

## Clown Princes of basketball

# Harlem Globetrotters bring antics to Coliseum

By PAUL McGRATH  
Staff Sports Writer  
The Harlem Globetrotters "Pop-corn Machine" comes live to G. Rol-

lie White Coliseum tonight. The Clown Princes of basketball will hold court at 8 p.m. This visit is their eighth in the last nine years,

the last one being in 1973. Dribbling to the tune of "Sweet Georgia Brown" will be long time greats Marques Haynes and "Geese" Ausbie. Joining this duo are two former Texas players, Jimmy Blacklock of UT and Theodis Lee from the University of Houston. Also in the comedian's entourage are Mel Davis, Jesse Jemison, Jerry Venable, Ron Knight, Jimmy Sanders the "Geraldine" of the team, John Smith.

The Globetrotters have to be the winningest professional organization ever. The team has played 12,005 games during its existence and has won 11,682 of them. The Globies have a 110-0 record thus far in the year.

Perhaps the most important feature of the Trotters is not their playing ability, but the roles they play as American good will representatives. The team continues to travel all over the world playing before audiences that have reached up to 76,000 in Berlin. While in the Soviet Union the Globetrotters drew 450,000 fans for ten games.

There have been anxious moments on the road however. Once the team was playing in Hong Kong

and despite whatever antics the American showmen pulled, the crowd never made a response. After about 15 minutes of the discomforting silence, the team called time out to view the situation. An official informed them that Chinese crowds thought it impolite to make noise during a performance and that was the reason for the quiet. After the performance, though, the crowd gave the team a standing ovation.

The Globies travel about 250,000 miles a year including trips abroad to 15 European countries and to South America.

Because of the record of the Globetrotters and the fact that they were the first team to use blacks, many people wonder how they would fare against pro teams of today. "There are some teams we could wake up at midnight and beat," said Globetrotter advance man, Tex Harrison. "If we had a player the caliber of Pete Maravich or Bill Walton we would play the other teams, too."

The first blacks in the National Basketball Association, "Sweetwater" Clifton and Chuck Cooper, came from the Globies. NBA stars Wilt Chamberlain and Connie Hawkins also had their start with

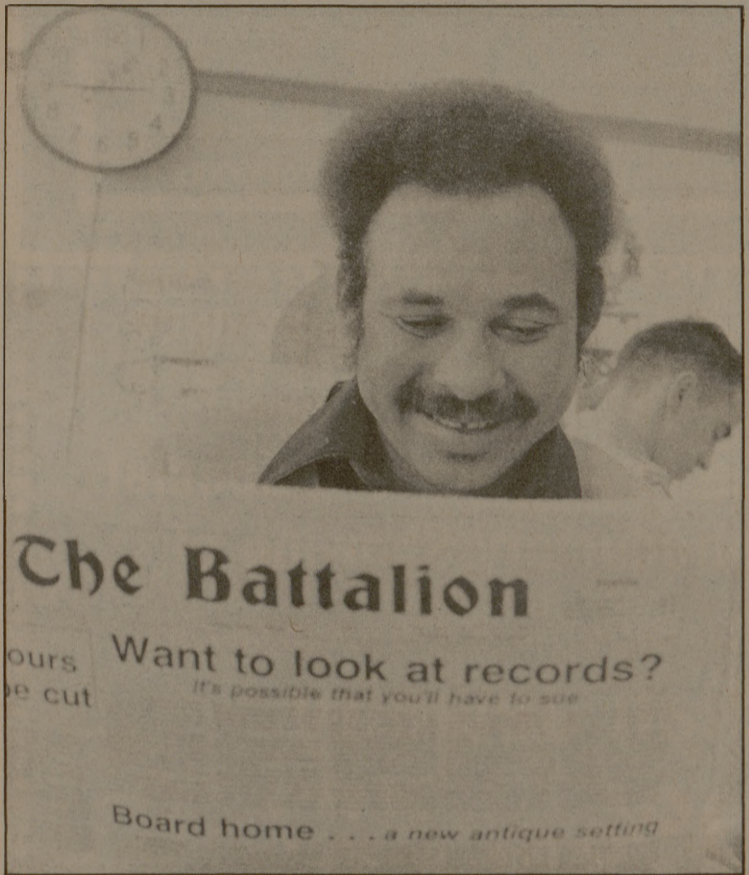
the men from Harlem.

Harrison said the Trotters always begin the game playing for a win. Then when the game gets in their control, they go into their acts which include trick shots, trick basketballs and standing on one another's shoulders to score layups.

The Trotters are also the stars of a Saturday morning television program for children. "We're quite proud of it," said Harrison. "We have the impact on youngsters to aid a learning experience." The show is currently second in the ratings to the "Pink Panther." However, Har-

ison said the popularity of the Trotter's show has led to negotiations for a prime time series. The Harlem Globetrotters have become just as American as hot dogs and Coca-Cola.

The Globetrotters have played the hardwood for almost half a century now and are still going strong. The magicians of basketball have performed before crowds on the West Coast and behind the Iron Curtain. There are still tickets available as they bring their act to Aggie-land for the first time in two years.



Tex Harrison of the Harlem Globetrotters reads the Batt.

## Army, Navy seniors to take on Air Force

The Army and Navy join forces Saturday against the Air Force at Kyle Field.

It's a strange type of battle though as the weapon and winner is already known.

The weapon: a football. The winner: Brazos Valley Rehabilitation Center.

It's the fourth game in the series that pits seniors from the Corps of Cadets against each other for the benefit of the BVRC.

The game has donated over \$1,500 to the Rehab Center from the past three years and expects a fine crowd this year to the Military Day event.

The two teams are coached by

senior members of the 1974 Aggie Football team.

The game is sponsored by Wings and Sabers.

Mark Roberts, Wings and Sabers president, noted that the Elephant Bowl will immediately follow the Military Day review. The Texas Aggie Band will provide halftime entertainment.

Elephant Bowl promoters expect any lack of polish to be offset by enthusiasm. Game time is set for 4:00 p.m. Admission is a \$1 donation and tickets are available at Memorial Student Center booth and from representatives in each corps unit.

## Cleveland trades 'bench' Robinson

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP) — The Cleveland Indians made a trade this week that will keep player-manager Frank Robinson on the bench more than he expected.

And Robinson said Wednesday it's nothing but good news to him. He was referring to the Indians' trade with the Baltimore Orioles for power hitter Boog Powell.

Powell and pitcher Don Hood went to Cleveland in exchange for catcher Dave Duncan and outfielder Alvin McGrew.

When asked if Powell's addition to the squad will eliminate the time Robinson anticipated putting in at first base, he said:

"Thank goodness, yes. I dreaded the idea of having to play first so much."

"The trade wasn't just because he could hit the long ball," Robinson said. "He can play first every day and gives us a solid infield." He said

he possibly will play first base "once in awhile to give Boog a rest."

That will leave Robinson free to act as the Indians' designated hitter more often, he said.

Robinson, the first black manager in the major leagues, met the media and dozens of fans Wednesday at Hi Corbett Field, Cleveland's spring training headquarters.

Unflustered as usual, he posed for snapshots with fans and repeated responses to questions he has been hearing for weeks.

"We're going to do the work necessary to have a winning team," he said of spring training.

When he said "we," he meant it. Robinson, coach Tom McCraw and 17 other players who reported early, ran wind sprints and took batting practice Wednesday morning.

Pitchers and catchers begin workouts Thursday and the rest of the squad will arrive Monday.

## Batt sports

### Backlashes

## No fishing organizations at Aggieland: Why not?

By BRUCE L. SUBLETT  
Outdoor Writer

To the compulsive joiner, this campus must be a heaven on earth. There are clubs and organizations for everything from agriculture to zoology.

Everything, that is, except bass fishing. Texas A&M doesn't have a bass club.

Of course, there is the Bryan Bass Club. It's open to membership at \$12 per year, if a present member sponsors you. But the Bryan Bass Club just isn't the same as an Aggie bass club.

In tournament competition, an all-Aggie bass club would be bound to win. Just think of the effect on the other fishermen if a whole herd of Aggies showed up to fish for the honor and glory of Texas A&M.

There are enough serious bass fishermen around A&M to make a club work. What it needs to get started is some organization and leadership of a few hardcore, fish-crazed tournament fishermen.

Chuck Use, a junior from down around Beaumont, called me last week about starting a club here. He said he has had some experience in club organization and is a sure enough dedicated bass fisherman.

There are some problems that a new bass club here would have to face. Chuck and I talked over a few of the problems and came up with some possible answers.

Getting the club off the ground and into the water is the first big hangup. Bass club members want action, not organizational meetings. We thought of having an open tournament for students and faculty at Lake Somerville to get interested anglers hooked on the idea. Someone with experience in tournament organization would be a must for this idea to work.

One of the really big problems is how to get everyone in a boat. A lot of student fishermen are in the same shape I am, broke. A good bass rig costs more than peanuts, so most of us are boatless now.

A possible solution would be to pair those with boats with the bank-walkers. Opening the club membership to faculty and staff as well as students would bring in more boats.

Unfortunately, a new club would need funds. Membership dues would bring in some, and tournament entry fees would help. But high membership and tournament costs might scare off prospective members. The cash outlay for tournament prizes would be a major cost, but a few donations by sporting goods merchants would ease it. This would depend on the amount of support local dealers might give to the club.

The advantages of an A&M bass club outweigh the problems surrounding it. Besides the chance to fish in tournaments, the Aggie fisherman could share his knowledge with others to improve everyone's luck. Discounts on large orders of tackle through the club is a possibility. Affiliation with the Texas Association of Bass Clubs and the Bass Anglers' Sportsman's Society would bring in outside information and contribute to the conservation of bass fishing and other fishing.

If anyone out there is interested, contact Chuck Use at 845-2859. He will sell you on the idea. I know, because he sold me.

## Karate club names date for meeting

The Isshinryu Karate Club will meet March 4 at 6:30 p.m. in G. Rollie White Coliseum.

The meeting is called due to the cancellation of a previous meeting because of an A&M basketball game.

Advanced belts may meet at 3466 S. College Drive on Monday and Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

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