Sugar Ray answers threat by first foe with a promise

Neither the young boxer nor his trainer could believe they were hearing right but the assurances came later that Louis Vega of Reading, Pa., actually intends to snuff out the professional career of Sugar Ray Leonard on the day of its birth.

Paraphrasing Shakespeare, Vega told the sports media Tuesday that he will be coming to Baltimore's Civic Center on Feb. 5 "not to praise Ray but to beat him."

The ominous note (For Leonard) was sounded shortly after Vega was introduced by matchmaker Eddie Hrica as the opponent for the Olympic champion's long-awaited debut as a pro some three weeks from tomorrow (Saturday).

But Leonard and his longtime trainer-adviser, Dave Jacobs, quickly recovered and both could hardly wait to grab the microphone set up in the Civic Center's Hall of Fame room.

In typical low-key fashion, Leonard said: "You have to believe in yourself or nobody will believe in you. But Louis can be sure I'll be there for him to try (beating) me."

Jacobs was somewhat less reserved. "Ray," he declared, "will take him out in four".

Vega boasts the experience provided by 25 pro fights, of which 14 were victories. He has lost eight and been involved in three draw decisions. Six of the 14 wins were by knockout.

Louis turned pro in 1975 after capturing the Golden Gloves lightweight crown in his native Puerto Rico. The previous year he outpointed Howard Davis who won the Olympic lightweight gold medal for the U.S. last summer in Montreal.

The day following his Civic Center appearance, Leonard left for Las Vegas where he is scheduled to handle the color commentary for tomorrow's debut by two other U.S. Olympians, Leon Spinks and Howard Davis.

Spinks, the lightweight gold medalist at Montreal, and Davis who won the Olympic 132-pound title, will have their introductory pro bouts televised by CBS as part of the Saturday CBS Sports Spectacular."

The same show will air Leonard's Feb. 5 debut with the Baltimore area blacked out ... Lacy.

(AFRO staff photo by Benny Phillips)
Sugar Ray Leonard (right) and trainer fighter and handler Dave Jacobs astounded

Catonsville gal named volley All-American

Catonsville Community College sophomore Letha Brown has been named to the National Junior College Athletic Association women's volleyball second team.

This marks the second year in a row that Mis. Brown has been selected. She was a first team All-America pick in 1975.

Announcement of the honor voted the young Dundalk High star was made Tuesday at Hutchinson, Kansas, headquarters of the NJCAA.

During her two years at Catonsville Ms. Brown led the Cardinals to an overall record of 35-12, to Maryland and regional titles in 1975; and second and ninth place finishes in national junior college tourney.

"Letha is one of the top players I've ever coached or been associated with" stated Catonsville coach Cathy Cain said about her star. "I feel the only thing that kept her off the first team was an injury (a chipped ankle bone) she sustained three weeks before the nationals."

"It's going to be very hard to coach without her next year. No matter where she goes to complete her education, Letha will be a real asset."

Perhaps the most impressive comment made about Ms. Brown's ability was made at the nationals by former Olympian Ninja Jorgenson who stated that, "Letha could start for any four-year school in the country, including UCLA or the University of Southern California (the current national champion), right now."

LETHA BROWN
second time around

Foreman foe no real scare

At least, it's a fight.

How much of a fight it will be is hard to imagine, but former heavyweight champion George Foreman will be meeting Pedro Agosto in Pensacola, Fla., Jan. 22.

Agosto, billed by promoter Don King as the Puerto Rican heavyweight champion on the strength of 19 knockouts in 34 victories, has fought few known opponents. One that he did fight is Floyd Patterson and Pedro was kayoed by him in 1972.

Foreman, looking for his fourth straight KO in this one, also had very little class in the last two antagonists.

Since stopping ex-champion Joe Frazier last June, George knocked out Scott Ledoux in August and Dino Dennis in October.

Sore heel victimizes Ashe in Aussie tennis

A pain-wracked Arthur Ashe lost to Charlie Pasarell, a man he constantly beats, in the second round of the $75,000 South Australia Tennis Classic at Adelaide on Tuesday.

The slender Virginian was eliminated, 7-6, 6-7, 6-3, after refusing to withdraw because of his commitment to the sponsors.

Both Ashe and Australian Open titlist Roscoe Tanner were ousted on the same day. And both had gone on with their matches despite being under par because they had agreed to play.

Tanner, weakened by a stomach ailment, lost to Tom Gorman who had already booked reservations to fly home, sure that he would not survive the match with his fellow-American.

Ashe has been limping badly and was obviously seriously affected by an old nagging heel injury which has been worrying him for the past few years.

Throughout the Australian series Ashe has refused to blame the heel for his lapses.

Eight top stakes winners expected for Bowies event

Eight of the nation's top handicap horses, who earned nearly a half-million dollars in 1976, are expected to compete tomorrow (Saturday) in the 60th running of the $25,000 added Bowie Handicap at Bowie Race Course.

Included in the probable field are a number of familiar veterans such as Delay, Jolly John, King of Fools and Go Go Roger. Expected to challenge the old-timers are such prominent newcomers as Pistol White, Pined Aboard, Take The Pledge and Ripon.

Delay and Jolly John are a pair of Bowie favorites who have scored some of their greatest victories at the Southern Maryland track. Each is a past winner of the $100,000 John B. Campbell Handicap, the track's premier stakes event.

Delay won a division of the 1973 running and finished second in 1974. Jolly John won the 1975 Campbell and then ran third in [illegible]

Jolly John comes into Bowie out of a gutsy victory in the Maryland Horse Handicap.

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New young O's hopeful from athletic family

Twenty-year-old Gerald Coleman brought with him some promising credentials when he showed up Thursday morning for a press briefing in the Baltimore Oriole office at Memorial Stadium.

One was the revelation that he is the youngest member of a family well stocked in athletes.

His oldest brother, Donnell, played three years at quarterback at Morgan State University, and led the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference in total offense in 1975.

Another brother, Quincy, starred the past two seasons for the improving Frostburg (Md.) State College eleven.

* * *

But Gerald, a fourth round pick by the Birds in Tuesday's free-agent draft, appears to be a good prospect on his own.

He played five positions in baseball and two in football during a 3-year hiatus at Walbrook High School.

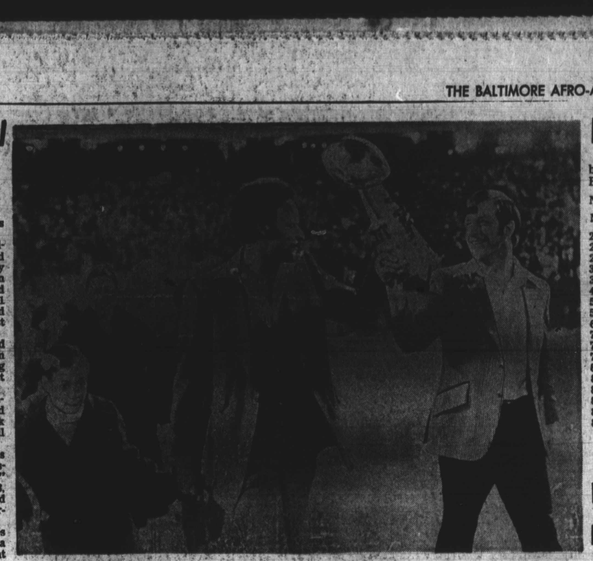
A member of the Walbrook nine which captured the 1973 junior varsity title, young Coleman played all three outfield positions, turned in a 4-1 record as a pitcher and served occasionally at first base.

In 1974-75, he performed with similar versatility on Walbrook teams that hung up 7-7 and 11-5 won-lost records.

Additionally, young Coleman played defensive end and reserve quarterback on the Walbrook football team.

He and his teammates won the Maryland Scholastic Association (MSA) "B" Conference JV title in 1973, and the following year tied Gilman for the conference's varsity crown.

The three young athletes are the sons of Mrs. Dora Coleman of 2304 Belmont Ave. ... LACY



PRIDE OF THE FAMILY — The entire Willie Brown family shares in the glory as the Oakland Raiders defensive captain (left) and handy back Pete Banaszak lead the Super Bowl champions onto the field at Oakland Coliseum for a hometown welcome after the 32-14 pasting of the Minnesota Vikings. At left is Brown's daughter Antoinette and behind her is wife Angela, both obviously elated by the experience.

Pro Bowl TV Rosters

Following is a chart of players who may want to be watched by AFRO readers in Monday night's Pro Bowl football game:

NATIONAL CONFERENCE			AMERICAN CONFERENCE		
No.	Player	Pos.	No.	Player	Pos.
20	Lem Barney	CB	18	Charlie Joiner	WR
24	Delvin Williams	RB	20	Lemar Parrish	CB
27	Ken Houston	S	21	Cliff Branch	WR
30	L. McCutcheon	RB	24	Otis Armstrong	RB
34	Walter Payton	RB	26	Lydell Mitchell	RB
44	Mike Thomas	RB	27	Glen Edwards	S
53	Tommy Hart	DE	32	O.J. Simpson	RB
58	Isiah Robertson	LB	33	Franco Harris	RB
60	Wally Chambers	DT	34	Greg Pruitt	RB
70	Rayfield Wright	T	40	J.T. Thomas	CB
75	Cleveland Elam	DT	47	Mel Blount	CB
79	Harvey Martin	DE	52	Robert Brazile	LB
81	Ron Jessie	WR	63	Gene Upshaw	G
82	Mel Gray	WR	68	L.C. Greenwood	DE
83	Sammy White	WR	70	Leon Gray	T
84	Charlie Sanders	TE	74	Curley Culp	DT
86	Drew Pearson	WR	75	Joe Greene	DT
89	Billy Du Pree	TE	78	Art Shell	T
			79	Coy Bacon	DE
			80	Rick Upchurch	KR
			85	Isaac Curtis	WR

Northwood Little League looks to improved season

Once the Baltimore area's most productive Little League program, the Northwood Association is hopeful of a strong comeback this summer.

In pursuit of that goal, officials have set an early registration. Applicants will be enrolled Jan. 26-27 between hours of 7-9 p.m., at the Northwood Recreation Center located in the Northwood Elementary School.

The league, which marks its 18th year of operation this season, is open to both boys and girls of Little League age. In 1976, Northwood listed five girls teams. President Louis Blackwell and general aide Bill Walker are anxious to double that number.

Publicist Al Alger advises that each new applicant must bring a copy of his or her birth certificate, and must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Alger offers any additional information by phone at 532-8560.

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Weekend basketball

WEEKEND SCHEDULE

COLLEGE GAMES

Friday
Md., E. Shore at N.C. Central
CCB at Essex C.C.
Delaware State at A and T
Savannah St. at Knoxville
Friendship at Denmark Tech

Saturday
Morgan at Howard
Conpin St. at Lincoln
Allegheny CC at Bay
Md., E. Shore at A and T
Lynchburg Baptist at Bowie
Delaware St., at N.C., Central
Rutgers-Livingston at Bowie
Randolph-Macon at Salisbury
Va. State vs Norfolk at Richmond
W. Caroline at S.C. State
St. Augustine's at Fayetteville
Livingstone at J. C. Smith
Allen at Benedict
Savannah at Knoxville
Lemoyne-Owen at Tenn. State
Edward Waters at Voorhees
Edward Waters at Voorhees
Albany St. at Fla. A and M
Grambling at Alcorn

Monday
Morgan at Lincoln
S.C. State at N.C. Central
J. C. Smith at Va. State
Savannah St. at Lane
Clark at Knoxville

WOMEN'S SCHEDULE

Friday
Tournament at Towson St.
Anne Arundel at Johns Hopkins

Saturday
Tournament at Towson St.
Morgan at Howard
Mercer at Savannah St.

NBA SCHEDULE

Friday
Portland at Boston
New Orleans at Buffalo
Atlanta at NY Nets
Kansas City at Philadelphia
Los Angeles at San Antonio
Washington at Chicago
Golden State at Indiana
Houston at Milwaukee
Cleveland at Denver
NY Knicks at Seattle

Saturday
Kansas City at Atlanta
Los Angeles at Houston
Portland at Washington
Milwaukee at Chicago
Cleveland at Phoenix

Sunday
NY Nets at Boston
New Orleans at Philadelphia
Portland at Atlanta
Indiana at San Antonio
Chicago at Milwaukee
NY Knicks at Golden State
Denver at Seattle

MIDWEEK RESULTS
Morgan 92, Md., E. Shore 71
Norfolk St. 92, Howard 89 (OT)
Coppin St. 97, D.C. Teachers 67
UMBC 72, Salisbury St. 69
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Honors, awards, et cetera

By United Press International

COLLEGE PARK, Md., — For the second straight week, Maryland freshman Billy Bryant has been named Atlantic Coast Conference rookie of the week.

Bryant raised his season's average into double figures, 10.5, for the first time this year by pumping in 47 points in three games last week.

The 6-6 swingman, who has spent most of his playing time at the guard position, hit for 23 points in Maryland's 86-85 overtime loss to Wake Forest on Saturday, topping his 18-point output earlier in the week against Richmond.

GREENSBORO, N.C. — Skip Brown, Wake Forest's man in the clutch twice in last Saturday's 86-85 overtime victory over Maryland, has been named Atlantic Coast Conference player of the week.

With one second remaining in regulation play, Brown hit on a searing game-winning jump shot only to see the Terps rally late with a basket of their own to send the contest into overtime. With three seconds remaining in the extra period, Brown scored the winning free throw.

The 6-1 Kingsport, Tenn., senior totaled 42 points in the two games, the first a 67-63 win over Virginia, and was on the floor during the entire 85 minutes of play.

PITTSBURGH — Bill Robinson, a journeyman who apparently has found a home with the Pittsburgh Pirates, has been named winner of the Roberto Clemente Award by the Pittsburgh Chapter of the Baseball Writers Association.

Robinson is the fourth winner of the award named in honor of the Pirates' Hall-of-Fame outfielder who was killed in a plane crash in Puerto Rico Dec. 31, 1972. The award is given annually to the Pirates player who exemplifies the sportsmanship of Clemente.

Previous winners were Willie Stargell, Al Oliver and Dave Parker.

Robinson, who played all three outfield positions for the Pirates, was first and third baseman, and [illegible] hitting .303.

SEATTLE — Slick Watts, the flamboyant cocktail ambassador of the Seattle Supersonics and one of the most popular sports personalities ever in this city, received the Seattle Post-Intelligencer Sports Man-of-the-Year Award Monday night.

Watts collected 267 votes for the award. Jim Zorn of the NFL Seahawks was second with 154, and Olympic boxing champion Leo Randolph of Tacoma was third.

"I want to thank the family of fans in Seattle who've stayed with us all the way, and I want to thank the P-I most of all," Watts said. "I will wear this honor with dignity and pride."

Watts received the trophy from Mayor Wes Uhlman and Seafair Queen Susan Ishimitsu during the annual sports award banquet at the Olympic Hotel.

Watts became the first Sonic ever named to the NBA all-defense team and also became the first player ever to lead the league in both assists and steals during the 1975-76 season. In tribute to his frequent public appearances, Watts received the Citizenship Award as voted by sports writers throughout the league.

Light MSA slate

Maryland Scholastic Association teams have a skimpy weekend schedule, games being only five minutes each and TV wrestling needs on top.

Today's (Friday) action has Walbrook at Severn, Douglass at Lake Clifton, City at McDonogh, Forest Park at Mervo and Lathman at Carver.

Scholar-Athlete dinner Feb. 16

Scholar-athletes representing the 79 football playing high schools in and around the Baltimore metropolitan area will be honored February 16 at Martin's West at the 14th annual Scholar-Athlete Awards Dinner sponsored by the Greater Baltimore Chapter of the National Football Foundation and Hall of Fame.

Dinner chairman Bill Bauersfeld announced that most of the 79 nominations have been received in addition to the college scholar athlete of the year nominees.

"Old Mill High School has been added to the list this year raising the number of scholar-athletes to 79 who will be honored February 16," said Bauersfeld, who is dinner chairman for the third time in the 14-year history of the event.

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Brand V 100's Menthol	1.1	0.7
Brand V 100's	1.1	0.7
Brand D 100's	1	0.8
Brand M 100's Menthol	1	0.5
Brand M	1	0.5
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