

## Sports Pace

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Hall of Famer Jim Brown who played for the Cleveland Browns before becoming an actor and an activist, formed a group called the Black Economic Union that was to provide jobs for African-Americans.

Among the members at that time were Kareem Abdul Jabbar, Bobby Mitchell, Muhammad Ali, Bill Russell, Bernie Casey, and some other African-American athletes who were prominent in the 1960's.

The salaries of those athletes weren't anywhere as astronomical as today's are, so the organization didn't last long. Nevertheless, the idea remains.

Like Magic, present athletes can bond and form their own businesses and work within corporations. Magic also has signed on with NASCAR to help diversify the motor sport.

A number of athletes, including Tiger Woods and Michael Jordan have formed foundations in their names and hold fund-raising events. But how many African-American people do they hire on a year-round basis? And how much of their money do they actually invest in the venture?

Jackie Joyner Kersey has done wonders in her native home of East St. Louis having rebuilt the track and recreation center where she got her first start.

The new facility might even spawn another heptathlon great like Joyner. If a youngster like Magic, who came from a family of 10, can make it to the top and return to the community to help others, there is no reason some of the others can't do it also.

Terrell Owens, who was born in Alexander City, Ala. and attended the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, is making millions with the Philadelphia Eagles and has built a house with its own full-scale basketball court. He is single, but has forgotten his roots. He loves controversy and could create a real controversy in the community if he went into business and hired some of the people in Alabama who need jobs.

Today's African-American athletes have an opportunity to make huge strides in bringing about economic equality and should make this period one of financial growth for their people.

As former Minnesota Viking Carl Eller said in Canton during his acceptance

speech upon induction to the NFL Hall of Fame, these young athletes' forefathers have laid the foundation for success. Don't waste it. Invest wisely and economically in the African-American community.

The Johnsons - Magic Earvin and Robert, shouldn't have to carry the load all by themselves. Some of the others might want to pool their resources and form companies or buy teams too.

## Woods comes up empty, but still No. 1

HAVEN, Wis. (AP) - Tiger Woods came up empty in a major again, but he's still the No. 1 ranked player in the world. Woods extended his run to a record 332 weeks when Ernie Els finished in a tie for fourth with Chris Riley at the PGA Championship. Els needed to finish second alone to replace Woods atop the world rankings.

Woods came into the PGA tied with Greg Norman for most consecutive weeks at No. 1. Another of Woods' streaks was extended Sunday and this one he'd rather snap.

Woods failed to win a major for a second straight year - a run of 10 consecutive tournaments.

Woods was sure he could bury his slump in the majors on the shores of Lake Michigan, but instead finished tied

for 24th, his worst finish in a major this year.

His worst finish in any major was a tie for 39th at last year's PGA Championship.

"Disappointed," said Woods, who must wait until the Masters next April for his next shot at ending the streak. "I felt like I was playing so well coming into this event and I just didn't."

Woods shot a final round 73 Sunday at Whistling Straits that left him at 4-under 286. Woods, whose only win this season was at the Match Play Championships, arrived at the PGA off three straight top 10 finishes - a tie for seventh at the Western Open, a tie for ninth at the British Open and a tie for third at the Buick Open.



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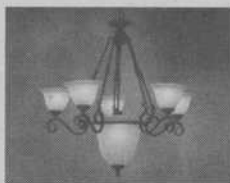
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