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The Afro-American Section B

SPORTS

- High School Sports 3B
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SAM LACY

Flip side

Although it was there to see, what might be called "The other side of the story," was virtually overlooked by the tens of thousands of witnesses to the 113th running of the Preakness Saturday at Pimlico.

And it was there to see because a jealous, prepossessed old man had predicted two weeks earlier what would happen.

Within minutes of the defeat of the colt Forty-Niner by the filly Winning Colors at the Kentucky Derby on May 7, Woody Stephens, the trainer of Forty-Niner, declared loud and clear that Winning Colors would not win the Preakness . . . She didn't, he didn't . . . Risen Star did.

Vengeful prophet

Stephens was on radio and television and in newspapers and news magazines telling everyone who'd listen that the filly would not be allowed to take the lead and stay in front as she had that afternoon.

Forty-Niner, he promised, would challenge Winning Colors from the break and run her into the ground . . . He so ordered his jockey to do just that.

'Bush' stuff

The jockey, Pat Day, broke just inside of Winning Colors and Gary Stevens, and proceeded to use the "bush track" strategy employed at small ovals in Idaho Montana, New Mexico, Oregon, etc. .

Once in front, you let nothing get past you, even if it means finishing eight lanes off the inside fence.

When asked about his tactics later, Day declared that he was just trying to keep out of the deep part of the track . . . "I noticed," he said, "the earlier races were being run four lanes and more away from the rail."

Notable quotable

Former major league pitcher Ferguson Jenkins, reflecting on his early years with the Cubs:

"I don't think those people at Wrigley Field in Chicago ever saw but two players they liked — Billy Williams who never said anything and Ernie Banks who always said the right thing."

As Wnning Colors's rider Gary Stevens said afterward: "I'd never seen Pat ride like that.

Rebuttal

Aetually, results of the earlier race shot down Day's claim.

Horses running from posts 1-2-3 were "in the money" in all eight races prior to the big event.

The Daily Double (which paid off on a combination of winners of the first two races) was 2-1.

And certainly, the surface of the track at the 5:34 p.m. Preakness time was much drier than it was when the first race was off at 11:30 a.m.

No, the jockey was simply trying to produce the result his employer had been obsesed with creating.

A fellow-trainer, Charlie Rose, unfazed by the threat of being ostracized for attacking a 74-year-old shedrow legend, exploded: "It was the worst exhibition of sportsmanship I've ever seen in a Triple Crown race."

The 'other' race

So, the flip side of the Preakness recording is capsulized in the infamous lyric of Woody Stephens: "We may finish next to last, but if we do the filly will be last."

In essence, he was saying, without putting it in words, damn the race and the other horses, I just want the filly.

But the filly finished third, Stephens's colt was seventh in a 9-horse field.

SPORTS on deck

THE PREAKNESS: and its unnoticed story of jealousy, revenge and conspiracy 1st sports.

DEATH OF A JOURNALIST: Fifty years of dedication and friendship succumbs to cancer as Art Carter dies (1st Sports)

PIONEER AT BUFFALO: A former University of Maryland, Eastern Shore star desegregated staff of department heads at U. of Buffalo (2nd Sports).

Bird, Celtics prevail

The Atlanta Hawks came, they played well, they didn't conquer. Larry Bird wouldn't let them.

Bird put on a show for the ages, scoring 20 of his 34 points in the fourth quarter Sunday to propel the Boston Celtics to a stirring 118-116 triumph in the decisive Game 7 of their Eastern Conference semifinal.

"It's the greatest NBA game I've ever seen," Atlanta Coach Mike Fratello said.

Said Boston's Danny Ainge: "It will be a game to pull out the tapes in the future, watch them and say, "That was quite a game.' "

The Celtics will participate in their eight conference final in Bird's nine-year career, this time against the Detroit Pistons beginning Wednesday night at Boston Garden.

The Western Conference final between the Dallas Mavericks and Los Angeles Lakers starts Monday night at The Forum.

Bird made good on his promise of a Boston victory. The three-time MVP claimed the Hawks had blown their chance of eliminating the Celtics after Boston won Game 6 at Atlanta.

Redskin Green NFL speed king

Darrell Green, Washington Redskins cornerback, Saturday returned to the pinnacle of National Football League speed.

Green, injured in 1987 and unable to compete in this year's renewal at Palm Desert, Calif., repeated his 1986 triumph by outrunning Mark Duper of the Dolphins, Rod Woodson of the Steelers and Herschel Walker of the Cowboys.

He collected the $20,000 first prize.

Week in boxing

May 22 at Atlantic City, N.J. — Bobby Czyz vs. Dennis Andries, 10, light heavyweights; Jerry Page vs. Terrence Alli, 10, junior welterweights.

May 23 at Irvine, Calif. — Paul Gonzales vs. Jorge Ortega, 10, super flyweights.

May 25 at Sterling, Mich. — Steve McCrory vs. Juan Ramirez, 12, Continental Americas Superbantamweight title; Hurley Snead vs. Omar Garcia, 10, bantamweight; Renaldo Carter vs. Mario Lozano, 10, bantamweight; Courtney Cooper vs. Juan Nunez, 10 Junior Welterweight.

May 26 at Atlantic City, N.J. — Bryant Paden vs. Antoine BeBarros, 10, Junior Welterweights.

May 26 at Boston — Steve Collins vs. Kenny Butler, 10, middleweights.

May 29 at Port of Spain, Trinidad — Don Lalonde vs. Leslie Stewart, 12, WBC light Heavyweight title.

May 29 at Houston — Frank Tate vs. Sanderling Williams, 10, middleweights; James Pipps vs. Jesse Benevides, 12, USBA junior featherweight title.

Lori, Zina seeded

Lori McNeil and Zina Garrison are seeded 9th and 10th, respectively, in the annual French Open tennis tournament.

The event which began Monday in Paris, is topped by West Germany's Steffi Graf. seeded No. 1, and Martina Navratilova, No. 2.

One-on-One

The Maryland Special Olympics needs 1,500 people willing to sign up as huggers for the upcoming State Summer Games, June 10-11.

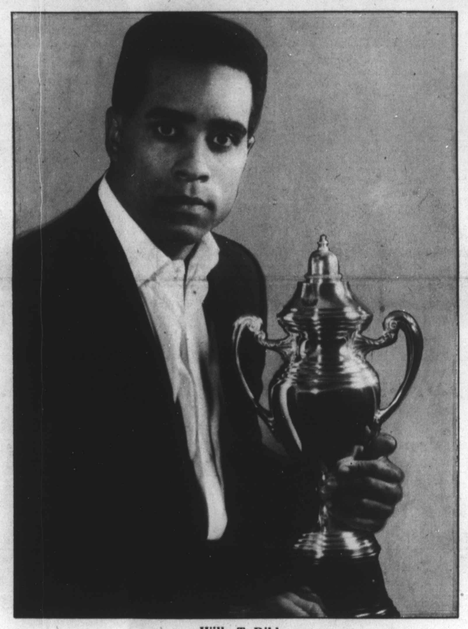
About 1,500 Special Olympians throughout Maryland are expected to compete in the 1988 games, they being children and adults with mental retardation.

Huggers are needed to encourage Special Olympians during the competition.

* * *

Police searched Friday for suspects and motives in the slayings of professional boxer Gregory "King" Tutt and three others. Tutt, his girlfriend and two cousins of the boxer were gunned down about 2 a.m. Thursday inside Tutt's North Philadelphia home.

Police said the bodies of Tutt, 22; Dawn Gross 18; James Saunders, II [illegible] Hasan Uqdah 21 were riddled with bullets and spent shell casings and an Uzi submachine gun clip littered the floor.



Willy T. Ribbs
dedication to a beloved grandfather

Black race driver wins coveted honor

Willy T. Ribbs, the only black driver in professional auto racing, has won the prestigious Norelco Driver's Trophy.

Driving a Toyota Celica Turbo for Dan Gurney's All American Racers in the International Motorsports Association's Camel GT series, Ribbs consistently displayed driving excellence and won four races during the 17-event 1987 season (Mid-Ohio, Road Atlanta, Summit Point, Watkins Glen).

This performance helped his Toyota team to win coveted Manufacturer's Championship for the first time ever in this form of racing.

"Now I know what Doug Williams must have felt like after the Superbowl," says Ribbs. "This is a dream come true for me. To be driving for Dan Gurney is something I've worked toward every since the day I first met him.

"And to be driving for him in a car as competitive as these turbocharged Toyota Celicas is more than I could have hoped for. This team, and these cars, are by far the class of the field."

Individual Norelco Cups are awarded at each race during the season in recognition of a particularly brilliant drive; with the Norelco Championship decided at the end of the season by the vote of a panel on international motorsports media members.

Ribbs won four Norelco Cups during the 1987 season, for his performances at Mid-Ohio, Summit Point (West Virginia) and Watkins Glen (New York).

His fourth Norelco Cup came during the season finale at Del Mar, California. After one lap of the one-hour event, he was forced into the pits to change a flat tire, and returned to the race in 24th position.

After a dramatic race-long charge that had the fans on their feet the entire time. Ribbs finished the race in third, with his teammate Chris Chord claiming the victory.

"Willy has always been an aggressive, winning driver," says Toyota team owner Dan Gurney. "But this year he has matured into a champion, which is as much a state of mind as it is winning races.

"I'm confident that the next few years will see him emerge as one of the true giants of the sports, and both Toyota and I are proud to have him driving for us again in 1988."

Ribbs' father, a plumbing contractor in Northern California, was a prominent figure in the early days of sports car racing on the West Coast. Helping at these events kindled in young Willy T. a passion for racing that would see the then 21-year-old driver travel to England and win the prestigious "Star of Tomorrow" formula car championship.

"My grandfather had a ranch in Northern California and a Willys Jeepster with a V-8 engine was part of the equipment," says Ribbs. "As soon as I could see over the steering wheel, I was racing it around the ranch, drifting it through corners up on two wheels. I sometimes wonder how I survived that time in my life, but my grandfather never told me to stop, just to be careful. I owe a lot of where I am today to that man."

A friend is dead

Art Carter died Sunday.

The widow, Callie, called to report the sad news that the former editor and publisher of the Washington **AFRO-AMERICAN** succumbed to cancer at 6:30 a.m., at the Washington (DC) Medical Center. He was 77.

Arthur Mantell Carter was one of the giants of black journalism, a master of the craft.

For 50 years — from 1936 to 1986 — he fed stories to appreciative **AFRO** readers that were detailed exciting, informative and trustworthy.

Journalistic purists assert that too much detail on a story become boring to the reader, and thus destroy the exciting aspects of it. Art Carter's efforts defied the theory.

And those efforts were produced in every area of modern news reporting. He had served as sports reporter, sports editor , columnist, editorial writer, associate editor, managing editor and war correspondent, as well as editor - publisher.

All came gradually to an end two years ago, when ravaged by cancer, he entered a long period of suffering.

Until then, Art Carter could impregnate the most commonplace event with a measure of acceptance, and his editorials could deflate the most incurable ego.

Yet, over the years, since his presence at and in Howard University football and at the guard position on championship Bison basketball teams, there was never an unkind word said of him.

Art Carter was a friend to all who knew him.

And especially to me . . . SAM LACY