



Sports Talk

by Ron Sykes
Sports Editor

What a difference a change in scenery can make in some players. Take Seattle's John Johnson for an excellent example. When "JJ" was a Blazer he was known only as an offensive player. And looked always for the shot. It was well-known around town that "JJ" and Lenny Wilkens didn't see eye-to-eye.

When "JJ" was finally benched in favor of Lloyd Neal he let the world know his feelings. "He (Lenny) took my starting job, I didn't lose it," said an obviously disgruntled Johnson.

Coach Wilkens, in an effort to bring life to a sinking Blazer team, was trying to find a viable combination and chose to go with the 6'9" Wicks and 6'7" Neal at forwards. Lenny was obviously doing what Jack Ramsay this year did with Portland and that is to go with two big forwards.

It caused problems because the talented "JJ" sulked on the bench, much like young Mychal Thompson did. But unlike Thompson, who became a starter as a result of his pouting, "JJ" became expendable and was traded. After a stop in Houston and a brief stay in Boston, very brief, "JJ" landed in Seattle to eventually join Wilkens again.

Now Mr. Johnson is winning praise as a defensive player and a great passer for the league-leading Sonics.

John Johnson will probably continue his excellent performances for the Sonics but look for the Lakers to win the best of seven series. L.A., with the irrepressible Kareem Abdul Jabbar, should win this series in seven games. The speed in Seattle's backcourt, Dennis Johnson and Gus Williams, will hurt L.A. but second year man Norm Nixon will negate some of that speed. Jabbar has been receiving some much needed help on the boards from the 6'9" Chris Ford, and appear now to be ready to give coach Jerry West a going away present.

The West division crown should be won in a play-off between L.A. and Phoenix. The Suns will need a miracle and a bunch of hot shooting to survive the Lakers.

Phoenix has good outside shooting but will match up terribly against the Lakers.

Norm Nixon will turn the Phoenix guards "every which way but loose." For real.

There's a new star arising in the East. Watch those always tough at home Atlanta Hawks. The Hawks had the best home record in the NBA compiling a 34-7 mark, and has already beaten last year's NBA champs the Bullets at home. The fat lady will sing this year in April and the Bullets will not repeat. The Eastern title game should be played between San Antonio and Atlanta. I know this is an unlikely pair and if I were a betting man could probably break the bank at Las Vegas. But the Hawks are 1-1 in their series and now are headed home for two and if they win two at home then that would put Washington in a hole so deep that it's highly unlikely that they could come back. Although it could happen and we all know that they overcame a 3-1 lead last year against Seattle, when Sonic fans thought they had it won and had already planned parades, dances in the street, and other victory celebrations.

The San Diego Clippers may not be in the play-offs, as expected, but they're still in the news. Coach Shue, in talking about his team, thinks Lloyd Free, the 6'2" guard, should be the MVP of the league to go with his self-proclaimed all world status.

I agree that Lloyd made a significant contribution to the Clippers but my choice for MVP is the giant who roams the court for the Lakers, Jabbar.

Without Kareem — coach West would have retired long ago. This man (Jabbar) has literally carried the Lakers since his arrival. And at age 31 is showing no signs of slowing down. Even though a sorry LA press corp would try and lead their readers to believe that at times Jabbar gives less than 100 percent. Not true.

Jabbar's effortless and easy-going style is deceiving. . . . It appears from watching him that he's loafing, but in reality he's really doing a job.

'They Are Like That'

"They Are Like That!" by Warren M. Banner is a collection of stories revealing the Black-white relationship in the United States and abroad. It is published by Dorrance & Company.

Dr. Banner searched two dozen foreign countries and approximately fifty urban centers in the United States to find the answer to the question why the Black man, although finally accepted as equal, still is considered different.

The inferences drawn about relationships, Black-white, at home (U.S.A.) and abroad are deductions from first-hand experiences over the period of three decades. The stories are told to illustrate aspects of behavior as people communicate with each other in our multi-racial society.

The instances of discrimination suffered by Blacks serve as a reminder that there is still a long way to go before prejudice is eradicated.

His stories are sobering, to say the least.

All Americans will look more closely at themselves after they read this book, and perhaps think before they proclaim the ideals which our democracy propagates to and for the world.

Warren M. Banner received his B.A. and M.A. from Pennsylvania State University and his Ph.D. in economics from the University of Pittsburgh. He was director of research for the National Urban League for three decades. After leaving the League, he served as director of the Model Cities Program in Waterbury, Connecticut, for almost five years.

He has written over fifty community stories and agency evaluations. "They Are Like That!" is his second book, his first being "If We Thot They Ot To Have It . . . : Research To Answer What Blacks Ought To Have."

Dr. Banner is a resident of New York City.

GIVE TO THE UNITED NEGRO COLLEGE FUND.
A mind is a terrible thing to waste.

APPROXIMATELY 160 USED VEHICLES

U.S. GOVERNMENT SALE BY AUCTION — TO THE PUBLIC

INSPECTION:

April 26 and 27, 1979 — 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM
April 28, 1979 — 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM

LOCATION:

GSA Motor Pool
Sales & Storage Area
(Adjacent to Simpson Street)
Vancouver, Washington

SALE DATE: April 28, 1979 — 10:00 AM

Sedans	Station Wagons	Pickups	Van	Bus
Caravans	Cab & Chassis	Dump Trucks	Line Trucks	
Office Trailers	Forklifts	Air Compressor	Trail Bike	
Truck Mtd. Auger	Wheeled Loader (89 Case)	Stake Trucks		
	Crawler Tractor (D4D)			

4x4's — Pickups, Scouts, Wagoneers, Jeeps & Bronco

General Services Administration
Personal Property Division
Federal Property Resources Service
Auburn, Washington 98002

Dunk Kings hold tourney

Pal Boys Club of Portland will be the site of the Dunk Kings Northern Oregon Dunking Championships, for all boys and girls ages 7-17, Saturday, April 28th beginning at 12:00 Noon.

The Northern Oregon Championships, which are competed on adjustable, portable goals at various heights from 5 to regulation 10 feet, are one of four regional championships in the Dunk Kings 1979 Oregon State Lowered Hoop Dunking Championships with over 160 dunkers from the four regionals advancing to the Oregon State Finals June 2nd in Portland.

After the Oregon State Finals one dunker from each of the four regionals will be selected to the Dunk Kings U.S. All Stars to participate in the Caribbean Dunking Classic August 22nd-31st in San Juan, Puerto Rico, featuring basketball and dunking competition involving young athletes from the U.S., Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. The U.S. All Stars will also participate in dunking clinics as well as perform several dunking exhibitions. Hopefully, through fundraising and sponsorship other top regional dunkers will also be able to make the trip.

The rules for the dunking competition are as follows:

The Northern Oregon Championships are open for all Oregon boys and girls ages 7-17 to participate. Entry fee is \$1 for participants and \$2 for spectators. Proceeds are to be used to send Oregon dunkers to the Caribbean Classic.

During the dunking competition the participants will each be assigned to one of thirteen divisions by age, but can dunk in any division above this assigned height if desired. Each participant is given five dunks worth from 0-10 points for style, difficulty and individual creativity plus an ex-

tra 2 points for each dunk made for a maximum total of 60 points with the highest total being declared the winner. Judging is by two judges.

There will also be two special Pre-Northern Oregon Championships Dunking Clinics Friday, April 27th at 6:00 p.m. and at 10:00 a.m. the following morning preceding the Championships. Participants can learn in advance the skill and fine art of lowered hoop dunking. The Clinics will also feature dunking exhibitions and one-on-one dunking matches by members of the Dunk Kings 1978-79 All Stars, the top dunkers of the 1978 Washington and Oregon State Championships who have just completed a half-time dunking exhibition season featuring exhibitions during top flight college games, SuperSonics and Trailblazers pro games and a Christmas tour of Hawaii with competition and exhibitions during the Rainbow Classic Tournament. Entry fee for the Clinics is \$1 for participants and spectators. The Clinics are to be held at Pal Boys Club (503) 775-1549.

Notice

To show support for the Portland Timber players, and other NASL players who want their union recognized, we decided not to cover the game played against Minnesota last Saturday night.

Cardiopulmonary resuscitation training is available through your local Red Cross Chapter. Call.



Springtime

SAFEWAY in Paris

2 GRAND PRIZES

WIN A FABULOUS VACATION FOR 2 TO PARIS, FRANCE

Rules: Fill out a registration slip each time you visit any of the participating Oregon and S.W. Washington Safeways (Ontario & Milton-Freewater excluded). No purchase necessary. Only adults may win. Complete rules on entry blanks.

Unbelievable but true. Safeway is giving away not one, but TWO Grand Prizes. Each one a trip for 2 to Paris, France. 7 days and 6 nights. Trip includes air fare via Air France, departure from Portland, hotel accommodations, and 4000 expense money.

INFLATION FIGHTER

Margarine

Nucor No-Burn First 2, 1-lb pkgs.

2 For \$88¢
(Additional at Reg. Price)

INFLATION FIGHTER

Jeno's Pizza

Canadian Bacon or Pepperoni 12.5-oz. Pkg.

2 For \$88¢
(Additional at Reg. Price)

Del Monte Catsup 24-oz. Btl. **59¢**

Graham Crackers Busy Baker Sugar Honey **\$1.19**

Snow Star Ice Cream Assorted Half Gal. **88¢**

Cheddar Cheese Lucerne Mild 2 lb. Leaf **\$2.98**

Tampax Tampons Super or Regular 40's **\$1.88**

SUPER SAVER

Whole Fryers

Grade A Frying Chicken

59¢ lb.
SAVE 20¢ lb.

USDA CHOICE

Chuck Steak

USDA Choice Beef Chuck Blade Cut

\$1.18 lb.
SAVE 80¢ lb.

SUPER SAVER

Navel Oranges

Extra Large Sunkist Seedless Navels Zipper Skinned

29¢ lb.

Play Bingo

HURRY

Ends Soon

Still plenty of time to win. Still prizes to be claimed. Game will officially end when our supply of tickets is exhausted.

SAFEMAY COUPON

Redeemable thru April 24, 1979

MOTOR OIL

Valvoline 30 Wt. or 10W 40

16¢ off Reg. Price

Limit 6 Qts. Per Coupon
Portland Division Cash Value 1/20 of one cent

Ad Prices Good thru Tues., April 24 at all Portland Area Safeway Stores.

SAFEMAY