

Sideline

TODAY IN SPORTS

Basketball player suspected in beating of Maine mascot

ORONO, Maine (AP) — A University of Maine basketball player has been summoned to appear in court for allegedly assaulting the school's athletic mascot, "Bananas the Bear."

Henry McDaniel allegedly punched a man in the bear costume several times last Wednesday night in a campus cafeteria and later in a dormitory, said public safety investigator William Laughlin.

The Penobscot County District Attorney's office was reviewing the case to decide whether to file criminal assault charges against McDaniel.

The 6-foot-7 forward said the situation had been exaggerated.

"I would never intentionally try to hurt anyone," said McDaniel. "If I accidentally did hurt him, I apologize. I regret that I may have caused the person inside the Bananas costume any type of injury whatsoever."

Neither Laughlin or prosecutors would identify the man wearing the bear costume.

The man in the bear suit received a friction-type burn under the chin and an inch-long bruise on his head, Laughlin said.

Punch lands Oakley suspension and fine

NEW YORK (AP) — Forward Charles Oakley of the New York Knicks was suspended for one game without pay and fined \$6,000 by the NBA on Tuesday for throwing a punch at Philadelphia's Scott Williams during an exhibition game.

The league at the same time announced that Vernon Maxwell of the 76ers was fined \$3,000 for abusing the referees during the same game last Tuesday night in Uniondale, N.Y.

Oakley was ejected from the game, which the Knicks won 118-74, after throwing a punch at Williams with 6:45 remaining in the second quarter. Throwing a punch means an automatic suspension of at least one regular-season game. The ejection brings an additional \$1,000 fine.

Oakley will miss New York's season-opening game Friday night at Detroit.

The fines and suspension were announced by Rod Thorn, NBA senior vice president.

Win gives Ducks best record in four years

■ **VOLLEYBALL:** Oregon sweeps the season series against Portland with a win in three games Tuesday night

By Andrea DeYoung
Sports Reporter

The Ducks got a special Halloween treat Tuesday night as they picked up a non-conference win in Portland.

This was the second time the two teams played this year, and Oregon swept the series by winning both matches in three games. Tuesday night, the Ducks beat the Pilots 15-13, 15-6, 15-12.

The win also stopped a five-match losing streak for the Ducks and guaranteed them their best overall record since 1991. Oregon has not won more than seven games in the past four years. The Ducks record is

OREGON vs. Portland	
Oregon (15-13, 15-6, 15-12)	
Oregon	Portland
■ Kills:50	■ Kills:42
■ Aces:5	■ Aces:5
■ Team Blocks:9	■ Team Blocks:12
■ Digs:50	■ Digs:45
Next Home Game: Nov. 3 vs. Arizona	

now 8-15.

Oregon was led by junior outside hitter Amy McNeel who amassed 17 kills and had a .536 attack percentage on the night. Sophomore middle blocker Dani Cordova and sophomore outside

hitter Shelby Edwards each had 10 kills.

McNeel's attack percentage was the best for an Oregon player since last season. LaReina Woods hit .642 in a match against South Florida last September.

For Portland, Dawn Eudaly had a .429 attack percentage on 11 kills. She was the only Pilot with double-digit kills.

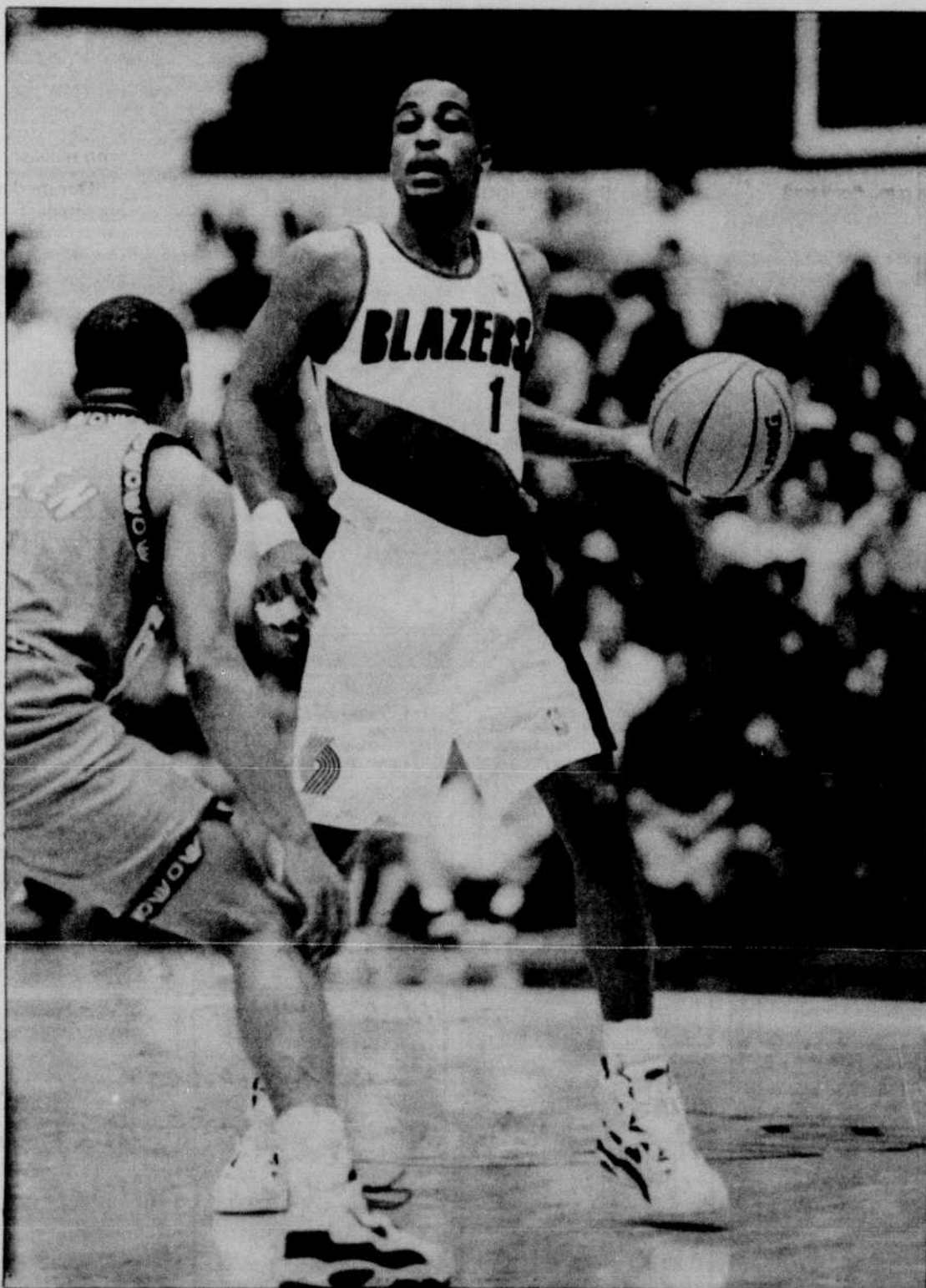
Despite ending game three with only a .083 attack percentage, Oregon was right on with its hitting game as the team got 47 of its 50 kills directly off sets. Sophomore setter Casey Crisler was able to come within 10 of her career best in assists with 46 in only three games. The team hit an overall .207 attack percentage, their best overall in the past seven matches.

The Ducks also played a good defensive game. McNeel had 17 digs and sophomore setter Casey

Crisler had 10. At the net, Oregon amassed nine team blocks, including four assisted blocks by sophomore middle blocker Tia Stewart.

Portland's Hollen Nelson had three service aces, but the Ducks were able to counter with five team service aces of their own. Although Oregon also had six service errors, it did not hurt the Ducks as the Pilots had nine of their own.

Tuesday night's win was the final non-conference match for Oregon this season. The team comes back home to McArthur court this weekend to face Arizona on Friday night and Arizona State on Saturday night. When the Ducks traveled to Arizona in early October, they lost to the Sun Devils in three games and the Wildcats in four games. Oregon looks to win its second conference game of the year, something the team could not accomplish last season.



The Portland Trail Blazers' Rod Strickland is one of two players — the other being Cliff Robinson — mentioned as possibly being used in a trade for Charlotte Hornets' center Alonzo Mourning.

Hornets put Mourning on trading block

■ **NBA:** Charlotte is unwilling to match the salary demands of its star center and may be interested in a deal involving Portland guard Rod Strickland

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) — Three days before they begin what they hope will be a season that elevates them to the NBA's elite, the Charlotte Hornets are considering trading Alonzo Mourning because of a contract dispute.

"We're trying to work out something where Alonzo will still be with the Hornets," said Bob Bass, the team's vice president of basketball operations.

Several broadcast and newspaper reports said Mourning, whose contract expires after this season, has been offered a seven-year, \$70 million deal by the Hornets. He reportedly wants \$13 million for seven seasons with an escape clause after four seasons.

The Hornets do not deny they are mulling a trade of one of the game's best players. They have called his demands unreasonable and are said to be talking with up to eight teams about a trade. Mourning is to earn \$4.35 million this season, his fourth in the NBA.

Among the deals being discussed, according to The Observer: 7-foot-1 center Vlade Divac, plus another player and a first-round draft pick from the Los Angeles Lakers; 7-foot center Eric Montross and another player and two first-round draft picks from the Boston Celtics; and point guard Rod Strickland and possibly forward Cliff Robinson from the Portland

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