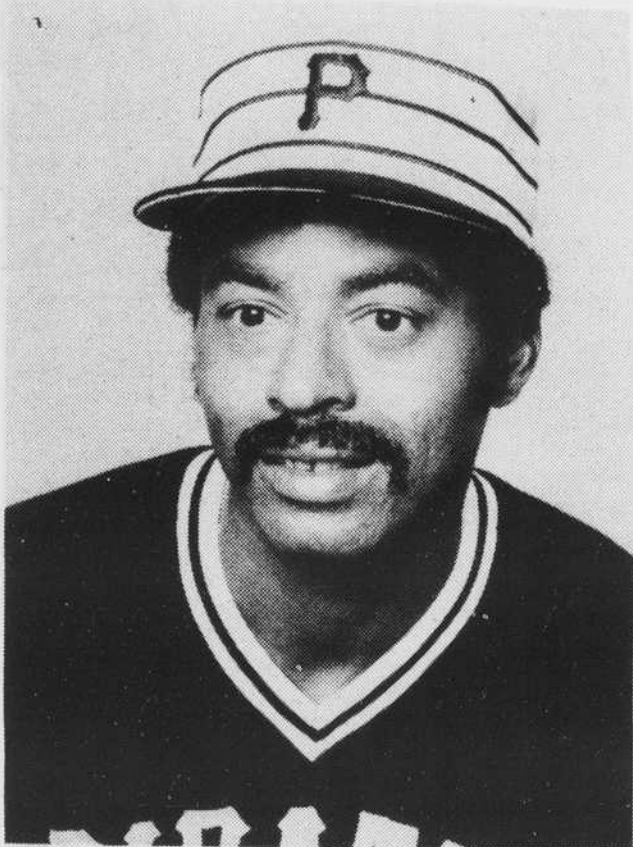


***** S P OOR T S *****

Bill Robinson Honored

RUNNIN' REBELS HOME AGAIN



BILL ROBINSON

Pittsburgh Pirate Bill Robinson, outstanding athlete and community leader, will receive the National George Washington Carver Luncheon to be held at the William Penn Hotel in Pittsburgh, January 5.

The event, sponsored by National Achievement Clubs, will be the highlight of national observance of the first week in January as George Washington Carver Week.

Robinson, 35, has been with the Pittsburgh Pirates since the 1975 season. He has been an outstanding player and in 1976 he was named Pirate Player of the Year in a vote taken by his Pirate teammates. He received the 1976 Roberto Clemente Award in honor of the late Pirate rightfielder given by the Pittsburgh Baseball Writers Association.

He was born in Elizabeth, Pa. and raised in McKeesport, Pa. Robinson has been very active in community service work and is actively involved in the national fight against Lupus.

The award he is to receive on January 5 reads: "National George Washington Carver Award to Bill Robinson for using his God-given athletic abilities in service and leadership to the community, exemplifying the ideals and beliefs of George Washington Carver."

The major speaker at the luncheon will be Elaine Thomas, one of the nation's foremost experts on the life and significance of George Washington Carver.

Bill Robinson will head a list of local honorees who will be in attendance at the Luncheon, which was instigated 35 years ago by the late Alma Illery, a Pittsburgh woman who influenced the United States Congress to honor Carver with a week, a stamp and a coin. Dr. Illery of Pittsburgh's Hill District also founded Camp Achievement, an interracial summer camp near Conneville, Pa., which is the beneficiary of the Carver luncheons.

Dr. Illery was succeeded by Mrs. Artegious Moncrieff who is in charge of the organization at this time.

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In a city which is known for lights and no clocks and has not even been in existence for 75 years, tradition is not something that easily comes to mind. If Las Vegas does have one tradition, it would have to be the Las Vegas Holiday Classic Basketball Tournament which this weekend will be held for the 18th consecutive year at the Las Vegas Convention Center.

Another outstanding field is lined up for this year's event and joining host UNLV on the hardwood will be Loyola Marymount University (3-5), Baylor University (5-3), and undefeated Temple University (7-0) from the East.

Baylor, the winner of the 1971 Holiday Classic, will open the tournament on Friday night, at 7 p.m. (PST) against Temple, a first-time visitor to Las Vegas. At 9 p.m., the 8-1 Runnin' Rebels, fresh from winning the third Rebel Roundup last weekend, will host coach Dave Benaderet's Loyola Marymount Lions to conclude the opening round. ed again to accomodate the live telecast of the championship game to Los Angeles and San Diego on KTLA, Channel 5, with Chic Hearn and Dennis Hodges on the mikes.

The consolation championship, between the two losers from Friday night, will tip off at 7:45 p.m., and the championship game for the 18th annual Las Vegas Holiday Classic, will begin at 10:00 p.m.

The youthful, hard-working Runnin' Rebels

are the obvious favorite in the tournament if for no other reason than their tremendous home court record. UNLV is now 91-4 under Jerry Tarkanian at the Las Vegas Convention Center, which has also become know as Tark's shark Tank. Currently, the Runnin' Rebels have won eight straight in the facility, including the seven home games played thus far this season in the 6,376-seat arena.

Following a sterling performance in the championship game of the Rebel Roundup against Nebraska, senior co-captain Tony Smith has taken over the scoring lead for the well-balanced UNLV team.

UNLV defeated Middle Tennessee State, 95-83, and Nebraska, 79-63, to win the third Rebel Roundup, and Smith, with his Runnin' Rebel season high 26 points against Nebraska, was voted the most valuable player in the tournament. Playing with the flu against Nebraska, Smith still canned 11 of his 17 "cannon" shots and four of six free throws for the winning UNLV margin.

He is now averaging 14.2 per game to pace the UNLV scoring attack, which is averaging 97.4 points per game.

Joining Smith in the double-figure scoring average column are senior forward Earl Evans (13.1), junior guard Flintie Ray Williams (12.4), senior center Brett Vroman (12.3), and freshmen forwards Freddie Thompson (10.6) and Michael Burns (10.1). The championship game will also be tape-delayed on KVVU TV, Channel 5 in Las Vegas (12pm)

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