Scholastic Sports Scene

THE WINNING KICK — Carver High's Gerald Riley outkicked two teammates in a 800 meter time trial Wednesday afternoon, (AFRO Photo by Martin Evans) as the Bears prepared for the upcoming Carver Relays scheduled for Tuesday.

Bears host relays

The Carver Bears track team will host eight other harrier squads next week as the annual Carver Relays opens the 1982 spring track season for city high schools Tuesday, March 22, 1982.

For the first time in the event's history womens teams will participate in competition when Eastern takes its mark against the Carver girls.

Douglass, Gilman, Southern, Edmondson, Eastern, Patterson, Forest Park and Southwestern will be represented in the boys' relay events along with Carver.

The meet is a low key event, and has been for years. Its preliminary nature is consistent with the spirit in which it was organized back in the 1950s.

"I don't remember the year we started the relays, but at the time it was just a tryout. No scores were kept, and a boy could enter as many events as he wanted," Lloyd "Sodie" White, the legendary Carver coach of 36 years said in a telephone interview Wednesday.

White retired in 1977.

Although the meet does not stack the whole season on the line, it is the year's first event, one that neighborhood youths look forward to for months.

"People look forward to it," Christopher Cannady, a Carver middle-distance runner said as he stood in the fading afternoon sun during Wednesday's practice. "You can win medals," he said.

Cannady also mentioned the meet serves notice to laggards that track is a sport demanding an honest effort all of the time.

"It gives everyone an overall look at what they are going to have to face. Then when they don't do so well they realize they have to get out here and practice," he said.

The smile of one who knows crept across his face.

Bears coach Walter Cole expects to field strong teams in the distance relays Tuesday afternoon, mentioning Richard Carter, Robert Bell, Allen Washington, Everett Smith and Kendal Blackston as potential components of his 32,000 meter relay team.

But he said positions are not cast in stone, and he is enjoying the fact many of the younger runners are pushing to take positions away from the veterans.

Albert Sydnor, a sophomore, was a prime example of this spirit during Wednesday's practice. In a preliminary 800 meter time trial he kicked past juniors Alfonso Guster and Everett Smith, finishing in 2:13.

The Bears varsity finished third in the relays last year. The junior varsity finished first.

Engineers bound for Annapolis

"He is one of our better hitters," Poly baseball coach Charlie Sullivan said of the figure that crouched intently over the plate, waiting for the next pitch.

"He is a lefthander, and hits with quite a bit of Power for a little guy," the coach said.

The youth Sullivan referred to is Willie Fields, a senior outfielder on the Engineers' baseball team.

Fields is not cast in the David Winfield mold, and stands quite a bit closer to the ground.

But what the barrel-chested baseballer lacks in physical stature is largely compensated for by his positive attitude and his appreciation for the value of diligent efforts.

Fields' positive approach has allowed him to compete at sports such as football or basketball that many PeoPle his size would be content to concede to the bigger guys. His sense of discipline and organization assist him in realizing many goals which would be unattainable otherwise.

"I'm kind of small," Fields said during a recent Engineers practice. "I knew I had to start training before anyone else, be faster than anyone else if I was going to make it."

Coach Sullivan concurred with Fields assesment of the value of a sense of discipline in sport, and particularly in baseball.

"Baseball, more than any other team sport, is an individual sport," Sullivan said.

"When a player is at the plate it is only him and the pitcher, him and the baseball."

In addition to physical qualities, the ability to mentally control one's responses is all important to a hitter.

"Hitting a baseball is one of the hardest things to do in sport," Sullivan said. "In that sense discipline is important to an athlete. He has to hang in there, has to lay off bad pitches."

The Engineers practiced Wednesday afternoon in anticipation of their trip to Annapolis March 24 to play the Naval Academy junior varsity, an event Poly has participated in for 20 years.

For the Poly students, many of whom are interested in attending competitive colleges and universities, the trip is a bright spot on their athletic calendar.

The ballplayers frequently get a chance to share a meal with the middies, and the trip gives the Poly students a chance to see various dimensions of life at the Academy up close.

Fields said he had a particular interest in the trip and, for him it would be more than just another baseball excursion.

"I'm planning to apply there, so for me it will be like killing two birds with one stone," he said.

In addition to looking forward to next week's excursion to Annapolis, the Engineers are looking forward to improving last season's 7-9 record.

Although Poly posted a losing mark for the year, the Engineers' last season's only public school 'A' Conference baseball team, finished strongly, with a 6-2 second half. Over the year they beat every team in the league exept Gibbons at least once.

"I guess we realized we could play," Sullivan said of the late season rush.

BATTING PRACTICE — Members of the Poly baseball team were forced to restrict their spring training exercises to batting practice Wednesday. Recent rainfalls have turned their infield into a quagmire, (AFRO Photo by Martin Evans) eliminating the opportunity for fielding drills. The batter, Willie Fields, lashed the first pitch he faced into right - center field, but let this one alone.

Poets' coach is home grown

Evette Coleman, the women's track coach at Dunbar High School, at first glance could be mistaken for one of her runners.

Petite, lithe and with a youthful smile, she looks like many of the young women athletes lending their talents to Poet efforts.

In fact, until just a few years ago, she was a Poet harrier herself.

Coach Coleman was a student at Dunbar High before she graduated in 1975. She continued her studies locally attending Morgan State University where she finished in 1980.

But it seems she was destined to be a Poet for at least a while longer. She drew her student-teaching assignment at Dunbar, and after working with the physical education staff for a while whe was asked to accept an instructional position by the coach she once ran for as a Poet.

"Mrs. Jones, who was my teacher, asked me if I would like to take over the track team," Coleman said, a smile playing across her face.

The incident was an important one for her, she said, and was a little like coming home.

"I was delighted," she said of being offered control of the team she was once part of. "It showed me she had confidence in me," she added, her smile growng broader still.

The former Dunbar and Morgan harrier took over the team in its first year of 'A' Conference competition last year and guided it to a third place finish overall and to third place in the BCPS tournament.

But despite her first year's successes, Coleman admits she will have her work cut out for her if the team is even to reach last year's level of success.

The loss of graduating seniors hit the Poet team hard this year, particularly in the field events.

Paulette Cousins was the only individual to return with field experience this year, and she principally is a sprinter. Coleman sees the derth of veterans as trouble.

"It will be hard for us to win any, and I mean any, if we don't have anyone in the field events," she said.

Cousins is a talented natural athlete, and is competitive as a long jumper despite the fact she does not devote much time to developing her timing and technique in practices, Coleman said.

A number of Poet runners competed in cross country events during the fall, including Joan Haynes, Linda Uzzell and Veronica Harris, and Coleman sees the distance events as ones she will have strong runners ready for.

Clippers eye lacrosses title

"We've had the best turnout we have had in three years," the lacrosse coach at Patterson High said Wednesday morning.

Coach John Hammond was assessing his team's chances for attaining the level of success they reached last year. The Clippers were 'B' Conference division 2 champions, with an 8-4 record.

Seventeen members of the team graduated with the class of 1981, however, imperiling the Clippers hopes for taking the overall 'B' Conference championship this year. Patterson lost to Poly in last year's championship game.

Hammond acknowledged he does not have the luxury of looking to post-season prospects quite yet, noting the large turnout of new lacrossemen means the team will be occupied with learning the basics in the next few weeks.

"Obviously we are rebuilding, but I'm optimistic," he said. "We are going to take the games one at a time. Given some time things will turn out ok."

He said a number of bright spots on the team, including junior Vincent Coleson, a talented stickman who can swing between attacks and midfield.

Warren McIntosh, a middie also in his junior year, and steady Allen Savage, the goalkeeper were among others mentioned as players Hammond will look to for big efforts.

Two Clippers, Eric DeWitt and Sterling Zumwalt, were singled out as players the Patterson coach expects to provide team leadership, vital to a club in a rebuilding year.

Hammond said because so many of his players have little or no lacrosse experience team leaders are important in providing motivation and role models for the team's new members.

Inner-city schools have not been the dominant force in lacrosse they have been in other sports such as basketball, and black students frequently go through their scholastic lives without ever having played the sport.

Maryland is a lacrosse hotbed, however, and players from the County often have had early exposure to the game in recreation leagues or in junior high athletic programs.

City students were put at a further disadvantage when budgetary considerations eliminated junior varsity lacrosse programs in city high schools in 1979, cutting off a vital source of talent to the varsity teams. Hammond would like to see the Program reinstated.

"That would help us immensely, not only the black ball players, but all players who have not had exposure to lacrosse," he said.

Perhaps by making up for their lack of experience with guts, determination and a willingness to learn the game, city lacrosse players have distinguished themselves.

Kevin Hart won an All-Metro honorable mention last year while playing for Poly and now is a stickman with the nationally ranked Maryland Terrapins.

"Our kids have such a long way to go," Hammond said of the city's players.

"It is amazing that so many of them do so well in the short time they have with it."

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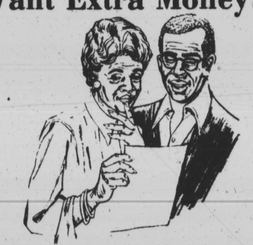

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NEW AFRO CONTEST—WIN A CARIBBEAN TRIP!
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Teddy undergoes bone transplant, 'Tenika' unavailable

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Woman's Inner Harbor death ruled suicide

The unidentified body of a woman who apparently drowned and was found floating in the city Inner Harbor March 19, was identified by relatives on March 23, police report.

Police said the woman was found just off pier three near the Aquarium shortly before 7 a.m. She was reported missing by relatives on March 20.

The dead woman is Ms. Cynthia Z. Sanders, 40, of Linden Avenue. Police said there were no signs of foul play and they believe the woman jumped in the water.

A security guard employed at the Aquarium told police he saw Ms. Sanders around 11 p.m. March 18, walking around the Aquarium. Around 6 a.m. the guard said he observed the woman sitting near the water.

The guard told police he was watching the woman from a window and when he later returned to the window, he saw a body floating in the water.

Police said the victim was not carrying a pocketbook or any type of identification and there were no signs of foul play. Police were able to notify her family through the missing person report.

MEDIA STAR WARS
Court tells Johnny W. to give Dennis $65 G's

Dennis Holly
Ex WMAR-TV news anchorman

WFBR's general manager said he believes a court ruling to reinstate a $65,000 defamation of character finding against radio personality Johnny Walker and the station will stifle broadcast discussion of controversial issues.

Maryland's highest court upheld the judgment March 23 against Walker and his employer, Baltimore Radio Show Inc., owner of station WFBR.

The award to former WMAR-TV anchorman Dennis Holly stemmed from a February 1979 on-the-air remark by Walker implying Holly had been involved in a Baltimore looting spree during a blizzard earlier that month. Walker said the remark was intended as a joke.

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AFRO photo by Martin Evans

ONE MAN PICKET LINE — Mr. Raashidi is angry with the Human Rights Relations Commission and has been staging a one man protest in front of the Commission's building on E. Franklin St.

Tobie Marsh hanging in at Channel 2

Despite heavy criticism by her co-workers and members of the American Federation of Television and Radio Actors WMAR-TV anchor-woman Tobie Marsh said she is not participating in the strike because she feels a sense of responsibility to herself and to her job.

Anchorman Tom Sweeney, Kurt Anderson and the rest of WMAR's newscasters went on strike March 1 over a new contract dispute with the station's chief executive Steve Seymour.

Ms. Marsh said the criticism she has received does not really affect her and she respects her co-worker's decision to strike. She also said she would like the same respect from them concerning her decision not to strike.

"There's so many reasons why I decided not to strike," Ms. Marsh said.

Responsibility figures prominently in those reasons. As the oldest child in a family of seven, she said she now is in a position to help her family after all their years of support in her behalf.

Tobie Marsh

Ms. Marsh said she also feels a sense of responsibility to her job. Under the station's new management, which is trying to turn WMAR's image around, she can see a change in the attitude of management and how it has "been really fair" for the past eight months.

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Mr. Raashidi's angry

A sixth district resident and homeowner staged a one - man protest this week against the Maryland State Human Relations Commission charging the commission with discriminating against blacks.

Raashadi, 30, known only by that name; has filed six claims with the commission on E. Franklin Street. He said dissatisfaction with the organization was the reason of his protest.

He planned to march in front of the commission Wednesday carrying a large sign with black lettering

"There's no more human rights in Maryland," Raashidi said as he waived his sign for a passer-by to see. He said he planned to protest during the lunch hour from 10:30. a.m. to 1:00 p.m. but on the first day of protest, Wednesday, Mr. Raashadi protested after 2:00 p.m.

Raashadi said dissatisfaction with past claims filed with the commission and one recent claim filed for employment discrimination motivated his protest.

In June 1981 Raashadi acquired property off the corner of Washington Blvd. and Green St. in the Ridgeleys Delight community through a housing discrimination case filed mid March 1981.

"I was forced to take a settlement," Raashadi said.

Another case where Raashadi claims he received less than satisfactory results involved the purchase of property on the 600 block of Eislen Street.

The purchase of the property would allow construction of affordable housing for black city residents, Raashadi said.

Eric Johnson, director of Housing for the commission, said he understood Raashadi was "perfectly satisfied" with the outcome of the case where he received property in the Ridgeley Community.

The other case in question, the housing division "went to great lengths to settle," Johnson said.

David L. Glenn, director of Human Relations Commission said he was amazed to find a

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Senator and daughter party

AFRO Photo by Roman Hankewycz

SENATOR VERDA WELCOME (L) is pictured with her daughter, Attorney Mary Sue Welcome, at the birthday celebration hosted in her honor at Martin's West Friday, March 19. See story and more photos in Our World section, Page 9.

Slain boxer's mom bears no malice

The mother of a welterweight boxer, who was found dead in an alley told the AFRO she has no malice about the March 18 homicide of her son.

Joseph E. Robinson, 28, of the 1000 block of Carey St., died from a gunshot wound in the head. Police said they are still investigating the case and no arrests have been made.

Robinson was found dead in the 1700 block of Lexington St., around 12:45 a.m.

Mrs. Delores Robinson told the AFRO, "The person who killed my son has to live with that on his mind. If you believe in the Bible, no one should have any malice.

"I do not ask the Lord why he took my son. I just believe it was my son's time to go."

Police said they were responding to a call for a fire in the 1500 block of Lexington St., when an unidentifed man approached them and said a man was lying in the alley.

Robinson had won several trophies and awards as a boxer and received his boxer licenses Nov. 16, 1981. Relatives told the AFRO he had been boxing since he was 15-years-old.

As a boxer, relatives said he enjoyed teaching boxing to neighborhood children at the Lexington Recreation Center.

Joseph E. Robinson

Relatives said Robinson participated in the 1980 olympic boxing training program in Greensboro, N. C.

Mrs. Robinson said she was proud of her son and he was a good fighter. "He (Robinson) would not hurt anyone. We are only here for a certain time. I was not there when he was killed and I really don't know what happened," Mrs. Robinson told the AFRO. Funeral services for Robinson were at William C. March Funeral home.

Surgery for Teddy

Soul singing superstar Teddy Pendergrass underwent radical surgery Wednesday as physicians at Philadelphia's Thomas Jefferson Hospital fought desperately to prevent the paralysis, which has rendered him non-functioning from the waist down from spreading to his upper torso and neck.

Meanwhile, the apparently elusive Tenika Watson, the person riding in Pendergrass' 1981 Rolls Royce sedan at the time of the crash, has remained under wraps.

During three hours of surgery Wednesday morning, a bone from Pendergrass' leg was grafted to his neck in order for the singer to hold his neck up.

At a press conference after surgery, Dr. Francis Sweeney said it is unknown whether Pendergrass will ever be able to walk again. Still paralyzed, he only is able to move his shoulders and elbows.

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REHABBED BRUNT STREET HOMES ON SALE

Absolutely the last low-cost housing in B'more

An open house will be March 28, 2 to 5 p.m. for 13 newly renovated houses in the 1800 block of Brunt Street, in the Upton neighborhood in West Baltimore, all of which will be sold under a program that permits low down payments and a mortgage as low as 6 and three - fourth per cent.

The Department of Housing and Community Development will use its last funds under the federal section 235 program in the sale of properties in Upton, Poppleton and Druid Heights, and is placing its initial emphasis upon the Brunt Street houses which are now ready for occupancy after total rehabilitation.

For some moderate income families this will mean a chance to buy a home for $20,000 with an initital cash investment of only $1,800. Because of the section 235 financing and a city subsidy on the cost of rehabilitation through the community development block grant, monthly payments should range from $200 to $325 with an interest rate as low as 6 and three-fourth percent. The rate will vary, however, with the income and size of the family.

HUD is expected to phase out subsidy financing in keeping with the Reagan policies.

"Baltimore is forging ahead in its promise to promote homeownership. It may be getting harder but our efforts are unwavering," Mayor William Schaefer said.

The open house, sponsored by the city in cooperating with the Upton Planning Area Committee, will allow prospective homeowners an opportunity to meet community residents and tour the houses.

These two bedroom, brick rowhouses are in the hub of the revitalization in West Baltimore and near the Pennsylvania Avenue Metrovan station. They feature a full ceramic bath, gas heat and hot water heater, kit-

(Continued on Page 2)

Photo by Roman Hankewycz

UPTON NEIGHBORHOOD — Thirteen houses in the 1800 block of Brunt St., have been renovated and now are on sale for $20,000 with an initial cash investment of only $1,800. The interest rate is 6 and ¾ percent. Open house will be Sunday, March 28, 2 until 5 p.m. for the two - bedroom family homes.