



Sports Talk

By Ron Sykes, Sports Editor

More on Maury.
The Chicago Cubs, New York Mets and the Kansas City Royals had won less or more than the Seattle Mariners won under Maury Wills -- yet their skippers are still aboard.
How long will it take for Maury to again appear as a major league manager? Will you believe never? Hate to keep harping on a subject that has too long been fact, but it's true that Blacks just aren't given an equal chance when it comes to being a leader of a major sports franchise. Just can't help remembering how sad it was to see Boston Celtic assistant coach K.C. Jones sitting on the bench alongside head man Bill Fitch. Here's a man (KC) who has a tremendous basketball background. He played for two collegiate national championship

teams, 59-60 at USF; played point guard on those great Celtic teams through the sixties and was tutored by the legendary Red Auerbach. Oh, yes, KC got his shot at managing, but it was only a token shot much like that of Wills. Wills became the third Black manager in major league history and May 6, he became the third Black manager to be fired.

Please Muhammad Ali, not again.
Ali, it is reported, is making travel plans for Nassau in the Bahamas for the sad purpose of boxing the European champion in Nassau in August. It's hoped that some boxing commission somewhere will stop this inhumane event. It was only Larry Holmes'

kind heart that kept the ex-champion from being seriously hurt in their one-sided bout. Larry had the great one in big trouble many times only to back away. Ali has only Holmes' mercifulness to thank. That alone kept him from being seriously hurt. Let's hope the champ will dispense with this Nassau foolishness.
Former WBC heavyweight champion Ken Norton, according to Brad Pye, is the greatest receiver in sports today. Reason: Norton received every blow unbeaten Gerry Cooney threw in the 54 seconds he lasted against the No. 1 challenger.
We all have our idols and for a long time I've admired my LA counterpart Mr. Brad Pye, Sports Editor for the LA Sentinel. Would like to share Brad's views on the Wills

firing.
"Talk about blues in the news, the so-called major league print media heaved up 25 or 30-tons of it after Maury Wills was fired from his job as manager of the Seattle Mariners.
"Hardly, if ever before, has a hired or fired manager been downed in so much negativism.
"Rarely if ever before has one been subjected to such vicious treatment. If that sort of thing is par of the course, then 1) it makes me ashamed to be in this profession; and 2) it is easy to see why so many people is/and out of sports, are harsh critics of the media.
"From the time Maury was a teenager in Washington, D.C., he always has been a leader, the captain type, the manager type.

"When he played with the Dodgers he was the team's shortstop, and the Captain. During various spring training seasons in Vero Beach, Florida, it was often said that Maury knew the rules of baseball better than anyone on the field. When he managed winter ball in Mexico, he as praised for his ability to teach.
"But, if Maury's obituary writers are to be believed, he was totally miscast as a manager of the Mariners. It may be true that he was a failure in the role."
Possibly he was the victim of barbaric circumstances.
In his brief comments to date, Wills has said he was shocked by the

amount of politics in the game, the "chemistry" wasn't right, and he was viciously undercut by certain people in the organization. This can certainly be believed. Seattle is not unlike Portland. Remember what happened to Lenny Wilkens a few years back, when he was coaching the Portland Trailblazers?
Congratulations to Jefferson's PIC West Allstars: Second base, Marshall Haskins (.485), Sr.; Shortstop, Leonard Hill (.444), Sr.; Thirdbase, Carl Wacker (.355), Jr.; and outfield, Nate Moseley (.395), Soph.

Chisolm predicts trouble brewing

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Congressman Chisolm summed up the achievements Blacks have made in America by stating, "It was the middle class Blacks that benefited from the masses during the civil rights struggle in this country. Now because of racism and the economic condition those who once had, haven't now. We forgot that not one of us are free."
"We have to somehow reinject our vision of a better world into this incomplete second reconstruction that was started just a few years back. If not, we are going to wind up in a world we thought we left behind forever. We cannot assume that the national swing to the right is unstoppable. Because if you assume that, you might as well be dead."
In a press conference, Grassroot News asked for the Congresswoman's reaction to the defeat of the proposed budget put forth by the Congressional Black Caucus, which would have left a 7.8 billion

dollar surplus. Reagan's budget, which was passed, produced a deficit.
"My reaction is that there is no logic in terms of what we're about in this country. The Congressional Black Caucus came up with the best alternative budget. Not only would it have engaged an equitable distribution across the board, but also would have incurred a certain surplus. Part of the problem was that it was put forth by sixteen Black Congressional members. We were the first to respond to Reagan's call for an alternative."
Q. Many of the goals that you fought for, like support for day care, job training, equal education and adequate housing due to cuts in funding will soon become a memory. What are some of the tactics or procedures the Congressional Black Caucus might utilize to counter-act this reduction in quality of life?
A. What can 18 Black members

do in a house of 435 members? In the past we were able to establish alliances with moderate white members. Now they have disavowed us. There's nothing to work with. What we're going to do is hold the line on those programs that mean so much to the underdog, minorities, and the poor of this country.
Q. What's happening to the democratic process that so many lived and died for?
A. The democratic process is undergoing a great many changes. The Democratic Party is in difficulty on a national level. Our House is overwhelmingly Democratic and we are unable to pass things that the Democratic Party is suppose to be about, which are in direct conflict or opposite to what Reagan wants. If Reagan's economic package is passed, then we're all in trouble because the House will become Republican.
I don't believe that Reagan's policies can succeed in this country. When the middle income families

wake up and feel the impact that is not going to be felt until November or December, then they will be ready to throw him out before his four-years are up. They handle their political leaders by their pocket books.
Q. Will there be a change in policy toward Africa, more importantly, South Africa?
A. By their actions, you might say that they're flirting with South Africa. Now whether that flirtation will result in a marriage or a burned out romance remains to be seen. But they are flirting dangerously with a nation that continues to avoid majority rule. During the next few weeks, we'll see what going to happen.
After the press conference, Shirley Chisolm turned to two white reporters and said, "Now Mr. reporters, don't you misquote me." Congressman Chisolm is one politician who gives politics a good name.

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