

Sonics look for two, but Blazers say no

PORTLAND (AP) — Lenny Wilkens knows how hard it will be for his upstart Seattle SuperSonics to make it two in a row over the Portland Trail Blazers here Friday night.

"There's no doubt about it," Wilkens said as he prepares to put his team through a workout at Memorial Coliseum Thursday. "They feel they have to win. I'd expect them to be a little more patient and play a little better defense than they did the other night. "But we're going to play hard, too, because we think we can

win." Wilkens isn't alone in his thinking. Most of the 12,666 highly partisan fans who watched the Sonics soundly whip the Blazers 104-95 Tuesday night are probably still wondering what happened and what can be done to alter the outcome next time.

With the victory in the opener of the best-of-seven National Basketball Association quarter-final series, the Sonics took away Portland's home-court advantage. "We don't even want to think

about the desperate situation we'll be in if we lost Friday night," said Blazer forward Larry Steele, who scored 17 points in the first half Tuesday night, but was shut out the rest of the way.

The defending NBA champions were beaten in places they weren't supposed to be vulnerable.

They were impatient, reluctant to go through the various options of the intricate offense Coach Jack Ramsey has designed. Instead, they shot quick, errant

20-footers, which Sonics Marvin Webster and Jack Sikma promptly swallowed off the defensive boards.

Ramsey took the Blazers through a low-key workout Thursday, with Walton and Lloyd Neal not participating in the more strenuous parts of the practice session.

"I would hope Bill will run better tomorrow," Ramsey said.

As usual, Walton wasn't volunteering any information about his condition. So trainers Ron Culp acted as spokesman for the sore feet he kept Walton out of the final 22 games of the regular season. "He was pretty sore yesterday," Culp said, "but he's moving pretty well today."

Walton's performance Tuesday — 17 points, 16 rebounds, two blocked shots — had nothing to do with Portland's loss. But the play of Maurice Lucas — 3 for 15 from the field — and backup center

Tom Owens — 1 for 6 shooting, three rebounds and five fouls in 13 minutes — had a lot to do with it.

"That was the first game in 22 games that I haven't started," Owens said. "For those games I had my game going real good. Now I'm back on the bench. It's difficult to adjust. I just have to get used to coming off the bench and doing the job, like I was a month ago."

Ramsey said there are no major alterations planned.

"The players know what we have to do," he said. "Talking about it doesn't do it. We just have to go out there and play our game."

Ramsey will not be lured into saying just how disastrous it would be for the Blazers to lose twice in a row at home.

"The series isn't over until you win four games," the coach said. "No game is crucial until you're at that point."

Women at home for two matches

By TIM LEONARD
Of the Emerald

The Oregon women's tennis team opens a two-day home stand today with a match against the University of Puget Sound on the Alder Street courts beginning at 3:30.

The women netters, with a record of 6-3 following a convincing win over Oregon State last Tuesday, will play Southern Oregon Saturday at 2 p.m.

"Everyone played excellent tennis against OSU," coach Marti Schey said, "considering

that the matches were held indoors and the women had to overcome the dim lighting conditions." According to Schey, the women are, "getting their tennis game together."

Oregon has never played Puget Sound and although they have no idea about the quality of players they will face, Oregon will still need to play good tennis.

With several returning players, Southern Oregon will present strong competition. SOSU competed at the Berkeley Invitational and Schey is not taking them lightly.

The only losses thus far for Oregon have come in the California meet and at the hands of Washington. Schey feels the record of 6-3 shows her team is capable of playing well and has the possibility of winning the close ones.

Ducks hope to face OSU

Oregon will hope to continue the strong showing it has had in the first two weeks of Northern Division play as it hosts Oregon State — maybe — at 3 p.m. today at Howe Field.

Inclement weather — by name, rain — might force Oregon Coach Mel Krause to postpone today's three-set opener until Sunday. Krause will know by 11 this morning if the field, saturated by two straight days of rain, will be in playing condition. If not, Oregon will play two games at Oregon State Saturday (weather permitting) to be followed by the Sunday tilt (weather permitting).

The Ducks currently lead the Northern Division with a 4-1 mark, followed by Washington State at 3-2. The two teams will complete a game played April 15 that was suspended after 10 innings because of darkness if the outcome might have an affect on the Northern Division standings.

Oregon State is 2-2 in the Northern Division. The Beavers had a game with Washington suspended because of darkness and another one postponed because of rain. That game will be made up only if league standings will be affected.

Mel refuses to take the Beavers lightly.

"They gotta be a serious threat. They beat Washington up there," said Krause. "They're far from out of it."

The Beavers are led by junior center fielder Jerry Miller, who is hitting .357. Senior catcher Rich Harper and frosh first baseman

Dave McNair have also been top hitters for the Beavers.

In the pitching department, the Beavers have seniors Kenny Noble and Pat Barry. However, the pitching sensation for OSU has been freshman Eric Sallee, when undefeated this year.

The Beavers took five of the six Northern Divisions games between the two schools last year, but Krause said his team will not be looking for revenge.

"It's a different ball game, a different year," Krause said. "We're not out for any revenge. I'm concerned about this year, not last year."

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The University's women's soccer team will play SOSU at Autzen Stadium Sunday at 4 p.m.

Torture Ridge Sunday

Over 250 joggers and runners have already signed up for the Torture Ridge run to be held Sunday at noon. Entry fee for the run is \$1, with Hendricks Park the starting point.

V-ballers in championship

Oregon's Club Sports volleyball team will play Oregon State in the Pacific Northwest Collegiate Volleyball Championships to be held at OSU. The other matchup features Washington State and Washington, with the winners meeting for the title.

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Mallard, at 80 m.p.h.