AREA SPORTS

Corray Wedlock going down a slope.

L-R: Gary Scott, Greg Dill (Silver Spring, Md.) Corray Wedlock, Patrice Curling and Tisha Carter.

Gary Scott and Coach Cathy Holmens

Special Olympians at Lake Tahoe

By Fred Lindsey

This past week, a small contingent from Baltimore City participated in the 1989 International Winter Special Olympic Games.

Traveling to Reno, Nevada and Lake Tahoe, California were speed skater Tisha Carter, alpine skiers Gary Scott and Corray Wedlock and cross country skier Patrice Curling.

These "Special Athletes" were a part of 29 athletes from the State of Maryland competing in five winter sports fulfilling a "special olympic mission for all children and adults with mental retardation."

"I hope to win my event and to see Billy Kidd again," said Gary Scott from Claremont School, who competed in his first international meet. "Two years ago, Billy Kidd, who is a world class skier, helped me learn more about skiing, and he is going to be in California."

The Maryland delegation joined 1400 other "Special Athletes" from more than 20 countries, the 50 states and the District of Columbia.

This was the fourth International Winter Special Olympic Games. The opening ceremonies were held at Squaw Valley, California, the site of the 1960 Olympic Games.

Members of the Save Bob Wade Committee, L-R, Dr. Dorothy S. Ingram, Robert Bedford, Sr., Larry Williams and Tom Waters.

Results of the Clip-Out Questionnaire

The Baltimore AFRO-AMERICAN would like to thank the Baltimore community for responding to the Bob Wade Clip-Out Questionnaire.

As of April 7, 1989, we received 263 responses. 254 respondents think that Wade is being treated unfairly. Nine respondents think the opposite.

Your responses will be added to the petition and given to President Kirwan at the University of Maryland.

Clip out petition and attach, if necessary, to extra sheets. Return to the AFRO at 628 N. Eutaw St., Baltimore, Maryland 21201

This petition is being presented on behalf of Coach Bob Wade and his position as Head Coach for the University of Maryland. It is our concern that he remain in the position with full honors.

THE ALUMNI OF DUNBAR HIGH SCHOOL along with a host of businesses, schools and churches in Baltimore City and the Baltimore Metropolitan area demand that Coach Bob Wade remain in his present position.

We further feel that there should be a thorough and unbiased due - process format used in terms of judging Coach Wade's position as head coach. We are determined not to let the University Administration use inappropriate methods.

The newly elected president of the University we feel, has been more than fair and has exercised objectivity toward correcting the injustices that have already occurred.

Prior to any decisions being made on the fate of Coach Wade, we will demand a link to the decision-making process, before it becomes official.

Name Address

Baltimorean shines for Alabama St.

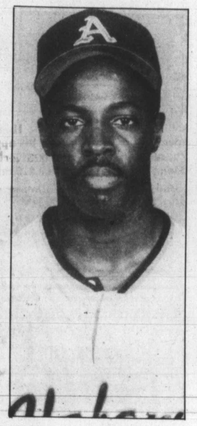
By Fred Lindsey

Baltimore's Craig Matthews is helping the Alabama State University baseball team become more respectable in the Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC).

Matthews, a senior from Northern High School, 4 for 11 with one RBI (run batted in) in a pair of doubleheaders against Mississippi Valley State University recently to help his team win three of four games. He was also flawless defensively, cleanly handling seven chances in the field without an error.

Although Matthews is only battling .231 during the early stages of the season, with 14 RBIs, he is the only player to appear in every ASU game.

Considered by most to be the Hornets' most versatile player, Matthews plays both catcher and outfield as well as designated hitter. He has committed just two errors in the young season and has a .951 fielding average.



Northern High Grad improving his game at Alabama State

In 21 games, the Hornets are 8-12-1 overall and 4-8 in the SWAC.

Youth bowlers compete in tenpin tournament

By Fred Lindsey

Forty of the best youth bowlers in the State of Maryland competed last week in the state finals of the 5th Annual Maryland Tenpin Bowling Council Youth Invitational Tournament in LaVale, Maryland.

The participants earned their way to the state finals by qualifying in local events held in ten sections of the state. In each of those sections, the top ten boys and the top ten girls, based on league averages, were invited to contend in a five-game scratch event.

For the second consecutive year, Stephanie Lazor from Baltimore County was the winner in the Girls Division. Baltimore's Scott Tanner won the event in the Boys Division.

Listed are the other participants from Baltimore City and how they finished.

Girls Division

Angie Bell	8th
Kia Booker	14th
Jeanette Oglesby	19th

Boys Division

Charles Weiland	2nd
Kennie Lane	3rd
Mark Oglesby	9th
Keith Whiteford	12th

Goucher College gives swimming lessons

The Goucher College swim team will be conducting swimming lessons for the Bryn Mawr Little School Kindergarten, April 18th, at 2:45 p.m. at the college's Von Borries Swimming Pool.

SPORTSCENE

By Fred Lindsey

Short Shots

Wheelchair basketball at Dundalk CC

For the fans of wheelchair basketball, this Sunday, April 15th, the Capital Conference Wheelchair Basketball All-Stars will host the Mid-Atlantic All-Stars at Dundalk Community College. The game will begin at 3:00 p.m. and will include Hilmon Murray, Larry Toler, Craig Cook and Ralph Staten of the Baltimore Ravens Wheelchair Basketball Club.

During the 1988-89, the Ravens (28-8) were crowned Capital Conference Tip-off Tournament Champions and the Philadelphia Carousel House Tournament Champions. They finished second in the Johnstown-Pennsylvania Friendly City Tournament, the Hartford Connecticut Tournament Championships and they finished second overall in the Capital Wheelchair Basketball Conference. In addition Raven coach Dick Doran was named the 1989 Coach of The Year.

For more information about **All-Star Wheelchair Basketball** at its best, contact Mike Naugle at 385-1410 or Eddie Diggs at 679-9264.

National Youth Sports program at Essex College

For the fourth consecutive summer, Essex Community College will operate the National Youth Sports Program for disadvantaged youth ages 10-16 from the Baltimore County area. The Camp will be held on the Essex campus from June 26 through August 1.

To be eligible for the camp, each child must be at least ten years old by August 1st and must be receiving free and/or reduced price school lunches. In addition, each child must pass a comprehensive physical exam and agree to participate in all facets of the program. Children attending Baltimore County schools in either the northeast or southeast areas are given priority.

Designed to provide a complete camp experience for participants, the NYSP includes instruction in a variety of sports as well as 15 hours of enrichment instruction in such areas as drug and alcohol abuse, nutrition and personal health, and career opportunities. Campers receive free bus transportation, a free T-shirt, free medical exam, free lunch and free accident and medical insurance.

For further information about the National Youth Sports Program, contact Joe Smothers at 522-1606.

Fifth year for a Place For Your Pace

Willard Freeman, director of Baltimore Roadrunners Club's popular "A Place for Your Pace" developmental running program, announced that the 1989 season will begin April 15th, at 8:00 a.m.

The sessions will be held in the parking lot of Pierce's Plantation on Dulaney Valley Road, five miles north of Towson. Fifteen minute mini-clinics presented by local running and fitness experts will be followed by group runs.

Beginning in June, a structured program will be offered for runners who want to train for the Maryland Marathon; however, the main focus of the program will continue to be for non-marathoners.

Incentive awards will be offered for cumulative mileage and regular attendance. There is no charge for participation.

For more information, call Willard Freeman at 833-5975.

Christian Youth Sports Banquet

The West Baltimore Christian Youth Club will hold its Second Annual Sports Awards Banquet, Saturday, April 15th, 12:30 p.m., at DUFF's Restaurant in Westview Mall.

For more information, contact Ernest King at 233-6054.

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A PROUD PAST — JOIN — A PROMISING FUTURE

Sam Lacy

Lunacy

We're approaching lunacy time . . . When I say "we" I admit there's a bit of silliness here, because it must be realized that there are many sports fans who are not to be counted as fans of thoroughbred racing.

Yet, with less than three weeks remaining before the first of the Triple Crown races is to be run, it will be most unusual if much of the nation doesn't become wrapped up in speculation on the outcome of the Kentucky Derby.

'Easy' or Houston

And media folk unless there is a drastic departure from custom, will be proclaiming the merits of one 3-year-old colt or another . . . And they'll be trying to predict the winner at Churchill Downs on May 6 . . . For many, it is a (journalistic) life-and-death matter.

This means that from now on you will be reading and hearing countless stories on the invincibility of Easy Goer and/or Houston, the two brilliant colts that figured to share heavy favoritism in pre-race calculations prior to Houston's disastrous journey at Santa Anita last Saturday.

Reluctant deserter

Not being one of those who regard this as serious business, I have made it a practice to try to knock off the favorite . . . . The last time I took my handicapping seriously, I shot blanks with Alydar — three times against Affirmed . . . . I found myself stuck with Alydar because he was a Calumet Farm entry, and I had been loyal to the Crimson and Blue through the years of Armed, Whirlaway, Citation, Coldtown, Bewitch, Twilight Tear, etc. . . . . The feeling persisted: if it was a Calumet, it couldn't lose.

Needless to say, Affirmed went on to become the 11th winner of the coveted Triple Crown in 1978.

Even now, I flinch inwardly when I discover that the favorite I am next month trying to beat (Easy Goer) is a son of Alydar.

(This column was written previous to the author's week vacation, and before Easy Goer and Sunday Silence virtually annihilated their weekend rivals in the Gotham Stakes and Santa Anita Derby, respectively — ed note).

The girl in '88

However, my early guess is that, if Easy Goer and/or Houston is beaten it will be by one of the two colts that have been most impressive in lesser stakes: Sunday Silence or Western Playboy.

I did pick Winning Colors last year, but that was as much because she was a filly as it was due to her impeccable pre-Derby record . . . . A filly is a girl (horse) and females always get my attention . . . . yes, even at this age.

Now, if you've stayed with me this long, don't go away.

Bloodline addict

Regular A to Zers are aware that I am a firm believer in bloodlines . . . . So, the idea of venturing a bob or so on Sunday Silence on that (Derby) Saturday, means that I've discovered him to be a son of Halo, the sire of Sunny's Halo, which won the 1983 Derby in a gallop . . . . also that he isn't hurt at all in being trained by Hall of Famer Charlie Whittingham.

And Western Playboy which slugged his way between horses in the March 31 Jim Bean Stakes, is a son of Playfellow.1983 winner of the Travers Stake in New York, the Blue Grass in Kentucky, the American Derby and the Arlington Classic in Illinois.

His (Playfellow's) loss in the '83 Super Derby at Chicago was to Sunny's Halo . . . . I like that!

U. of Tenn. prexy irate

Knoxville club nixes black coach

KNOXVILE, Tenn. (UPI) — Black leaders called on the University of Tennessee to withdraw its memberships in the all-white Cherokee Country Club if it excludes Wade Houston, the school's first black basketball coach.

Houston will not be offered membership in the country club where other coaches in the athletic department belong at university expense, Athletic Director Doug Dickey told The Knoxville News-Sentinel.

State Rep. Joe Armstrong said the university should immediately cancel its memberships in the exclusive country club.

"The university needs to take a definite stand on this," Armstrong said. "Wade Houston was a member of the country club in Louisville as an assistant coach. You mean he's going to come to the University of Tennessee and be the head coach and not be extended the same privilege?

"UT would only be right to terminate those memberships they're paying for," Armstrong said.

— —

The university athletic department provided memberships for two previous basketball coaches, Ray Mears and Don DeVoe. The News-Sentinel said the school extends the same fringe benefit to Dickey and to football coach Johnny Majors.

University boosters paid Mears's $4,000 Cherokee initiation fee, and the university funded the fee for DeVoe, Majors and Dickey. That fee is now $15,000. The school also reimburses the $225 monthly dues.

"Obviously, Cherokee Country Club does not have black members," Dickey said, "and that is not an option (for Houston). We just have memberships we retain at the Athletic Department and it's our decision to do what we want to do with it."

— —

Houston, who became the first black basketball coach at Tennessee and in the Southeastern Conference a week ago, said he does not want to challenge Cherokee's membership policy.

"It's their decision. It's their club," Houston told the News-Sentinel.

But university president Lamar Alexander was adamant.

"We can't be part of any arrangement that even raises the possibility that a white coach might be treated one way and a black coach another."

Week in boxing

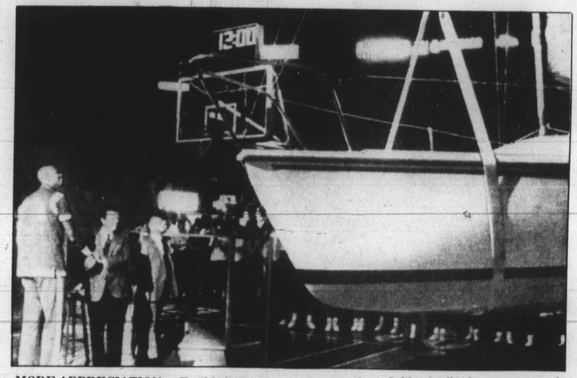
April 13 at Washington, D.C. — c-Simon Brown vs. Al Long, 12, IBF welterweight title.

April 15 at Atlantic City, N.J. — c-Marlon Starling vs. c-Mark Breland, 12, WBC-WBA welterweight unification bout.

April 18 at Atlantic City, N.J. — Robbie Sims vs. Doug DeWitt, 12, middleweights.

April 21 at Las Vegas, Nev. — Frankie Swindell vs. c-Uriah Grant, 12, USBA light heavyweight title.

IN APPRECIATION — Houston Oilers owner Bud Adams shows his appreciation of the outstanding play of quarterback Warren Moon by signing him to a $10 million, 5-year contract. Moon spent 6 years in Canada after college because NFL teams refused to draft him as a quarterback.



MORE APPRECIATION — For his brilliant play and contributions to professional basketball, Lakers center Kareem Abdul-Jabbar was presented a sailboat. Ceremony occurred at Jabbar's final appearance in Oakland, and presentation was made by Golden State Warriors chairman Jim Fitzgerald.

Parker's ace a 'Diamond'

Easy Goer, the likely favorite to win the Kentucky Derby next month, captured Saturday's Gotham Stakes at New York.

Closest to the brilliant speedster at the finish line (if 12 lengths can be considered close) was a Maryland colt named Diamond Donnie, which actually led Easy Goer for three quarters of the mile event.

Diamond Donnie is trained by Horace Parker, a former member of the Detroit police force.

Tyson ex-manager sues King

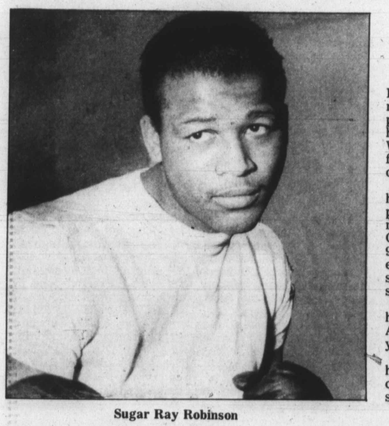
NEW YORK -- Bill Cayton, world heavyweight champion Mike Tyson's estranged manager, has sued boxing promoter Don King in federal court, alleging anti-trust violations, racketeering and fraud.

"We are asking the court for damages and to enjoin King from unlawfully interfering any more with Tyson," said Thomas Puccio, Cayton's lawyer. "We are also seeking a declaratory judgment of our rights."

— —

The lawsuit, filed Tuesday in U.S. District Court in Manhattan, seeks to prohibit King from performing a variety of managerial duties for Tyson, including entering into contracts with the heavyweight champion.

If successful, Cayton's suit could cost the flamboyant promoter millions of dollars.



Sugar Ray Robinson

Sugar Ray Robinson, dead at 67

LOS ANGELES — Sugar Ray Robinson, considered by many to be the greatest pound-for-pound boxer in history, died at a hospital Wednesday after suffering from Alzheimer's disease and diabetes. He was 67.

Robinson, accompanied by his wife, Millie, was taken by paramedics to the emergency room at Brotman Medical Center in Culver City, CA., at 9:55 a.m. and was pronounced dead at 10:09 a.m., hospital spokeswoman Judy Davis said.

Millie Robinson said her husband suffered from Alzheimer's and diabetes for years.

"His blood sugar went sky high (in the morning) and I called the ambulance," she said.

Coroner's office spokesman Bob Dambacher said Robinson arrived at the hospital in "full arrest" and died of natural causes.

A sleek, handsome man, Robinson held the world welterweight championship once and the middleweight title five times.

Over his career, Robinson had 201 fights. He won 109 by knockout and 65 by decision. He had six draws, lost 18 decisions, lost one bout by foul, was knocked out once and fought once to no decision.

Robinson, born Walker Smith, Jr., lost a 10-round decision Nov. 10, 1965 in Pittsburgh to a plumber named Joey Archer. Exactly one month later, the 44-year-old fighter, pudgy and tired but still wearing the faint smile that was his trademark, announced he was retiring from the ring.

Sports writers of the era called it the death of a king.

"There's no question in my mind, that with all the great fighters that we've had in recent times like Sugar Ray Leonard, Marvin Hagler (and) Muhammad Ali, the greatest fighter of all time without any doubt was Sugar Ray Robinson," boxing promoter Bob Arum said from Las Vegas, Nev. "And he graced the ring like no man before or since.

"He had fantastic style, he comported himself well. People loved him all over the world."

Teddy Brenner, who sets up boxing matches at New York's Madison Square Garden, said Robinson's death was "a loss to the boxing profession. He was the best boxer I ever saw and it's a loss to humanity.

"Robinson was a fighter who made it all on his own. He did it without help from anybody. He did it on sheer talent."

Robinson's life was often as colorful outside the ring as it was inside.

He was devious in his negotiations with promoters - pulling out of fights at the last minute and failing to live up to contracts.

He drove managers and trainers frantic. He lied to reporters whenever it was his pleasure. He often was cruel when he had an out-classed opponent at his mercy. He danced $3 million away in

(Continued on Page C7)