

POPULAR PEOPLE IN SPORTS

Former 49er Clowns Get Signs Ready For 1962 Season

SAN FRANCISCO, Owens, who quit the San Francisco 49ers in a huff in a salary increase dispute with the team's president, last week signed a one-year National Football contract with the Baltimore Colts, and said he was satisfied with both the terms and the prospect of joining forces with several Colts stars.

The terms of the Colts contract were not disclosed, but it is believed Owens received a substantial increase over last season's pay. He said the Colts contract was "within the scope of what I should be getting

Owens quit the 49ers recently after the team said his salary demands for the 1962 season were excessive. He had played with the 49ers since 1957, when he came into the league. During the five-year period, Owens caught 176 passes for 2,226 yards and scored 20 touchdowns. He had his best season last year, when he caught 55 passes for 1,032.

It was also rumored recently that he'd sign with the Oakland Raiders of the American Football League, but R. C. preferred to remain in the NFL.

Owens, an end, became famous in the NFL for his circus-catching ability. He made famous the leaping "alley oop" catch.

While with San Francisco, Owens was also known as one of the two "Initials Boys." The other was Y. A. Tittle, a quarterback.

Returning here after completing the contract deal, Owens expressed delight at the prospect of playing with such stars as Johnny Unitas, the Colts ace quarterback, and speedy Lenny Moore, halfback. "An end dreams of being with a great passer like Unitas," he said.

HOLLYWOOD, Fla., —The Indianapolis Clowns, the "Clown Princes" of baseball, have signed Bobo Nickerson, their field clown for the 1962 barnstorming season, it was announced at the team's headquarters here.

A "screwball" comic who performs such feats as pitching four baseballs at the same time and catching a ball dropped 1,000 feet from an airplane, Nickerson joined the clowns last week for their "Third of a Century (barnstorming) Tour."

Meanwhile, the team announced that Russell Nesbit, leader of the Flying Nesbit acrobatic team, was released from Community Hospital at Naples, Fla. At least one member of the group was killed and several others injured in an automobile accident last month. Two other members of the group, Kim Nesbit and Diane Strong, escaped injury.

The Newbitts perform at Clowns games.

NATIONAL LEAGUE ROOKIE OF THE YEAR WINNERS

1947 Jackie Robinson, Dodgers
1949 Don Newcombe, Dodgers
1950 Sam Jethroe, Braves
1951 Willie Mays, Giants
1952 Joe Black, Dodgers
1953 Junior Gilliam, Dodgers
1956 Frank Robinson, Reds
1958 Orlando Cepeda, Giants
1959 Willie McCovey, Giants
1961 Billy Williams, Cubs

Don Newcombe, with the Brooklyn Dodgers, and Sam Jones, with the San Francisco Giants, are the only Negro pitchers to ever win 20 or more games in one season.

Reports Prove Only 20 Negroes Accepted Freedom Rides North

CHICAGO, —While the White Citizens Council for Greater New Orleans quotes a much larger figure, only 20 Negroes last week had accepted its much-publicized free one-way ride offer on the basis of confirmed arrivals.

The 20 include the Louis Boyd family of 10, first known arrivals in the six-week old plan; Shelby Williams and his wife, Leon Horne, a one-time Freedom Rider who lost favor with integration leaders, and five jobless men, all of whom have arrived in New York, and two unemployed men who have arrived in Chicago.

Latest to arrive in New York were Horne, 25, who wants to be an actor; Roy Hamilton, 23, a clerical worker; Shelve Williams, 39, a meat cutter; Earl Campbell, 31, who described himself as a musician but said he had worked most recently as a truckdriver; Morris Price, 20, and Junius Eli, 21. All six are single, according to George L. Singelmann, council representative in New Orleans.

Former Core Member

Williams and Campbell said they were both natives of Natchez, Miss. and were both hopeful of getting jobs.

Horn said he had been in New Orleans only two weeks, and Knight, who said he was born at Orange, Tex., said he lived in New Orleans for 19 years.

Hamilton, who identified himself as a former student at Louisiana State university in New Orleans and a former member of the Congress of Racial Equality, said he believed people should make as many trips as possible.

Integrates Lunchroom

He said he took the Citizens Council money and used the ticket to integrate the bus counter lunchroom. "They wouldn't let me in the lunchroom before," he added.

Dr. Edward Lewis, executive director of the Urban League of Greater New York, said a Baltimore painting contractor had offered to provide jobs for all six. He said a service union also had contacted him saying it has jobs available.

Lewis said Medical Developers, Inc., of Jersey City also had contacted him with an offer of some jobs. This firm employed Boyd, first to leave New Orleans as a \$100-a-week handyman.

Second Couple Seeks Work

Hamilton said he had \$13. Campbell said he had 45 cents. Horne claimed to possess \$1.35, and Williams said he was broke. According to Singelmann, the six had been given \$5 each for expenses in addition to their bus tickets.

Mr. and Mrs. Shelby Williams, the second couple to arrive in New York, were being housed last week by the Travelers Aid Society. Williams, a 24-year-old unemployed longshoreman, was scheduled to be interviewed for a \$65-a-week handyman job. The society said the prospective employer insisted on anonymity. Mrs. Williams, 20, according to the society, is seeking a job as a domestic. They have no children.

The first two known arrivals in Chicago are Rezzie Moffett, 45, and Clifford Taylor, 25. They arrived here last week with \$7.22 between them.

High School Graduate

Moffett is a porter and says he has an eleventh grade education. He is widowed and has a son, George, 19. He plans to send for his son when he is graduated from high school in June.

Taylor is single, describes himself as a handyman, and is a high school graduate.

While Singelmann, director of the council program, reports from New Orleans that 103 Negroes have arrived in Chicago under the plan, Chicago organizations deny this. He has refused to identify most of 114 Negroes he claims have taken advantage of the council's offer.

Exact Figures Difficult

In fact, it has been difficult to arrive at an accurate or near accurate total of those who have departed, not to mention an authentic report on arrivals. Some sources say last week's departures brought the total to 26 persons who are known to have accepted the council's offer since it was first made at a public meeting March 28.

Negro leaders who have denounced the council program have indicated that the segregationists are deliberately exaggerating the figures in an effort to get more attention.

Singelmann last week blamed the poor response on "intimidation by the NAACP." He had predicted the departure of at least 100 Negroes in two bus loads for New York.

Tells of NAACP "Threat"

He said "they (the NAACP) had been threatening these people" and that "I've told the police about it." He predicted "more and more will leave every day."

That Singelmann is apparently sold on the council's plan was further exemplified when Roy Hamilton, one of the group of six who accepted tickets to New York last week, was identified as a member of CORE.

When Hamilton's CORE connection was pointed out to Singelmann, with the possibility that perhaps some of the militant Negro organizations were sending members on free rides just to deplete council resources and would return soon, Singelmann said he didn't care.

Raps Harlem

"After a few days in Harlem, maybe some of them will be glad to get back to New Orleans," he said.

Latest reports from New Orleans, yet to be confirmed, said at least 20 Negroes left for Los Angeles, New York, Chicago and Oakland, Calif.

An earlier report said at least one Negro had gone to Washington, D.C.

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