AFRO Sports

AS SOUTH AFRICAN SEE US

AFRO's visiting writer attends roller derby

By Shadrack Kumalo

(Mr. Kumalo is a visiting journalist from Johannesburg, South Africa, on an assignment to the Baltimore AFRO-AMERICAN.)

On Sunday evening, I visited the Baltimore City Civic Center to watch roller skating and went away appalled after seeing young men and women do what Muhammad Ali did to many who faced him in the boxing ring.

I have watched wrestling before, but it is like a kindergarten game compared to what I saw.

All those peace-loving and concerned people who have been arguing that boxing should be banned because it is a brutal sport must visit the Civic Center next time roller skating is featured.

The voices of the swearing, bloodthirsty and crazy fans who were shouting themselves hoarse are still ringing in my ears.

When we entered the Civic Center, I noted first the many police inside and outside. I now understand why a policeman insisted on searching the bag of a 13-year-old as we entered.

As the game went on, I just thought that if all the seats were filled it would take an army to control these raging fans. There were only 3,893 people on this night.

However, this is an overstatement because the fans were rather well-behaved, except one who had his mouth buttoned up with a fist, because he cheered the wrong team.

I could not help but think of soccer fans back home who get so involved that they start riots.

If this game was played in Johannesburg, they would have had to put a high fence up to stop fans from jumping over to settle matters themselves.

Sunday evening's teams were the Cats, who are Baltimore-based and the Outlaws who came all the way from Texas.

Whoever named these teams must have been a prophet, because both lived up to their names.

The Cats, who were more polished and very entertaining, had their girl team led by acrobatic Miss Sonia Simms, who is better known as "Miss Excitement."

The announcer only had to shout: "Go Sonia, go," and everybody would be standing, shouting as Sonia did some of the swiftest movements I have seen in any game.

Sonia later proved that she was not good at her movements only.

Three of the Outlaws' members of the girl team can vouch on this.

I say this after I had seen them lying on their backs after Sonia had crushed them with her devastating right hook.

In fact, the way she was swinging and landing her blows, I couldn't help but just think of the lucky guy who may marry her. One thing for sure is that he will have to be straight like a broomstick or end up wearing false teeth.

Most of the Outlaws' players, both girls and boys, were very rough, as their name suggests.

One of their girl members team got rough with Sonia. She then jumped off the track and Sonia chased her. She caught up with her and gave her three blows followed by her favorite right hook.

Another member of the Outlaws team did not like what Sonia had done and decided to take over. Sonia had the same medicine for her.

I thought this had been enough of a warning for the Outlaws, but a third member went crazily to the guillotine; that was Sonia. She never knew what had hit her.

Fans were roaring on the stands. Sonia lifted her hands like a boxer who had won a world title and got a hero's ovation.

But the Outlaws still nursed the grudge. When the men's team started playing, they grabbed a member of the Cats and kicked him in the ribs and trampled on him with those heavy rollers they wear, as he lay down.

I was flinching with pain and the spectators were just mad. The referee intervened and the injured player was carried on to the table inside the track where a doctor was in attendance.

While the doctor was examining the injured player, one of the Outlaws flung himself to the table where he lay spilling the doctors medicine and sending the injured player on yet another crash landing on the ground.

You can imagine the pain because these players do not wear any significant protectors.

The announcer was mumbling something about a fine for the Outlaws' player, but I couldn't hear a word. The Cats' supporters went crazy and were dying to get the culprit in their hands.

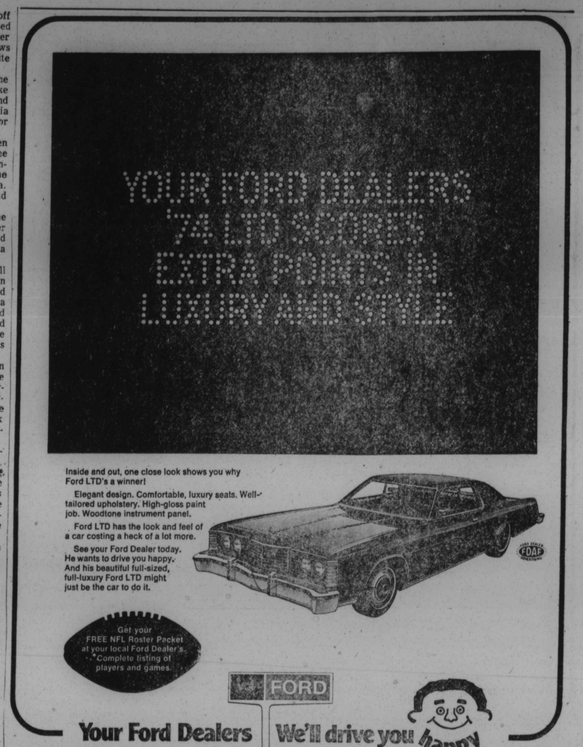
The Outlaws stood around unconcerned as if nothing had happened.

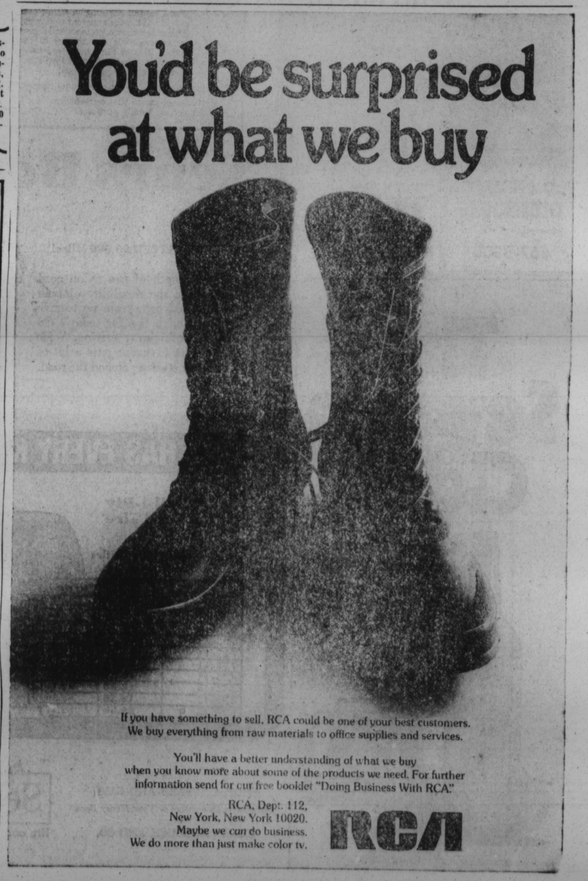
Accordint to the financial year records of the Civic Center, $191,372 was the income from roller skating last year.

I was pondering over the question of violence when my friend remarked that she had also noted after attending a lot of skating derbys at the Civic Center that it was the violence that attracted people, not so much the skill.

The game ended with 79 points for the Outlaws against 76 for the Cats, but nobody cared. Miss Sonia Simms' right hook was the better topic.

A GOOD CITIZEN is registered and prepared to VOTE. Do so TODAY at Supervisors of Elections, People's Court Building, Fayette and Gay Sts. Next election is Sept., 1974. Register from — 8:30 to 4:30 p.m. Mondays through Fridays.





Who Is Your Favorite Actor?

Fred Williamson

Bruce Lee

Jim Brown

Sidney Poitier, having held the lead for a number of weeks then losing to some of the "Super Stars" has now regained his rightful position of first place.

Bruce Lee, favorite of the very young, holds second with Jim Brown in third.

Michael Anne Harris, Richmond, Va., I am for Bruce Lee because all of his pictures tell and express something more than just martial arts. He is still loved all over the world, except for those who wanted him dead.

Horsey Parker, Baltimore, Md., likes Bruce Lee because Lee, legendary Dragon Master of the martial arts, truly was "Beyond The Belt." I really liked him because of his lifelong stand to refuse to 'Prostitute' the martial arts for money's sake.

Annie Richardson, Baltimore, Md., votes for Jim Brown because he doesn't have to have long hair or be a super-fly for he has it up stairs.

Donald Keve, Baltimore, Md., since Bruce Lee is dead, the picture makers should take Karado who played in the Hong Kong Cat" and write a better part for him in a good picture. Karado is good with the martial arts and he could be what the people want — a good karate star.

Georgianna Baldwin of Dorchester, Mass. votes for Billy Dee Williams. Ron O'Neal and Sidney Poitier. Billy Dee Williams is about as sexy as a man can possibly be or hope to be. Even though he doesn't care for Black Women. Ron O'Neal expresses a natural ease on the screen; his first picture "Superfly" definitely expresses the kind of world that the black man has to live if he wants to have money. He also is very fine. I have always admired and respected Sidney Poitier. Not only is he talented, but he is so proud of being black that he naturally reflects this feeling on screen or television. I have never known him to play any role that would degrade or put himself in a position to be called a "Punky." I am very proud of him.

Maria Shields of Baltimore, Md. votes for Bruce Lee, Richard Roundtree and Max Julien because they are the most three together men I have ever seen in action and they are real cool and I dig their style.

Carrie Hodges of Smoaks, S.C. really digs Richard Roundtree. I really dig his "Shaft" movies. If I were to meet him, I guess I would be lost for words. He is the greatest black actor in movies, or anywhere. I just dig John Shaft. He's handsome and sweet. I also like Jim Brown and Bruce Lee. They both are great actors.

WE WANT MAIL DON'T BE SHY VOTE

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Favorite Actor, What's Happening
AFRO-AMERICAN News—628 N. Eutaw St.
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Eleo Pomare Coming to Lyric

The Eleo Pomare Dance Company will appear in concert on Sunday evening, November 11, 1973 at 8:00 p.m. at the Lyric Theatre.

The concert will be the highlight activity of a two-week residency program in movement and dance. The project will be sponsored by the Model Cities Cultural Arts Project with the aid of a grant from the National Endowment For The Arts — United States Office of Education Artists-In-Schools Program, Dance Component.

During the residence period, the dance company will conduct workshops for interested teachers, students and parents exploring movement as a teaching tool and a learning device. Master classes in dance have been scheduled at area colleges including the Community College of Baltimore and Towson State College for dance students and teachers. All workshops and master classes are offered free of charge.

The Pomare Dance Company has received acclaim for performances at the New York City Center, the Anta Theatre the Delacarte Theatre, the Kennedy Center in Washington and numerous colleges throughout the United States. In 1972, the company appeared at the Adelaide Festival of Arts in Australia as part of a four-week Australian tour sponsored jointly by the festival, the Australian Government and the Australian Elizabethan Theatre Trust.

In addition, the company is accredited by the New York State Council on the Arts and performs Lecture-Demonstrations for the New York City Young Audiences, Incorporated.

Mayor William Donald Schaefer is honorary chairman of the Eleo Pomare Residency program in Baltimore, and Norman Ross, Project Director of the Cultural Arts Project is Chairman.

Other members of the committee include: Mrs. Lenore Johnson and Mrs. Brenda Ferguson of the Model Cities Community Information Division. Mrs. David Albright, Mrs. Wilbert Sirota, Mrs. Deborah London, Mrs. Helene Breazeale, Mrs. Chrystelle Bond, Mrs. Fannie Moragne, Mrs. Margaret Armstrong, Miss Betty Ann Reid, John Taylor, Orville Johnson, William G. Sykes and Fred Clifton.

ENOCH PRATT

Coming Events (Week of October 14-20)

Sunday, October 14
"Brian's Song" film at the Central Pratt Library, Wheeler Auditorium, 1:30 p.m. and 3:00 p.m.

Monday, October 15
"The General Line" film at the Central Pratt Library, Wheeler Auditorium, 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, October 16
"The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari" and "The Rite of Love and Death," films at the Pratt Library's Waverly Branch, 2:00 p.m.

Wednesday, October 17
"J.T." film at the Pratt Library's Broadway Branch, 3:30 p.m.

"Gulliver Among the Lilliputians" and "Make Way For Ducklings," filmstrips at the Pratt Library's Pimlico Branch, 4:00 p.m.

Thursday, October 18
"The Heritage of Slavery," film at the Pratt Library's Broadway Branch, 1:00 p.m.

Saturday, October 20
"The Dragon's Tears," "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow" and "Colts: 1965 Season 'One for the Books,'" films at the Pratt Library's Pennsylvania Avenue Branch 12 noon.

Civic

Fri., October 12, 8 p.m.
Ice Hockey, Clippers vs. New Haven Nighthawks

Mon., October 15, 7 p.m.
Doubleheader Roller Games

Wed., October 17, 7:30 p.m.
Sales Meeting, Avon Products, Inc., No. 169

Wed., October 17, 8 p.m.
Ice Hockey, Clippers vs. Cincinnati Swords

Thurs., October 18, 8:30 a.m.-1 a.m.
Convention, Maryland State Teachers Association

Louise Alexander of White Marsh, Md. won $780. as "home pin pal" on "Duckpins and Dollars"

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By the way...

by Joe Black

I've become more and more concerned lately about a situation that could become quite serious, unless we all stop and think a minute.

It seems to me that, in the minds of many Blacks today, Big Business has come to mean somewhat the same as Big Daddy.

Especially, if a company has Blacks in key positions.

Big Daddy. Someone to ask for help. And expect it.

Well, this can't always be the way it happens. Just as Big Daddy doesn't always have all the answers, neither can Big Business be expected to.

Most certainly, many large corporations have come a long, long way, recognizing the problems of minority groups. Others have a long way to go.

But many are acting in a responsive, responsible manner. And a lot has been accomplished. Among other things, we're seeing more Blacks being placed in decision-making positions.

But there is no one corporation or Black executive who can handle, solve, or decide on all the problems that beset Black people today.

Many of these problems, we must think out and begin to solve for ourselves. It isn't easy, of course.

But, as we work things out for ourselves—as we help ourselves as realistically as we can, we'll all discover something important.

We'll find that others are standing by—ready to help—as realistically as they can.

Joe Black
Vice President
The Greyhound Corporation

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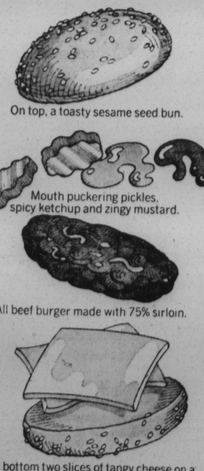

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