

## AVSLUTNINGEN AV ÅRETS SESONG.

En ny jubelsesong for HBBK er avsluttet med to arrangementer. I Fritidsgården hadde vi en avslutning med kaker, brus og kaffe. I år kom det gledelig mange voksne for å delta på avslutningen. Et lite tilbakeblikk på årets sesong ble gitt, og gullmedaljer for seriemesterskapet ble utdelt til vårt småpikelag.

Et av høydepunktene var utdelingen av diplom til årets HBBK'er. Denne prisen gikk i år til Mette Bjørgen. Det virket som dette var et valg de fleste kunne slutte seg til.

Ellers vanket det blomster til våre suverene sjåførere Asbjørn Olaussen og Per Gjestad. Kari og jeg fikk også et flott bilde og ikke minst to trolldeigfigurer. Figurene var laget av Jeanette Åmodt og Trude Nordby, og disse er kjempefine. Vi takker så mye nok en gang.

Etter en lang og koselig kosestund rundt kaffen og brusen, ble Jostein Rensel's fine video fra Non Stop basketballdagen i Ringerikshallen vist for forsamlingen. Denne falt nok en gang i smak, og alle var enige om at videoen var super, men at atmosfæren som gjenspeilet seg på filmen også var interessant å legge merke til.

Etter et par timer gikk man så over til diskotekrytmene. Fram til kl. 22.00 var det fritt fram for samtlige å svinge seg, men den siste timen ble som vanlig forbeholdt de eldste.

Alt i alt var det nok en gang en suveren stemning. Klokken 23.00 bega deltagerne seg fornøyde på hjemveien.

## KANOTUREN.

For de som hadde lyst til å være med på en kanotur til Fjorda, ble det arrangert en tur fra onsdag til St. Hans. 37 stykker hadde tid, lyst og anledning til å være med. Her var det spillere fra alle de forskjellige lagene. Etter en nydelig kveld og natt med svært lite søvn, fikk vi en flott torsdag fram til kl. 15.00. Da fikk vi imidlertid se hvordan været kan forandre seg på "skauen". Lyn, torden og regn angrep leiøren, men været bedret seg igjen for så å slå om til regnbyger etter et lite opphold.

Torsdag kveld ankom så Per, Pål, Ida og Ingunn. Det var ekstra hyggelig at Per med følge ville være sammen med oss under oppholdet. Mange fine basketopplevelser hadde Per å fortelle om. Vi skulle fått tid til mer fellessamlinger på disse historiene. Jeg er sikker på at de aller fleste ville satt pris på å høre disse historiene. Kanskje kan vi få til noe i denne retning til høsten.

St.Hanskvelden ble fin. Overraskende mange foreldre tok seg en tur opp på Fjorda denne kvelden, og ikke reint få pølser o.l. ble grillet.

Takk for opplevelsen til alle og enhver.

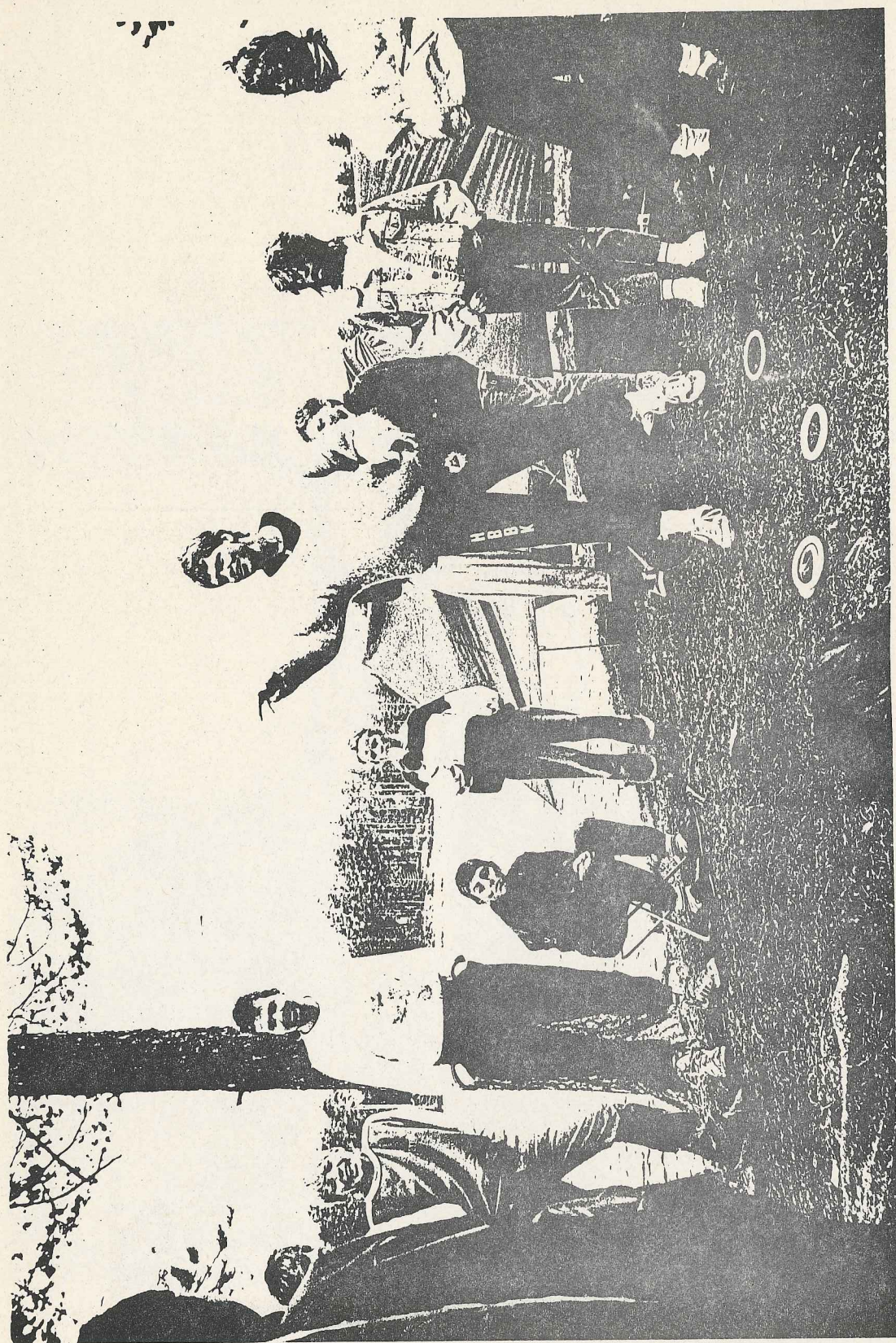
forts.





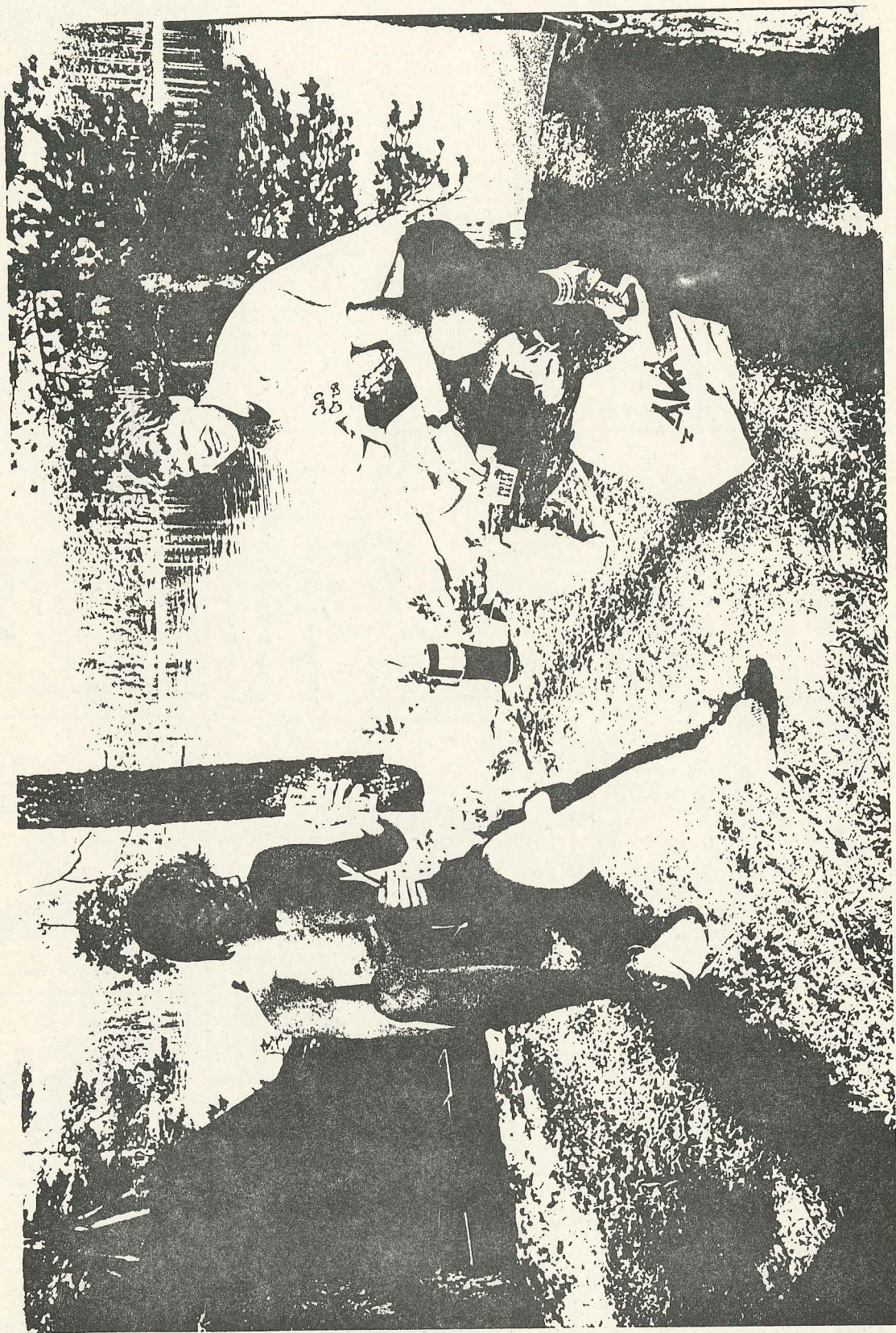
OG TENNENE DE PUSSE VI JO EN ETTER EN. Selv på Fjorda må  
tennene pusses. Her Trude og Jeanette (for engangs skyld  
smilende !)





Tunga rett i munnen, Geir. Pilkastpublikum i nøye "overvåking".





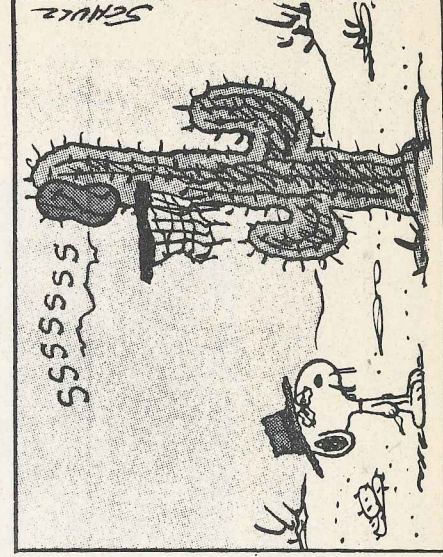
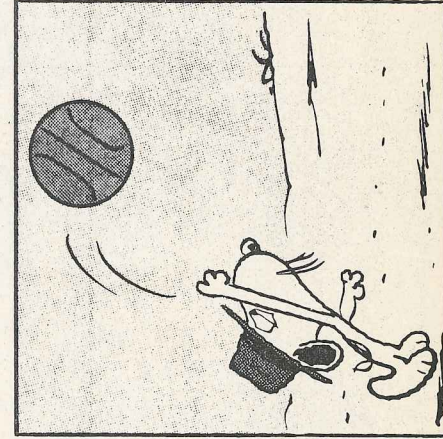
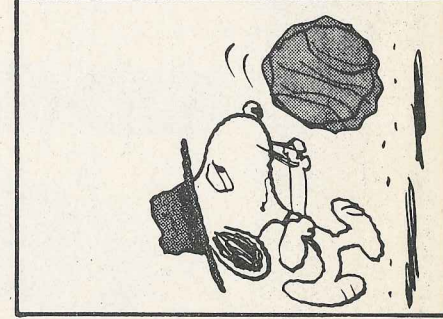
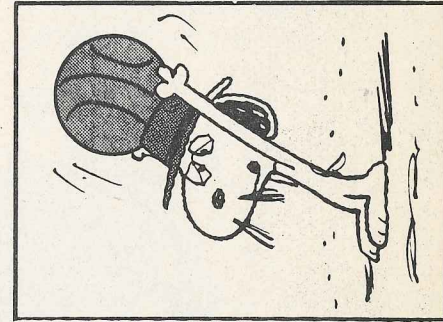
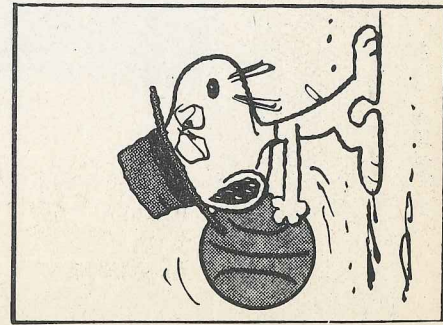
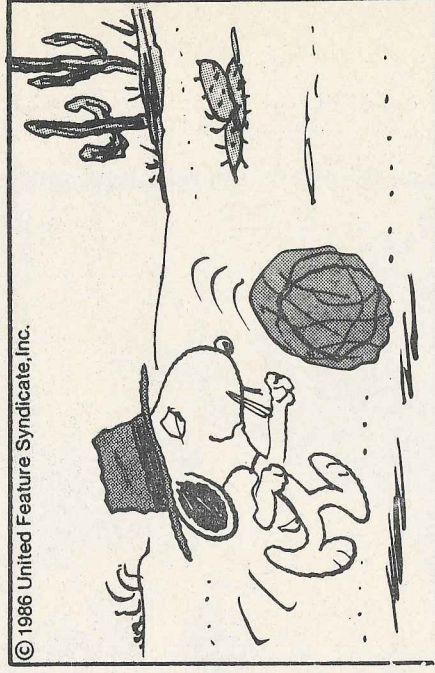
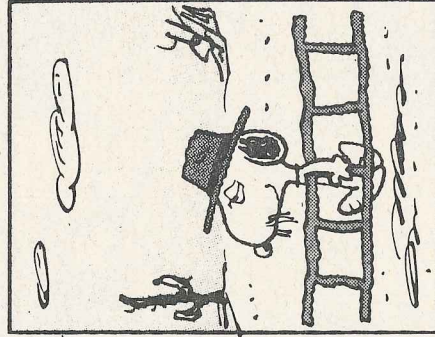
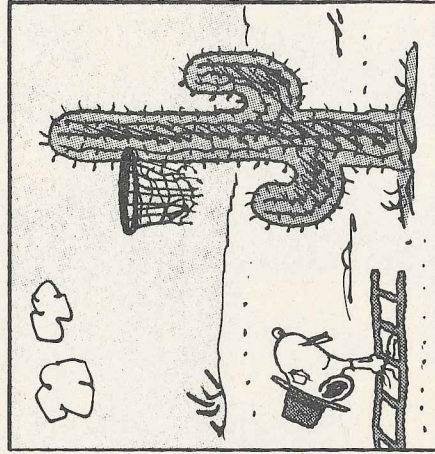
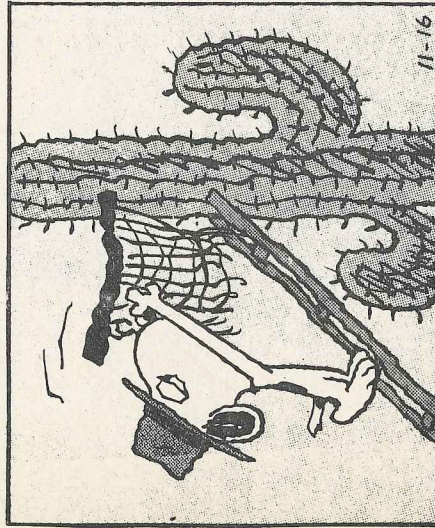
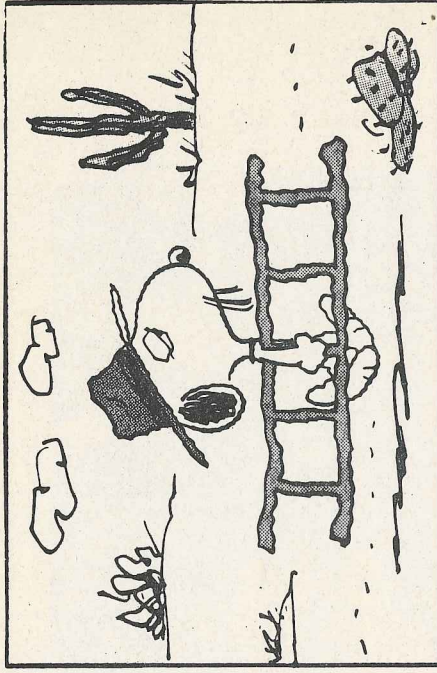
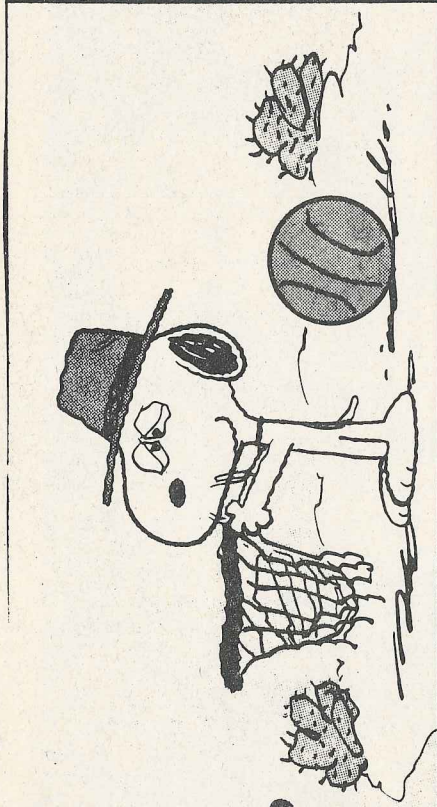
Selvlaget mat snakker på "skauen". Geir og Kjelli imtar et kraftråltid.



# PEANUTS

## featuring "Good ol' Charlie Brown"

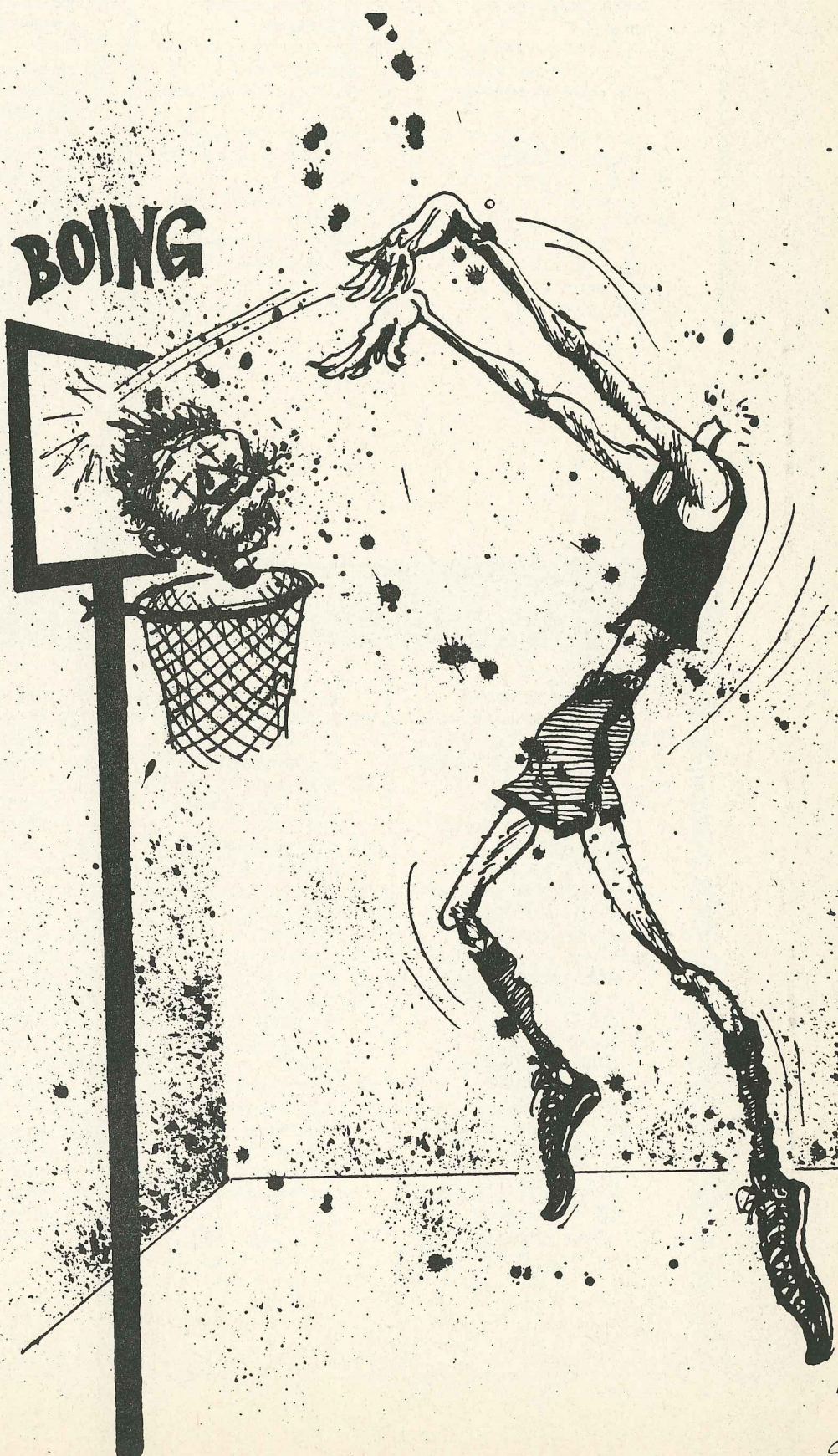
by SCHULZ





**Smørbrødpålegg**  
 Det kom en kar innom en noe snus-  
 kete kafé og fikk seg kaffe og et par  
 smørbrød. Da han skulle til å spise,  
 fikk han se en kakerlakk krype over  
 det ene smørbrødet, og så ropte han  
 til serveringsdama: – Vil du være  
 så snill å ta livet a' pålegget, før det  
 stryk avgårde!

**Måltid**  
 Mann og kvinne møttes og kom i  
 stemning sammen. Da betrodde hun  
 ham:  
 – Jeg er gressenke for tiden –  
 – Jeg er vegetarianer! sa han.



DEN SOM BER HOVUDET  
 UNDER ARMEN, BØR  
 IKKJE GRIPE TIL DEI  
 STORE FAKTENE



# DYREVERDENEN

1. Hva er en kudu?
2. Til hvilken familie hører lamaen?
3. Hva er den vanligste hønserasen i Norge?
4. Legger firfislen egg eller føder den levende unger?
5. Hva er en ekte vampyr?
6. Hvilket land stammer marsvinet opprinnelig fra?
7. Hva heter verdens minste hunderase?
8. Hvilket dyr gir oss hermelin?
9. Hvilket dyr blir gjerne kalt «jungelens renova-sjonsarbeider»?
10. Hva er en flekket bjørnespinner?
11. Ser uglene bedre om natten enn om dagen?
12. Hvilket insekt har fått klengenavnet «Fandens Ridehest»?
13. Spiser beveren fisk?
14. Hva heter Norges giftigste fisk?
15. Sover sjiraffen stående eller liggende?
16. Hvilket dyr får vi mohair fra?
17. Hva skjer med reke-hannen når den blir vok-sen?
18. Er sardinene en egen fiskeart?
19. Hvilken fisk har skinn som kan brukes til sand-papir?
20. Hva er en Canis Lupus?
21. Hvilket husdyr var det Napoleon hadde skrekk for?
22. Galapagosøyene har fått navn fra et dyr. Hvilket dyr er det?
23. Hva er det største kjøtt-etende landdyret i ver-den?
24. Hva er en mandrill?
25. Hva er det som kalles «Ørkenens skip»?
26. Hvilket insekt er det som kan hoppe 200 ganger høyere enn sin egen høyde?
27. Drikker måkene saltvann?
28. Er det synet eller lukte-sansen som er best ut-viklet hos flodhesten?
29. Hva er fiskelus?
30. Hvilket landdyr har størst øye?
31. Til hvilken familie hører ilderen?
32. Hva slags dyr er en tre-kryper?
33. Hvilket dyr er avbildet på byvåpenet i Hammerfest?
34. Hva er felles for lopper, lus og spretthaler?
35. Hvor i verden finner vi paradisfuglene?
36. Hva er en wapiti?
37. Hvilket dyr gir oss grå-verkspels?
38. Hvor mange hjørne-tenner har gnage-ne?
39. Hvor mange sommer-fuglarter finnes i Norge?
40. Hvilket regnes for Nor-ges minste rovdyr?

# SPORT

1. Hvem er formann i Norges Idrettsforbund?
2. Hvilken norsk kvinne ble olympisk mester på 3000 meter skøyter i 1980?
3. Hva heter fotball-treneren i Rosenborg Ballklubb?
4. Rolf Thorsen ble verdensmester i roing, dob-belskuller i 1982. Hvem var hans makker?
5. Hvilken nasjon vant det uoffisielle verdensmes-terskapet i kvinnefotball i 1988?
6. I hvilken idrett var Kamilla Gamme OL-deltager i 1988?
7. Hvem vant begge herre-distansene under skiskytter-NM i 1989?
8. Hva heter mannen som ble fratatt OL-gullet på 100 meter i 1988?
9. Hvilken norsk alpinist skjøv Ingemar Stenmark ut av 1. pulje i slalåm?
10. Hvilken medalje tok Nor-ges damelag under sta-fetten i ski-VM 1966?
11. Hvilken handikappet idrettsmann har fått Egebergs ærespris?
12. Hvilken idrettsgren har Trine Solberg satset mest på?
13. I hvilken idrett tok Lene Jenssen VM-sølv i 1978?
14. Hvor mange spillere er samtidig på banen i volleyball?
15. Hvem ble verdensmes-ter i skiflyging i 1988?
16. Hva heter Harald Bergs sønn som debuterte på A-landslaget i fotball i 1988?
17. Hvem er kaptein på det norske damelandslaget i håndball (OL-88)?
18. Hvilken mannlig skøyte-løper vant gull på begge langdistansene under OL i 1988?
19. Hvor mange spillere er det på et curlinglag?
20. Hvor arrangeres vinter-OL i 1992?
21. Hvilken idrett driver Stine Lise Hattestad med?
22. Hvilke tre nasjoner er vanligvis bedre enn Norge i bandy?
23. I hvilket år ble Tom Sandberg verdens-mester i kombinert?
24. I hvilken idrett er Ørjan Løvdaal landslagsspiller?
25. I hvilken klubb er Karen Fladset håndballtrener?
26. Hvem er norsk A-lands-lagstrener i fotball (herrer)?
27. To norske brødre er profesjonelle sykkel-ryttere. Hva heter de?
28. Hva heter kusken bak Sugarcane Hanovers triumfer?
29. Hvilken idrett forbinder du med Steffen Tangstad?
30. Hvilken idrett forbinder du med navnet Schirin Zorriassateiny?
31. Hva heter den nåværen-de radioreporteren som ble olympisk mester på 15 kilometer langrenn under OL i 1960?
32. Hvilken mannlig fri-idrettsutøver tok fire gull under OL i 1984?
33. Hvem er utnevnt til direk-tør for Lillehammer-OL?
34. Hvilken idrett forbinder du med navnet Pat Cash?
35. Hvilken klubb solgte Erik Thorstvedt til Totten-ham?
36. Hvem var Norges fire skøyte-ess, som blant annet tok firedobbelt seier under EM i 1976? (Etternavnene er nok.)
37. Hvilken nordmann har to olympiske mesterskap i skiskyting?
38. Sigrid Sundby vant åtte norgesmesterskap på rad. I hvilken idrett?
39. Hvem vant 20 kilometer for kvinner i ski-VM i 1982?
40. Hvilken idrett forbinder du med navnet Mike Tyson?

Svarene finner du på bak-siden av arket.



### DYREVERDENEN

1. En afrikansk antilope. 2. Kamelfamilien. 3. Hvit italiener. 4. Furfislen føder levende unger. 5. En blodsugende flaggermus. 6. Peru. 7. Chihuahua. 8. Røyskatten. 9. Hyenen. 10. En sommerfugl. 11. Nei. 12. Øyestikkeren. 13. Nei. 14. Fjesingen. 15. Liggende. 16. Angorageiten. 17. Skifter kjønn til hunn-reke. 18. Ja. 19. Haien. 20. En ulv. 21. Katten. 22. Kjempeskilpaddene. 23. Isbjørnen. 24. En ape. 25. Kamelen. 26. Loppen. 27. Ja. 28. Luktesansen. 29. Betegnelse på småkreps som snylter på fisk. 30. Strutsen (hannen har øyne på 5 cm i diameter) 31. Mårfamilien. 32. En liten spurvefugl. 33. Isbjørnen. 34. De har ikke vinger. 35. I nordøst-Australia og Ny-Guinea. 36. En nord-amerikansk kronhjort. 37. Ekorn. 38. Ingen. 39. Ca. 1600 arter. 40. Snømusen.

## Her er svarene:

### SPORT

1. Hans B. Skaset. 2. Bjørg Eva Jensen. 3. Nils Arne Eggen. 4. Alf Hansen. 5. Norge. 6. Stuping. 7. Frode Løberg. 8. Ben Johnson. 9. Ole Kristian Furuseth. 10. Sølv. 11. Cato Zahl-Pedersen. 12. Spydkast. 13. Svømming. 14. 12 (6 på hvert lag). 15. Ole Gunnar Fidjestøl. 16. Ørjan Berg. 17. Hanne Hegh. 18. Tomas Gustafsson. 19. 4. 20. Albertville i Frankrike. 21. Freestyle (på ski). 22. Sverige, Finland og Sovjet. 23. 1982. 24. Ishockey. 25. Vestar. 26. Ingvar Stadheim. 27. Atle og Dag Erik Pedersen. 28. Gunnar Eggen. 29. Boksing. 30. Rytmisk sportsgymnastikk. 31. Håkon Brusveen. 32. Carl Lewis. 33. Petter Rønningen. 34. Tennis. 35. IFK Göteborg. 36. Storholt, Stensen, Stenshemmet og Sjøbrend. 37. Magnar Solberg. 38. Skøyter. 39. Raisa Smetanina. 40. Boksing.

### Eventyr

To gutter het Per og Pål. De hadde tenkt seg en tur til byen, men tur-retur med bussen kostet en krone for hver, og de eide sammen bare en krone. Så fant de på at han Pål krøp i en sekk, og han Per tok med seg sekken som bagasje.

– Hva har du der? spurte billettøren.

– En liten gris jeg skal til byen og få slaktet, svarte Per.

Og da billettøren sparket i sekken, skrek han Pål som var inne i den akkurat som en gris.

På tilbaketuren var vanskeligheten den at det kunne ikke være en gris i sekken, for den var jo slaktet. Men de fant på råd, og da billettøren spurte:

– Hva har du i den sekken? svarte Per: – Å, det er bare noen tomflasker. Billettøren sparket bort i sekken.

– Klirrkliirr! sa han Pål som var inni.

### Skyss

Ein vintermorgen deisa han Petter på holka og segla på magen utfor bakken. Nede ved dompa kjørte han rett mellom beina på ei kjerring. Hu ble sittende skreps over'n Petter, og de fortsatte ned på flata. Da sa'n Petter:

– No kainn du bærre stå av, for no ska itj æ lenger!

### «Fiske forbudt»

Det sto en kar med fiskestang og snøret uti i et lite vann, enda det var satt opp flere plakater langs bredden med «Fiske forbudt». Så kom det da snart en annen kar som bryksa:

– Ser De ikke at det er forbudt å fiske her, da mann!

– Jeg fisker ikke, jeg bare kjøler en halv øi, jeg, sa han med stanga.



# EASTERN CONFERENCE

By Anthony Cotton

Anthony Cotton writes about the NBA for the *Washington Post*.

This season, the NBA's Eastern Conference should boil down to a simple question: Which is the better team, Atlanta or Detroit? Of course, the answer won't be determined until June and only then after numerous other questions are resolved.

For example, what will have the greater effect on the Pistons, the loss of assistant coach/defensive whiz Ron Rothstein to the Miami Heat or the impact of last season's trip to the league Finals on the team's already monstrous collective ego? The Hawks spent all summer trolling the waters before finally landing free agent center Moses Malone, but what will Dominique Wilkins, Doc Rivers, Kevin Willis, et al, think of the deal?

Along the way, many other things will be determined as well. Who got the better of the deal between Chicago and New York, and will the Cleveland Cavaliers be better than both teams anyway? Will Dick Harter and the expansion Charlotte Hornets crack the double-figure mark in the victory column and how will the other four coaches beginning their first full seasons in the Atlantic Division—Wes Unseld in Washington, Willis Reed in New Jersey, Jimmy Lynam in Philadelphia, and Jimmy Rodgers in Boston—fare?

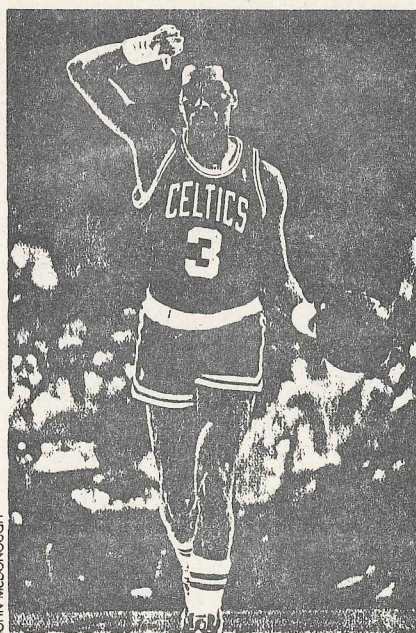
Oh yes, and one more question. Whatever happened to the Boston Celtics?

## ATLANTIC DIVISION

# 1

### BOSTON CELTICS

"We realize there are a lot of ifs and a number of things have to happen, but all the elements are there," says Celtics' General Manager Jan



JOHN MCCONOUGH

Castling thumbs down on last year's playoffs, Dennis Johnson's re-tooled Celts are ready to run.

Volk of a team that is perhaps more confident than it may have a right to be, given the burgeoning swing in the conference's balance of power. The teams to beat are over in Atlanta and Detroit, now. They're young, fresh and deep.

Consequently, one of the ifs Volk and the team are hoping will fall into place is more bench production. Last season, Boston starters got 73 percent of the playing time and scored 80 percent of the team's points during the regular season. In the playoffs the starting five (Larry Bird, Kevin McHale, Robert Parish, Dennis Johnson and Danny Ainge) were on the floor 84 percent of the time and got 89 percent of the points. Compare those numbers to those of the Pistons, who vanquished the Celts in the conference finals. Detroit starters played 64 percent of the minutes and scored 66 percent of the points in the regular season, and accounted for only 66 percent of the points and minutes throughout the playoffs.

The Celtics are hoping that a full year

with the team will make a big difference in the play of Jim Paxson, and management is even uttering the B word—as in Bill Walton—again. The biggest friend Green Team pine-timers like Reggie Lewis and Brad Lohaus will have is new coach Jimmy Rodgers. K.C. Jones apparently never felt comfortable playing the kids; Rodgers is equally but oppositely adamant: they must get playing time.

To be sure, K.C. will be missed, but his long-time assistant has some ideas of his own. The most intriguing involves bringing one of the mainstays, perhaps McHale or Ainge, off the bench. And, if Lohaus or Lewis pans-out in pre-season, one will get the starting nod. Lewis looks the most likely candidate, with Ainge coming off the bench. Neither veteran has balked at the possibility. "It's a valid consideration," says Volk. "The players are willing to do whatever it takes to win. The question is, what is it that we have to do and whether we can make it work."

In the weak Atlantic, there's no way Boston doesn't finish first, probably by 10 games. But for the Celtics to make it work once again in the playoffs, they have to be rested going in.

# 2

### NEW YORK KNICKS

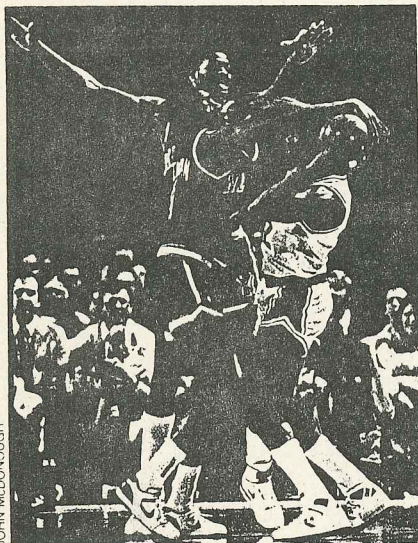
Well, not everyone was impressed with what appears to be the best trade of the off-season, the Knicks' acquisition of the Chicago Bulls' power forward Charles Oakley.

"I think it only compounded what they already had," sniffs one rival. "What they needed was an outside shooting, scoring forward. If they had that, Sidney Green would have rebounded well enough. Now there's just a redundancy without filling what they really needed."

The point about the Knicks' lack of frontcourt perimeter shooting is well taken. Erstwhile starter Kenny Walker had a 47 percent mark from the floor, but it's doubtful that many of those hoops came from beyond 10 feet. However, some feel that the slack can be taken up by Johnny Newman, who finished last year strongly, averaging 15 points over the last 25 games and scoring a career-high 34 points in the playoffs. Still, if Newman starts, there's no scoring punch behind him.

Nonetheless, Oakley, who has the most rebounds during the past two seasons, should help this team in ways Green could—or would—not. At least one knock against Newman—his spindly frame—won't be as big a factor this season, thanks to Oakley. The Bulls last year led the league in defensive rebound percentage; the Knicks were near the bottom. Defensive boards are Oakley's specialty. His presence should make it less





**Feisty Knicks Sidney Green and Johnny Newman are two reasons for New York's improvements.**

necessary for the small forward to hang around the basket, freeing that player to run the fast break.

Coach Rick Pitino will want the Knicks to run more this season, particularly when he teams last year's Rookie of the Year Mark Jackson and first-round pick Rod Strickland in the backcourt. And there should be plenty of opportunities to run because Oakley will also make center Patrick Ewing, dominant in the second half of the season, a better player as well.

Patrick has never been the strongest rebounder around. He's been criticized for being out of position—too far under the basket—and his eight rebounds per game should be higher. But, if Oakley gets his 13 per game, Ewing will be freer to do the things he does best on defense: block shots. His 2.99 per game last year was third to Mark Eaton and Manute Bol. He's got a way to go to catch Eaton (3.71) but he'll be moving up. And layups off his blocks will do wonders for the bricklaying Knicks' field goal percentage.

In another division, the Knicks would just be a young team with a promising future. But in the Atlantic, with the right draw, New York could go to the division finals.

### 3 PHILADELPHIA 76ERS

What was the most memorable thing about the Sixers' 1983 championship? Fo, Fo, Fo? You bet. At last, a ring for the Doctah? That too.

Less noticeable though were the 19.7 points per game that Andrew Toney contributed every night and the looks of terror on the faces of the off-guards who drew the defensive assignment against him. There's no doubt though that Philadelphia remembers, because they ha-

ven't seen anything like that from the backcourt since.

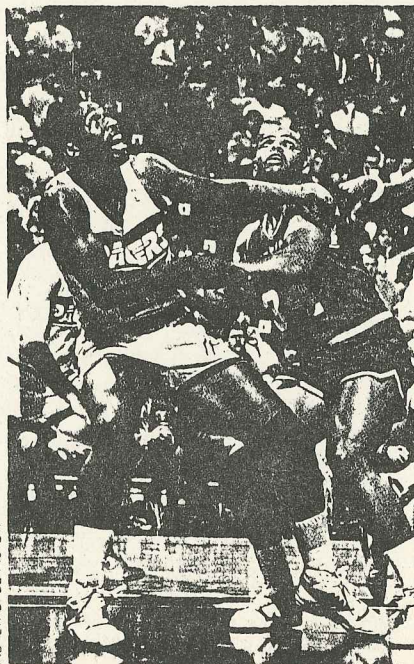
Toney averaged 20.4 and 17.8 points the next two seasons before being plagued by recurring foot problems. A two-time All-Star in his prime, by the end of last season, he was just one of five men who played beside Maurice Cheeks, none of whom was able to average nine points per game. That was a big reason why the team failed to make the playoffs for the first time in 12 seasons.

That's also the reason why the second easiest call to make in last June's draft (after Danny Manning to the Clippers) was Bradley guard Hersey Hawkins to the 76ers. Acquired in a trade that day, Hawkins, collegiate player of the year in some circles, will make the 76ers happy if he is able to average half of his 36-point norm from a year ago.

Playing in a pro-style offense under former NBA coach Stan Albeck at Bradley, Hawkins is already adept at coming around the screen and popping the jumper in tight quarters, but a welcome surprise was the defensive splash he made during John Thompson's intense Olympic Trials.

For all his skill, Hawkins may not be able to mend the apparent rift between Coach Jimmy Lynam and star forward Charles Barkley. Charles' end-to-end forays have begun to get to Lynam, just as they got to Matty Goukas and Billy Cunningham before him. Lynam is also none too fond of Barkley's public pronouncements of what is wrong with the team. For Barkley, the feelings are mutual.

Still, with the addition of Hawkins, Barkley will discover a little more



**Unhappy superstar Charles Barkley keeps looking for the sky to fall on the Sixers.**

breathing room underneath and possibly find his points where Lynam wants him to find them. Hawkins may not solve everything, but he should be enough to make Philadelphians remember Andrew Toney and to put the Sixers back into post-season play.

### 4 WASHINGTON BULLETS

For the better part of the past 20 years, what one thing have fans of the Bullets been able to count on? No, not a 500 record, although the team has won between 35 and 44 in 12 of those



**Terry Catledge and the Bullets can still do the dunk, but are suddenly soft in the middle.**

seasons, and every year since 1979.

No, the bigger constant has been the fact that whether it's been Wes Unseld or Jeff Ruland or Moses Malone, Washington has had an All-Star caliber performer manning the pivot. That's not to say (as the above statistic will attest) that the team has been stacked everywhere else, but it has precluded thinking about how bad things might be if the franchise couldn't even count on that.

This season, we could very well learn the potentially dismal answer to that question: "How bad?" With Malone off to Atlanta and backup Manute Bol shuttled out to Golden State, the Bullets are likely to start the year with Dave (The Rave) Feitl in the center of things. A third-year man who spent his first two seasons backing up the likes of Ralph Sampson and Akeem Olajuwon, Feitl has averaged less than six points and four rebounds per game.

Acquired for Bol, Feitl thought he'd come to Washington and watch Malone get all the minutes. But early on, the



field and has averaged almost 18 points per game in those seasons in which he's checked in for at least 72 games.

Last season Cartwright answered the call all 82 times in perhaps proving that his foot problems are behind him. So what's wrong with the Bulls? Not a lot, it's just that all those people who said the Bulls were just a pivotman away were including Charles Oakley on the team.

Undoubtedly happy with Cartwright, Chicago is perhaps also looking at this like addition by subtraction. Take away Oakley's incessant mumbling about not having plays run for him in the Bulls' offense (a contradiction in terms of Jordan; last season's MVP is the Bulls' offense) and everyone else will be happier and play harder.

Could be, but after the draft day trade, more than one person around the league was doing some mumbling of their own. Said one team vice president: "I'd still rather have Oakley."

Horace Grant will try to fill Charles' shoes. He can score better than Oakley and will make the team a little faster if



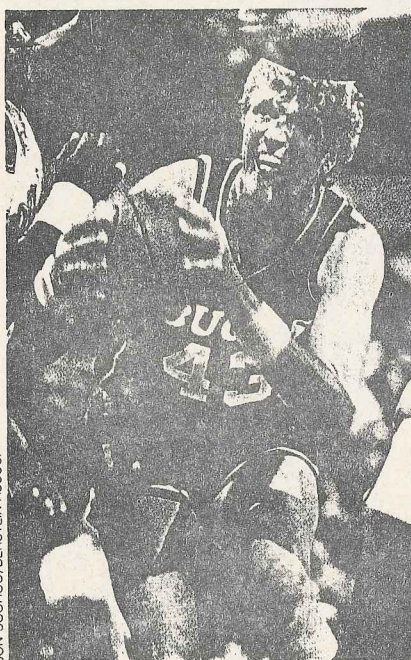
Oakley is out; Cartwright is in; but Michael Jordan is still "Mr. Everything" in Chicago.

he can play alongside Scottie Pippen in the frontcourt. But Horace can't rebound better than Oakley or, by indications so far, as well. Grant averaged one rebound every four minutes last season, Oakley one every 2.6 minutes.

So, where does that leave Mr. Everything, Michael Jordan, who undoubtedly has been looking forward to having to score less with Cartwright in the lineup? Michael, who averaged 35 points per game, six assists, 3.16 steals, 1.59 blocks and 5.5 rebounds, was the NBA MVP and Defensive Player of the Year, now may have to go to the boards more. The man just can't get a break.

## 5 MILWAUKEE BUCKS

Bucks' Vice President John Steinmiller likes to talk about the "grave dancers," those people who have watched Milwaukee go from 57 wins



A veteran team past its prime, Jack Sikma and the Bucks can't hold off the wolves of the Central.

in the '85-86 season, to 50 in '86-87 and on down to 42 last year. After his team has been so good for so long, John understandably is feeling a little sensitive.

"It's going to be hard for anyone to get 50 wins anymore," he says. "Teams like Cleveland and Chicago get 45 and it's like they've set a standard; we could've gotten that many just as easily but for us 42 was a big drop. People look at us and say we're done but if you look at the facts, who knows? We may surprise a few people."

Perhaps, if Terry Cummings has a big year and the veterans Jack Sikma and Sidney Moncrief can squeeze big efforts from their aging bodies and if Randy Breuer can play the full season like he did the first half last year. Sikma had a great first half last season and should have made the All-Star team. Moncrief, however, missed a large chunk of the year, playing in only 56 games. The Bucks do have some other things going for them: hard-nosed players like Larry Krystkowiak and Fred Roberts, a full year for Jay Humphries and midseason holdout Ricky Pierce and a talented first-round draft choice, Jeff Grayer, who gives them great depth in the backcourt.

However, even Steinmiller, an eternal optimist, concedes, "It remains to be seen what will happen—this is still a pretty tough division."

Milwaukee has a lot of bodies and a lot of familiar names. And the Bucks could very well win 45 games this season. But in a division with Atlanta, Detroit and Boston, they're just not good enough to make an impact come playoff time.

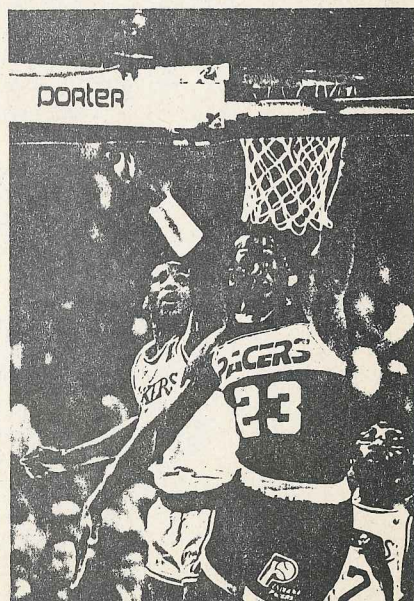
## 6 INDIANA PACERS

No one knows better how tough this division is than the Pacers, the only team in the league to have seven men play at least 75 games and average double figures in scoring. That still didn't help them escape the cellar last season and first-round draft choice Rik Smits probably won't make that much of a difference this year, either.

It's not the Pacers' fault that their divisional rivals won almost 60 percent of their games last season, the best mark in the league. But the team still could have gained the playoffs for the second straight year instead of missing them for the eighth time in 10 if there wasn't so much friction in the locker room.

Will Chuck Person get along better with his teammates and Coach Jack Ramsay? (Ramsay wants Person to be the all-around team player he was in his rookie year; Chuck is more interested in shooting and making the All-Star team.) Will the coach make up with Wayman Tisdale and Herb Williams? (Wayman continues to disappoint after an outstanding collegiate career, and Williams, a quiet guy, doesn't seem sure of his role on the team.) After surviving a number of Larry Brown sightings in the Midwest, will Ramsay make it through the season, and if so, will he walk away in disgust afterwards? (Two years ago, all the Pacers marvelled at how much they liked his system; Jack's not about to start becoming flexible now.)

This is a young, talented team with a wise old head for a coach. Anything can happen. The Pacers may not make the playoffs again this year, but for one reason or another, they sure will be fun to watch.



In a division with no weak sisters, Wayman Tisdale and the Pacers lag a length behind.



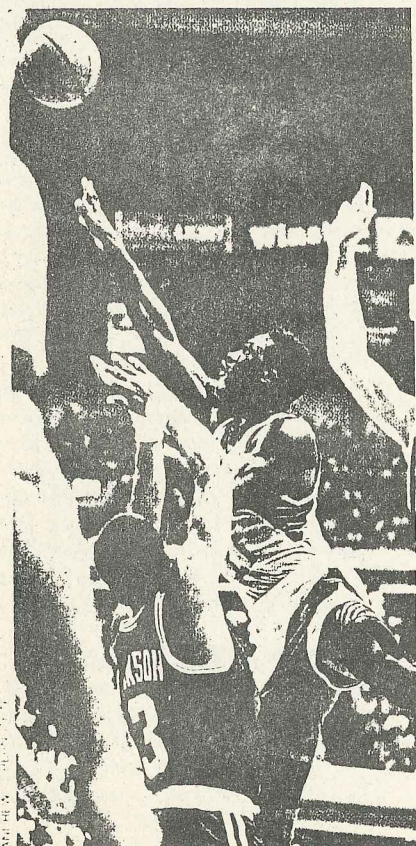
## CENTRAL DIVISION

### 1 ATLANTA HAWKS

There was a time not too long ago when the Hawks were more like a fraternity than a basketball team. The fellas partied together, opened restaurants together; Head Coach Mike Fratello even chipped in by offering stock market tips to his youthful charges.

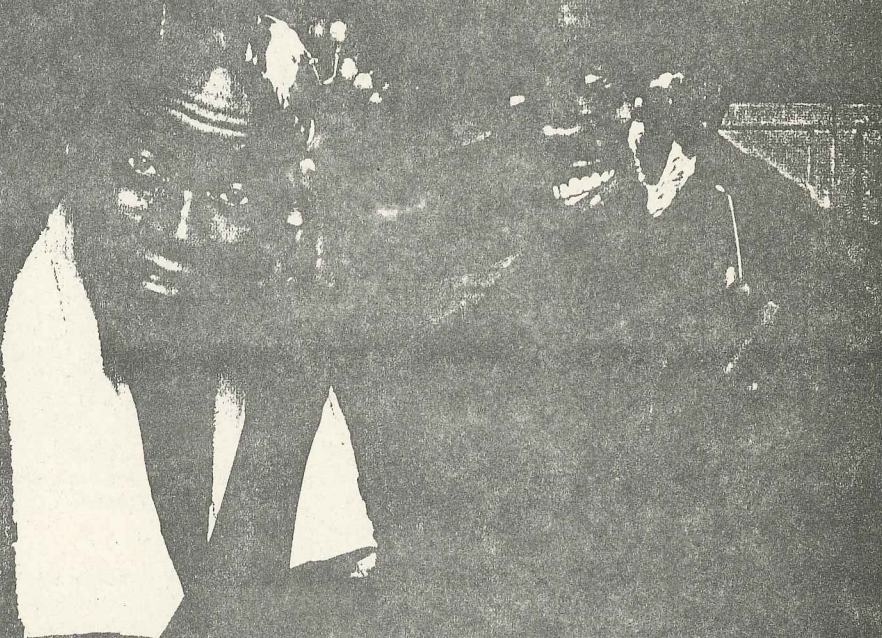
Management liked the swell group so much that it brought the 12 of them back en masse at the start of last season, despite some disappointing early eliminations from post-season play. That brought howls of criticism but what happened? The Hawks came within one incandescent Bird fourth quarter of beating the Celtics for the second time on the parquet and finally advancing to the conference Finals.

A sign of improvement? A reason to keep guys together one more time? Apparently not. In a rather busy offseason, the Hawks let Tree Rollins go, jettisoned Randy Wittman and Scott Hastings, traded for Reggie Theus and signed unencumbered free agent Moses Malone to a three-year deal worth almost five million dollars. Whew!



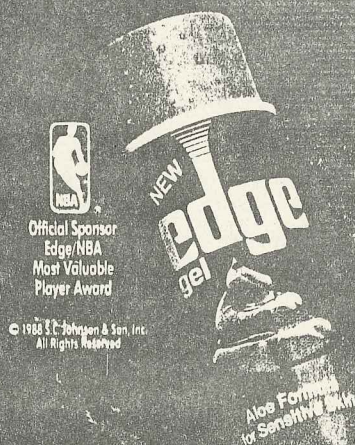
Can Dominique Wilkins survive as just one of the Hawks' new triumvirate of stars?

# Not your ordinary shave.



"Slick" Watts, NBA Legend  
Kennedy Citizenship Award

"Magic" Johnson  
1987 Edge/NBA MVP

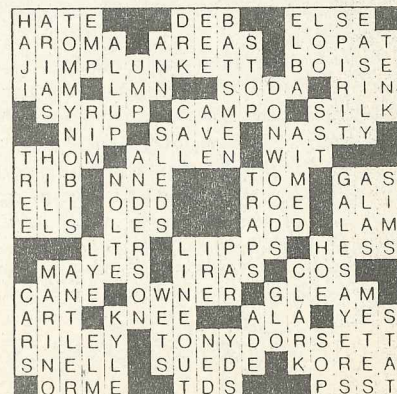


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## THIS MONTH'S DODGE SPORT WORD PUZZLE SOLVED.

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"The last hurdle [getting into the conference Finals and the league championship] may be the toughest," says team President Stan Kasten. "I don't know how often I'll be this close again—it's time to take our best shot."

Speaking of shots, if all cylinders are go, Doc Rivers is a cinch to lead the league in assists, but one has to wonder how many times he'll get to put the ball up himself on a team with Dominique Wilkins (30.7 points, 25 shots per game), Theus and Malone. And what happens to long-time cogs like Kevin Willis and Antoine Carr? Plus, add to an impressionable group accustomed to listening to their coach a couple of guys who sometimes don't.

"I know there's the potential for trouble," admits Kasten. "I'll have problems, the coaches will have problems, but without the talent I've got no chance [to win] at all. I'd rather have the talent and then worry about putting it all together and making it work."

Moses always sounds great going to a new city. In Philadelphia his first year he was told to rebound, and he did, picked up his points inside as well as an NBA title. In Washington, Malone was also told to rebound, but was less inclined to do the old bump and grind and drifted out of the low post. Now, Atlanta wants him to go back inside, but he might be better equipped here playing alongside the very physical Willis.

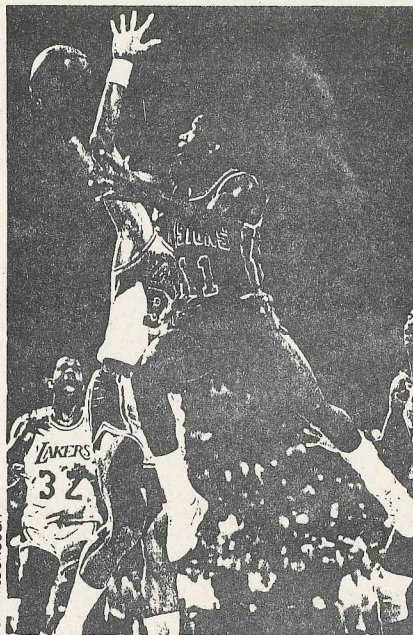
Talent alone will let the Hawks win the division; they have four all-stars, and Willis should have been one two years ago. Beyond that, it will be a question of chemistry. It will be interesting to watch Atlanta and Detroit to see which locker room explodes first.

## 2 DETROIT PISTONS

You could look it up, Pistons' Coach Chuck Daly (along with Fratello, both in their sixth seasons) is the dean of Eastern Conference coaches. This despite flirtations with Philadelphia and Miami and who knows where else; on-again, off-again relationships with his general manager; and the pressures of keeping his wardrobe one step ahead of younger lions like Chicago's Doug Collins.

You'd think after piloting his team past the Celtics and giving the Lakers all they could handle in the Finals, the guy would catch a break. No way, things could only get worse. The Hawks. The loss of assistant Ron Rothstein. Another year of walking the tightrope with (in alphabetical order) Adrian Dantley, Joe Dumars, Vinnie Johnson, Bill Laimbeer, Rick Mahorn, Dennis Rodman, John Salley, Isiah Thomas, etc.

There's Dantley's black hole of a one-



Isiah Thomas and the Pistons have glimpsed the Promised Land, and vow to return.

on-one game to worry about, Laimbeer's inability to develop low-post moves and apparent unwillingness to take big shots, Isiah's intent on taking control of the game whatever the cost . . . But then, as the team's all-time winningest coach, Daly has thrived on bringing in players nobody else wanted. Throw James Edwards, Dennis Rodman and Rick Mahorn in among the wayward, and you begin to think the comparison with football's Raiders may be a valid one.

But even a team on which nobody really seems to like each other all that much can win if it knows how to, and now this one does. If the Pistons continue to play defense the way they did in last season's playoffs, where they gave up an average of just 95 points in 23 games, holding opponents under 100, 14 times, they could get past the more talented Hawks. Then Daly's biggest worry might be another fashion square-off against Pat Riley and the Lakers.

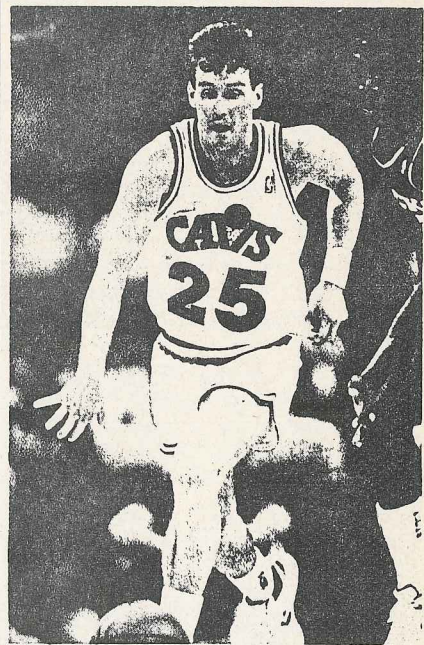
## 3 CLEVELAND CAVALIERS

They're a year away from being a year away. And it's true that Cleveland has the potential to accomplish some great things this year, say the first 50-win season in the franchise's history.

"Just the fact that they're a year older now makes them a lot better," gushes one G.M., and he speaks the truth. Point guard Mark Price might have been the best in the East at his position in the first half of last season, center Brad Daugherty made the All-Star team and ended the year as one of the two best centers in the conference. Both Price and Daugherty were in their second years, as were

steady John (Hot Rod) Williams and the sometimes brilliant Ron Harper.

Harper played in just 57 games last season because of foot and ankle problems. A full year will help him and the team; the same theory applies to forward Larry Nance, who can be relied on for around 17 points and seven to eight boards a game. When Nance was acquired along with Mike Sanders in mid-season last year, the Cavaliers were allegedly disrupted to the point where management had given up hope for the



Mark Price and the young and restless Cavaliers will continue their climb up the NBA scale.

playoffs. The team had been a respectable 28-26 when Nance came aboard and promptly lost 12 of its next 15 games. However, once he was pieced in, the Cavs recovered nicely to go 11-2. They not only cruised into post-season play but came within a few well-collected veteran heads of upsetting the heavily favored Bulls in the opening round.

Rollins, a free-agent signee, might be that steadying influence. In addition, as good as Daugherty is, he has to sit down sometimes, and opponents weren't exactly afraid of going to the basket against him and backup Chris Dudley anyway. Rollins, second on the all-time blocked-shots list, will at least make them think twice about taking it to the hole.

## 4 CHICAGO BULLS

Michael Jordan soared and Doug Collins roared and the Bulls won 50 games last season. "Just think of how great they'd be," everyone said, "if they only had a center."

Now they do. Call him UnreliaBill or Medical Bill, but Bill Cartwright has never hit less than 54 percent from the



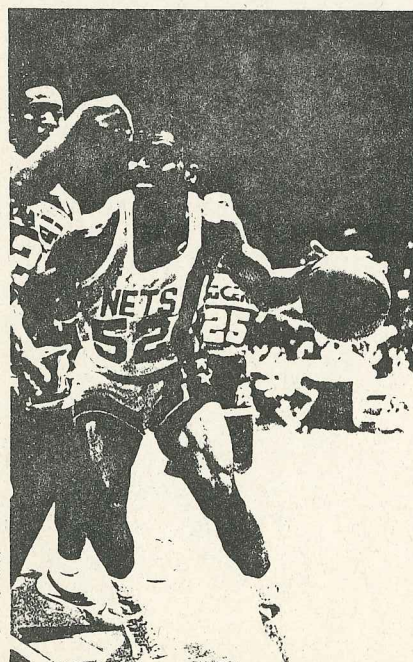
team decided that they weren't interested in re-signing Moses to a three-year deal and would begin a youth movement. That didn't impress Malone much; before leaving town, he said it would be another 25 years before the fans would have a contender to root for. Moses, after all, was the team's leading rebounder (11.2 pg) and second leading scorer (20.3 pg), just two-tenths of a point behind Jeff Malone. He was one of only four men (Olajuwon, Karl Malone and Barkley are the others) to finish last year in the top 10 in rebounding and the top 20 in scoring.

There certainly won't be any championship talk around Capital Centre this year. The team flirted with the idea of trading for Mel Turpin but that still would have left Unseld, now the team's coach, as the best pivotman on the team. Unseld's presence though will guarantee a hard working squad and may allow talents like John Williams and first-round draft choice Harvey Grant to blossom. The versatile Williams will be tried at point guard in camp and might also see some time in the pivot against certain centers.

But after those two, the future is fuzzy. This is a youth movement still in search of some talented youth.

## 5 NEW JERSEY NETS

For the past three years, there's been a sportswriter in the New York-New Jersey area who has picked the Nets to finish in second place in the Atlantic, immediately sending scurryers of that paper's sports section scurrying to the front page to find out if Buck



Even the skill and perseverance of Big Buck Williams can't keep the Nets from fraying again.

Williams has been cloned into five people.

Because that hasn't happened, the Nets will remain a lottery fixture, escaping the cellar only because of the new team in Charlotte—and that's assuming the first-year team gets off to a slow start. Willis Reed is a plus in the character column, Williams is a wonder (in his seven pro seasons, he's had five with 1000 or more rebounds; Moses Malone and Bill Laimbeer are next with three apiece), and the team did make a good move in drafting Auburn forward Chris Morris with their first draft choice—he'll start at small forward. But New Jersey seems to have a lock on starting centers who would make wonderful backups, first Mike Gminski, now Tim McCormick. Roy Hinson has shown flashes of dominance swinging between the pivot and the power forward spot, but alas that has been his history: just flashes.

In the backcourt, if Dennis Hopson suffers from the sophomore jinx it will be an improvement over his rookie year. Everybody's rookie of the year before the season began, Hopson shot only 40 percent from the field and though he averaged 9.6 points per game, wound up the season a forgotten man.

Reed's influence was difficult to measure last season. The team won its first four games under him, including one over the Celtics at Boston Garden. But overall, the team was 7-21 under Reed, a .251 percentage that was only slightly better than its overall season mark. The extent of Reed's impact likely will depend on how much influence he will have over player personnel decisions, so that he can bring in the type of player he needs rather than the hodge-podge that has been left to him.

It will be a long haul. For now, at least all those empty seats out in the Meadowlands won't have Pearl Washington to kick around anymore.

## 6 CHARLOTTE HORNETS

It won't be a group of total nondescripts that take the floor for the Hornets in the initial campaign. There are dispersal draft talents like Dell Curry (Cleveland), Ricky Green (Utah) and Tyrone Bogue (Washington). There's a big name collegian, Rex Chapman of Kentucky, the team's first-ever college draft choice; and even a free agent signee from the Lakers, Kurt Rambis, who'll be able to flash those back-to-back championship rings around the locker room.

However, the most interesting player for Charlotte may be forward/guard Kelly Tripucka. A 20-point scorer for Detroit in his first five NBA seasons, the veteran has almost been buried alive the last two years at the end of the Jazz

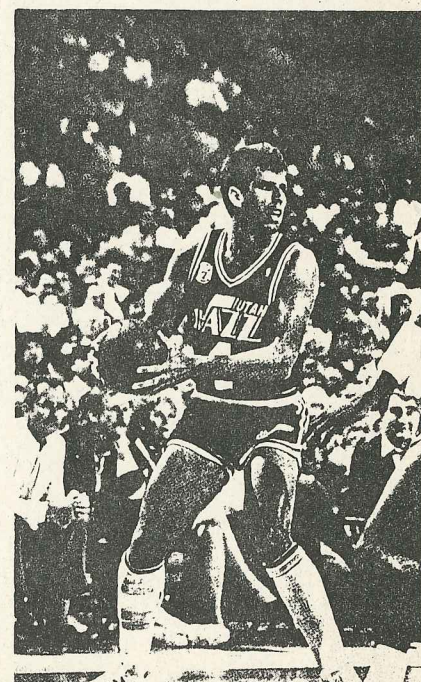
bench. Even so, that didn't stop Charlotte from dealing for him.

"I can remember talking with [Dallas player personnel director] Rick Sund about their first couple of years," says Hornets' General Manager Carl Scheer. "He said they were able to stay in a lot of games but when the fourth quarter came they just weren't able to score. We want to be able to bridge that gap and we're betting that he [Tripucka] still has something left."

Neither Scheer or Harter, lacking Dallas' good fortune of having a Ted Stepien to rob blind for future draft picks, are silly enough to make a wager that the Hornets will be able to duplicate the Mavericks' rapid climb to contender status. In fact, with Tim Kempton—from Notre Dame and the Clippers by way of Europe—penciled in as the starting center, the organization is hesitant to talk about wins and losses at all.

"We want to make a smooth transition from total inexperience to credibility and we want the fans to have reason to expect an exciting team," Scheer says of Charlotte's mix of youth and veteran talent. But . . . "we don't even look at getting 'x' number of wins. We just want to improve each day; if you look too far down the line beyond that you'll just get lost."

Harter, one of the older coaches in the league, with Ramsay and Daly, will find his patience tried. The Hornets, like Tripucka, will be able to score, but they won't be able to stop anyone from scoring. Still, there is some talent here. Dallas won 15 in its first season; with a little luck, Charlotte might match that.



Escape from Utah's oblivion throws Kelly Tripucka into the Hornets' nest in Charlotte.



