



SPORTS

LARRY JOHNSON AND THE CHARLOTTE HORNETS FACE THE TRAILBLAZERS TOMORROW AT THE T&M

By W.G. Ramirez

Last season, when the Charlotte Hornets and the Golden State Warriors met in an exhibition, at the Thomas and Mack Center, former UNLV star Larry Johnson was still involved in negotiations with his first professional contract. Basketball fans in Las Vegas were highly disappointed they did not get to see their hometown product in an NBA uniform.

This past summer, on July 30, national headlines spelled catastrophe when Hornets team physician Glen Perry performed

arthroscopic surgery on Johnson's right knee.

Well basketball fans, you have nothing to worry about, LJ has confirmed that he will "be 100 percent" for tomorrow night's exhibition game against the defending Western Conference champion Portland Trailblazers.

"My knee is fine," said Johnson. "The surgery was a minor procedure."

Johnson conceived there was no way he would miss playing in this year's exhibition game at the T&M.

"I'm excited to come back

and play in front of the fans at least one more time," admitted Johnson. The Hornets will have their hands full when they face the Trailblazers.

Portland, which boasts a 4-1 preseason record, are coming off of a 105-104 victory over the Denver Nuggets last Monday.

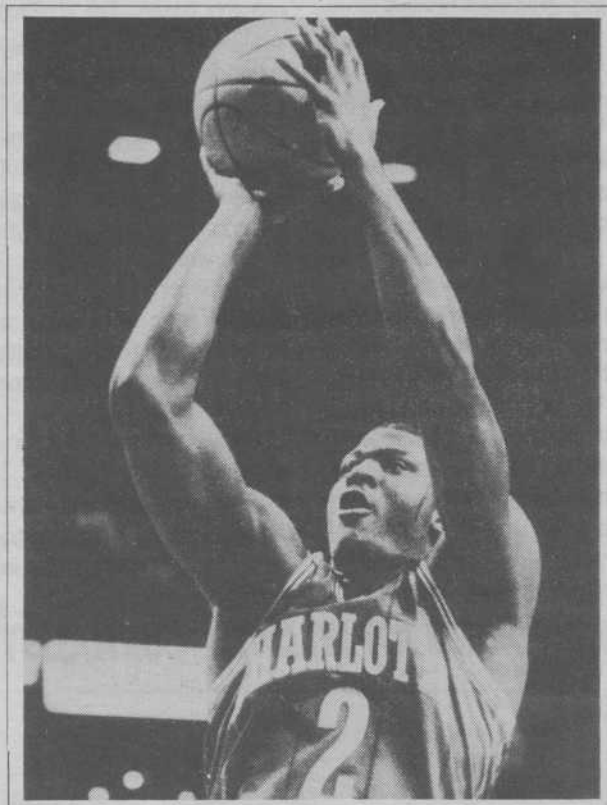
Barcelona Olympian and 'Blazer star Clyde Drexler practiced with the team Tuesday and participated in a strenuous scrimmage with the team.

Drexler, like Johnson, had been suffering from knee problems during the off-season.

Drexler seems ready to go.

According to Portland's Assistant Director of Sports Communications, John Christensen, Drexler will be with the team for Friday's game. The decision, of whether Drexler will play, will be made by Team Physician - Robert Cook, Head Coach - Rick Adelman and Drexler.

Tickets for the Charlotte-Portland game are priced at \$25, \$15, \$12 and \$10 and are available at the Thomas and Mack Center Ticket Office and all Ticketmaster locations. Tip-off is scheduled for 7:35 p.m.



Former Runnin' Rebel Larry Johnson

Sixth Black Coach In Major League History To Lead Rockies

MAJOR LEAGUE EXPANSION TEAM COLORADO NAMES DON BAYLOR COACH

Sentinel-Voice

At a press conference Tuesday, the Colorado Rockies announced that Don Baylor has been named the first major league field manager in club history. It marks the first managerial assignment for Baylor, who spent the last three seasons as a major league hitting coach, the 1992 season with the St. Louis Cardinals.

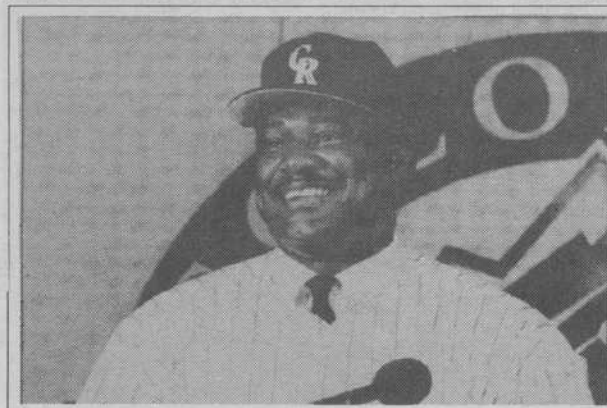
"This is a monumental day in Colorado Rockies history and I'm very pleased and excited with the decision we've made," said Bob Gebhard, Rockies' Senior Vice President and General Manager. "It was an exhaustive search, but very important to us that it was completed with precision and that as an organization, we were comfort-

able with what would be our biggest baseball announcement to date. In Don Baylor, we not only have the best candidate for the job of manager, but we have an outstanding leader that our young players will be able to learn from and respect."

Baylor, 43, began his major league career in 1970 with Baltimore, spending 19 seasons in the big leagues with six different clubs. Originally drafted by the O's in 1967, winning followed Baylor throughout his playing career, beginning with an Appalachian League title in 1967 and concluding with a World Series appearance as a member of the Oakland A's in 1988, his final year as a player. During his 22-year professional playing career, Baylor appeared in seven American League Championship Series with five different clubs.

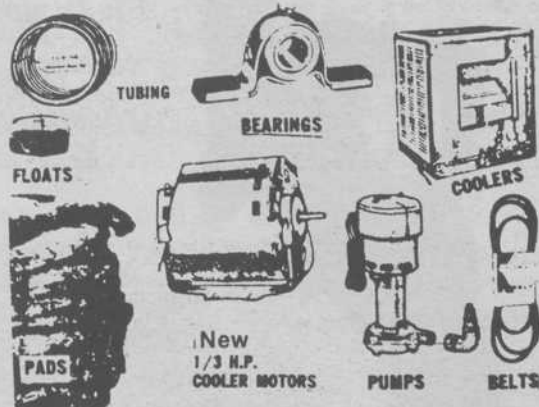
In fact, if there was a club desiring a trip to the Fall Classic from 1986-88, it simply put Don Baylor on their roster. During his last

(See Baylor, Page 20)



The Colorado Rockies made Don Baylor only the sixth black head coach in major league history.

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