Golfers Rejected by Tournament Officials

Hero Led Men Through Mines

28 Pages

BALTIMORE AFRO-AMERICAN

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59th Year, No. 4 BALTIMORE, MD., AUGUST 19, 1950 10c IN BALTIMORE; 12c ELSEWHERE

ATTRACTIVE NURSE FOUND SHOT TO DEATH IN BED

Rail Habitue Charges He's Persecuted

John Fincher, who has spent 23 of the last 25 years in prison for burglary, is behind bars again. This time he is doing a seven-year term for burglary and for carrying a deadly weapon.

The term was imposed by Judge Emory H. Niles in Criminal Court, Tuesday, after the 45-year-old defendant testified that he had made a sincere effort to "go straight," but that employers always fired him when they learned he had spent over half of his life in penal institutions.

Supporting his statement was Mrs. Ethel Brooks of the 2400 block Woodbrook Ave., who identified herself as a friend of the defendant.

Had Loaned Him $300

Mrs. Brooks told the court that she believed in Fincher and that he had really tried to get and keep a job. It was disclosed that Mrs. Brooks had lent Fincher $300 for living expenses and that he has been making payments on the loan.

After losing several jobs because of his prison record, Fincher was arrested on July 11 as he fled from a home in the 700 block of Conkling St. that had been burglarized.

Police said when he was captured, after a chase, he had a pinch bar, gloves and a knife, on his person. Charles E. Orth Jr., assistant State's attorney, prosecuted the case.

A Woman Inspired 'St. Louis Blues'

NEW YORK — W. C. Handy, composer, said here recently, that his "St. Louis Blues" was inspired, actually, by a woman he saw in St. Louis during the early days of his career. He never met her, but immediately fell in love with his "St. Louis Woman" blues.

Top AFRO Salesman Wins Trophy

Lawrence Watson, left, of 1627 Druid Hill Ave., AFRO sub-station manager, receives the trophy presented last week by George Lee, city circulation manager, for record sales in the second quarter which ended June 1950. He also won a $25 cash award. Mr. Watson, who sells papers at his sign painting shop at McCulloh and Robert Sts., sold 420 AFRO's over his normal quota.

U.S. Court Asked to Open University of Va. to All

Attorney Swanson Sues Board of Visitors Who Denied Him Admission to Law School

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va. — A. J. Lindsay Almond Jr., that the university could not successfully defend its actions in refusing to admit him.

Foredoomed, Almond Says

In rendering his opinion, requested by the board, Mr. Almond cited not only the recent decisions of the U.S. Supreme Court in the McLaurin and Sweatt Cases, but pointed to loopholes in Virginia's own constitution, which the board said it was seeking to uphold.

Following rejection of Mr. Swanson's application to enter the university's Law School, Dr. J. M. Tinsley, president of the NAACP State Conference of Branches, and W. Lester Banks, executive secretary, promised that the group would go to bat for Swanson, if he requested aid.

Accepted Aid Offer

The rejected graduate student accepted the NAACP's offer of aid promptly and has made several trips to Richmond since that time, it is reported, perfecting plans for the legal action.

The State-supported university's board of visitors, following a meeting on Monday, announced that it had directed its attorney, Allan Pedkins, to collaborate with the State's attorney general in defending the university against the expected litigation.

Mr. Swanson was in Richmond Monday night to confer with Mr. Robinson, member of the legal staff, and other NAACP officials on the strategy to be pursued in the case, it learned. He and Mr. Robinson left Richmond early Tuesday morning for Charlottesville.

At Air Force Base

Pvt. Wilson Nolley, 19, son of Mrs. Lillian Robinson, 907 W. Saratoga St., is training at the Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Tex.

UN OFFICIAL TO SPEAK AT SHRINE CONVENTION

BOSTON—Dr. Ben F. Carruth, ers, social affairs officer of the UN Human Rights Division, will speak during the Shrine Convention here Aug. 13-19.

Man Snubs Health Code He Initiated

An elderly man who helped write Baltimore's plumbing code was fined, Thursday, for his failure to make plumbing and other repairs upon six School St. properties.

Reputed to be one of the city's wealthiest citizens, William F. Mylander, a white realtor and engineer, was haled into court for the second time within a week to answer for violations of the health code.

Tuesday, he was the defendant in a case which involved properties on McCulloh St. In both instances, the properties are tenanted by colored families.

William M. Gardner, Health Department sanitarian, cited five general health violations and 31 specific health violation he said existed at Mr. Mylander's properties in the 700 block School St.

Defective plumbing, drainage, rat infestation and fire and safety hazards are among the conditions Mr. Gardner said existed.

In his defense, Mr. Mylander said that many of the violations had been corrected and he had spent some $4,552 in major and minor repairs on his School St. holdings. He was fined $5 and costs on six charges by Magistrate Harry S. Kruger.

Judges Picked to Rate Top Blocks Sunday in Annual Clean-Up Campaign

Prize Fund Still $377 Short of $1500 Goal for Most Zealous of 4,601 Drive Workers

As $5 more was added to the clean block prize fund this week, six persons accepted invitations to serve on the committee of judges for the 22 top blocks in the 10th annual AFRO Campaign.

The $5 which brought the fund up to $1122.58 was received from the Women's Cooperative Civic League, Mrs. Nellie V. Wood, treasurer; and Mrs. Ethel Day, assistant treasurer.

The prize fund is still short by $377.42 of reaching its goal of $1500.

Contest Judges Named

The six judges are:

Dr. Maceo Williams, head of the Druid Health Center; Mrs. Elizabeth Henderson, principal of Douglass High School No. 126; Otho Pinkett, manager of Somerset Project.

Alfred Chisholm, manager of a Lasting Product Paint Store, whose company contributed the $100 first prize; Mrs. Eugenia W. Collier, former clean block assistant manager; and Mrs. Frances M. Wood, clean block manager.

Three of the judges, Mrs. Henderson, Mr. Pinkett and Mr. Chisholm are new this year, while Dr. Williams, Mrs. Collier and Mrs. Wood were judges last year.

All have shown an avid interest in the clean-block campaign in the various fields.

Mrs. Henderson made news this year for her work in South Baltimore with her school children on Plummont Garden which is now in full bloom.

To Tour 22 Top Blocks

This committee will tour only the top 22 blocks in the campaign, starting at 9:30 a.m., Sunday, Aug. 20, from the AFRO office. They will not visit the housing projects, which will be judged by a different committee on Monday.

The 22 top blocks have received a rating of A-plus. The 11 housing courts which received this rating are not eligible for the $100 first prize, but are competing among themselves for a $25 first prize.

The committee of judges will see the Northwest A-plus blocks first, then go to South Baltimore and from there to East Baltimore.

Each of the judges will have a rating sheet on which he will grade the blocks from anywhere between 110 to 125 points. The block getting the highest average points will win first prize; the next highest, second prize, etc.

Check-Up Visit to Be Made

Even after these judges have picked the winners, another quick tour will be made of the blocks to make sure they have kept up to the rating given them.

Beauty and improvement of the fronts and the backs will be the main things the judges will look for.

(Continue on Page 9)

Judges

Mrs. Elizabeth Henderson, principal of School No. 126, will be one of the six persons on the AFRO Clean Block Committee of Judges.

Alfred Chisholm, manager of one of the Lasting Product Paint Stores whose company gave the $100 first prize, will also tour the blocks on Sunday.

Lawyers Baffled by New Court Rule Keeping Them Separated Racially

By NAT TURNER

RICHMOND — James Crow took over another area in police court this week when he propped himself up on tables reserved for lawyers and decreed that henceforth colored attorneys shall sit on the left and whites on the right side of the room.

Although Justice Carleton E. Jewett, who presides over police court, has always insisted upon rigid racial discrimination between witnesses, spectators and others in the courtroom, he had never sought to prescribe the liberties of attorneys.

Previous Situation

Previous to this week, attorneys have not been molested if they sat at the tables on either side of the room, but it is known that a number of white lawyers have been requested this week to remove themselves from the "reserved" to the "white" side of the room.

Apparently, the court became convinced that it is not good Southern practice to permit a colored person, even though he be a lawyer and an officer of the court, to seat himself in front of white people, even in what is supposed to be a court of justice.

Indications are that that is the basic reason behind the new "order" — revealed to be a sort of "gentlemen's agreement" between the justice and the white lawyers. Only one colored lawyer has shown continual disregard for the "sacred" jim crow pattern of the court.

One Lawyer "Offender"

That attorney, who will go nameless for the present, often seats himself on the so-called white side of the table reserved for lawyers, with white spectators, witnesses and defendants behind him.

Asked about the order by the AFRO editor, Justice Jewett denied emphatically that he had issued such an order.

He added that he "does not go around looking for trouble," but that if "I meet a tiger in the street and know it's a question of the tiger or me, I'll fight to see that the tiger goes down, not me."

In spite of Justice Jewett's denial, it is a fact that a certain young white attorney was ordered by a bailiff to move from the "colored table." He moved back into the seats, away from the table, still on the "colored side," and then was told to move to the "white side."

Jewett Tips His Hand

Justice Jewett tipped his hand on Monday when he jokingly asked a well-known lawyer how many times he would have to tell him to move. Then, shaking his gavel at him, inquired whether he would have to hit him on the side of the head with it to make him understand. The lawyer moved to the "white" side.

(Justice Jewett is quoted in a reliable source as saying that it appeared inconsistent to permit colored and white lawyers to sit all mixed up or sit on the wrong side of the courtroom when witnesses, policemen and others were segregated, especially in view of Judge Doubles's recent decision.)

Practically all of the attorneys know about the rule now and are obeying it without audible protest — so those in court on Tuesday expected fireworks when Howard H. Carwile, white, associated with a colored lawyer in a case therein, took a seat at the "colored" table.

Although the white lawyers (eight in all) — all huddled on the white side of the courtroom — waited with bated breath, nothing happened; the bailiff did not ask Carwile to move, but the case in which he and Martin A. Martin are interested; was called in short order.

All Three Well-Known

Carwile has a reputation for being a "crusading" attorney, a bitter foe of jim-crowism, segregation and discrimination. Other attorneys at the table were Martin and Roland D. Ealey, also a member of the NAACP legal staff.

Beecher S. Stallard, one of the white attorneys present at the time, denied all knowledge of the new order when asked about it by the AFRO. "I haven't heard a thing about it," he said. Asked what he thought of such an order, he said he would have to "learn it's true."

Other attorneys are discussing the "agreement" pro and con, many expressing themselves privately as seeing no "sense" in such an order.

Arrest Shows 'Night Numbers' Still Being Played in City

Sgt. Wade Poole of the vice squad testified in Northwestern police court, Wednesday, that he saw a 55-year-old man accept two numbers bets in a Pennsylvania Ave. luncheonette, one of which was a "night number."

As a result, Magistrate Thomas L. Fitzpatrick ordered Roy Whorley of the 1100 block E. Lombard St. held under $1000 bail for grand jury action on a lottery charge.

The writing and playing of "night numbers" on the Eastern Seaboard originated about 10 years ago with a syndicate in Washington. Five years later they were begun in Baltimore.

At that time, night racing was not stylish in this area and racketmen used varied means to determine the three digits.

One of the most popular means was the nightly drawing in public places.

Ten sealed capsules were shaken up in a large tin can and three volunteers would each draw a number, which in sequence, would determine the night figure.

Players Suspicious

But many players were even suspicious that this was not a true "lucky" method for determining the "night number," so the reliable syndicates put into practice the use of nightly receipts from a well-known Avenue eating place.

Some of the smaller syndicates still use the draw from the barrel system, but this is frowned upon by players, writers and most of the large bankers.

While night racing was in Maryland, it was reported that the big syndicates were taking their numbers from the totals.

Now that the season is over, one of the writers reports that, "as in the past, we have devised a fair and legitimate method for determining the "night number."

Husband Cuts Rival Suspect, Fined $100

A suspicious husband was fined $100 and costs in Western Police Court, Thursday, for the recent cutting of David Linkton of the 100 block N. Schroeder St.

Lester Stewart, 25, of the 500 block Aisquith St., admitted cutting Linkton on the jaw and neck, but said he was provoked because he found some of his wife's clothes in Linkton's room.

Workman's Widow Files $60,000 Suit

Mrs. Lelia Hudnal of 1110 W. Lafayette Ave., widow of a stevedore killed on Feb. 7 on his job at the Canton Railroad Company, has filed a $60,000 damage suit against the company.

Her husband, Walter Hudnall, was killed when he fell from a staging in the railroad warehouse while working for the Lone Star Stevedore Company.

The widow has already been awarded $7,800 by the stevedore company, under a ruling of the State Industrial Accident Commission. She is represented by Amos Myers, attorney.

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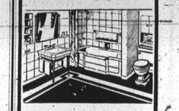

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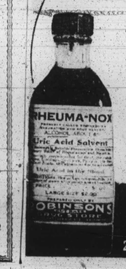

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Rejected Officer Volunteered for Suicide Mission

He Dug Up Mines So Troops Could Pass Safely

By JAMES L. HICKS
Exclusive AFRO War Correspondent

(Copyright 1950. Republication forbidden)

WITH THE 24TH INFANTRY IN SOUTH KOREA—No greater story of sheer courage in the face of the enemy has come out of this war to date than that of 1st Lt. William Benefield of Kansas who was killed in action here after first talking with, but never getting to see, his wife and three children who had arrived in Japan from the States.

Platoon commander in a combat engineer unit attached to the 24th Infantry Division, Lt. Benefield was assigned to the company now commanded by Lt. Charles Bussey of 1031 Kentucky St., Winston-Salem, N.C.

Leaves Before Greeting Wife, 3 Children

When orders came for the company to move out from Japan with the 24th to Korea, he went like the good soldier that he was despite the fact that he knew his wife and three children would arrive in Japan on the day he left.

His wife did arrive in company with Lieutenant Bussey's wife and family, but the press of military duties in connection with the move made it impossible for Lieutenant Benefield

(Continued on Page 2)

Body Found 4 Days Later

Police Seek Mate for Questioning

MAN DISAPPEARED

Death Weapon Stuck Under Sofa Cushion

Last seen with her husband four days previously, an attractive nurse's aide was found shot to death, Wednesday at 12:10 a.m., in the bed at a rooming house in the 1300 block N. Mount St.

She was Mrs. Constance Bridgeforth, 22, a Douglass High School and Cortez Peters Business School graduate who was employed at the Bar-Wil-Bar Convalescent Home.

Other roomers at the house told police that she was last seen at 12:30 p.m., Sunday, with her 28-year-old husband who has since disappeared.

Landlord Discovers Body

A waiter in a downtown hotel, he is being sought by police for questioning in the killing. When last seen, he was wearing a gray salt and pepper suit and a bow tie.

The wife's body was discovered by the landlord, Wiley Holloway, who had gone to the Joyners' room on the 3rd floor to tell Mrs. Joyner that her father had been to visit her.

Mr. Holloway, who described the scene as being "very pretty as a peach," stated that when he noticed a lump in the bed, he called his wife and an aunt, who they found Mrs. Joyner, fully clothed.

Her body was swollen, indicating she had been dead for a few days.

Autopsy Shows Bullet Wound

Taken to Provident Hospital by police, she was pronounced dead on arrival and her body was removed to the morgue.

An autopsy was performed and the Medical Examiner's office reported that Mrs. Joyner had died Sunday from a bullet wound in the chest.

Northwestern District police went back to the house, where

(Continued on Page 2)

Legion Swells Membership

Md. Vice-Commander Reports at Session

An increase in the colored membership of the American Legion was noted by William T. Kelly, vice commander-at-large, as Maryland's Legionnaires convened on Baltimore, Thursday, for their 32nd annual convention.

In a report to the delegates assembled at the Lord Baltimore Hotel, Mr. Kelly said that the number of posts had increased from 29 to 31 during his one-year administration. New posts, he said, were organized at Cooksville and Salisbury.

"The various posts have ex-

(Continued on Page 2)

Bullets Sign Morgan Star

George Washington to Enter Pro Ranks

Buddy Jeanette, coach and general manager of the Baltimore Bullets professional basketball team, announced early Friday that he has signed George Washington, high scoring Morgan State College forward, to a 1950-51 contract.

Jeannette declined to off any information concerning salary or other terms of the contract.

Washington, a graduate of Douglass High School, starred for the Morgan quint during the last three years of his collegiate career. In the 1948-49 season, he led all scorers in the CIAA and was considered one of the outstanding players of the conference.

Consistent High Scorer

Possessing a deadly shooting eye, he was consistently among the leading scorers of the conference through his sophomore, junior and senior years.

Prior to his varsity experience at Morgan Washington was an outstanding performer in service basketball in California.

The son of the late and Mrs. George Washington, of Pimlico, the 22-year-old sharpshooter has a brother, Ernie, who also played varsity ball at Morgan from 1947 to 1950.

Young Washington has been instructed to report along with the rest of the Bullet squad next month. Jeanette, however, has not as yet decided where he will pitch the training camp.

Russell Finally Awarded Divorce

Elder Russell, former Baltimore social worker, and now a boys' club worker in Phoenix, Ariz., whose suit against Mrs. Allena Russell, of Brooklyn, has been in court here since 1946, obtained a divorce here Tuesday on grounds of desertion.

Mr. Russell testified that he and his wife have been apart since 1937. They were married in 1925.

He said that their difficulties arose in December of 1937 when his wife took a job at a Pennsylvania Ave. club to release a friend

(Continued on Page 2)

'Invitational Open' Golf Tourney Closed to Group

Would-Be Entrants Barred From PGA-Run, Mayor-Organized, Gunther-Backed Meet

Four local golfers who sought to participate in the current Eastern Invitational Open Tournament at Mount Pleasant were rejected, Wednesday, because they were not "invited."

Landing in the "rough" of discrimination were Samuel Stewart, 1720 Druid Hill Ave.; Clyde Martin, 401 Main St., Turner Station; Robert Wallace, 520 Dennore Ave.; and Wilbur Stewart, 721 Dolphin St.

The tournament is advertised as the "biggest golf event in Maryland history."

Suit Against City Planned

Meanwhile, Henry G. Parks Jr., acting president of the Monument Golfers Association, said his organization would bring suit against the city to eliminate the jim crow schedule of "colored days" on municipal courses such as Mt. Pleasant.

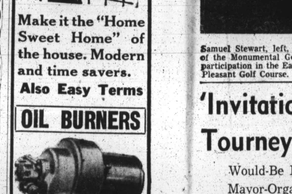
The NAACP, he said, has promised legal aid to the association.

Mr. Parks thought it impractical to bring suit on the basis of the tournament refusal, because of the difficulty of placing responsibility upon one of several parties of backing the promotion.

The tournament is programmed as being organized by the Mayor's office, regulated by the Professional Golfers' Association (PGA) and sponsored by the Gunther Brewing Company, which put up more than $16,000 in prize money.

R. W. Thomas, a Gunther's rep-

(Continued on Page 2)



Samuel Stewart, left, and Clyde Martin were among four members of the Monumental Golf Club whose applications were rejected for participation in the Eastern Invitation Open now under way at the Mt. Pleasant Golf Course.

PROMOTIONS IN SCHOOLS:

Vice-Principal Gets $6,000 Supervisor Job

Mrs. Rebecca M. Carroll, vice principal of the Joseph H. Lockerman School No. 100, has been appointed a supervisor of elementary grades at a salary of $6,000 per year, the Board of School Commissioners has announced.

She will be replaced at the Lockerman School by Mrs. Louise B. Sergeant, formerly reading specialist at School No. 139, who will receive $6,000 per year.

Others Promoted

Other promotions include those of:

Mrs. Marion C. Johnson, head of the department of practice, Coppin Teachers College, to the principalship of School No. 139, at a salary of $5,900 plus increment for additional professional training; and Mrs. Lilly W. Stevenson, practice teacher at Alexander School No. 112, to vice principal of School No. 138.

Mrs. Stevenson will be paid $5,800, plus increment for additional professional training.

Evening Principals Named

Assignment of the following evening school principals also have been approved:

Mrs. Ruth W. Cleaver, Harvey Johnson Junior High School, $8 per evening; Henry W. Horsey, Booker T. Washington Junior High School, $8; Wilfred Seaborne, School No. 130-A, $8; C. Leroy Carroll, Dunbar High School, $8.

James P. Matthews, School No. 159, $8; Robert P. Diggs, Douglass High School, $9; Wilbur O. Stewart, Carver Vocational School, $8, and Harold F. Folkes, School No. 456, $8.

Robert T. Ford will serve as vice principal of the Douglass Evening High School and will receive

(Continued on Page 2)

Yanks Fight a War Through Rice Fields Like This

Tan Yanks of the 24th Division stick their heads cautiously above the growing crop in a rice paddy as they advance in South Korea. The rice field was under enemy mortar fire during the operation. James Hicks, AFRO war correspondent with our troops in Korea, explains why the Korean war is so difficult and how our troops progress in this newspaper each week.

Get Cash for Korea Mail

AFRO readers with relatives serving with the armed forces in Korea are urged to call the City Desk (MUlberry 6015) about any information received in letters from the war front.

Frequently, in addition to purely personal information, such letters contain items of general interest in which all AFRO readers will be interested.

For the best letter published each week, the AFRO will award a prize $5.

No Question of Loyalty to America

GI's in Korea Prove Mettle

Battle for Democracy They Yearn for Here

By Staff Correspondent

Just about 16 months ago, a loud hue and cry echoed around the world about what was reported as Paul Robeson's "no fight" statement at the Paris Peace Conference in April, 1949.

Expressing a preference for Soviet Russia, Robeson reportedly said at that time that colored Americans would not fight in a war against the Soviet Union.

Immediately, this set off a battle between wavers of the Red flag and wavers of the red, white and blue.

Target for Criticism

Robeson became the direct target for a barrage of nation-wide criticism, particularly from members of his own race who not only had appointed himself spokesman for 15,000,000 persons.

Robeson declared that his statement in Paris was misinterpreted by United States reporters.

He said his correct statement was: "It is unthinkable that the colored people of America or elsewhere in the world could be drawn into a war with the Soviet Union."

Speaking before 5,000 persons at a gathering in New York, he stressed his own conviction by declaring, "I repeat it with 100-fold emphasis. They will not."

But despite the public clarification of the Robeson statement, the pro and con argument about whether colored Americans would fight against Russia continued hot and heavy.

Korean War Supplies Answer

While the present conflict in Korea is not technically a war against Russia it is without a doubt a battle against communism as advocated and supported by the Soviet Union.

The front-page news from the Korean battlefront answers this

(Continued on Page 2)

Returning to the United States, Mrs. Eugenia W. Collier, who was assistant manager of the AFRO Clean Block Campaign in 1949, will serve on the judging committee.

Cupid's Corner

Youngest of 38 brides-elect licensed to be married here, this week, was 16-year-old Mamie Bowie, who will become the bride of Major L. Masenburg, 22, of 557 Pressman St.

Miss Bowie had a close second in Miss Shirley Dorsey, 17, who will be married to Isaiah Wilson, 19 of 1323 Myrtle Ave.

The greatest divergence in ages was that of 89-year-old Alexander Harris 1815 Pennsylvania Ave., who obtained a permit to wed 23-year-old Miss Gladys M. Bradley.

Other Marital Pairs

Also obtaining licenses were:

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