

Sports In Sight

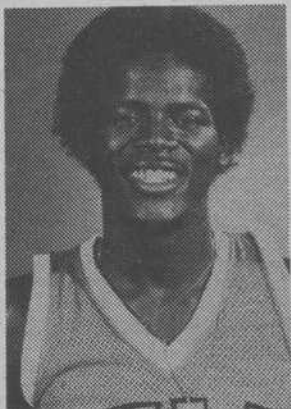
by Lonnie Wright



In our first addition I relayed some important sentiments of Sidney Green and his much talked about controversy. In my future columns you may be sure to count on getting the factual news directly from our local UNLV stars.

For those who may not know, I was born and raised in Las Vegas. I am a graduate of the Hotel College and a former member of the UNLV basketball program. I can't think of any sports writer in Vegas who has been as close to or has followed the UNLV basketball program as I have. The players know me and there is mutual respect involved.

There was one very controversial article about Mike Burns (Spiderman) that comes to mind. The article talked negatively about the play of this amateur



SPIDERMAN

athlete, as though he was a super-star in the NBA making \$600,000 a year and was in fault for not carrying the team to victory.

In the future I will give Mike a chance to rebut this article, which could have put unnecessary pressure on him and possibly designed a 'jacket' he could have had to wear when it would not have been necessary.

I have a love for any ball player athlete who goes through a major college program. I feel a sense of responsibility to present the player's view. It's a very sad occasion for an athlete to pick up a



SIDNEY GREEN

newspaper and see such ridicule about his play.

I believe a reporter must use some type of discretion as well as be objective. When I read the particular article in the paper it was in or even the reporter.

However, I felt sorry for Mike, because I know him personally. I've played ball with him and I know he is a deliberate winner. Mistakes are a part of life, especially when one is asked to do the near impossible.

Coach Tark has to have respect for Spider's ability or he wouldn't have entrusted this transformation of Spiderman from small forward to tall guard.

AAU Holding National Boxing Championships In Las Vegas

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Ken Norton, former world heavyweight boxing champion, has been named to the Board of Directors of the International Boxing Hall of Fame, according to an announcement today by President Jim Caufield.

"It is with great pride and tremendous joy that I announce this appointment," said Caufield. "Ken Norton is the epitome of the champion, and his presence on our team will do much to point up and enhance the monumental task which lies before us."

Norton, handsome and erudite, has embarked upon a successful career as an actor and is expected to be a spark plug in the organization's quest for funds to build the 50 Million Dollar shrine on property at the Dunes Hotel in Las Vegas.

★★★★

Ed (Too Tall) Jones is coming to the conclusion that there's a little future in boxing for 6-9, 270-pound football players. The former All-Pro defensive end was stung when the Nevada State Athletic Commission failed to sanction two of his fights. Jones is now contemplating a return to the Dallas Cowboys.

His manager, Dave Wolf, has advised that he quit the ring. "It left us in a position where he could not fight enough to become a contender," Ring said Wolf, referring to Nevada's board refusal.

"By the same token, Ed has not enjoyed boxing as much as he thought he would. We decided that if he could get a good offer in football, that it would make sense for him to return." Jones had won all six of his bouts against lack-luster opponents but had not fought since a Jan. 22 knockout of Billy Joe Thomas in Indianapolis.

★★★★

Plans have been set for the first annual UNLV Rebel Youth Soccer Camp which will be held during the first, third and fourth weeks this June. The camp will be open to all youths ages 5 through 19. Each youth will be placed in an age and ability group to maximize his/her learning experience.

Conducted by UNLV soccer coach Vince Hart, the camp will run June 2-6; June 17-20 and June 23-27 at Howard A. Wasden Elementary School at 2831 Palomino Lane. Sessions are to run from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and will include lunch.

★★★★

Fights have resumed at the Silver Nugget in North Las Vegas. These amateur cards will be held every three weeks at the Silver Nugget's Casino and Bingo Parlor and be promoted jointly or with separate cards by Tony Gravanti and his VBA People or the Southern Nevada AAU Club under

the direction of Hal Miller. The first such cards were held last Sunday.

★★★★

Mate Parlov, the most successful Yugoslav boxer ever, announced retiring from the ring. He had recently lost his big chance to nab the world cruiserweight title but lost to Marvin Camel at Caesars Palace.

★★★★

Top-seeded Bjorn Borg won the \$300,000 Grand Prix of Tennis tournament Sunday by beating sixth-seeded Harold Solomon 6-3, 6-1 in an undramatic match featuring very basic play.

★★★★

Programs in swimming, gymnastics, wrestling, and track and field will be offered free to any blind or visually handicapped Southern Nevadan, according to Suzanne Lillimagi, lecturer in UNLV's department of special education. The programs are funded by \$10 (\$5 for youths 16 and the Nevada affiliate of the under).

U.S. Association for Blind Athletes.

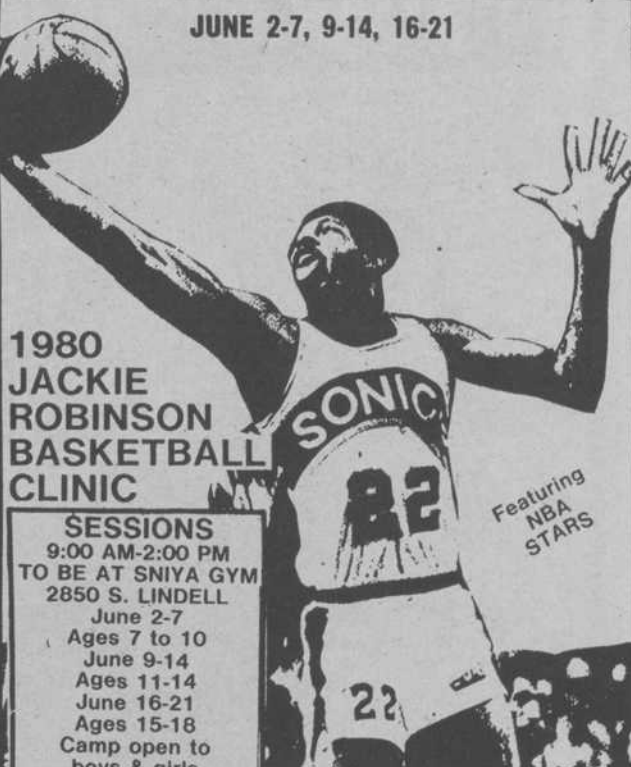
The Amateur Athletic Union will hold its National Senior Boxing Championships for 1980 at Caesars Palace Sports Pavilion.

Over 250 amateur boxers from 22 regions throughout the United States will arrive May 4 at Caesars Palace to participate in the National Championships.

Boxing action begins Monday (May 5) when fans will be able to watch three rings of great boxing simultaneously. The 3-ring action continues on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings. On Thursday two rings will be used. Friday the boxers will rest in preparation for the final competition on Saturday night, which will be taped for later broadcast by ABC.

Doors to the Sports Pavilion will open at 5:30 each day except Saturday, when they will open at 7 o'clock. Tickets to the events are now on sale according to Suzanne Lillimagi, lecturer in UNLV's department of special education. The mission for each day is \$10 (\$5 for youths 16 and the Nevada affiliate of the under).

JUNE 2-7, 9-14, 16-21



1980 JACKIE ROBINSON BASKETBALL CLINIC

Featuring NBA STARS

SESSIONS
 9:00 AM-2:00 PM
 TO BE AT SNIYA GYM
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June 2-7
 Ages 7 to 10

June 9-14
 Ages 11-14

June 16-21
 Ages 15-18

Camp open to boys & girls

Staff includes: Jackie Robinson, Don Weimer, Ron Montoya, Robert Smith, Flintie Ray Williams, Sam Smith, Eric Gaines, Reggie Theus, Glenn Gondrezick, Kent Benson, Phil Hubbard, Jerry Pimm, Jerry Paine, Ricky Sobers & Greg Goorjian.

Fee \$110 which includes 1 pr. Nike shoes, 2 shirts, 1 pair shorts & insurance if necessary

Registration Deadline May 15 Call 733-6526 or 382-4518 for info. Jackie Robinson Enterprises, Inc. 305 Convention Center Dr. A-34 89109

Good Luck to the LAS VEGAS SENTINEL

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