



THE LOCKER ROOM

BY ULLYSSES TUCKER, JR.



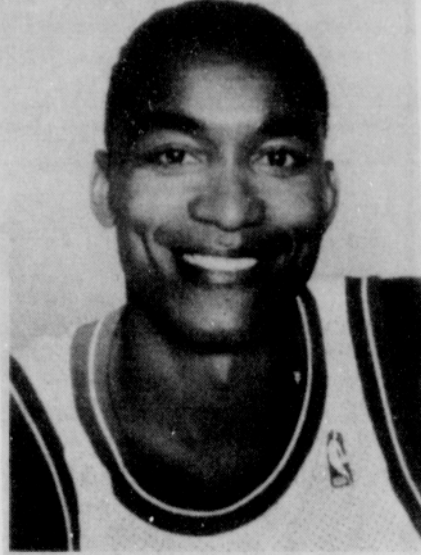
Dark Days in Piston Country

By Ulysses Tucker, Jr.
Little did the Detroit Pistons know when they cracked those bottles of Cook's champagne last week, that violence, looting, and death would spray into the streets. Seven people died in activities associated with the Pistons winning their second consecutive National Basketball Association title.

Two weeks ago, an editorial ran in the Detroit News calling Portland a "Little League Town" in fun. You know, the same type of friendly competition that exists between governors and senators betting on their teams to win the title. The Oregonian responded by calling it a city that loves its' sports teams and they celebrate championships victories by burning down the town. (Referring to the Tigers celebration of 1984 when one person died). As sports fans have learned from watching World Cup Soccer, there is no place for violence or celebrations of this sort in professional sports. It's one thing to cheer on your favorite team, but to inflict violence on innocent people can not and should not be tolerated.

On the other hand, there is something that you should know about the city of Detroit. Though longtime Mayor Coleman Young contends that the city is having a great comeback from the auto recession in the early eighties, the city is in terrible shape. When you get thousands of young black people together with "2 Live Crew" attitudes towards the police in one concentrated area, not saying that it is right, but you are going to have some problems. First

of all, you are talking about a class of people who are underemployed, unemployed, frustrated, lacking in self-esteem, and have nothing to lose by venting a little steam. "Why not break out the window and take the shoes that I can not afford", is the general attitude. Like many areas of black communities around the United States, Detroit is in a state of despair and crime rolls through the streets like cancer without a cure.



ISIAH THOMAS

Before the Pistons moved to Auburn Hills, Michigan, (some 30-40 minutes from downtown Detroit), the black community felt really in touch with the Pistons. Now, many can not afford to take the commute or find adequate public transportation to attend games. Ticket prices are also very high and games are regularly sold out. There is great frus-

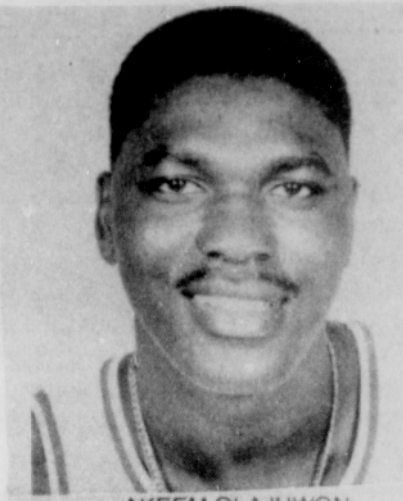
tration in Detroit. Tension too. Tension from high unemployment, teen homicide, and lack of competitive corporations relocating downtown. Put all these factors together in an area where these problems exist-coupled with a victory celebration and you have trouble on your hands. Who knows, America might see that "long hot summer" they have been predicting for a long time. It's amazing what a championship can bring to light....

Speaking of bringing to light, Isiah Thomas, the MVP for the Championship series says that he is innocent of the allegations made by anonymous sources, accusing him of hosting dice games at his home. It was originally reported that Thomas' longtime friend Mark A. Quire, went to a former FBI agent and expressed his concern for friends' gambling habits. The FBI said that Thomas was never part of the probe investigating gambling in the area. WJBK TV reported sources indicating that \$100,000 in canceled checks had been subpoenaed by a grand jury. The source said that Thomas cashed the checks at a local grocery store owned by a neighbor and friend, Imad Denha. Thomas said that he cashed checks there ranging from \$2-3,000, but they had nothing to do with high stakes dice games. The checks surfaced in an audit of the store. Thomas also said that the checks were his "walking around" money issued monthly by his accountants. Stay tuned....

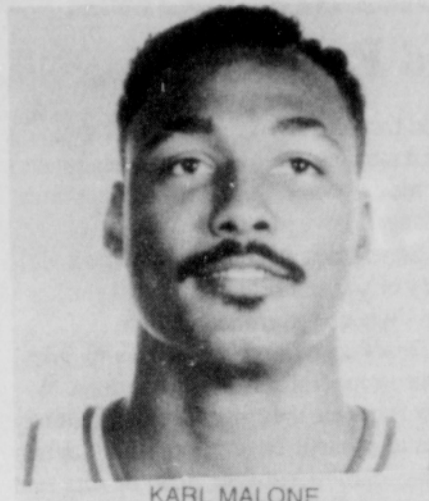
1990 NBA HONOR ROLL

Edge NBA Most Valuable Player	..... Magic Johnson, LA Lakers
Digital NBA Coach of the Year	..... Pat Riley, LA Lakers
Minute Maid Orange Soda NBA Rookie of the Year	..... David Robinson, San Antonio
Schick Award	..... David Robinson, San Antonio
Allstate Good Hands Award	..... Darrell Walker, Washington
American Airlines NBA Most Improved Player	..... Rony Seikaly, Miami
Master Lock NBA Defensive Player of the Year	..... Dennis Rodman, Detroit
Miller Lite NBA Sixth Man Award	..... Ricky Pierce, Milwaukee
J. Walter Kennedy PBWAA Citizenship Award	..... Glenn Rivers, Atlanta
Sporting News NBA Executive of the Year	..... Bob Bass, San Antonio

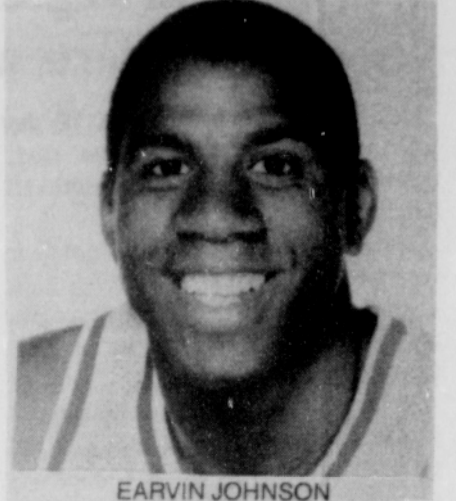
EWING EDGES OLAJUWON FOR CENTER SPOT ON ALL-NBA TEAM



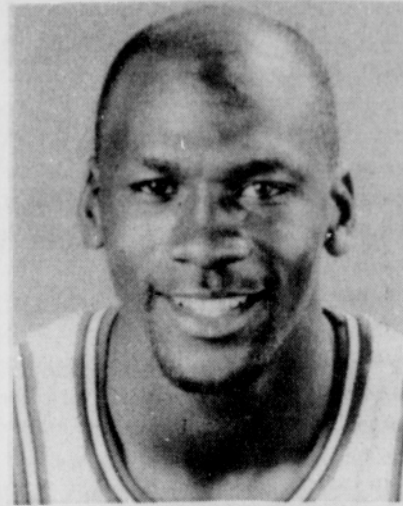
AKEEM OLAJUWON



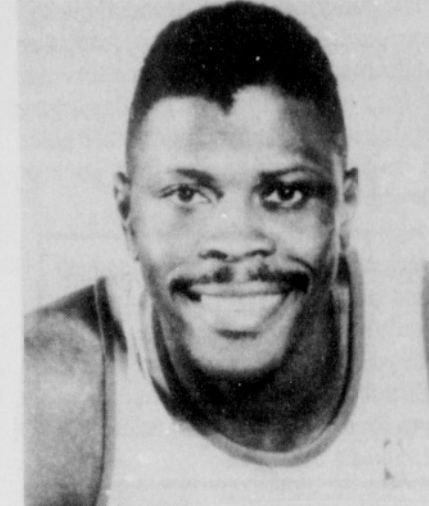
KARL MALONE



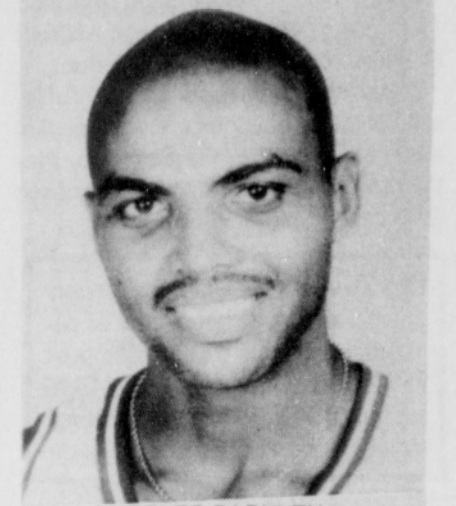
EARVIN JOHNSON



MICHAEL JORDAN



PATRICK EWING



CHARLES BARKLEY

Patrick Ewing of the New York Knicks, who ranked among the league leaders in scoring, rebounding, blocked shots and field goal percentage this season, was chosen as center for the official 1990 All-NBA Team, edging Houston's Akeem Olajuwon in the tightest balloting for any of the five positions.

Joining Ewing on the All-NBA First Team, as selected by a media panel, were guards Magic Johnson of the LA Lakers and Michael Jordan of Chicago and forwards Charles Barkley of Philadelphia and Karl Malone of Utah.

Named to the Second Team were Olajuwon, guards John Stockton of Utah and Kevin Johnson of Phoenix and forwards Tom Chambers of Phoenix and Larry Bird of Boston.

Chosen to the All-NBA Third Team were rookie center David Robinson of San Antonio, guards Clyde Drexler of Portland and Joe Dumars of Detroit and forwards James Worthy of the Lakers and Chris Mullin of Golden State.

Ewing, who averaged 28.6 points, 10.9 rebounds and 3.99 blocked shots per game while shooting .551 from the field, was named to the First Team by 44 of the 92 members of a nationwide media panel — three from each league city and 11 representing the national media. Voters were asked to pick First, Second and Third Teams by position and points were awarded on a 5-3-1 basis, with the maximum number of points any player could receive being 460.

Magic Johnson, who won his third Edge NBA Most Valuable Player Award of the last four seasons in May, was the leading vote-getter for the All-NBA Team. He

received 458 points, including 91 First Team votes. Barkley and Malone were next with 456 points, with Barkley receiving 91 First Team votes and Malone 90. Jordan totalled 453 points and 90 First Team votes.

Johnson, Barkley, Malone and Jordan all were First Team selections a year ago, while Ewing was a Second Team selection the past two seasons. This marks the eighth consecutive year that Johnson has been chosen to the First Team and the fourth consecutive year for Jordan.

Following are the results of the balloting for the All-NBA Teams, with total points and First Team votes in parentheses:

FIRST TEAM		
Pos.	Player, Team	Pts.
G	Magic Johnson, LA Lakers (91)	458
G	Michael Jordan, Chicago (90)	453
F	Charles Barkley, Philadelphia (91)	456
F	Karl Malone, Utah (90)	456
C	Patrick Ewing, New York (44)	344
SECOND TEAM		
G	John Stockton, Utah (2)	241
G	Kevin Johnson, Phoenix	177
F	Tom Chambers, Phoenix (1)	234
F	Larry Bird, Boston (1)	209
C	Akeem Olajuwon, Houston (42)	326
THIRD TEAM		
G	Clyde Drexler, Portland	113
G	Joe Dumars, Detroit	94
F	James Worthy, LA Lakers	85
F	Chris Mullin, Golden State	60
C	David Robinson, San Antonio (7)	160

Outstanding Student "Selected" National Junior Tournament

By Tony Washington
When one thinks about an achiever, Erica Mashia with a 3.0 grade average comes mind. At the age of 3, Erica decided take up basketball, following in the steps of her father (coach) Eric Mashia.



Erica Mashia

Jefferson High Schools graduate, class of 1974. She expressed a great interest in basketball at a very young age, her father explains. So I taught the basics and the rest speaks for itself. Erica's quiet, but expresses an extreme amount of talent on the court, averaging 20 points-plus per game. Erica was selected to participate in Amateur Athletic Union B championship tournament in Shreveport, LA. 13 and under competing from July 20-29. Erica along with Karis Stoudamire are the only representatives from the NE Portland area. The Court Runners who play in the 13 and under girls' division recently won the State Championship, to qualify for the national tournament, The Court Runners, coached by Dave Don, Mike McShane and Bill McShane, outscored the opposition by 199 points in five games. Erica was also selected to participate in 14 and under tournament in Lubbock, Texas this summer. All donations would be greatly appreciated...please call 285-3098.

You are Looking Fine... when you pick up the **The Portland Observer**

Portland Meadows Hosts Leisure Hour Jr. Golf Tournament



On Saturday, June 9 at Portland Meadows Golf Course, 3 youths participated in a golfing competition. It was sponsored by Leisure Hour, and featured competition from Seattle and Portland. Pictured above are youths that "took" trophies in the Portland Meadows Golf Course.

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