



Sports Talk

Ron Sykes,
Sports Editor

Injustice to say the least, The National Basketball Association has announced it's coach of the year, and once again made a farce of media voting.

Atlanta's Hubie Brown, who led his team to their first play-off berth in five years was the winner over a more deserving Lenny Wilkens.

With three votes from media in each league city, Brown received 28 1/2 votes to Wilkens' 19 1/2. Just a reminder that votes were cast on the basis of regular season records. Brown finished at .500, while Wilkens finished well above that mark.

After taking over a sinking ship that had teetered to a 5-17 record, Wilkens quickly established himself as captain, inserted some motivation that was to right the keel and race his sleek vessel on to victory.

Blacks have won the MVP, Rookie of the Year, but what will they have to do to win the Coach of the Year?

Bill Russell couldn't, Al Attles couldn't, and now Lenny Wilkens didn't. Attles, Golden State Coach, took a team predicted to finish in the Pacific Division cellar and raced to the NBA Championship. The media again ignored the accomplishments of this fine Black coach by naming Kansas City's Phil Johnson.

Now that the season has ended for the Blazers, then naturally the talk should now turn to next season. But before we can get there we must first deal with the

upcoming NBA draft to be held on June 9th.

The Blazers were the only NBA team to not improve themselves through last year's draft, and after their successful campaign of a year ago one could easily understand their decision not to tamper with success.

But this year will be different. It's obvious that T.R. Dunn is on shaky ground and appears to be a marginal NBA player at best. For sure the Blazers will make two changes. Larry Steele would appear to be vulnerable, but then one never knows because of Steele's popularity in the Rose City.

Personally I look for the NBA owners to restore the twelve man roster, and if this happens Corky Calhoun will be around, for sure, next season. Calhoun is extremely valuable playing both small and big forward. And if called upon could play the big guard. The key in this year's draft is Indiana's Larry Bird. If "the Bird" goes hardship then Portland's chances of landing Minnesota's 6'10" Mychal Thompson is very good. If Bird goes (hardship) the Indiana Pacers have stated publicly that he's their man.

Kansas City, drafting #2 is not in the market for a big man and that leaves Portland with the third choice ready to deal with Thompson.

The Blazers real need is a big man and either the draft or trades must supply this necessity.

The draft can be a very crucial organ, it can either make or break a team. Some years a draft may be good, other years not so good. The experts tab 1978 as being a decent year. Let's go back a few years, to 1974 and review some of the choices made and believe me some were interesting.

In 1974 Portland drafted #1 in the NBA and chose the 6'11" Bill Walton. And that was good.

Philadelphia picking second, in the first round, took Marvin Barnes, their second round choice was Don Smith, 6' guard from Dayton, Ohio. And in the third round chose Coniel Norman, 6'5" from Arizona State. This had to be a bad draft for Philly, because none are now around.

New York probably fared the worst of all in '74 and that's probably why they're still struggling today. The Knicks drafted last in the first round and chose Jesse Dark, 6'4" from Virginia Commonwealth. In the second round they chose Rudy Jackson, 6'9" from Hutchinson, South Carolina, #50 player picked in the draft.

In the third round New York chose Roy Ebron, 6'8" from Southwest Louisiana. So as you can see the draft can be good . . . and sometimes bad.

Another item of interest is that George Gervin, this years scoring champ was picked in the third round by Phoenix, and was the 40th player chosen. Talk about a blunder, this had to rank way up there among the worst.

Blazers fight crime

A unique crime prevention program has been launched in Portland.

The Crime Prevention Trading Card Program came into being as a result of a crime problem in the Southeast Buckman Area and the subsequent involvement of the neighbors in the Buckman Area and their efforts to alleviate that problem through crime prevention. These efforts also inspired the theme used for the trading cards' crime prevention tips: Children as Victims; Children as Offenders; and Children as Crime Fighters.

The Crime Prevention Trading Card Program is a joint effort between the Portland Police Bureau's Crime Prevention Unit, the Portland Trail Blazers, and the Portland Area Kiwanis Club.

On one side of the cards is a picture of a Trail Blazer basketball player along with the Blazer logo, the NBA logo, and the player's autograph. The reverse side of the card has a basketball rule or definition and a crime prevention tip. For example: Trap - luring the dribbler into a situation where two defenders will pressure him. The crime prevention tip would be "Don't let your friends trap you into doing something wrong. Don't do something on a dare."

Distribution of the cards will be accomplished by crime prevention unit personnel when giving short talks at grade schools and by uniformed officers who will be passing them out on playgrounds and in parks - anywhere children are found.

Notice

The Judo Junior Olympics will be held Saturday at Beaverton High School. Approved by the AAU, the tournament is open to youngsters from ages six through eighteen years of age.

Winners will qualify for the Regional Tournament, and those winning then will go to the National in Nebraska. Over 200 participants are expected.

The tournament will be held from 12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m. There is no admission charge.

Don King donates fight proceeds to charity

Promoter Don King will donate \$50,000 of his earnings from his World Boxing Council Heavyweight championship fight between Champion Ken Norton and Challenger Larry Holmes to selected Black charities.

The Norton-Holmes championship fight will be held at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas on Friday night June 9th.

King will donate \$10,000 each to the National Black United Fund, The National Newspaper Publishers Association, The NAACP, Operation PUSH and the Martin Luther King Center for Social Change.

King made the announcement at a major San Francisco Press Conference. He was flanked by Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett, prominent San Francisco physician and president of both the National Black United Fund and the National Newspaper Publishers Association, and Lynda Anderson, Associate Director of NBUF.

The donations will be made as designated contributions to the National Black United Fund. King is a member of the Board of Directors of the National Black United Fund. He is also Chairman of the Special Gifts Committee.

"I am giving as a gesture to affirm the need of all Blacks and indeed all Americans at all levels to give to advance the dignity and respect of Black people, and



World Boxing Council Heavyweight Champion, Ken Norton (left) and boxing's newest sensation, Larry Holmes (right) playfully test the power of their best punches on the chin of promoter Don King. The two heavyweights will meet in a title match on June 9th.

all people," King said.

"These donations, are only a drop in the bucket but through them I appeal to my fellow Americans to put something in so that we get something out."

"Don King has always been a trailblazer," Goodlett said. "But this gesture is so

timely and so needed that it is historic. Don is coming forward at a time when charitable giving is at a crucial crossroad. I applaud his generosity and assure him that posterity will certainly do honor to his kindness and commitment."

Bikespring promotes the bicycle

Anyone who has ever ridden a bicycle

knows what fun it can be to spin along on ski ny wheels while the breeze plays tug o-war with your hair. Tailwinds show it you along in front of them, downhill runs prickles the spine, and uphill, well, uphill can be just plain work, but then a little exercise doesn't hurt, really. This summer will again play host to numerous holiday spirits out to resist that old humbug Gravity by dint of machine and muscle, but this summer will be something special, at least in Portland, for this year the bicycle will assume a place of distinction at a week long festival from May 27th, to June 4th, called Bikespring 78. Events of all types are planned, from informative lectures to a free mechanical repair facility, from leisurely tours to the frantic action of racing. It is meant to honor the simple two wheeler in all its wondrous applications at these proceedings, and to bring all those who spend time now and then pedaling about, together in the spirit of celebration.

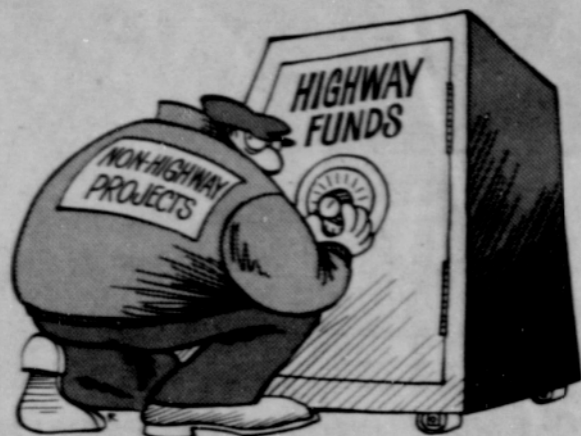
Secondly, there is probably no other form of mechanical transport which in its operation does not in some way pollute the environment, whereas the bicycle cannot be similarly accused. The air through which it rolls is left as clean as when it came, no telltale scent of combustion or any other such manner of gaseous explosion most undignified remains to insinuate its passing. As already stated, it will likewise not insult the hearing sense.

Third, it is a sound investment. It doesn't require a large initial expenditure, the average price for a serviceable unit being around \$150.00, although they sell for up to \$1,000.00, and unlike the automobile for instance, they don't depreciate a fourth, fifth, sixth, or even a fiftieth upon purchase. But, their greatest advantage is realized in the fractionally minimal cost of operation and maintenance. Some figures may best illustrate the point. Based on a 1978, study conducted in Philadelphia, the annual cost for an automobile was \$1,170.00, while a bike cost only \$50.00. Another interesting statistic reveals that a bicycle is ten times more energy efficient than a car. In fact, it has been proven to be the most efficient manifestation of transport, that includes animals as

well, on earth.

The efficiency alone of the machine makes it a surpassingly pleasant and superior form of locomotion. It is the essence of simplicity and most expedient in the performance of its duty. As if that

weren't enough, a bicycle and rider in flight represents the most perfect marriage of man and machine, neither one nor the other in command, but both locked in a harmony of circles the climax of which approaches the quintessence of human motion.



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Oregon can have better highways without another tax increase. There is enough money now, but Highway Funds are being "raided" for non-highway projects and agencies.

By rededicating highway funds with a constitutional amendment (which will be on the November ballot) to cover highway improvements only, an additional \$55 million would be available for use on highways each biennium. This rededication alone would produce the necessary funds to complete all of the highway department projects through the 80-81 biennium and still leave a surplus of over \$27 million. Why do we need more taxes?

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Paid by: Lew Chambers, Treasurer for OLTA, an Association serving the Forest Products Transportation Industry, 1449 Liberty St. S.E., P.O. Box 2167, Salem, Oregon 97306.

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