



Tony Ross demonstrates his athletic abilities with Riverside All-Star Team.



(Photo by: Richard J. Brown)

Tony Ross: Athlete and student

One of the community's rising young stars is Norman "Tony" Ross. A seventh grader at Fernwood Middle School, Tony made his mark with the Albina Sports Program (ASP) seventh grade basketball team with a season average of 24

points per game.

Tony pitched and played short-stop for the Riverside Little League All-Star team although his regular position with the league's First Place Hawthorne Lodge team is

centerfield.

Tony, who currently dreams of a professional career in baseball or basketball - which he likes equally - is fortunate to benefit from the coaching of James Combs in both

sports. Tony plays some tennis and is learning to play the clarinet, and his favorite subjects in school is math and social studies.

He is the son of Norman and Ethel Ross.



Sport Talk

By Ron Sykes
Sports Editor

Seattle might not be the world's most livable city but it would certainly have to rate amongst the most liberal ones. With Lenny Wilkens leading the NBA's Sonics, Seattle is the only major league city having two Black head coaches.

The Seattle Mariners, Monday, named ex-Dodger shortstop Maury Wills as their new manager, replacing Darrell Johnson at the helm. Johnson's 39-65 record going into Monday night's game apparently led to his demise.

Johnson became the third major league managerial casualty of 1980, and Wills became the third Black to manage a major league club. Frank Robinson (Cleveland Indians) and Larry Doby (Chicago White Sox) having preceded him in guiding major league teams.

Maury Wills spent the first four months waiting and watching and now have finally got the chance he so richly deserves. Wills has always been a leader, but whether he can teach the Mariners enough to make

a difference remains to be seen.

Last year, Wills, who won the National League's Most Valuable Player Award, when he was with the LA Dodgers in 1962 reportedly agreed to take over the Mariners at the All-Star break, but the club had played so well that O'Brien, Mariner GM, had to nix the deal. While we're happy to see Maury finally getting his long overdue chance, we're also regretful that it's with a club as far down as Seattle. It's a known fact that whereas white managers move from club to club, not unlike musical chairs, Black managers are only afforded one chance.

Both Robinson and Doby are still without head coaching jobs. Don't feel sorry for Darrell Johnson because he will surface again to lead some club.

Wills reportedly signed a two year contract to begin in 1981. And unless he can work miracles midway through 1981, Maury will probably receive the same dismal end his Black predecessors did.

And while we're on the baseball kick how about Reggie? The Yankee superstar is having a whale of a season. Jackson is leading the league in homers, 30...and RBI's, 70, while hitting a cool .306. Doing it all for the Yanks.

Freddie Brown the "downtown" man of the Seattle Supersonics has reportedly signed a new four year contract that will eventually lead to a front office job after his playing days are over. Just wonder why the Blazers never offered the once reliable Lloyd Neal such a deal. Are you listening Harry? The 32 year old guard who has been the Sonic Captain the last four years, as well as the club's all-time leading scorer, said the job awaiting him remains to be

defined.

Last year sixth man Brown was the NBA's top three-point percentage shooter hitting a nifty 44.3.

WBA welterweight champ Pipino Cuevas lasted just two rounds before being KO'd by Thomas Hearns in Detroit last Saturday night. Hearns, the Detroit hit man, is rapidly proving to fight fans that he is the best, not Roberto Duran or Sugar Ray Leonard. The 6-1 gladiator probably possess the finest tools in the game, other than Leonard. But is undoubtedly a more devastating puncher.

And the now revived Friday night fights on TV is certainly a plus for entertainment. Last Friday, Wilfredo Benitez showed the TV audience that he is still one of the greatest welterweight around. Benitez clearly dominated Chauarini and the "Italian Stallion" was unable to answer the bell for the ninth round.

This Friday's match between Curtis Parker and Al Davison should be a hummer. Parker fighting out of Philly is a real bomber, who fires bazookas with both hands.

Both fighters are undefeated and both are good. Should be action packed.

REGGIE: "Wills makes my day."

New York Yankee star Reggie Jackson said Monday night after learning that Seattle had named Maury Wills as their new manager, that: "It's really great to have a Black on the field in an authoritative position. It's good that we have another Black manager. The Northwest was probably the right place for Wills. The South or some other place might be too tough for him. It really makes me happy," Jackson said.

Local soldier trains in Calif

CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. - Marine Air Reserve Lance Corporal Ronald W. Brown of Portland, Oregon, is taking part in Exercise Cliff Dweller on the Pacific beach flanking Camp Pendleton, the local reservist is assigned to the military

police detachment of Marine Air Base Squadron 46, which normally is headquartered at the Naval Air Station, Whidbey Island, Washington.

The Washington-based unit will furnish security for other elements

of MABS 46 and for Marine Air Traffic Control Unit - 71. The purpose of the two weeks of active duty training is to demonstrate the Reserve's ability to deploy and perform air traffic control operations under actual field conditions. Personnel will control air traffic in Camp Pendleton's beach landing area, operating primarily with helicopters, operating a 14-hour day during the exercise, according to Colonel Robert Finn, commanding officer of the parent organization, Marine Aircraft Group 46.

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"You never know what is enough unless you know what is more than enough." William Blake

"Why should I feel lonely? Is not our planet in the Milky Way?" Henry David Thoreau

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