

Prairie View Named 100% Wrong Champs

W. J. Nicks' Panthers Retire W. A. Scott Memorial Trophy; 24th Annual Jamboree January 29-30

The Atlanta Daily World's 100 Per Cent Wrong Club, nationally known sports group, has named the "Panthers" of Prairie View A&M College, Prairie View, Texas, national intercollegiate football champions for 1958. The award will be presented at the club's 24th annual Jamboree, Friday night, Jan. 30.

In a press conference, A. L. Thompson, Atlanta housing official and club president, made public a report issued by the club's selections committee several days ago in which the board named the Texas team "tops" among 1958 Negro football outfits. Ralph A. Robinson, local Scout executive and former Clark College, Atlanta, football coach and athletic director, is chairman of this committee.

Prairie View finished its 1958 tour of play with a near-perfect 8-0-1 record. In the first game of the season, the Panthers tied Jackson College, Jackson, Miss., 14-14, and went on to defeat Texas Southern University, Houston, 28-19, Grambling College, Grambling, La., 46-6; Texas College, Tyler, 43-0; and Mississippi Vocational College, Itta Bena, 69-19.

The Texans also lloked Willey College, Marshall, Texas, 19-0; Southern University, Baton Rouge, La., 20-14; and out-played Florida A. and M. University, Tallahassee, to the tune of 28-8 before 39,426 paid fans at last week's 26th annual Orange Blossom Classic, played in Miami's famous Orange Bowl, to become the undisputed national champions.

Prairie View has been named champions by the Associated Negro Press and The Pittsburgh Courier, while the Orange Blossom Classic was billed as a championship game. The 100 Per Cent Wrong Club's selections committee took note of the fact that the Orange Blossom game was a regular season game for Florida A. and M. University, while Prairie View had already completed its season. This year the Atlanta sports body awarded its national championship on the basis of regular season play.

The W. A. Scott Memorial Trophy is donated to the 100 Per Cent Wrong Club by the Coca-Cola Company, Atlanta, and memorializes the late W. A. Scott, II, founder of The Atlanta Daily World, who was All-American football star at Morehouse College. Put into competition in 1953, the trophy was first won by Prairie View, which got a second leg on it in a four-way national championship-tie in 1954.

Other schools getting legs on the trophy in 1954 were Florida A. and M. University, Tallahassee; Southern University, Baton Rouge, La., and Tennessee A. and I. State University, Nashville. Grambling College, Louisiana, was the 1955 trophy winner with Tennessee and Florida winning in 1956 and 1957, making each of them a two-time winner of the coveted W. A. Scott trophy—the symbol of football supremacy in Negro colleges.

The 100 Per Cent Wrong Club, which is a project of the Sports Department of The Atlanta Daily World, announced through its coordinator, Marlon E. Jackson, World sports editor, that an All-Southern team from the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference will also be honored at the time of its All-Sports Jamboree to be held in the Wulu Ballroom of the Wulu-haje Apartments in Atlanta, Friday evening, January 30.

The All-SIAC team is comprised of Herb Pratt, end, Benedict (S. O.) College; Dave Jones, tackle, South Carolina State College; Roy Knight, guard, Allen (S. C.) University; Willie Peters center, Fort Valley (Ga.) State College; Willie Wyche, guard, Florida A. and M. University; Bill Montgomery, tackle, Morris Brown (Ga.) College; Glover Jones end, Tuskegee Institute; Ed White quarterback, Alabama State; Al Gardner, halfback, South Carolina State College; LeRoy Hardee, halfback, Florida A. and M. University, and two fullbacks — Cecil Peoples, Morris Brown, and Al Oshavis, Florida A. and M.

A special awards committee of the Atlanta sports organization will announce on January 1 the names of other sports figures to be honored at the time of its January 30 All-Sports Jamboree. In the past, the club has honored Branch Rickey, Jackie Robinson and Pee Wee Reese, baseball; Paul Brown, Jim Brown and Alvin Plunk, football; Floyd Patterson and Ray Robinson, boxing; and a host of other athletes and sports personalities in all areas of sports.

In addition to Mr. Robinson, members of the club's selections committee are Dr. L. T. Walker, North Carolina College at Durham; Claude Dansby, statistician, Morehouse College, Atlanta; O. D. Henry, Grambling College, Grambling, La., and J. B. McLendon, Tennessee A. and I. State University, Nashville.

The Atlanta Daily World's 100 Per Cent Wrong Club Jamboree is co-sponsored by the Coca-Cola Company and the Atlanta Life Insurance Company, pioneer Georgia institutions.