GO, BIRDS, GO — Left: Lester Parker and Ralph Wolfe, car salesmen, seem sold on the Orioles. Next: Misses Joan Finney and Brenda Freeland pass hot dog money back to the vendor. Third: 5-year-old Glenn Alexander diplays all the evidences of a real Bird fan. Right: James Jeffries and P. Brooks (chewing cigar) watch an exciting moment as the Twins took a wipping.

Frank's reasons for Bird repeat sound convincing

By SAM LACY

Frank Robinson is convinced the Baltimore Orioles will repeat as American League champions and go on to annex their second straight World Series title.

And when he tells you why, there's a better-than-even chance you'll be convinced, too.

"LET'S TAKE a look at the club from all directions. Start anywhere you like," says the all-round star of the 1966 season.

"You want to consider the hitting? We led the league in club batting last year, so it is obvious it wasn't just one man delivering.

"WE WON it (the pennant) by a big margin," Frank continues, "despite the fact we didn't put it all together. Oh, I know there's talk about our being lucky in having nothing go wrong for us last year, but how about that, now?

"Brooks (Robinson) had a terrific first half of the season, but fall into a slump that gripped him after the All-Star game and he had a heck of a time maintaining his spirit. But he's the kind of guy who doesn't quit.

"Boog (Powell) on the other hand, had a miserable first half, then came on strong in the second part.

• • •

"PUT THOSE two fellows on their average performance for the entire season and nobody will come close. Russ Snyder had a typical year at the plate; he's one of the most dangerous hitters in the game. And Luis Aparicio was below-par after a good start.

"Paul Blair and Davey Johnson figure to improve with the year behind them and a chance to play regularly.

"As for me, I hope to do even better than last year. Notice, I say I hope to do better. My knee's in good shape and I'm happier than I've been in many years.

• • •

"DEFENSE? Okay, let's look at the defense.

"We led the league in that, too. And why not with the kind of gloves we have in our infield?

"Give me Brooks, Luis, Boog and Davey and I'll match it with any infield in baseball," Robinson went on. "The outfield may not be spectacular but it's adequate.

"Paul and Russ and Curt (Blefary) get over a lot of ground, and that helps the old guy like me.

• • •

"PITCHING?

"You fellows like to point fingers at our pitching. But those young arms can fool you, as witness what happened to the Dodgers and the oddsmakers in the Series.

"We led both leagues in doubleheader play, sweeping seven of those we played last summer and losing only one. That's a sign of solid pitching.

• • •

"YOU SAW (Moe) Drabowsky in the Series? You were surprised? Well, let me tell you something. That fellow was only pitching the way he can.

"So were (Jim) Palmer and (Dave) McNally and (Wally) Bunker. And this year, we get young Tom Phoebus all the way.

"Don't worry about anything."

Afro Sports

Sam Bowens bides time while Orioles sit tight

A sort of Mexican standoff exists in the relationship between the world champion Baltimore Orioles and a player who once was the team's pride and joy.

Three years ago, Sam Bowens was a prize freshman in the Bird camp and a strong candidate for rookie-of-the-year honors in the American League. Today, he is believed to be seething over his role as forgotten man and anxious to be traded.

The Orioles, on the other hand, have no intention of granting his wish, unless they can see something of value coming to them.

The result is that Bowens is biding his time on the Bird bench while the club is sitting tight with him on the roster.

• • •

"HE HASN'T said anything more about his desire to go elsewhere," Baltimore general manager Harry Dalton told the AFRO the other day.

"We like having Sam on our team and it is just unfortunate that he isn't able to play more than he does. I can understand his urge to play. He wouldn't be the kind of ball player he is, if he were satisfied to sit on the bench.

"But we have no desire to make a trade unless it is going to help us. I'd be silly to let a fellow of Bowens' ability go just for the sake of getting another name on our roster.

• • •

"WHEN WE deal off an athlete — especially one of quality — it is going to be because we foresee a contribution in an area where we greatly strengthen ourselves."

Bowens, though visibly unhappy with the situation, is refraining from discussing the matter — obviously content to bide his time until something happens . . .

SAM LACY

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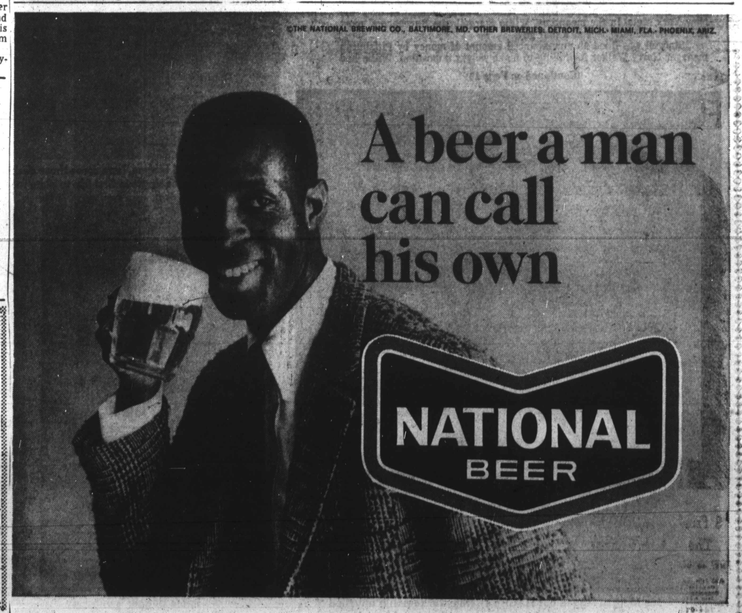

Muhammad's teachings help woman to kick drug habit

A 27-year-old woman discharged from the House of Correction for Women at Jessup on April 10, says she owes her "rehabilitation" and "salvation" to minister Isaiah Karriem of Muhammad Mosque No. 6.

A native Baltimorean, the woman had been in the institution for three years for forgery and drug addiction.

She said she came into contact with drugs when 14 years old.

"I was living in a neighborhood in the 1400 block Monument St., where drugs were easily available," she added.

After dropping out of Dunbar High School in 1955, she "walked the streets," worked at odd jobs and toured the East Coast as a fire dancer.

She said, "In 1963, I finally became addicted to heroin and took the needle daily." She was placed in Cromwville State Hospital for two weeks where she received a "physical cure."

Soon after her release she was back on the drugs. "I could not do without them. I wasn't ready," she said.

IN JUNE, 1964, she was arrested and convicted on a forgery and drug charge. She was at the House of Correction for Women from 1964 to April 10, 1967.

During her confinement, minister Karriem taught her about the Nation of Islam.

Mr. Karriem, who has been affiliated with Elijah Muhammad's Muslim movement for 26 years, has taught in the state institution for almost two years.

He has scheduled classes at the Maryland State Penitentiary, the Clifton State Hospital for the Criminally Insane, the Houses of Correction for Men and Women at Jessup and the Patuxent State Hospital for "Habitual repeaters."

• • •

VOICING THE creed of Muhammad, the minister said, "The purpose of his teaching in America is to unite colored people and to give them a sense of dignity and race pride and to remove from them all the vices and crimes that we have been made to suffer for the last 400 years."

He adds, "The Messenger's teachings have done much to eliminate crime, and acts of indecency among our people by the following of his strict rules, no pork, no smoking, no drinking, no drugs and no make-up for "righteous women."

IT WAS on one of his visits that the rehabilitated woman heard Minister Karriem. She wrote him about his sermon and he responded.

"I was attracted to the teachings of Muhammad because, to me, Christianity had too many loop-holes. Why should you have a religion that you cannot question. You can question and receive answers from the teaching of Muhammad," she said this week.

Minister Karriem said she was the first woman who requested his assistance.

"We now are helping more than 100 inmates to rehabilitate their lives," he told the AFRO.

Many of the officials were shocked by my radical change. I committed many infractions of the laws in the institution and was considered a "hard core" woman who could not reform," the small woman said with pride in her voice.

She continued, "I began to take inventory of myself. I did not want to reenter society as I was."

That was a year ago. Presently, the woman is employed as a waitress in the Shabazz Restaurant at the mosque at 514 Wilson St.

She will go through a period of training, what the Muslims call the "finishing laboratory."

"Afterwards, I'd lke to teach in the Islam nation," she said, apparently assured in her own mind that there will be no relapse.

• • •

MRS. FRANCES MELVIN, assistant superintendent of the Maryland Correctional Institution for Women, told the AFRO, "I found this young woman to be a kind hearted, but rather confused little girl who had gotten into a lot of trouble.

"Her good side was often overcome by her bad side."

She was referring to the young woman's having received an extra year because she was caught taking dope through the visitor's window in the institution when a man posing as her husband transferred heroin to her by way of a kiss.

The man received five years.

James Jordon, superintendent of the institution, recalled that she wrote him a poem before she left.

Clay carries his draft fight to higher court

Heavyweight Champion Cassius Clay carried his fight against being drafted into the Army to the Supreme Court Thursday. He is scheduled for induction at Houston April 28.

Clay's Attorney, Hayden C. Covington, filed briefs with the high tribunal which asked the court to take these actions:

1. Prevent the draft boards at Louisville, Ky., and Houston from ordering him to report for induction in two weeks.

2. Direct a lower three-judge panel to hear his claim that the entire draft system is unconstitutional, particularly on grounds it discriminates against colored persons.

• • •

U.S. DIST. Judge James F. Gordon ruled against the champion recently in Louisville and Covington filed an appeal with the U. S. 6th Circuit Court of Appeals in Cincinnati on Wednesday.

Clay, who has adopted the Black Muslim name of Muhammad Ali, has exhausted the machinery for appeal under the Selective Service System and his only recourse now is through the courts.

He has hinted broadly that he may refuse to report, a defiance which would subject him to a prison term as a draft evader.

CLAY COULD not be reached for comment in Chicago. But Herbert Muhammad, his Muslim manager, said it "wouldn't help to talk to him. He probably doesn't know much about the Supreme Court petition anyway."

Covington asked both the full Supreme Court and Justice Potter Stewart to consider Clay's case. Stewart is empowered to act alone, but is more likely to prefer the appeal to all nine justices.

Clay's attorney used the same arguments in the briefs filed as he did in asking the Cincinnati Appeals Court for action.

IN CHALLENGING the Selective Service System, Covington contended the law is vague and indefinite and that it gives unlimited discretion to the President and the governors of the states to determine which draft registrants shall be summoned.

Furthermore, Clay's appeal argued, there is discrimination against colored persons in the makeup of most draft boards. Covington claimed there were only two colored board members in Kentucky where Clay was first registered.

• • •

WHEN HE first became champion, Clay was exempt from the draft because he failed to meet intelligence standards. With the intensification of the Vietnam war, however, the Defense Department reduced these requirements and Clay was classified as 1-A, subject to call to duty.

The champion also has claimed that as a Black Muslim he should have exempt status as a minister of a religious belief. This aspect of his appeal was contained in the briefs filed by Covington with the High Court.

Lauretta Dorsey Young makes Met semi-finals

By ADAH K. JENKINS

Lauretta Dorsey Young, former Baltimore soprano, now teaching in the music department of the Washington public schools, was among the nine young soloists finishing in the semi-finals of the annual Metropolitan Opera competition.

Mrs. Young, who placed first in the regional competition held recently in New Jersey, was one of the 24 contestants from this country and as distant as Australia.

Winners received $2,000 each, which is to be used in furthering their musical careers. They will return to New York in November for the finals, for which there are three prizes of $2,500 each and a contract with the Met for the top contestant.

Mrs. Young is a graduate of Eastern High School where she was coached in voice by Mrs. Louise Massey. After graduating from Peabody she continued her training at Juilliard and was a faculty member at the Peabody Camp in New England.

The gifted soprano has appeared in several operas at the Peabody and was a member of the Baltimore Bach Society.

Attending the audition at the Met were her parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Dorsey and Maurice Adams, her accompanist.

Among the finalists was a 22-year-old soloist from Harford Tape — Singleton Stford, Conn.

—Gates swung hard

(Continued from Page 17)

been told to open the campaign at 215 pounds. He weighed in at 221, five over, and was hit for cash.

• • •

PITTSBURGH took advantage of five New York errors in handing the Mets their sixth straight opening day loss. The Mets took an early lead in the first on Tommy Davis' run-producing single, and added two more in the fourth on Jerry Grote's two-run homer to lead 3-1. In the sixth, Roberto Clemente's grounder went through shortstop Bud Harrelson's legs and rightfielder Cleon Jones misplayed Donn Clendenon's pop fly single into a two-base error to begin the Met downfall.

Gene Alley and Jesse Gonder smacked back-to-back doubles leading off the ninth to ignite a three-run rally.

• • •

A DOUBLE steal attempt by Chicago's Glen Beckert and Billy Williams forced a throwing error by Cookie Rojas that enabled the Cubs to score two runs in the sixth inning and down Philadelphia. Ferguson Jenkins, who allowed six scattered hits, went all the way to notch the victory while Phillie ace Jim Bunning was tagged with the loss.

The follinging day, Tony Taylor scored from third base in the 11th inning when relief pitcher Bill Hands uncorked a wild pitch with the bases loaded and two out to give the Phillies a 5-4 victory over the Cubs.

• • •

OUTFIELDER Jose Tartabull beat out an infield hit, stole second and scored on Ron Hansen's throwing error in the sixth inning Wednesday to give the Boston Red Sox a 5-4 victory over the Chicago White Sox in the season opener for both teams. Earlier, shortstop Rico Petrocelli had driven in four runs with a second inning single and a three-run homer into a stiff wind in the third. John Wyatt releived Boston starter Jim Lonborg in the seventh after the White Sox had cut the lead to 5-4.

Pete Ward doubled, advanced on Ken Berry's single and scored on a wild pitch. Lonborg fanned Bill Skowron but Berry scored when outfielder Tony Conigliaro dropped Hansen's fly for a two-base error. Jerry Adair singled Hansen across before Wyatt came on to stop the rally.

—SAM LACY

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