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# JAMES JAHNKE: Mr. Haywood sure can blog

February 13, 2008

We're ashamed it took us so long to find this, but Detroit Pershing and University of Detroit legend Spencer Haywood, 58, has been blogging at nbrpa.com, the official site of the National Basketball Retired Players Association, all season.

At last, the Woodman can convey his thoughts to the world.

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A couple of excerpts from his most recent, entertaining post:

- "I think they should add Shaq (O'Neal) to the dunk contest as a late entry. I would love to see a power dunk-off between Dwight (Howard) and Shaq to see who could tear the rim off. In case of a tie, Dwight and Shaq will enter the tiebreaker, which happens to be a dance-off, picking up where they left off last year."

- "I was playing ball at 24-Hour Fitness in Las Vegas with a bunch 20-30-year-olds. I had a good feeling and went for one of my patented moves and stretched out to throw down a borderline slam dunk. But in doing so, I had to turn in such a way that I ended up leaving my groin muscle on the floor. After the play, I picked it up and put it back in place and said, 'Gentlemen, if you can

excuse me, I need to get a drink of water, I'll be right back.'"

And Haywood even picked the Giants to win the Super Bowl. Watch out, Gilbert Arenas.

## Get yer popcorn ready

How did the Hawks spend their day of preparation for Tuesday's game against the Pistons? Well, the veterans filled the rookies' cars with popcorn, according to the Atlanta Journal-Constitution.

(Rookie Al Horford, a Grand Ledge native, was away tending to a personal matter, thus avoiding the fake-buttery mess.)

Still, center Lorenzen Wright, who masterminded the prank, said the vets are taking it easy on the rooks.

"(Jermaine O'Neal) told me that when he was in Portland that Gary Trent, Rasheed Wallace and all them jumped him, took all his clothes, locked him out of his room and then trashed his whole room," Wright said. "And I'm talking about flushing sheets down the toilets, soaked all his clothes and everything."

## Quick hits

- Hall of Famer Bob Lanier will have his No. 16 jersey rededicated at halftime of the Feb. 20 Pistons-Bucks game in Milwaukee. Lanier played 9 1/2 seasons for Detroit, 4 1/2 for the Bucks.
- You have a cheering interest in the NBA Development League Slam Dunk Competition on Friday in

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New Orleans: Former Wolverine Brent Petway, now with the Idaho Stampede, is in the field.

**Best bet**

• Tonight's game against Indiana is the latest Ladies' Night Out at the Palace. Gals can get two tickets, two Pistons martini glasses, two passes for a postgame meet-and-greet with rookie Rodney Stuckey and a \$20 Palace gift card for \$59. Visit [pistons.com](http://pistons.com) to sign up.

**Rumor mill**

• Are the Bulls disappointed in big Ben Wallace already? The former Piston's name has popped up in rumored trades with New York and Utah this week.

• A Philadelphia paper said the Bulls had expressed interest in former Pistons coach Larry Brown, but Chicago GM John Paxson reiterated to the Chicago Sun-Times that interim coach Jim Boylan, a former Michigan State assistant, will finish the season.

Compiled from staff reports and news services by **JAMES JAHNKE**, who can be reached at 313-223-3808 or [jjahnke@freepress.com](mailto:jjahnke@freepress.com).

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