

Sowell captains champions

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 "That was the best defensive game we played all year," he said. "They have great attack men and we played swarming defense. It was the best game we ever played."
 Myers Park played its best lacrosse at the end of the season. Despite a lack of experience compared to more-established programs, the Mustangs improved with each game and finished the season 7-9.
 "That's very deceptive because we played against teams like

Durham Riverside and Triad in Greensboro," two state powers, Sowell said. "They have players who've played since middle school, where we have players who've just started playing in high school."
 Myers Park's youth was offset by Sowell's leadership. Regardless of the score, his encouragement pushed the Mustangs forward. In the championship game, that take-charge attitude helped Myers Park hold its advantage.
 "He's a great leader," Irvin said.

"When the team was down, he was the player the coaches and players called on to lift everybody up. All the players look up to Hubert."
 Sowell has an eye on playing after this season. He'd like to play in college, even without a scholarship. There's still a lot to learn.
 "I'm hoping it's not the end," Sowell said. "Although I've been accepted at N.C. A&T, UNCG plays lacrosse as a club sport, and I've been told I can play there."

Trojans thump competition

By Ken Koontz
 SPECIAL TO THE POST

Last week's Mecklenburg Semi-Pro Baseball League games generated high-powered offense.

When the dust cleared, 107 runs, or an average of 26.75 per game, had been scored. The Carolina Trojans led the assault with an average of 20 runs a game in two outings. Overall, league teams scored an average of 14 runs per game.

Trojans 27 Rock Hill 0

The Trojans served notice of their challenge for the league title with a thunderous display of offense over the weekend. On Saturday, they clobbered Rock Hill 27-0 in Rock Hill after the O's threw in the towel after five innings. Rick

Carelock and Rick Jackson each went 4-for-4 at the plate and Joe Hill hit two home runs, including a grand slam, to push Carolina to 2-0.

Trojans 13 Clover 0

Carolina continued its steam-rolling with another shortened game before 200 fans in Charlotte. Clover manager Bobby Kennedy was philosophical in defeat: "If you play baseball long enough, you are going to get some whippings like this."

Winning pitcher threw a one-hitter in the seven-inning game and Joe Hill hit two homers and drove in seven runs.

Asheboro 15 Hoskins 14

The Black Sox beat the

Giants in a scoring derby. Mike Butler and Chub Little paced Asheboro with 2-for-5 hitting. Marcos Velasquez had the best day at the plate for the Giants, going 4-for-5 and driving in five runs. James Huntley had three hits and scored three times.

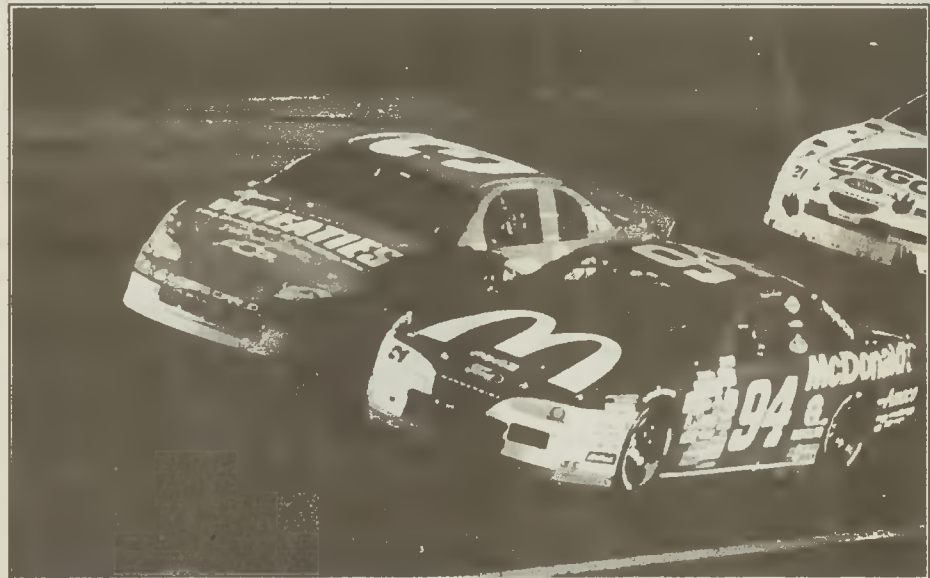
Losing pitcher Phil Harris had eight strikeouts, but gave up the winning run on a wild pitch with the bases loaded and the scored tied 14-14.

Clover 21 Candor 11

Clover's Hornets and Candor's Royals were hitting machines Saturday. Pete White had a home run and Greg Williams produced four RBIs with 4-for-5 hitting. Tony Amos collected the win for Clover while Rudolph Harris took the loss.

Candor dropped to 1-1.

Racing opens more opportunities



PHOTO/WADE NASH
 Bill Elliott (94) and Dale Earnhardt (3) are high-profile drivers who attract millions of fans to NASCAR races. No African American has been prominent on the circuit since Wendell Scott in the 1970s.

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year to support a team.
 "We're still a very young sport - we'll turn 50 next season," he said. "It's just not easy to grow up and choose racing regardless of skin color. It's easier for a dad to pick up a bat or glove for his kids than for him to buy a go-cart."
 Auto racing's best-known blacks are drivers: Wendell Scott was the first African American to win a NASCAR race and Willy T. Ribbs was the first to drive in the Indianapolis 500, the world's most prestigious race. Today, African Americans are joining the ownership ranks.

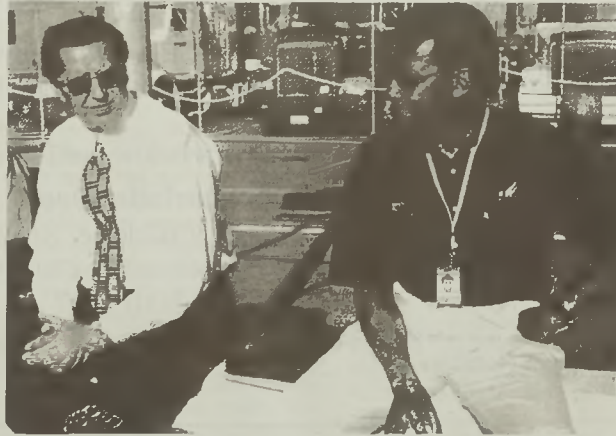
Former NBA star Brad Daugherty has a team on the Craftsman Truck Series, NASCAR's newest division. NBC basketball analyst and basketball hall of famer Julius Erving plans to start a Winston Cup team next season with former pro football player Joe Washington. The key to attracting new fans - including African Americans - is having recognizable personalities in the sport, Triplett said.

"We're a name-recognizable society," he said. "Name recognition helps accelerate the process."

But opportunities are available in areas other than ownership. At Charlotte Motor Speedway during preparations for the Coca-Cola 600, blacks work as firefighters and pit crew members.

And there are the technical professionals like Turner, who are responsible for cars that reach speeds up to 200 miles an hour.

"There's tremendous opportunity outside the cockpit," Triplett said. "The opportunity for anyone are in areas other than behind the wheel. There are golden opportunities out there."



PHOTO/WADE NASH
 Harry Turner talks racing with NASCAR team owner Felix Sabates. NBA great Julius Erving plans to start a team next season.

All Sports Day features former Olympic athletes

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and Scot Hollonbock. Tennis legend Dick Stockton and cycling legend Nelson Vails will also participate.

All Sports Day is open to athletes of all skill levels and abilities. Advance registration is required. The first session will take place at 9 a.m., with registration starting at 8:30 a.m. The second session will take place from 1:30-4 p.m., with registration from 1-1:30 p.m. For more information, call 370-6070.

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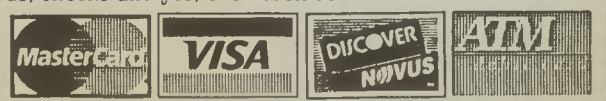


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