AFRO SPORTS

Yo-yo Stars face Jersey

It is understandable that the Baltimore Stars and their followers don't wish to be negative, but they must be realistic.

On Sunday, the Stars travel to New Jersey to take on the Generals for the second time in their USFL schedule, and it comes at a time when the Generals are at their peak.

NJ quarterback Doug Flutie appears to have completed his adjustment to the pro game after his Heisman performance in college.

And fellow-Heisman Trophy running back Herschel Walker also is on a tour.

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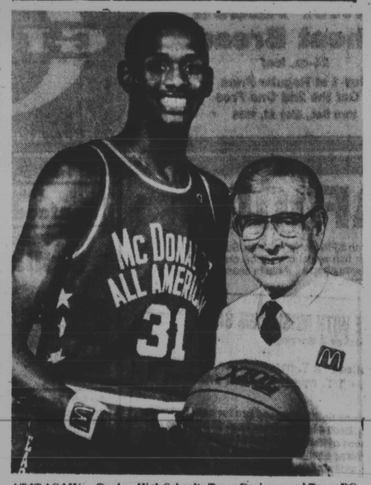
Following a season plagued by shoulder injuries, Walker is developing into the dominant force he was as a collegian at Georgia. Walker leads the USFL in rushing after 11 weeks with 1,290 yards and is ahead of his 1983 pace in which he ran for a league-record 1,812 yards.

Conversely, the Stars are plagued with what might be called a "yo-yo" reputation.

They're up one week, as they were when they surprised the Generals early. And they're shot down the next when they expect to win.

This pattern keeps them at .500 or thereabouts week after week.



AT IT AGAIN — Dunbar High School's Terry Dozier paced Team DC to a 91-82 victory over a touring aggregation of Chinese Junior Olympians last Friday night at George Washington University. His 13 points — six in the closing minutes — enabled Team DC to pull away from a late tie. Terry is shown with DeMatha coach John Wooden during last month's McDonald Classic at Capital Centre.

Peete holds No. 2 in golf money

Despite disqualifying himself when he lost count on the 5th hold of the TPC tourney last week, Calvin Peete clung to the No. 2 slot on the pro golf money list.

His $289,030 for the year is exceeded only by Curtis Strange's $397,115.

Jim Thorpe joins Peete among the top 100 winners. He's in 80th place with $34,614 in winnings.

COULDN'T COUNT — Although the official scores gave him a 9 on the 5th hole of the TPC golf tourney last week, Calvin Peete said he slapped at the ball on the green several times in frustration and maybe made as much as a 12 or 13. He wouldn't sign card and was disqualified.

Soaring Birds light in stadium...briefly

The high-flying Orioles come to rest in Memorial Stadium tonight (Friday), but the stay will be relatively brief.

Local fans are certain to welcome their baseball heroes, mindful of the fact that they are currently posting the best won-lost record (16-9) in their (Eastern) division.

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But, as has been the case on numerous occasions in the past, the home folk won't have long to savor Baltimore's success. The stand is for five games only — three against Minnesota, Friday through Sunday afternoon, and two with Kansas City.

Then the O's are off on a tour of the West, beginning Wednesday night in Chicago and making stops in Seattle, Oakland and Anaheim before returning on the 29th.

Buoyed by a string that took three of five games in Minnesota and K.C., the Birds are gradually building optimism that they can return to the 1983 world championship form.

Since they are presently only a half-game ahead of Detroit and holding only a one game edge on Toronto, the O's and their followers want as much "home cooking" as they can get before June and confrontations with the Tigers, Yankees and Brewers . . .

LACY

Tired of lying, Holmes set to meet 'The Truth'

NEW YORK — Larry Holmes has flirted with retirement so often, he no longer finds it an attractive subject.

'I get tired of hearing it myself, that I'm retired and coming back, retired and coming back . . .' Holmes said Monday at a news conference to announce he is coming back May 20 to defend his International Boxing Federation heavyweight title against Carl "The Truth" Williams.

But Holmes isn't so tired of changing his mind that he can turn down purses in the millions as he attempts to win the three fights he needs to break Rocky Marciano's record of 49 victories without a loss or draw.

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About two weeks after his "Farewell Fight" — a 10-round knockout of David Bey on March 15 — Holmes decided to fight again. He had plenty of help making the decision.

"A lot of people told me I should go for it, my family and friends told me I'm the best out there, nobody can beat me,' Holmes said. "Besides, I can keep making the money they give me."

Holmes said even his wife Diane, who has prodded him for years to retire, supports his decision.

"I said to her, 'what do you think?'" Holmes said. "She said 'go for it if you can get up for it.' I said 'what's more important, brains or money?' She said 'brains, but if you can make some money out of it, go for it.' She can buy some more diamonds, so why not?"

Holmes will earn between $2.5 and $3 million for the 15-round bout, which will be held in the 10,000-seat Convention Center in Reno, Nev., and televised by NBC.

Morgan inks 5 newcomers

Bent on recovering some of its lost prestige, Morgan State University early this week signed five outstanding Maryland prep football prospects to national letters - of - intent.

The quintet and their statistics as gleaned from the Golden Bear scouting reports are:

GEORGE ALLEN 3rd, 6-3, 285 - pound offensive tackle; possesses great upper body strength and good speed. This Carver High youngster should help shore up the offensive line.

ALLEN POLSTON, 6-1 linebacker weighing 195 pounds; t0pline - defensive player who enjoyed great day in City All - Star Game, representing Carver.

MICHAEL DAY, 6-1, 185 - pound wide receiver with great speed (he ran sprints, hurdles and relays at Carver).

CALVIN MONTGOMERY, 6-4 offensive tackle from Andover High; a 290 - pounder who runs the 40 in 5.3 seconds. He was all - county in football, outstanding wrestler, and competed in track and field as shotputter.

TONY TAYLOR, 225 - pound defensive tackle who stands 6-1 and gained reputation as an aggressive performer in football, and lacrosse at Andover.

Trench Davis and Carey Cheek to be joined on farm by ex-Elite teammate

Walbrook youngster is signed by Pirates

The Pittsburgh Pirates, having enjoyed success in previous scouting of the Baltimore Elite Giants' camp, visited again last weekend to pick up another promising talent.

He is Kevin Davis, a 20 - year - old catcher who played his high school ball at Walbrook and divided his summers since James Mosher Little League days between the Elite Giants and Wagner's.

Davis signed a Pirates' farm contract last Friday and will join the Bradenton (Fla.) Pirates of the Gulf Coast Rookie League on June 1.

This is the third ex - Elite the Pittsburgh club has signed over the last five years.

Davis thus joins Trench Davis and Carey Cheek in the Pittsburgh system.

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Davis, a centerfielder who played scholastically at Southern, has been assigned to Triple-A Hawaii for the fifth and final year of option.

Cheek, also a Southern High graduate and first baseman, has been sent from Watertown of the New York - Penn League to Macon of the South Atlantic League. Both are Class-A teams.

Youth bowlers set to compete in state finals

Thirty - three of the best youth bowlers in the state will compete in the finals of the Maryland Tenpin Bowling Council Youth Invitational tournament, Sunday, May 19, at Bowl America Dundalk.

The 33 contestants earned their way to the state finals by qualifying in local events held in eight sections of the state. In each of those eight sections the top ten boys and top ten girls, based on league averages as of Dec. 31, 1984, were invited to compete in a three - game scratch event.

The top two boys and top two girls from the local qualifiers are advancing to the state finals.

In the state finals each bowler will roll six games scratch. The top five boys and top five girls, based on those six games, will be ranked one through five and compete in one game up - the - ladder matches.

Plaques will be presented to the five finalists in each division (boy - girl) in accordance with their finish.

Young local gymnast cops state title

Black gymnasts are rare.

Ron Gallimore is a known star among international competitors, and Diane Durham barely missed representing the United States on the women's gymnastic team last summer.

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Now comes Maryland's hope of the future.

He is young Juba Ra-Akbar, who recently captured the Class III state crown at Germantown, Md., thus qualifying for the regionals, to be held later this month in Belair, Md:

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Should Juba score in the regional competitions, his next step will be the nationals, scheduled for June.

Ra-Akbar is the son of Mrs. Edith Brandt of Kitmore Road.

USFL this week

Saturday

Los Angeles at Oakland, 3 p.m.
Portland at Birmingham, 8 p.m.

Sunday

Baltimore at New Jersey, 2:30 p.m.
Denver at Arizona, 1:30 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Jacksonville, 2:30 p.m.

Monday

San Antonio at Orlando, 8 p.m.

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*OPEN SATURDAY MORNINGS

Religion In Modern Life

Gospel Station WBGR ranks high in local ratings

Above: WBGR manager Don Brooks in the studio with Cal hackett, one of Baltimore's favorite gospel personalities.

By Brian Tyson

Sometimes good news can create a chain reaction.

Since Gospel Station WBGR's ranking of 7th with a 4.5 share in the recent Arbitron ratings of local stations, the news has spread all over town and it's a safe bet that more and more people will be listening.

Since station manager Don Brooks, isn't influenced by reports or ratings, there's substantial reason to trust that the station's successful style of gospel programming will continue. According to Brooks, WBGR is getting better all the time.

"No, I don't pay much attention to the ratings, but when people are saying good things about you, the word gets around. We are exclusively a gospel station. So while other stations receive praise for being diversified, we focus on one thing . . . gospel and that in itself is a large part of our success. If we continue to do as we have, and that's work at being the best gospel station around, listenership will grow as time goes by," Brooks told the AFRO.

Modestly, he credits the station's success to its popular staff of gospel radio personalities. "We made it a point to hire the very best gospel radio personalities available, and from the responses that we get, our listeners couldn't be happier with them. Each one is a great personality, and they know their gospel music too" Brooks said.

Among WBGR's musical hosts are such well-knowns as Pauline Wells Lewis, Naomi Durant, Claudia Barber, Lee Michaels, and Cal Hackett.

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"When you have an experienced gospel air staff that works together the way we do, it's rather difficult not to come up with a good product, and our product is our gospel sound. Also, we never stop looking for ways to improve," added Brooks.

Manager Brooks pointed to WBGR's slogan as a basis for much of the station's programming.

"We function around our slogan, "Serving the spiritual needs of the community." By paying attention to listener response we usually have a fairly good idea of whom our listeners are listening for. Our audience is usually receptive to music and programming that uplifts or provides them with a boost to carry them through the day. That's what we're here for, and we enjoy it," stated Brooks enthusiastically.

Speaking of boosts, this summer WBGR will receive an output increase of 1,500 watts which will bring the station to a total output of 2,500 watts. Aside from producing a stronger signal for area listeners, the power increase will expand WBGR's listening audience into the D.C. area.

By interfacing with the audience through giveaways, church highlights, and listener participation talk shows, Brooks believes he can bring the station and listeners closer together.

"I think the interaction factor plays a role in our success. By allowing listeners to participate by calling in and making contributions they feel that they are a part of what's happening . . . it gives us a personal touch."

Brooks, who programmed contemporary and R&B stations before coming to WBGR, says, "The formula is basically the same except here we concentrate on one thing: gospel."

Since December, 1983, Brooks and the staff at WBGR have worked consistently to make the station the gospel star it is today.

"I came to this station with one intention, and that was to make it as good a gospel station as possible . . . We've done that, but as time rolls on we'll find ways to make it better," he said.

When asked what he thought the public needed most to know about WBGR, Brooks replied, "that we're all gospel, we're on the air from 6 a.m. to 8:15 p.m., and most importantly we're located at 860 on the a.m. dial."

Sharp St. U.M.C. Baby Contest

Baby contest winner: 1st place, Shamir Coles (center), 3rd place, Veronica Landon (left), 4th place Tishaea Stokes.

Recently, Sharp Street United Methodist Church hosted the First Annual Civil Rights Baby Contest sponsored by the Lillie Carroll Jackson Museum in a fund - raising effort for the museum. Fifty babies entered the contest and the event was attended by parents, friends, and sponsors of the effort to raise funds for the expansion of educational and cultural programs.

The audience was entertained by multi - talented youths from the Baltimore area, ranging in age from five to 13.

At the conclusion of the program, two chairpersons, Mrs. Ethel Gordon and Mrs. Viola C. Jackson announced the winners of the contest. They were: Shamir Cole, 1st place — $100 Savings Bond; Janine Cage, 2nd place — Diamond Ring; Veronica Landon, 3rd place — Silver Cup; Tishaea Stokes, 4th place — Cabbage Patch Doll.

Due to the many supporters of the fund - raising event, the Lillie Carroll Jackson Museum surpassed its intended goal of $4,000.00.

Telecommunications Center for city archdiocese

On Wednesday, May 8, Archbishop William D. Borders established the Telecommunications Center for the Archdiocese of Baltimore. At a ceremony in his office at the Catholic Center at 2:30 p.m. Archbishop Borders and Father agreement whereby the archdiocese will lease space at St. Mary's Seminary and University to house the center. Father Leavitt is president and rector of St. Mary's Seminary and University.

In December, 1984, the archdiocese became an affiliate of the Catholic Telecommunications Network of America. By means of this network the Catholic bishops of the United States are attempting to link all the dioceses of the United States through the use of satellite transmission of television programs, teleconferencing and electronic mail. The antenna for receiving these transmissions (known as a "down - link" or "dish") will be located at St. Mary's as well as the offices and production center.

For its first three years of operation, the center will be receiving and recording broadcasts from the satellite. These will then be used as part of a video library for the archdiocese in various pastoral areas, including religious education and some will be distributed over cable systems throughout the archdiocese.

After three years the archdiocese plans to begin producing its own programs at the center.

Archbishop Borders has expressed his confidence that the Telecommunications Center will be a first step toward bringing the archdiocese into the mainstream of the communications revolution and will give us better and more frequent opportunities for evangelization and the dissemination of information about the church both for Catholics and people of other faiths alike.

Present at the ceremony along with Archbishop Borders and Father Leavitt were Father Nicholas Amato, secretary of Formation for the archdiocese and newly appointed project director of the Telecommunications Center; Father Dennis Diehl, production manager for the Telecommunications Center; and Father Leo Murray, S.J., director of communications for the archdiocese.

Deacon Boone to sing at Fisrt Baptist

The First Baptist Church Sunday School is celebrating its 151st anniversary featuring Deacon Thomas M. Boone in concert, Deacon Boone, baritone, at the Mount Winans First Baptist Church will perform Sunday, May 19 at 6:00 p.m. at the First Baptist Church located at 525 N. Caroline St. Rev. Leroy Fitts is the pastor of the church. All are welcome to attend.

Metro Church Briefs

METROPOLITAN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

On Saturday, May 4, at 10 a.m., Jimmy Johnson will lead a Family Financial Planning Seminar in the church's social hall. The two-hour session will feature "Asset Management for Middle-Income Families."

The church is located at the corner of Lanvale St. and Carrollton Ave. Admission is free and all are welcome.

METROPOLITAN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

A Mother's Day Fashion Show/Luncheon will be held on Saturday, May 11, at Holiday Inn-Belmont. The proceeds will be used for the Metropolitan Summer Enrichment Program, an outreach program for children of Harlem Park.

The show will present fashions from Jay's Fashion Village; lingerie by Cameo; furs by Seleh; Jewelry by Vanessa Nock; handbags by Karen Banker. Makeup for the professional models will be provided by Janet Carter and afternoon music will be provided by LJ unlimited.

Interested persons should call the church office at 523-1366.

MINIATURE MISS PAGEANT

There is still time for young ladies age six through 12 to enter the fifth annual Miniature Miss Pageant, to be held Sunday, June 2 at the Maryland Historical Society, 201 W. Monument St.

To be eligible, youngsters must either sing, dance, play an instrument, or give an oral presentation.

A trip to Disneyland and a Peabody Scholarship will be awarded to the winners. Applications can be obtained at the Maryland Historical society or by calling 947-1496.

MORNING STAR BAPTIST CHURCH

William Allen of the Community Players of Baltimore will present a Church Drama and Concert at the Morning Star Baptist Church, 1063 W. Fayette St. on Friday, May 24th, at 8 a.m. in the Multi-Purpoe Hall. The concert is to benefit a number of local charities. Admission is free and the public is invited.

GRACE A.M.E. CHURCH

The Elhana R. Washington, Sr. Memorial Scholarship Fund of Grace AME Church, 67'r, Winters Lane, Catonsville, will present "An Evening with Wintley Phipps" on Sunday, May 19, at 3:30 p.m.

Wintley Phipps is the man who moved America with his rendition of "Ordinary People" at the Democratic National Convention.

Admission is $5 in advance and $6 at the door. For tickets call Rufus Washington, at 747-2911 or Shirley Diggs at 741-6812.

UNION BAPTIST CHURCH

The Coffee House of Union Baptist Church, 1219 Druid Hill Ave., will present its second annual program in celebration of the church's Women's Day.

On May 17, at 7 p.m. at the coffee house, Dr. Leslie King Hammond, dean of graduate studies at the Maryland Institute, will be the guest speaker. The topic will be "Today's Women."

ST. JAMES FREE BAPTIST CHURCH

The St. James Free Baptist Church is sponsoring a tour to Montreal, Quebec, departing from 1508 E. Layfayette Ave. on July 8 at 6 a.m. and returning on July 11, at 10 p.m.

The tour includes round trip motorcoach transportation, three nights, hotel accommodations, baggage handling, and a half day sightseeing tour of Montreal (the second largest French-speaking city in the world). The cost of the tour is $220.000 per person, based on double occupancy.

For further information and reservation, call Rev. Morris at 945-2216 or Edith Drakeford at 837-6986.

BETHEL AME CHURCH

The Television Ministry of Bethel AME Church presents the John P. Bryant Inspirational Choir in a Mother's Day Concert on Sunday, May 12, at 3 p.m. Proceeds will benefit the Outreach of Love Broadcast of Bethel AME Church. Tickets are $1 and can be purchased the day of the event or at the church office in advance, Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Trinity Presbyterian Church's 26th Women's Day Observance Activities will continue as follows: Mid-Week Service, Wednesday, May 15, at 7:30 p.m.; Fellowship Luncheon, Saturday, May 18, at 12 noon: Women's Dav Sunday, May 19 at 11 a.m. The Women's Day theme will be "Changing Images of Women." Deacon Lillie Patterson will be the featured speaker.

For information, call Mrs. Howard at 433 - 0931.

ST. JOHN'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Three benefit performances of "The Island," a play by South African writer Athol Fugard, will be staged at St. John's United Methodist Church Friday through Saturday, May 17, 18, and 19.

The play, a riveting drama about two inmates of a maximum security prison in South Africa, is being co - produced by St. John's and the artist of Freedom Theatre Company. The two - man cast is comprised of Mphela Makgoba, who is also the director of the play, and Mitchell Ferguson.

Proceeds will benefit the St. John's United Methodist Church Building Fund. For information or reservations call 366-7733.

PLEASANT GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH

The family of Pleasant Grove Baptist Church will present Julia Mae Price Williams in concert on Sunday, May 12, at 5 p.m. Admission is free, but a freewill offering will be accepted. The church is located at 214 S. Loudon Ave.

To Mama — An Original Ode To One of A Kind—Mother

I looked in stores with care to find
expressions of a special kind
overdue-perhaps-and much belated
yet to let you know you Are appreciated
But those powder pink cards
with their lacy interplay
never seemto measure
up never quite convey
the kinds of things I'd like to say
to you this Mother's Day
For you do not remind of fragile flowers
quick to wither and fade away
but rather a more sturdy kind
determined to bloom and stay
First let me Thank You
for all you've done and do
for the way you gave and give of you.
For the times perhaps you did with less
and shared your part with all the rest
that we might have not good or better
but always Best
all that you've done and are doing today
whatever we are or become
You've done your part
You've given and given
and straight from the heart.
And though I don't say these things
as oft as I could or should
It's not that I'm ungrateful
let that be understood
For like moving-like blinking
Like breathing clean air
you are essential and Vital
and I'm glad that you're there
Keep trusing in God
In all that you do
And know that my love and thanks,
Prayers and Best Wishes too.
Go not just on Mother's Day
But Everyday To YOU.
Here's wishing you and yours a beautiful Mother's Day.
Praise the LORD!