

### Going For The Bull's Eye

Eugene Eastland, at left, cuts loose on a long jump shot for the Bulls in Big Apple League action from last Saturday; teammate Richard Daniels goes for a finger roll against Otha Rucker of the C.J. Jocks, who managed an 83-66 victory to start the second half of the season (photos by James Parker).

### Big Apple Profile

## Ex-pro quarterback lands in Big Apple

By KENNETH RAYMOND  
Chronicle Sports Writer

Ellsworth Turner, a former professional quarterback, is getting his kicks this summer playing in the Big Apple Basketball League.

But it wasn't too long ago that Turner was a free agent quarterback with the Baltimore Colts, after playing for the Carolina Storm of the American Football Association and the San Antonio Gunslingers of the United States Football League.

Turner, who was fifth in the NCAA in passing when a senior at North Carolina A&T in 1977 and twice MEAC Player of the Year, is now spending a portion of his spare time playing for the Big Apple League's Bucks each Saturday.

"One of the guys on the team told me about the league and what was going on and I decided to get involved," Turner said.

A swingman, Turner is a fearless driver who also possesses a soft touch from the outside.

Turner had a nice touch with a football, too. He set six career passing records at A&T, five season records and two single-game records. Most of those still stand, though one fell last fall when current Aggie phenom Alan Hooker broke his single-game mark for touchdown passes. The record had stood for nine years.

"I think Hooker's a great athlete," Turner said. "He's tough and I think he has a great chance of making it to the pros."

While some Big Apple fans have been wondering just exactly who Turner is, he actually is no stranger to basketball. While attending Gaithersburg, Md., High School, Turner had the option of playing either football or basketball in college. He decided to play football because he believes that there are a few too many basketball players in the world already.

"I choose football because everybody's a basketball player," Turner said. "There are very few pure football players out there, but basketball players are a dime a dozen."

Turner had his heart set on playing in a black college all-star game with hopes of being seen by a pro scout. But the game was canceled.

"I was really looking forward to it," Turner said. "I thought it would lead to something."

So, after graduating from A&T, Turner became a free agent and signed with the Colts (now the Indianapolis Colts). He played with them throughout the exhibition season but was cut.

He then went to Charlotte and tried out for the AFA's Carolina Chargers, who changed their name to the Carolina Storm after his first year. Turner led the Storm to the AFA championship in 1982 against the Shreveport Steamers, throwing for five touchdowns and 460 yards. The team finished the season 13-0. During his time with the Storm, Turner passed for 3,000 yards and 38 touchdowns.

Then came Turner's chance for a USFL career. He received a call from Roger Gill, who was commissioner of the AFA. Gill was leaving the league to become general manager of the San Antonio Gunslingers in the USFL and invited Turner to come along.

"I decided to leave the AFA because the money in the USFL was better and the AFA was a semi-pro league," Turner said. "I knew that I was capable of playing professionally, so I signed with the Gunslingers."

After playing with them for a year, however, Turner decided to retire and begin his family. Turner said he has no regrets about not playing football anymore, but he's glad he had the opportunity.

STANDINGS		
TEAM	W	L
Second-Half Standings		
*Players	1	0
Rockets	1	0
W-S Finest	1	0
C.J. Jocks	1	0
Bucks	0	1
Domino's	0	1
Bulls	0	1
Hanes	0	1
*First-half champion		
Last Week's Results		
W-S Finest 82, Bucks 88; Players 69, Domino's 61; Rockets 111, Hanes 93; C.J. Jocks 83, Bulls 66		
Saturday's Games		
Bucks v. Players 10:30 a.m.; Domino's v. Hanes noon; Bulls v. W-S Finest 1:30 p.m.; C.J. Jocks v. Rockets 3 p.m.		

SCORING LEADERS		
PLAYER	TEAM	Avg.
Jeff Jones	Jocks	23.8
Harry Davis	W-S Finest	23.4
Luther Burden	W-S Finest	23.3
Danny Womack	Domino's	23.0
Leon Williams	Bucks	22.8
Terry Strickland	Players	21.0
Milton Vaughan	Domino's	19.2
Scottie Johnson	Bulls	18.4
Louie Lowery	Rockets	18.4
Mike Thomas	Rockets	17.6
Mike Linney	Rockets	16.7
Waldo Hauser	Jocks	15.5
Alvis Rogers	Players	14.5
Sidney Wilkins	Players	14.0
Brian Leslie	Bulls	13.8
Robert Little	Rockets	13.8
Ellsworth Turner	Bucks	12.0
Charles Paul	Jocks	11.0
Eddie Jordan	Players	10.8
Elton Kooche	Domino's	10.0
Sam Campbell	Players	9.8

SUMMER LEAGUE STANDINGS		
TEAM	W	L
Parland	5	0
Mt. Tabor	3	2
Spirits	3	2
Gunn	2	2
Sabres	2	2
West	2	3
North	1	3
Bishop McGuinness	0	4
Thursday's Games		
North v. Gunn 8:30 p.m.; Bishop McGuinness v. Mount Tabor 8:15 p.m.		
Next Week's Games		
Monday: Mount Tabor v. Sabres 8:15 p.m.; West v. Bishop McGuinness 8:30 p.m.; Tuesday: Parland v. North 8:30 p.m.; Spirits v. Gunn 8:15 p.m.; Wednesday: Spirits v. Bishop McGuinness 8:15 p.m.; Sabres v. West 9:30 p.m.; Thursday: North v. Mount Tabor 8:30 p.m.; Gunn v. Parland 8:15 p.m.		
NOTE: Games are played at Reynolds Park Recreation Center.		

"It was a great experience for me," Turner said. "I don't miss it and I'm content with what I'm doing and how I spend my time now."  
That includes spending time playing a little serious ball at Hanes Hosiery on Saturdays.

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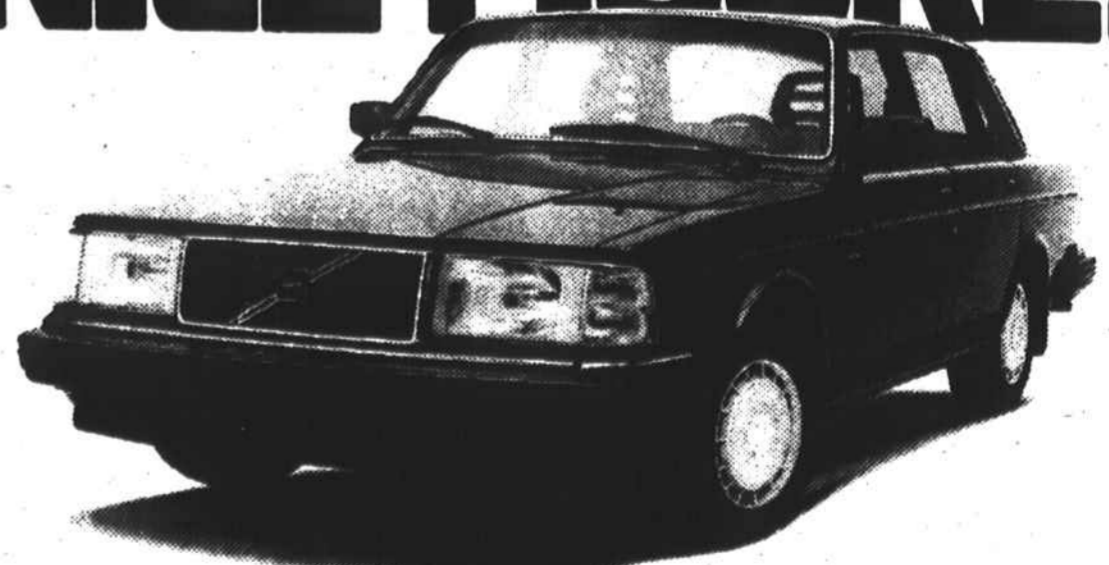
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