Hall Of Fame To Welcome Black Sports Stars

TEACHER SUPPLEMENT IN THIS EDITION (AFRO SPECIAL INSIDE)

Baltimore Afro-American

BOY, 10, KILLED AS GUN EXPLODES (SEE BACK PAGE)

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Ft. Meade Officer Faces Court-Martial; Congressman Mitchell Asks For Probe

STRONG HEARTS — Louis B. Russell Jr. of Indianapolis, the longest living heart transplant patient in the world who received his new heart at the Medical College of Virginia in Richmond, gets a big kiss from Mrs. Betty Anick of West Allis, Wisc., the longest living female heart transplant patient. The active, strong hearted duo was in Milwaukee where Russell, a high school teacher, addressed a chapter of Phi Delta Kappa. (UPI Telephoto)

High-level investigation demanded

WASHINGTON — "I feel a personal commitment to the cause of Lt. Font. It was to me that he came in an effort to help his fellow soldiers. Now he is the one who needs my help."

Congressman Parren J. Mitchell (D.-7th Md.) speaking in the House of Representatives on Wednesday was criticizing the Army for bringing charges against Lt. Louis Font.

Rep. Mitchell termed the charges "a form of vindictive harassment and called for an immediate investigation of the case by the Office of the Secretary of the Army.

On January 29, the Army charged Lt. Font with five (5) specifications of disobeying a direct order, carrying a maximum sentence of 25 years at hard labor.

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The charges grew out an attempt by Lt. Font to give the signed statements of 85 soldiers to his commanding officer, Lt. General Jonathan Seamans.

Maj. Gen. Richard Ciccolella ordered Lt. Font to leave the 1st Army HQ, and when he did not exit quickly enough, he had Lt. Font detained by the Military Police for four hours without counsel, and subsequently had him placed under restriction.

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On the basis of the statements of the soldiers, coupled with an Army Medical Report describing certain barracks as "not sui-

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1st LT. LOUIS P. FONT
'Some parts of Ft. Meade like deepest parts of Alabama'

Lt, Font held for his expose

By J. O. WILLIAMS

"My concern for those less fortunate than myself began in the home with the teaching of my parents."

The words are those of 1st Lt. Louis P. Font this week.

However, Lt. Font's concern for the GI's at Ft. Meade, Md., has brought down the wrath of the U.S. Army and he faces court-martial for five counts of disobeying orders.

In an exclusive AFRO interview, Lt. Font explained the circumstances of the case. "I have experienced discrimination myself," he said. "My mother is Puerto Rican and my father is French."

So when he discovered the "deplorable" GI living conditions at Ft. Meade, he began to make complaints to his superiors.

"There were blacks living in the barracks under inhuman conditions. They were paid less often, placed on detail more often and assigned to KP more often than the other GI's," he stated.

When his superior officers failed to correct conditions, Lt. Font took his

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Hall of Fame to welcome black sports pioneers

NEW YORK — At long last, the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum at Cooperstown, N.Y., is opening its doors to stars of the early colored leagues.

Paul S. Kerr, president of the Hall of Fame, and Ford C. Frick, chairman of its board of directors, joined with baseball commissioner Bowie Kuhn here Wednesday, to announce the decision to rcognize the most outstanding black ball players of the twenties, thirties and early forties.

Ten men were designated as members of a committee to select the most deserving honorees.

Sam Lacy, sports editor of the AFRO, was among those chosen to serve on the committee which was introduced at a press conference in the baseball commissioner's office at 11 a.m., Wednesday.

Also serving on the committee will be Alex Pompez, longtime owner of the Cuban Giants; Eddie Gottlieb, former owner of the Philadelphia Stars and veteran booking agent for both the Negro National and American leagues; Frank Forbes, for many years an official in colored baseball and one-time scout for the New York Giants;

Eppy Barnes, who guided the course of early black baseball at the now defunct Bushwick and Dexter parks in New York; Wendell Smith, former sports editor of the Pittsburgh Courier and now a Chicago radio-TV sports commentator; Monte Irvin, Roy Campanella, Bill Yancey and Judy Johnson.

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Irvin, now an assistant to baseball commissioner Kuhn, played with the Newark Eagles of the NNL before signing with the New York Giants of the fifties.

Campanella, played for the Baltimore Elite Giants prior to his acceptance as a teammate of pioneer Jackie Robinson on the old Brooklyn Dodgers; later followed Robinson into the Hall of Fame where they now are the only colored residents.

Yancey and Johnson were both longtime stars with top clubs of the pre-integration days. Both also have served as scouts for major league teams — Yancey with the Yankees and Johnson with the Athletics. Judy is the father-in-law of former Braves centerfielder Billy Bruton.

As a result of this move, the baseball public will be made aware of the talent possessed by a number of these athletes who played in segregated leagues and thus were deprived of the opportunity to compete in organized baseball.

Included among these are such names as Oscar Charleston, Josh Gibson, Satchel Paige, Buck Leonard, Stringbean Williams, Dick Lundy, Cannonball Redding and Bullet Rogan, to name a few.

Under the guidelines set up for the committee, one man is to be selected each year from among the leading candidates who played prior to 1946.

The candidates are to be selected on the basis of playing ability, integrity, sportsmanship, character, and their contributions to the teams on which they played and to baseball in general.

As with the handling of ballots for all other Hall of Fame candidates, a player under consideration by this special committee must receive 75 per cent of votes from the membership.

The committee was asked to meet as early as possible to select the first player to be inducted. This induction is expected to take place on August 8, when the annual Hall of Fame games is played on the Cooperstown diamond, regaled as the birthplace of baseball.

City to get first black school head?

For the first time in its history Baltimore may have a black superintendent of public schools.

When the Board of School Commissioners meets on February 11th at 4 p.m. at the Barclay Elementary School (Barclay and 29th Sts.) high on the list of potential acting superintendents will be William Pinderhughes, associate superintendent for Personnel and Sterling S. Keyes, associate superintendent for Administration, Finance and Planning, both are black.

Mr. Pinderhughes had been recognized by former superintendent, Dr. Thomas D. Sheldon, as his "right-hand man." In fact, Mr. Pinderhughes presently occupies in the "25th St." complex, the suite of offices known as the "Superintendent's Office, which was occupied by former superintendent, Dr. Laurence G. Pacquin.

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When Dr. Sheldon moved to Baltimore in 1968, he did not take the suite tradionally reserved for the superintendent, but deferred to Pinderhughes and took the offices across the hall from the 50-year-old black educator.

So Pinderhughes is actually in the "top seat" literally whether he has the title of "superintendent" or not.

But whether the Board will give Pinderhughes the

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Review Board would reinstate Det. Davis

On February 3, the Police Review Board recommended to Commissioner Donald Pomerleau that Detective Daniel Davis be reinstated without back pay.

Davis was accused on July 28, 1969 of malseasence in office, bribery, and conspiriasy to violate norcotics laws while on the job as narcotics investigator.

He was aquitted on December 8, 1970.

Defense attorney LeRoy Carroll and David Allen presented his case to the Review Board after he was found not guilty.

Mr. Carroll told the AFRO today that Detective Davis will accept reinstatement. According to regulations, the Commissioner may follow the recomendation or turn it down. An answer is expected early next week.

Minister's sons attacked in movie house by thugs

By ELIZABETH M. OLIVER

From what witnesses reported to the police, it was a brutal thing that should not have happened."

This is the remark Northern District Officer John Eichler made Wednesday in comment on an incident in a theatre at 911 W. 36th St. last Sunday.

Four youngsters, ages 15, 14, 12, and 10, sons of Mount Hebron Baptist Church pastor, the Rev. John F. Mooring Sr. and his wife, Mrs. Fair Ella Mooring, were attacked inside the movie house Jan. 31 about 5:15 p.m.

All were treated at the hospital. Two sustained severe injuries which required multiple stitches.

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Officer Eichler told the AFRO reports on the incident reveal that two suspects ages 17 and 12 years, both white, will be served with warrants as soon as Juvenile Court petitions have been prepared.

Police report the black youths entered the theatre and "sat down in an orderly manner to view the horror picture," Officer Eichler said.

He explained, "They were probably the only black persons in the theatre which is in an almost all-white, not high-class, area.

"A group of white boys came in, sat down behind

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GRIEVED because of the Sunday assault upon their sons in a Baltimore theatre are the Rev. and Mrs. John F. Mooring shown surrounded by (left to right) Garry, 12; Anthony, 14; Reginald, 14; and Christoper, 10. In addition to severe cuts and bruises the youths suffered hurt because of racial epithets thrown at them by persons in the movie house.

Longtime member dies during Sunday service

ELIZABETH M. OLIVER

Funeral services were held at Providence Baptist Church Thursday for longtime member, Mrs. Bessie Sweet, 5005 Gwynn Oak Ave.

Mrs. Sweet died unexpectedly of a heart attack in the church lounge shortly before the 11 a.m. services Sunday. She was 74.

The Rev. Marcus Wood, pastor, told the AFRO that Mrs. Sweet, one of the church's most faithful ushers, had served at the 8 a.m. services.

He stated that she came to his office afterwards, shook his hand, picked up the bulletins for the 11 a.m. services and asked if there were any changes.

The Rev. Mr. Wood reports that she was "her usual cheerful self" with no hint of death which came within a few minutes.

The pastor said she went into the ladies' lounge and later revealed to other members that she felt pains and a heaviness in her chest.

Her only daughter, Mrs. Hazel Roach, told the AFRO Mrs. Sweet had not been ill at any time before her sudden death. She said her mother had paid bills and had done her housework as usual last week.

The Rev. Mr. Wood also revealed that Mrs. Sweet had outlined to her family previously plans for her funeral saying, "If anything ever happens to me, this is what I want."

Following the plans, the

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CHUCKLE

Just to make sure, the vacationer asked the native Flordian if there were any alligators around. Reassured that there were none, he dove into the water only to hear the man on the beach shout, "Alligators never come around here — sharks scare them away."

Nathan Hare at UMBC Wed.

Dr. Nathan Hare the well-known black author and scholar, will be the keynote speaker on Wednesday at 8 p.m. at the University of Maryland, Baltimore campus, 5401 Wilkins Ave.

The meeting is sponsored by the Afro-American Studies Committee and will be held in the Chemistry and Physics auditorium. The public is invited.