

# Sports Beat

BY BILL JOHNSON



## TELLING IT LIKE IT IS.....

Have you ever given thought to the reason the great majority of Blacks have a large number of friends? It's because they can't afford a lawyer!... The young Charlotte Hawks deserve a full round of applause for their surprise showing in the North Carolina Semi-Pro Baseball Tournament. Walter "Dub" Cuthbertson is getting lots of mileage out of his youngsters.

Remember John D. Marshall, the friendly gentlemen who formerly coached football at Livingstone and later served as an assistant to Eddie McGirt at Johnson C. Smith? John D. has joined Willie Jeffries' staff at South Carolina State. His presence gives Jeffries one of the few truly great staffs in black college football, also one of the best in all of college football.

If the \$6 million man ever needs a loan he might try asking Muhammad Ali, who was paid \$16 million during the one-year period from June of 1976 to May of 1977, according to Money magazine. Money says Ali was the highest paid American of all for that one year. If Ali was regarded as a business he would rank as the seventh largest Black company in terms of total revenues.

Nothing is wonderful when you get used to it! WBTB will beam the first football game your way on Monday night, August 8 when the Washington Redskins tackle the Cleveland Browns. Irv Cross will be the color man, working with play-by-play announcer Mike Patrick.

If you're long, lanky, cute and can dribble a basketball with better than average finesse, you ought to get in touch with the Harlem Queens. The famed New York City outfit is looking for talented girls with exceptional basketball ability and good moral character. They play under men's rules against men teams.

List a pending divorce suit among the reasons forward Jamaal Wilkes was not happy with the Golden State Warriors. Wilkes and his wife, Joy, separated May 23, according to papers filed in Alameda County Superior Court.

Raymond Mason, who plays golf with the best in the area, shot a hole-in-one at Pawtucket last week. Did you know that Blacks make up 71 percent of the starting players on major league baseball team rosters?

Delaware State has corralled what their coach calls "one of the top high school athletes in the area." Anthony Beamon, who starred in both football and track at Norcom High in Portsmouth, Va., has chosen the tiny Dover, Del. school over Norfolk State and East Carolina.

A&T's impressive new \$2 million gymnasium and recreational center is nearing completion. According to unofficial reports, it will house 10,000 spectators for basketball games.

Ed Harris, one of the better golf teachers in the area, reports that the Johnson C. Smith athletic staff will sponsor their annual golf tournament the second week in August.

It's alright to save money, but too many are trying to save it from the people they owe it to.

If you're looking ahead there are only three more regularly scheduled baseball games left for the Triple County-Semi-Pro Baseball League teams. According to a spokesman for the popular loop, the 21 teams will be divided into four divisions prior to the last game of the year, and the top two teams in each division will compete in a playoff for the league championship.

Gene Bank, the talented young man who is expected to build a basketball franchise over at Duke University in the next four years, has left his native home in Philadelphia and is enroute to tobacco land in search for a new career.

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## In N.C. Invitational Tournament

# Hawks, Morris Field To Play Thursday

A couple of Triple County Semi-Pro Baseball League teams are among the six teams going into the quarter-finals of the North Carolina Semi-Pro Baseball Invitational Tournament at Walker Stadium in Lenoir this weekend.

The Charlotte Hawks, and the Morris Field Rangers, along with Lenoir, Granite Falls, Cleveland Steele Furnishings and Old Fort are competing for the title Lenoir Shur-Pak won a year ago. Lenoir and Granite Falls are

going into the quarter-finals with unbeaten records. The Hawks, Morris Field, Cleveland and Old Fort have been absorbed one defeat in the double elimination tournament.

Walter "Dub" Cuthbertson will send his Hawks against Cleveland Steele Furniture of Salisbury in the 6 o'clock opener Thursday night and Morris Field will clash with Old Fort at 8 p.m.

The Hawks, who have defeated Boone, South Buncombe and Mooresville and lost to

Lenoir, will have young Tony Godwin ready for the starting mound assignment. "Daryl Jackson is really playing sensational," Cuthbertson said Tuesday afternoon, "he's leading our team in hitting with six hits and nine runs driven in in four games in the tournament." Cuthbertson also has praise for catcher Willie Rorie, who has five hits and as many rbi's in the four games.

Godwin will carry a 6-1 record into the contest. The Hawks are 13-11 in all games.

Manager Herman Thomas will not decide on either a starting lineup or the starting pitcher, "until just before game-time." He says he has a lineup he uses against left handed pitcher and another he uses against righthanders.

Fauch Davis is the likely starter. A left hander, Davis is 3-0 for the season. The Rangers are 25-4.

The winners of Thursday night's games will clash Friday night at 6 p.m. and the losers will go home. Both the Hawks and the

Rangers will postpone their scheduled Triple County League games as long as they are in the Invitational tournament.

The finals will be played Saturday night and the championship, if necessary will be played Sunday night.

The two teams placing highest in the tournament will join Lenoir in hosting the first annual National Furniture City Invitational Tournament August 5-13 in Lenoir. The August tournament will feature 12 of the country's leading



Herman Thomas  
Rangers manager  
semi-pro teams and offer \$4,000 in prize money.

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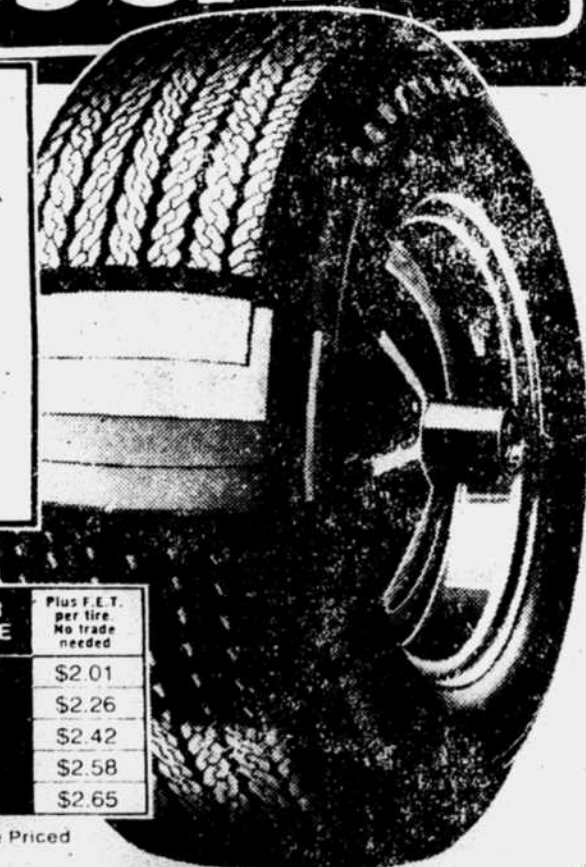
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