

# Natt helps Blazers rake Spurs on road

**SAN ANTONIO (AP)** — Calvin Natt scored 26 points, seven of them in the fourth quarter, to lead the Portland Trail Blazers to a 126-124 National Basketball Association victory over San Antonio Tuesday.

Blazer guard Jim Paxson hit a 22-foot jumper with 47 seconds left in the game to give Portland the final lead.

Portland grabbed the ball and ran out the clock after Spurs coach Mo McHone tried to tell his players to call a time-out.

As George Gervin raised his hands to make his signal, guard Johnny Moore passed him the ball and hit Gervin in the face.

"Portland made some big shots in the last two minutes, and we didn't," said McHone. "We turned the ball over in crucial situations."

"It was a very, very big win for us," said Portland Coach Jack Ramsay. "Our starting five were magnificent, and the bench played well also. This was a real blood-and-guts game."

The game was tied 25 times, the last at the 1-minute mark when the score was 124-124.

Forward Gene Banks led all scorers with 27 points. Blazer forward Mychal Thompson

tallied 22 points, and guard Darnell Valentine and backup forward Kenny Carr chipped in 20 points apiece.

Banks also led the Spurs with 10 rebounds, the same number for Thompson. Valentine, who scored six of his 20 points in the last four minutes of the game, also handed out 10 assists.

Moore, one of the NBA's top assist men, had 12 assists and 14 points against the Blazers. Seven Spurs scored in double figures.

The Spurs outshot the Blazers 61.6 percent to 56 percent from the field. But the Blazers shot a sizzling 92 percent from the free throw line, outscoring the Spurs 23-17.

The Blazers appeared to have control of the game with a four-point lead with five minutes left in the third period. Then Gervin scored six straight points to give the Spurs a two-point lead.

Center Artis Gilmore got in early foul trouble and sat out most of the second and third quarters. He finished with 19 points and seven rebounds.

Before the game, Gilmore was honored for scoring his 20,000th career point last April.

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"Realistically, we're hoping to beat Pepperdine and upset Brigham Young," said Voelz. "This tournament will be an all-time challenge for us."

The Ducks conclude their pool play the next day against Texas (9 a.m.) and tournament host UCLA (noon). Texas is ranked 10th in the nation while UCLA holds the number-four position in the polls.

"I would like to think that we could upset Texas and UCLA too," Voelz said. "It'll be a tough, tough competitive

challenge." Oregon's chances will hinge on the return of two injured players. Lisa Gemoya (mild hamstring pull) and Cathy Hill (knees) are two netters the Ducks will need healthy if they are to survive in Los Angeles.

"A lot will depend on how much Cathy Hill can play," Voelz says. "Lisa Gemoya's return will be very important to us. Without them at full strength, we'll have a much weaker contingency."

By Brent Paz

# Avezzano reflects on victory

**CORVALLIS (AP)** — Oregon State football coach Joe Avezzano found himself in the unprecedented position of reacting to a Pacific-10 Conference victory Tuesday.

"It was very gratifying," Avezzano said of the Beavers' 31-18 victory over Stanford Saturday. "I'm not sure I can explain it. There is so much deep down."

It was the first conference triumph for Oregon State since 1979 and Avezzano's first Pac-10 victory in nearly four seasons at the school.

"In the locker room you could see the tremendous relief on the faces of the players," Avezzano said.

He warned, however, that the Beavers could be in for another long Saturday this week against Washington State if they don't remember what it took to accomplish the long-awaited victory.

"If they don't apply themselves, exhibit the same ingredients against Washington State, we'll have a problem," he said.

Avezzano said the keys to the long-awaited

victory were the fact the Beavers committed only one turnover and the emotional performance by the team's defense.

Meanwhile, Athletic Director Dee Andros said new goal posts will be erected at Parker Stadium in time for Saturday's game against WSU. They were torn down by Oregon State students after the victory over Stanford.

Andros said he wasn't upset that the goal posts had been destroyed.

"I don't blame anyone," he said. "In fact, I think I'd have been a little disappointed if something like that hadn't happened."

Andros said the new goal posts will cost \$3,000 plus freight and installation fees.

The Beavers should have enough money. Andros said Oregon State and Washington State should receive \$225,000 apiece from ABC for the regional telecast of Saturday's game. Oregon State received \$171,000 from its regional television appearance on CBS against California earlier this year.

Kickoff for Saturday's game has been moved back to 3:50 p.m.

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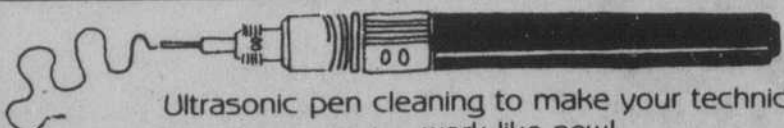
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