

Saints' Team Earns Halo For More Than Grid Play

NEW ORLEANS - (NPI)--The New Orleans Saints, newest addition to the National Football League, has earned a "halo", not only because it won four games in pre-season contests, but because it has developed into the finest thing in race relations in the deep South.

There have been seen no evidences of racial discrimination in any of the activities connected with the Saints. Negroes are on the team in a goodly number. They enjoy full use of all of the facilities open to the team. They participate in all of the team's activities, both on the field and in social events.

THEY ARE seen among the cheer leaders, seated without any discrimination in the stands, numbered among those present in the press box, and used in commercial advertisements by the team and by local businesses.

Not only do the Saints earn a halo, but they are filling the stadium, for people of all races, groups, etc., are flocking to see the "Saints come marching in."

In their first game, over 80,000 were present to cheer the Saints as they travelled on their way to glory. And a Negro player, big John Gilliam, was chosen by local TV station WDSU-TV, as the outstanding "Saint" of the week. He received the kickoff, the first play of the regular season, and ran 94 yards to a touchdown.

This contrast to conditions in former years has received much favorable comment from the fans. They recall that racial discrimination by the Pelicans caused the minor baseball league to go to pot because of refusal to play Negroes and discrimination against them (the fans) in seating.

THEY RECALL the action of NFL players who refused at the last moment to play an exhibition game due to racial discrimination.

They recall the Louisiana law, now declared unconstitutional, which prohibited Negro and white contestants in the same ring.

They recall the absence of Negro jockeys at Fair Grounds race track.

And, they add another light to adorn the halo around the heads of the Saints' management and around the city of New Orleans which, at long last, is really striving to bring the city back to the leading spot she once held in the sports world.

A SOBERING THOUGHT

FIRE KILLED 12,100 Americans last year, over half of them in their own homes, according to National Fire Protection Association estimates. Fire destroyed over \$1.86 billion worth of property in the same period, in a total of about 2,400,000 fires.

The great tragedy of these statistics, Inspector Larry P. Powell, Sr., points out, is that most of this waste of lives and property is avoidable. The record could be far different if everyone would assume personal responsibility for observing the rules of fire safety at home and on the job.

Fire Prevention Week, which this year falls in the period October 8-14, provides an excellent opportunity to re-emphasize the fact that preventing fires is everybody's job.

The local observance of Fire Prevention Week will be sponsored by the Fire Departments in the Greater Las Vegas Valley.

This traditional fire safety drive, proclaimed by the President of the United States and by the Governor-General of Canada, is sponsored nationally by the National Fire Protection Association in conjunction with other organizations.

Cooperating locally in planning Fire Prevention Week are Fire Departments from the following cities: Las Vegas, North Las Vegas, Henderson, Boulder City, Nellis Air Force Base, and Clark County.

AMONG THE features of the week-long program are: A parade on October 14 at 10 a.m. A coloring contest for third and fourth grade students, with the winning class from each school being featured in the parade. A practical demonstration in the use of fire extinguishing devices and a program on home fire safety, which includes a demonstration in first aid, will be held on October 13 at the Las Vegas Fire Department Training Academy. A Junior Fire Marshal program for elementary school students is already underway. Open house of local fire stations will also be featured again this year. Numerous talks by Fire Department personnel to civic and business organizations and schools are also planned.

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DON'T GIVE FIRE A PLACE TO START



A KINDLY WARNING--Las Vegas Fire Department Inspector Larry S. Powell, Sr., cautions against circumstances which might find you a victim of this deplorable situation--no water. Regrettably, it sometimes happens... Says Inspector Powell, "The Watchword is don't give fire a place to start... Fire Prevention Week is Oct. 8-14.

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