SPORTS Cont'd.

Black Skiing Organization Celebrates Tenth Year

They call it the Black Summit. They call themselves the National Brotherhood of Skiers (NBS).

And when the NBS meets later this month in Big Sky, Montana, it will be its sixth Black Summit and tenth anniversary.

Every two years since 1973, hundreds of Black skiers get together for an action-packed week at one of the nation's major ski resorts. This week-long ski gala happens to be the second largest skiing convention in the world.

From March 19 through the 26, more than 1,500 Black skiers will take on Big Sky, located 45 miles south of Bozeman and a mere 18 miles north of Yellowstone National Park, Wyoming.

"This is the first time the Black Summit will totally occupy all of the lodging facilities in a ski resort," boasts NBS President Ben Finley.

Finley has a right to be proud of the Black Summit and the NBS.

He and co-founder Art Clay hosted the first Black Summit in Aspen, Colorado in February, 1973. Finley, president of a Los Angeles-based Black ski club, Four Seasons West, and Clay, then a member of the Chicago Sno-Gophers, joined nine other Black clubs for a week of skiing at the "summit" of Aspen Mountain. That was 10 years ago.

Today, the NBS claims 32 Black ski clubs and 6,500 members.

"Our membership mirrors the Black community", says Finley. "We've got professionals, scholars, blue-collar and white-collar workers, men, women and children, even some unemployed. Skiing might be limited to the affluent among whites, but that's not the case with us".

"Of course, we ski for fun", he added. "But we also have a purpose".

The NBS has a dream. Its members want to see lots of Blacks on future U.S. Olympic Ski Teams. "Maybe as soon as '88", says Finley.

One of the major goals of the organization is to identify, promote, and finance young Olympic-caliber minority skiers. Currently, it sponsors five young Black skiers. They are Jeff Thompson, a 12-year-old Chicagoan and the NASTAR Midwest Junior champion; 18-year-old Mark Gunn of Cleveland and 10-year-old Deanna Lowman of Denver.

The NBS also sponsors two handicapped skiers. 18-year-old Bonnie St. John is an amputee from San Diego and Chris Montgomery, 31, is a blind skier from Chicago. St. John, a one-legged whiz kid and Harvard freshman, has an especially good chance of making the '84 US Handicapped Olympics Ski Team.

The week-long Black Summit, although filled with skiing and socializing, is designed for serious planning by the NBS leadership. They want to raise at least $100,000 this year for the Olympic Scholarship Fund. Another $50,000 is expected to come from the fund-raising efforts of the 32 member clubs.

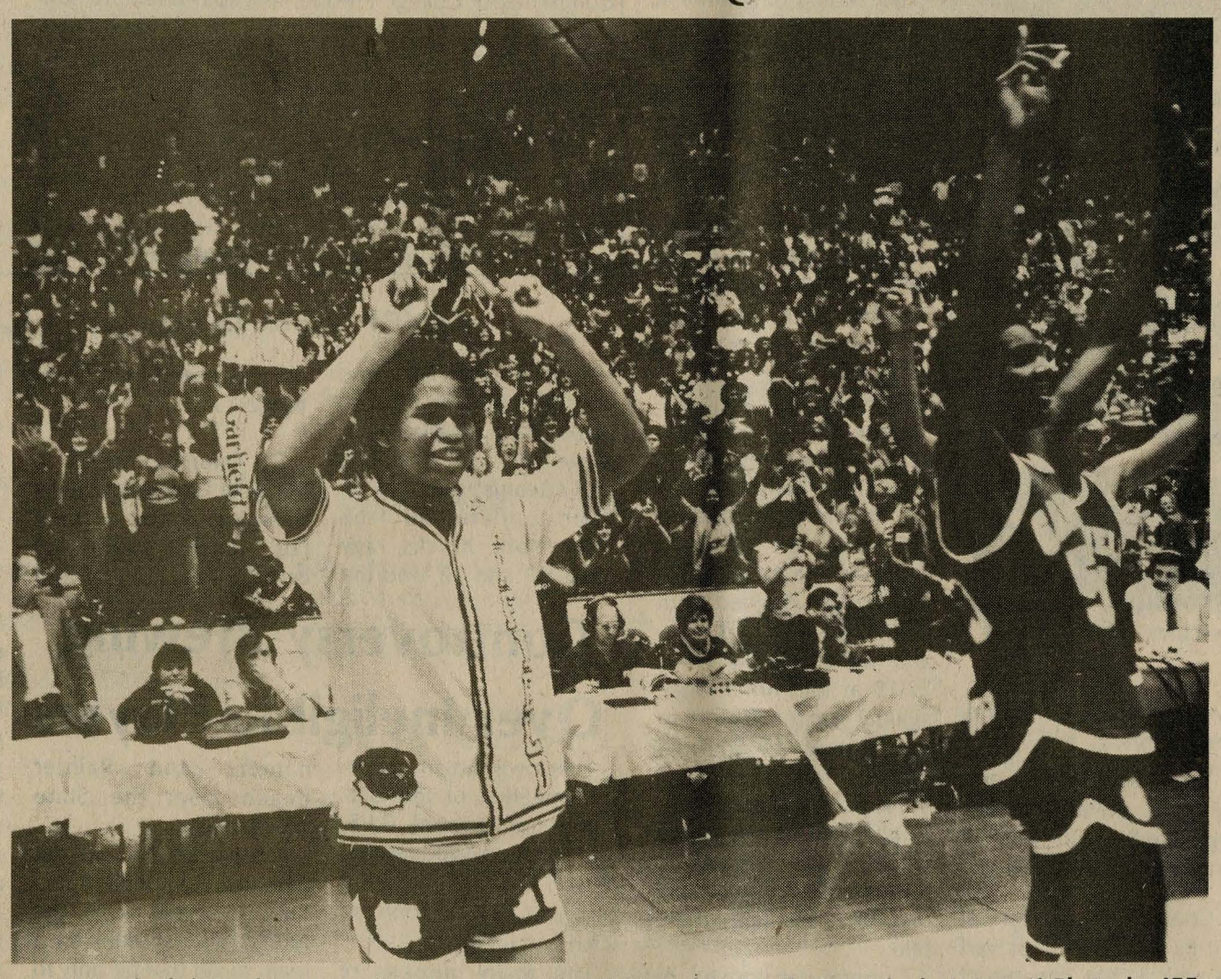
This biennial event always attracts a few stars from the entertainment and sports worlds. Black Summit '83 should be no exception. Expected to challenge the Big Sky slopes along with the NBS downhillers are LeVar Burton of "Roots" fame, former heavyweight champion Ken Norton and popular ebony songstress Dionne Warwick.

Finley is realistic, however, despite his group's 10-year success. "The NBS dream of an Olympic skier by 1988 might not materialize, but in time, "he believes", it will. Like everything else, it takes money."

Tax-deductible contributions can be made to the "NBS Olympic Scholarship Fund" by mailing them to: Frank Jones, NBS Assistant Treasurer, 1977 Sussex Road, Teaneck, New Jersey 07666.

For additional information, contact Gus Pannell, (303) 758-2885.

Garfield Bulldogs No. 1!



Jeff Woods (left) and Van Beard (right), Garfield Bulldogs, showing the crowd who's No. 1! Photo by JEF JAISUN.

Track Season Begins For SCAA

Saturday, March 12 marked the official opening date for the 1983 South Central Athletic Association track season. Sign-ups were held at Garfield High School.

The 1983 program will feature group teams from 8 years to 18 years old. Practices will be held Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays at 5 p.m. at the Garfield track. Novice meets will begin in April.

SCAA has developed a national caliber track and field program over the years. During the 1982 season, over 175 boys and girls participated in the program which resulted in one of the most successful teams in the nation.

SCAA won 17 national championships and established several national and regional records. Seven South Central athletes also earned college scholarships for track and field.

The 1983 program should be a very exciting one, with many outstanding young people looking forward to a rewarding athletic experience.

SCAA is located at 521-20th Avenue. Call Leonard Smith at 442-0584 for more information.

Karate Classes

The art of self defense is the oldest, most comprehensive study of the capabilities of the human body and economics of motion. It's also a very effective way of defending yourself against many forms of personal attack -- and is one of the best forms of physical exercise known today.

A Rainier Beach area school of Chinese Kenpo Karate is offering a special group rate through the Southeast Youth Service Bureau for women who wish to learn a modern, updated method of self defense. The group rate includes 12, one-hour sessions, twice a week for six weeks.

Sessions are held weekday afternoons or evenings and Saturdays. Cost is $55 per person.

The seminars provide intensive instruction on self-defense theory and basic answers to common self-defense situations in a workshop environment.

Direct inquiries to: Kenpo Northwest Headquarters, 722-5510, or Southeast Youth Service Bureau, 721-5542.

Part of this fee will go to help support the Youth Service Bureau's effort to reduce juvenile crime in Southeast Seattle.

The Wheedle Skates For Heart

The Wheedle, the official mascot of the SuperSonics, has come to terms with the American Heart Association of Washington and the Roller Skating Rink Operators Association, and will serve as the honorary Skateperson for Skate For Heart.

As the "spokesmascot" for this fund raising activity, Wheedle will be making several appearances at local skating rinks March 26-27.

In exchange for his services, Wheedle will receive ten pounds of chocolate cookies, 15 gallons of two-percent milk, and one pair of over-sized roller skates.

Wheedle will now train the youngsters in the area as they prepare to promote the good exercise value of skating, and help raise money for heart research. Participants can win T-shirts, jackets, gym bags, roller skates and video games.

TV Circles

By Gayle Discoe

Words in the list below appear across, up, down, backwards and diagonally in the diagram. Find each word and circle it. Some circled letters appear in more than one word. Letters that form answer are left over. Arrange them in order to arrive at answer.

Clue: IF YOU WISH UPON A STAR...

M E V R E H C P L S C S W N E
R U Y A P O A E U H D I R T L
R A N O U R V O A E S E A I C
O C W P A A I L E H N F F B S
A E I D R R L D E W U E A E E
R A I T E E E S O L S N R C N
K S A T N B D O T E A I N A S
E L S G O A T I S E S A B O T
E Y E N S T M I C E R L D R S
M T A D A A R O D T A R O E E
M I G T T P N P R T A P L T J
R L U E R T E O N C I B O U A
A A E U E R S O I C A M L E F
H E S S I E M R A F E I R E L
C R T L R N T L D R E A M S I

(SOLUTION: 13 letters, 2 words)

ABC, Area, Challenge, Charm, Contest, Coup, Debonair, Deeds, Desires, Dreams, Fables, Fate, Guest, Herve, Julie, Life, Montalban, Mr. Roarke, Mysterious, Ocean, Owner, Paradise, Peril, Power, Reality, Remote, Resort, Ricardo, Romantic, Surprises, Tale, Tattoo, Trance, Travel, Tropical, Ultimate, Unpredictable, Wishes

© United Feature Syndicate, Inc.

ANSWER: Fantasy Island

GRAND PRIZE WINNER'S WORDS

"Three generations of nurses will share my year's supply of 13 wonderful General Foods foods!"
Ms. Vernelle McGhee, Tampa, Florida

"I was never a big winner of anything before, so I was knocked off my feet!" That's how Vernelle felt about winning the General Foods "biggie"—the Meal Ticket Grand Prize for her super-enthusiastic letter about Jell-O Gelatin. Fact is, she seems to love all 13 General Foods products above.

We were glad to hear that, because Vernelle will receive a year's supply of every one of them...which she plans to share with her Mom, Ocie, and her daughter, Rorrie. Both are nurses, just as Vernelle is. If you'd like a winning experience—taste a General Foods product! Quality can be delicious.

GF GENERAL FOODS

© 1983 General Foods Corporation