

'Magic' show gets rave reviews from an old mentor

By Gary Henley
Of the Emerald

When the Boston Celtics and Los Angeles Lakers battle each other in game one of the National Basketball Association championship series tonight, Oregon basketball coach Don Monson will take a particular interest in watching an old friend, Earvin "Magic" Johnson of the Lakers.

Monson was an assistant coach at Michigan State University during Johnson's freshman season with the Spartans, 1977-78.

The two have remained good friends to this day and the Ducks' head coach reminisced on Monday about their days at Michigan State.

"I remember when I first heard about Earvin," Monson recalled. "Jud Heathcote (the head coach at Michigan State), a good friend of mine, came up to me and said, 'there's a kid here in town that could make our

program.' Magic was still in junior high at that point, and we were talking about one kid that could make our program.

"Then when he was in high school, we always had somebody at every one of his games, either Heathcote, me, or Vernon Payne, who played a big part in recruiting him."

In his senior season at Everett High School in Lansing, Mich., Johnson led his team to a state title while averaging 28.1 points per game.

"The state final that year was Everett against Eastern High School. That was the big cross-town rival, because Eastern had Jay Vincent," Monson said. Vincent would later become a teammate of Johnson's at Michigan State, and now plays for the Washington Bullets.

Johnson also captained a United States high school team that won an all-star tournament in West Germany after his senior season had ended. When

he returned, a big decision awaited him — where to go to college.

"When he got back from that tournament," Monson said, "there were 7,000 people out at the airport waiting for him and telling him to stay in Lansing, and go to Michigan State. Everybody was after him. You name a school and they were after him.

"It came down to Michigan and Michigan State. Magic held a press conference in the gymnasium of his high school, and they put it over the intercom all over the school. Magic finally said, 'I've made my choice. I'll be going to Michigan', and he held it, and held it, and finally said 'State', and the whole place erupted."

Monson said the Johnson of yesterday wasn't much different than he is today. "He was always in a good mood, smiling all the time. Earvin knows how to treat people, no matter what



Don Monson and Earvin "Magic" Johnson

age they are. You liked to be around him, and he likes to be around people. He's always got time for you."

As a player, Johnson was an

"instant success" at Michigan State. As Monson recalls, "if there was ever a blue chip

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CLASSIFIEDS

PARTING SHOTS

Christiana LaPlaunt



"Keep up the progress"
You're my only inspiration.
LOVE, YOUR DAD KEN

PARTING SHOTS

U of O



We'll be back in fall. MTFBWWY!
Han, Luke, & Leia

Tracie Simpson

What can I say? Late night talks, man problems, the spring break from HELL, margaritas... need I go on? Good-bye El Torrito's, La Casa and Salem here we come! Thanks for a great year and here's to an even better summer! LOVE, LIZ

DB: It's been great being neighbors. Rafting, tequila, condom fights, and all night study breaks. I will miss you. CB
DTD SEAN OLDHAM: Out of mind, but not out of sight. From one who admires you secretly. Make sense yet?

DEAR IDRUS: With many special thoughts of you and all the things you've done. Congratulations, Graduate. Bon Voyage. LOVE, ANNA

CHI-O RUNT: It's been a year of growth alone. Now lets grow together. Good luck on finals. I love you! FUN-NYHONEY

SPIFF: Don't know how/why you put up with me. The future is way weirdness, but I do love you. TSHOST

SANDMAN



Congratulations
to my Hawaiian boy
LOVE, P.J.

PARTING SHOTS

TERESA ACOSTA! Enthusiastic best wishes to my drinking buddy. Good luck at the BEE, but beware of big Dave. JAN

KELLEY WIGGLE

11 weeks, 2 days, nous sommes partis bon voyage!

La Donna M. Dixon



GOOD LUCK!

LOVE, MOM & DAD

Andy Swanson



Thanks for sharing!

LOVE, DYMENT

ROB, COLL, MEEG, CHRISTIE, Don't be dismayed at good-byes. A farewell is necessary before you can meet again. And meeting again after moments or lifetimes is certain for those who are friends. SIMON

Classified Staff:

KELLI, TRACIE, MIKE, AND VIRGINIA: Thanks so much for everything! We've had a great year, now go out and have a wild summer! I'll miss you all. Take care, and may your futures be bright. LOVE, ALYSON

PARTING SHOTS

Mark Brown



GOOD LUCK!

LOVE, MOM, KURT, ADAM



THANKS FOR ALL THE FRIDAYS!
Love, Your lush-iou friends

JANELLE: Who loves you baby? Your drinkin' buddy, I'll miss you, TERESA

TO ALL OF STAN VERNOOY'S PRESENT AND FORMER STUDENTS: My heartfelt gratitude for the privilege of having been your teacher - you cannot know the joy you have given me. I hope you all have wonderful summers. Stop in and say goodbye! to those of you who will not return (Joelle, Kelly, Lonnie, Tony, and anyone else): live well and happily forever.

JANET HENDRICKS



Have a fun year in D.C.
We'll miss you!
Love, Sara and Vicki

PARTING SHOTS

Attention:
Stafford
What a year!

"Where's Claudia?", Jeremia was a bullfrog, vacuuming, late night movies, loud guitar solos, The Blue Blazers and Black Skirts, TV Room Activities, head injuries, red plaid boxers, overnight guests, relentless banging, 6-piece chicken McNugget head, water-balloons, beer runs, stairway ornaments, Hat party, scammin, himedoggin and pokin, jug-o-wine night, Emily's Early Homecomings, margaritas, Pleasee baby baby please, our twins, Pizza Answer, late night visits, and bad mannered Italian Dinners. We're gonna miss you all, here's to next year! LOVE, TRACIE AND LIZ

CITY CLUBBERS, We'll still lurk in the dark, in black, haunt city graves. "Every day is Halloween" Good luck all. DAPHNEEEEE



Kasey and Karen Klan



GOOD LUCK
KKK!

1986-87 NEWS SIDE: I think of you all as my children (abused), and I know you think of me as your benign (but heavenly) father. I'll miss our pre-funking and our other functioning. THE NIGHT-EDITING GOD

Humberto Chacon



GOOD LUCK!

JOVITA SCHWEIZER

PARTING SHOTS

HEY AIM! And you thought you'd never see your name in print... Thanks for more than I can say this year! I'll miss you over the summer, but enough said. Give Mr. Gabriel a hug in Chicago! CAROLYN

PETE M.: Just wanted to let you know Little Caesar's and Teriyaki Alley scheduled inserts for the last 3 editions. It had something about their last hard-working spec-writing ad rep. Thanks for the commissions. We'll do ice creams sometime RICK

CARRIE ELLIS



GOOD LUCK!

LOVE, MOM & JEFF

J and L



Thanks for the fun year. Good luck on finals. Miss you in summer!
LOVE, T

HE WAITS...



For you to come home.
And he's patient.
ALL OUR LOVE

YEAH DAVE!



GOOD LUCK!

LOVE, MOM & DAD