

BY SIBYLLA NASH

If there ever was an award for MFP (Most Finest Player) in baseball, that award would definitely have to go to....David Justice.

David Justice. If ya' don't know, ya' better ask somebody. The boyish grin, the dimples, this Major League player is also a major league hearthrob.

At 6'3, 200 lbs., he's battled more than his share of curve balls this past year and a half.

After a very public marriage and divorce from actress Halle Berry and a trade which sent him from the Atlanta Braves to the Cleveland Indians, this Ohio native hasn't lost his game.

All the drama hasn't fazed Justice one bit. In fact, he started out the season as one of the league leaders in batting averages and homeruns. (For all of you non-baseball fans, translation: the brotha's good).

He has attributed his success as the result of being a much more mature hitter.

Just before you start to think Justice is all flava and no substance, you don't want to go there.

He has a serious message for the youth: you better recognize education is the key to success in life.

"What kids need to understand is that making it to the major leagues is like beating one in a million odds. Too often, kids will put everything they have into sports and they don't have anything to fall back on. You can't

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DAVID Justice: (And justice for all!)

put all of your eggs in one basket," he warned.

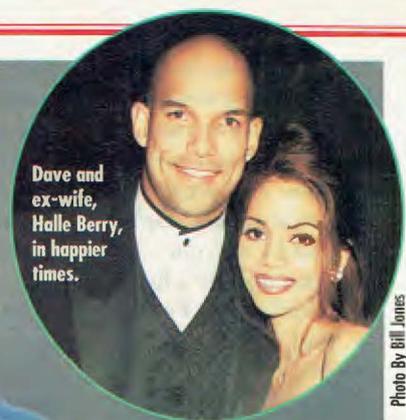
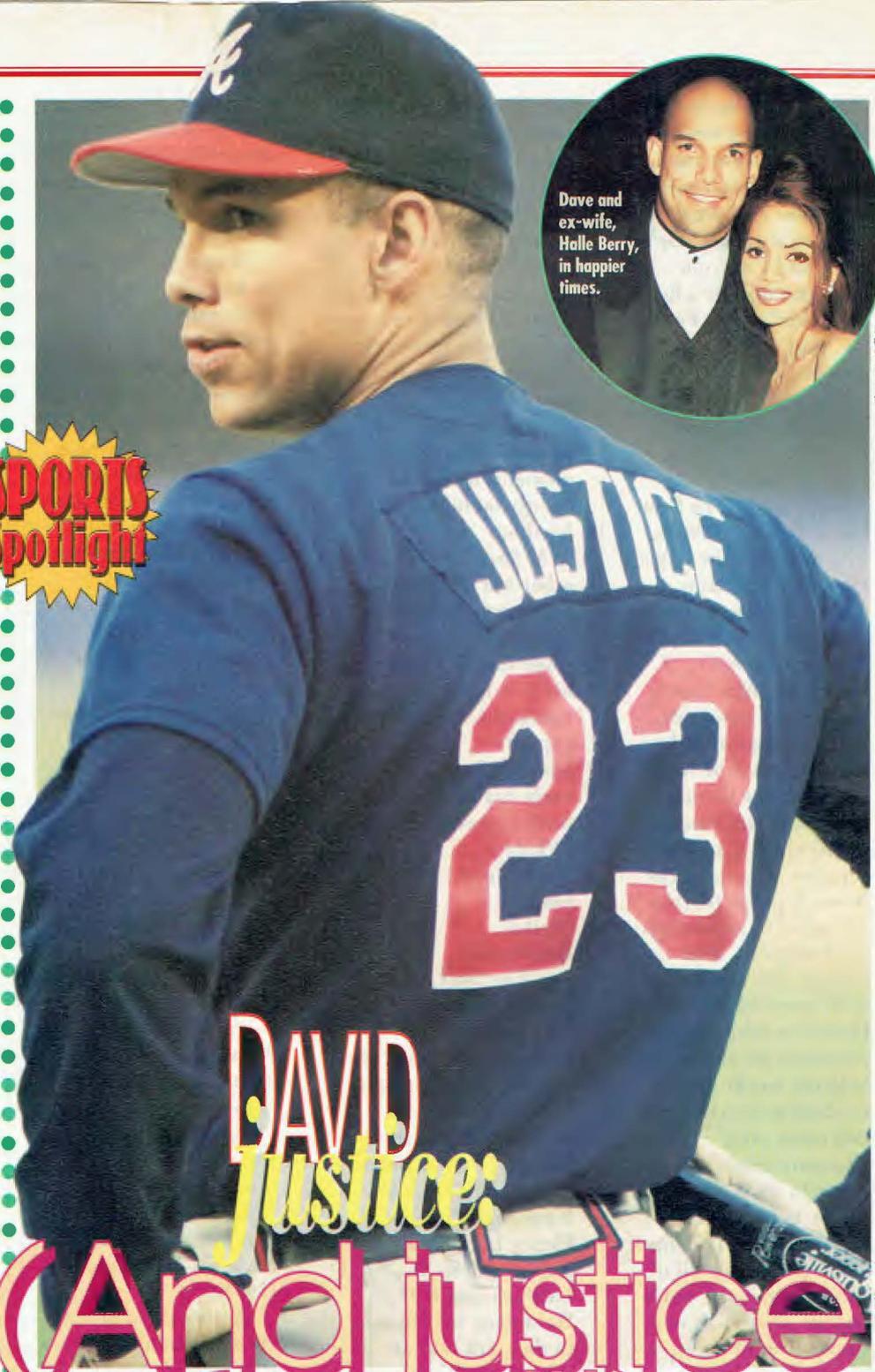
Not one to be labeled as all talk, Justice put his time where his mouth is, while in

Atlanta, he volunteered during his free time and worked with kids. He coached basketball for 13 and 14 year old youth and visited hospitals to raise the spirits

of sick children.

So, now that you know the score, how 'bout casting in your vote for Justice as MFP?

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Dave and ex-wife, Halle Berry, in happier times.

Photo By Bill Jones

Photo By Jeff Eisenberg

