

Sports Deal



BY BILL JOHNSON

SAY YOU SAW IT HERE...

One of life's oddest facts is that a square meal makes one round.

Words around town have reached this column that all the big names of local golfdom will be on hand Saturday for the staging of the popular Greater Grier Town Open Golf Tournament at beautiful Crystal Springs Golf Course.

Among those mentioned as strong contenders for the tournament's top honors are Robert "Git" Brown, Donald Littlejohn, Haywood Stevenson, Doug Grier, Harry Gray, Phil Neely, John Love, "Rock" Johnson and Walter Strong. The entry fee is \$38 including green fees and cart.

Would you believe that Julius "Doctor J" Irving is in the final stages of filming his first motion picture. The flick is called "The Fish That Saved Pittsburgh." It is budgeted at \$4 million and will feature Meadowlark Lemon of Harlem Globetrotter fame. As you would expect, it's about a pro team that falls upon hard times.

For those of you who remember those exciting football games between Johnson C. Smith and Tuskegee Institute some years back, it should be interesting to learn that the Tigers from Alabama are rated as the team to beat in the upcoming SIAC championship race.

Speaking of teams to beat, reports from Princess Anne, Md. are that Maryland-Eastern Shore will field one of its strongest teams ever. If UMES is as strong as the reports indicate, the MEAC faces a real dogfight with A&T, S.C. State, Howard, Morgan and UMES battling for the title S.C. State won last fall.

Is Ernie Shavers over the hill? His trainer says "yes." According to trainer Frank Luca, Shavers may be getting too old for the fight game. In the past year, the 6-1, 215-pound heavyweight has lost bouts to two of boxing's biggest names.

Somebody's goofed! We hear that commissioner John Staley was ready...The eight teams were also primed for the first Jackie Robinson Semi-Pro Baseball League Championship Playoffs...However, the park was not available...It seems that someone forgot to reserve Harding High School's athletic field for the occasion last weekend and when the teams reported for play, the park was booked to another outfit.

It's (the playoffs) supposed to crank up again this week...Same place...Same teams...Same commissioner.

Look for the Mecklenburg Orioles to be projected as the "team to beat" in the popular event.

Incidentally, what happened to the Orioles in the playoffs series up in Lenoir last week?

North Carolina Central will introduce its new head football coach Ray Greene as well as showcase its football team to the press in Durham Friday afternoon. And Bob Moorman and the CIAA top officials will stage the conference's annual football round-up in Henderson Tuesday. Moorman says the league's 1978 Football Media Guide will be released at that time.

A&T, which begins football practice shortly, has listed Frank Carr as a starter at the split end position. Another Charlottean Eric Westbrook is currently listed as the No. 2 man at the safety post.

Speaking of the Aggies, there's another Westmoreland on the A&T roster. He's Clyde C. Westmoreland a defensive back from New York City. First time in memory that A&T didn't report a Westmoreland who was not from Charlotte.

The publicity people over at UNCC remind us that the Mean Green will play 12 of their 15 home basketball games at the Charlotte Coliseum this winter. The other three contests will be held at the Mine Shaft on campus.

Humphrey Wheeler of the Charlotte Motor Speedway has announced that his organization will introduce a new incentive plan in which each driver who earns a starting position in the October 8 NAPA National 500 will receive an unsigned \$5,000 check prior to the start of the \$255,000 NASCAR Grand National event. The checks will be signed when the drivers finished the full 500-mile race over the famed 1.5-mile CMS quad-oval.

If one performance is indictive of things to come, Tampa Bay has found a quarterback of quality. Doug Williams looked real good on television Saturday night in directing the lowly pro team in an inspiring come-from-behind victory.

Did you know that three of the four black quarterbacks currently listed on pro team squads are from Grambling?

The Morris Field Rangers will enter the Jackie Robinson League playoffs this weekend with two of their top performers out for the remainder of the season.

Bobby Reynolds, who had been hitting with authority lately, is suffering with a broken ankle and Charlie Houston has been sidelined with a broken wrist.

At Crystal Springs

Prestigious Greater Griertown Open Begins Here Saturday

More than 120 Charlotte area golfers, including special invited guests, are putting the final polishing touches on their games in preparation for the eighth annual Greater Grier Town Open Golf Tournament here this weekend.

Expected to be one of the season's premier tee events, the tourney begins Saturday morning at Crystal Springs Golf Course near Pineville.

Tee time is 10 a.m. and arrangements can be made for last-minute entry by calling Robert Sanders of 3515

Banbury Dr. or call 392-5665. Sanders, co-chairman of the prestigious event, says entry fees will be \$38 per person including green fees and carts for both days.

The golfers will play 36 holes, with the first 18 holes determining the alignment for the five flights.

According to Sanders, trophies and certificates will be given to the first three finishers in each flight and special prizes will be awarded to the golfer hitting closest to hole on number 6 and the one

who strikes the longest drive off number 11 both days.

The participants make up a veritable list of "Who's Who" in local golfdom, with such great golfers as Haywood Stevenson, Phil Neely, Donald Littlejohn, Harry Gray, Otha Gamble, Milton Murray and Doug Grier, Robert "Git" Brown battling for top honors in the championship flight which Littlejohn won a year ago.

Sanders expects a real dogfight to develop for the first flight honors with William

Gill, William Fundeburke, "Rock" Johnson, James and Jack Lawson competing.

Top prospect in the second flight are John Crowell, Carl Bailey, Walter Strong, Bernard Bailey, and Bill White.

Sam Garrett, Donny and Tony Sneed are the top contenders in the third flight and T. J. Green.

"We'll have gotten replies from as far away as Baltimore, Md., informs John Love, co-chairman of the tourney. Love concluded that anyone interesting in playing

in the tournament can contact either him or Sanders at the golf course early Saturday morning.

South Tryon Street To Close Saturday

South Tryon Street will be closed between Trade and Second Streets on Saturday, August 19 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The Muscular Dystrophy Association, in cooperation with the Mecklenburg Jaycees and the Central Charlotte Association, is sponsoring a bedrace on South Tryon Street to raise money for muscular dystrophy research. Due to the brief duration of

the closing, there will be signed detour routes. Charlotte Police officers will assist in directing traffic.

Charlotte Transit System bus routes 3, 4, 11, 12, and 16 will be detoured during the race. All buses traveling southbound on Tryon will turn right at the Square on Trade to Church to First to Tryon and then resume regular routing.

BATCH Group

Have A Ball

In Richmond

The BATCH Racquet Association was treated to an exhilarating time in Richmond by the Richmond Racquet Club Recking Crew. After playing the match on Saturday, the locals toured Virginia Commonwealth University, the State Capitol, downtown Richmond and a night spot called "Much Ado."

The Richmond club also hosted a happy hour on Friday at the Howard Johnson's Lounge.

Playing, partying and just having a good time were Mrs. Dodie Murphy, Robin Young, Mrs. Dot McCown, Mrs. Eureka Taylor, Dr. and Mrs. James Law, Mrs. Gloria Burch, Mrs. Ann Hunter, Briana Hunter, Mr. and Mrs. Larry Crisco, Leroy Anderson, Eric Law, James Cuthbertson, Tony White, Tommy Burch, and Drew Berry.

Also Duane Berry, Charles Parker, Tom Brown, Jimmy Barnes, John Murphy, Brian Murphy, Nicole Gaymon, Letitia McCown, Cina Mack, Eric Law, Stan Law, Paul Anderson, Derrick Milligan, Sophia Taylor, Toria Burch, and June Brown, Van Crisco and Renae McCown.

Roberts To

Hold 72nd

Family Reunion

The annual reunion of the Roberts Family will be held in Cleveland County at Corry's Rock near Kings Mountain on Sunday afternoon August 20 at 2:30 p.m.

This reunion of the Roberts family will mark the 72nd consecutive meeting of the family. The first reunion was held in 1906 and has continued yearly up to the present date.

More than 300 members of the family are expected to be present.

The life span of the Roberts family has been traced back to the year of 1852, when the first slaves of the family were brought to America and were purchased by white slave masters in the state of Virginia. These slaves were then bought by various slave owners, and were forced to take names from them. Hence the names of the five limbs of the Roberts family came about.

Some slaves took the names of Borders, some the name of Briggs, Howells, Mauneys, and others, Roberts. It is these five limbs of the family, Borders, Briggs, Mauneys, Howells and Roberts, who will assemble on Aug. 20 for their 72nd Reunion.

Major features of the reunion program will consist of group singing, Readings from Black Poets, and Talks dealing with the family history.

At the conclusion of the program, a dinner will be served to all family members and friends.

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| L60-15 | \$60.00 | \$3.69 | F70-14 | \$47.00 | \$2.57 |
| | | | G70-14 | \$47.00 | \$2.73 |

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