CITY SPORTS

Asphalt to Astroturf is AFRO-turf

Defying old logic: Mervo banks on Brown

Can a good "young" team grab title?

The underlying logic for not allowing young players to step right into varsity starting positions is grounded in some cobwebbed idea that youth is enthusiastic, but dumb.

Mervo's coach, Paul Buckmaster, is from the so-called old school, but this year's 'B' Conference action should make him put that ancient theory to a strong test: his team has practically no seniors.

"We'll have a heavy nucleus of 10th and 11th graders," Buckmaster told the AFRO at a recent rainy practice session. "It's supposed to hurt (a team) but if you get some good youngsters. . ."

Three of those youngsters, plus an old senior, shape up as Buckmaster's offensive motor this year as the Mustangs get ready for their first game, September 30, against Dunbar.

Tailback Michael Brown (a junior) leads the charge, at least according to his '76 performance. He broke into last year's lineup, and galloped for 600 yards. Mervo, however, finished just 1-5-1.

A streamlined athlete, whose shoulder pads seem to cover his whole upper torso, Brown is one of Buckmaster's 'horses.' "We'll have plenty of speed," the coach said.

Paul Green, the senior, is Brown's backmate. His long legs make for ground-eating strides and tough moving targets for opposing tacklers.

Rounding out the running trio in Buckmaster's ground-oriented attack, is Anthony Jackson, a junior fullback. He adds power to his gazelle-like teammates.

This backfield could prove successful if everybody has the right "attitude," Buckmaster said.

When the Mustangs take to the air, Willie Pack, a 16-year-old junior quarterback, has to shoulder the load. Last year, he threw four touchdown passes. He said he is confident he will improve this year.

Defensively, and on his special teams, Buckmaster said he will be "depending on a lot of young players. If they come through, we'll be tough this year and next year," he said hopefully.

Not surprisingly, he calls this year's team, "the youngest I've ever had."

It will also be one of his most streamlined. Buckmaster's strategy is to "keep the squad down to 40" players this season. "We play everybody we keep," Buckmaster said simply.

For morale, the coach's philosophy is perfect for the athlete. Buckmaster agrees: "The guys know if they make the team they will play. We do not just keep a player to keep him on the bench. And that's what we told them."

SOBER ANTHONY JACKSON (L) blocks while highstepping wingback Paul Green (C) and quarterback Willie Pack (R) hope to score big, forming part of Mervo's speed-laden backfield this year.

Marble winners

JERRILYN KEENE SMILES after finishing as runner-up in this summer's Big Blue Marble Marbles Tournament in Wildwood, N.J. It was Jerrilyn's third straight runner-up spot in the tourney. Her friend is Baltimore Rec team teammate Charles Coleman.

New Games

An Excerpt of the non competitive games played during this summer's All Girls' Day, sponsored by the Baltimore City Recreation Department:

BLOB:

Select one person to be "It." Anyone the It tags joins hands with the It and becomes part of the Blob. The Blob continues to catch other people and grows in size. Only the people at the end of the Blob may tag. The Blob may also split in half and thus multiply. Game continues until all are caught. The last person caught can be the Blob who begins the next game.

WATER GAMES

BURST-THE-BLADDER — Equipment: water ballons, lenghts of 3½ to 4 ft. string. Each persons ties a water ballon on the end of a string and then ties the string around the waist with the ballon hanging in the back. On singal from the refree, all attempt to break the other's water ballon without getting their own ballon burst. All must remain within the boundaries until their ballon is burst. May only use the hands to grab the ballon. May not in any way hold onto a person.

PASS THE COLORED BALLOONS

All stand in a circle. Each person receives a water balloon — use three colors of balloons. On a signal from the refree, all begin passing the balloons to the right. Continue to pass balloons until the refree says stop. The refree then calls out a color — for example yellow. All may then throw their water balloons at the person holding a yellow balloon. The people with yellow balloons may throw their balloons on anyone.

EGG TOSS

Each person picks a partner. Start game with partners standing toe to toe. On signal from the refree pass the balloon. After each pass, each partner takes one step backwards. Wait for the refree to signal before each pass of the water balloon. The partners who get the furthest distance between them without bursting the water ballon wins.

SPIKED TOSS

Equipment: water balloons, spiked hat (may be a frisbe with a nail). Form teams. Each team selects one member to wear a spiked hat. This person stands on a line opposite their team members. On signal from the refree, the team members toss water balloons at the person with the spiked hat. The person with the spiked hat attempts to burst the water balloons with spike. Score one point per each ballon burst with the spike.

BATHING SUIT RELAY

Equipment: old large bathing suits, water hose. Divide into teams. Each team divides in half with each half standing on opposite sides of a field. On signal from the refree, the first person in each team puts on a wet bathing suit, runs to her teammate on the opposite side and gives the first girl in line the bathing suit. This girl puts on the bathing suit and runs to the other side. Game continues until all have gone. To make the relay more challenging a refree will hose the girls down as they rin from one side to the other.

MATING GAME

Before playing the games you'll need a set of cards containing the names of various animals. Have two cards for reach animal and one card per person. Start the game by giving each person a card. Have them read the card but not tell anyone what animal they are. On signal from the refree, each person attempts to find their mate by acting and sounding like the animal on their card. When each person locates their mate, they report to a refree for verification.

From Walbrook to Africa to college: round trip for boxer Greg Booker

Ghana is a long way from Seattle, Wash. But what has that got to do with anything?

For Gregory Booker, Ghana is the big chance of his 19-year-old lifetime.

A 1977 Walbrook graduate, Booker has now been boxing professionally for three years, thanks to the folks who manage newly-turned pro Sugar Ray Leonard.

It is paying off too, in more than one way: Booker will travel to the African country soon for a September 29 fight (this fourth pro bout). Also, the $45,000 he says he's made as a pro so far, is being "put away" for attendance at University of Maryland Baltimore County next semester.

Booker, in his characteristically quiet way, is overjoyed by his immediate future.

"Wow, Africa, that's quite an experience for me," exploded Booker in a recent phone interview. "I never imagined going over there. The farthest I've ever been was Seattle, Washington."

Sponsored by the College Park Boxing Club in Largo, Md., Booker qualified for the trip by defeating the "best" junior middle weight boxer in New York at Madison Square Garden last month.

Booker, undefeated in his three pro fights, wasn't always so invincible — in fact his overall career record is 40-42 ("As an amateur, I got knocked down every other fight," he joked).

But all through those physical insults when "I didn't feel so good either," Booker reveals, he was benefiting from the consistent techniques of his only pro trainer, Bob Mathews.

Booker smiled and told the story about the time Sugar Ray Leonard was visiting Walbrook and "announced" to an auditorium full of students "my name" as a boxer in his club.

"He let my game get out," laughed Booker, who has not told any of his classmates he was a fighter.

For his upcoming African bout, Booker could make $15,000 in a "winner take all" battle. He will stay in Ghana for 12 days.

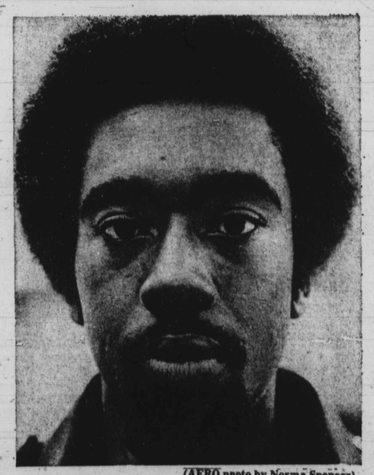
Booker emphasizes that his family influences his desire to get into college, where he'll study "mortuary science," because "my favorite uncle" is an undertaker.

"My mother doesn't want me to fight," Booker says. "She says it's too dangerous."

So he gets his fighting support from "my second mother," Miss Janice Jenkins and her son, "my best buddy," Otis Mann. "I'm going to try my best," to take Mann to Africa with him, Booker said.

And even though Booker says he is not "violent," he admits he "likes boxing." So much that he hasn't been knocked out as a pro yet.

"I can't say I'll fight a lifetime," he said. "But I'll fight till I get tired."



(AFRO photo by Norma Spencer)

GREGORY BOOKER takes enthusiasm, a good friend and a perfect record to Africa with him.

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Reflections

lifestyles, fashions, women, food, youth, society, clubs

Salute to black community leaders previews fall fashions

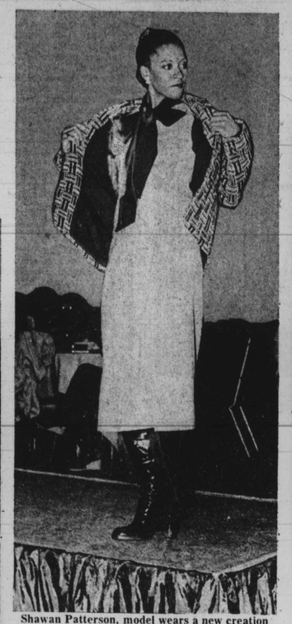
Students and directors of the Industrial Sewing School recently decided to honor several black community leaders in dinner-fashion show style at Martin's West.

Honorees included Sen. Clarence Blount, Cong. Parren J. Mitchell, Erla McKinnon, Dr. Curtis Adams, Nathaniel T. Oats, Del. Kenneth Webster and members of the Concerned Citizens of East Baltimore, Loretta Carrington, Ann Corley, Delores Stadler, Gloria Weaver Farrar, Thelma Tucker and Zatella Giles.

Those students exhibiting their creations in the show were Ricardo Graham, Mary Claybourne, Gail Spicer, Montress Griffin, Flossie Stevens, James Polston, Carolyn Mills, Joyce Johnson, Gerri Davis, Alvin Cherry, Deborah Sparks, and Joan Maddox.

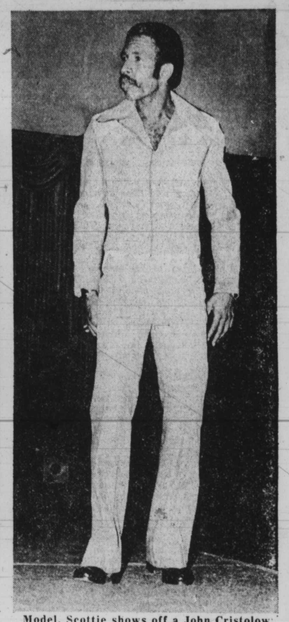
The sewing school is located 1836 W. North Avenue and is owned and operated by Jaki Britton.

Scottie models a Walter Comegys special.



Shawan Patterson, model wears a new creation by John Cristollow.

Lindae, the model wears a design by Montress Griffin.



Model, Scottie shows off a John Cristolow original.

Pretty model Linda Stewart models another by Walter Comegys original.

Shawan Patterson models this print gown which will be conservative look on the fashion scene this season.

Model Gwen Kellam shows off a Marcelyne Bedford creation. (AFRO staff photo by Norma Spencer)

Let the AFRO know

..Let the AFRO know what your neighborhood or civic organization is doing in the community. Send us the name and telephone number of your group's president so that we can feature your group on our pages. Mail information: c-o Michele L. McRae, 628 N. Eutaw Street, Baltimore, Md. 21201.

Orange desserts perfect for fancy home entertaining

Velvety in texture, vibrant with rich flavor — Orange Cheesecake will take the bows as the most smashing dessert you'll ever taste. It's a smooth, creamy, almost custard-like cake that gets its texture from cream cheese and its spectacular flavor from Florida orange juice.

With its glowing good looks, Orange Cheesecake is just the dessert to serve when company is coming for dinner, or whenever you celebrate a special occasion. It's that special itself, and will provide a fancy crowning touch to a beautiful meal.

You'll need some time to create this beauty, but it's time well spent when you see the results.

Orange Cheesecake is made in a springform pan, for neat, easy removal. First, you prepare the dough for a cookie crust, to which you add grated orange rind for extra flavor. After this procedure, which takes only a few minutes, you're ready to make the melt-in-your-mouth orange cheese filling. Beat together with an electric mixer cream cheese, sugar, a little flour, grated orange rind, salt and vanilla. Then add the eggs, one at a time. The key to good results here is gradual, slow beating. Finally, in goes the flavor secret — undiluted Florida orange juice concentrate, which gives this cheesecake its distinctive citrus flavor. Refreshing orange flavor is a welcome taste in this rich dessert.

Now you're set to pour the creamy mixture into the pan and bake. Besure to place aluminum foil under the pan in the oven, to catch butter that seeps from the crust. The cheesecake is baked for about 1-½ hours, at a higher temperature for the first few minutes. When it's done, cool the cake very slowly, to prevent it from falling. Then refrigerate once it has cooled.

Orange Cheesecake will certainly be one of your finest accomplishments as well as one of the loveliest and most delicious foods you'll ever serve.

Another dessert choice, perfect for parties and other fun occasions, is Orange Angel Pie. A sweet meringue "pie crust" with chopped nuts is the attention-getter in this recipe. The orange cream filling is light and smooth, and flavored with orange liqueur, fresh Florida orange juice and chopped orange sections. The slightly tart flavor of the orange filling is nicely complemented by the sweet meringue shell. Be sure to use fresh orange juice for the filling. It gives the pie a sweeter taste.

Zabaglione L'Orange is another fine dessert with refreshing orange flavor. It's a variation of Zabaglione, a sweet creamy dessert of Italian origin. This version has a rich orange flavor, a wonderful sauce to serve over fresh orange sections.

Orange Meringue Charlotte is a quick and easy orange dessert to prepare for your family.

Black organizations directory proposed

A group of representatives of seveal local agencies and organizations is attempting to assess the need for a directory of black civic and social organizations. The Metropolitan YWCA is the coordinating umbrella organization for the project.

Joan Case, project subcommittee chairperson, first identified the need for a single up-to-date source which would be available for groups needing to make contacts within the black community for program publicity, membership development, fundraising and other purposes.

Organizations which see a need for a comprehensive, readily

(Continued on Page 26)

BLACK ORGANIZATIONS CITY-WIDE DIRECTORY YES OR NO?

Complete and return by Sept. 1, 1977: Ms. Joan Case, c-o YWCA, 128 W. Franklin St., Baltimore, Md., 21201:

1. Would your organization desire to be included in a city-wide directory? Yes— No —
2. Would your organization object if the publication were made available to the public?
3. Would your organization object if the publication were sold via mail order? Yes— No —

NAME OF ORGANIZATION: _____

CONTACT PERSON: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY_____ STATE_____ ZIP CODE_____

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