

DOUG SYKES PLAYS TOO!

Ashe Heads NCAA

Some 90 top collegiate tennis stars from throughout the country are converging on UCLA for the opening of play next Monday in the 81st annual NCAA net championships on the Westwood campus courts — and the pre-tourney favorite is Arthur Ashe, the No. 1 Negro netter of all time.

Now a senior at UCLA, Ashe hopes to add another "first" to his mounting accomplishments by capturing the coveted rah-rah crown, which has eluded him because of a certain Dennis Ralston of USC.

The past two years Ralston has eliminated Ashe in the NCAA semi-final round, but the Trojan whiz,

who ranks No. 1 in the country, is no longer around to thwart the Bruin ace. Ralston has graduated.

Ashe showed he's in top form by winning both his singles matches in the United States' victory over Canada in Davis Cup play held at Bakersfield last weekend.

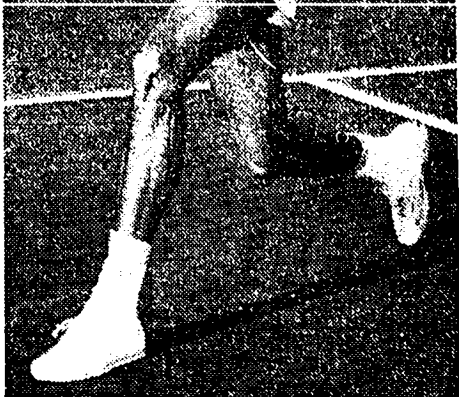
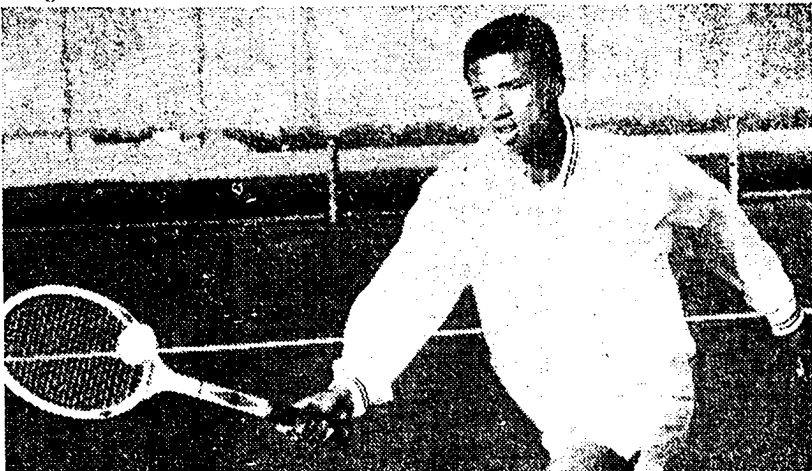
However, Ashe doesn't ap-

pear to be a "shoo-in" in next week's competition even though two-time defending champion Ralston is no longer around.

He still must contend with no less than 17 other nationally-ranked stars, including Mike Belkin of University of Miami, Cliff Buchholz and Butch Newman of Trinity University of Texas, John Pickens of Rice and others.

With Ashe leading the way, the Bruins also are favored to win top team honors which USC has collected the last three years. The Trojans' chances to retain their title were dealt a severe blow last week when their top star, Tom Edlefsen, was ruled ineligible.

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ARTHUR ASHE . . .
. . . Bruins' Best

DOUG SYKES
. . . Cal netter

Ashe . . .

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ble because of academic troubles.

Incidentally, another Negro netter, California's Doug Sykes, is coming fast and also could be a threat. This former Dorsey High star has scored several notable victories this spring, including three wins over Stanford's nationally-ranked Jim Beste.

Southland net fans are reminded that the Westwood Tennis Stadium has permanent seating for 1,500.

Tickets are nominally priced: \$1 for adults and 50 cents for children and students for the first three days, \$1.50 and 50 cents for Thursday's quarter-final matches, \$2 and \$1 for Friday's semi-finals and \$2.50 and \$1 for Saturday's title matches.