

Knicks 'treat' Earl Lloyd on Halloween in the National Basketball Association

no holds barred!

Lloyd would graduate from high school with honors and as one of the school's greatest athletes. He would matriculate to West Virginia State on a basketball scholarship. In college he would leave a lasting impression on his opponents.

Hall of Fame basketball coach Clarence "Big House" Gaines, former coach of Winston-Salem State University, said, "I knew we were in trouble when I first laid eyes on him. He could run up and down the floor better than any big man I had ever faced."

In college they called Mr. Lloyd "The Moon Fixer" because of his great size. He would have a great college career and be named to the Black College All-American team. Lloyd said, "Everything good in my life can be traced back to those college years."

In 1950 Lloyd was also drafted by another team, the U.S. Army! On Halloween night after serving his military time, Lloyd returned to make professional basketball history. The Washington Caps would play the Rochester Royals. In the stands that night would be Lloyd's proud mother. Mrs. Lloyd was sitting directly in front of two fans who acknowledged that Lloyd was the first black, but could the boy play? Without missing a beat Mrs. Lloyd turned and looked the two fans directly in their eyes and said, "Take my word for it -

the boy can play!"

NBA legendary coach Arnold "Red" Auerbach of the Boston Celtics said, "Earl blocked shots and played defense like there was no tomorrow." Red should know. Lloyd led the Syracuse Nats' team that eliminated the Boston Celtics from the 1955 playoffs. The Nats would go on to capture their one and only NBA championship. 1955 was a good year. Lloyd and teammate Jim Tucker would become the first African Americans to play on a NBA championship team.

A 1994 Sports Illustrated Magazine article read, "In the NBA Mr. Lloyd was called Bill Cat because of his size and quickness."

Lloyd's NBA career would last for nine years. His last NBA stop would be with the Detroit Pistons. In 1960 he retired and was named the team's first African-American assistant coach. He would later become the first African-American head coach in the Detroit Pistons organization, only the second head coach in the NBA.

In May 1993 he was inducted into the Virginia Sports Hall of Fame in Portsmouth, Va. In 1998, 28 years after being selected to the 25th Anniversary All-Time Great CIAA Team, Lloyd was inducted into the CIAA Hall of Fame.

Lloyd has always made it clear where the credit belongs for his NBA success story. He said, "If it had not been for Red Auer-



Lloyd

bach and the Boston Celtics, we may still be trying to get into the NBA. The Celtics were the first to draft a black player, the first to put five black players on the floor at the same time, the first to hire a black coach and the first to hire a black general manager."

The Boston Celtics are truly equal opportunity employers in professional sports.

Halloween night in the NBA would have been great if the N.Y. Knicks could have hosted the rest of the league's players. They all could have learned a little history and then be treated and introduced to a man who does not have a problem with being called a role model. Lloyd made it all possible for today's NBA black players and thousands of others like them. Lloyd was number one in 1951, and he is still number one in 2000.

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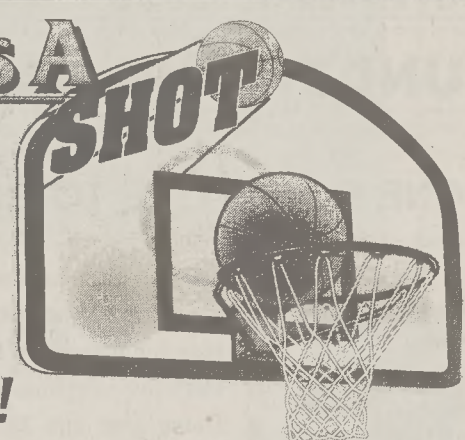
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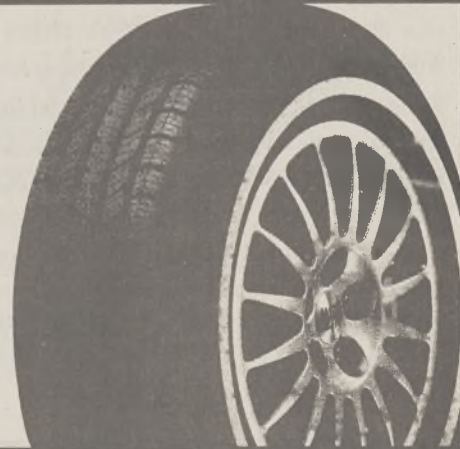


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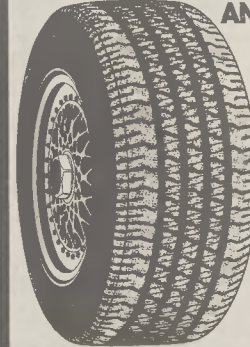
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Team defeats Durham for junior golf championship

Winston-Salem Housing Authority junior golf team won the Winston-Salem Housing Authority Junior Golf Tournament, defeating Durham by a 373-379 score.

"We are very proud of our team," McClain said. "They played some outstanding golf for junior beginners. We would also like to compliment the Durham team for the way they played. We would also like to thank Harold Dunovant for the outstanding job he is doing with these kids. We are very lucky to have a man of his experience working with our own kids."

The team had several opportunities to tie the game or go ahead but came up short. Their best try ended on a fake punt on fourth-and-4. The Demons stopped the play with a 6:28 play and held on down the stretch.

South Rowan had several opportunities to tie the game or go ahead but came up short. Their best try ended on a fake punt on fourth-and-4. The Demons stopped the play with a 6:28 play and held on down the stretch.

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Harold Dunovant and his victorious junior golf team.

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