



Advancing To Third

His tongue wagging, Tryone Leach of the Subaru Brats chugs for third on base hit by a teammate in a Twin City Little League game last Saturday (photo by James Parker).

Eddie Futch: A living legend

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even trained some of the same fighters.

"I've known Jackie a long time," Futch said. "I know my fighter will be ready and that Larry is taking this fight very seriously. But I also know that Jackie's fighter will be ready."

Futch said he is looking forward to the fight and mat-

ching wits with McCoy.

And, looking back over his career, he said he has no regrets.

"I'm proud of what I have been able to accomplish and the accomplishments of those I have helped," he said, then quietly faded back into the scenery.

Bill Hayes reflects on his pros

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Hayes went on to tell the story of his informing Newsome that the scouts questioned his speed and that he should be on the track running two miles each day in the off season at 2:30 p.m.

"It got to the point that I could tell time by him," Hayes said. "Every day at 2:25 he would pass by my office and, at exactly 2:30, he would start running down on the track."

"I've always said there are three kinds of athletes. There are the willing but not able, the able but not willing, and the willing and able, and Timmy fits into that last category."

Powell's success story, said Hayes, is even more miraculous than Newsome's.

Powell, who was discovered by pro scout Charles Bailey while Bailey was an assistant to Hayes at WSSU, was kicked off the team twice at Pine Forest High School in Fayetteville. What's more, he had come from Panama, where he played soccer and knew little about football.

"He had only played in about three football games in his life, but when Coach Bailey brought him on campus and I saw that he looked so much like a fine football player, I put him in my car and drove off to have a talk with him," Hayes said.

Powell was redshirted his first year at WSSU because of a bizarre knee injury.

"Because he played soccer, we decided to use him as a kickoff man and he was injured the first time he tried to kick off," Hayes said.

But Hayes said the extra year was good for Powell, since he had very poor technique. By his sophomore year, Powell began the season as the team's starting tight end.

But after he lost eight yards on a completion against archrival North Carolina A&T, Hayes moved him to the offensive line, where he became one of the nation's best pulling guards once the Rams went to the wing-T offense.

Why don't black athletes support alma maters?

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much support. Montreal Expos outfielder Andre Dawson a few years ago delivered a check for \$5,000 to his school, Florida A&M.

Williams and Dawson are examples of men who are thankful for what their schools did for them and are willing to show it.

Others could care less, and those are the people black schools must reach.

How? It can be done in many ways. The first thing the schools must do is preach

about giving long before the player turns pro. Once a player becomes an instant millionaire, he is deluged by people who seek money, and it becomes easy for him to say no.

Also, it must be pointed out that support does not always mean giving dollars. If there is one thing black schools need almost as much as money, it is exposure and visibility.

When the Washington Redskins won the Super Bowl a couple of seasons ago, wide receiver Charlie

Brown was interviewed on national television with a South Carolina State cap perched on his head.

It may not have appeared to be a big deal, but 50 million people saw South Carolina State's name, undoubtedly an all-time high. That's an example of

some of the little things former athletes can do to help their schools. But the most-needed commodity is money, and if the athletes

would see fit to donate -- even once -- just a small share of their riches, it would help all black colleges become stronger.

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