

Officiating pro sports a way to get in big leagues

By Huel Washington
Special to Sentinel-Voice

In the past week quite a bit of attention has been given to LeBron James' entrance into the National Basketball Association. And there's no denying his entrance was spectacular.

Since Jackie Robinson, Earl Lloyd, Joe Perry, Willie O'Ree, Joe Louis, Paul Robeson and Jesse Owens proved their skills were as good or better than many of their lighter-skinned brothers, today's African-American athletes are making tremendous impressions on the sports scene.

What is the sum total of the sports scene?

Since Burl Toler, wearing number 37, walked onto the field at Kesar Stadium in 1965 as a National Football League head linesman, African-

Americans have increased their numbers as officials. This also includes basketball and boxing referees and baseball umpires.

Ken Hudson is currently an Atlanta, Ga. Businessman. He stands only 5 feet, 5 inches, but he integrated the NBA as a referee in 1970. He officiated 10 years and then other African-Americans took up the whistle to become referees.

For years, baseball went without a Black umpire. Then in 1966, Emmett Ashford was elevated from the minor leagues to the American League. He was the first African-American umpire in the Major Leagues. Some remember Ashford for being dramatic in his call of balls and strikes. Big men were made to feel diminutive after Ashford called strike three.

There are 22 African-American officials in the NFL. Pioneers like Toler, Bob Beeks, a St. Louis policeman, Leo Miles, a Howard University professor, and Al Jury, a California Highway patrolman, paved the way for Johnny Grier, a college professor in Washington, D.C. Aaron Pointer, a brother of the famous Pointer Sisters, is an NFL official. Mike Carey, a San Jose businessman, and Ben Montgomery, a Morehouse University administrator, are also working NFL games as officials.

With officiating by African-Americans in sports events becoming more prevalent, other young men and women who love sports have decided that being an official was not only a way to stay in the game, but it could also be an economically sound way

to make a living.

Kenny Bayless is an example of staying in sports as an official after a stellar career at California State University at Hayward. He was a track star. Bayless, along with his twin brother, Kermit, ran the 400 meters at Cal State Hayward. Later, they were the inspiration of the Harrison twins, Alvin and Calvin, who ran the same event at Cal State at Irvine.

Bayless will referee the Roy Jones Jr.-Antonio Tarver light heavyweight championship bout on Nov. 8 at Mandalay Bay Resort.

Kenny Bayless started like most neophytes. He officiated amateur bouts, especially Golden Gloves. He later was employed by the Nevada Athletic Commission as a ring-side inspector. And then he was selected as a referee of

under-card bouts.

After laboring on under-card bouts and watching the progress of others like Mitch Halpern and Robert Byrd, Bayless earned the right to referee one of the biggest fights in Las Vegas in recent years.

Bayless had other less-publicized championship bouts and several bouts that included big name fighters like Laila Ali and Christy Martin. But none has the notoriety of Jones-Tarver.

The bout is being billed as "It's Personal." The pre-fight publicity has focused not only on the fighters but also on the judges and the referee. The outcome, if history has any say, may very well depend

on the referee's or the judges' decision.

No matter the outcome of the bout, however, Bayless, has followed a well-paved path. Referees like Richard Steele, Richard Green and Larry Hazzard have shown the way. Nowadays positions are open to those willing to put in the time and effort to succeed in sports for boxing and basketball referees and football officials.

Why not give it a try? Don't count your athletic career over just yet because you didn't become the next LeBron James, Michael Jordan or Earvin "Magic" Johnson. Being an official has its merits, too. Yours truly did football for 32 years.

Mayweather wants to fight welterweights

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. (AP) - Floyd Mayweather Jr. retained his WBC lightweight championship in convincing fashion Saturday night with a seventh-round knockout of Phillip Ndou.

Mayweather dominated the South African and delighted his hometown fans with a flurry of combinations, including three consecutive straight rights that flooded Ndou midway through the

seventh. Mayweather (31-0, 21 KOs), a native of Grand Rapids who now lives and trains in Las Vegas, was so in charge of the fight that at times he allowed a hurt Ndou to throw a few weak punches while he played to crowd.

He improved to 13-0 in world championship fights.

Ndou (31-2, 30 KO) is known for throwing a lot of punches without much regard for defense, and he lived up to his reputation.

The 26-year-old fighter connected with some

punches, but he was on the receiving end of numerous Mayweather straight right hands, left hooks and body shots. Mayweather, also 26, might have been fighting for the last time at his current weight. Many have speculated that he will move up in class for his next bout. Plans for a fight with Arturo Gotti are up in the air. In recent months, Mayweather Jr. has issued challenges to every top fighter from lightweight (135 pounds) to super welterweight (154), including Oscar De La Hoya.

Black College Football

(Weekend of Nov. 1)

- Albany State 40, Benedict 0
- Alcorn 27, Southeastern La. 24
- Arkansas-Pine Bluff 16, Jackson St. 14
- Edward Waters 28, Elizabeth City St. 14
- Fairmont State 13, West Va. State 10
- Fayetteville St. 42, St. Augustine's 36
- Florida A&M 42, Norfolk State 28
- Fort Valley State 46, Stillman 6
- Grambling 48, Texas Southern 15
- Kentucky State 30, Miles 22
- Langston 25, Bacone 6
- Livingstone 17, N.C. Central 3
- Mansfield 48, Cheyney 24
- Miss. Valley State 40, Prairie View 3
- Morehouse 48, Clark Atlanta 33
- Morgan State 45, Savannah State 14
- N.C. A&T 13, Bethune-Cookman 7
- Shaw 28, Virginia State 17
- S.C. State 36, Delaware State 13
- Southern 65, Allen 0
- St. Paul's 42, George Mason 38
- Tennessee State 24, Eastern Illinois 14
- Tuskegee 12, Lane 8
- Va. Union 17, Bowie State 14
- Winston-Salem St. 38, Johnson C. Smith 0

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or 592-5942

EMPLOYMENT

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, AVIATION FINANCE

Clark County Nevada is presently seeking qualified applicants for the position of Assistant Director, Aviation, Finance. The incumbent will assist in planning, organizing and administering a comprehensive program to maintain the financial integrity of the County, including financial management, record keeping and reporting; and provide expert financial assistance to County management, the Board of Commissioners and representatives of intergovernmental agencies. Requires a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting, Finance, Economics, Business or Public Administration or a field related to the work and six (6) years of full-time administrative and/or professional level experience in public finance or other directly related field, three (3) years of which were in a management capacity. Possession of an advanced degree in appropriate field is desirable. Equivalent combination of formal education and appropriate related experience may be considered. Salary: \$72,662.72 - \$112,629.92. This is an exempt appointment, not subject to the rules or procedures governing the competitive process.

Submit resume, list of three references, current salary and cover letter by December 5, 2003, to David Harris at the following address:

Shannon Executive Search
241 Lathrop Way
Sacramento, CA 95815
916-263-1401 (phone)
916-561-7205 (fax)
www.cps.ca.gov/shannon

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LEGAL NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE
EFFECTIVE MONDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2003
AT 8 A.M. UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

The City of Las Vegas Housing Authority will be accepting applications for its Section 8 Project-Based Program

This Section 8 Project-Based Program provides rental subsidy, which is tied directly to 52 units located at 2851 Sunrise - named: JUAN GARCIA GARDENS. Unit sizes are 2, 3, and 4 bedrooms. Applicants must meet the income limit requirements of:

1	2	3	4	5
\$19,800	\$22,600	\$25,450	\$28,250	\$30,500

6	7	8	9
\$32,750	\$35,050	\$37,300	\$40,284

This is a tax credit property, therefore additional eligibility requirements may apply. Your family must meet all Section 8 Program eligibility requirements. Property managers may conduct additional screening upon referral by LVHA's admission staff.

Applications will be accepted:
Monday - Thursday from 8am - Noon and 1pm - 5pm
At 420 N. 10th. Street - Admissions Department

Please call: 922-6950 for additional information. For Hearing-Impaired call 387-1898. If you apply and/or receive assistance under the Section 8 Project-Based Program, it will not impact your position "IF" you are currently on the Section 8 Tenant-Based Wait list.

The Housing Authority of the City of Las Vegas does not discriminate on the basis of Race, Color, Religion, Sex, Disability, Familial Status or National Origin.

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY



EOB COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERSHIP REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION OF AGENT/BROKER REQ 1103

The EOB Community Action Partnership, a private 501 (c)(3) non-profit social service agency, with a 2003 budget of \$57million and employs Six Hundred Ninety-nine (699) employees. We are requesting written qualifications of Agent/Broker providing Health and Related Insurance Services for Medical, Vision, Dental, Critical Illness, Life Insurance, and Short Term Disability.

Your written qualification must be received by 9AM (PDT), Monday, November 10, 2003, in the Fiscal Services Office at 3660 N. Rancho Drive, Las Vegas, NV 89130, attention Debra J. Santos, Chief Financial Officer. Or you may fax your written qualifications to (702) 647-0905. Should you have any questions you may call Joye Booker @ (702) 647-2010, extension 235.

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