SUMMER SPORTS

The AFRO's weekly view of community athletics

Skating for sickle cell

The Baltimore Committee on Sickle Cell Anemia Inc. (BCSCA) put on its second annual eight hour Disco Skate-A-Thon at the Painters Mill Skating rink Monday, pulling in over 400 exuberant and youthful skaters.

Officials for the committee told the AFRO this year's marathon was much better organized than last year's.

Clayborne Black, chairman of the BCSCA, said "This year we had more publicity and sold (advance) tickets, which we didn't do last year."

Black said also the committee offered a "free bus" to Painters Mill. A local publicity agency "donated its time," Black added.

Started in 1969, BCSCA is designed to assist patients with sickle cell through financial assistance as well as by advising the United Fund of Central Maryland in the allocation of their money for sickle cell.

Besides the Skate-A-Thon, fund raising activities by the committee have included a banquet and dinner, and, Black says, will include a disco later this year.

Grace Lonesome, chairperson for BCSCA's finance committee, said her group projected no specific target sum to be made from this year's skate extravaganza.

"The idea is to raise as much as we can to help sickle cell patients," Lonesome said.

Black, however, was a little more optimistic. He said his goal was "$3,000."

At first glance, the location of Monday's skating event seemed to work against the committee, both on a financial and attendance front.

However, with 450 skaters involved, the free bus proved a boon and the business arrangement with Painters Mill took care of money problems.

"We had an agreement," Black said, "where other places would turn out to be more expensive."

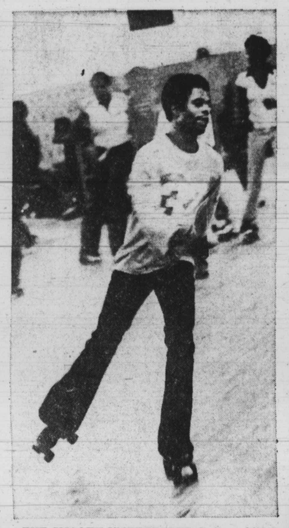
The first Skate-A-Thon, Black said was put on by John Cherry who works at Painters Mill.

Undoubtedly it was the disco flavor of the event, more than anything (even the individual certificates all donators received) that ensured the large turnout.

Paced by the driving sounds of the Commodores, the Isley Brothers and every other modern day boogie group, the skaters skimmed, slid, streaked and slipped around the smooth wooden rink, whipping up a breeze that would have rivaled the winds of Hurricaine Agnes.

Last year's marathon skating winner, Jay Ringgold, received his plaque for skating six continuous hours.

FREE SPIRITED BENEFIT



THE SMOOTH UNFETTERED feeling of life on skates is highlighted by these two flyers who attended the second annual Eight Hour Disco Skate-A-Thon for Sickle Cell Anemia in Painters Mill.

Skating on the job

By Fred Hines
AFRO Staff Writer

The air breezing through my kinky hair, it felt good as I sat on the sidelines and contemplated how it would feel to get on the floor and once again satisfy my youthful fantasies as a speedster.

The bench on the sides was getting warmer and I suddenly realized that four records had been played since I first entered the rink. By this time my mind began to play with me. "Come on man," it yelled, "get out on the floor."

I searched for a million reasons why a reporter should not be on such mission, the main one was that I had my heavy camera with me. After all the people out there had been skating for years.

Suddenly, someone fell. Then another. Then two more. Whistles from the skating rink guards went off and all the victims got up. Though evidently embarrassed, they continued skating, never glancing backward.

As I laughed at the persons who had fallen, my mind suddenly jumped in my face and said, "That does it, if you don't get into the rink now, I'm pulling out!"

At that point, my roller skates became acquainted with the hardwood floor and began to make themselves at home.

"Hey, this is alright," I thought, and looking around, it was evident that some of the rollerskaters were more skilled than I, but there were also those who could barely keep their balance.

As my speed increased, certain moves became natural as I bopped to the music and began imitating the quasi-professionals that were swerving in and out, criss-crossing their legs, jumping up and down, skating backwards and sideways and just generally 'getting down.'

What made it even better was the fact that the $3.50 for tickets went to help victims of Sickle Cell Anemia. The 8-Hour Skate-A-Thon was sponsored by the Baltimore Committee on Sickle Cell Anemia.

At that point the disc jockey announced that everyone had to clear the floor. "Only speed skaters will be allowed on the floor for the next two record," he said.

Nerve aside. I told myself this is the chance to prove that I was among the baddest on the floor.

"Do You Want to Dance," by Graham Central Station was blaring from the four wall speakers and the speed skaters were acquiring just that, as they increased their momentum by the second.

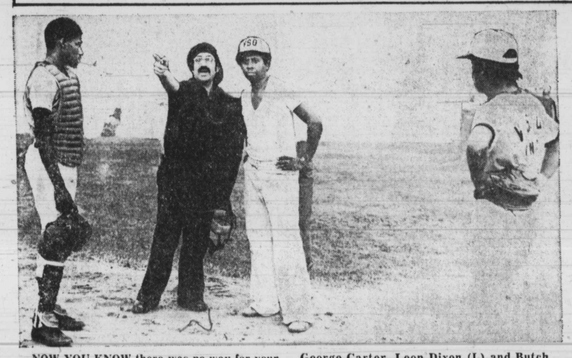
But the kid was keeping up, in fact I had made three rounds, each time smiling to my friends on the side.

It was then that it happened. A sister took to the floor right in front of me. Gracefully, I lifted up one of my legs to avoid her. But it didn't come back down. Instead, my other leg decided to join it. I was on the floor a half second later.

Greeted by laughs and pointed fingers, I told my friends I was ready to go. Those people can have their eight hour Skate-A-Thon.

The next morning a red blister the size of a quarter had appeared on my foot. It was worth it, because I knew I wouldn't be going back for a while.

Valor as befitting armored Knights



NOW YOU KNOW there was no way for your right fielder to have gotten that ball, the ump could easily be saying to a grim VSQ coach, George Carter, Leon Dixon (L) and Butch Dailey (R) look on.

What name other than knights would you call a team whose sponsor's initials stood for Valor, Sincerity and Quality? Probably none, right?

The way they played in their recent comeback win over Edreco in the Western Junior League 71-B, it's a good bet that nobody would dare try calling them anything else from now on.

Unsurprisingly, the team plays just as efficiently and steadily as their methodical manager George Carter, who runs his team with as little outward ruffles as possible.

He casually explains that his social club, the VSQ's, took up sponsorship of the team in order to "get into community action."

He paused, yelling to his pitcher "keep it low," clapped his hands, smiled, and pointed out that the social club is "10 years old and incorporated and non-profit."

But he must be fooling. The big money in the bank is the baseball team, which benefits from players (14 to 16 years old) from high schools "from all over" the city, Carter says.

Clad in the Oakland A's green and gold, the 15 players resemble modern day round table conspirators, loyal to themselves as athletes, and confident in their collective talents.

Even when they were down 2-1 in the bottom of the fifth, the players clapped and whooped—and it paid off.

They scored two quick runs to go ahead by one. Then again, the Knights had whipped Edreco in their first game anyway, so there was really no pressure.

Ultimately, their intra-team cohesiveness, Carter says, is reflected in the lack of grumbles from bench warmers.

"I don't get too much squabbling," the easy-going Carter said. "My boys are past that age. They know my lineup is based on game-to-game performances."

Not long after he said that, Carter's pitcher gave up a mammoth home run to right field. To make matters worse, the ball rolled under the bench of a team which was playing softball on another diamond about 300 feet from the Knights' field.

Carter, hustled out to the umpire, and went into his act: "If the ball hadn't been touched by those players, my player would have had that ball," he pleaded.

Of course, there was really no way for even Willie Mays to have caught that homer, but you know how it is, a coach has to speak up for his players.

"I had to go up there and stall," Carter smilingly admitted after his lukewarm tirade. (By the way, he changed pitchers just for good measure.)

As befitting king of Knights, Carter embodies the same unconcern for losing that fuels his confident warriors. When his team came in off the field in the bottom of the seventh, and last inning, trailing by one again, he casually remarked, "We'll win, all we need is one to tie, two to win."

Needless to say, after one quick concession, (a pop out to the infield) his Knights settled down and scored the tying run. Butch Dailey singled his way on, then stole second and third, and scrambled home on a bad pickoff throw.

With raised fists, and a bright smile, Dailey, the momentary hero, paraded to the bench; after all, he had given up the long homer.

Yet, the Knights had to do it again the very next (and eventual last one) inning because Edreco stubbornly scored again.

Carter's Knights rallied, with two outs, no less, and creept in the winning run as Bernie Vaughn's whimpering grounder to first enabled Leon Dixon to race across the plate laughing.

And that smile said it all too: The VSQ Knights Crusade rolls on.

THE HUMAN SIDE

Edwards' Dewees Double Duty

It's probably not usually like that, but on a just-after-rainy-day last week, when the Dewees Yankees played the White Sox, there was an unmistakable air of reckless abandon, that wasn't missed by Paul Edwards.

As coach of the Yankees and vice president of the Northwood League, Edwards intimately knows both the red tape hassles of running a league, and the little boy ages (12-13) headaches of over-seeing a team.

He answers questions about the trials of both which on that day included an AWOL umpire, with the airy "We do it just for the kids."

Atall stocky man, with a tapered thick mustach, Edwards smiles a lot, pats his kids on the head and generally looks to be enjoying his summer days as their mentor.

They look up to him, literally and figuratively, especially his two players-sons: Paul III and Darryl.

In a turnabout, however, and in his best administrator's tone, Edward's quickly runs off the makeup of the Dewees Little League: "We have 12 teams, in three age brackets, 8 to 9, 10 to 11, and 12-13."

The game his team is playing on this day, does not count, however, so it lacks even the faintest air of seriousness. Players with shirttails out are more common than not and so are baseball caps turned around backwards.

So, during pitches, Edwards yells to William Clowney, ("One of the parents we can depend on to help us out," he says.) "the ump is loud and clear; that's the way we like them."

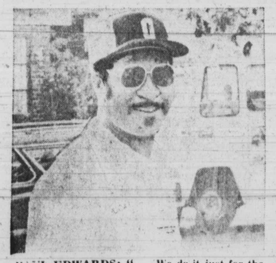
Of course, Edwards fails to vouch for Clowney's objectiveness, because the Yankee center fielder is the umpire's son.

Well, after all, it was only a practice game.

"We don't keep stats," the administrator Edwards returns. "All we go by is wins and losses. We just want to get the kids involved."

And he went off laughing: "We don't want no distractions ump, get that paper towel off the field."

Welcome to Dewees (and Paul Edwards) land.



PAUL EDWARDS: "... We do it just for the kids."

Coachers' Helper

Editors' Note: Here is the second part to the question of two weeks ago.

Q.: Defensively, what are the toughest positions for the young baseball player?

A: Undoubtedly, the catcher position is one of the hardest. There, the player must stoop for all seven innings which makes for a very trying position.

It's safe to assume that the catcher needs to be in the best condition of all. His position demands constant concentration. One mental lapse, and you get a passed ball, or a bad throw, or even a bad call, resulting in a gopher pitch.

The important thing to remember as a coach is that a good athlete is the best player to teach catching to. You won't have to waste time on physical deficiencies and can, instead, work with him on the technical aspects of being field general.

Q: At what position can a coach afford to have his weakest player?

A: A coach can usually get away with having his weakest infielder at third. Not because third is an unimportant position, but because the player has a limited and well-defined area to cover.

He can easily be positioned to make up for his defensive lacks as well. For example, if the player goes to his left well, a coach can move him over near the baseline, where he can reach most balls hit close to the bag.

Also, there the player can afford to not have extraordinarily great hands. He can knock the ball dowfl, pick it up and still throw the batter out. He must be drilled, however, that his first step on a hit, must be in, never back. This keeps him from having to judge the spin and velocity of the hit.

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Future Games

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Miss Yvonne Ruffin weds Anthony Williams

In the beautiful floral setting of the St. James Episcopal Church, Arlington and Lafayette Avenues, Miss Yvonne Leonora Ruffin was united in holy matrimony with Anthony Gregory Williams.

The bride is the daughter of Mrs. Thelma E. Ruffin and the late William E. Ruffin of Baltimore. The bridegroom is the son of Mrs. Mirian M. Williams and the late Hallie J. Williams of Anderson, S.C.

The wedding was held last Saturday, July 9 and was performed by Father Donald O. Wilson.

For the occasion the bride, who was given away by her eldest brother, Parren D. Ruffin, wore a gown of pure white silk organza trimmed in lace and pearls. The flowing ruffled train was embroidered with lace and encircled the gown. She wore a veil of silk illusion.

The bride carried a bouquet of white flowers with pink and green ribbons and a small blue handkerchief that belonged to her late grandmother, Janie Robinson Lee of North Carolina.

Matron of honor was Sylvia R. Mills, sister of the bride. Bridesmaids were Denise Ruffin Smith and Laverne Ruffin, both sisters of the bride; Juliet Owens Ruffin, sister-in-law of the bride; Charmaine Seft and Elsia Hernandes.

Best man was Roland D. Mills, brother-in-law of the bride. Ushers included William E. Ruffin III, bride's brother; Jimmy Smith, Tyrone Hill, Sonny Singleton and Tony Hill.

Flower girls were Rolanda Mills, niece of bride and Donna V. Ruffin, bride's sister.

Ringbearer was Albert M. Smith Jr., nephew of the bride.

Millie Wilson rendered solos during the service. She was accompanied by Maurice Murphy, organist.

A reception honoring the couple was hosted in the church Guild Hall.

Hostesses were Sylvia Wilson, Juana Wilson, Marcia Martin, Martha Brooks, Yvonne Player, Nancy Fieldman, Janice Sydnor, Marietta Goodman.

Junior hostesses included Lynette Featherstone, Robin Allen, Kelly Robertson and Stephanie Cottman.

Following the reception the couple took off for honeymooning in Atlanta.

The new Mrs. Williams is an alumnus of Northwestern Senior High School and Coppin State College where she received a BS in Elementary Education and Theatre Arts. She is presently pursuing an MA in Educational Technology at Towson State University. She is also a teacher in the Baltimore Public Schools and a member of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.

Mr. Williams is an alumnus of the Baltimore Polytechnic Institute and Columbia School of Broadcasting in Washington, D.C. In two years of service, in the Maryland Army National Guard he has received many honors and commendations, including a graduate of Officers' Training School.

Mr. Williams is also a communication arts major at Loyola College and employed by the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Co. of Maryland.

The newlyweds are members of the St. James Episcopal Church.

MR. AND MRS. ANTHONY WILLIAMS
(former Miss Yvonne Lenora Ruffin)

Planning your wedding

THE AFRO-American Newspaper is glad to run wedding, engagement and anniversary stories and a photograph of the bride-to-be or couple free with each story, however, in order to provide this service, we must ask that engagement announcements and photographs be submitted to us no later than ONE MONTH before the wedding. Wedding forms and anniversary information and photographs must be submitted to us no later than ONE MONTH after the affair.

LOCAL CLUB NOTES

Pinochle Bugs celebrate Founder's Day

The Baltimore Chapter of the Pinochle Bugs Social and Civic Organization, Inc. celebrated their 21st Founder's Day observance spirited by a weekend of rededication, worship and festivities.

The Bugs gathered for a "Mardi Gras" type celebration by playing five rounds of pinochle hosted by Margaret Land, co-founder of the Baltimore Chapter which was founded in 1969.

Pinochle prize winners were Bugs Rosalee Griffin and Florence Williams receiving first and second prizes, respectively.

Later the "Pests," an affectionate terminology bestowed all husbands and sweethearts throughout all chapters of the national organization, joined the Bugs for a late formal patio dinner in an atmosphere of music.

Gathering at the All Saints Catholic Church for Sunday morning worship the Pinochle Bugs and Pests were graciously received by Father Joseph DePetris and his parishioners who delivered a special prayer for the continuance of unity and perseverance of this civic and social organization.

Highlighting this weekend's activities was the rededication and review of the goals and spirit upon which the organization was founded.

Assembled at Gordon's Seafood Restaurant in Pikesville for a Sunday brunch, the Pinochle Bugs further reflected on achievements and activities for which they had participated. They also honored its founder and former member, Bug Hattie Hayes Wells of Rockville, Md. who is also the past national organizer and currently a member of the Washington, D.C. Chapter.

Members of the Pinochle Bugs are especially proud of the contributions that they have made to the United Negro College Fund, the Lafayette Community Center, the NAACP for which they have a lifetime membership and the AFRO-AMERICAN Santa Claus Anonymous Drive.

Members of the Baltimore Chapter Pinochle Bugs, Inc. and Pests participating in festivities were: Rufus Wells, Rockville, Md.; Rosalee Griffin, national financial secretary; Dr. Charles Griffin, Mary Henson, corresponding secretary; Solomon Henson, Delores Jessup, William Jessup, Margaret Land, William Faison, Vera Shell, Clarence Shell.

Also, Helen Thornton, Edward Thornton, Elizabeth Tilghman, John Tilghman, Esther Wiles, and also featured reminiscences by members of the Cornelias, the founding group.

Pledges included Roslyn Emery, Rayna Woodford, Peggy Ammons, Roslyn Dyer, Christine Hall, Clarissa Price, Patricia Warner, Joan Bowen, Celestine Morgan, Gloria Richeson, Joan Johnson and Beatrice Carroll.

Reinstated members were Jean Evans, Jean Adams, Joan Powell, and Louise Owens. A total of 27 youngsters, ages three to 15 will participate in the chapter's social, cultural, and community service projects.

As her final presidential act, Marion Patterson led the pledges' ceremony. Welcoming the Cornelias and general body was outgoing vice president, Shirley Hill. New members were introduced by Juanita Gates who prefaced each presentation with excerpts from Jack and Jill songs read by Muriel Johnson and highlighted the group's motto: "Let's work, Let's play, Let's live together."

Presentations to pledges of carnations, program manuals, and chapter laws were made by sponsors of each inductee: Rosa Moss, financial secretary; and Laura Byrd, treasurer.

Music was supplied by Gwendolyn Buckson.

Also at this meeting the new officers for the coming year were installed. They are Brenda Johnson, president; Rita Selby, vice president; Mary Guillory, recording secretary; Frances Pennington, corresponding secretary; Rosa Moss, financial secretary; and Laura Byrd, treasurer.

PINOCHLE BUGS CELEBRATE — The Baltimore Chapter of Pinochle Bugs Social and Civic Organization, Inc. celebrated its Founders' Day in late June. at top from left are Pinochle Bug members: Helen Thornton, Goldie Wood, Elizabeth Tilghman, Hattie Wells, founder of Baltimore chapter and now a member of the Washington, D.C. chapter; Margaret Land, co-founder of the Baltimore chapter; Esther Wiles, Julia Stovel; Vera Shell, Rosa Lee Griffin and Florence Williams. AT BOTTOM from left are husbands of the Pinochle Bugs called, "Pests." They include George Stovel, Joseph Wiles, William Faison, Dr. Charles Griffin, Rufus Wells, Judson Wood, Ralph Williams, Clarence Shell and Edward Thornton.

Speaking of Women

(A look at what black women are doing locally.)

"Loyola College, Baltimore, Md., Certificate of Recognition and Achievement.

This certificate is presented to Mary Clayton Frazier on the occasion of Loyola College's 125 years of service to Maryland educators by honoring leadership contributions of retired teachers given this 12th day of June, 1977.

JOSEPH C. SELLINGER,

Twenty-five years after receiving her Master's degree from Loyola College the president of the institution remembers Mrs. Mary Clayton Frazier.

Mrs. Frazier was the first black person to receive a higher degree from Loyola College and now after 25 years she has been presented a certificate of merit.

It was almost unthinkable in the late 1940s to envision a person being in charge of a high school office (Paul Lawrence Dunbar High School); working eight long hours each day; traveling from Baltimore, to Washington, — approximately a hundred miles from Dunbar High School to Howard University — then back home after school at night, keeping up with church, fraternal, civic and social activities — and then completing a four year college course WITH HONORS. For these reasons it has been possible to select Mrs. Mary Clayton Frazier of this century — to represent the Black People's Struggle for Education.

Mrs. Frazier did a great job in preparing herself educationally, under many odds. Her struggle has been an incentive and encouragement for many others who have followed in her footsteps and have now reached levels of higher employment in our society.

When asked why she decided to matriculate in college, Mrs. Frazier said: "There was definitely a need to learn more about English. At the time I enrolled, I was secretary in a school where my principal was a Harvard University man — having graduated in the same class with the former President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

He was Dr. Carrington L. Davis. So often when I conveyed telephone messages to him, I found myself using the wrong noun, or wrong pronoun, or wrong verb, etc. Invariably he would correct me right on the spot. I recognized myself that if I were to perform satisfactorily in that office, I would have to learn more in order to serve better; I needed to better prepare myself.

"He had so sensitized me to word usage that I did not know when I was saying things correctly or not. I became dissatisfied

MRS. MARY C. FRAZIER
Photo taken in 1952 when she received her Master's degree in Education from Loyola College.

(Continued on Page 36)

FEW training program, July 13-16

The federal government employs 696,000 women. Three thousand of these women (and some men) are expected this summer for the Federally Employed Women's Eighth National Training Program, July 13-16, at the Shearton Park Hotel Washington, D.C.

"Developing Human Resources" will be the topic that Elsa A. Porter, Assistant Secretary for Administration, Department of Commerce, discusses at the luncheon on July 15. Dr. Graciela Olivarez, Director of the Community Services Administration, will talk about "Women and Long Range Planning" in her presentation at the closing session on July 16.

Executive Order 11375, which added "sex" to the other forms of discrimination prohibited by law, led to the Federal Women's Program for all government agencies. FEW (Federally Employed Women, Inc.) was founded in 1968 to support the Federal Women's Program, as well as to address the barriers which prevent federal women from full entry into the government service.

Since its inception, 140 chapters have been formed in the United States, as well as overseas.

FEW's annual training programs have provided many women and men with the necessary skills and information to enable them to work more effectively within the system, to overcome discrimination, and to increase their job skills.

"Walking the Tightrope: Affirmative Action and Reverse Discrimination Myths." "Training: An Albatross or a Golden Goose? — For Training Specialists and Managers." "Strategies for Getting Ahead," are examples of the workshops which will be available at the National Training Program. The overall theme, "To Form a More Perfect Union: Full Equality for Women — FEW has 160 seminars and workshops, designed to meet the diverse needs of men and women around the country in their roles as federal employes.

The following prestigious persons will be making these contributions: Rich Adams, Editorial Director, WTOP-TV "How to Use the Media."; Johnnie Albertson, Training Specialist, SBA "Services of SBA of FEW members"; Edith Barksdale-Sloan, Director, D.C. Department Consumer Affairs, "Consumer Protection: Why You Need It."; Larry Bembry, Chief, Personnel Management evaluation, Department of Interior, "Merit Promotion System."

Dr. Carl Cooper, Social Psychologist, "Why Women? Breaking the Stereotypes in the Federal Government"; Gwen Franklin, Director,

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