

# Andrews Shoves Off for Casey Stengel Prospects School at St. Petersburg, Fla.

"I'm in good condition and rarin to go."

That was the parting shot of Big Ed Andrews, 19-year-old New York Yankee pitching prospect who left his Franklin boulevard home yesterday to join Manager Casey Stengel and a group of world champion hopefuls enroute to pre-season training camp in St. Petersburg, Fla.

For the next 18 days Andrews will be receiving his mail in the sunny southland—and he may stay longer.

With a faraway look Big Ed said: "I've worked hard all winter in the title business and I'm in wonderful shape. A chance like this comes once in a lifetime and I'm determined to give it all I got."

Andrews, the first Negro ballplayer ever taken south by the Yankees, is fresh from a sensational pro debut with the Olean club of the Pony League. He joined Olean after graduating at New Brunswick High School last June and wound up with a 12-2 record. That record—and more importantly the 119 strikeouts he racked up—impressed the Yankee front office so much that immediate preparations were made for Big Ed to join 42 other outstanding rookies at the fifth annual "Yankee Prospects School" which precedes the regular training grind in St. Petersburg.

A year ago this time the 6-foot 2-inch Andrews was preparing for his last semester at New Brunswick High. He was looking ahead to his final baseball season which was to bring him all-state recognition and his big chance in professional baseball.

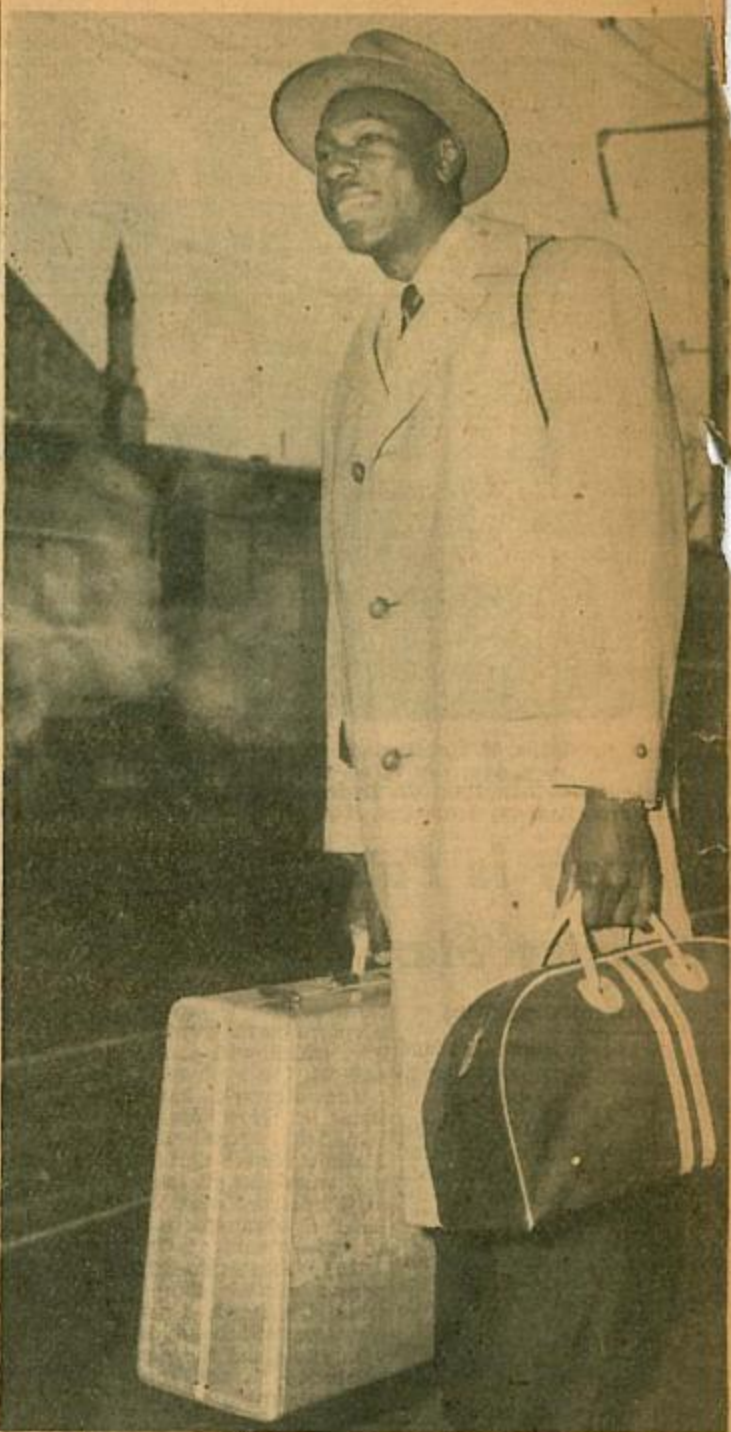
Today, he is on the threshold of a career that before long could put him in the Yankee Stadium as the first member of his race to become a full-fledged regular with the team that has won five world championships and this season is favored to make it six in a row.

Yesterday, after a night which brought little sleep, Andrews hopped aboard the 9:11 train for Newark where he was to hitch up with Stengel and other members of the Yankee party. He was walking in the clouds, and wasn't ashamed to admit it. It was to be his first taste of really high living and he was all set for it.

The big face-spreading grin, the sharp lightweight suit he wore and the big and little bags he clutched in his huge fist gave ample evidence that Big Ed was heading south determined to make his stay a long one.

Among the Yankee prospects who will be given a complete going over during the next three weeks are the 35 outstanding rookies in the world champion's farm system and nine men who have already been added to the Yankee roster.

Andrews is among the 19 batterymen who will report for their first drill today and will receive special attention until the full complement arrives on Monday.



Ed Andrews, above, is waiting at the station prior to showing off for Newark where he joined up with Manager Casey Stengel and other members of the Yankee party which then took off for St. Petersburg, Fla.

The pre-training season will be climaxed February 19 and 20 at Miller Huggins Field where all prospects will participate in regular games designed to give the players a chance to strut their stuff under fire.

Among the Yankee field and front office personnel who will be looking at these games with a critical eye are Stengel, General Manager George M. Weiss; Coaches Jim Turner, Bill Dickson, Frank Crosetti and Ralph Houk; and Lee McPhail, boss of the Yankee farm system.

Batterymen joining Andrews in St. Petersburg today are Bob Grim, Jack Urban, Frank Simanovsky, Wally Burnett, Bob Wiesler, Mil Wright, Gary Coleman, Lloyd Merrick, Wilson Parsons, Mark Freeman, Ralph Terry, Pat Utley, Bill Dietrich, Bob Shipman and Leigh Lawrence, all pitchers; and Gus Triandos, Lou Berber and Cal Neeman, catchers.

Elston Howard, who will join the team on Monday, is also a prospect. The team is permitted to enter the training camp.