High School Sports

Walbrook women's team topples Lake Clifton, 105-23

By Martha Evans
AFRO Staff Writer

A figure in crimson uniform number 22 pulls a rebound with a smacking, authoritative "pop."

A crimson streak bearing the number 11 smoothly churns toward the opposition's basket, unchecked on a floating layup.

The score is 85-12.

Walbt

When the dust settled Wednesday afternoon the champion Walbrook Warriors Women's varsity basketball team had destroyed their Lake Clifton opponents by an incredible score, 105-23.

About 120 fans were in the stands to witness the rout even though the Lake Clifton Lakers boys varsity team was putting on a show of their own in the adjoining gymnasium.

People around the city are beginning to appreciate high school girls basketball for what it is: the product of a group of dedicated and amazingly talented young women.

Although it lacks some of the brute power and quickness that have become integral parts of the boys game, even at the high school level, the girls demonstrate many of the skills that makes basketball the popular sport it has been for boys.

Walbrook's Rose Willis, number 22, is an excellent rebounder.

She also understands the value of a quick outlet pass, a fact appreciated by her mercurial teammate, Nadine Walker. A frequent beneficiary of the outlets, Walker often converts Willis' rebounds into fast break layups.

Yvonne McDonald can be aggressive on defense. She produced a steal during Wednesday's game which resulted in another easy Walbrook basket.

"We have strength in all positions," Pete Connally, coach of the Walbrook team, said.

"Two of last years starters are on the bench," he said. "My biggest problem is deciding who to start."

Like boys championship teams have always had, the Walbrook team has begun to develop a loyal following.

Kevin Williams, a Walbrook graduate in 1979, was full of praise for the team and the ability of coach Connally.

"Its like the problem the '76ers had. They almost had too many good players," he said.

"Coaching is easy when you have this much talent," Conally said, overhearing Williams.

The Warriors are undefeated in 26 games and Connally said they are looking for serious competition.

"We are an overmatch for most of the Baltimore area teams," he said.

Soaring rejection swats. Fast break dunks. Pressing defenses. Behind the back passes.

The wealth of basketball talent in the Baltimore high schools is capable of providing fans events packed with drama and excitement. Not all the excitement takes place on the court, however, as the players weave their way up and down the floor.

While the two teamsvie for dominance on the playing surface, their fans are usually locked in a struggle with each other for a trophy of their own: bragging rights.

Veronica Stone, a senior at Lake Clifton, gets pretty caught up in supporting the boy's varsity team, she said during a recent game. Friday afternoon, as her team hosted Southwestern, visiting fans began to razz the Lakers, who had fallen behind to the underdog by 7 points late in the first half.

"Hey, I thought you were supposed to blow us out," screamed one Southwestern supporter, a youth endowed with an incredible pair of lungs.

"There' s a big upset coming," bellowed another.

Through the verbal barrage Veronica managed to retain her composure, all important when the "woofing" gets started. Her anxiety was betrayed only by her relative silence, and the fact she fidgeted with a pen.

"You have to have faith in your team," she said.

"Still although the Lakers managed to close the gap before the half, the Southwestern contingent kept firing salvo after salvo, boosting their team and perhaps releasing a little anxiety of their own.

"Look at that! Your man doesn't have it together," howled Freddie Chandler as a Laker sent an errant pass sailing across the sideline and into the first row. Freddie, who drives the Sabers' team bus, says he is an avid fan.

"I like trading words with the other side," Chandler said. He said the sharp words are all in fun, although sometimes feelings get hurt.

"It doesn't amount to anything...most times," he said. "Sometimes it can get nasty, though. It's a tradition. It helps build the team momentum up."

But this time the momentum turned in favor of the Lakers. Lake Clifton's center Melvin Mathis, a gracefull mammoth, began to wade inside and convert offensive boards into rebound buckets.

As the Lakers pushed ahead, their fans took the offensive in the stands.

"You're mighty quiet over there," Veronica sang out to Chandler and others who sat with him, firing a salvo of her own.

"That's ok. Our JV already beat your JV" he countered, not willing to be outdone.

But the home crowd sensed victory and the Lake Clifton gym swelled with sound after a layup made the score 60-49 with less than 1:20 on the clock.

The players say the crowd can effect them one way or another, positively if they are at home and not so positively if not.

"It can fire you up," said James Robinson, a reserve forward with the Lakers. "But it can get lonely out there on the foul line," he said.

"If you are away it might mess up your concentration," Mathis said matter of factly as he pulled on his shoes in the dressing room after the game.

"Mr. Williams always says 'don't worry about the crowd,' " he continued.

Williams, the Laker's coach, concedes the crowd involvement does affect players if they do not concentrate.

"Sometimes the noise makes them try to take on too much responsibility," he said, a factor which often results in pressure mistakes.

As the clock ran down on the 62 - 51 Laker's triumph the Southwestern contingent became resigned. Bragging rights would remain with the Laker fans. At least until next game.

QUICKSILVER — Walbrook's star guard, Nadine Walker, gets a well deserved rest during the fourth quarter of last week's road game at Lake Clifton High School. Ms. Walker scored on numerous fast breaks to help propel her team past the 100 point mark for the first time this year on the way to a 105-23 victory. This marks Walbrook's 26th straight win.

AFRO photos by Martin Evans

LAKERS BUNCH — The Lakers seemed to have difficulty maintaining an intensity despite the cheerleading efforts of coach Woodrow Williams. Ranked 5th in the Metro, the Lakers did not take the unranked Sabers seriously and it almost cost them.

GO TEAM! — Lake Clifton cheerleaders worked up the crowd as the varsity players jockeyed for position under the boards.

Postal service sets conference for minorities

The U.S. Postal Service, Procurement Services Office, P.O. Box 549, Columbia, Maryland, will conduct a Minority Business Procurement Conference on Tuesday, Jan. 26 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Ramada Inn, Piedmont Room, 5910 Princess Garden Park-

Contact Mr. Wilson of the Procurement Services Office, P.O. Box 549, Columbia, MD 21045-0549 (telephone number 344-4500 Washington metro area number) for additional conference details.

LETS GET GOING! — Sabres huddle around coach Warren Schwartz, who tried to rally them late in the fourth quarter. Down by only 51-47 with three minutes to go, their drive faltered as Lake Clifton went to the inside game.

BLUE CROSS VICE PRESIDENT — Andrew S. Gaskins recently has been elected vice president, human resources of Blue Cross of Maryland. Gaskins joined Blue Cross in 1967 and during his career with the company has occupied the positions of manager of training, director of personnel and recently, vice president, administration. In his new job, Gaskins will be responsible for the direction of personnel programs, employee relations and training and development activities.

Governor to end lottery

Annapolis — Gov. Harry Hughes will end Maryland's "Instant Lottery" game later this year because the state does not need the funds to balance the fiscal 1983 budget, an aide to the governor said.

"With a modest budget surplus and judicious use of funds, we don't have to rely on the instant lottery, which is repugnant to the governor," said Ejner Johnson.

Hughes said his objections to the game are based on its adverse effect on the state's poor, who play the game although they are the least able to afford it.

Desperate for revenue last year, the governor approved the game for the first time since 1976. State officials had hoped the lottery would generate a profit of between $25 million and $30 million between July 1, 1981 and June 30, 1983.

Ticket buyers find out immediately if they are winners by rubbing off a covering on the ticket. UPI

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Why was Reagan coming to town?

See page 2

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Motive a mystery in union slaying

By Pam Widgeon
AFRO Staff Writer

The secretary-treasurer of Local 194 of the Laborer's International Union of North America, told the AFRO Bobby Lee Love, business manager of the union, "has been a mystery man from the craddle to his grave."

Love, 53, who lived with his wife and three children in Catonsville, was shot at least once in the head and several times in the torso around 6 a.m., Jan. 19, police said.

He was found by an unidentified union member, who later told police he saw a man running from the union office at 317 N. Paca St.

Love still was wearing his topcoat when he was found. Police said his wallet and money had not been disturbed and his 38-caliber revolver still was in his holster on his hip.

Norman Kenny, who has known and worked with Love for more than 20 years was the last person to see him alive Monday evening at the union hall.

Kenny said Love was fine when he saw him Monday. "He was a quiet guy and he has always been the same since I have known him."

As business manager of the union where 1,400 men are members, it was Love's responsibility for sending union members out on construction jobs.

Vic DeGross, 41, of the 1800 block of McCulloh St., who is being held at City Jail without bail is charged with first degree murder and a handgun violation.

Continued on page 2

Bobbie Lee Love

2 elderly women slain

A 41-year-old Annapolis woman who allegedly killed her 76- year-old mother was being held at the Anne Arundel County Detention Center without bail at AFRO presstime Thursday.

Annapolis police said Pearl Holland Ford and her mother, Muriel Holland lived at 18 Cornhill St., for nearly 30 years.

A neighbor found Mrs. Holland wrapped in a plastic bag in an alley around 8:17 a.m., Jan. 20, while putting out trash.

According to neighbors, Mrs. Muriel was a retired cosmetology teacher. A medical examinder said Mrs. Muriel died from several stab wounds.

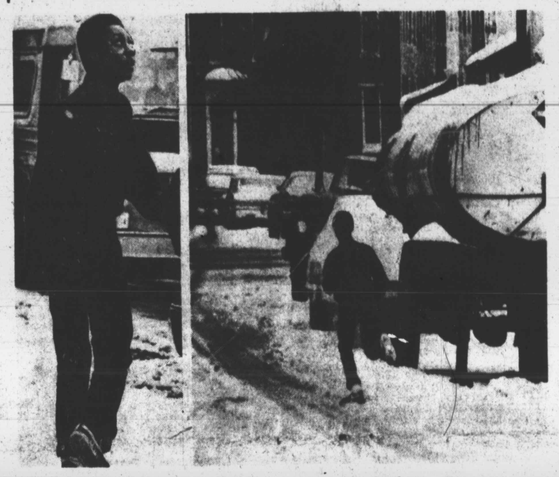
City homicide detectives are investigating the Jan. 20 homicide of Miss Thelma C. Metz, 77, who lived alone and was stabbed to death in her Greendale Road home in Northwood.

Police said Miss Metz was found by neighbors lying on the kitchen floor. She was fully dressed and had been stabbed in the chest. Police believe the woman might have been dead at least 24 hours.

Police could not say if anything was missing and report there were no signs of forced entry. Two women who carried food to Miss Metz told police they used a key the victim had given them to enter after she did not answer the door.

According to neighbors, Miss Metz had lived in the neighborhood two years.

Did he elude helicopter?



IN THESE EXCLUSIVE AFRO ACTION PHOTOS BY ROMAN HANKEWYCZ a young suspect in the break-in of a muffler shop looks to the sky as a police helicopter tracks him down. The suspect then ran through the sleet and slush Tuesday afternoon, but was apprehended shortly after these photos were taken. His partner was cornered behind an oil tank in a backyard on Gwynn Falls Parkway. Names of the suspects were not released by police as their status as juveniles had not been determined.

Hairston, Johnson to seek Supreme Bench seats

Local attorney Alonzo P. Hairston announced today that he will be seeking a Supreme Bench judgeship in the upcoming statewide elections. Hairston, who ran an unsuccessful campaign last year for a judgeship, said that his candicacy was sparked by the news that Governor Harry Hughes has filled a Supreme Bench vacancy with John Carroll Byrnes, a Northeast Baltimore state Senator.

"I find it inconceivable that in a city with a majority black population our highest court fails to reflect that population," he said. "Probably the only facet of the judicial system where we are represented in number is in the court dockets."

The theme of Hairston's campaign is "Let Justice be done", which he says encompasses the two main points of his campaign.

"Number one, it is only just that we be adequately represented on the bench," he explained, "and also, equitable justice will only be handed out by judges with the experience to reflect the diverse racial and cultural diversity of our city."

When asked about the candicacy of local civl rights attorney Kenneth Johnson, who will also be seeking a seat on the Supreme Bench, he was enthusiastic. Johnson has called a press conference for today, Friday, January 22.

"It gratifies me to see that there are others in our community who share my concerns. I welcome the candicacy of Johnson and others who feel that egalitarian representation is the key to a truly representative legal system."

Continued on page 2

Legislators want to save legal aid, cautious about higher interest rates

While Attorney General Stephen H. Sachs' proposal the State of Maryland establish a fund to support legal assistance for the state's poor met with approval from two black legislators, a bill lifting the ceiling off interests charged by the banking industry was met with reservation.

Del. John Douglass (D-45th) told the AFRO he only has read newspaper accounts of Sachs' proposal to set up a legal corporation to collect funds to be channeled to such organizations as the Maryland Legal Aid Bureau.

The bureau's lawyers represent the state's poor in landlord-tenant disputes, domestic cases and consumer problems, but they do not handle criminal cases.

Douglass said he would have to study the details of the proposal that would have Gov. Harry Hughes approve money from the state's general fund for the corporation. But, on the surface, it sounds like a good idea.

"I think we should try to provide basic legal services" to the poor, he said.

Del. Howard "Pete" Rawlings (D-40th) said the proposal "makes sense in light of federal reductions" to the national organization, Legal Services Corp., which provides funding to different legal aid services around the country.

The executive director of Legal Aid Bureau Inc., Charles Dorsey, said his group receives about 63 percent of its funding from Legal Services and Legal Services has had about 25 percent of its budget reduced as a result of federal cutbacks.

Rawlings said Legal Services "has been a target for destruction by conservatives and Republicans in Congress because of its effectiveness in providing legal redress for the poor."

"This is a country of laws. It's important that poor people be protected as well as the rich and property owners," Rawlings said.

On the issue of elimination of interest rate ceilings by the banking industry, Rawlings and Douglass were less enthusiastic.

Rawlings said he is not familiar with all the issues involved in the bill, "It's too early." One of his major concerns, however, is the poor track record the state's banking industry has in supporting black businessmen.

Continued on page 2

HUB launches '82 'Buy Us' campaign

By Joanne Rambaran
Special to the AFRO

To kick off the 1982 "Buy In, Buy Us" campaign, the Economic Development of the HUB organization held a news conference, Wednesday, Jan. 20.

One of the speakers at the conference was Larry Smith, senior vice president of the Baltimore Economic Development Corporation, the group operating the Baltimore Briefing Center, site of the conference.

BEDCO "is very supportive of HUB and fully endorses its methodology," Smith said.

Raymond Haysbert, HUB president, and committee chairman, Tyrous "Terry" Addison, presented overviews of the organization's objectives and projections during the conference.

Haysbert stressed HUB's commitment in fostering economic community development.

"I feel social problems could be solved if economics were improved. The black community needs to grow economically," Haysbert said.

HUB projects a five-year plan, of which the "essence is self-reliance," he said.

Continued on page 2

18,000 get city fuel aid, total may reach 45,000

By Denise Tann
AFRO Staff Writer

Despite a tremendous increase in the number of persons needing assistance in paying their winter fuel bills, Urban Services Director, Lenwood Ivey said the Maryland Energy Assistance program is not in jeopardy, yet.

Statewide 75,000 families are expected to apply to the Director of the Maryland Energy Assistance Program said.

"Greater demand for and less supply of Maryland's fuel aid funds means the money is stretched thin," said Stephen D. Minnich.

The $28 million in federal funds available for the program this winter is $500,000 less than Maryland received in 1981.

At present, the agency reported handling 22,546 applications and have issued 18,000 checks. Ivey said revised projections are expected to reach 40,000 or 45,000 applicants by the April 1 deadline.

Continued on page 2

Ex-Congressman Diggs continues fight for Md. license

Charles Diggs

Former Michigan Congressman Charles Diggs will appeal his latest denial by the state's Board of Morticians in his bid to become a Maryland apprentice mortician.

Diggs, who was convicted of fraud charges involving the alleged missue of federal funds, left the United States Congress in 1980.

A mortician in his home state of Michigan, he applied for an apprentice license in Maryland last year, but his application was rejected by the Board of Morticians at an Annapolis presentation in December, George J. Gonce, the Board's executive secretary told the AFRO.

Because of the December denial, Diggs had the option of requesting a full hearing, complete with witness testimony and presentations by his attorney and the state.

At the hearing, at 301 W. Preston St., Jan. 13, Digg's attorney, Clarence Mitchell Jr., told the AFRO he presented his case before the Board.

Letters from such people as Congressmen Louis Stokes, of Ohio, and George Crocket, of Michigan, were submitted in Diggs' behalf, he said. Crockett is the man who succeeded Diggs in the House of Representatives and was a former judge and prosecutor in Detroit, Mitchell said.

James V. Cheeks, president of Howard University, also submitted a letter attesting to Diggs' character.

However, Diggs' second denial by the Board came at the end of the hearing, which began at about 10:15 a.m. and ended around 5 p.m., Gonce said. After about 40 minutes of deliberation by the 10 member board, three blacks and seven whites, the vote was announced against Diggs.

Mitchell said the denial was "unjust" and that neither he nor his client were informed why Diggs was denied.

"I don't see how they could have possibly made a definitive and mature consideration of the matter," Mitchell said. "I don't think they paid any attention to whatever we said in favor of Mr. Diggs."

Gonce said he could not comment on why it was decided to deny Diggs a Maryland license until a "facts and conclusion" report is completed and forwarded to Diggs and Mitchell.

However, Gonce did give the reason why Diggs was turned down by the Board when he submitted his application for an apprentice license in December.

"He had been convicted of a crime" involving moral turpitude which are grounds for denial in the state of Maryland, he said.

Mitchell said after he receives the report he will know whether to file an appeal in state or federal court.

Clarence Mitchell Jr.