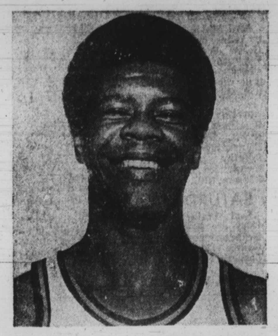
Baltimore Afro-American

CITY SPORTS



REGGIE NANCE — Low keyed, but he plays with a bang.

UMBC's Nance: polishing uncut diamond

To Reggie Nance, his being named ECAC Player - of - the - Week for his sterling play in the recent Boh Tourney came unexpectedly.

That should just about keep his athletic life on even keel. After all, he only ended up at UMBC because of his status as an unmined gem.

"I didn't really have that many offers," Nance said quietly in an interview at the Baltimore County school's field house Tuesday. "I only played one year of ball."

And what a year that was.

Nance led his Washington, D.C. based Spingarn team to a 21-9 record — which included a big win over streaking McKinley Tech for the inter - high league championship.

And after his recent All Tournament performance in the Seventh Annual Metro Boh Tournament at Towson State (21, 19 and 19 points, giving UMBC its first championship), Nance ventured this week that "it feels just like back in high school."

And if they haven't already, teams in the Eastern Collegiate Athletic Conference haven't sat up and noticed by now, they better sit up and take notice of his nine rebounds and 15 points per game averages.

Nance's success is based on a very simple formula, at least to him: to play "a moderate pace. I like to mainly rebound. You can't score without the ball," he says.

Nance's early high school fortunes sure gave no clue that success was in his tea leaves.

"In the 10th grade I broke my arm playing sandlot football," the 6 foot, 4 inch forward recapped. "In the 11th, I broke my leg playing pickup basketball."

As a result, he failed to make his H.D. Woodson high school basketball team. On the verge of wasting away from his brother at Spingarn, "He called Mr. Spingarn, "He called Mr. (John) Woods (head basketball coach) and asked him to take a look at me."

A look of love for sure.

UMBC coach Billie Jones also has a gleam: "I'm very pleased Reggie was named rookie of the week," he was quoted this week, perhaps fired up that Nance has his team off to its best start ever at 4-0. "He played tremendously in the Metro Tournament and I don't think we could have won it without him."

Nance, showing none of his coach's excitement, is quite calm about his surge of notoriety.

"I don't really feel that way," he says when queried about his status as a new - found hero. "I want the team to win, and I'm glad to be a part of it."

From a large family (seven boys and two girls) Nance's brothers, have been a big influence on him he says, especially off the court.

"My parents are deceased," he said slowly. "My oldest brother raised me. He taught me to accept people the way they are."

Apparently that's helped him blend right into the rolling acres of the Baltimore County campus. Nance says he likes the "freedom" of his campus life.

"I came out to visit (while being recruited) and I liked the fact that people are really free," he remembered.

On the court, Nance also gets advice. "My oldest brother (James) tells me a lot about the game. He'll be here at all of them (games) this year."

An accounting major, Nance says his primary interest is getting a degree in that "fast moving field." Pro basketball, well — "It's so hard to make the pros. But I hope I get a chance."

In the meantime, though, Nance's counting skills should come in handy.

As he scores and rebounds more, he'll need a CPA to keep up.

Remaining UMBC Schedule

Dec. 28-29 — Maryland Holiday Classic. (Bloomsburg State, N.Y. Tech, Shippensburg State, UMB-C) TBA.
Jan. 4 at Loyola College, 8:15
Jan. 7 at Navy, TBA
Jan. 9 — George Mason University, 7:15
Jan. 14 — Randolph-Macon College, 7:15
Jan. 17 — Mount St. Mary's College, 7:15
Jan. 19 at Towson State University, 8:00
Jan. 21 — University of Delaware, 7:15
Jan. 23 at Salisbury State College, 8:00
Jan. 26 — Southampton College, 7:15
Feb. 28 — University Baltimore, 7:15
Jan. 30 at George Mason University, 8:00
Feb. 4 at Frostburg State College, 7:00
Feb. 7 at Mount St. Mary's College, 8:00
Feb. 11 — Towson State University, 7:15
Feb. 13 — Salisbury State College, 7:15
Feb. 15 at University of Baltimore, 7:30
Feb. 18 — Frostburg State College, 7:15
Feb. 23 at Mason-Dixon Conference Tournament, TBA
-Mason-Dixon Conference game

Indoor track offered

The Maryland Track and Field Development Association announces the following series of all - comers, age group meets for the 1977 - 78 indoor season. Maryland Phisical Fitness Commission and the Track and Field meet: at Morgan State University (Hill Field House), Dec. 18, Jan. 8 and 22 and Feb. 5 and 19.

Time: Doors open Noon, 12:30 - 2:30 (ages 13 and under) and 2:30 - 5:30 (ages 14 and over).

Age Groups: Seven and under, 8-9, 10, 11, 12-13, 14-15, 16-17, 18-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50 and over.

Facility: 12 laps - mile, composition floor, no spikes. Come dressed to run, bathrooms available, no showers, no food or drink allowed.

For more information contact Jean Powell (301) 396-5653 (daytime).

Admission: 25 cents contribution from everybody entering field house will be collected to cover meet expenses.

For high scores it's where you start that counts

POINT OF ORIGIN

As in the selection of the ball, the beginner should experiment and select a stance which is most comfortable and natural. The first objective is to find your point of origin, or where to stand on the approach to begin the movement toward the foul line.

Walk to the foul line, then turn and face the approach area. Place your heels approximately 2 inches from the foul line. For a four step bowler, take 4½ brisk walking steps forward. Then look down at the dots or the ball return to determine exactly where your toe is placed. Turn and face the pins and you should be at approximately your point of origin.

Then take several practice approaches. If you wind up several inches over the foul line, move your point of origin farther away from the foul line. The opposite is correct if you finish short of the foul line.

dot right of center is in line with the second arrow on the lane, which is the origin should be to the right of the center dot. The right shoulder should line up directly above the board where the second common strike target. Bowlers should begin by using the second arrow on the right as the strike target as a guide to the 1-3 pocket.

For righthanded bowlers, the point of

Building Bowling

STANCE

Now that you've found your point of origin, develop your own stance, making it comfortable and natural.

There are several techniques that will help develop a proper stance. The ball may be held close to the body or away from the body.

The height of the ball can be anywhere from the waist to the shoulders, whatever is most comfortable.

PROPER WRIST POSITION

The wrist should be straight and fairly firm as the first step and pushaway begin. Keeping a straight and fairly firm wrist does not mean bending the wrist back. Cupping or bending the wrist forward is not recommended either.

Because of physical makeup, it is more difficult for a woman to keep her wrist straight and firm, and often the wrist is in the wrong position at the point of beginning the approach. Extreme concentration is essential for proper wrist position.

Between the lines

Jerry Nixon

Jerry Nixon's slim smile sits atop his powerful frame like a cherry on a sundae. But that's where the softness ends. The 275 pound 6 feet 4 inch senior defensive tackle for Dunbar High School, is a football monster.

On the grid, Nixon is as mean as they come; his all time hurt-the-other-team record came when he "hurt about nine" players in one game.

Yet despite falling into the category of 'armed and extremely dangerous' on the filed, Nixon is quite mild mannered off of it.

Witness his hobby: raising pigeons. It's hard to believe that this huge team captain could control his strength long enough to fondle birds. Opposing quarterbacks sure wouldn't believe it.

Nixon, a good student, says his "best subject" is English.

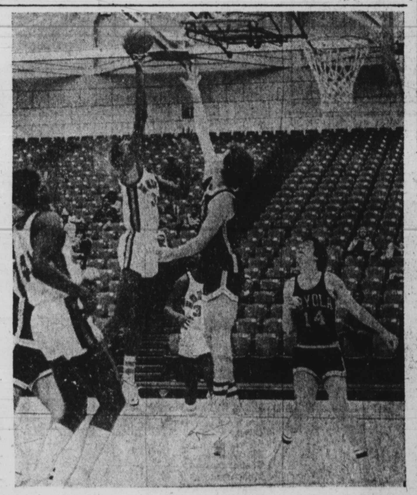
Gary Moore

Gary Moore is used to calling signals. In baseball, the 16-year-old Northwestern high school 10th grader is a catcher. On this fall's J.V. football team, Moore is a quarterback, one who is at his best "when we move the ball" the way he did in a 14-8 win against Carver earlier this season.

Moore plays basketballs, too, and says he wants to play center — despite standing just 5 feet 9 inches and weighing 144. He lives at 2715 Cylburn Ave. and has one brother in the first grade.

Despite his youth, Moore is dead set on attending Kansas University, because he used to live next to the school when he lived in the midwest. He liked their team too.

Poets on TV



When you're a champ practice comes easy.

That's the way reigning MSA A Conference basketball leaders Dunbar has been dealing with the usually tedious motions of preseason practice.

Coming off of a 23-1 record last season sure has helped.

It has coach Bob Wade's Poets working out with a zest that only a chance to play on television can bring.

In fact, that's what the practice sessions so far have been geared for. Dunbar will be among the teams competing in a multi - city high school tournament this season that will be broadcast locally on WJZ - Tv.

There's one big problem. In a game where players thrive on game - time sharpness, the Poets can't play a game until its league opener against Patterson Dec. 20.

To do so would cause Dunbar to violate city school board game limits.

But TV aside, all Wade is concerned about is widening of his team's well earned reputation as the best thing in shorts this side of the Patapsco.

"We hope to have a more balanced attack this year," Wade said recently, gazing contentedly at his practice layup line of dunking players. "Last year, we relied mainly on only two players, (Ernest) Graham and Steve Wallace."

Walace is now at Missouri and Graham goes to Maryland. Wallace's brother, Dwayne is back. And his jumper is best described as a portable bulls - eye.

He'll be complimented by quicksilver point guard Calvin Maddox, another Graham — Brian this time — and leaper - dunker David Morris (6 feet 6 inches).

With the 5 - foot - 10 inch Maddox dishing off, Wade is confident that "this year, we'll be more patient than last year."

Wallace, too, a 6 - foot - 2 inch big college prospect, is optimistic. And he's not too sure Dunbar's early practice - without - games approach will hurt all that much.

It "will help us a lot," said Wallace breathing slightly from a recent workout. "Practice with just one team, we're just like a family. We'll be pretty good for the opener."

Dunbar competes in another intercity tournament, scheduled for Dec. 21, 22, and 23. Lake Clifton will be the Poets' Baltimore partner. Also featured is DeMatha High, which Dunbar fans remember provided the fireworks in 1973. Then Adrian Dantley - led powerhouse.

History is nice, but the Patterson game in Wade's eyes, will serve as this year's barometer for the Poets. Tournaments and T.V. are fine he says. But, "we have to prove ourselves in the new year."

Attempts under way for inner city tennis

Efforts are underway to start a local chapter of a national youth tennis program, in the hopes of increasing inner city youth's participation in the sport.

The second meeting of a group of community workers, with an interest in local youth tennis, was held Wednesday afternoon at the Mount Royal Recreation Center.

When they left, the meeting's participants settled on a tentative board of directors entrusted with the job of developing a local chapter of the National Junior Tennis League (NJTL).

The meeting was chaired by Harvey Burns, tennis instructor for Operation Champ.

Burns recently directed a Champ tennis program at Carroll Park.

The emphasis of this week's meeting centered around whether or not the board should work under the leadership of Operation Champ — a city agency — or independently.

New games for the fun of it

Form a line. All people lay face down on the ground as close to the next person as possible. First person in line begins to roll over the backs of the other people. The next person in line follows and so forth until all have gone. May be done as relay race between several lines. Can also be done with one large line that will continue to roll until the entire line has moved from one end of the field to the other.

AMOEBA RACE

Divide into groups (groups need not be exactly even). Groups form protoplasm, cell wall and a nucleus. Protoplasmic people stand in a close group and hoist one person (the nucleus) on their shoulders. The cell wall people surround the protoplasmic people by facing outward and linking elbows. After cells are formed, they race to the opposite side of the field. Object is to work together as a unit.

May also have a cell divisions race. Race as one cell to one line divide cell into two smaller cells and race back.

BOLA

Equipment: two or more jump-the-shot ropes (made by tying a whiffle ball on the end of a long length of rope).

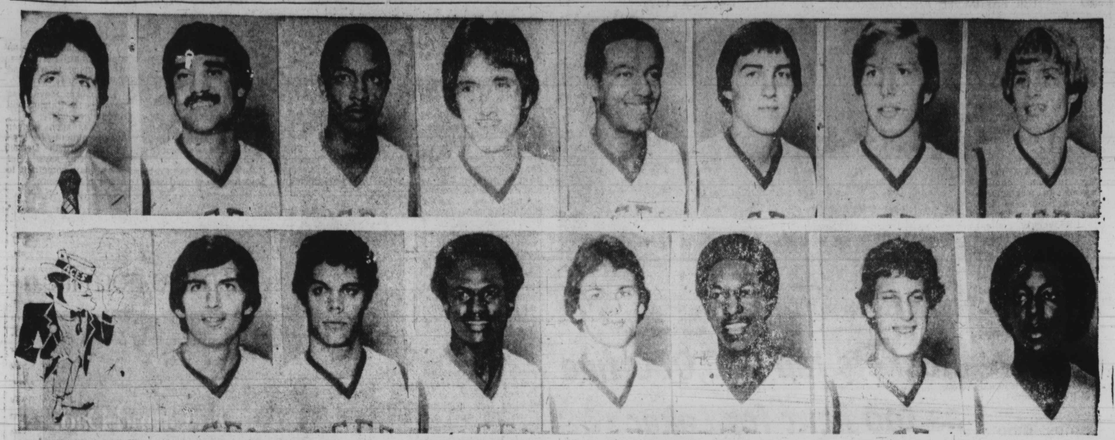
Form a circle. Have one person stand (or sit) in the center. This person spins the bola. People in the circle jump the rope as it passes them. Anyone who misses, takes over as the spinner of the bola.

For variation: have the group stand on the center of the circle and two people spinning bolas stand on the outside of the group.

COCOON BALLOON

Equipment: cocoon (made of material and Hula hoops constructed into tunnel), lots and lots of balloons.

To begin game, divide into teams. Position teams so that there is a team at either end of the cocoon. Place a large box or other container at either end of the cocoon. On the starting signal, the first girl in each team takes two balloons and begins to crawl through the cocoon. When they reach the end of the cocoon they place both balloons in the container and signal the next girl on her team to begin her crawl. Each girl should return to the end of her line on the competition of her turn. The game continues until the referee gives the all stop signal. The winning team is determined by the team having the most balloons in their container on the stop signal.



VICTIMS OF TRAGEDY—Fourteen members of the Evansville University (Ind.) basketball team and their coach died in the crash of a chartered DC3 shortly after takeoff Tuesday. Shown left to right are (top row)—Coach Bobby Watson, Brian Taylor, 20, Tell City, Ind.; John Ed Washington, 21, Indianapolis; Steve Miller, 20, New Albany, Ind.; Miks Joyner, 19, Terre Haute, Ind.; Mark Siegel, 19, Indianapolis; Kraig Heckendorn, 19, Cinn., Ohio; Greg Smith, 18, W. Frankfort, Ill.; (bottom row) — The team insignia, Kevin Kingston, 21, Eldorado, Ill.; Keith Moon, 20, Kettering, Ohio; Tony Winburn, 22, Jeffersonville, Ind.; Mike Duff, 18, Eldorado, Ill.; Warren Alston, 18, Goldsboro, N.C.; Ray Comandella, 18, Munster, Ind., and Barney Lewis, 18, Goldsboro, N.C.

Evansville crash victims include 6 black cagers

Six black players were among members of the University of Evansville basketball team which perished in Tuesday's crash of a chartered plan a few miles from the campus.

The chartered DC-3 with 29 person aboard went down in a brush covered ravine shortly after takeoff in dense fog, killing everyone aboard.

The dead included all 14 members of Evansville's rebuilding basketball team, the Aces' new coach Bobby Watson, sportcaster Marvin Bates, a trainer, a sports publicist and the president and general manager of National Jet Service Inc. of Indianapolis, operator of the DC-3.

Among the victims were Warren Alston, 18, Goldsboro, N.C.; Mike Joyner, 19, Terre Haute, Ind.; Barney Lewis, 18, Goldsboro, N.C.; Keith Moon, 20, Kettering, Ohio; John Ed Washington, 21, Indianpolis, Ind., and Tony Winburn, 22, Jeffersonville, Ind.

Moon, Washington and Winburn were starters on the Aces team which moved up to NCAA Division I competition just this season and had a 1-3 early record.

The vintage twin-propeller plane went down in a steep ravine about 1.5 miles east of the main runway at Dress Regional Airport in this Ohio River city in southwestern Indiana.

"It crashed into the crest of a hill east of the airport," said airport manager James Stapleton, who rushed to the crash site. "The plane was extensively burned from the nose to the midsection. Bodies in the front were melted into the wreckage. Some of the bodies were tossed into a gully."

"Reporters at the scene said the aircraft broke into three pieces on impact, scattering equipment, duffel gags and college-letter jackets of the players for the midwest small college basketball power.

Rescue workers fought through knee-deep mud to reach the flaming wreckage pulled three persons from the plane, but only one reached a hospital alive. The bodies of the dead were lined up along the railroad track waiting for a freight car to carry them to a temporary morgue.

The team was scheduled to play middle Tennessee State at Murfreesboro (Tenn.) Thursday night.

The plane took off in heavy fog and crashed about two minutes later in a corfield near the Melody Hills subdivision Northest of the city.

"It was burning pretty good as it fell to the ground," a witness said.

The basketball flight was scheduled to leave about 4:30 p.m. CST, but the wife of one of the passengers said it was delayed more than two hours by the bad weather conditions. A tenth of an inch of rain fell in the hour prior to the crash.

Rescue workers used four-wheel drive vehicles to reach the crash site.

Joe Gilliam is arrested in robbery

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (UPI) — "Jefferson Street" Joe Gilliam, a former professional football player, was arrested Wednesday on charges of robbing a man of $44 Monday night.

Gilliam, a one-time quarterback for the Pittsburgh Steelers, was taken into custody at a Nashville home by police acting on a tip. He was later freed on $3,000 bond.

James E. Windrow, 32, a First American National Bank assistant vice president, said he was approached by three men Monday night as he withdrew money from one of the bank's automatic teller devices. One of the men put a hard object to his back and demanded money.

Two neighbors who lived in the area spotted the holdup in progress and, arming themselves with shotguns, pursued the three men. One was captured after the men fired warning shots. The man captured allegedly identified Gilliam as the man who actually robbed Windrow.

Gilliam is presently on a pre - trial release program from charges pending on a 1976 arrest for possession of heroin for resale. He was also arrested in June, 1976, on charges of possessing marijuana and carrying a weapon.

He went through a lengthy drug rehabilitation program and earlier this year tried out for the New Orleans Saints, but failed to make the team.

Basketball

College Results

Howard 75, Robert Morris 63
Delaware St. 79, Bowie State 52
Old Dominion 111 Norfolk St. 56 (women)
Rutgers -Camden 72, Norfolk St. 64
Chicago State 80, Morehouse 79
Morris Brown 95, Talladega 87
Southern 71, Dillard 58
Mo. Lincoln 93, Langston 85

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Sugar Ray's "Homecoming"
Sat., Dec. 17
5:15 pm (Prelim)
D.C. Armory/ Starplex
FEATURE
(8 rounds @ 5:45 PM)
SUGAR RAY LEONARD
Palmer Park, Md. 5-0-0
(1976 Olympic Gold Medalist)
vs.
HECTOR "CHINITO" DIAZ
Dominican Republic
17-6-3
(Ray's toughest pro opponent)
Co-Feature
(10 rounds)
JOHNNY GANT
Washington, D.C.
(No. 10 ranked welterweight in world)
vs.
FREDDIE BOYNTON
Middletown, N.J.
(Too shopper in East)
Other top matches:
• Bill Cline (Lt. heavy)
• Roland Pryor (Welter.)
• Keith Broom (Middle Wt.)
7 action-packed bouts!
44 Rounds of spectacular boxing!
Top local and national fighters!
TICKETS:
$5 (general admission)
$8 (general admission)
$10 (reserved)
$15 (ringside)
$20 (ringside)
Tickets: On sale at Ticketron, D.C. Armory, Field's Records (765 Alabama Ave. S.E.) and Art Young's Records (900 H St. N.E.)
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There's even more usable trunk space.

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