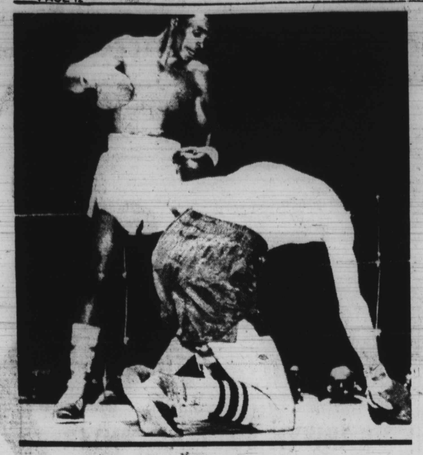

Sugar Ray Leonard scores knockdown 8th round flooring leads to unanimous verdict

Sugar Ray scores 13th straight in Boston; no title plans yet

By Peter May

BOSTON (UPI) — Ray Leonard took a sugar - coated cakewalk Tuesday night and melted Dick Eklund in 10 easy rounds to capture his 13th straight win as a professional boxer.

The 1976 Olympic gold Medalist won a unanimous decision over Wklund, a local boxer yearning for the victory which might push him into contention for a shot at the welterweight title. But the 22 - year - old Leonard had no trouble, scoring two knockdowns, jabbing at will and even doing some occasional dancing.

"I'm pleased with the fight. I tried to make him commit himself by making mistakes," said Leonard, who pocketed $30,000 for one night's work. "But I'll give him credit. He hung in there snd didn't seem to want to go down. There's a great deal of motivation in fighting in your home town."

Leonard said he was pleased with his progress, but was not talking about any title shot. "I'm in no hurry to establish a title shot. I can't predict when I would be ready," Leonard said.

Leonard's next fight will be sept. 9 in Philadelphia against an unknown opponent.

Eklund's biggest moment came at the end of the ninth round, when Leonard slipped and fell to the canvas. The crowd cheered as if Eklund has scored a knockdown, but reeeree Thomas Rawson ruled it a slip.

Leonard said he was not worried about the possibility of his first professional defeat.

"There's always going to be someone who comes up that's better than you. But I wo't worry about ti. I'm only human," he said.

Rono hurting showdown off

ALGIERS (UPI) — The anticipated showdown between world record holder Henry Rono of Kenya and Ethiopia's World-Cup gold medalist Miruts Yifter will not take place at this week's African Games because Rono has an injured leg.

Rono, who in the last three months has set world records in the 3,000 meters steeplechase, the 3,000, 5,000 and 10,000 meters, was scheduled to clash with Yifter in the 5,00 or 10,000 meters. But because of Rono's injury he said he would only run the 3,000 meters steeplechase.

"I would like to run against Yifter — he was the only person I was looking forward to running against," Rono said. "But I'm sick and I'm not going to run an event I know I am not going to win."

Champs coming

The Woodlawn Branch of Baltimore County Public Library will sponsor a "one - on - one" basketball game entitled "Shoot the Hoop" for ages 13 - 15 next Wednesday.

Free registration has begun.

Dex Feaster, Reese McCall under close colt scrutiny

By Sam Lacy

It goes without saying that two men who could serve as keys to a winning season are commanding much attention as the Baltimore Colts near the close of their first week of training camp activities.

Dexter Feaster and Reese McCall are the players being carefully watched as the club goes through its paces at Goucher College.

Feaster, a wide receiver from North Carolina A and T, is actually in his second Baltimore camp. He withdrew last summer when coaches said he was handicapped by nagging injuries — something the AFRO was unable to confirm.

His presence this year seems to prove that the good reports which emanated from camp last pre-season were genuine. He is again said to be in high esteem among Colt coaches.

Should Feaster prove that he can do the job, it would help relieve concern over the prima-donna tactics of in-again-out-again Roger Carr.

As for McCall, this young man draws focus for more reasons than those which usually follow a top draft choice around.

Scouted as a hard-nosed tight end from Auburn, a school with a good football background, Reese was drafted No. 1 by the Colts — the 25th player taken in the NFL grab-bag.

McCall's importance stems from the fact that coach Ted Marchibroda is anxious to obtain a competent tight end as a stand-in should Raymond Chester be traded.

It is no secret that former Morgan Stater Chester is disenchanted with the Colts and they with him. A divorce seems imminent.

Slo-pitch gals eye title

Having won their second state championship five years, the Sportsman Somerset Angels are currently girding for the Women's Slo - pitch Softball League's regional tournament to be held next month in Philadelphia.

The Angels, managed by former Johnny's Leone's pitcher Andre Barnhardt, won the state title in 1974, their first season after re - naming the team from Knox Community Center.

Their 8 - 1 victory over Equitable Trust in the state final qualified the Angels for the Philly trip, Aug. 11 - 13.

Team members are: Naomi Wright, Carolyn Lowe, Annette Pittman, Phyllis Berger, Pam Gates, Dell Wilson, Val Wright, Cheryl Richardson, Sheila Ash;

Tiny Coefield, Lreotta Gant, Ann Koger, Hogy Wilson, Barbara Wilson, Joyce Monroe, Mil Wilson, Bonnie Logan, Pat Braxton, Marion Williams, Linda Davis; and Bunny Soares.

Elmer Johnson and Wayne Rollins are coaches.

Lanier retires

The Colts announced Thursday that Willie Lanier has decided to retire.

Lanier, a long-time star at Kansas City, was acquired April 24 from the Chiefs for a fifth-round selection. A 12-year veteran, he was a second-round choice of the Chiefs in the 1967 draft from Morgan State.

During his years in the NFL, Lanier played seven Pro Bowl games and was named the 1971 Pro Bowl's most valuable player.

One-on-one

Tickets for the Japan vs. U.S.A. women's international volleyball match, Oct. 21, at Catcnsville Community College are now on sale. The Japanese are Olympic and World Cup champions.

600 attend cage league opening game

The Urban Services Agency's (USA) Project Survival Basketball League began its eighth summer season at Douglass High School last Saturday.

More than 600 fans saw the teams of the Good Humor Ice Cream Company and Lunardi-Central Food Distributing Company play the opening game.

Linwood Ivey, executive director of USA and Lester Buster, deputy director of neighborhood services, USA, welcomed the participants.

The director of Project Survival, Vernon Wolst, introduced the sponsors of the three teams present: Frank Fennel, personnel director of Good Humor Ice Cream; Broadway Payne, proprietor of McDonald's Restaurant on Broadway and North Avenue and Ear Ring John, a jewelry merchant.

Each sponsor pays $300 to register a team in the league. The registration fees help pay for uniforms with the sponsors' names on the jerseys, the salaries of the game officials and custodial fees at the schools. The coaches volunteer their services.

The league is fielding 96 teams this summer, utilizing 960 youngsters, male and female, from the ages of 8 to 21.

Other sites for games are located at Walbrook High School and Lake Clifton High. There are two gymnasiums at Lake Clifton where both boys and girls play.

The first game at all sites begins at 11 a.m., on Saturdays and the last game ends at 8 p.m. This affords an opportunity for all groups to play.

John Murdock is the league coordinator.

10 states enter AAU 'lift' contests

The South Atlantic Association AAU Delmarva power bench press weightlifting contest and the Mr. Delmarva Open Physique Contests will be held at noon Saturday, at Staten's Shore, Millers Island Road, Baltimore County.

Also, on the agenda will be the Mr. Apollo Open Novice Physique Contests. All contests will be in teen age, senior and masters (40 and over) divisions.

To date, entries have been received from 10 states: Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, Ohio and the District of Columbia.

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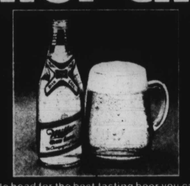
Merit... tar 8 mg. nicotine 0.6 mg.
(Of all brands, lowest Carlton Box less than 0.5 mg. "tar" and 0.05 mg. nicotine)
Carlton is lowest.
Less than 1 mg. tar.
Warning: The Surgeon General Has Determined That Cigarette Smoking Is Dangerous to Your Health.
Box: Less than 0.5 mg. "tar," 0.05 mg. nicotine. Soft Pack and Menthol: 1 mg. "tar," 0.1 mg. nicotine av. per cigarette. FTC Report May '78.

Miller time



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SHOW TIME

The arts, music, theatre, movies

Hollywood's favored few!

By Ida Peters

It's either feast or famine for black actors and actresses in Hollywood and it seems that the golden days of the early 1970's is almost over.

A look at current film production for 1978 reveals that only a favored few are getting work.

"The Wiz" is feast because of the thousands who found work in New York City on this one. Topping the cast Miss Diana Ross as Dorothy. The star studded musical also showcases Michael Jackson, Ted Ross, Nipsey Russell with a musical score by Quincy Jones.

Bill Cosby and Richard Pryor started work on "California suite" in L.A., March, 1978. This is Herbert Ross production for Columbia also stars Alan Alda, Michael Caine, Jane Fonda, Walter Matthau, Elaine May and Maggie Smith.

O. J. Simpson who is currently playing John Walker, one of three astronauts involved in a million dollar hoax in "Capricorn One", now at area theatres, is already at work in ITC's "Firepower".

This Michael Winner Ltd. flick started filming April 24, 1978 in Antiqua, St. Lucia, and will shoot in Miami, New York and Washington.

O.J. is joined in this one by Sophia Loren, James Coburn, Eli Wallach, Tony Francisco, George Gizzard and Vincent Gardenia.

Madge Sinclair, who gained fame in "Roots"...she married John Amos, the adult Kunta Kinta — has joined the cast of "Uncle Joe Shannon" a United Artists film which starts shooting May 22, 1978.

Others in the cast include Burt Young, Doug McKeon and Jason Berhard.

Scatman Crothers who has the role of Tinker in "The Cheap Detective" along with 16 other stars and Peter Falk, now playing at area theatres, ...is already back to work on Stanly Kubrick's "The Shining" which started filming May 1, 1978 in London cast also includes Jack Nicholson, Shelley Duvall, and Danny Lloyd.

James Earl Jones, besides being tapped to play Alex Haley in the TV "Roots 2" also started work May 16, 78 in the Trident - Rankin - Bass film in Tokyo. "The Bushido Blade" with Richard Boone and Keenan Wynn.

There are no black principals in Irwin Allen's "The Swarm" all about African killer bees. There are frequent references to "the war against the Africans" by which the characters mean their battles with the bees.

Unconsciously or unfortunately the white writers are transferring their fear of Africans...a la "Roots" and the coming of Africans to the U.S. ...to bees?

Michael Schultz is the only black writer - director spotlighted on the Hollywood horizon at the moment. He's the director of "Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band" opening at area theatres with Earth, Wind and Fire and Billy Preston as guest stars.

Peter Frampton and the Bee Gees are toplined. Guests appearing at Heartland include George Benson, Sarah Dah, None Hendrix, Etta James, Curtis Mayfield, Wilson Pickett, Anita Pointer, Minnee Riperton, Tina Turner, Grover Washington Jr., and Bobby Womack.

"Sgt. Pepper", a Robert Stigwood Production for Universal release was launched with a million dollar- super - bash Hollywood party, recently.

Michael Schultz besides being the director is also the creator of the film. The credits read Universal - MCA presents A Robert Stigwood Production In Association with Dee Anthony of A film by Michael Schultz.

Schultz directed "Car Wash" and Richard Pryor's two comedies "Greased Lightning" and "Which Way Is Up?"

Diana Ross "The Wiz"

Bill Cosby "California Suite"

Scatman Crothers "The Shining"

Michael Schwartz Director "Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Band"

Madge Sinclair "Uncle Joe Shannon"

Michael Jackson "The Wiz"

Richard Pryor "California Suite"

...and all that Jazz

By Boo Matthews

Wonder if there is anything significant in the fact that a former disco club has gone under, and will be replaced on the site by a jazz club?

Could this portend the rise of live jazz in our city? At any rate, Fells Point has a new spot called The Bandstand.

It's managed by Mike Binsky, who is one of the regulars at the Left Bank Jazz Society sets, and has been actively engaged in trying to promote jazz in this city.

The club is located at 1616 Fleet Street, and opened last Wednesday with what was called a "Jazz Jam." It is to be a regular feature.

The official grand opening was Thursday night with the vice president, Paul Quinichette holding down the tenor sax slot, along with the Jimhmi Johnsun Trio.

In talking to Mike last week, he vowed to keep the prices reasonable. In fact, there will be no minimums and a small entrance fee. Best of all, beer will be kept under a dollar in price.

Dropped into Sportsman's Lounge last Saturday to hear a strictly fusion group called the Dialects.

Actually the Dialects are a rhythm section which goes around the area accompanying various artists.

They played the Cellar Door in Washington a few weeks back, as the backup group to organist Jimmy Smith, and have filled engagements in Philadelphia and have been playing weekends in Baltimore.

At the Saturday jazz jam, they were augmented by David Smith, tenor sax and Jimmy Smith trumpet.

Regulars in the Dialect are Harold Williams, keyboards; Joseph Blocker, guitar; Larry Bright, drums; Robert Bunn, bass, and Lauren Elliott, violin.

Yes, I said violin. Lauren's is completely amplified, including a modified wah - wah, volume control pedal, and she generates a sound in the Noel Pointer, John Luc Ponty tradition, and can hold her own.

Sun Ra

Left Bank Jazz Society this week will have Sun Ra and his Myth Science Cosmos Swing Arkestra. Once you strip away all the glitter and accessories, you have a swining jazz pianist-organist.

In fact, in the recent DownBeat Critics Poll, Sun Ra finished second to Jimmy Smith on organ. He also won mention as an arranger and finished second to Joe Zawinul as synthesizer player.

He is a complete anomaly. His given name is kept secret, as is his age. But it is known that he played in the Fletcher Henderson band. Remember, Fletcher's last band was in the late 30s.

So, whenever we see Sun Ra and his aggregation, we can't fight the feeling that he is putting us on. He brings in about a 25 - piece group with dancers, kaleidoscopic lights, and singers.

And, the last two times he played for LBJS, the band did not take an intermission. For four straight hours, they were on the stand, or marching through the audience.

Audience involvement is a big part of the presentation, and you should get there early so you can get a seat up front. That's where the dancers can be best seen.

LBJS has promised that the air conditioning will be working this Sunday — we certainly hope so.

Stop by the corner and say "hi" — we'll be there.

To the credit of this group, the tunes they chose all had basic roots in the high - energy, fusion school. Best example was their rendition of "Way of the World."

Electronics played a major role in the presentation, and compounded what we feel is the major flaw in fusion music. It is very repetitive, and at times borders on monotony.

This is deliberately done, since the rhythm seems to be much more important than the melody. The melody is often suffused in glittering, swooping runs, with all interstices completely filled with sound the seeming raison d'etre.

And too — fusion music is loud. Mary was wearing her ear plugs. But, the beat is infectious, so it becomes a head - nodding, toe - tapping session that leaves pleasant feelings.

Musically, however, we'll stick to mainstream jazz.

Welcome home Damon!

Damon Evans

Cab Calloway comes in next week to star in "Bubbling Brown Sugar" at the Mechanic to be followed by Damon Evans. ...not yet 30 30... in "The Me Nobody Knows".

Trazania Beverley made history earlier this year as the first black native - Baltimorean to come home to star in a Broadway production, "For Colored Girls".

Then we had 95 - year - old Eubie Blake in for a concert at the Peabody, but he was almost 90 before Baltimoreans recognized him as a national treasure.

Damon Evans was in town this week for a press conference - breakfast hosted by the Mechanic who announced that "The Me Nobody Knows" in a Mechanic Theatre production. ...a first under Phillip Langner.

Damon seemed a little awed and subdued and said he was happy to be doing a play in this hometown and hopes to do it well and enjoy it.

Damon is best known for his role as Lionel in "The Jeffersons". He began acting at 10 with the Children's Theatre Association and studied voice at Peabody. He won a scholarship in his senior year at Douglass High to the Interlochen Arts Academy in Michigan from where he graduated.

He continued his performing arts studies at the Boston Conservatory where he appeared in the chous of the famous Boston Opera Company, and appeared in the rock musical, "Hair".

He made his Broadway debut in "The Me Nobody Knows". Other Broadway credits include "Lost In The Stars", "Via Galactica", "Don't Bother Me I Can't Cope", and "Godspell".

In the press conference audience were members of the Arena Players, Mr. and Mrs. Cliff Sherrard, M'a Portia Badham, and Sam Wilson.

When Damon Damon was just 17, he formed an opera company at the Arena Players.

Free kid's stuff

There's fun of r children this summer as Baltimore's two free entertainment series continue.

C.T.A. Theatre offers kids three chances to see their production of "The Three Sillies" this week. On Tuesday, July 25, and Thursday, July 27, the Little People's Program will feature the play which teaches children how a play is created at noon at the South Shore Pavilion.

For those who prefer night - time to noon, Kid's Stuff will fill the bill with an evening performance of "The Three Sillies" on Thursday, July 27, at 7 p.m. This production will be presented at the West Shore Stage in the Inner Harbor.

The Little People's Program will continue on Tuesday, August 1, with Marian Kaul's Jazz Quintet in a concert especially for kids, follwed by mime artist Jon Harvey on Thursday, August 3.

All Little People's Programs and Kid's Stuff performances are offered free of charge. For more information on the weekly Tuesday and Thursday presentations call the Baltimore Office of Promotion and Tourism at 685 - TOUR (3⁄4—3⁄4 - 8687).

Morgan plans orchestra

Dr. Kenneth A. Keeling, Chairman of the Department of Music at Morgan State University has recently announced the forming of a University - Community Orchestra this year beginning in September. This will represent the first such group at Morgan State University in several years.

Anyone interested in auditions should contact the Music Department Office at the above number Monday through Friday 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Mark O. Fax — organist 1911-1974 distinguished Howard U. professor

On black classical music

Dominique de Lerma

Dr. deLerma is professor of music at Morgan State University. He also hosts a radio show, "Melodies, Notes and Lyrics," Sunday, 11 a.m., WEAA - FM.

Graduate students at Morgan State University are now required, or are encouraged to submit a scholarly paper prior to being granted their degree. One thing which enters the mind of many prospective graduate students is the question: How can I find a topic of interest on which no one has previously written?

Well, without leaving Baltimore or black music, there are many worthy subjects.

One study which has just been completed is entitled, "The Life Works of Mark Oakland Fax" and the author and new holder of the MA A. degree is Velma Jones.

She had studied with Professor Fax in her undergraduate days at Howard, one of many students whose lives were touched by this distinguished musician (1911 - 1974). When the time came to select a subject for investigation, she naturally thought of Fax.

Checking further, she found that Mrs. Dorothy Fax had retained all of her husband's manuscripts and memorabilia and that Mrs. Fax graciously was willing to share these with Ms. Jones.

Furthermore, she determined that she had access to Elton Fax,

brother of the composer and distinguished artist and author on his own, as well as Avon Long, who had been a friend of Mr. Fax for many years.

Finally, yet another essential source was the morgue of the AFRO - AMERICAN, wherein much of Mr. Fax's biography had been traced.

Fax had been born in Baltimore. His family resided at 1156 Calhoun St., and were active at the Metropolitan Methodist Episcopal Church, Payne Memorial Church and Sharp Street Church.

When the lad was ready to begin his education, he enrolled in Public School No. 112, on Laurens Street.

Stimulated to follow music by an aunt, Fax was engaged as organist at the Regent Theatre when he was only 14, providing musical background to the silent films of the day.

At Douglass High School he came under the influence of W. Llewellyn Wilson, a highly significant figure in Baltimore's musical history and former writer for the AFRO.

From here Fax went to Syracuse University, returning often to Baltimore for visits and recitals. His first teaching position was at Paine College in Georgia, which he left in 1942 for graduate study at the Eastman School of Music and, for a time, worked on his doctorate at New York University.