AREA SPORTS

SPORTSCENE

By Will Marshall

Coppin Eagles Awards Dinner

The Coppin State College Athletic Awards Dinner will be held on Saturday, May 5, from 7pm to 10pm, in the Coppin Center Ballroom located on the campus at 2500 West North Avenue.

This will be a time to honor all of the student-athletes at the College, and for the public to meet, and give accolades to, the first team from Baltimore to quality for the NCAA Basketball Championships.

For more information contact Mary Wanza at 333-7370.

Women In Sports

The Maryland State Games is sponsoring a seminar Saturday, May 5, entitled "Women In Sports, Information Sessions." The seminar will be held at the University of Maryland PERH building in College Park, Maryland, from 9 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and lunch is included.

For more information call the University of Maryland at (301) 454-2928.

Roger Staubach at Unsung Heroes Award

Former Dallas Cowboys quarterback, Roger Staubach, will give the keynote address at the 50th Annual McCormick Unsung Heroes Awards Banquet Friday, May 4.

A total of 103 candidates have been chosen to represent 68 Baltimore City and County public, private, parochial, and independent schools.

Morgan Women Win At Penn Relays

The Lady Bears of Morgan State University won the 4 x 100, 4 x 200 and the 4 x 400 East Coast Athletic Conference (ECAC) Championship races at the Penn Relays, held Saturday, April 28.

The team of Giselle Harris, Viola Harris, Lisa Shands and Ethlyn Tate posted winning times of 46.4 seconds, 1:37.9 and 3:40.1 respectively. Ethlyn Tate also finished second in the 100 meter dash with a time of 11.46 seconds.

Table tennis in Baltimore schools

By Will Marshall
AFRO Staff Writer

Lake Clifton player stands ready for serve from Forest Park opponent.

It's a game of strict protocol. From the teams entrance into the playing arena, to the point of apologizing for making a shot that is impossible to return, but of course taking the point any way.

You are not likely to be accosted for any expensive equipment, such as $150 tennis shoes, because they are not required. In fact there is no physical contact between the contestants.

There is only the agility and split second decision abilities of each player pitted against the other, which is why it is sometimes called "Speed Chess."

"It is the largest racket sport in the United States, said Vicki Houck of the Maryland State Games (MSG), and it is one of the most non-discriminatory sports" there is.

According to Ms. Houck it is a "totally liberated sport where men and women compete against each other as well, and you don't have to have any great physical strength or expensive equipment."

This is one of the reasons Baltimore City Schools have made table tennis a varsity sport.

The addition of table tennis as a varsity sport makes it "the first new varsity sport in 20 years," according to Bill Fairbanks also with MSG. Bill added, "We have been trying to get into the MSA's for 20 years now," and we finally did it.

There are currently two divisions with six teams playing in each, for a total of 12 teams in all, and on Friday, May 4, they begin the first of four matches which will determine, seeding, individual and team championships.

The MSA City-wide tournament will be held on Monday, June 11, as a feature attraction of the International Table Tennis Tournament, to be held this summer at the Baltimore Arena.

Although this is the first year for table tennis, or ping pong as it is referred to, the sport is celebrating its 100th year on record on December 24, 1990.

"It was the most popular in the U.S. in the 20's and 30's, which was the last time we did well in (International) team play," stated Fairbanks. "However, now it is starting to reach that level of popularity again."

Vicky Houck feels that the addition of table tennis to Baltimore City Schools could possibly lead to a money making career in that sport for young African-Americans, at best, or even the possibility of competing in the Olympics.

"There's no reason for someone from Forest Park High School, not to be in the Olympics," said Houck.

The United States Table Tennis Association (USTTA), recently opened the first of its kind "Eastern Training Center," which will serve as permanent home to table tennis enthusiast across the country.

There are two reasons that the center is important to local enthusiast: One; It is located in Baltimore's backyard, out in Sykesville, Maryland.

Two; This summer the MSG will sponsor, and fund, the teaching of Baltimore City students at the Center.

"They will receive lessons on table tennis and fencing," said Bill Fairbanks, so this will be "good exposure for those kids that get to participate."

Morgan honors scholars

By Will Marshall
AFRO Staff Writer

Most athletes are given great honors due to physical feats made possible by their brawn. At the Fourth Annual Morgan State University Athletic Banquet, student-athletes were also presented academic awards for their ability to flex their brains.

Vinstell Watson (basketball), a senior guard from Philadelphia, PA., and Chauncy Winn (wrestling) a senior from Flint, MI. were honored as top athletes for the 1989-90 season.

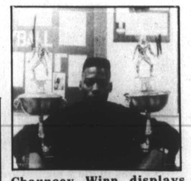
Vinstell Watson, selected MEAC "Player of the year."

The highest academic award went to Horace Moo-Young (track) 3.9 Grade Point Average (GPA), who won the Elijah Rowe Award for Academic Excellence. Other award recipients include: Della Morrison (volleyball) 3.6 GPA, Varsity "M" Award for Academics, and Stephanie Epps (tennis) 3.2 and Robert Schmidl (football) 3.6, who were both awarded the Frank DeFrancis Award for Athletic and Academic Achievement.

The recipiet of this year's Theresa Coleman Award for Excellence is April Waller (cheerleading) 3.3. April is upholding a longstanding tradition of academic excellence among the Morgan cheerleading squad, who have an overall 3.2 GPA.

"In the past 8 years we have matriculated all but two of our cheerleaders," said Coleman. "Of those two, one went into the Army, and the other one got married."

This year a new award was established in the name of the current Cheerleaders coach, Theresa Coleman. "Usually my girls have the highest cumulative GPA every year, but this year they didn't," said Coleman.



Chauncey Winn displays wrestling trophies.

April Waller, received "Theresa Coleman Academic Award."

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SCHOOL OF THE WEEK

Woodlawn Sr. High School

It's not just academic

By Joy M. Tyler
AFRO Staff Reporter

Woodlawn Sr. High School, on the face of it, seems to be your average county high school, but it's not only the largest school in Baltimore county, but perhaps one of the most diversified.

Under its roof, Woodlawn houses: cooperative career development, pregnancy and responsible parenting programs, vocational work, and many others.

Managing a student body of 1,500 takes skill, patience and firmness, and principal Mr. Louis Sergi heads a tight command at the school.

The operations are very similar to what many would find at the college level. There are guidance counselors who keep track of their students the entire four years in which they are geared towards a career and keep abreast of current progress and problems.

There is also a program called TLC in place which helps deal with problem students in which the counselor tries to identify what is getting in the way of the student's progress in their school work before drastic measures need to be taken.

A unique program exists for students who traditionally would be in a classroom most of the day, instead they are offered a gambit of programs that not only incorporates time away from the books, but actually experiencing working and even paying them for it.

Cooperative Career development is geared to help students make career decisions by providing supervised released time for actual work experience in career areas of their choice.

About 150 students participate in the program and attend regularly scheduled group seminar sessions to discuss concerns and other topics related to their work experiences.

Half the day is spent doing required classwork, and the other portion is spent in their prospected fields of interest. Some of the areas include merchandising, secretarial, catering and food industry, commercial printing, mechanics and woodworking.

Principal Mr. Louis J. Sergi.

The Western Vocational Technical Center also provides a different outlet for Woodlawn students. WVTC is a three credit, half-day intensive program in a variety of vocational areas. About the same number of students are part of WVTC as in the cooperative development.

Students spend part of the day at Woodlawn doing classwork and are then bused to Western High School to learn vocational skills in cosmetology, computer programming, diesel mechanics, body and fender, and food service.

To its credit, Woodlawn has one of the only programs in the county school district directed towards pregnant students and parental responsibilities.

Instead of pregnant students dropping out of school, and facing an uncertain future in education and their personal welfare, the school provides a teacher, nurse, guidance counselors, and administrators to work with the young parents.

Through this program young mothers are afforded insurance, healthcare, social and juvenile services, and other areas to get them to continue their high school and higher educational needs.

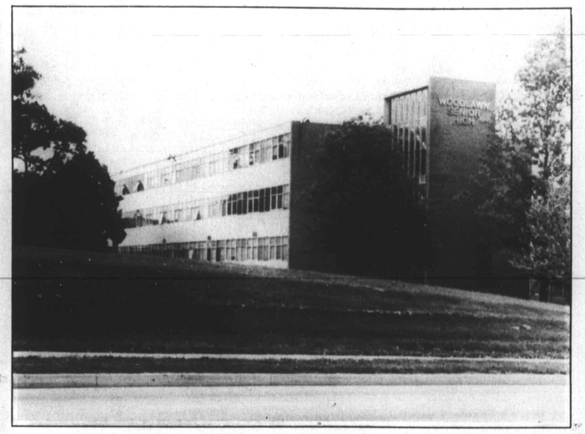
During the pregnancy, teachers work individually with the mothers and counseling is still available up to six weeks after the delivery to ensure proper medical attention can be paid to effectively get the student back into school.

"Managing a student body of 1,500 takes skill, patience and firmness . . ."

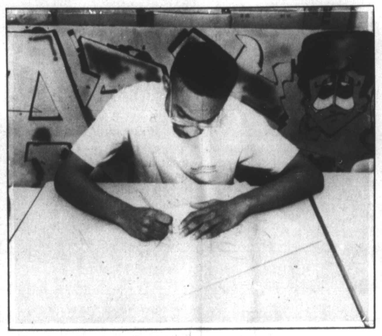
Some of the fathers also participate in the program and the school counsels them on marriage when it applies to each situation at the appropriate time. An average of 15 students per term are helped.

Academics are stressed at Woodlawn Sr. High School, they take learning seriously, including the tough areas such as math and science.

Woodlawn Sr. H.S. knows that getting an education isn't easy sometimes, and tries to make learning a little easier, after all, life is not just academic.

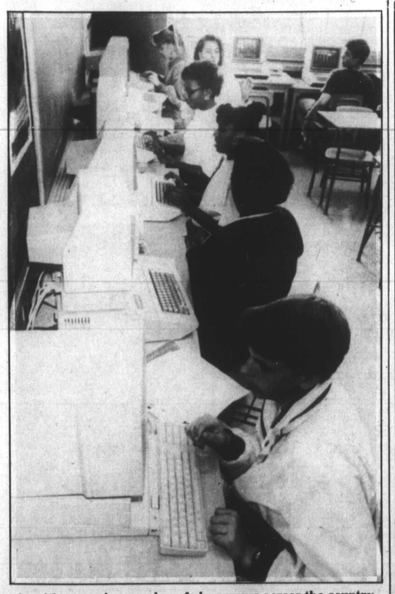


Woodlawn Sr. High School

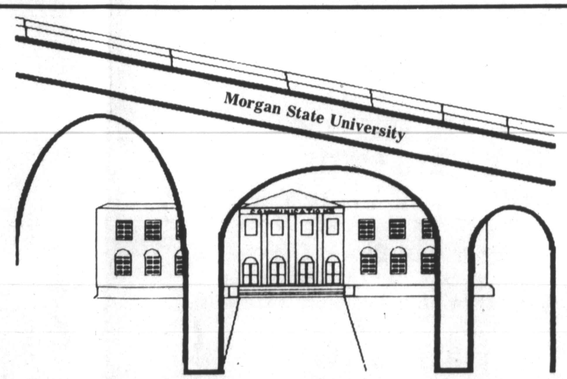


Students can take advantage of the schools advanced and gifted art classes.

Seniors Nette Martin and Martin Britt prepare for their next class while getting organized at their locker.



As with a growing number of classrooms across the country, students at Woodlawn are taught computer skills to prepare for the workforce.



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