



# Sports Roundup

By MARK QUEEN

(One of our favorite sports scribes, Sid Ziff of the Los Angeles TIMES, sits in as guest columnist this week. We tip our Hell-dorado sombrero to good, old Sid, a real big-league guy who has given Las Vegas and Negro athletes a lot of favorable publicity down through the years.)

Jim Gilliam, the Dodgers' Negro coach, has been working in the first base box since the season started without attracting the least bit of attention. He's the first Negro on the coaching line in Dodger history and only the second in the National League.

But nobody noticed the color of his skin. They just saw the color of his uniform, proving that Negroes can



Jim Gilliam

wear an umpire's blue just as easily.

What's holding up the appointment of the first Negro umpire in the majors? Commissioner Ford Frick vaguely says they haven't found the right man yet. Hasn't anyone ever told him about Emmett Ashford?

Gilliam has gone about his business in coaching just as any other coach. He has yet to be booed. It's going to happen, of course, but not because of the color of skin.

"I don't care if they boo me," says Jim. "They pay their money, that gives them the right. It didn't bother me as a player, and

it isn't going to bother me now. As long as they don't call me obscene names. I won't take that from anybody."

Nor should he, or anyone else. The idiots who use that kind of language, fortunately, are few in number. They usually get roused out of the park.

## Gilliam Finds He Has Plenty to Do

Gilliam finds coaching at first base to be engrossing.

"You just don't stand around there," he pointed out. "I try to pick up some move by the pitcher that will help us to steal a base. I'm responsible that the base runner gets the signal. It's my fault if he overlooks it. I have to let the batter know on a hit to leftfield whether he can go for an extra base, because he can't see the ball himself. There are all sorts of things to keep you on your toes."

Because the Dodgers are a running team it's also up to the coaches to be more daring than usual. They have to be quick to take a chance.

Gilliam has filled the bill very well. He always was a smart player. He's had the benefit of experience all over the field except at shortstop. And why not there?

"They never needed me at shortstop," says Gilliam. "They have had a good one ever since I've been with the team. First it was Pee Wee Reese, then Don Zimmer. *Maurice* Wills, and occasionally Dick Tracewski."

## Shoe Shows His Class Again

It's too bad the sound went out on Bill Shoemaker when he was about to talk about the Kentucky Derby after winning the race. He managed to get in a few words later. Enough to register that Shoe is a mass of class. If you ask Bill Hartack a stupid question, he'll insult you. Shoe will never do that. He will seriously attempt to save face for the person who asked it.

From time to time we've picked on Shoe for little things, but this guy is a real champ. He's a wonderful person. I have never heard him rap anyone.

Horsemen say he gave Lucky Debonair just about a perfect ride. He quickly recognized the pace was slow and so went out and made it himself, even if he wasn't actually in the lead until the stretch.

Shoe has been blamed for muffing the Derby three times. Well, now he's balanced the scale. It was his third classic ride. He outrode Bill Boland when he won on

## It Was a Long Day for Pete



OUCH! THAT HURT!--Tight-lipped Pete Brown, tortured by severe muscular spasms in his back, grimaces in pain as he drives down first fairway of Desert Inn Country Club course in opening round of recent Tournament of Champions. Brown, first Negro to ever qualify for exclusive, 13-year-old local event, was forced to withdraw after first round 78. One-time polio victim is now under treatment in Los Angeles, hopes to return to PGA tour in couple of weeks.

Tomy Lee and outfoxed Eddie Arcaro when he won on Swaps.

Incidentally, Lucky Debonair's final quarter in the Derby was faster than either his third or fourth quarter, which is unusual since each quarter usually is progressively slower.

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