of rule will prevent two scrubs from getting into a scrap (see Askins-Edwards) and give the officials a chance to break up the fight before it gets totally out of control. Besides, sports figures are supposed to be our heroes (you've seen the commercials), so, therefore, we emulate everything they do (your humble scribes will soon die our hair blond a la Dennis "Sporting" Rodman). If the pros showed a little sportsmanship, then maybe Little Leaguers wouldn't have to be worried about doing away with the post game handshake (officials are worried that taunting after the game leads to fights).

Kudos to old friend Brian Lara, the world's greatest cricket player, on setting a new world cricket record by hitting 375 straight muffins in a quim in a match for his West Indies team two weeks ago. We are not really sure what this means, but the Prince of Port-of-Spain did remind us of days past that we spent under the bronzing rays of the Caribbean sun. Ah, pass the cocoa butter and pina coladas... Hoops guru Simson will be on a leave of absence from the crack Let's Argue staff next year, so that he can scout the Australian professional leagues. The Tech has spared no expense in his accommodations, so maybe he can get some of his predictions right next year. We now turn to the Sun God for his in-depth analysis of the NBA first round playoffs:

Pacers v. Magic. Reggie "My sister can kick my butt" Miller is still a jerk. Indiana did a good job shutting down the Shaq man through double-teaming, when the rest of the Magic could not hit from the outside. Orlando is in desperate need of a new coach and a power forward (can anyone say Horace Grant?). Hardaway showed flashes of brilliance, but hurt Orlando with his turnovers.

Nuggets v. Sonics. Look out for Denver in the years to come. Except for game one, they have played the Grunge town warriors tough. They have the effort, but because they have the youngest team in the NBA, they just don't have the horses (unlike Sir Vit' Evenrude) yet.

Knicks v. Nets. You can't speak of effort without mentioning Charles Oakley, who, along with the Garden crowd, were the only reasons the Knicks pulled out game two following Ewing's ejection.

Hawks v. Miami. Evander Holyfield was the only person from Atlanta supposed to hold the heavy-weight title, not Doug Edwards. TBS and NBC execs must be in aigo- iwiiitii btl lliu iIi,].


Spurs v. Jazz. Speaking of Denver in the years to come. Except for game one, they have played the Grunge town warriors tough. They have the effort, but because they have the youngest team in the NBA, they just don't have the horses (unlike Sir Vit' Evenrude) yet. Knick v. Nets. You can't speak of effort without mentioning Charles Oakley, who, along with the Garden crowd, were the only reasons the Knicks pulled out game two following Ewing's ejection.

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