



FALL CAMP, a phrase that might have been more appropriate had it been changed to "Fall Hospital Ward," considering the walking wounded on hand, opened Sunday for the Portland Trail Blazers at Mt. Hood Community College's gymnasium. ABOVE: Maurice Lucas talks to members of press, confirming his satisfaction with changes in medical practices within the club organization. MIDDLE: Tom Owens, the apparent heir to the Blazer pivot slot vacated by Bill Walton, discusses Monday workout plans with coach Jack Ramsay. RIGHT: Larry Steele watches practice while his hand, in cast, prevents him from taking an active role.

Blazer cry: Is there a doctor in the house?

Mr. Ace, or whoever it was that invented the bandage, must be making a mint off the Portland Trail Blazers.

When the Blazers opened fall training camp at Mt. Hood Community College Sunday, they welcomed the largest array of bumps, bruises and breaks any National Basketball Association team has seen in some time.

On Monday, Maurice Lucas burns a Mt. Hood basketball manager in a game of horse and complains about his sore wrist.

Bobby Gross rests his healing fractured ankle and reads Mary Worth on the sidelines next to Larry Steele, who is playing with the cast on his right hand.

Lloyd "Elephantitis Knees" Neal stiff-legs himself around the gym like a man who laid in bed for three months and then got up and immediately jogged five miles.

Lionel Hollins has his knee wrapped but fortunately looks as quick as ever.

Dave Twardzik looks fine until he bruises a kidney and lays himself up indefinitely.

Covering these Blazers is like covering a wing of Good Samaritan Hospital.

Second-year man T.R. Dunn is one of the few Blazer vets without at least a nagging toothache. "I guess I've just been fortunate," he understates.

The Blazers are hurtin' for certain. There is a dark cloud hanging over them as they prepare for their exhibition opener Friday in Seattle.

But there's also a little silver lining.

While Bill Walton pounds palm trees with the Grateful Dead rock band in Egypt and vows to never wear flannel shirts and logger's boots again, seven Blazer rookies fight for the three, four or possibly five vacant spots on the Portland roster.

Invited to fall camp were No. 1 draft choice Mychal Thompson of Minnesota; Ron Brewer of Arkansas; Keith Herron, Villanova; Clay Johnson, Kim

Anderson and Willie Smith, all of Missouri; and Clemon Johnson of Florida A&M.

Blazer coach Jack Ramsey and his assistant Jack McKinney stand on the sidelines and watch their talent. In a far corner of the gym, Dunn sits and also surveys the rookies.

"This is just one super bunch of guys. They are all very good basketball players," Dunn says, well aware that he will be fighting them to retain his Blazer status.

The rookies are loose, confident. They don't give the impression of being under much pressure, though everyone knows they are.

"You want an action shot," Smith asks a photographer. "Get this one. Get this one," he says, attempting a dunk that hits the rim and skies upward to the Mt. Hood dome.

Thompson, a cross between Memorial Coliseum and the Sears Tower, puts up a shot that also bounces off the rim. "Bricklayer," taunts Lucas as he walks by.

Seeing Lucas clown it up with the rookies has the Blazer brass all smiles. Lucas earlier had criticized the team's medical practices and had thought about leaving Portland.

"We have had several meetings with the management and it's come to a point where I think we've reached a happy medium," Lucas said. "There have been mistakes made, but they were the kind that could be resolved."

Lucas said the team would miss the hobbling Walton if he chose to leave, but the Blazers still would be a competitive team. "I don't see any way of replacing Bill but we have a lot of talent out there. When Bobby, Larry and Lloyd are back at full strength, we'll be looking good."

Red Cross offers safety tips for sportsmen

With fishing season in full swing and the beginning of hunting season just around the corner, the American Red Cross is urging sportsmen to take a "self preservation" approach to outdoor recreation.

Hunters and fishermen should take special care because injury and mortality rates are largely attributed to self-inflicted wounds, according to Margaret Neill, Volunteer First Aid Chairman for the Red Cross.

"Statistics prepared by the National Safety Council show that hundreds of fishermen and hunters injure themselves and others every season," Neill said. "Many more die from gunshot wounds, drowning and other causes."

"Unsafe conduct and unsafe habits are at the root of those accidents," she added.

With Sept. 23 designated as National Hunting and Fishing Day, the Red Cross is offering sportsmen the following tips:

Hunting
—Know basic first aid and include a first aid kit in your gear.

—Take along a compass, knife or hatchet, and matches.

—Leave word with someone where you plan to hunt and what time you plan to return.

—Never point at anything you don't intend to shoot.

—Wear bright colors when hunting.

—Know the terrain — a fall can cost you your life if you are carrying a loaded gun.

—Treat every gun as if it were loaded. Never take anyone's word that a gun is "empty."

—Be sure of your target. Never shoot at noises — wait until the whole animal or bird is visible.

—Know the correct way to carry your gun — under arm, shouldered, cradled or with both hands. Make sure the safety is on, your finger outside the trigger guard, the muzzle in a safe direction and the gun under control.

—Keep the safety on or the chamber unloaded until ready to fire...and keep your finger out of the trigger guard.

—Be sure ammunition is the right caliber and power load for your gun.

—Check the bore through the breech end before loading to be sure it is clear of foreign objects.

—Be sure the action is open when handing the gun to another person, or when stopping to eat, rest or talk.

—Transport unloaded guns in cases.

—When duck hunting from a boat, two hunters should sit back to back. Never place a loaded gun in the bottom of the boat.

—When hunting in a group, no hunter should carry a gun so that it ever points at another person.

—Unload a gun before crossing a fence and pass the gun under first.

—Keep guns stored,

unloaded and out of reach of children. Lock up guns and ammunition in separate places.

—Teach your children the principles of firearm safety.

Fishing

—Know how to swim and administer first aid, and carry a first aid kit in your gear.

—Listen to the weather forecast so you can dress appropriately and take the necessary precautions in the event of bad weather.

—Take along needle-nose pliers, wire cutters and a pocket knife and stow these with all other fishing tackle in a covered container when not using.

—Leave word with someone where you plan to fish and when you plan to return.

—Avoid fishing in waters where there are swimmers and divers nearby.

—Don't go barefoot. Fish fins, broken glass, nails and other debris may cause injury. If you are fishing from a boat, don't wear fishing boots or waders.

—If you are wading, move cautiously to avoid step-offs into deep water or slipping and falling in fast-running water.

—Extracting the hook from a fish's mouth can be

dangerous, since some varieties of fish have very sharp teeth. Caution should be used.

—Should you snag yourself with a hook, cut it from the line, put a dressing around the wound and go to a doctor as soon as possible.

—Boats should not be anchored in channels or tied to buoys; these are traffic lanes that should be clear at all times.

When fishing from a boat, remain seated and cast overhand, never sidearm, and carry a personal flotation device for every passenger.

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