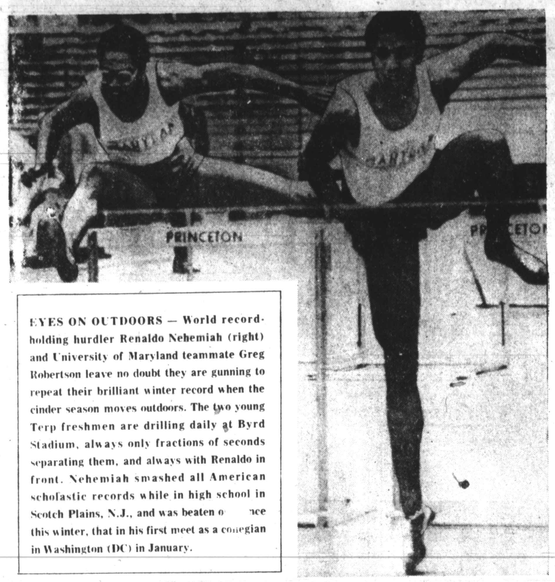


EYES ON OUTDOORS — World record-holding hurdler Renaldo Nehemiah (right) and University of Maryland teammate Greg Robertson leave no doubt they are gunning to repeat their brilliant winter record when the cinder season moves outdoors. The two young Terp freshmen are drilling daily at Byrd Stadium, always only fractions of seconds separating them, and always with Renaldo in front. Nehemiah smashed all American scholastic records while in high school in Scotch Plains, N.J., and was beaten o[illegible]ce this winter, that in his first meet as a collegian in Washington (DC) in January.

Spinks: 'I decide who I will fight!'

It may be a question in the minds of others, but it isn't to heavyweight champion Leon Spinks.

He says, "I'm the one who'll decide whom I fight next — nobody else." And the 24 - year - old titleholder said Wednesday that it will be former champion Muhammad Ali, "and that is that."

Spinks and his attorneys said legal action may be taken against the World Boxing Council's "vigilante tactics" of stripping him of the crown for refusing to fight the WBC's No. 1 contender Ken Norton.

"I feel that any man who fought for the heavyweight title and won should be able to choose who he wants to fight next," said a dapper Spinks, decked out in a vested, pinstriped beige suit to headline a boxing benefit banquet in Boston.

"I decide who I fight and I'll decide to fight Ali," he insisted.

"They're going to do what they want to do," Spinks said of the WBC. "I've got to keep on pushing and fighting for what I want to do and we anticipate I will fight Ali sometime in September."

As for his personal hassles since winning the title last month — eviction from his new Philadelphia apartment and a St. Louis driving arrest — Spinks dismissed them as part of the public attention that goes with the title.

"It wasn't anything for somebody to get upset about. I don't carry my problems in my head."

Attorney Lester D. Hudson said a suit against the WBC is possible "because we have to determine a precedent to see if these vigilante tactics are not taken again.

"For two years Muhammad Ali never fought the No. 1 contender. Now Mr. Spinks doesn't want to fight (Norton) and they do this," Hudson said. "Besides, it's our consideration that Ali's the No. 1 contender."

The WBC officially withdrew its recognition of Spinks as champion March 18 when he failed to promise to negotiate in good faith with Norton for a title defense. Spinks, is still recognized as champ by the rival WBA (World Boxing Association.

"From the day I fought Ali and beat him, I wanted to fight him again," Spinks said. "It's not that I owe it to him, but I've got to prove to the world that I'm truly the No. 1 in the world."

Spinks would earn approximately $1 million to fight Norton but he is expected to get about $5 million for a rematch with Ali.

College baseball

—WEEKEND GAMES—

Friday
UMBC at Delaware St.
Manchester at Catonsville
Essex CC at Anne Arundel

Saturday
Howard at Jacksonville (Fla.)
Geo. Mason at Salisbury (2)
Westfield at Norfolk St.
Tuskegee at Fisk (2)
Mo. Baptist at Tenn. State (2)

Sunday
Howard at Jacksonville (Fla.)
Westfield at Delaware St.
Tuskegee at Tenn. State

Monday
Howard in Miami tourney
Catonsville at Delaware Tech
Tuskegee at Ala. A and M

WBC to crown Norton champ

MEXICO CITY (UPI) — Ken Norton will be crowned heavyweight champion Wednesday in a ceremony which will take place at World Boxing Council headquarters, a WBC spokesman said Tuesday.

The WBC stripped Leon Spinks of his title last Saturday for failing to agree to meet the top - ranked Norton in his first defense. The WBC then proclaimed Norton champion.

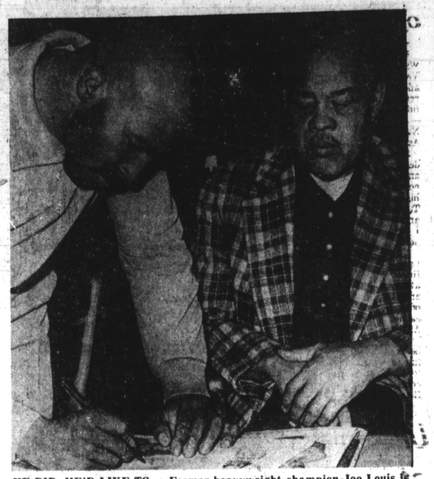
During the ceremony Norton will be given the symbolic belt, Norton and his manager, Bob Biron, are scheduled to arrive in Mexico City Monday.

According to the spokesman, Norton asked WBC president Jose Sulaiman to be installed at the new king in Mexico City because "Mexico is the site of world boxing in modern times."

Sports seminar

A free sports medicine seminar sponsored by the Maryland Podiatry Association will be held April 29, at Towson State University between 9:30 a.m. and 5 p.m.

The seminar is open to college, professional, and high school coaches, trainers, and athletes.



HE DID, HE'D LIKE TO — Former heavyweight champion Joe Louis is visited in Las Vegas hospital by man who'd like to do what Joe did 40 years ago, Earnie Shavers (left) hopes to move nearer title shot as he faces Larry Holmes Saturday in Vegas. Joe is recuperating after heart surgery.

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V 100's	11	0.9
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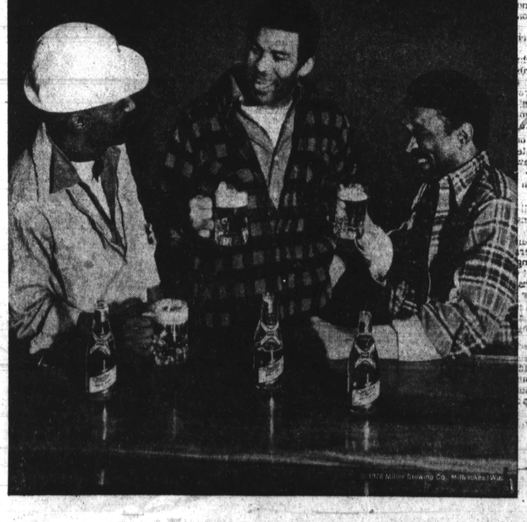

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Knick coach Reed silent on $2,000 in NBA fines

NEW YORK — Coach Willis Reed of the New York Knicks has been adamant all week in his refusal to comment on fines amounting to $2,000 imposed by the National Basketball Association.

"No comment," declared the former star and captain of the team he now coaches, when asked his reaction to the fines Tuesday. "I can't say anything and I doubt that I would if I could," he added.

NBA commissioner Larry O'Brien Monday fined Reed $1,000 for attacking the integrity and ability of the league's officiating following an earlier game against Los Angeles.

The fine comes on the heels of another $1,000 fine assessed last week for Reed's behavior on the court in a game against Houston March 7.

"There is a very clear rule in this league prohibiting the public criticism of officials," O'Brien said in a letter to Reed. "On more than one occasion this season, you have chosen to ignore this rule and have been penalized, but following our meeting on this matter in my office, you gave me your assurance that you would refrain from such public conduct in the future.

"It is now quite apparent that you feel no obligation to abide by league rules or your own personal commitments."

Reed has been outspoken about league officiating all season, prompting O'Brien to warn in the letter that further misconduct, either by actions on the court or statements to the press, will result in more severe penalties.

Willis Reed
quieted by commissioner

UPI sports editor scoffs at WBC title-lifting action

Milton Richman, veteran sports editor of the United Press International news syndicate, inferred Wednesday that the World Boxing Council (WBC) will be generally ignored in its edict lifting the heavyweight title from Leon Spinks.

Wrote Richman: "The WBC is a loosely organized group with no real legal standing. What does it really mean if the WBC strips Spinks of his title? Nothing. As Muhammad Ali has said many times, when it comes to recognizing who actually is the world champion, it's public opinion that counts, not the opinion of any one group such as the WBC.

Remember when the World Boxing Association "vacated" Ali title in 1965 because he insisted on giving "Sonny Liston a return match?

"Harold Conrad, representing Ali at the time, remembers it very well. He remembers attending a WBA meeting in Norfolk, Va., where the action was taken," Richman continued.

"A guy from Massachusetts got up at the meeting and said, 'I vote to take Ali's title away,'" recalls Conrad. "Then a guy from North Carolina said, 'I second the motion.' When is the last time you ever heard of a fight being held in North Carolina?

"I tried to tell the NBA people they couldn't do it, that the public wouldn't hold still for it, but they stripped Ali of his title, anyway."

Conrad turned out to be right. The public never accepted the WBA's champion then nor will it accept the WBC's champion now.

After taking Ali's title from him, the WBA had Ernie Terrell and Eddie Machen fight for the "championship" in Chicago. Fourteen fans showed up. Terrell won a 15 - round decision and was the new "champion" but nobody paid any attention to him. Everybody still considered Ali the real champ.

Richman went on to describe what happened when the WBA tried to dethrone Floyd Patterson, who at the time was managed by Cus D'Amato.

"You people have threatened to take the title away from Patterson if he doesn't defend it within six months," he said.

"I'll give you two reasons why you can't. First, with the tax structure being what it is, Patterson would be fighting for nothing if he fought within the next six months and nobody, not you or anybody else, has the legal authority to order a fighter to fight for nothing.

"Secondly, you gentlemen propose to take this action because of the pressure being put on you, pressure from an outside group of promoters. If you take Patterson's title away, I'll sue each of you individually and collectively and I'll win because all of you know you are not a legal body empowered to take such action."

After D'Amato made his little speech, the WBA members told him they wished to have a brief discussion in private.

Fifteen minutes later, one of their spokesmen announced:

"We have decided that because Floyd Patterson is making these large sums of money, he need fight only once a year."

New grid coach at Md., E. Shore

Joe Redmond, a four - year quarterback at Fisk University in his undergraduate days, has been named head football coach at Maryland, Eastern Shore.

Redmond, who assumed his duties on Monday, replaces Harold Gray. Gray's contract was not renewed at the end of last season.

Redmond will begin spring practice on Monday. He and the Hawks open their Mid - Eastern Athletic Conference season Sept. 2 against Morgan.

The new coach was serving as offensive coordinator at Northern Michigan when he got the call from UMES.

Poets win and lose

Dunbar had her ups and downs in the Knights of Columbus basketball tournament, won by Dunbar in Washington Wednesday night.

The Poets were up following their first - round victory over DC's Spingarn High on Monday, but suffered somethinf of a letdown when K of C tourney officials refused to assume responsibility for medical treatment for Dwayne Wallace.

Wallace, Dunbar's backcourt ace, lost a tooth in the contest, and need medical attention.

Poet coach Bob Wade'sthreat to withdraw his team brought an agreement from the KC to pay the costs.

That "up" was squelched Tuesday night when West Philadelphia downed Dunbar, 89 - 82, in the semi - final.

The West Philly five — the same which produced Gene Banks to star with Duke this year — was led by another scholastic all - American, Clarence Tillman. Tillman tallied 37 points and was largely responsible for an insurmountable, 70 -51 advantage.

Wallace and Calvin Maddox triggered a determined Poet aggregation to within four points, 86 - 82, but could get no closer.

Wade's youngsters, ranked No. 1 in the Baltimore area, closed out the season 20 - 2, and fell to the bigger Phildelphians only after an 18 - game win streak.

Boxer dies after Philly fight

PHILADELPHIA (UPI) — The Philadelphia medical examiner's office says it may take at least three weeks to determine the cause of death of boxer Clarence "Jodie" White who collapsed and died after being knocked out in a middleweight bout.

"An autopsy did not reveal the cause of death," a spokesman for the medical examiner said Wednesday. "Microscopic studies have to be made."

White, 27, of Trenton, N.J., died Tuesday night after being knocked out in the fourth round of a bout with Curtis Parker of Philadelphia.

He collapsed in his dressing room after the fight at the Blue Horizon Auditorium at the Specirum in Philadelphia.

Pennsylvania Athletic Commission physician Dr. Floyd Carson tried to revive White but efforts failed. He called an emergency squad which gave White oxygen and applied exterior heart massage. After more than 30 minutes of emergency treatment, they rushed White to St. Joseph's Hospital where he was pronounced dead on arrival.

NBA weekend

Schedule	
Friday	Buffalo at Los Angeles
Chicago at Boston	Indiana at Seattle.
Washington at Nets	**Saturday**
Milwaukee at Philadelphia	Atlanta at Washington
New Orleans at Atlanta	San Antonio vs. Kansas
Kansas City at Houston	City at Omaha
Portland at Detroit	NY Knicks at Golden State
	Buffalo at Phoenix

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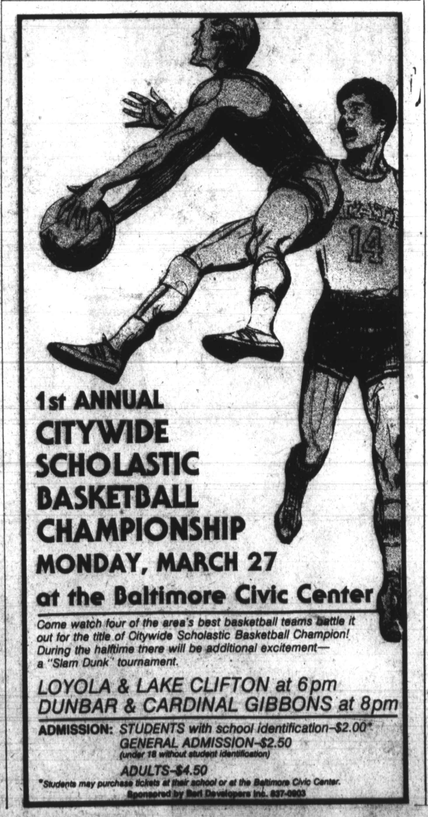

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