AFRO SPORTS

Sugar Ray warned by one who should know

TACOMA, Wash. (UPI) — Former middleweight contender and Olympic champion Sugar Ray Seales has one piece of advice for Sugar Ray Leonard about his planned return to the boxing ring — don't do it.

Leonard, the onetime world welterweight champion who retired 13 months ago after surgery to repair a partially detached retina, shocked the boxing world with his announcement Sunday that he would fight professionally again.

Sugar Ray Leonard after the operation

"I think he wants to prove that he could be a fighter, is a fighter, without all the publicity and hoopla," said Seales, 31. "But it's the wrong time now, after eye surgery.

"He puts himself at risk," Seales said in an interview with the Seattle Times. "He's a target, a prime target. His eyes are the first thing that everybody will be going for."

Tragically, Seales shares more than a nickname and an Olympic gold medal with Leonard. He's also had some very serious eye problems of his own.

In fact, Seales has been certified by his opthamologist as legally blind with no vision at all in his left eye and only 10 percent vision in his right eye.

Seales retired from boxing early this year because of his declining vision. He has had three operations for detached retinas.

His opthamologist has said there is potential for more deterioration in his right eye and only a minimal chance that further surgery would help restore his vision.

Curtis Dilkey he's in the hassle — Frank Kush he's in the middle — Chris Hinton he's in the Pro Bowl — Nesby Glasgo he's in the hero role

Colts versus Oilers in finale

Baltimore's NFL season ends as it began

By Sam Lacy

The Colts close out their 1983 National Football League season Sunday, and Baltimoreans are able to look back upon a year mixed with triumph, tribulation, fun and frustration.

So, what is new about that?

Nothing, except that it can be considered refreshing when one recognizes that this year's controversies were of a somewhat different order.

That difference being that all was not negative. Almost all, but not all.

There were some victories on the field this season as opposed to the zero in last year's win column.

Otherwise, there was a controversial beginning and a confused ending. It started as everyone knows, with owner Robert Irsay dealing off the club's No. 1 draft pick, quarterback John Elway.

It is about to end with the owner back in character, refusing to aquiesce to general manager Ernie Accorsi and head coach Frank Kush in their desire to negotiate with the team's best offensive player, Curtis Dickey.

Robert Irsay owner in character

Sandwiched between the two Irsay acts was a period of quiet, during which the owner benched his meddling nature and let Kush and his aides run the games.

And win six games.

As expected Kush was the man in the middle of the various hassles: the Elway business at the outset and the Dickey mess at the end.

On the bright side were offensive guard Chris Hinton, whom the Colts salvaged from the aborted Elway signing, and Nesby Glasgow, who was in the Irsay doghouse in mid-season.

Hinton early this week was named to the American Football Conference All - Star squad for the Pro Bowl.

And on the same day, Glasgow was honored as the year's most courageous Colt by the Eastside Athletic Association.

The talented cornerback was presented the Ed Block Award.

At long last, Colts favored

Finally, the oddsmakers feel they have discovered a team the Colts can beat.

Baltimore is rated a 4-point choice over the Houston Oilers Sunday at Memorial Stadium.

The Colts are 6-9 on the season, the Oilers are 2-13.

Washington, playing at RFK on Saturday, is the 15 - point pick over the New York Giants.

Mary Fenlon: academic watchdog for GU basketball players

Special to the AFRO

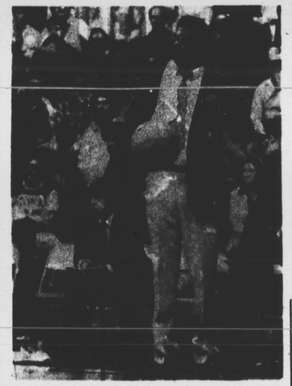
One Sunday afternoon last March, Mary Fenlon, Georgetown's academic coordinator, boarded the team bus at National Airport and took her usual seat in the rear.

Four days before, Fenlon had accompanied a talented and youth ful 1983-84 Hoya basketball team to the NCAA tournament in Lexington, Kentucky where they played heorically before bowing to Memphis State in the Midwest Regionals.

Basketball season was over and the Georgetown team and coachi staff rode in silence as the bus crossed the Key Bridge enroute to the Georgetown campus. Midway on the bridge, a thick baritone voice from up front bellowed "Miss Fenlon, do I have to call you tomorrow afterno on." Recognizing the sound as the unmistakable voice of one of her underclassmen, Mary Fenlon went to work. "Honey," she said, "the basketball season is over, but you are still a freshmanl you're not a sophomore." Her repartee was followed by an eruption of laughter from everybody aboard.

After 11 years at Georgetown, Mary Fenlon shows no signs of languor in her role as monitor of the basketball team's classroom performance.

Fenlon oversees the academic life of Georgetown basketball players by monitoring their progress, finding tutors for them, coordinating the teams academic schedule with their travel and game schedules. She helps recruit players by explaining the academic progra at Georgetown



JOHN THOMPSON, Georgetown University's head basketball coach, says: "Fenlon is responsible for assuring that Georgetown players obtain their degrees."

and by appraising their academic potential. She is, also the executive assistant to coach John Thompson.

Exacting,firm, dedicated, and personable, Mary Fenlon is committed to the goal of safeguarding the academic interests of Georgetown's basketball student-athlete's. She is, as former Hoya All American Eric Floyd describes,"the kind of educator that you respect and appreciate because you know that she sincerely has your education in mind."

Coach John Thompson views Fenlon as an educator of heroic stature, protector of the student-athlete against the vulgar commercialism of big-time collegiate athletics. According to Thompson, "Schools spend thousands of dollars in recruiting athletes and very little in relation to keeping them in school., Mary Fenlon is a a pure teacher who is responsible for assuring that Georgetown basketball players obtain their degrees."

College results

Sewanee 70, Fisk 54
Ala. State 86, S.C. State 71
Pembroke 80, Fayetteville 60

Va. State 93, St. Paul's 78
Norfolk St. 77, W. Salem 70
St. Paul's 94, Fayetteville 73
Eliz. City 87, Livingstone 71
N.C. Central 76, Eliz. City 74
Ala. A-M 108, Morris Brown 86
Longwood 66, Lincoln 55

Tougaloo 66, Belhaven 56
Fla. Mem 71, Fla A-M 67

Tex. Southern 102, Tex College 86
South Ala. 91, Miss. Valley 71
Tex. Southern 69, Paul Quinn 65
Tex-El Paso 83, Southern 67
Clark 84, Morehouse 66
Ft. Valley 71, Delta State 66
Tuskegee 101, Benedict 87
S. Alabama 81, Fla. A-M 70
Ala. A-M 99, Albany St. 91
Ala. State 85, Bethune 71
Alcorn 80, Columbia 61
Southern 102, Dillard 76

Bulldogs ripped

LANDOVER, Md. — Patrick Ewing sat out the second half with a mild concussion but his dominance in the first half helped No. 5 Georgetown to a 97 - 67 victory over South Carolina State.

Ewing suffered the concussion while taking a charging foul late in the first half. He was not seriously injured. In 15 minutes he had 14 points, grabbed 7 rebounds, and 4 blocked shots.

All 12 Hoyas scored, with five players reaching double figures.

Gene Smith had 13 points, David Wingate and Fred Brown 12 each and Reggie Williams 11. Michael Graham grabbed 13 rebounds.

Ralph Miller paced the Bulldogs, 3-3, with 19 points while Alvin Conners added 13 and Franklin Giles 12.

The Hoyas, 6-1, led 43-31 with 2:09 left in the first half but the Bulldogs cut the lead to 43-36 by intermission. A 21-8 Georgetown spurt in the opening minutes of the second half wrapped it up for the Hoyas.

Hawks humbled

COLLEGE PARK — Ben Coleman scored 18 points Wednesday night to lead 11th - ranked Maryland to a 104-69 drubbing of Maryland, Eastern Shore.

Adrian Branch scored on a drive four seconds into the game to begin a 10-2 surge and eventually moved to a 23-8 lead.

The Terrapins cleared the bench midway through the first half and led 57-27 at intermission.

The Hawks, 1-8, hit 11 - of - 34 shots in the first half and were no match for the Terrapins' inside strength at either end of the floor.

Len Bias scored 7 of Maryland's first 8 points of the second half, including a 3 - point play with 17:50 remaining to push the Terrapins' lead to 65-31.

Bias, Herman Veal and Mark Fothergill scored 13 each for the Terrapins. John Moorman paced the Eagles with 23 points followed by Michael Ewing's 20.

Maryland, 5-1, is idle until Dec. 24, when they host Boston College.

Baltimore County Branch of the NAACP is supporting the AFRO-AMERICAN Newspapers in its efforts to expand its distribution in Baltimore County.

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Religion In Modern Life

The year round Christmas spirit is at Berea Temple Church

AFRO photo by Karl Ferron
Ruth Exum, director of Berea Temple Community Services Center, and Naomi White, assistant director, pack fruit basket for needy families.

By Eddie King

Christmas will not be the same this year for somebody. Berea Temple Seventh Day Adventist Church is making sure of that.

Berea Temple located at Robert St. and Madison Ave. has been for over 80 years contributing to keeping Christmas spirits high for hundreds of families during the Yule Tide time of year.

Work has already begun on the putting together of hundreds of fruit and food baskets for needy families this year.

"The church's role is to help people physically, spiritually and mentally. It must first cater to phyaical needs. Jesus always helped people physically first before ministering to them," said Pastor William Richardson.

For Berea Temple, that philosophy of helping others has been a consistent tradition since the church's beginning in 1900.

Today, several facilities owned and operated by the church offer services to members and the community.

There is a church school. It caters to grades one through 10. Within the school, emphasis is placed on basic academic studies and various religious doctrines and principles that are a part of the Seventh Day Adventist Church.

"Students are trained to become good citizens for the community," said Pastor Richardson who declares that learning to be nice is just as important as anything else.

A community Services Center occupies a three-floor building at Madison and Whitelock St. which disburses food, clothing and money to needy citizens of the church and community.

"We like to think of this center as an emergency center; for even though we give out baskets every Thursday of the year, there are some who just need more help at a specific time," said Ruth Exum, center director.

Berea has a membership of over 900, and it attempts to provide programs and activities suitable for all 900. From seminars, lectures, games, and trips to cooking classes, choirs and auxillaries— Berea Temple has it all.

There are sports for the avid sports fan; drama for the lover of the arts, classes for the learned, choirs for the singers, work for the workers and ministry for the ministers.

AFRO Photo by Karl Ferron
PASTOR WILLIAM RICHARDSON of Berea Temple assists member Bill Miller with 20-pound bag of carrots for Christmas baskets for the needy.

Berea Temple was the first Adventist church in the city and now serves as a mother church for the seven other Adventist churches that have come to the area.

As their 83 years of service to the community come to a close, Berea members look forward to a more prosperous 1984 in which more giving and more love is spread in the neighborhood.

'Love's Gift,' a hit with the city

There were a lot of chairs empty, but there were 1,100 filled in the James Weldon Johnson Auditorium at Coppin State College on Friday night at the presentation of "Love's Gift", a Baltimore written gospel play by J.D. Fowler with music by Fernando Allen.

"Love's Gift" brought together some of the best in Baltimore's gospel music talent in a production that displayed the versatility of each.

The play dealt with the forecast of a savior to come by the Prophet Isia. Mary, played by Kim Fowler, is conceived by the Holy Spirit and Joseph (Ronald Huff) is angered by the possibility of Mary in an adulterous situation.

A spirit (Craig Fowler) revealed the truth to Joseph which prompted what may have been the most inspirational song of the evening, as Joseph declared to "Mary Last Night I Had a Dream."

Finally after the birth of Jesus, an explosion of happiness took place which was displayed in an abundance of musical selections throughout the remainder of the play.

Perhaps it wasn't the greatest production that was every performed on stage and perhaps it wasn't the most well-written play in history, but it was the most sensational line-up of a cast anywhere, a cast that inevitably contributed to the play being one of the best entertainment pieces in the city for awhile.

Where there was faulty acting, there was superb singing and where there were some shaky notes in some songs, there was some powerful acting emanating on stage.

A cast with the likes of Baltimore Greats such as Katie Jackson, Ronald Huff, Julia Mae Price-Williams, J.D. Fowler and Co., Fernando Allen Singers and Melvin Cooper and Company was hardly to be a failure.

The combination of dance, music and drama propelled an unusual production that yielded to more of its likeness to follow as a pleased crowd departed that evening.

"It was one of the most sensational things I've seen here in the city," said Esther Melcher, a recognized musical talent in the city. "I'd love to see more of this coming to our area."

"If the play didn't do anything else, it managed to bring about a reality to a situation most of us find to abstract too deal with. I think Joseph acted as any normal modern man would have reacted if he thought his wife was seeing someone else," said Vincent Scott, one viewer of the production.

An appropriate gesture of honor to Allen might best sum up what many have concluded to be some of the finest gospel compositions written.

With an array of professional talent like Harold Ray, Ronnie McNair, Jerry Scott and Bryan Hart, Allen managed to create provocative musical arrangements that soared above the average.

"Love's Gift" will make its second appearance at Mt. Zion Apostolic Church free to the public on Friday, Dec. 23. Mt. Zion is located 5501 Liberty Heights Avenue.

Photo by Eric Grandy
Michelle Green dancing in her representation of the Holy Spirit and Kim Fowler as Mary prostrate on the floor, portray the moment of Immaculate Conception in 'Love's Gift' performed Friday night at Coppin State College.

TV comes to mall

Some 200 people gathered in Mondawmin Mall Shopping Center's lower lobby Saturday to view the 30 minute taping of WBAL-TV 11's "Gospel Variations" Christmas special.

Produced by Vanita Productions, the special show will be shown twice during the holiday season. A showing is scheduled for 7: p.m. on Dec. 24 and 8: a.m. Christmas morning.

Featured guests for the show include Julia Mae Price-Williams and Tom Lewis and the Capital Community Singers of Washington, D.C.

It is leaked that this will be the occasion that Pastor Naomi Durant, host of the show and long time gospel D.J. for WEBB radio station, will be announcing her move to a WAYE radio station where she will become the new program manager.

"Gospel Variations" airs every Sunday morning at 8: a.m.

JULIA MAE PRICE-WILLIAMS sings in the midst of Mondawmin Mall as taping for Gospel Variations is done. Mrs. Williams is one of the guests to appear on the Christmas special.

Metro church briefs

Lyric Theatre

The Clark Sisters will be in concert at the Lyric Theatre on Sat., Dec. 17 at 8: p.m. along with the Singing Deacons and others.

Antioch Church of God Apostolic

Special praise ceremony to be held for Pastor Alice Phillips of Antioch Church of God and Bible School Apostolic on Sat., Dec. 17 at church, 5033 St. George's Ave. at 8: p.m.

Inner Harbor

The missionary ship, "La Gracia", in town Sat., Dec. 17 at 1: p.m. for 36 hours. Bring clothes and goods to help the Carribean. Ship will be at Inner Harbor.

Union Baptist Church

"Handel's Messish" at Union Baptist Church, 1219 Druid Hill Ave. on Sun., Dec. 18, 6: p.m.

St. Joseph Freewill Baptist

The United Male Chorus's In Fellowship in concert Dec. 18 at St. Joseph Freewill Baptist Church, 1601 Rutland Ave. at 7: p.m.

Israel Baptist

Homecoming at Israel Baptist Church, Dec. 18, 11: p.m. Church located Preston and Chester Sts.

St. James United Methodist

A cantata entitled "The Gift" to be presented at St. James United Methodist, 1901 W. Lexington St. on Dec. 18 at 6: p.m.

Bethel A.M.E.

The Museum Committee of Bethel A.M.E, 1300 Druid Hill Ave., is sponsoring a Christmas Carol Extravaganza on Fri., Dec. 23 at 7: p.m. with the Imani Messengers, John Bryant Inspirational Choir, Gospel Choir, Senior Choir, Vocal Choir and others. Also real story of Christmas told by Revs. Bill and Juanita Wingo.

Simmons Memorial Baptist

A five choir recital at Simmons Baptist, Sun., Dec. 18, 8: p.m. featuring Original Silver Leaf Singers, Male Chorus, Southern Male Chorus, Family Circle and Thomas Gospel Choir. Church located Pennsylvania Ave. and Cumberland St.

Knox Presbyterian

Sanctuary Choir of Knox United Presbyterian in Christmas concert on Dec. 18, 5: p.m. at church, Preston and Eden Sts.

Ray of Hope Baptist

A pre-Christmas candle light musical service at Ray of Hope Baptist, 3000 Parkside Drive on Wed., Dec. 21 at 7: p.m.

Smithsonian Institute

The songs of gospel music composer Lucie Campbell to be focus of three-part program of discussion and performance at Smithsonian's National Museum of American History on Dec. 17.

New Shiloh

Deacons Conference of Baltimore and Vicinity present annual revival at New Shiloh Baptist, Fremont and Lanvale, from Jan 2-6 at 7: 30 p.m. nightly.

St. Michael and All Angels

"Planning Ahead for College", a two-part workshop for high school students, Jan. 14 at Memorial Church Counseling Center, 1407 Bolton St. from 9:30 p.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Memorial Church

The Choir of Men and Boys of St. Michael and All Angels in concert at Maryland Historical Society, 201 W. Monument St., on Dec. 18 at 2: p.m. Admission $2. for adults.

Simmons Memorial Baptist

James P. Thornton, Jr in concert on Sun., Dec. 25, 4: p.m. at Simmons Memorial Baptist Church, Pennsylvania and Cumberland Sts.

Jones Tabernacle

The Gospel Music Workshop of America, Maryland chapter is having its second call meeting on Jan 9 at Jones Tabernacle, Baltimore and Pulaski Sts. at 7:30 p.m. All musicians and directors invited.

Towson United Methodist

The Dulaney Valley Chapter of Parents Without Partners is sponsoring an Ecumenical Christmas Eve Candlelight Service for single parents and their families on Dec. 24 at Towson United Methodist Church at the Dulaney Valley exit of the beltway.

Greater Harvest Baptist

Saturday, Dec. 17 at Greater Harvest Baptist Church, the first quarterly sesssion of the Progressive Baptist State Convention of Maryland will be held from 9-10: a.m.

Talent search coming

The Baltimore Gospel Music Association, a newly organized talent search organization, has begun its search for talented musicians and singers.

Began in August by Victor Williams, the BGMA was established to promote gospel musicians and performers on a local and national level.

"We want to bring one's musical ability to its highest level, " said Williams, now serving as president of the organization. "We feel that motivation is needed to do that.

Victor Williams

"Our plan is to take determined talents and present them in a professional manner on stage and bring out the best in them. This is to be done by various classes we will have set up for participants. "

Classes being offered include voice, piano and general organization for the arts.

"We want to establish a fraternal type of relationship with our members," said Williams, "providing them with support and encouragement whenever necessary."

Four choirs will develop from the association with various specializations in particular types of music. There will be contemporary traditional, negro spiritual and anthem choirs formed.

Registrations will take place on Tue., Dec. 20 and Wed., Dec. 21 at St. Bernadines Catholic Church, 3812 Edmondson Ave., at 7: p.m.

An installation service is planned for registered members in January at the Meyerhoff Symphony Hall.

Future plans for the group include bringing national talents to the city such as Edwin Hawkins in April and holding national music workshops to be held in the city.