SPORTS

Sam Lacy

Hi, Cuzzin!

If Phil Bradley turns out to be the star of Sunday's game against Kansas City, blame it on his family.

If the Orioles leftfielder turns out to be the goat of the upcoming Memorial Stadium contest, blame it on his family.

The 33rd Street park, weather permitting, will be loaded with Bradley relatives, possibly as many as 80 members of the clan coming from all over the country to cheer their shield-bearer.

60 and rising

As this was written, Harrisburg (Pa.) cousin Gerald Brown had 60 enrolled for the trip, and the list was growing by the day, most of the brood from the maternal side of the ancestry.

So many kinfolk in the audience might either inspire their sibling to great deeds or create nerves that will render him butter-fingered throughout the afternoon.

But Phil should handle it .... As quarterback of a championship Missouri football team in college, there were many more critical moments for him than can occur in one day in the Baltimore sun .... especially when the captive crowd will contain no boo-birds.

Cousin Gerald promises that 40 households in Baltimore will spill forth an uncle, aunt, sister or cousin .... These will help augment the 12 brothers and sisters of Gerald's own in the cousin fraternity.

Broadway to' Bama

nt.

Also headed this way, if they haven't arrived already are kinfolk from all walks of life .... Sundy Leake, a dancer — cousin down from the Broadway rendition of "Cats," and Dr. Maceo Dailey will up from his Spellman College (Ala.) office, as will Cousin Otis Brown from Trenton, N.J., and sister Laura McLarty from Spring Valley, N.Y.

Gen. William O. Brown, formerly the commanding officer at Andrews Air Force Base, and Pop Bill from his teaching post at Virginia State University, will be on hand to share the cheerleading.

Also tacked to the family tree is the name of Goodman Brown, the first black member of the Virginia Legislature .... He has good reason to be missing .... Great, great grandpa did his last bit of fielding about a half-century ago.

But, otherwise the "Cousin Shower" for Phil is reported ready and raring to go.

But Granny speaks.

During our lifetime, it became customary for many guys to be hailed with a "Hey, Mate," or "Mac" or "Pops" or "Gate," etc. .... Also popular among some crowds was the greeting, "Howya, Cuzzin!"

Maybe some of Phil's forebears took the byplay seriously, and simply adopted those friends they liked?

Not so, says Grandma Laura Poole .... They're all family .... and granny should know .... She will be 100 years old in January.

Notable quotable

Former major league outfielder Reggie Jackson: "Those World Series games I was in were not all fun for me. The reason: I couldn't watch myself play."

Morgan grad honored

FLUSHING, NY — Ann Koger, the women's tennis coach at Haverford College, was a featured attraction at the U.S. Open last week, as she was awarded the 1989 Volvo Tennis/Coaches Community Service Award for Region I women's coaches.

Koger, a Baltimorean and alumnus of Morgan, was honored at a press reception by Volvo Tennis, the Intercollegiate Tennis Coaches Association (ITCA) and the United States Tennis Association (USIA), for outstanding contributions in serving tennis.

Koger volunteered over 600 hours of service this year to a variety of projects. She is on the USTA Standing Committee for Player Development, participated in a special meeting on minority concerns hosted by the USTA and attended by Arthur Ashe, Ron Woods and Stan Smith, among others, and serves on the Inner City Tennis Coalition of Philadelphia.

She was also a clinician at the USTA Tennis Teachers Conference, where she spoke about inner city tennis programs. And that just covers the tip of her submersion in voluntary community activity.

Koger still finds the time to coach tennis and volleyball at Haverford, where she has been since 1981. A graduate of Morgan State University and an outstanding athlete, Koger played on the Virginia Slims Professional circuit from 1974 to 1977 and was also an alternate to the 1975 Pan-American basketball team. In 1988 she received one of the first NCAA ethnic minority sports administration post-graduate scholarships, which supported her doctoral studies at Temple.

COMING AND GOING — Zina Garrison is congratulated by tennis legend Chris Evert after her 7-6, 6-2 victory in the quarter-finals of the U.S. Open. As result of her win, Zina probably will move up from No. 5 in world ranking while Chris retires. Garrison later lost to Martina Navratilova in the semis.

Blue to tie knot at Stick

Former Cy Young and MVP Award winner Vida Blue will take the mound one more time at Candlestick Park.

Prior to the Giants-Astros game September 24, the 40-year-old Blue will marry 29-year-old Peggy Shannon with thousands of Giants fans as witnesses.

"A lot of good things happened to me on the mound at Candlestick Park," said Blue, who pitched for the Giants from 1978-1981 and again in 1985 and '86. "And this will be the best thing that ever happened to me there. Peggy and I are really looking forward to sharing this wonderful experience with the fans."

The couple met on a blind date in Lake Tahoe in January of 1988. Blue proposed to Shannon on the DiamondVision board at the Oakland Coliseum on June 4 of this year. He then contacted the Giants about the wedding ceremony.

Blue pitched 17 seasons for the Oakland A's (1970-77), the Kansas City Royals (1982, 1983) and the Giants. He finished with a 209-161 record and earned the 1971 Cy Young and MVP Awards with a 24-8 record and a league-best 1.82 ERA.

'Air Jordan' floored

LAS VEGAS, Nev. (UPI) — Michael Jordan of the Chicago Bulls has married a 30-year-old Chicago woman in a single-ring ceremony, a Las Vegas wedding chapel owner said Thursday.

Jordan, 26, of Highland Park, Ill., married Juanita Vanoy at "A Little White Chapel," a wedding chapel near the Las Vegas Strip, said owner Charlotte Richard.

The ceremony took place early Saturday morning. This is the first marriage for both Jordan and Vanoy, Richard said.

Also serves ace to chauvinism

New England tennis on rise

By Joe Fisher
New England Correspondent

CHESTNUT HILL, Mass. — Once the stuffed shirt, country club game, major tennis in New England is being infiltrated lately by Black players in increasing numbers.

Whether the national focus on Zina Garrison — and the presence on the pro scene of Lori McNeil, Yannick Noah, Ronald Agenor, etc. — has served to motivate their young counterparts is difficult to determine.

But the Longwood Cricket Club competitions here recently brought out some highly promising talent.

In addition to newcomers to the playing ranks, Black women have begun to break into the corps of umpires and linespersons — a group that historically was White and male.

The AFRO camera picked up players Doug Burke and Malcolm Allen and umpire Claudette Townsend in an idle moment.

Burke was born in Jamaica. His family migrated to Canada 10 years ago when he was 16. He has a delightful West Indian, mixed with Canadian accent, all the while using flawless English, which makes it a pleasure to hear him speak.

Doug attended college in the States on a tennis scholarship at Southern Illinois, and has been playing pro for about 3 years.

In that short time span he has played in several Grand Prix events in Europe and also participated at Wimbledon.

Allen is a cocky rookie to the pro-circuit and hasn't acquired much background in tennis to talk about, but he is ranked 220th in the country due to his college playing at Santa Fe State. Allen, who hails from Oakland, Calif., has been playing there for 3 years and has one more year to go.

(Fisher Foto)

YOUNG LIONS: Doug Burke, Claudette Townsend, Malcolm Allen

Football

COLLEGE SCHEDULE

Friday

Tenn. State-Central St. at Cleveland (N)

Saturday

Bowie State at Morgan (Jiffy Lube Classic)
Howard at Bethune-Cookman
U of DC at A and T
Virginia Union at Hampton
Norfolk State at Livingstone
Va. State at N.C. Central
Delaware St. at N. Eastern
Ft. Valley at Cheyney State
W. Salem at Elizabeth City
J.C. Smith at Fayetteville
Fla. A&M-Ga. Southern at Jacksonville
W. Va. State at Concord
Ala. A&M at Grambling
Alcorn at Alabama State
Albany St. at No. Alabama
Ky. State at Morehead St.
Tuskegee at Morris Brown
Jackson State at Prairie View
Knoxville at Morehouse
Central Mo. at Mo. State
Texas Southern at Southern
Central Ark at Ark-Pine Bluff
Lane at Miss. Valley

COLLEGE RESULTS

Howard 6, Grambling 0
Morgan State 12, Bethune 6
Hampton 17, Bowie State 7
Va. Union 29, J.C. Smith 28
W. Salem 48, A&T 19
Furman 17, S.C. State 7
Slippery Rock 31, UDC 0
E. Kentucky 48, Delaware St. 13
Elizabeth City 14, Fayetteville 7
N.C. Central 14, Morris Brown 0
Fort Valley 41, Morehouse 19
Clark 10, Livingstone 8
West Va. Tech 20, Ky. State 12
Savannah State 34, Elon 10
Albany State 26, Miles 13
Gardner Webb 36, Knoxville 8
Langston 19, Mo. Lincoln 10
Texas A&I 34, Texas Southern 17

One-on-One

The Jackie Robinson Foundation, a project run by widow Rachel Robinson administering aid to the homeless and hungry of all ages, last week was the recipient of a $100,000 donation from Coca-Cola.

* * *

The Chevrolet Astro-Van presented to Bo Jackson honoring him as the MVP 1989 Major League All-Star Game, has been given by the Kansas City outfielder to the K.C. Merillac Cancer Center.

* * *

Former baseball major league MVP Dick Allen, now a representative for Air Structures, Inc., in Hollywood, was on hand at Pimlico Sunday to watch brother Hank saddle winner She's a Champ in the 2-year-old filly feature of Maryland Million Day.

AREA SPORTS

Goucher Sports News

Goucher College has announced that it will add four new NCAA Division II varsity sports to the fall schedule. Men's and women's soccer and cross-country will join field hockey, volleyball and men's and women's tennis as fall varsity programs.

The new teams will play a full fall schedule and compete in the Chesapeake Collegiate Athletic Conference. The men's and women's soccer teams will play 14 regular season games and take part in the CCAC championships on October 31 at Marymount University.

Sharon Stowers is a key member on the Goucher Tennis Team.

Ravens Start Season At City Fair

The Baltimore Ravens Wheelchair Basketball Club has announced that it is ready to begin is 1989-1990 season with exhibition games at the Baltimore City Fair, September 22-24.

Sponsored by the Baltimore City Department of Recreation and Parks and King Cobra Malt Liquor, the Ravens will spend much of their season away from home.

In the last few years, the Ravens have been one of the most successful wheelchair basketball clubs on the East Coast.

The Ravens 1989-1990 schedule is as follows:

SEPTEMBER

22-24 — Baltimore City Fair Exhibit

OCTOBER

6-8 — Carousel House Tournament (AWAY) Philadelphia, PA.

14 — Virginia Beach, VA. (AWAY)
21 — Bordentown, N.J. (AWAY) [Doubleheader]
29 — Charlottesville, VA. (HOME) @ Essex Com. College, 1:00 p.m.

Powder Mill Run Trout Fishing Derby

On Saturday, October 7, over 1,000 rainbow trout and prizes galore will be waiting for fishermen and women of all ages at the Fourth Annual Trout Derby held at Gwynn Oak Park (Liberty Road and Security Blvd.). The Derby will run from 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

The Trout Derby, a combined effort of Gwynns Falls Restoration Campaign, Maryland Save Our Streams, Baltimore City, Baltimore County and the Maryland Tidewater Administration, is to restore the stream to a fishable and swimmable condition.

The event is free and open to the public. All participants must register on the day of the event to be eligible for prizes. Those participants between the ages of 16 ad 65 must have a Maryland fishing license and trout stamp. Children will be provided with a special fishing area, including equipment and instruction if accompanied by an adult.

The rain date for the Derby is Sunday, October 8. For more information, please contact Save Our Streams at 969-0087.

COUSIN SHOWER: Oriole leftfielder Phil Bradley will occupy center stage when a group of 60 or more of his cousins from all over the country converge on Memorial Stadium Sept. 17 to watch Phil and the Birds take on Kansas City.

Boxer uses God for change

By Fred Lindsey
Local Sports Editor

In preparation for his professional boxing debut, Percy Harris, 25, had to make a complete turn-around in his life.

Once considered "streetwise" and "city slick," it took the love of God and a good woman to get the slender 6'-3", 165 pound boxer's life back on the right track.

On September 21, at the La Fontaine Bleu, in Glen Burnie, Harris will start a career that has promises for all but rewards for few. However for Harris his boxing debut represents a new existence.

"All my life, it seems," Harris said, "I've wanted to become a professional boxer. It was something that was instilled in me when I was young. Using the skill of my hands has always been easy for me.

While the upcoming fight is his first as a professional, Harris has been boxing since he was nine. As an amateur, he has a record of 208-12 with 87 knockouts. He has won Golden Gloves Championship, AAU (Amateur Athletic Union) Championships and Regional Championships that included competition from the states of Maryland, District of Columbia, Virginia, West Virginia, Delaware and Pennsylvania. Yet, there was always something missing in his life and athletic career.

"I actually quit boxing," Harris said, "because of family obligations and a motorcycle accident. I got a 9-5 job as a manager's trainee and I worked all day, every day, but I was very unhappy. In trying to find myself, I discovered that working 9-5 wasn't what I wanted out of life and it was difficult for me to figure out what was best for me.

Even with the 9-5 job, Harris had always lived to survive. Whatever it took for him to gain personally he did.

"Whatever it took for me to better my situation, I did," Harris confirms.

It wasn't until Harris met Yolanda Hart, his wife to be, that things began to change in his life.

"She introduced me to God and the church," Harris said, and my life made the transition from I could have been to what I am. She has helped to make me a better man.

Harris, who graduated form Southwestern High in 1981, is boxing out of Laurel, Maryland, under the tutelage of Tom Michaelson and Tom Lindsey, will face Michael Kelly (1-1) from Ohio in a middleweight contest and although the prospect of losing is there, the born-again christian remains confident.

"I fully expect to be the middleweight champion of the world," Harris said, "but I recognize that all things are possible and I could lose. If that happens, I won't be deterred because I really feel that I am in God's hands.

Regardless of the outcome, Harris, who says he is in need of a manager to take control of what he expects will be a fruitful profession, insists that he is ready for the world.

"My life has become very positive," Harris said. "There was a time when I really didn't have a family. My father is incarcerated and I was wayward, but with God and Yolanda in my life, things are different now. Professional boxing will be easy compared to my life before."

Project Survival coach John Murdock was incorrectly identified in last week's edition. The AFRO regrets the error.

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