

Lewis Had History of Heart Disease

Boston Celtics star Reggie Lewis, who died from a heart defect July 27, reportedly was born with a heart murmur, and his family had a history of cardiac illness.

The Boston Globe reported that Lewis suffered five or six dizzy spells in the four months before a collapse April 29 during a playoff game and had a run of extra heartbeats after that collapse while resting in the hospital.

And, like several of his teammates, Lewis occasionally sniffed ammonia capsules during games to stay alert, according to the Globe.

Autopsy results found Lewis had a large, extensively scarred heart, and the cause of the scar tissue is still not known. Potential causes included viruses, medications, illegal drugs, poisons and alcohol.

The Globe said its reporters interviewed dozens of people for a story about Lewis' death, but because of medical reputations and potential lawsuits, many talked only on condition of anonymity. The newspaper also said previous sources had been "muzzled."

The athlete reportedly told his doctor, Gilbert Mudge, that one of his two brothers was born with a hole in his heart and had undergone open heart surgery in Baltimore when he was four years old.

But, the Globe reported, Lewis failed to tell Mudge and the "dread team" of 12 doctors who also examined him that he was born with a heart murmur diagnosed at a Baltimore clinic and detected in elementary school physicals. Apparently, the murmur went away when he was 12.

Lewis also concealed that his mother, Inez Reid, had had two heart attacks, one of them when she was 17, the Globe reported.

The athlete first received intensive medical attention after his April 29 collapse during a game against the Charlotte Hornets. The Celtics assembled a team of doctors, who diagnosed Lewis with cardiomyopathy, a potentially life-threatening disease of the heart muscle.

Three days after his collapse, Lewis abruptly switched from New England Baptist Hospital to

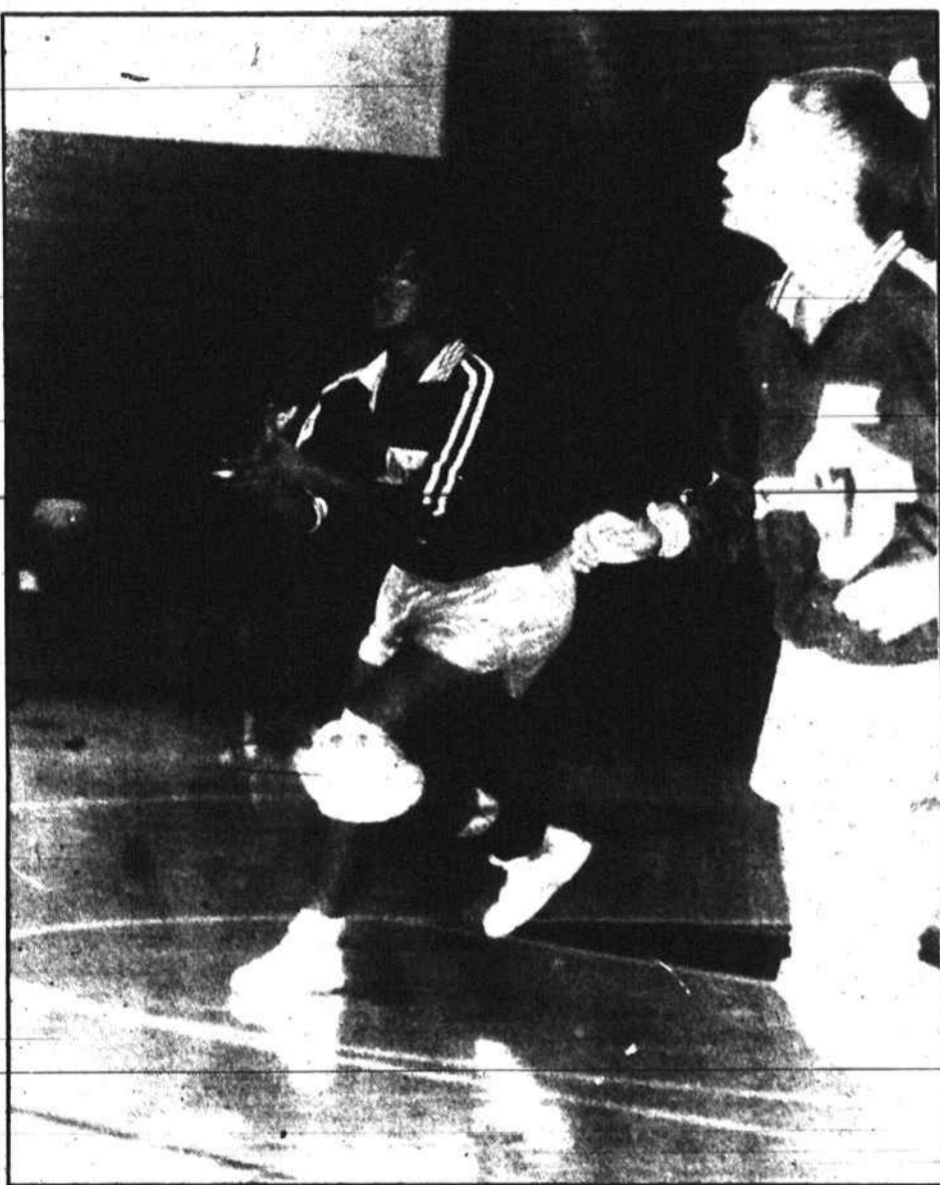
Brigham and Women's Hospital. According to the Globe, Lewis had a run of six extra heartbeats the day before he switched hospitals. His doctors judged the problem serious enough to discuss whether it would be dangerous to move him to another room for testing.

The abrupt switch of hospitals went against normal medical procedures but happened because of the lucrative nature of the cardiology field, the attention on Lewis' case and the politics within Boston hospitals, the newspaper reported.

"Boston is the most political medical place in the country," an unidentified cardiologist told the Globe. "There's so many hospitals and so many competitive situations and so much in the way of ego. It had a major influence on this situation."

At Brigham and Women's, Lewis got a second opinion from Dr. Mudge, who diagnosed him with a minor fainting condition.

Twelve weeks later, Lewis' sudden death reignited controversy over Mudge's diagnosis.



The West Forsyth High School junior varsity girls' volleyball team defeats North Davidson in three sets, 15-5, 15-10 and 15-5. West holds a 6-0 season record and a 40- conference record. North Davidson holds a 3-5 season record and a 2-2 conference record.

MEAC Players of the Week

The Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference co-offensive players of the week are Keith Brown of Florida A&M University and Gary "Flea" Harrell of Howard University.

Brown, a 6'1", 185-pound senior quarterback from Gainesville, Fla., connected on 10 of 20 passes for 108 yards and three touchdowns in the win over Jackson State. Harrell, a 5'7", 150-pound senior wide receiver from Miami, caught eight passes for 165 yards and a 56-yard touchdown in the win over Winston-Salem State.

Defensive Player of the Week, Earl Holmes of Florida A&M, recorded 10 unassisted tackles, four assisted stops and two pass breakups in the victory over Jackson. He is a 6'3", 225-pound sopho-

more linebacker from Tallahassee, Fla.

Keith Jarvis of Delaware State University was selected Offensive Lineman of the Week for his play during the loss to Towson State. Jarvis, a 6'3", 265-pound sophomore tackle from East Orange, N.J., graded 94 percent on assignments and helped generate 254 rushing yards for the Hornets.

Rookie of the Week Keith Williams of Bethune-Cookman College registered four tackles in the win over Johnson C. Smith, including a sack and two other stops behind the line. He is a 6'4", 200-pound lineman from Fernandina Beach, Fla.

Other top MEAC performances were:

For SC State in the win over Charleston Southern, WR Freddie Solomon had four catches for 125 yards and two TDs, and DL Anthony Cook recorded 10 total tackles and two sacks.

For Morgan, in the loss at Youngstown State, QB Orlando Persell threw for 328 yards and three TDs on 30-57-1 passing, and WR Jesse Humphry caught nine tosses for 104 yards and two of the scores. For forward, rookie RB Billy Jenkins blocked a punt that led to a TD and keyed the special team play. For DelState, RB Phill Anderson ran for 71 yards and a TD and caught four passes for 79 yards. For B-CC, RB Kevin Daniels rushed 14 times for 1433 yards and two TDs of one and 50.

Vantage Championship to be Held

In the 1993 Vantage Championship to be held at Tanglewood Park, the starting field of 78 players is determined as follows:

Defending champion from the 1992 Vantage Championship; defending champion from the Vantage Classics competition in the 1992 Vantage Championship; the top 11 players on the season-long Vantage Classics money list, based on Vantage Classics competitions through the preceding event, the

Nationwide Championship; and players in order off the Senior PGA Tour official money list, not otherwise exempt, to fill the field to 78 players, through the preceding event (Nationwide Championship).

The format will consist of 54 holes, stroke play for 78 players and 36 holes, and stroke play for 12 Vantage Classics competitors.

The schedule of events: Sept. 27, Vantage Championship Down-

town Kickoff at Winston Square and practice rounds for professionals; Sept. 28, practice rounds for professionals; Sept. 29, First Vantage Championship Pro-Am; Sept. 30, Second Vantage Championship Pro-Am; Oct. 1, first round, Vantage Championship; Oct. 2, second round, Vantage Championship, and conclusion of the Vantage Classics competition; Oct. 3, final round, Vantage Championship.

For ticket information call 766-2400.

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