CAPOEIRA:

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paniments have remained with Capoeira from this early 17th century period. The Brazilian martial art is even today taught and performed with the three basic instruments.

A good capoeirista, in fact, not only knows the demanding physical skill of Capoeira, he also must know how to play the instruments that accompany this martial art and the many songs, sung in traditional African solo call and chorus response fashion.

When slavery was abolished in 1888 the millions of freed slaves roamed the large continent of Brazil without masters but also without any way of making a living.

Many deft in the art of Capoeira turned their deadly art into criminal means to make money. Capoeira in time became associated with

Black Martial Art

During the latter part of the 19th Century, anyone caught practicing or teaching Capoeira was automatically clapped into jail. Usually, they were sent to the Brazilian equivalent of Devil's Island.

rowdy ism and the bawdy side of life.

It became common for muggers and robbers to use this art to carry out their criminal acts. Assassins too could be hired to eliminate an enemy for a fee.

You would see a menacing black man with an earring in one ear, a striped tee-shirt and a silk scarf around his neck. You would know his profession — tough guy or assassin. The silk scarf was worn to ward off cuts to the throat that some capoeiristas

In a business where fame is fleeting.

there's a reason it's been in the

limelight for almost 100 years.

Rare taste.

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delivered with razor blades placed between their toes.

All this led to the second era of laws making Capoeira illegal. This time, during the latter part of the 19th Century and the early part of this century, the music along with the fight were prohibited.

Anyone caught practicing or teaching Capoeira was thrown into the Brazilian equivalent of France's Devil's Island for six months or more.

It was not until the 20s, 30s and 40s that through the

honest efforts of great Capoeira athletes and teachers, Capoeira became more associated with sports than with criminal life.

It is often said that these athletes, such as Mestre Bimba, Mestre Gatou, Mestre Pastinha and a host of others, took Capoeira out of the street and put it in its present setting, the gyms where it is now legally taught.

Ever since this change of image, Capoeira has grown as a national martial art in Brazil. Today, thousands of Brazilian boys learn this very demanding martial art in their local gyms along with the Oriental ones.

Capoeira's fame too has reached America's shores. One can now learn Capoeira in New York, Detroit and a few other cities in the United States.

In true African fashion, the sport has managed to survive in Brazil despite bold attempts to eliminate it. Today, its growing popularity is a testament of courage to the men who refused to let this African art die.

Vacation Days

(Continued from Page 10)
story, go out on the fishing boats at dawn, watch fabric being woven, listen to the drum beat, walk through the country, see children play in the river.

A travel agent can make these special arrangements.

 Read all the brochures concerning your trip and make sure you understand everything in those free materials.

 Don't be afraid to ask questions about costs, accommodations, services.

 Have some idea about where you'd like to go. It's good to have some destination in mind — and have an alternative. (Don't fret if you don't, the agent will be glad to make suggestions that fit your lifestyle.)

 Consult the agent well in advance of your vacation so that all of the necessary details can be arranged, including the little details.

SCOTCH

Know how much you're

willing to spend beforeyou start making arrangements. If you present your agent with a specific budget, he/she'll be able to plan a trip within your means and probably make your money go further by offering the best buys.

Take advantage of the agent's services: ask questions about what to take, duty-free shopping, visas, health certificates, points of interest, and things and places to stay away from.

 Be fair to your agent. His salary is based on commissions paid by airlines, shipping lines, hotels, resorts and a number of other traveling-related services. For every person he seats on an airplane or books into a hotel, he receives a percentage of the amount spent, which does not affect the cost to you whether you use the services or not but remember it is only fair that you book through the agent who has assisted you.

SPRINGTIME IS THE TIME FOR LEGENDS

By Sam Lacy

Remember how it was in the summer when we were young?

From the moment the first robin showed up on the front lawn until the backside of the last duck disappeared over the southern horizon, virtually all conversations were saturated with baseball.

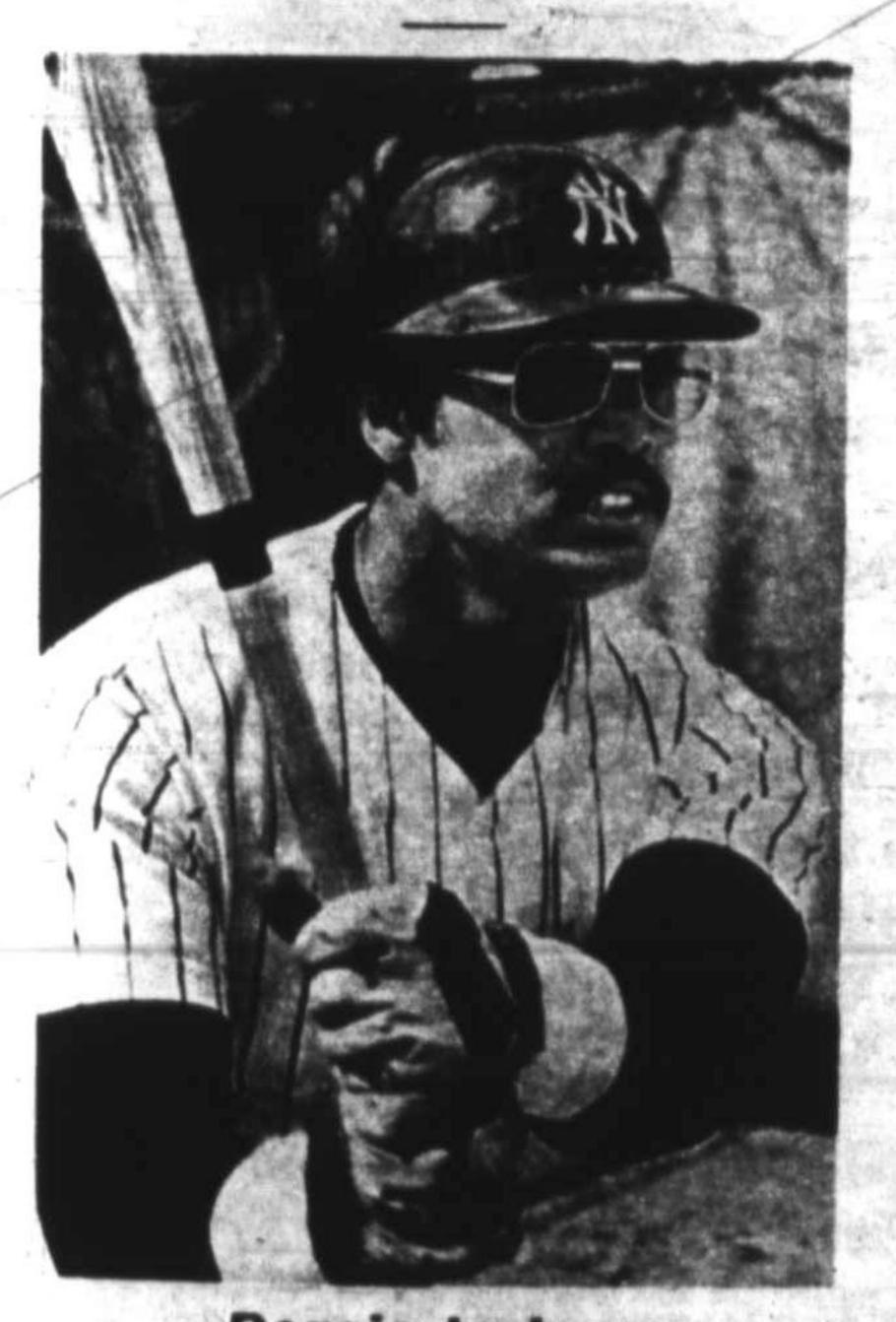
And more often than not, those conversations evolved into discussions of the greatness of the star players of the past and present.

As a result, people like Babe Ruth, Ty Cobb and Walter Johnson became legends to be held in awe by youngsters not long out of diaper rash.

Came later the era of mimicking, when sandlot kids, regardless of size and talent, took the field proclaiming to be "the black Babe" or "the black Ty Cobb," or "the black Big Train."

That, of course, was during the period when these men who were not black had the game to themselves — when unless you were white you weren't right.

In due course, the racial bars were lowered. And the images of the legends were drastically changed.



Reggie Jackson

The records that had helped make the Babe, Ty and Walter legendary were swept under the carpets of major league diamonds by black guys who seemed to derive more than normal satisfaction from it.

Ruth's feats were twice shot down. First his all - time mark of 714 homeruns was obliterated by Hank Aaron's 755.

Then Reggie Jackson compounded the black felony by smashing the Babe's World Series record of three homers in one game. Reggie, as all must recall clouted four last year in the final contest against the Dodgers.

Cobb also lost two spaces in the record books.

His season mark of 96 stolen bases bit the dust in 1962, when Maury Wills pilfered 104. And his career total of 892 steals were shoved down the drain last August when Lou Brock got the checkered flag with 893 at San Diego.

Between Wills' erasure of the single season record in 1962 and Brock's bettering of the lifetime mark last year, Lou also had topped Maury's then new record of 104 thefts by pilfering 118 in 1974.

And Brock, incidentally, is still playing.

Walter Johnson, known throughout baseball in the pre-black years as "Big Train" in deference to his blazing fastball, set a major league record of 1.14 as an earned run average allowance.

Established in 1913, it seemed certain that it would stand forever in the record books.

It did for 55 years. Until Bob Gibson gave the world a 1.12 in 1968.

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