Engagements and Weddings

Deborah Smith weds Joseph Blackwell Jr.

JUST MARRIED—Mr. and Mrs. Joseph S. Blackwell Jr. pose happily following their recent wedding at Metropolitan Methodist Church, next to the limousine which will bear them to their Martin's West reception. The bride is the former Miss Deborah A. Smith, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence C. Smith Sr., proprietors of the long ago established Crip's Florist.

Undoubtedly, one of the prettiest weddings of the summer season was the ceremony uniting Deborah Ann Smith of West Baltimore, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence C. Smith Sr. owners of the well-established Crip's Florist Shop, Poplar Grove St., and Joseph Samuel Blackwell Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Samuel Blackwell Sr.

Held recently at the Metropolitan Methodist Church, the 5:30 p.m. double-ring ceremony was officiated by the Rev. Dr. Irvin C. Lockman and the Rev. Oscar R. Christmas.

Given in marriage by her father, the bride wore a full-length gown of beaded alencon lace and sheer organza. The tightly-fitted lace-adorned bodice was highlighted by a mandarin neckline and long angel pouf sleeves.

The softly flowing organza skirt was adorned with a wide flounce of mushroom pleats and lace which completely encircled the hemline and swept into a full cathedral-length train. She carried a draped cascade in all white, with lilies, orchids and roses with white pearls and rhinestones surrounding the cascade.

The Matron-of-Honor and Bridesmaids wore full-length gowns of organza in shades of lilac and violet. The softly draped bodices had open necklines and full pouf sleeves, and the softly draped skirts were enhanced by a flower at the waistline.

They carried an impeccable expression of monochromatic color choices--several flowers from the same color palette designed Colonial fashion for a lavender or violet dress.

Matron-of-Honor was Mrs. Michelle Hayes, sister of the bride. Bridesmaids were Mrs. Janet Smith, Misses Kimberly M. Smith, Denise White, Donna Gordon, Gail Massey, Saundra Dorsey, Angela White, Jeanna Blackwell and Mrs. Jocelyn Trammell, all of Baltimore.

Flower girls were Misses Mikesha Hayes, Tiffany Blackwell and Jania Trammell, all of Baltimore. They wore pink floor-length hooped off-the shoulder gowns with lace trimming around the shoulders and bottom. Ring Bearer was Master Tavon Blackwell, also of Baltimore.

Best Man was Arthur Grant Murphy III. Ushers were Roger Epps, Michael James Brown, Clarence C. Smith Jr., brother of the bride; Jeffrey Soden, Tony Yorkshire, Eugene Lee, Monte Chandler, Vernon Nelson and Raymond Ridgeway.

The church was beautifully decorated in all white. Three archways divided the length of the aisle. There were candelabra set in front of the church with two large baskets on each side, and large flowering green plants surrounded the pews at the sides of the church.

Musical Programs Organist was Purnell Williams, trumpet player, Joseph Day. Soloists were Mrs. Anita Brown and Mrs. Geraldine Ringgold.

There were two receptions hosted for the couple--One in the lower church hall, where the newly-wedded couple greeted guests in a receiving line, and one at Martin's West.

At the Martin's West reception table arrangements and guest tables in a club setting were marked with towering tapers and flowers to coordinate with the floral theme, highlighting the bride and groom's honored place. A strikingly beautiful sight was that from each set of towering tapers and flowers glowed lighted candles, which set off the festive scene.

The traditional five-tiered wedding cake featured floral trims to match the table flowers and colors.

At the church reception guests enjoyed hot and cold hors d'oeuvres, fruit, raw bar and punch. At the larger reception there was a sit-down dinner, replete with cocktails and champagne.

Super music was provided at the Martin's West reception by the Reach Band, featuring Tracy Hamlin former 'Miss Talented Teen--Maryland', vocalist.

There was the traditional introduction of the bridal party and parents, wedding dance mixes, cutting of the cake and tossing of the bouquet.

The new Mrs. Blackwell is a graduate of Walbrook Senior High School and is currently employed at Westinghouse. The groom is currently employed by the Dept. of Transportation.

For their seven-day honeymoon trip to Hawaii, the bride and groom dressed alike in pink and gray, with the bride wearing a two-piece linen suit in pink and white with gray accessories, and the groom wearing pink trousers with a pink and gray shirt and pink and gray accessories.

The new Mr. and Mrs. Blackwell are at home in West Baltimore.

The wedding and reception were well attended by a cross section of the Baltimore community including educators, high level members of the police department and many, many others.

Out-of-town guests included Mrs. Goldie Kennedy, Philadelphia, PA; Mr. and Mrs. Julian Blackwell, Delaware; Mr. and Mrs. James Blackwell, New York City; Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Carter, also of New York Mrs. Lula Stewart, NYC; Miss Gwendolyn Kennedy, and Lloyd Tucker, Philadelphia, PA.

The wedding was directed by Mrs. Hortense Press and Mrs. Dorothy Wright. All flowers and decorations were done with expertise by Crip's Florist.

The wedding was one of the truly stunning highlights of the summer's social season.

Crystal Johns weds Emerson L. Coleman Jr.

Crystal Ann Johns and Emerson Louis Coleman, Jr. were united in holy matrimony recently at Ames Memorial United Methodist Church. Dr. O. St. Clair Franklin, minister, officiated.

Prior to this memorable day, the Bride elect was given a surprise lingerie shower by her bridesmaids at the home of her Maid of Honor, Dr. Wanda Ramsey of Dorchester Rd.

She was again surprised with a wine shower by her co-workers at WJZ-TV 13.

Early in July, Mr. and Mrs. Leon Bailey of Storrs, CN gave a champagne brunch for Emerson and Crystal at the charming home of the groom's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Emerson L. Coleman, Sr. of Cedric Rd.

The groom's parents also held a most elegant dinner after the wedding rehearsal at the Terrace Room in the Belvedere Hotel. As you see, there was a whirlwind of activities leading up to this happy and joyous occasion.

Ms. Rhonda Melton, an accomplished pianist and singer rendered the wedding music and sang an original tune to the Bride and Groom.

The Bride was simply beautiful in an Eve of Milady original, which was a white, off the shoulder organza gown, trimmed with pearls and rhinestones.

The train was a peacock swirl, and her veil was outlined in miniature pearls.

The Bride's coiffure was cascaded in pearls, and as she pirouetted down the white carpeted isle, she looked like a Dresden doll.

Her bridesmaids were like summer flowers in off-the-shoulder raspberry pink ankle-length gowns with an array of pink and white baby's breath adorning their coiffures.

The groom was dashing and debonair in his silver grey swallow tail tux by Bill Blass, and his groomsmen were suave in their silver grey Bill Blass tuxedoes.

The parents of the bride, Mr. and Mrs. Clifton H. Johns; Grandmother, Mrs. Elizabeth Johns; and Groom, Mr. and Mrs. Emerson L. Coleman, Sr. were equally as handsome, in hues of grey, pink and blue making the wedding party absolutely stunning.

A gala reception for over 500 guests was held at Blue Crest North, in Pikesville, where continuous cocktails and cold and hot hors d'oeuvres were served before dinner.

The activities included the traditional wedding dances and mingling of a very spirited gathering of relatives, friends and invited guests.

Ms. Aleets Greene and Mark Roumeis entertained during the evening.

During dinner, guests were further treated to a splendid piano concert performed by one of the groomsmen, Earl Scott, whose rendition of a classical jazz medley was applauded most earnestly. The Bride and Groom honeymooned in St. Martin's, Netherlands before returning to their home in Baltimore.

Both bride and groom are employed by WJZ-TV Ch. 13. She is Associate Producer for "People Are Talking" and he is Special Projects Producer for "Evening Magazine."

Among some of the guests were Mr. and Mrs. Richard Sher (Ch. 13, "People Are Talking" Host), Ms. Beverly Burke (Ch. 13, "People Are Talking" Co-host), Mike Easterling, Mr. and Mrs. Reggie Wright, Patrick Onley, Mary Ellen Iwata, Karen Melamed, Barbara Hamm and Phyllis Shelton, all of WJZ-TV.

Some of the out of towners were Mr. & Mrs. Leon Bailey and son Marc, Storrs, CN, the Rev. & Mrs. Lloyd DeLong, Cn; Vasco Hamlin and son Rocky, Eden, N.C.; Mr. & Mrs. William E. Coleman, Dayton, OH; Mrs. Mary Sumter and sons Daymon and Odell, Chester, NY; Marcia Lynch, Durham, N.C. Rudolph Coleman, Newburgh, NY; Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Hipp, Newburgh, NY; Mr. & Mrs. Julius Scott and daughter Sheryl, West Haven, Ct; William Coleman and son Brandon, Reynoldsburg, OH; Mr. & Mrs. Napoleon Head & daughter Allison, McMurray, Pa; Mr. & Mrs. Ernest Wingate, South Ozone Park, NY and Mrs. Margaree High, Washington, DC;

Coordinators of the wedding were Mrs. Geneva "Jean" Taylor, Vice President of NAFAD (Balto. Chapter National Association Fashion Accessory and Designers) and Ms Wanda Thornton.

Members of the Bridal Party included: Wanda L. Ramsey, M.D., Maid-of-Honor; Paula O. Ashby, Matron-of-Honor; Constance Baldwin, Bridesmaid; Doretha Beckham, bridesmaid; George Chainey Jr., best man; Craig Brown, groomsman; Alwyn Powell, groomsman; Walter Royal, M.D., groomsman and Earl C. Scott, groomsman.

NEWLYWEDS—Mr. and Mrs. Emerson Louis Coleman Jr. smile happily following their recent wedding ceremony performed at Ames Memorial United Methodist Church. The bride is the former Crystal Ann Johns.

Mrs. Kevin J. Kelly
New Bride

Phyllis E. Larrymore, Kevin Kelly wed

Phyllis Elaine Larrymore and Kevin Jerome Kelly were united in marriage at recently, at Trinity United Methodist Church in Orangeburg, SC.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Larrymore, Jr. of St. Matthews, SC. She is the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Larrymore, Sr. of St. Matthews, SC and the late Mrs. Lillie Roach Ellis of St. Matthews, SC.

The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Vernon A. Kelly of Baltimore, MD.

The Rev. Alex Findley of Bethel A.M.E. Church, St. Matthews, SC, officiated at the marriage ceremony.

Given in marriage by her parents, the bride was attended by her sister, Betty J. Bull of St. Matthews, as matron of honor; and her friend, Danielle Wooten of New York, as maid of honor.

Bridesmaids were Tawayna Benjamin of Washington, DC, friend of the bride; Lawana D. Buckman of Washington, DC, cousin of the bride; Verna D. Colar of Silver Spring, MD, friend of the bride; Gloria Cunningham of Spartanburg, SC, friend of the bride; Alethia Larrymore of St. Matthews, SC, sister of the bride; Iris Larrymore of St. Matthews, SC, sister of the bride; Carol Walker of St. Matthews, SC, cousin of the bride and Beatrice Wooten of New York, friend of the bride.

Junior bridesmaids were Rana M. Harris of Washington, DC, cousin of the groom, and Stephanie Haynes of New York, cousin of the bride.

Kevin D. Buckson of Baltimore, MD, friend of the groom was best man. Groomsmen were Jerold L. Baker of Baltimore, MD, friend of the groom; Daryl F. Britt of Philadelphia, PA, friend of the groom; Michael Broughton of New York, cousin of the bride; Dennis Larrymore and G. Patrick Larrymore of St. Matthews, brothers of the bride; L. Vernon Valentine of Baltimore, MD, friend of the groom; Barney J. Wilson of Baltimore, MD, friend of the groom and Vincent J. Wilson also Baltimore.

Junior groomsmen were Daniel B. Wooten of New York, friend of the bride, and Aborigine E. Young of St. Matthews, cousin of the bride.

Ringbearer was Marcus A. Bynum of Washington, D.C., cousin of the bride. Flower girls were Chrystal E. Bull of St. Matthews, niece of the bride, and Angela McKnight of Orangeburg, goddaughter of the bride.

Tameka D. Wilson of St. Matthews, niece of the bride, was the miniature bride.

Following the ceremony a reception was held at the Kirkland W. Green Student Center at South Carolina State College. After a wedding trip the couple will reside in Fort Washington, Md.

Kenneth Larrymore of New York, brother of the bride was the director of the wedding, assisted by Harriett Haigler of St. Matthews, cousin of the bride.

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COLUMBIA CAPERS

RETIRED NFL STAR SPEAKS OUT

"Find yourself a dream, take it as far as you can, dreams are just what they are, never get disappointed if it doesn't work, go into another positive direction."

These words were spoken by John Outlaw Sr., former retired NFL New England Patriot and Philadelphia Eagle Football star last week at his beautiful Running Brook home during an interview after the Christening reception celebration of his only son, John Jerome Outlaw (Little JJ).

CHRISTENING CEREMONY HELD

The Christening of John Jerome Outlaw Jr. took place at St. John Baptist Church with many family and friends witnessing the beautiful ceremony. The Rev. Hulbert H. Eaton, pastor of St. John Baptist Church officiated the ceremony.

Little J. J. was dressed in a white suit for the ceremony, while his charming mother, Mrs. Outlaw (Linda) was attired in a two - piece linen beige and tan suit. The Outlaws were presented a Bible for their baby and a carnation by Rev. Eaton.

Guests attending the ceremony and reception came from as far as Ohio, including: Mrs. Mildred Donaldson, Youngstown, OH, Mother of Mrs. Outlaw; Mrs. Elaine Rice, Silver Spring, MD, Mrs. Millie Horn, Wheaton, MD, Mrs. Cathy Mosley, Godmother of Little J. J., Mrs. Coleen Gooden and Miss Pamela Portier all from Washington, D.C.; Mrs. Erma Long and daughter, sister of Mr. Outlaw, Baltimore, MD; also Mrs. Debra Gamble and family, Mr. and Mrs. Marilin Scott and family, and Miss Chyrie Adams and guest. Sending regrets were sister Earlene Richardson wife of basketball star Willie Richardson, and his mother Beatrice Outlaw.

From the Columbia area attending the ceremony and reception were: Eugenie Brickerstaff, wife of assistant basketball coach Bernie Brickerstaff, University of MD, College Park, MD; Eugenia is also godmother of Little J. J. Also attending were Lauren Taylor, Dr. and Mrs. Daniel W. C. Brown (Doris) and daughter Carolyn; Miss Callie Green, Yours Truly, Mrs. G. Moss and Mrs. Julie Stovall and family.

The delicious informal buffet dinner which included smoked barbecued chicken prepared by the hands of Mr. Outlaw; all kinds of salads, especially the talked about well - seasoned potato salad, one of Linda's specialities and the many kinds of meats, hot and cold.

After sampling those foods, well, it was truly exercising time — walk or jog either one would have helped the calories to vanish . . .

A DREAM COME TRUE

John Jerome Outlaw, Sr., a tall, medium sized, soft - voiced former retired star player for the NFL Football League (New England Patriots), and the Philadelphia Eagles, met and married his lovely wife, Linda in Boston, MA, where he made his first debut with the N.F.L.

A lifetime dream come true for John Outlaw. Often, as a kid, he stuffed rags to make a football, pretending he was a player, while not having the opportunity to swim or participate in other sports like the other race in his hometown, Clarksdale, MI. But John had a dream to become a pro football player. He proved himself in high school to be an all rounder scholar and earned a full scholarship to Jackson State College after which he was drafted for the N.F.L. that carried his career for eight years with the New England Patriots, followed by five years with the Philadelphia Eagles, before retiring.

He has a master's degree in Criminal Justice. Jim Brown and Lennie Moore were influences in his life as far as his career was concerned. "You see I lost my father when I was 2½ years old and I had to have someone to give me inspiration," he said.

Speaking with sincerity, "It's rewarding to see students graduate and go on to play pro ball and make good knowing that you've been of some inspiration in helping them to achieve their goal." There have been many pros from North Carolina Central University where he has been coaching football for five years after retiring from the Philadelphia Eagles. One was William Frizzell, defense backer for Detroit Lions, and Myrlum Depener, who is with Denver.

Outlaw feels that Southern Black schools have a family type atmosphere and are always looking out for their players to make good.

In comparison with the high salary he formerly made with the NFL and the coaching position he has at North Carolina Central University, it's a tremendous difference. We chatted about it. He had this to say: "The pay is not that great. However, I am dedicated to the school and my students. Dedication takes priority with me now. A good teacher must begin with dedication."

I asked about little J. J. Whether he would want him to follow in his footprints. He smiled and said, "Yes, I would want him to become a football player." Surely, I would give him all of the avenues to succeed if it's his choice, he said."

Mrs. Outlaw (Linda) is an airline stewardess for American Airlines and has been for sixteen years. (cuff note) with those super benefits she has she can't be topped in any profession — keep flying Linda, "Up, Up and Away" — Free Flying — Super!

THOUGHT FOR TODAY
To The Young People
Find Yourself a dream, take it as far as it will go. Never get disappointed if it doesn't work, if not go into another positive direction.
By John Jerome Outlaw, Jr.
Retired NFL Football Star

Marjorie Green

WOODLAWN HIGHLIGHTS

VACATIONERS RETURN HOME

Ms. Kitty Bacon, Disability Examiner with the Social Security Administration recently returned from an exciting vacation in Kansas City where she visited her daughter and attended the 1984 Kansas City Jazz Festival. Ms. Bacon's daughter, Rhonda Lokeman, is a Morgan State University graduate and former reporter with the K.C. Star. She was recently named Editorial Writer for both the K.C. Star and the K.C. Times newspapers.

* * *

Teresa Knowles, Mod 33, spent two days in New York after vacationing for two weeks in the Aruba Palm Beach Hotel in Aruba.

* * *

Members of the Les Tams Service and Social Club sponsored their first vacation cruise this summer. The club cruised to Bermuda in late August. Mrs. Virginia Patterson chaired the activity. Mrs. Olivia Weems is president.

* * *

ENGAGEMENT ANNOUNCED

Wanda Taylor, Disability Office secretary has announced her engagement to Thomas P. Smith. The wedding is scheduled to take place in June, 1985 at the Metropolitan United Methodist church, according to Wanda's co-workers.

NEW YORK SITE

A group of SSA employees have been assigned to a two week work detail in Suitland, MD. They will report to the Federal Records Center to review and remove from storage a targeted number of cases eligible for possible reinstatement.

John Meadowcroft will manage the group, which includes Examiners Patricia Barlow, Vera Bernard, Joe Clise, Kathleen Coldwell, Ronald Fisher, Robert Gids, Zelma Glascoe, John Hummel, Kenneth Kearns, Sandra Johnson, Tom Jones, Charles Reddington, Barron Sacks, Ron Wilder, Nellie Becks, Marjorie Ferguson and Norlinder Rucker.

* * *

PROMOTION AND AWARDS

A temporary promotion, not to exceed 120 days, was awarded to Janet Perkins of the Office of Disability. She reports to the Litigauon Staff.

Associate Commissioner Awards were presented to Gladys Wynn, a Recovery Reviewer and Theresa Archambault, Disability Inquiries Specialist. Deputy Branch Manager, Edith Roth was the recipient of an Associate Commissioner group award.

* * *

MR. AND MRS. MIMS ENTERTAIN

Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Mims (Erecilla) entertained 50 friends and members of the Mt. Sinai Lodge 63 at a picnic on Saturday at their Columbia, MD home. The new Worshipful Master, Clarence Stitt, was included on the guest list.

SSA employees and friends participating in the fun were Leroy Thornton, Charlie Stewart, Clarence and Elsie Ayres; Bernice and Gardner Little, Herbert Armstrong and Charles Leggett.

SIT IN SERVICE

The Jerusalem Temple Shriners will sponsor a Sit In Service, Sunday, September 30 at the First Corinthian Baptist Church in West Baltimore, The Rev. Henry Turner, Pastor and Deputy Imperial Chaplain, will be the 11 a.m. speaker.

CONCERT SCHEDULED

John Leon Lewis, local recording artist has recorded his first solo album. The album will be introduced to the general public at a concert featuring Lewis, accompanied by Tom McDonald.

The concert will be held on September 21, at the Woodlawn Senior High School, 1801 Woodlawn Dr.

Tickets are available at the Baptist Book Store in Lutherville, MD. Also, P. O. Box 23195, Baltimore, MD. 21203.

Career Day Conference Planned

A Career Day Conference, aimed especially at black high school students, sponsored by Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity and other black organizations of Harford and Cecil Counties will be held on Saturday, Sept. 15, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Aberdeen Senior High School, located on Paradise Rd., Aberdeen.

Information will be provided on job opportunities, vocational technical training, military services, college admissions, and financial aid for college.

Kelly Hill

SINGLE PARENTING

BACK TO SCHOOL FOR THE SINGLE PARENT

Over the years, the amount of education and experience required to obtain a position in the job market with a salary that is adequate to keep up with inflation is increasing rapidly.

In the 50's the slogan was "get a good high school education, graduate and then get a job." In the 60's "get a good education in the Armed Forces or Service then get a job." Now its "get a good college education and maybe you will be able to get a job.

In each of these cases, times have changed and even for those who did get a "GOOD" college education, they still can't find a job.

However, it certainly would be nice to have those educational benefits under your belt. The single parent who may be looking toward going back to school may want to check out the financial assistance program.

There are numerous grants and scholarships that can be acquired. It is very important that you apply as soon as possible so that you aren't faced with having to start school without your financial assistance tuition.

Consult your local library for a complete listing of grants and scholarships that are available nationwide. Some grants (when asking the bank for a loan) will require that you repay that amount after you have successfully completed your college education or if you fail to finish. There are Pell grants which do not have to be paid back. Clairol also sponsors grants in the field of education.

Locally, the City of Baltimore has the Adult Education Center which sponsors classes for a minimal charge. You can contact them by calling 396-6704. Registration will begin the week of September 17.

In summary, the single parent who puts off going back to school or completing the Bachelor's requirement may consider some of these alternatives NOW that the kids are a little older, and perhaps you may be a little bit more stable in your career.

For more information regarding financial aid, call the financial aid department of the college that you wish to attend. An advisor will set up an appointment for you to come in and discuss your current career changes that you may be seeking.

The saying, "A Mind is a Terrible Thing to Waste" can also apply to the education field as well. Take advantage of the many opportunities that may be available to you through financial assistance.

For those who are interested in hobby courses such as tennis, swimming or racquetball, these classes are offered too.

On Thursday, September 27, Black Single Parents Without Partners will hold its monthly membership meeting at 4903 Liberty Heights Ave. across from 7-11. The meeting will start at 7 p.m.

For more information call the Black Single Parent Hot Line at 466-5564.

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