

### As I Recall

## MY GREATEST SPORTS THRILL

By BILL LOVING

Sometime it is pretty hard to think back and remember things but this is one event in my life I can remember as though it happened yesterday. Or even today.

It was in 1926 while I was in my senior year at Cass Tech High School. A few all-city track men were invited to participate in an inter-scholastic track meet sponsored by Northwestern University in Evanston, Ill. Eddie Tolan, his brother, Hart Tolan, and myself, were selected from Cass Tech.

On the morning of the meet with a breakfast of two slices of toast and a cup of tea we ran the preliminaries. At noon, between the semi-finals and finals all the athletes were sent to lunch. We, Eddie, Hart and I were sent to a place called the "Polly Inn."

After sitting an hour waiting to be served we were finally approached by the waitress who informed us—with alopogies—we don't serve Negroes. We were so mad and keed up until we finished the meet on the same toast and tea we had for breakfast.

Eddie Tolan had placed second in the 40-yard dash and I had won the 70-yard high hurdles in world record time of 8 seconds flat and was in the process of making the high jump at 6 ft. 3 inches when it happened (finger grounded me). Incidentally, my hurdle record stood for 15 years.

As I stood there a voice belted out of the loud speaker proclaiming I did not need to win the high jump event. Eddie's second in the dash, my first in the high hurdles, and a second in the low hurdles had already assured Cass Tech enough points to win the National Inter-Scholastic Track Meet.

The thrill of this feat plus the exhaustion from no food just left me limp and I had to be content with second place in the jump but that alone gave me enough points to have won the championship single handed.

My next biggest thrill came during my senior year at Western State Teachers' College (now known as Western Michigan College of Education) when Eddie Tolan and I were elected co-captains of the track team. I had been captain at elementary school (Longfellow), intermediate (Cass) and high school (Cass Tech). This gave me a perfect record.

That is the greatest thrill



BILL LOVING

## BYRDLAND

by G. Houston Byrd

That particular brotherhood atmosphere is back as it is every three weeks in February, but we can't fully agree with the timing of this great week.

Of course there's nothing better than brotherhood, but with Valentine Day just cooling it what guy is going to think of brotherhood when sisterhood is still lingering in the air?

I offer a motion that either Valentine Day or Brotherhood Week be removed from the month of February. Who will second it?

Local vocalist DELLA REEVE may have one to go, but we really hope so Della has a potential hit in "Blue and Orange Birds and Song Birds" which she does a her great stuff with the JIMMY HAMILTON crew. Hamilton is currently handing down the bandstand at the Hamilton site spot.

If you are a down-sound band, you will sure go by DUKE BLINGTON's chilly rendition of "Blue Moon" featuring JIMMY GRISSOM on vocal and RAY NANCE with his magnificent



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