Bits o' briefs

Almost a no no

On Tuesday morning when it was revealed that Jim Dent was within two strokes of grabbing the lead in the final round of the Sammy Davis Jr., Golf Classic at Hartford bones began rattling around in the clubhouse at Augusta National Golf Club.

The ghosts of Masters co-founders Bobby Jones and Cliff Roberts became very restive. Should Dent win, he would join Lee Elder and Calvin Peete in the Masters field next April. Three blacks at Augusta would truly have been a no-no.

But Jim cooperated by falling out of (Hartford) contention with a final 76.

Hal 'n Dan

Hal McRae of the Kansas City Royals and Dan Ford of the California Angels were named Tuesday as co-winners of the American League player of the week award for the week of Aug. 6-12.

It was the first time in four years that the award was shared.

McRae, the Royals' designated hitter, hit .400 (12-for-30) with four doubles and three home runs last week, including a ninth-inning, game-tying homer against Detroit on Friday.

Ford tied three Angels records when he had eight straight hits, five hits in a game and hit for the cycle on Aug. 10 against Seattle.

No Rono

Res Bruegger, promoter of Wednesday's international invitational track meet in Zurich (Switzerland), says he wanted world distance record-holder Henry Rono for his proposed "dream mile" but couldn't find him.

Bruegger claims he had a search party drive a landrover for five hours into Kenya's brush country, "but it couldn't find a trace of him."

Lou looking

After 13 years as an NBA standout, Lou Hudson is looking for a job, and he may not be able to find one.

The 35-year-old guard, a free agent, was cut Monday by the Los Angeles Lakers.

"I don't know what my future is," Hudson said in Atlanta where he still keeps his home. "I'd like to play another year, but that's not really in my hands right now. But, whether I play or not, I've had a good career. I have no complaints."

If he doesn't sign with another NBA team, Hudson probably will join a national rubber company on a full-time basis. He has been with the firm during the off season for the past nine years.

NOTIFICATION TO BIDDERS

Sealed Bids will be received at the Virginia Department of Highways & Transportation, Rm. 1200, and the parking lot Security Sta., Annex Bldg., 1401 E. Broad St., Richmond, Va.; and the lobby of the Richmond Hyatt House, W. Broad St. at I-64, Richmond, Va.; until 10 A.M. DST, September 18, 1979, and will be open in the Central Office Auditorium, 1221 E. Broad St., for the construction of:

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12-hour vigil pays off

O's take and give with fans

Add a little bit of duty and a large quantity of fan and you'll get a guy that devotes the better part of 12 hours watching baseball madness.

The fellow leaves his office a few minutes before noon and doesn't arrive at his home until the hour is squeezing midnight.

In the interim, he watches the Orioles receive a tumultous toast from thousands of admirers jamming Hopkins Plaza in downtown, and finishes off the 12-hour vigil grinning with 12,000 others as the Birds repay the noon accolades with a stirring 12th inning victory over the White Sox at the stadium.

All this is crowded into a Wednesday experience that covered "Appreciation Day" ceremonies (for the O's) led by Mayor Schaefer, fund-giving to Children's Hospital and applause - applause for the team that currently is the best in baseball.

Incidentally, a small bit of thievery was injected into the final minutes when Eddie Murray sent the worried but faithful stadium crowd to bed with a steal of home that climaxed the 2-1 win.

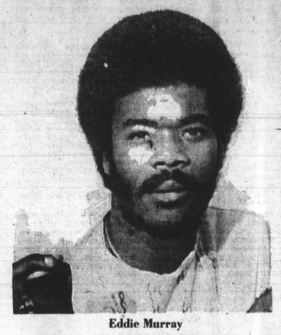
On Thursday, reminded that the Birds have won earlier games with timely hitting, brilliant pitching and sparkling defense, but never with a steal of home, Eddie had ready answer.

"Well," said the classy first baseman, "whatever it takes, I guess."

The night before (Tuesday) the O's had squeaked out a similar one-run victory when Al Bumbry did his own version of a Frank Merriwell heroic.

He delivered a bases-loaded single with two out and two strikes on him to break up still another 12-inning battle.

Meanwhile, having dictated the trickery that enabled Murray to perform his daring theft, manager Earl Weaver continued to pull strings on his charges in such way as to put the "Muppets" to shame ... SAM LACY.



Eddie Murray
'... well, whatever it takes ...'

Al Bumbry
a little Merriwell

Earl Weaver
"Muppets' to shame

Deer hunters to get shots

Eastern Neck National Wildlife Refuge is planning to hold a special deer hunt again this year.

The season will open with archery hunts on October 6, 8, 10 and 13, followed by muzzleloading rifle hunts on October 29, 31, and November 19, 21, and 24.

Hunting will be by permit only. Permits will be issued following a public drawing of applications at 9:00 a.m. on September 10, 1979, at Eastern Neck Refuge. Party hunts of up to five (5) persons will be allowed.

All hunters, including shot gunners, must pass a proficiency test.

BOTH AWAIT REMATCH — Earnie Shavers, perennial "best man" of boxing's champion marry-go-round, and WBC heavyweight titleholder Larry Holmes (R) are anxiously awaiting their rematch, scheduled Sept. 28 at Las Vegas. Shavers is convinced he can whip Holmes again (he claims he did it last March), and Holmes vows to make it (victory) beyond doubt the next time.

Morgan's Thomas again directs national sports youth program

Through competitive sports participation, young people learn to become better citizens, according to Morgan State coach, Jesse Thomas, who has helped deprived Baltimore youths for the last nine years while participating in a college atmosphere.

And this year was the same for the coach, as he reflects on his ninth consecutive year as director of the National Summer Youth Sports Program (NSYSP).

The ex-Colt defensive backfield star is stern and steadfast in handling his youths, using his 15-year coaching experience as a guide.

The program, sponsored by the National Collegiate Athletic Association and the Community Services Administration, has been implemented since 1969, being first enacted by Frank Entry, former chairman of the department of health and physical education.

Held recently in the Hurt Gymnasium was the NSYSP Award's Day, presenting over 300 Morgan community young boys and girls between the ages of 10-18 awards in track, swimming, basketball, softball, and gymnastics.

Also, other activities included an enrichment session which focused on drug abuse, operation in D.C., has been integrated for almost a decade.

The same lily-white atmosphere privails with the Colts, except for the relatively new assignment of Lenny Moore as an assistant in public relations.

When it was announced Tuesday that Morganite Tim Baylor and veteran Lloyd Mumphord were being cut, coach Ted Marchibroda said Mumphord might be retained as a coaching staff addition.

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Oh well, what's new?

Local fans getting double heat

By Sam Lacy

They should be accustomed to it by now, so Baltimore sports fans are probably not disturbed by Robert Irsay's tirade in Jacksonville on Wednesday.

Certainly, followers of the Colts experience some qualms when the club owner (Irsay) indicates an interest in the Gator Bowl in Jacksonville as a new home, but there is mixed reaction to some of the things he uses to blame them for the desire to move.

Irsay, like his predecessor, the late Carroll Rosenbloom, charges that the Maryland political structure refuses to do something about providing adequate facilities for the football operation.

Many Baltimoreans agree that he has a legitimate gripe in this connection. They accept the need for extensive renovations at Memorial Stadium if no new plant is likely to be built.

Others, of course, oppose the use of public money to further sport causes.

In Jacksonville, where city officials laid out a plush red carpet for his Wednesday visit, Irsay decried attendance in Baltimore and said this "disinterest" in the Colts dictated his desire to move.

He ridiculed local fans because no more than 26,000 turned out to watch his Colts play the Eagles two weeks earlier. And he blasted the Baltimoe public for the so-so average of 32,000 season sales.

"How," he reportedly asked, "can I pay Barry Krauss (No. 1 draft choice) a million dollars" with that kind of gate.

Obviously ignored by Irsay is the fact that any fan + unless he's a genuine nut + is willing to pay regular season price for a ticket to a meaningless football game in early August.

And one must be equipped with an over supply of guts to suggest that the public is expected to help pay a million-dollars to someone they had no voice in hiring, and in whom they have no particular personal interest.

One irate customer said to the AFRO: "Who in hell would care if Barry Krauss went to Cincinnati, Chicago, California, Cleveland or Canada We wouldn't miss him."

At approximately the same time Irsay was threatening Baltimore from Jacksonville, Edward Bennett Williams was in New York ironing out the deal whereby he purchased the Orioles, with baseball commissioner Bowie Kuhn.

Meanwhile, the man who sold to Williams, was being assured he would stay around as one of the directors of the club.

Jerry Hoffberger, another constant critic of local (baseball) fans, will serve as president, Williams has announced.

AFRO concern is whether the front office of professional sports in the city is likely to change.

Throughout his ownership, Hoffberger maintained a lily-white executive force. And until very recently, his team had no black coach or coaches.

Williams' football

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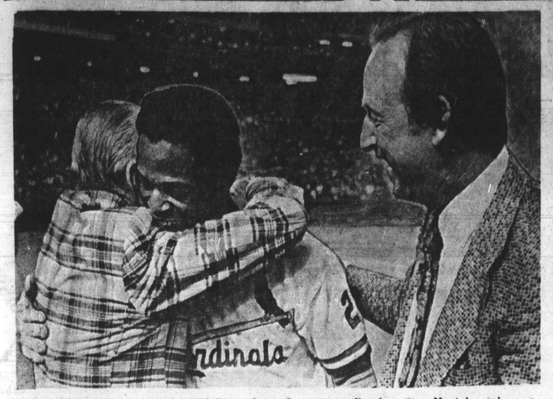

Lou Brock celebrates 3,000th hit embrace from owner Busch as Stan Musial watches

Lou Brock sings a tune

'What a difference a year makes'

By Sam Lacy

I wasn't in St. Louis Monday night, so I'm not able to report that Lou Brock was humming to the tune "What a Difference a Day Makes," substituting "Year" for "day." But he could have if he thought of it.

By now, the St. Louis Cardinals star may have thought of a lot of things that happened to him during the 19 baseball years that culminated in his 3,000th hit at Busch Stadium.

One of these could be the fact that a year ago Lou was probably at the lowest ebb in an otherwise brilliant major league career.

Virtually, brushed off as a potential contributor to the Cardinals by then Brock was relegated to the limbo role of player-coach. Rapp, who was fired later, was telling Brock he was finished, over the hill, not needed. And Lou reacted by having his poorest season.

Still sensitive, the game's all-time base-stealing champion announced at a spring training press conference that no matter what happened in the 1979 campaign, it would be his last.

Except for the fact that Lou may be among the most popular five players in baseball, and that he continues to add to his already established record of base thefts, fans and media people saw no real significance in his decision to quit.

He had batted but .221 in his down (1978) season, and needed 100 hits to reach the 3,000 plateau, in the minds of many, an insurmountable obstacle.

But a final-curtain act that produced a plus-300 average, flawless defense and the usual smooth base running had 46,161 Busch Stadium fans standing in the aisles in the fourth inning of Monday night's 3-2 win over Chicago.

That was when Brock slashed his second hit of the game — 3,000th of his life — off pitcher Dennis Lamp.

Actually, attainment of the goal could have been regarded as triple satisfaction for Brock.

It put him in a class which boasts just 13 other players; it did a little number on Vern Rapp's judgment, and it was racked up against the team which had discarded him 13 years before Rapp attempted to sidetrack him.

The Cubs traded Brock to the Cardinals in 1964.

However, there was no gloating on the part of the low-key Brock. He took everything in stride except for the glow that crept through his countenance during the enthusiastic reception by his teammates.

Reaching the 3,000-hit plateau enables Lou to become the fourth black player in that exclusive club. Already in are Willie Mays, Hank Aaron and the late Roberto Clemente.

Others who hit safely 3,000 times in their careers were Ty Cobb, Stan Musial, Tris Speaker, Honus Wagner, Eddie Collins, Nap Lajoie, Paul Waner, Cap Anson, Al Kaline and Pete Rose.

Elder, Dent get Davis Jr., cash

Lee Elder and Jim Dent collected pieces of last week's Sammy Davis Jr., Greater Hartford Golf Clinic, won by Jerry McGee.

Elder finished strong with consecutive 68's after a slow start, to pick up $3,026.25 at 276.

For Dent, it was a disappointment, however. The big Georgian was just two strokes back of the lead commencing the final 18, but skyrocketed to 76 for a 279 total and $1,511.25.

Rams vs. Express for youth cause

The Baltimore NAACP will host a football game between the Baltimore Rams and the Dundalk Express to be played at Lake Clifton High School Stadium, 2801 St. Lo Drive, tomorrow (Saturday,) at 3 p.m.

The theme of the game is "Salute To Youth."

The NAACP will use its share of the proceeds to help finance its city-wide voter registration drive. The tickets are one dollar and can be purchased at the NAACP office at 2127 Maryland Avenue and from members of the Baltimore Rams football team.

The game is part of the Baltimore Urban Services Agency City Wide Sports Festival scheduled to take place at Lake Clifton Park on Saturday and Sunday.

Guessing's over

The Baseball Hall of Fame has put an end to the guessing game which has been going on for years, on the age of Satchel Paige.

The H of F curator has on display a copy of Satch's birth certificate issued in Mobile, Ala., in 1905. That makes the ageless one 74 years old.

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