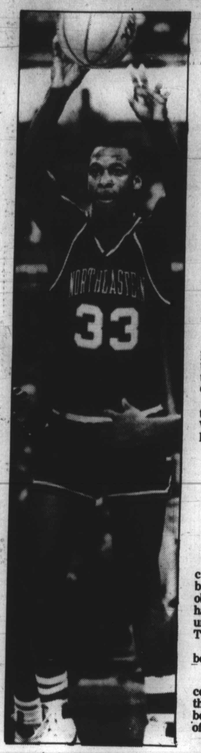
AFRO Sports



LAKER HUSKY—Yet another Baltimorean is high in the expectations of Coach Karl Fogel this year at Northeastern University. Kevin McDuffie, a product of Lake Clifton High, is a communications major and a 6-8 starting center for the Boston school.

Ex-champ Thomas in Denver hoping to regain U.S. ice title

The nation's top amateur figure skaters will compete for national titles and spots on the 1988 Olympic and World teams during the 1988 United States Figure Skating Championships, January 4-10, at McNichols Arena, Denver, Colo.

Among the top contenders for national titles are reigning U.S. champions Jill Trenary and Brian Boitano and 1986 World and National champion Debi Thomas.

More than 200 other skaters will compete in men's, ladies, pairs and ice dancing competitions.

• • •

Over 75,000 spectators are expected to attend the U.S. Nationals, which are sponsored by the Illinois-based NutraSweet Company.

The event will be televised nationally by ABC for its Wide World of Sports program, and for live, prime-time coverage of the Ladies Championship on Saturday, January 9, 1988.

Debi Thomas seeks return to 1986 form

• • •

In addition to the intense competition at the Nationals, the week long event will feature special entertainment sessions. A highlight of the special activities includes a salute to Peggy Fleming at the Opening Ceremonies, honoring the 20th anniversary of her Olympic Gold Medal.

Following the competition, the "Exhibition of Champions" on Sunday night will spotlight the top three finishers in each of the four championship skating categories.

Jeffries signs contract to remain at Howard

Howard University football coach Willie Jeffries, who brought the school's team from obscurity to championship status, has signed a long-term contract, university officials announced Tuesday.

Terms of the contract have not been disclosed.

"I'm very satisfied with the contract, but more important than that, I am happy that I will be here at Howard for a number of years," Jeffries said.

— —

Jeffries, 50, who became head coach at Howard in 1983, compiled a 9-1 record during the 1987 season, capturing the school's first Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference championship and Coach-of-the-Year honors.

Under Jeffries, Howard's football program also received national acclaim and finished 18th in the NCAA Division I-AA polls. During the past two seasons, Jeffries has compiled a 17-4 record.

— —

While Jeffries indicated that he intends to remain in contention for the job of head coach at Ohio State, it is deemed most unlikely that the Howard contract includes a clause giving him permission to break it should the call come from the Big Ten school.

The Ohio State vacancy was created with the November firing of then Buckeye head coach Earle Bruce.

Jeffries was interviewed for the position in mid-December.

Willie Jeffries Bison, no Buckeye

Bears wind up junket

Morgan State basketers return home early next week after a 2-week, 6-game tour which carried them west and south as far as San Diego, Cal. and Dallas, Texas.

Typical of head coach Nat Frazier's penchant for the toughest competition available, the Bears played one game each at Connecticut and Illinois (Chicago branch), then visited San Diego for a pair of contests with the U.S. International five.

— —

The Bears close out Monday night at University of Arkansas after a Saturday stop in Dallas for a visit with Southern Methodist.

Morgan is set to begin her 1988 Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference schedule next weekend, playing host to South Carolina State on Saturday (9th) and North Carolina A and T on Monday.

— —

The Morgan Lady Bears also will return to Hill Field House at that time.

They play the Lady Bulldogs prior to the Morgan-S.C. State game, and the Lady Aggies before the Monday A&T clash.

One-on-One

The New Orleans Saints' first-ever playoff game sold out in 2½ hours Monday. Fans began lining up outside the Superdome ticket office early Sunday in hopes of getting some of the 23,000 tickets available for Sunday's game against Minnesota.

• • •

Lack of space prevented the inclusion of Greg Thomas and Sterling Henton in the "Black Bowl Quarterbacks" feature of the early week Afro. Thomas QB'd Arkansas in th 20-17 loss to Georgia in Tuesday's Liberty Bowl. And Henton will be at the helm for Tennessee in the Peach Bowl Saturday against Indiaha.

• • •

Artis Gilmore, at 38 the second oldest active player in the NBA, Thursday was waived at his request by the Chicago Bulls. Jerry Krause, the club's vice president of basketball operations, announced the decision regarding the 17-year veteran.

"His wishes are paramount to us and this is the way he has chosen to leave the Bulls," Krause said. "Artis is debating retirement and has asked us to waive him, thus keeping his options open for a possible return to the NBA at a later date if he should decide not to retire."

• • •

Byron Scott scored a career-high 37 points Tuesday night to lead the Los Angeles Lakers to their ninth consecutive victory, 131-114 over the Philadelphia 76ers.

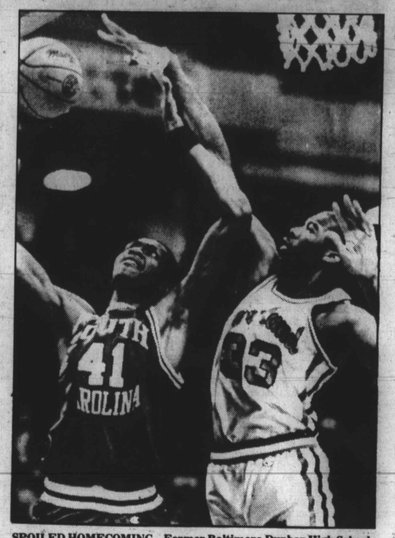
• • •

Howard University and Grambling athletic officials whose schools reportedly have the highest athletic budgets among black colleges — said to be in the neighborhood of $1.5 million each — should wonder how they can compete with Division I-A institutions.

Such as Miami which revealed on the eve of its Orange Bowl game against Oklahoma, that its 1987 operating budget was $13 million.

• • •

Six-year-old Chaz Noakes of Baltimore astounded onlookers at the Greenway East Bowling Lanes last week when she rolled a 103 game and 269 two-game set in a pee-wee duckpin league.



SPOILED HOMECOMING—Former Baltimore Dunbar High School standout Perry Dozier (41) gets a back-in-your-face block by Maryland's Derrick Lewis in Monday night's 82-77 Terrapin victory at Cole. Perry and twin brother Terry Dozier came home as members of the losing South Carolina Gamecocks basketball team.

Terp progress proves a joy to Bob Wade

Maryland basketball coach Bob Wade says his Terrapins have improved to the level he hoped to see and should get even better with the addition of two players.

The Terps are 6-2 after an impressive 82-77 victory over South Carolina Monday in College Park. But the team is soon to get help from two players who have sat the season out while Wade watched their grades.

Bob Wade academics still concern

Tony Massenburg, the 6-9 sophomore who stayed out last season and the first seven games of this season because of academic problems, scored 25 points to lead Maryland to its Monday win.

— —

He may soon be joined in his efforts by senior guard Keith Gatlin and junior transfer forward Rodney Walker.

Wade said Monday a decision on when the two will be allowed to return will be made after their semester grades are reviewed.

"My primary concern from the outset has been the academic progress of these young men," Wade said in a statement. "I'm pleased that Tony will be back in action. I'm also hopeful that Keith and Rodney will be able to play soon, however, I want to have the chance to see their final grades before that decision is made."

— —

Gatlin is the Terps all-time assist leader. He has met NCAA and university academic requirements but Wade has kept him out to improve his grades. Gatlin has practiced with the team during the past week.

Walker transferred to Maryland from Syracuse last year. He became eligible to play Monday but Wade said he also wants to review his grades.

O's basketers set 20-game schedule

The Orioles basketball team will play a 20-game schedule beginning with a Tuesday game at Howard Community College. Game time is 7:30 p.m.

Among the highlights on the schedule is a Thursday, Jan. 14 date at the University of Maryland Baltimore County, a game that will benefit The Pride of Baltimore Fund.

Among the Orioles expected to play this year are shortstop Cal Ripken, Jr., second baseman Bill Ripken, outfielder Larry Sheets, outfielder Ken Gerhart, infielder Jim Traber, pitcher Mike Boddicker and coach Terry Crowley.

Boxing weekend

Jan. 3 at Genoa, Italy—c-Gianfranco Rosi vs. Duane Thomas, 12, WBC super welterweight title; Donald Curry vs. Lupe Aquino, 12, super welterweights.

Jan. 5 at Paris—c-Virgil Hill vs. Rufino Angulo, 12, WBA light heavyweight title.

BOWL BELIEFS

BLUEBONNET (Dec. 31)
Pittsburgh over Texas
COTTON (Jan. 1)
Notre Dame over Texas A&M
SUGAR (Jan. 1)
Syracuse over Auburn
ROSE (Jan. 1)
Southern Cal over Michigan State
ORANGE (Jan. 1)
Miami over Oklahoma
FIESTA (Jan. 2)
Florida State over Nebraska

NFL playoff slate

WILD CARD GAMES
Sunday
Minnesota at New Orleans, 12:30
Seattle at Houston, 4 p.m.

WARMING UP — Quarterback Sterling Henton has his own way of warming up in preparation for Saturday's Peach Bowl game in Atlanta. The Tennessee signal-caller gets in some clogging lessons from entertainer Rebecca Hampton while his Volunteer teammates seek other methods to get ready for the clash with Indiana.

'Dr.J' among those cited as national inspirations

NEW YORK (UPI) — Actress Elizabeth Taylor, basketball legend Julius Erving and Pope John Paul II are among those who have been named to the Millennium Society's list of the year's "10 Most Inspiring People."

Actually, the society only voted for nine people. The 10th honoree is the U.S. Constitution.

The society, which Tuesday announced its fourth annual award winners, is a group formed in 1979 by Yale students to mark the year 2000.

Others honored were Nobel Peace Prize winner Oscar Arias; singer Paul Simon; oceanographer Jacques Cousteau; Harlem charity worker Mother Hale; Canadian wheelchair athlete Rick Hansen and Jessica McClure, the toddler rescued from a Texas well.

Basketball

WEEKEND GAMES
SATURDAY
Morgan at Southern Methodist
Wake Forest at Maryland
MONDAY
Morgan at Arkansas St.
MIDWEEK RESULTS
UNC-Charlotte 89, Howard 73
Radford 73, S.C. State 62
Minnesota 94, Bethune 50
Temple 84, Southern 47
John Carroll 97, Central State 74
S.W. Mo. State 77, Grambling 60
Southern 114, New Orleans 101
Drake 63, Alcorn 49

Sheridan's basketball poll

School	Pl. Votes	Pts./1st W/L
1. Alabama A&M	101	(6) 8-0
2. N. Carolina A&T	78	(3) 4-0
3. N. Carolina Cent.	73	(1) 7-0
4. Virginia Union	70	4-0
5. Clark	69	8-0
6. Morgan State	45	5-1
7. Howard	44	4-1
8. Virginia State	29	7-3
9. Norfolk State	20	5-2
10. Winston Salem St.	15	3-3

The Living Church

Spiritual leaders comment on '87, '88

Look back— step forward

Walter Thomas, New Psalmist Baptist Church

"The most outstanding religious event of 1987 is 11 a.m. Sunday morning all over the country . . . just the fact that people gather together to reaffirm their faith on a week to week basis.

I look forward to more folk realizing their ethnical decisions are their most crucial decisions. What we believe and what we do about what we believe is the most important thing that happens in our lives. I see '88 as a year where people will return to the Lord. They will make a differentiation between the scandal and the Savior.

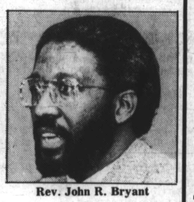
Ms. Serena Mills

Serena Mills, a Bahai Leader.

"The voting activity for a new elected mayor for Baltimore City and the subsequent election of the first black mayor, was the most outstanding moral event of 1987, in my opinion. Although there seemed to be apprehension on the part of black voters in the primary, it was evident that the black communities were more united in their views by the time of the November election. I feel that this united attitude of faith was predicted by the evidence of a solid family life, as presented by the mayor before and during the primary race, as well as by Mr. Schmoke's evident religious upbringing and by his undoubted scholastic ability . . . but also by the fact that Mr. Schmoke's platform has a solid proof positive basis that will be orchestrated in his inherent unbought belief and engergies for creating betterment in the black communities, as well as in all the communities of this city. On the religious front, I look forward to more unity amongst our own people and amongst mankind around the world through recognition of the fact that all people can pull together for peace within, and spiritual love for one another."

Rev. John R. Bryant, Bethel AME Church

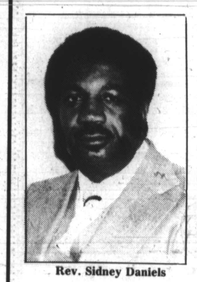
"The most outstanding event of 1987 was the One in the Spirit Crusade at the Baltimore Arena last July. The fact that two churches could get together regardless of denomination and lead a thousand souls to Christ. I look forward in 1988, to churches working together more and being able to address the needs of people spiritually, physically, and socially."



Rev. John R. Bryant

Rev. Harold A. Carter, New Shiloh Baptist Church

"I think the highest religious experience of 1987 was the message that came out of the PTL religious fiasco. It proved the providential hand of God in the largest and smallest affairs in His work. I feel that the most significant moral and political event of '87 was the beginning of a movement towards building blocks from nuclear disaster in the treaty signed between the United States and the Soviet Union . . . It began a process of at least thinking away from nuclear disaster. The strong leadership of Jesse Jackson, nationally, and the election of Baltimore's first black mayor, locally, are significant events of '87. Regarding '88, I think we are in a search for values on which we can build our lives. We will begin to find these values in a renewal of our homes, more emphasis on sound education, industry, and a profound belief in God. There is no new answer to today's problems, but rather a new application from the same answer — God-from yester-years."



Rev. Sidney Daniels

Rev. Sidney Daniels, Emmanuel Christian Community Church.

"The most outstanding happening of 1987 is the church structure group B.U.I.L.D. establishing a positive relationship with the mayor. B.U.I.L.D. is a church based organization that causes a creative partnership between the community and the city government. In 1988, I hope the church community will work on the problems of housing, education, and employment in a greater way. Too many of us are good at complaining and not doing anything to make things better. After the prayer meeting is over, who will be in the action . . . ?"

Rev. Oscar Brown, First Mt. Olive Freewill Baptist Church

"The most outstanding event of 1987 was the One in the Spirit Crusade at the Baltimore Arena in July. They were able to reach a much larger crowd at the Arena than at the Lyric in 1986. It had a two-fold purpose . . . to bring the city under one roof where we could worship together. We were all in one place, at one time, for one pupose . . . to worship the Lord. Many were touched because of that one event. I look forward to the spreading of God's Word in a greater way in 1988 than in 1987. Because a lot of persons were exposed to the Word of God in 1987, it should continue to have a dominal effect in 1988."

(Continued on page 14)

The newest stained glass window in St. James Church is dedicated in loving memory of Dr. Roland Barksdale Williams, MD, and depicts St. Luke walking with a small child. The window was designed and fabricated by Artisan Glass Works, Inc., of Baltimore, in the style and manner of nearby Tiffany windows with mottled opalescent and drapery glass.

A WORD OF HOPE

Maxine L. Wallace
Church News Editor

"Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." Phillipians 3:13-14.

The Epistle to the Phillipians was written by the Apostol Paul. Although the date is uncertain, it was probably written from Rome between 60 A.D. and 64 A.D. This Epistole is a love letter to the church. It's central message is Jesus Christ.

While in prison, Paul writes a letter of rejoicing, hope, and encouragement to his brethren beloved.

In our text, we find that the knowledge of Jesus Christ is the supreme prize for which to struggle in life.

Verse 10 says, "That I may know Him . . ." In the Amplified version of the Bible, we find these words—"(For my determined purpose is) that I may know Him— that I may progressively become more intimately acquainted with Him, perceiving, and recognizing and understanding (the wonders of His person) more strongly and more clearly. And that I may in that same way come to know the power outflowing from His resurrection (which it exerts over believers); And that I may share His sufferings as to be continually transformed (in spirit into His likeness even) to His death, (in the hope).

And Verse 13 says, "I count not myself to have apprehended . . ." In other words, Paul is saying, I have not yet reached this high ideal as spoken of in vese 10. I am not yet there . . . . I'm not there yet, and I know I'm not there.

Just as Paul sensed his short comings, we too are faced with the reality of our short comings . . . the reality of our faults . . . the reality of our sinfulness. But yet we too may declare with the songwriter, "God is not through with me yet." For it doth not yet appear what you shall be!

And Paul said, " . . . But this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind.

Beloved, if we are to live a victorious life in Christ Jesus we, too must forget those things which are behind.

We must forsake the former things we were involved in before we received a saving knowledge of the grace of God. . . . We must forsake our former thoughts and attitudes about ourselves and about others.

The Bible says let this mind be in you that is also in Christ Jesus. We must be renewed in the spirit of our mind. We must forget those things which are beind. We must no longer cherish them . . . We must no longer hold on to them . . . We must no longer embrace them as a part of our reality.

The Bible says, "No man having put his hand to the plow, and looking back is fit for the kingdom of God. When you plow, don't lose your track . . . can't plow straight and keep a lookin' back. There is danger in looking back. Lot's wife looked back, and the Bible says she turned to a pillow of salt . . . Maybe she looked back as she remembered the streets of "Boogie Blvd." Maybe she looked back as she remembered loveless lane in get down town. Well . . . The Bible doesn't say why she looked back or what she saw . . . But from this incident, we may conclude that looking back takes one's eye off of her and now . . . and therefore arrests progress. There is danger in looking back!

But the bible says that we must reach forth to those things that are before. What is before you today? What are you reaching for? A song writer said, "The world behind me . . . the cross before me . . ." We need to press to be more like Jesus. . . .

Paul said, "I press toward the mark of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. Just like Paul . . . I'm not already there, but I'm pressing . . . I have not reached it yet . . . but I'm pressing.

Esther knew something about pressing . . . for she said if I perish, let me perish . . . for I'm going to see the king . . . The woman with an issue of blood knew something about pressing . . . . for she said, Oh, if I could but touch the hem of his garment, I know that I shall be made whole . . . Richard Allen knew something about pressing . . . when he left St. Georges Episcopal Church, never to return again . . . Martin Luther King knew something about pressing . . . when he declared, "I have a dream . . ." Jesse Jackson knew something about pressing . . . when he said "Up with hope and down with dope . . ." Jesus knew something about pressing . . . when he hung, bled, and diedon an old rugged cross. There is a blessing in pressing!

Pennsylvania Ave. honors bishop

Pennsylvania Avenue AME Zion Church, 1124 Pennsylvania Ave., will honor its favorite son," the Rt. Rev. Clinton Reuben Coleman, Presiding Prelate of the Fifth Episcopal District of the AME Zion Church, on Sunday, January 3, 1988. He will bring to a close the Golden Anniversary of his service to the church.

Bishop Coleman began his ministry in 1937 and his pastorates have extended throughout North Carolina over a span of 22 years.

He came to Pennsylvania Avenue AME Zion Church in 1959 and remained until his elevation to the Bishopric in 1972.

The celebration at the church will begin with Bishop Coleman delivering the New Year's message at 11 a.m.

A fiftieth anniversary reception will be held for the honoree in the lower auditorium at 3 p.m. at which many noted clergy, community leaders, and friends will be present.

The celebration will climax at 5 p.m. with Bishop Coleman serving as the chief celebrant at the Holy Communion service.

Unity of religion stressed by Bahai'is

By Don Collins
AFRO Staff Writer

Serena Mills, a member of the Spiritual Assembly of the Baltimore Bahai's of Baltimore, emphasized that universal peace can be achieved only if there is peace among religions.

Speaking at the weekly Sunday Bahai meeting at the Baltimore Center of Bahai, located at 5301 Gwynn Oak Ave., Mills said, "The unity of mankind can be achieved through the unity and harmonizing of religions. Baha'u'llah (founder of the religion) referred to religion as the greatest of all means to establish peace in the world."

Mills also said that the unity of religion would have another profound impact on society.

"Peace among the religions would allow people to get a better understanding of the tenets of other religions," she said. Then, people won't be so quick to decry other religions if they understand them."

Bahai is an independent religion founded in Persia by Mirza Husayn, known as Baha'u'llah in 1844.

Baha'u'llah, according to the Bahai's, was chosen by God to teach all men the will of God.

The essential tenets of the Bahai faith are, the unity of mankind, religion, compulsory education, auxiliary languages and government. In addition, the religion expounds the equality of men and women, the eradication of prejudices of all kind and an independent investigation by its members of the truth.

The Bahai faith was brought to Baltimore by Pearl Doty in 1902. The Bahai religion has no priests or ministers and whenever there are more than nine Bahai's in a city, a Local Spiritual Assembly is elected.

The Bahai religion has come under harsh and unfair criticism, according to Mills.

"Some call the Bahai faith an "Ism" or false religion, "Mills said. It is a bona fide religion. We don't ever say come and join but we say come and investigate and make your own judgement. You can not do that in any other faith."

Mills added most religions don't emphasize a basic tenet.

"Love of man is not expounded in most religions; that is why there are so many religious wars."

Wayne Dixon, a member of the religion, has another observation as to why there is conflict among religions.

"WE (people in society) are always trying to find ways to show we are different from one another," Dixon said during the open discussion segment of the meeting. "God says that we are all from the same source. If we get back to this basic thought, we will be fine...

Dr. Eugene Byrd, a dentist, added that religious conflicts still exist because people lack an important intangible.

"People don't have world-embraced vision, that is why the world is separated."

—METRO CHURCH BRIEFS—

Rising Sun plans anniversary

The officers and members of Rising Sun First Baptist Church of Baltimore County will celebrate the second anniversary of the Nurses' Guild on Sunday, Jan. 10, at 4 p.m. Sharing in this celebration will be the Rev. Dr. Robert T. Hurte, the choirs and congregation of the Community Baptist Church in Jessup, Maryland. Everyone is invited to be a part of this spiritually uplifting afternoon, taking place at their temporary location — 3300 Kelox Road in Baltimore County, Maryland.

Union Bethel offers public service

On Saturday, Jan. 16, 1988, from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., a representative from the Social Security Administration will be at Union bethel A.M.E. Church, 8502 Liberty Road, to assist in applying for a Social Security Card. Taxpayers claiming dependents five years of age and older are required to have a Social Security number for each dependent. Proof of age, identity and citizenship are acceptable documents.

Trial sermon planned at Bethel

Ms. Vanda Guzman, of Bethel AME Church, 1300 Druid Hill Ave. will preach her initial sermon on Friday, Jan. 1, 1988 at 7 p.m. at the love feast service. Ms. Guzman is the president of Bethel's Freedom Now Ministry and is also a gospel singer. Rev. John R. Bryant is the pastor.

Pentecost Baptist plans revival

There will be a renewing and consecration outpouring revival at the Pentecost baptist Church, 1615 Poplar Grove St. conducted by Rev. Mark Reddick of Mt. Zion Baptist Church, in Baltimore on Jan. 18 through the 22nd at 7 p.m. nightly. Prayer and praise service begins at 6:30 p.m. Rev. Charles E. Fletcher is the pastor.

JAN 1988