

A LINE ON SPORTS

By ELBURT MILLER



Jerry Franklin Candidate For Co. Commission #A



In an exclusive interview with Nate Morgan, Nevada's lone Black referee, for the past ten years, he indicated why he felt it imperative that he resign from the Nevada Athletic Commission. Morgan, who said he refereed his first bout in 1958, wrote his letter of resignation because, "a ruling by the Commission in regard to me just doesn't make sense."

"I've been refereeing (on and off) for 11 years, and I don't think I've been treated fairly. I was supposed to come to the fight with a certain uniform and was never contacted. Yet, I was held to blame. It would seem to me that everyone should get a chance to work some of the big fights," Morgan said in his letter. Of course, Nate was referring to last week's Bob Foster-Mike Quarry and Muhammed Ali-Jerry Quarry double-header at the Convention Center in which he was not selected to officiate.

Nate who is well known and highly respected for his knowledge of boxing continued to say, "I've worked all the little fights with dedication and loyalty, in hopes that at least one time in a ten-year-period I might be considered (with a fine background) to work a championship fight." "But I'm no longer going to continue to play along on the assumption that day will come if I just wait awhile. I have been passed, unjustly, I feel, on too many occasions to have any fortitude left for the Boxing Commission here in Nevada. There would have to be a drastic change before I would ever reconsider again."

Nate may have been referring to executive secretary, James Deskin, who has made several controversial decisions in the past years. Having seen Nate officiate many different fights, it leaves this writer grim with the thought that Nate is qualified to officiate any fight anywhere, he's that kind of official, but often, too often, Black people don't get a fair share. Could this have happened to Nate?

The heartbreaking thing is that they don't come like Nate everyday or every year. And it is indeed a shame when a man with his caliber has to bid goodbye to the boxing world, at least, here in Las Vegas. Nate, Ease on!!

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"hammer," Hank Aaron has socked his way into the number two spot on the all-time home run list with his 10th, 11th, and 12th home runs giving him a total of 650 over his baseball lifetime. The Atlanta Braves' veteran outfielder surpassed Willie Mays on the list with his ninth home run of the season. Mays has 648 career home runs.

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The heartwarming saga of 21-year-old Bobby Lee Hunter may soon cool if Avery Brundage, President of the International Olympic Committee, has his way. Hunter, raised in the Black ghetto of Charleston, S. C., is presently serving an 18-year prison sentence for the stabbing death of an older man in a neighborhood store. While serving in Columbia's Manning Prison, Hunter became a skilled flyweight boxer and he has won the Amateur Athletic Union's (AAU) Flyweight Boxing Title and was a gold medalist at the Pan-American Games in Cali, Columbia. Naturally Hunter had his sights on an Olympic game berth, but Brundage says that the quick-fisted flyweight may not be eligible to participate in the Olympics, held in Munich, Germany, in view of the manslaughter sentence he is now serving. Sam McGuen of the South Carolina Department of Correction gasped, "We're shocked over a report Bobby Hunter may not be eligible for the Olympics." Everyone seems to have been caught off-guard by Brundage's remarks.

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Former Las Vegas High high jumper, Ray Lisby, representing Dick Heywood's Las Vegas Track Club, easily glided over the standard of 6-10 3/4 Saturday, to qualify for the Olympic Trials high jump finals, set for Monday. Ray, who has gone 7-3 in practice blames one of 15 jumps to make the finals on a rainy Saturday, as he cleared the bar by "about six to eight inches," according to Heywood, in his only jump of the day. Dave Roberts, another Las Vegas Track Club standout failed in his bid to make the 1,500 meter finals in qualifying Friday.

Jerry Franklin, 32 year old Henderson City Councilman, has filed as a Democratic candidate for a seat on the Clark County Commission, from District #A.

Elected to the Henderson City Council in June 1971, Franklin serves as a member of the Clark County District Board of Health and its Air Pollution Control Board, and Budget & Personnel Committee. Franklin also sits on the Clark County Board of Equalization and presides as chairman of the powerful Clark County Regional Planning Commission.

Deeply involved in civic and community affairs, Franklin, an Air Force veteran is a member of the American Legion Post 40, President of the Booster Club, past officer of the Henderson Jay Cees, and is a board member of the Southern Nevada Museum. He is a member of the Southern Nevada Democratic Club and a member of the Clark County Democratic Central Committee.

A recipient of the 1972 Jay Cee "Distinguished Service Award," Franklin was nominated by the American War Mothers, and has been selected to appear in the 1972 edition of "Young Men of America."

In a statement to key supporters, made just before filing, Franklin expressed gratitude to the many persons and organizations throughout Clark County for their show of confidence in his ability to bring new direction and a fresh approach to government, by urging him to be a candidate for the county commission seat....

"We are to be faced with varied problems of intense degrees, which are of concern to all people in Clark County," Franklin explained, and I'm sincerely impressed by the number of

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