

good. Bindi Jack and Phillip Wallace later became Australian champions. Other boxers were Michael Charlie, Ernie McGreen (a good left-hander) and Archie Gibson. My brother and I wanted to box, and there was an old trainer named Billy Rooked who gave tough training lessons. We were going to start training with him, but then we left Woorabinda.

There was also a football team. Every Sunday afternoon there'd be a football match in Biloela, Rockhampton, Mt Morgan, Clermont, Theodore and other places. The first match we went to at Woorabinda was a good one, but towards the end a couple of the Woorabinda fellows, Steven Saunders and Reggie Richardson, got into a fight. Both men had blood on their faces. Nobody interrupted them, they just let the strongest one win. I don't know who won actually — they both looked pretty bloody at the end of it! We were very shocked by this. We had watched games up in the north and they had never ended in a fight.



Rodeo

A rodeo was held annually in Baralaba, and the Woorabinda trucks would take us there. We saw riders from cattle stations near and far.