2; 4, Bill Gaines, unattached, San Jose, Calif., 0:10.4; 5, Lionel Urgan, North Carolina College, 0:10.4.
400-Meter Run—1, Larry James, Villanova, 0:45.9; 2, Jim Burnett, Philadelphia Pioneer Club, 0:46.1; 3, Jim Kemp, U.S. Army, 0:46.5; 4, Tom Randolph, Western Michigan, 0:47; 5, Lamott Hyman, Villanova, 0:47.4.
110-Meter High Hurdles—1, Willie Davenport, Houston Striders, 0:13.3; 2, Leon Coleman, Southern California Striders, 0:13.4; 3, Erv Hall, Villanova, 0:13.5; 4, Larry Cheatram, Maryland State, 0:14.1; 5, Dick Weaver, PMC, 0:14.5.
Triple Jump—1, Kim Pierson, Furman, 49-2; 2, Norm Tate, Grand Street Boys, 48-10; 3, Jeff Gabel, Tennessee, 48-4 1/2; 4, Bryant Saller, Pittsburgh, 47-9 1/4; 5, Mike Harvey Virginia, 44-4.
800-Meter Run—1, Herb Germann, New York A.C., 1:48.4; 2, Frank Murphy, Villanova, 1:49; 3, Brian Kivlan, Manhattan, 1:49.2;

4, Peter Farrell, New York A.C., 1:49.5; 5, Rick Wick, Baltimore O.C., 1:50.6.
200-Meter Dash—1, John Carlos, San Jose State, 0:20.3; 2, Lee Evans, San Jose State, 0:20.5; 3, Tommie Smith, unattached, San Jose, Calif., 0:20.5; 4, Ronnie Ray Smith, San Jose State, 0:20.9; 5, Bill Hurd, 0:21.
1,500-Meter Run—1, Martin Liquori, Villanova, 3:44.3; 2, Chris Mason, Villanova, 3:44.7; 3, Art Dulong, Holy Cross, 3:45.4; 4, San Blair, Kent T.C., 3:47.1; 5, Nathaniel Parthian, Israel, 3:58.7.
440-Yard Relay—1, San Jose State (Sam Davis, Kirk Clayton, Ronnie Ray Smith, John Carlos) 0:40.3; 2, North Carolina College, 0:40.7; 3, New York Pioneer Club, 0:42.3; 4, Grand Street Boys, 0:42.5.
One-Mile Walk—1, Dave Romansky, unattached, Pennsville, N.J., 6:26.1 (American record; previous record, 6:29.6, by F. P. Murray, 1883); 2, Gred Diebold, Shore A.C., 6:56.8; 3, Bob Kitchen, Springfield, 7:14.2; 4, Ron Daniel, New York A.C., 7:43.7.
One-Mile Relay—1, Villanova (Harold Davis 0:47.7; Andy O'Reilly 0:49.1; Lamott Hyman 0:46.8; Larry James 0:46.5) 3:10.3; 2, Grand Street Boys, 3:11.7; 3, Philadelphia Pioneer Club, 3:11.8; 4, Sports International T.C., 3:13.3; 5, New York Pioneer Club, 3:20.9.
Over-40 One-Mile Run—1, Richard Packard, Boston A.A., 4:43.6; 2, Jim Harshorne, Finger Lakes Club, 4:47.9; 3, Paul Thurston, Finger Lakes Club, 4:53; 4, Luther Burnett, Philadelphia A.C., 4:55.6; 5, Dick Snedeker, unattached, 4:56.1.

WOMEN'S EVENTS

100-Meter Dash—1, Iris Davis, Tennessee State, 0:11.5; 2, Debbie Brown, Frederick T. & F. C., 0:12; 3, Ann Coleman, Philadelphia Hawks T.C., 0:12; 4, Carmen Smith, Atoms T.C., 0:12.1; 5, Kathy Jones, Mayor Daley Youth Foundation, 0:12.2.
200-Meter Dash—1, Esther Stroy, Sports International, 0:24.1; 2, Matteline Render, Tennessee State, 0:24.4; 3, Terry Hull, Knoxville T.C., 0:24.5; 4, Michelle McMifan, Atoms T.C., 0:24.6; 5, Ann Coleman, Philadelphia Hawks T.C., 0:24.7.
800-Meter Run—1, Madeline Manning, Tennessee State, 2:08.3; 2, Marilyn Bastian, New York P.A.L., 2:14.1; 3, Dieder Moors, Atoms T.C., 2:16.8; 4, Gail Jefferson, Ambler T.C., 2:18.3; 5, Debra Simmons, Atoms T.C., 2:20.6.
440-Yard Relay—1, Tennessee State (Martha Watson, Matteline Render, Iris Davis, Una Morris), 0:47.1; 2, Atoms T.C., 0:47.5; 3, Mayor Daley Y. F., 0:48.3; 4, Sports International T.C., 0:48.7; 5, Ambler O. C., 0:48.8.



The Way It Was

PAUL ZIMMERMAN

The stories followed Peter Norman over two continents. They were waiting for him in Australia when he came home from the Olympics.

It should have been a grand homecoming for Norman, who will run the sprints Sunday in the Martin Luther King games in Philadelphia. He'd won a silver medal in the 200 meters behind Tommie Smith and his time of 20-flat was the second-fastest in history.

But there had been that victory stand business. Norman was the third man on the stand when Smith and John Carlos raised the black gloves. He didn't take part in any of the demonstrating, but he did wear the green Olympic Project for Human Rights button ("I felt that what they were working for was right, although I'm not sure I approved of their methods"). And when he got home, he discovered that the local press had labeled him everything from a Black Muslim to a campus radical.

* * *

"Everyone tried to make a big thing about it," he said. "I had to play it down. They got a lot of 'no comments' from me until the real story had a chance to get out. I got some of the news clippings and found out that they had me as some kind of leader of the Black Muslims—just because I wore that button on the stand and had been friendly to John and Tommie, both of whom I like personally.

"The newspapermen there had taken two or three words off a wire story and written a whole article about it.

"One story in a Melbourne paper was worse than the others. One inaccuracy followed another. The writer said I was a Salvation Army officer. I'm not. I'm a school teacher. He said I was 27. I'm 26.

"He said I was in ideal position in the race—between Smith and Carlos. Actually, I was in lane six, Carlos in three, Smith in four and Larry Questad in five. He went on to say that I led from the start and any fool could see that Carlos exploded away from the field in the first 30 yards.

"He described what happened on the victory stand just as way out as he described what had happened in the race. He said I raised my fist in the black power salute, which, of course, I never did. He must have seen it all through a barroom window. It was very irresponsible reporting.

"I had a few words with him, personally. He said, 'I only call them as I see them.' I suggested that next time he might not be able to see anything for a few days."

* * *

The misunderstandings eventually were cleared up, the storm died down and Australia now accepts Norman for what he is—a world-class sprinter with an Olympic silver medal and a set of values and opinions that are decidedly his own. They weren't easily come by.

"I grew up in Melbourne," he said. "I wasn't one of those posh kids, but we weren't poor. I didn't have an especially rough background. I just made it rough for myself.

"I was thrown out of school, mostly for non-attendance. The record showed one week's attendance out of three months. What would I do when I cut school? Go to libraries and museums—anything that didn't cost money.

"I got into my fair share of fights, but it wasn't a gang type of thing. Just me alone."

For a while, he worked as a butcher, but then he sat down and surveyed the whole situation. Did he really want to spend the rest of his days among the loin chops and legs of mutton? No, he decidedly did not. So he went back to school, got his degree and found out he could run fast—faster than anyone in Australia, faster than anyone in the world, except Tommie Smith.

* * *

At the Olympic press interview, he tried to explain his position.

"Some people mentioned that we didn't shake hands on the stand," he said. "We agreed not to beforehand. We shook hands after the race and then we decided it would be more dignified if we didn't shake hands on the platform. Smith and Carlos asked me if I'd wear the human rights button. I said I would. I thought the overall long-range goal was right and I was willing to support it.

"The only problem was that no one had an extra button. So Carlos went over to the stands and asked someone for his. Ordered him, actually. He said 'Give it here,' and it was given.

"The next day, I wandered over to the American dorm in the Olympic Village. I wanted to speak to them, but all hell was breaking loose and I didn't have a chance.

"It will be interesting to talk to Carlos in Philadelphia, just to find out what's happened since then."

People have tried to attach ideological significance to the fact that Norman's arrival coincides with the Martin Luther King meet, but he's here as a runner and so far that's the extent of it.

"All I know is that I was booked for an American tour," he said. "They told me I'd run in Modesto and Berkeley. Then the plane got to California and I found out I was ticketed all the way to Philadelphia. When I landed there, I was told about this meet. That's the first I heard of it.

"I'm pleased it's turned out this way."



NORMAN

CARLOS AND SMITH IN 100-METER DASH

Seagren, Davenport, Evans, Oerter and Beamon Among Stars at Villanova

Special to The New York Times

VILLANOVA, Pa., May 17—The emphasis will be on speed tomorrow afternoon when some of the world's finest sprinters gather for the first Dr. Martin Luther King International Freedom Games at Villanova University.

The meet will be the first in a series of spring and summer track programs to be televised by the Columbia Broadcasting Company. Tomorrow's telecast on Channel 2 in New York is scheduled for 4:30-5:30 P.M.

The C. B. S. package with the Amateur Athletic Union will include the top meets in the United States this year and several from Europe. The track series will replace the network's soccer telecasts.

Tomorrow's meet is under the sponsorship of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, the foundation to which the late Dr. King devoted a good deal of his energy and talent.

Top athletes will compete in the 21-event program, which will begin at 2 P.M. with the discus throw and pole vault.

Two gold-medal champions, Al Oerter and Bob Seagren, are slated in the discus throw and pole vault, respectively. Another Olympic titleholder from Mexico City, Bob Beamon, will compete in the long jump with his two United States teammates, Ralph Boston, and Charlie Mays.

Boston, a former champion and world record-holder, has announced that tomorrow's meet will be his last as a competitor. He will join the broadcast team for the remainder of the TV series.

The spotlight for this meet will fall on the men's 100, 200 and 400-meter races, the 110-meter high hurdles and the relays.

The field for the 100 includes Olympians John Carlos, Ronnie Ray Smith, Charlie Greene and Peter Norman of Australia. Carlos, who is competing for San Jose State University, already has tied the world record in the 100-yard dash with a 9.1-second clocking and has a wind-aided 9.0 earlier this spring. Since the race tomorrow will be in meters, the international measure, Carlos will chase the 9.9 world standard.

Carlos also will run his specialty, the 200 meters, against Olympic champion, teammate and friend, Tommie Smith, and Norman, who won a silver medal at Mexico. Carlos was third in the Olympics.

The 400 will renew the rivalry of Lee Evans of San Jose State and Larry James of Villanova. Evans beat James by one-tenth of a second for the gold medal last year. James scored his first victory over his West Coast rival in the National Collegiate indoor quarter-mile this year.

Vince Matthews, a member of the gold-medal 1,600-meter relay team, Jim Burnett and Jim Kemp make the 400 the finest since the Olympics.

The hurdles promises excitement as Willie Davenport, the seemingly unbeatable Olympic champion, faces Erv Hall, a silver medalist, Leon Coleman and Richmond Flowers.

The final event of the program, the mile relay, could produce the most fireworks. The field includes the top two college teams, Villanova and Tennessee, and the two top club quartets, the Sports International Track Club of Washington and the Philadelphia Pioneers.

- THE ENTRIES**
- Discus Throw—Al Oerter, Ken Dietz, Rick Drescher, William Neville, Ernie Soudek, Charles Wilson.
 - Pole Vault—Bob Seagren, Chris Papanicolaou, Peter Chen, Bob Sprung, Jim Williamson, Nick Homer, Jerry Klyob, Mark Edman, Tom Blair, John Pennel.
 - High Jump—Ron Jourdan, Karl Kremser, Frank Costello, Lonnie Dalton, Lou Hoyt, Mike Bowers, Fred Maslione.
 - Long Jump—Norman Tate, Bob Beamon, Ralph Boston, Charlie Mays, Tom Chilton, Elliott Garrett, Cliff Mayfield, Marion Anderson.
 - Triple Jump—Tate, Jeff Gabel, Mays, Mike Harvey, Ray Jenkins, Anderson, Brian Salter.
 - One-Mile Walk—Dave Romansky, Ron Daniel, Terry Anderson, Steve Hayden, Howard Jacobson, Ron Kulick, John Kniffon, Bob Kilchen, Gerry Wellworth, Bob Mimmi.
 - Women's 40-Yard Relay—Tennessee State, Daley Youth Foundation, Atoms Track Club (Brooklyn), Ambler Olympic Club, New York Police Athletic League, Philadelphia Hawks, Central Jersey Track Club.
 - Men's 440-Yard Relay—San Jose State, Sports International Track Club, New York Pioneer Club, North Carolina College, Philadelphia Pioneer Club, Villanova, Johnson C. Smith.
 - Women's 800-Meter Run—Cheryl Toussaint, Madeline Manning, Marilyn Baslian, Madeline Jane Hill, Shelly Marshall, Debbie Simmons, Debbie Vernon.
 - 5,000-Meter Run—Bill Reilly, Bill Clark, Tom Donnelly, Dick Buerkle, Art DuLona, Barry Brown, Jack Bacheiler, Kerry Pearce.
 - 110-Meter High Hurdles—Willie Davenport, Leon Coleman, Erv Hall, Richmond Flowers, Ron Draper, Robert Green, Russ Rogers.
 - Women's 100-Meter Dash—Shirley Lenyoun, Carmen Smith, Debbie Brown, Ann Coleman, Willye White, Orion Brown, Iris Davis.
 - 100-Meter Dash—Ronnie Ray Smith, Charlie Greene, Bill Hurd, Ron Monseque, William Richie, John Carlos, Bill Gaines.
 - 400-Meter Run—Jim Burnett, Jim Kemp, Larry James, Andy Bell, Lee Evans.
 - 800-Meter Run—Brian Kivlan, Rick Wick, Benedict Cayenne, Herb Germann, Craig Nation, Joe Savage, Frank Murphy.
 - Women's 200-Meter Dash—Esther Stroy, Mammie Rallins, Terry Hull, Ann Coleman, Matilene Render, Una Morris.
 - 200-Meter Dash—Ed Roberts, Ronnie Ray Smith, Bill Hurd, Emmette Taylor, Peter Norman, John Carlos, Tommie Smith.
 - 1,500-Meter Run—Marty Liqouri, Phil Tobin, Sam Blair, Chris Mason.
 - One-Mile Relay—Villanova, Philadelphia Pioneer Club, Sports International Club, Ann Arbor Track Club, Grand Street Boys, Tennessee.

The Militant's Other Self

Ron Fimrite

THE SPORTING PUBLIC, I strongly suspect, looks upon San Jose sprinter John Carlos as brooding militant.

The image of Carlos, black-gloved fist raised in protest, on the victory stand at the Olympic Games persists. Actually, I'm not one of those who regards this as a particularly bad image. Carlos might be faulted for his taste but certainly not for his courage. And heaven knows, he and teammate Lee Evans didn't exactly introduce political controversy into the Olympics. It's always been there in one form or another.

But the Carlos I saw at the Lake Tahoe training site last summer was hardly a brooding militant. He was, in fact, an ebullient and entertaining youth who seemed to be on good terms with both his black and his white teammates.

The Carlos of that period had much of the clown in him — and this is not intended as a slight, for he was a good clown, and that's a gift.

★ ★ ★

I DO NOT suggest that I know Carlos intimately. We could pass each other on the street without so much as a nod of recognition. But I am suggesting there is more to this young man than is immediately apparent.

Those of us who watched him cavort at Tahoe, ribbing teammates, mocking himself, strutting like a tall peacock, were frankly surprised by the Mexico City demonstration. Surprised and perhaps gratified by the emergence of Carlos' sober side.

But what he must know now, and what he might not have known then, is that the public will not easily forget what he did. Presumably, he doesn't want them to. But he'll be an angry young man in the minds of the sports fans for a long time. An image is a hard thing to shake. It is also self-perpetuating, for one tends to do what is expected of one, even if it does not come naturally.

Even a good image can be troublesome. Those who read Emmett Hughes' examination of Dwight Eisenhower must have been mildly astonished to discover the late President actually had a temper. Likeable Ike had been with us too long. How refreshing to discover a weakness.

★ ★ ★

MEL HEIMER'S account of the Dempsey-Tunney fights, "The Long Count," shows in its own modest way that Dempsey was hardly the scowling sadist the public preferred to see. In fact, he was a humorous man and a sensitive one, a much more engaging personality than Tunney, who comes across as a supercilious square.

So Ike had a temper and Dempsey a sense of humor. Who would ever have thought it?

But how an image will cling. I suspect many people spend much of their lives trying to run out from under their images. Few comedians will play the clown off-stage; they want to be taken seriously.

All of this came somehow to mind as I sat looking at a photograph of Carlos running his fantastic nine-second 100-yard dash. He's an impressive figure, tall and powerfully muscled, more of a running back than a flanker, a home-run hitter, not a lead-off man.

★ ★ ★

BUT THERE'S something else about him: he's smiling. It's not exactly a grin, mind you, but it's there. Maybe you'd smile too if you could run that fast. But the Carlos smile in that picture doesn't look to be a one-shot thing; he actually looks like a happy man.

The trouble with being a public figure is that it's hard to be yourself. There's that nagging obligation to be what people want you to be. But Willie Mays doesn't laugh all the time, and Carlos doesn't spend every waking hour muttering imprecations against the white power structure.

With the success and the fame that yet await him, I suspect John Carlos will emerge as a three-dimensional human being, not simply as a symbol of protest.

We should all be so lucky.

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Underdog, Upperdog

LARRY MERCHANT



Among life's little complexities is the problem of the dedicated underdog who suddenly finds himself in danger of becoming the upperdog. It can be a very unsettling thing. It can explode his head. Consider John Carlos.

John Carlos, the sprinter, the Olympic protestor—that John Carlos—is a natural born underdog. He is black and he is aware and he is involved and he is impatient. Also he is a natural born upperdog. He can run like hell.

Bud Winter, the track coach at San Jose State, suggests that the natural born underdog and the natural born upperdog in John Carlos are having one terrific fight with each other. The upperdog seems to be winning right now, but you never know whether he will start feeling guilty and give in to the underdog.

"John Carlos," said Bud Winter, "is one of the strangest people ever put on the planet. He is potentially the world's greatest sprinter of all times. The only drawback he has to immortality as a runner, the only thing that can stop him from breaking world's records is that he likes the role of underdog. We call it the will to fail."

"He wants to be behind in the relay races. He wants to have the sympathy of being the underdog. I wonder what's going to happen when he sets that record in the 100? Once he gets it he isn't the underdog any more."

What Bud Winter was talking about was dramatized vividly in Mexico City. Running in the 200 meters, Carlos eased up, looking over his shoulder, as Tommie Smith went for the tape just ahead of him, and someone else burst past Carlos to take the silver. Then of course Smith and Carlos raised their fists in protest on the victory stand, leading to their expulsion from the Olympic team.

Losing the race that way, and then becoming a victim of official overkill, was a double triumph for the underdog. Earlier Carlos had set a world record in the Olympic trials only to have it dismissed because of some silly ruling about illegal footwear. Another triumph.

But the upperdog in him seems to have taken over since then. A couple of weeks ago he predicted that he would run an 8.9 100 in a meet. Nobody has ever doubted that he could talk an 8.9 100, but 9 flat hadn't been done yet.



CARLOS

"It's very likely that he'll run an 8.9," said Bud Winter, "but it was slightly ambitious of him. No one in history since Adam, since time began, ever ran a 9 flat. But I liked him thinking that way."

Carlos ran a 9 flat, but it was wind-aided. And he threw his hands up in the air and coasted the last few strides. The underdog holding him back.

Last week Carlos hit 9.1 to tie the record. Winter said he ran a perfect race from start to finish for the first time in his life. He talked a faster race though. He said they ought to get some younger, and presumably faster, timers.

"We know he's in great shape—he's hot," said Winter. "And when he makes up his mind he can do just about anything. He called the record in the (Olympic) trials. I had to holler at him to get his mind on the race. He said, 'Don't worry about me; just get the judges ready.'"

Winter has coached track for 25 years. He has had a lot of super sprinters: Ray Norton and Tommie Smith to name two. Just a while ago Smith was celebrated as the ultimate speedball from 200 to 400 meters. Carlos is on the verge of becoming the new ultimate.

"He has great inherent talent that has blossomed, and now that he has broken the sound barrier of international recognition in the 100," said Winter, "there's no telling how far he can go. Smith never had John's early speed. John has won indoor at 60 yards. He can break every sprint record there is."

"But it's going to take the right kind of motivation. You don't know where he's going from one moment to the next. He's like a powerful force that's ready to be unleashed, but you don't know if it's going to blow. He's the utmost challenge for me. If I can press the right buttons it will be a happy achievement."

Carlos came off the starting blocks in Harlem, tried junior college in Texas, finally ran all the way to California. He's 23, but he's only a sophomore. He still makes speeches up and down the coast for black causes. He's still militant but according to Winter he's looking for a new direction to funnel his energy within the movement.

Despite his anger and intensity, despite the emotional, if plaintive outbursts that make headlines, there are obviously solid sides to John Carlos. Winter doesn't baby sprinters and he says Carlos is one of the hardest workers he has ever had. There is also a streak of inspired showmanship in him. "He could be the most colorful character in track," Winter said.

This weekend Carlos will run in a big coast relay meet and then jet to Philadelphia for the Freedom Games in honor of Martin Luther King. It may be the time for the upperdog to put the underdog down for good.



Asks Olympic Probe

San Jose (Calif.) State College faculty member Harry Edwards, who tried to organize a Negro boycott of the U.S. Olympic team, demanded Thursday in Washington that the U.S. Olympic Committee be investigated for "misuse of

funds." From left, H. Rap Brown, Black Power leader; John Carlos, one of two U.S. athletes banished from the Mexico City Olympic Games because of a Black Power demonstration; Edwards, and Stokely Carmichael, another Black Power leader. (AP wirephoto.)

'A Socio-Psychological Evaluation of Athletics'

By Robert Lipsyte 1/10/70
New York Times

PLANTING HIS red track shoes on the classroom floor, a teaching assistant at the University of California in Berkeley tugged the peak of his baseball cap, rolled his shoulders under a gym shirt, blew a whistle and barked: "This is education 191-D. There are two rumors about this course. One, it's a mick. Two, it's a trap for athletes. I'm supposed to be a radical guy, and halfway through I'm going to pile on the requirements and make everyone ineligible."

Several hundred students smiled warily, shifted in their chairs, and exchanged glances.

Among them was a senior football captain seeking to clarify his athletic motivations, some of his varsity teammates who thought the 3-point course would be a "Mickey Mouse" breather, several varsity dropouts hoping to reinforce their moral justification for quitting, a number of girls suspected of "chasing jocks," young student assistant coaches, and scores of undergraduates lured by the prospect of uncharted inquiry implicit in the course's title: "Intercollegiate athletics and education: A socio-psychological evaluation."

★ ★ ★
THE TEACHING ASSISTANT with the whistle, Jack Scott, is a Ph.D. candidate in higher education. He conceived the course under the aegis of Dr. John G. Hurst, an educational psychologist on the teaching staff here.

Both men are former college runners and they share the assumption that intercollegiate athletics is an intrinsically worthy activity that should be made consistent with some sort of educational philosophy and placed under the same control and guidelines as the academic departments. Much of the college coaching establishment considers this subversive.

But so much of varsity athletics is directed toward the production of winning teams in which the individual just becomes a manipulative object, an X or an O, instead of a human being."

★ ★ ★
THE COURSE, a single-quarter experiment, will consist of nine two-hour lectures by such guest speakers as Harry Edwards, the black leader of the Olympic boycott, and Dr. Paul Brechler, Cal's athletic director, and nine one and one-half hour discussion sections led by Scott.

There will be a final examination and the required readings include Edward's "The Revolt of the Black Athlete," Jack Olsen's "The Black Athlete: A Shameful Story," Scott's "Athletics for Athletes," and Alan Sillitoe's "The Loneliness of the Long Distance Runner."

Each student will be required to produce a term project, and Jim Calkins, tight end and co-captain of last season's varsity, has already opted to stage a panel discussion on football.

Calkins, a computer science major, was recruited by Cal after two years of junior college football, which is common in this state. He describes himself as an eager, obedient athlete at first who only later began to question the values of the system that puts so much emphasis on authoritarian discipline, brutality and winning.

★ ★ ★
BUT UNLIKE two teammates, Scott Bowman and Bob Nichols, Calkins stayed on the team, perhaps, he admitted today, to prove something to himself. He did not fully enjoy himself.

"After I quit," said Nichols, a rangy blond former defensive end, "it was like a terrible pressure



Prof. Harry Edwards' "Revolt of the Black Athlete" is required reading.

was lifted off my head. I felt free to be a person, to move toward humanistic expression.

Like Nichols, Bowman grew a beard and let his hair grow after quitting. "People at home began to look at me differently," said Bowman, a big lineman. "I had been a football hero and now I guess they had to either reject me or rethink their values."

Football, all three agreed, was a "manhood thing" and "an ego trip," but all felt a certain sense of loss at the end of their careers. If they had come to question or reject the main activity of much of their lives, it was not so much the game as the coaches that had finally turned them off.

"I wish," said Nichols, "football had been more of a game and less of a life style."

★ ★ ★
SCOTT SAID, "It's not the system so much as the misuse of the system by coaches that has to be changed." The 27 year old instructor, during a break in the first day's registration, said, "When I walked in and blew that whistle, the class looked startled. A teacher blowing a whistle in class, that's incredible.

"Yet 300 yards from here, men who are also supposed to be teachers act and dress like this all the time, curse their students and impose arbitrary rules about hair, clothes, social life, and no one thinks twice about it.

"I hope this course makes people think twice, then do something to make the university approach to athletics more wholistic instead of a fetish for performance statistics, and stop those coaches who are distorting one of the most creative and exciting activities of college life."

by Jon Hendershott

Up welled the strains of the "Star-Spangled Banner" from the brass band which played the national anthems of all winners in track and field at Mexico City's 1968 Olympics. It was Oct. 16 and the three medalists in the men's 200-meters turned to face the flags being run up on the flagpoles, the red-white-and-blue banner of the US in the center and to the right for the victory of Tommie Smith and the third place of John Car-



Three principals in the Mexico drama (l-r), US Olympic head coach Payton Jordan, Stan Wright and sprinter John Carlos, view 1968 Olympic action. /Don Wilkinson/

Carlos action shocked Wright deeply. "Being caught unaware like that was sort of a result from a meeting the black athletes had which I attended in Denver before going to Mexico. They met for over eight hours but couldn't make up their minds on what to do. So they decided to do their own thing and the Smith-Carlos gesture on an individual basis came out of that. The gestures by Bob Beamon and Ralph Boston were arrived at the same

Mexico Olympic Boycott Reverb: Black Coach Stan Wright Reacted

los and the predominantly blue Australian flag on the left for Peter Norman's runner-up finish.

But this was unlike any other victory ceremony in athletic history. Smith and Carlos, black scarves and beads around their necks, white and green buttons of the Harry Edwards-led Olympic Project for Human Rights pinned to their sweat-tops and black socks on their shoeless feet, bowed their heads and defiantly thrust black-gloved, clenched fists to the American flag. (Norman, who is white, also wore an OPHR button and later publicly supported Smith and Carlos in their demonstration--his statements drawing severe censure from Australian officials.)

So there it was. All summer the threats of a boycott by US black athletes as a protest over the discrimination, oppression and inequality of their race in the US had raged. This act by two stand-out black American sprinters was the culmination of all the talk, threats and possibilities of an actual walk-out.

And it was the beginning of probably the most trying four days in the near 25-year-coaching career of Stan Wright, the man who helped put Smith and Carlos on that victory stand. Stan Wright was an assistant Olympic coach responsible for the sprints and relays.

Above everything else, though, Stan Wright was black.

Wright admits that in the nearly four years since the events of that summer and fall--years in which his status as an administrator as well as a coach have been affirmed through his service as AAU track committee chairman and a member of the USOC board of governors--he has reflected often. He also admits his feelings on a boycott of past, immediately upcoming and future Olympics are still the same now as then. He wouldn't be for it.

"Even if I hadn't been one of the coaches, my attitude would still have been that an individual has the right to make up his own mind," explains the 50-year-old Sacramento State coach, who guided many a sprint great during a previous 17-year tenure at Texas Southern.

"Certainly I agreed with some of the things Harry Edwards was saying, especially that many black athletes were exploited and discriminated against by colleges. One thing he didn't point out, though, was that many more white athletes have been exploited simply because there are more white athletes. Moreover, after 17-years at Texas Southern, I believe black colleges exploit black athletes just as much as white schools. Nonetheless, Harry had some strong social messages.

"But I believe you don't get people to change or make up their mind by intimidating or harrasing or putting pressure on them. I also felt the black athletes in track and field who were deeply involved and concerned were intelligent enough and had the emotional stability to make up their own minds. On this premise, I took a stand against the boycott."

He admits, however, he never thought there would be a wholesale boycott by US athletes. "Certainly I regarded it as a serious threat but I never thought it would come off because I knew the athletes and I knew that if they were given the prerogative to make up their own minds, some would boycott and some wouldn't. Therefore, it wouldn't be a total success unless everyone did."

How would he face the prospect of a boycott of next year's Munich Games? "My reaction would change from 1968," he feels. "Instead of taking what you might call 'evasive action'--not meeting the boycotters head-on--I would confront them in debate and discussion to air grievances and propose possible alternatives. I don't believe in violence at all; violence solves nothing. So I mean confrontation in meetings and discussions. If after that we were still at such an impasse that there could be no resolution, it would have to be that way and I would say each individual would have to make up his own mind. The only thing I would try to do would be to explain the political implications in such action so that the athlete would understand the possible ramifications. But I would never tell anyone to do this or that. They are men, not babies--admittedly young men--but if they want to raise a clenched fist or raise hell or whatever and they are willing to take the consequences, that is their business."

It is an understatement to merely say the events of Oct. 16, 1968, and the repercussions in the days following, affected Wright deeply. The profound effect was magnified by the fact that the three main athlete leaders of the OPHR--Smith, Carlos and 400-meter champion Lee Evans--were coached by Wright. Of the 14 athletes he coached in the 100-, 200- and 400-meters, high hurdles and both relays, all but 200 sprinter Larry Questad were black. As the lone black coach on the US staff, he could be expected to relate better to the black team members than could the white coaches. Yet the Smith-

and rolled his pant-legs to reveal them, while Boston mounted the stand with bare feet--both symbolic of black poverty according to Tommie Smith's explanation of the symbolism in the socks. "Jim Hines wore gold shoes for the 100-meters ceremony," Wright points out, "and someone later asked him why and he said, 'Because I won the gold medal'. All of them had made up their own minds.

"There was no solidification of what would happen. The attitude seemed to be 'Why should we all agree just because we are black?' They couldn't and they didn't. This demonstrated to me the strength of the individuals; they weren't puppets or sheep or blindly following the leader. They just did their own thing individually.

"And many people probably think this was just a black problem but the entire track contingent became embroiled in it. There were many white athletes who came to me and asked, 'Stan, what should we do?' I knew they had strong feelings about what was happening but I told them 'Do the job you came here for, that's what the hell you should do. We'll talk about everything else later'."

Tommie Smith "did a job" in the 200 final, zipping to a world record 19.8 after suffering a near-disastrous muscle cramp in the semi-finals. "After Tommie got up off the training table to win the 200, I was so elated I just felt very proud because I never thought he would come back for the finals," remembers Wright. "When I went down to congratulate them, I sensed something was wrong. They went down to the press interview area and that was the last I saw of them until they mounted the podium for their medals.

"My first reaction was one of shock. I went into (downtown) Mexico City for a while because I was so shocked and upset, but after thinking on it, I knew there would be serious repercussions and I went back to the Village after an hour. There was pressure on (head coach) Payton Jordan and one of the managers to give Smith and Carlos the word they had been disqualified from the team and to leave the village. Payton and I discussed it very strongly and I told him frankly I didn't think it was his job to tell them. If anybody was going to disqualify them, let the guys who made the decisions come down to the village and make the announcement--in other words, don't pass the buck.

"My next reaction was concern for the athletes and the team. But this was the time, as far as I was concerned, the maturity of the US track athletes really shone brightest. Despite all the turmoil and controversy, all the guys I was responsible for agreed after we talked that they were going to compete."

In his 14 charges, Wright guided the winners of the 100, 200, 400, highs and both relays, the 200, 400 and relays setting world records and the 100 matching the global mark. As well, US sprinters swept the 400, won the silver medal in the highs and bronzes in the two short dashes. In fact, 12 of the 14 collected a medal and all finished whatever they ran in the first six. "When the word got around that Lee was going to run and the sprint relay would run, everyone realized what we were there for despite the controversy.

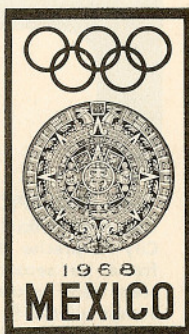
"The thing that disturbed me during the demonstration wasn't the clenched fist but that two American athletes bowed their heads when the national anthem was played. Now I don't consider myself a 'super-patriot'. I may not even be a good patriot but I feel when the national anthem is played, this country belongs to me as much as any other American. Even though I'm well aware of the social, political and economic injustices related to minorities--especially blacks--I'm not about to turn away from the flag.

"As far as the clenched fist was concerned, I thought many people didn't get the message. I honestly believe it was not a political gesture but a social gesture. The clenched fist was related to the varied social injustices experienced by the black man throughout the world.

"I also thought the officials over-reacted and blew the incident out of proportion. The Mexicans took it as a personal affront, and so the organizing committee demanded the athletes be expelled from the village and dismissed from the US squad or the entire US team would be disqualified from further competition. I sympathized with the USOC then, because what could they do? There were some 400 other athletes in over 20 sports still competing and they shouldn't be sent home for something just two did. Naturally this intensified feelings for the athletes."

That the incident occurred when it did underscored the rapidly awakening and growing social and political awareness of youth and young blacks in particular. "This is why I say that some of those responsible for this new awareness used these two because these people had no way to dramatically state their case themselves. They made a political fact out of a social fact. I still feel the clenched fist meant the world needs to look at the social injustices done in this country. I didn't think the incident had political significance at the time it happened but was given that significance later.

"The same was true with things like the black socks and the black berets. The black berets in particular had nothing to do with politics. They started in Tahoe after the 1600-meter relay team was selected and those four



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guys bought those tams as a sign of togetherness and had no political significance at all. They said, 'This means we're together. Our objective is to break that world's record'. Only the three guys in the 400 and then the relay team wore those hats and they had no political significance."

At the time of the events of that pivotal summer of 1968--demonstrations at the Los Angeles Semi-Final Olympic Trials following up demonstrations and a boycott of the NYAC indoor meet in New York during the winter, Edwards' increasing prominence and vehemence in promising action--Wright was 46-years-old but the difference in age between the youthful activists and himself didn't mean he didn't understand what they were talking about. Even though he had achieved success as a teacher and coach within a white-imposed structure of society, he well knew about discrimination and deprivation.

"Some people said I wasn't aware of the many problems black people faced," Wright says. "Harry Edwards says it in his book (The Revolt of the Black Athlete). He said I was a 'white man's nigger'. Being of an older black generation didn't mean I wasn't aware. Just because I have a nice home, a nice car, and have been fortunate enough to have four children who are well-educated doesn't mean I don't know what's happening.

"All I've got to say about being aware is, I've swatted cockroaches, I've smelled rats, I've seen the flies--just like Harry Edwards. I lived in the ghettos in New York. Hell, I lived so close to the dump when I was a kid, we were nicknamed 'dump rats'. And being of a different generation didn't mean I wasn't aware or couldn't appreciate what many young blacks were going through.

"It's true I never demonstrated on the street or sat-in to get a better job. But my 17 years at Texas Southern were no picnic. We were run out of Mississippi. We were run out of Louisiana. We stopped in Shreveport one

Being the only black member of the Olympic coaching and managerial staff, Wright was urged to act as an intermediary between the black athletes and the US Olympic Committee. He flatly refused. "I didn't think it was my responsibility. My job was to be a coach and a leader of my athletes. Right after the demonstration, I went into session with my athletes and we talked about it. They were all black except for Larry Questad who was a relay alternate. They all decided they would participate and this satisfied me.

"The pressures to act as an intermediary didn't come from the staff but from outside--but it wasn't my responsibility as a coach or as a man to make appeals for the USOC. Some USOC officials irritated me during the next couple of days which involved the 400-meter final races. We coaches had the habit of walking to the track with the people we were responsible for so I walked down with Ron Freeman, Larry James and Lee. We shook hands and hugged each other and wished each other good luck. While we were there, Douglas Roby, who was the elected president of the USOC at the time, and some others came up and said they wanted to make sure none of the athletes misbehaved on the podium and this irritated me. The athletes were getting ready to run such an important race but these officials were trying to get involved. It was too damn late then. If they had come to Tahoe or gotten involved earlier, that was the time. And it irritated me because we had already agreed there would be no more demonstrations. We had agreed, not just because we were black, but as athletes-to-coach and athlete-to-athlete.

"All I told them was, 'I want one-two-three. I don't give a damn what else you have on your mind. After we get one-two-three, we'll face it and talk about it. For now, you know what you have to do on the podium'. They finished one-two-three and wore the black berets on the stand but took them off for the national anthem. I was very proud of them. Certainly it was hard

On Being a Black Coach

Sitting in the study of Stan Wright's modern, hacienda-style home in Sacramento, Calif., it becomes immediately clear you are in the domain of a successful track coach. The walls are adorned literally from floor to ceiling with trophies, plaques and awards gained in his nearly quarter-century of coaching. There is a plaque from Japan, a silver chalice from West Germany, a shield-shaped award from the USSR, a silver bowl from the 1966 Los Angeles international meet when he was US head coach and his 1600-meter relay team broke the world record with 2:59.6. There are photos of the athletes he coached to Olympic championships in 1968.

That Wright is black has not seemed to be a major factor in his coaching achievements: his successes on the collegiate, national, international and Olympic levels transcend color.

And that's how Wright would like it. "Any person should be judged on his ability and for what he is, not on his hair, color, religion or politics," believes the 1968 Olympic assistant coach and AAU track committee chairman. But, he also feels, many track coaches today feel antipathy toward some athletes for those very reasons.

"If I was to be critical of my colleagues in track coaching today," Wright says, "I would say we--and I mean 'we', not 'they'--have too many hang-ups related to the visual image and personality of athletes, the peripheral things we can see instead of the things related to an athlete as an individual human being. Consequently, many times these attitudes carry over to international teams because college coaches are often international coaches. I wouldn't expel an athlete from my team because he had hair down to his waist. I wouldn't want it to interfere with his running, but if he ran up to his capabilities I would accept the fact he was a runner with long hair.

"Further, if my athletes were motivated to demonstrate for a political cause, the only thing I would tell them would be that if demonstrating was more important than track, then go ahead and demonstrate and don't show up for practice. We have a rule, though, that if any athlete misses more than two days practice a week with no excuse, he doesn't run that weekend."

Wright's philosophy has not changed through 17 years at predominantly black Texas Southern, three more at virtually all-white Western Illinois and the past two at more racially mixed Sacramento State.

"When an athlete walks through my office door, he's an athlete," Wright reiterates. "This is what I was taught because I was lucky enough to have fine men as my school coaches. They were all white but they all judged you on what you could do, not on your color. It was based on merit and not that I was black. My high school basketball coach stepped on the floor in an all-country tournament in New Jersey and stopped the game because somebody called me a nigger. He took the team off the floor. This demonstrated to me he had some feelings for me as a person and that this man was a man.

Wright feels the increased political and social awareness of today's youth, especially black youth, poses no special problems in relating to athletes as individuals. "The main thing an older person has to do is establish mutual respect. An athlete must be taken for what he is, for the talent and ability he has and nothing else--whether he's black, white or green."

However, Wright feels that for this very reason, the black coach in the US today has to work extra hard to overcome the stereotypes he is often placed in. "The black coach has to tackle the problem of being recognized for what he can do and must overcome the myth that he might be less knowledgeable on event techniques and other aspects of coaching than a white coach.

"As well, he has to overcome what amounts to exploitation, being hired so some athletic department can say they have their token black coach. He's hired because the department feels pressure to have a black coach, not because of his experience, abilities and qualifications.

"Probably most difficult of all, though, is that a black coach has to overcome the fact he is black. He shouldn't apologize for being black, but he still often has to overcome problems related to dignity and respect. He has to establish himself as a person and then reestablish himself as a coach. I had to do it at Western Illinois. We were one of four black families in the whole town and I was worried about doing well. But one morning I woke up and said, 'Damn, Stan, just do what you've always done'. I did and there were no problems.

"I've always wanted to be judged on what I could do not on the color of my skin. I wouldn't want to be given anything, like an Olympic assistant coaching job or AAU track chairman, because I was black or so that the organization could say they had their one black coach. They wouldn't have me for long; I would get the hell out and resign. But all the evidence, as far as I'm concerned affirms such honors have been made on merit." /Jon Hendershott/

night with the team including Homer Jones, Charlie Frazier and Major Adams to get some hamburgers. I went in the front door of the place because I don't believe in going to the back door. The guy said go out the back and I said hell no, so he finally agreed to serve us while we waited outside. While we waited somebody called the police.

"I'm saying all this to point out that just because of the different generations and different ages between me and the black athletes I was responsible for was no reason to assume I wasn't aware of the discrimination and more. Harry's reasoning that I was a 'devoted nigger' is ridiculous. It wasn't as though I have been sitting on my fanny for over 20 years and didn't know what's going on. Being black, I couldn't help but be aware.

"Still, I wasn't surprised to be called a tool of the whites. My life was threatened more than once. Ralph Boston and I were told if we showed up at the LA Trials we would be shot, Ralph because he was going to compete regardless. My son-in-law, high jumper John Hartfield, was threatened. Jim Hines was told his legs would be cut off and that he would be shot.

"All this scared me, but it also made me mad and gave me a stronger resolve to try to do what I thought was right. I don't want to sound like a braggart or like I'm out to win a popularity contest but I was just dedicated to my responsibilities. I was elected an assistant coach by the USOC and by my peers and I wasn't about to let them down and say, 'It's too hot, I'm gettin' outta the kitchen'. I wasn't about to get outta the kitchen. I had a commitment I was bound to fulfill even if it meant getting shot at. I didn't want to die, hell no, but I was dedicated to my commitment as an Olympic coach.

"After everything, the thing that satisfied me most was the standing ovation I received from the black athletes at Track & Field News' banquet in Mexico. I knew what that meant."

for Evans, who was really into the boycott thing, but this was one of my proudest moments. This was an example of athletes, black, white or any other color, who had the compassion, reason, logic and maturity to think for themselves and I appreciated that."

One responsibility Wright took upon himself was to deal with the insistent newsmen in Mexico. "Whether the press knew it or not, they were only adding to the pressure the athletes were under already," he says.

"Press people would ask the athletes over and over, 'What are you going to do, are you going to demonstrate, what are you going to wear, what gestures will you make?' This irritated me because the athletes weren't there to be harassed by the press. I still feel very deeply that the press in Mexico City was very unkind to our athletes, black and white, as far as this harassment was concerned."

Wright's allegiance to and respect for the athletes he coaches never waned even though the two main actors in the Mexico drama were from his group. "My respect was based on their ability, on them being men about what they were doing and what we wanted to achieve. I didn't lose respect for Carlos and Smith for what they did. I disagreed with the method they chose but I didn't lose respect for them as men. I still respect them as men because it took a hell of a lot of guts to do as they did and to live with the repercussions."

Wright makes it plain that, for him, living with the repercussions was made bearable because of his athletes. "There was a lot of fear and apprehension and I think the only way I made it through was because of the athletes I worked with. Just my association with them, my feelings for them, our feelings for one another, the disagreements, the good times and bad times in the three months we were together, got me through. If it hadn't been for them, I don't know if I would have made it." □



(AP Wirephoto)

Stand at ease

U.S. runners Wayne Collett (978) and Vince Matthews, with hand on chin stand at ease on the victory stand Thursday at the Olympic Stadium. (See story above)



SALUTE—Dour expressions face Wayne Collett as he gives black power salute on leaving the Olympic Stadium in Munich Thursday. Collett was the silver medal winner in the 400-meter run.—AP Wirephoto.

EDITORIALS

A poorly timed passive protest

After proving themselves the best 400-meter men at the Olympics, Brooklyn social worker Vincent Matthews and UCLA graduate Wayne Collett staged a studied show of inattention on the victory stand while *The Star Spangled Banner* was played.

Striking back, the International Olympic Committee barred them from the 1600-meter relay, in which the U.S. team had been heavily favored to win gold medals. The IOC based its action on a rule saying that participants "must respect Olympic conditions," meaning they must go along with the standard ceremonies. Also, the IOC severely scolded the U.S. Olympic Committee.

All this promises to generate continuing controversy. We have a few remarks to make about it.

First, Matthews and Collett didn't make the meaning of their victory-stand behavior clear. What they said afterward made it even murkier.

Matthews repeatedly denied having meant any disrespect to flag or country. Collett, playing second fiddle in the interviews because Matthews had won on the track, came closer to verbalizing their apparent cause. He spoke of not being able to go along with the words of the National Anthem—"the land of the free and the home of the brave," we suppose, as the rest is pretty much a poetic battle account. He said white America's attitude toward the black man is that "He's okay as long as he doesn't do anything embarrassing."

Their passive protest (in contrast to the unmistakable black power salutes of Tommie Smith and John Carlos at Mexico City) seemed meant to show they were no Uncle Toms who would bow to hypocritical conventions.

If that was their aim, their choice of time and place was miserable. It was another use of the Olympics as a stage for political action—and the disre-

putation of their moment of glory, the runners rejected the roles they'd won as heroes of all America. Instead they took the narrower part of a fed-up portion of black America. Whether it was worth it only Matthews and Collett can judge. But they'd have had a more favorable hearing for their views if they'd stood still for the ceremonies and sounded off later.

To sum, up we respect these men as tremendous athletes, and cannot deny the justice of their implication that the United States hasn't done right by its black citizens. But we think their symbolic targets and their timing were poorly chosen, and their explanation was muddled. They bucked the Olympic system just when its leadership craved support and couldn't tolerate any show of disaffected opinion.

Arms casually akimbo, Wayne Collett and Vince Matthews fidget and chat on the victors' stand, even as *The Star-Spangled Banner* salutes their silver and gold finish in the 400 meters. The unmannerly incident set off a critical tempest. The International Olympic Committee called it a "disgusting display" and, without a hearing, banned the two U.S. college graduates for life. Matthews and Collett claimed unconvincingly that they weren't protesting, merely "going about their business" during the anthem. "Which is what whites do," said Collett, "go about their business without thinking of blacks."

