SUMMER SPORTS

The AFRO's weekly view of community athletics

MARVIN DUDLEY'S BUBBLE sets off laughter to his left, while Reggie Harrison tries on his communal catcher's gear.

Yanks have bubbling fun time

Fun. That's what best describes baseball for the 12 to 13 year olds on the Yankees team in the Dewees baseball league.

Fun is what the team makes sure it has before, during and after a game.

Besides, Yanks' equipment limitations do very little to make seriousness the norm. For example, in a recent game with the White Sox, also of the Dewees League, there was only one set of catcher's equipment between the two teams.

After each inning's third out, a friendly exchange took placke at home plate: first was the mask, then the chest protector and finally the shin guards.

All accompanied by youthful smiles and giggles.

There was really no rush anyway. Between innings, both teams were jogging off the field, more in the manner of players at a Sunday softball game.

In fact, before the game even got off the ground, a less-than-grave atmosphere was established. Paul Edwares, Yankee coach, yelled out to the rotund substitute umpire (the official one took the day off unannounced), "third base is not stationary."

Riht then, fans knew that slips, trips and a swiveling bag could be expected during game action.

And, after the inserted ump's first few calls, the players, particularly for the White Sox, knew that objectivity was not to be the order of the day.

A pitched ball, just under a White Sox batter's chin.

"Strike!" boomed the ump, followed closely by a chorus of "Aw come on!" from the hitter's bench.

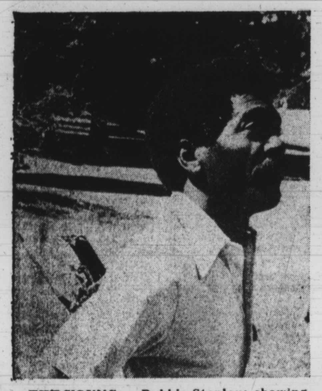
Another pitch, low, and almost in the dirt. A long pause, then finally the ump rumbled "ball!"

What the Sox didn't know, was that the stand-in umpire's son played center field for the Yanks. Boy, those Yanks sure make things easy for themselves.

But, since it was a practice game, who really needed seriousness?

Even Edwards' team's uniforms were part of the comic scene: baggy, heavy cotton and hanging half in and out of pants.

Fun sure describes them best.



THE YOUNG — Bobbie Stanley: showing respect through a tournament.

A chance for golfing respect

He bends over, slightly touching the youngster's hand, adjusts his left one, steps back and smiles. "Yes" that's the swing," he says.

The same episode is repeated, with even better results. A smile, wider this time, spreads across his chiseled chocolate features.

Bobbie Stanley is doing what he does best: teaching golf. He's doing it with whom he says needs it most: kids.

His gentle methods are part of instruction in the city-sponsored golf clinic he's been holding over at Forest Park golf course since June 28.

Open to all city youngsters ages (six to 15), through Stanley's guidance, the kids get the theory of basic golf instruction entwined with the live play of tournament competition.

"We got to get these kids away from here so they can see how the other half (in golf) lives," Stanley told the AFRO in his urgent way of talking. He pasues, reflectively swinging his ever-present club at an imaginary ball.

"For some of these kids, tournaments are the first time they've traveled," he said.

"The other half," Stanley says, is the private, and expensive country clubs that hold the tournaments he is exposing his kids to.

He should know the differences, too; he just returned from employment as an assistant pro at a county Country Club this year. Call it homecoming. He began his golf career at Baltimore's public Carroll Park links.

"Somebody's got to show an interest in the kids," Stanley said.

And interested he is. Fifteen of the clinics' golfers recently competed in the Talbot Country Club Junior Invitational in Talbot County, with one, Wendell Copeland, placing third.

But Stanley's biggest baby for this summer doesn't even take place off the Forest Park course. It's the Clyde Martin Junior Invitational beginning August 22.

"Clyde Martin is the pros' pro," Stanley says in awe, of the venerable namesake of the upcoming tourney.

Martin, now 67, is Stanley's assistant resident pro at Forest Park. The tournament, Stanley says, is younger pro's way of giving well-earned respect to a pioneer black golfer.

Stanley is currently on the move trying to attract sponsors for the Martin tournament. "It shouldn't cost no more than $250 dollars," he says temptingly.

Stanley says he wants junior golfers from all over, "I don't care if they're from Washington, D.C.," he says.

THE ELDERLY — Clyde Martin: golfing pioneer is a model for the young.

City tourney evens things out

When you were a kid didn't you just feel terrible whenever there was a ballgame and everybody had talent but you?

But if you do remember, despite a childhood - induced mental block, you probably also remember that the only way to get in on such a game was to supply every piece of equipment.

Well, not-too-talented kids in Baltimore City didn't have to have anything but a tennis racquet, and a lot of desire to have competed in the First Recreation Department - sponsored Baltimore City Junior Tennis Championships at Clifton Park (today is the last day).

"It is an excellent chance for kids in the city to gain tournament experience without being outclassed," according to Rose Bradher, coordinator for tennis programs in the rec department.

She explained the logic behind the inaugural event is the knowledge that many inner city kids fail to get ongoing tennis instruction and competition on public courts, while county kids have private clubs to supplement their public court exposure.

Many of the kids in the city tourney "learned from the playgrounds," Bradsher added.

The interesting thing, too, was that the tourney was open 'only' to city residents. The age groupings started at 12-and-under, on up to 18-and under, including 14, and 16-and under.

Bradsher said 89 singles players entered the singles division and 14 doubles teams entered.

The rain Monday pushed the tourney "a day behind," Bradsher said, giving the city's tennis fans the opportunity to see some spirited, if unorthodox tennis.

Unorthodox?

Waiting for a serve one step in back of the receiving box. Or, rather—heaven forbid, talking throughout the match, sometimes to a player next to you on an adjacent court.

CHRIS REDDING WATCHES this one off the racquet as he warms up before toruney action.

THE RACQUET HAS all of Chuck Howard's (12) attention on this shot.

Free tennis offered

The National Junior Tennis Association and Operation Champ offers local youngsters, aged nine-14 free tennis instruction and equipment at Carroll Park tennis courts.

The youngsters are supplied with free racquets, balls and T-shirts.

Group and individual instruction and play is conducted from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Five to six teams will be organized for intra-park competition. For information, call 523-9400.

Skateboarding safely

Despite the increase in skateboard related injuries the last few years, there is a good chance that a combination of natural balance, parental guidance and safety equipment can counteract the dangers of the sport.

But, there is an urgent need for instruction, some doctors say.

"Unless one is equipped with good balance and agility, "there is a high potential risk" to skateboarding, says Dr. James Nicholas, director of the Institute of Sports Medicine in New York.

Parents, medical officials advise, should follow three simple guidelines when allowing their children to skateboard:

1. Don't let him or her ride until being positive they have the coordination to handle skateboarding.

2. Be specific as to the areas a youngster may ride on his skateboard. Streets should be banned.

3. Make kids wear basic protective wear gloves, knee and elbow pads, and helmets if they try stunts.

Statistics show that emphasis on safety is not unwarranted. For example, in 1974, the National Electronic Injury Surveillance System (NEISS) reported 3200 skateboard accidents. In 1976, NEISS reported 71,000 accidents.

NEISS, which surveyed 119 hospital emergency rooms nationwide, also stated that 75 per cent of the injuries involved the five to 14-year-old group.

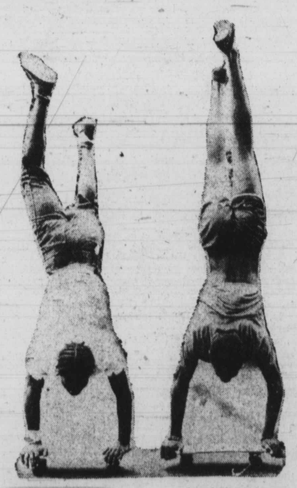
Even though cuts and bruises were found to be the most common skateboard injuries, fractures, especially to the (ankle), were not uncommon, the report shows.

The head and face of the riders were the most injured areas of the body, it was also reported.

Injuries can be related to the growth of the more advanced skateboards which have been manufactured since a skateboard boom in the early 1970s.

Now, for example, skateboards can go over 50 miles per hour and professional circuits cause kids to imitate dangerous stunts.

New information about injuries should alert parents to their crucial role in preventing them.



A PERFECT EXAMPLE of a stunt performed without wearing enough protection.

A title-clinching week for BNBL

TEAMS

13 and Under - Boys:

Bentalou	12-0
Cecil	12-0
Lafayette Courts	10-0
Cherry Hill	12-0

15 and Under - Boys:

Perry Hall	12-0
Flag House	12-0
John E. Howard	10-0
Citiecs	10-0

Unlimited:

Colt 45	10-0
Rognel Heights	10-0

13 and Under - Girls:

St. William of York	9-0
Lyndhurst	10-0

17 and Under - Girls:

St. Marks	12-0

18 and Under:

John E. Howard	10-0
Madison Rockets	12-0
B. C. Rebels	12-0
Cub Hill	10-0

THURSDAY, JULY 21

13 and Under: W. Garrison scored 12 points to lead Gardenville to a 31 to 30 squeaker over Perr Hall.

Grove Park clinched the league championship by downing C. C. Jackson 51 to 46. C. Dryer and J. Jayner led the winners with 12 and 10 points, respectively.

15 and Under: At Easterwood, Lillian Jones wrapped up the championship by downing St. Edwards 43 to 35. Todd McClendon and Ronald Tates teamed up to score 23 points for the winners. D. Wood led Lafayette Courts to a 34 to 27 victory over Madison at Herring Run. Rutland jumped to an early lead and made it standing up to defeat Ralph J. Young 50 to 39. F. Carr led the well-rounded scoring attack for the winners with 15 tallies. At James McHenry, the home team defeated Robert C. Marshall 36 to 24. C. C. Jackson won the second half championship at its home site by defeating first round winners Grove Park 41 to 37. W. Wharton led the winners with 13 points.

17 and Under - Girls: John E. Howard won a play-off with Lyndhurst with a 28 to 27 win. This clinches the league championship for the winners. Lorren Nelson led the second half assault with 12 points.

18 and Under: Alexander Hamilton won the league championship at Carroll Park by defeating Gwynns Falls 27 to 26. D. Lynch led the champs with 8 points.

In other action at Carroll Park, the All Stars won a hotly disputed decision over Cherry Hill 36 to 34. T. Davis was the top scorer in the game with 14 points.

Unlimited: Lyndhurst won the second half championship at W. Kendricks with a 57 to 44 win over Liberty. W. Sydnor took scoring honors with 23 points. At Herring Run, Chicagos hung on to defeat Patterson 52 to 50. C. Pinchback led a second half comeback by Patterson with 23 points. Camp Concern overcame a five point half time deficit and went on to defeat Cecil 56 to 47. R. McCoughty and S. Colbert led the winners with 28 points between them.

Bob Zepp and Dick Hughlett led Middle River over Sinclair, at Herring Run.

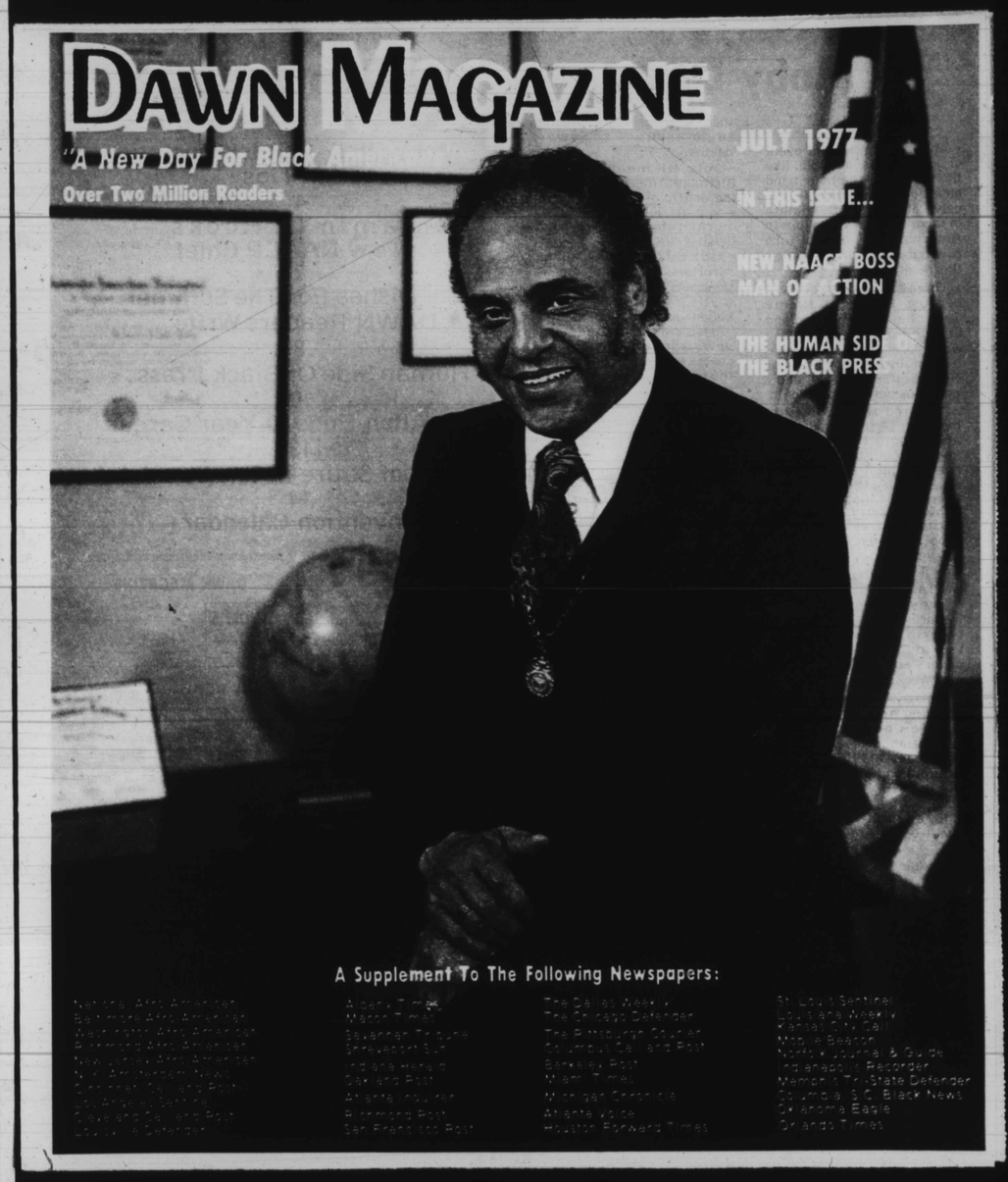
At P.S. No. 451, Rognel Heights has won the crown with a 78 to 63 win over Franklin Square. Wise and Taylor each hit 18 to lead Rognel to the crown. Watson had 17 for Franklin Sq. St. Martins defeated Murphy Homes, 43 to 40. Newman led all scores with 14 for Murphy Homes.

Wednesday, July 20

13 and Under Boys: Herman Braxton hit 24 to lead Bentalou over the Whatnauts and an undefeated season. Michael Oliver, his scoring mate added 18. Quinton Garrus and Michael Pittman hit 14 each for Whatnauts. At C. C. Jackson, Grove Park loses to St. Edwards. Grove Park must now play C. C. Jackson for the crown. At Crispus Attucks, John E. Howard defeats Crispus Attucks to win the second round and now must play James McHenry for the crown. Vernon Hill, Thomas Johnson and Carl White led Howard's scoring. Kirby Brooks, Terry Lon and Shawn Wright paced James McHenry to a win over Robert Marshall. Wade Hopkins with six lead Lilliat Jones over Murphy. Chris Brown had six for Murphy.

Perry Hall and Gardenville finished in a second round tie. Flaghouse won the league championship with a two point win over Tench Tilghman. M's Baker had four points for Flaghouse. B. McCullough had 17 for Tench Tilghman.

13 and Under Girls: St. William of York finished the season undefeated, 8 - 0 as it beat Gardenville.

15 and Under Boys: Larry Tucker with 17 led George Nichols over Gwynns Falls. Tyrone Watkins had 17 for G. Falls.

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