



# Sports Talk

by Ron Sykes  
Sports Editor

It was reported before the Sugar Ray vs. Andy Price fight, that Leonard was looking past Price to Champion Wilfredo Benitez.

Well, he can look no longer, because Friday night at approximately 6:00 pm (pst) Ray Leonard will have accomplished his goal, by winning an unanimous decision over the champ.

Leonard's record is a healthy 25-0 with 16 knockouts, while Benitez is undefeated and has only a draw to blemish his stary record.

Believe me, Leonard is great, but is the champ, and this one will be a great fight. Is Sugar Ray the former Olympic great ready for the big or "I think so," says Lou Harris, "But this one will only be a prelude to the Leonard VS Duran fight."

"I give Benitez the edge," beams longtime fight fan Earl Sykes. Mr. Sykes thinks the champs experience will be the difference in a close fight. Other views on Leonard VS Benitez:

Henry Mitchell: "I'm just going to relax, not bet, and enjoy the whole show."

Del Butler: "Leonard's going to

have to beat him, but to be truthful, I haven't seen much of Benitez."

Remember the name Tommy Hearn's? Well, he's the young welterweight fighting out of Detroit, that I've said could very well be the best in the business.

Mike Morton, manager of Portland's Mike Colbert, has signed his boxer for a fight against Hearn's and proclaimed that it's a must win fight for Colbert. Well, if Colbert's career hinges on a victory against Hearn's...then Colbert should ready himself for a new career and Morton should begin to drink coffee again. I'm sure Hearn's will win big.

Tommy Hearn's, at 6'1, is a tremendous boxer-puncher with incredible knockout ability; much like Leonard, only bigger.

Where are they now? Remember the great Irving Park Senior League team that represented Oregon in the Regional Tournament, held in Concord, CA? Talent wise, this was probably the best ever to represent this state. I mean as a group, they could do it all, but the sorry point is that only one of the 14 super players are doing anything. The team mem-

bers were: Don Polk, Dan Brooks, 2nd base; Tacy Lomax, 1st base; Tim Concaunon, Pitcher; Donny Ranson, 3rd base; Ronny Ranson, R.F.; Darryl Motley, Pitcher and SS; Gary Washington, probably should have played high school, college and even pro ball, but never played another year of baseball. Gary's talents were a real waste. Ivory Joe White, C.F. Ivory Joe had as much raw talent as anyone. Ivory Joe could run, hit and was a vacuum in centerfield, that along with a Springfield rifle for an arm. Ivory Joe never played ball past Irving Park, a real tragedy.

The Ranson twins, Donny and Ronny, are said to be competing at the collegiate level-Ronny in California and Donny, in a Washington J.C.

Gary Washington, Ivory Joe and Darryl Motley, all were considered as likely pro prospects-only Motley has made it. He's (Motley) is currently toiling in the Kansas City organization. Howard Jenkins, a sub on the 75 team, is reportedly playing in a Washington junior college also. A lot of talent wasted...and who's to blame? Most football AD's spend the summer thinking up catchy and attractive theme's for the coming season. A few years ago, under the Don Read regime, a slogan was used "On the horizon" which would lead one to believe that Duck football was about to arrive. Coach Rich Brooks, after shying away from cash promises, therefore, promising no unwarranted hope this year readily agreed to "the rush is on" and both slogans were in effect last Saturday, when the Ducks took it to the Beavers to a tune of 24-3. Brooks did it by running straight at the Beavers and pounding out usually 6 and 7 yards per clip. It would have been worse had not Brooks elected to go to his bench early, allowing his seniors to get in their farewell licks. Oregon football is on a definite use and just have to remember a statement made last year by Willie Blasher, "this program is really on the way to something big and I'm going to really feel proud when I return here, to have been a part of this." Well, Willie, you can start smiling and return to the Eugene campus with head held high.

## BLAZER PRIME TIME SPECIAL

An inside look at the team that dazzled the world by capturing the 1977 NBA Championship title. Can they do it again? KATU's Steve Arena joins Bill Schonely and Steve Jones for an exclusive look at the team, the individual players and the future of the Portland Trail Blazers.

Tonight 8:00pm KATU Television Channel 2

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## PCC soccer captain brings Dutch heritage to winning team

When Reggie Persijn, 27, was a five-year old in Holland, he used to kick a soccer ball around the back lot with his seven Dutch-Indonesian uncles.

Now he is team captain of an all-Portland soccer team which just won the Oregon Intercollegiate Soccer Association championship Saturday, November 17, at Monmouth—the Portland Community College Panthers.

PCC defeated Southern Oregon College 2-1.

Persijn picked the ball away from SOC's aggressive offense with footwork and pass-and-play ball which he says he prefers.

Midfielder Gordon Bowen scored twice for PCC during the game. Freshman Matt Engels assisted on the first goal and Dave Martin assisted on the second.

Persijn, a graduate of Benson Polytechnic, who is now a criminal justice major at PCC, says jokingly that what he does, "is rob other schools of championships."

PCC defeated Southern Oregon last year for the championship and the University of Portland the previous year.

"Both of those teams had beat us earlier in the season of the year we played them for the title," Persijn said. "So they felt robbed."

Persijn has been a consistent scorer in a team of ex-Portland high school players which scatters scoring throughout the team rather than centering on a few stars, according to the coach Rudi Sommer.

Persijn lead the PCC team to a seven win-no loss-one tie season which included University of Oregon and Oregon State for opponents.

Persijn didn't play soccer from the time he left Holland at age six to move to Portland until he was 15. A friend of his older brother asked him to play for the Skyline Cardinals, a Portland City League team. "I didn't play until I was 15 because there were no teams until then," Persijn said. He said teams were coached by men who were reading the soccer rules from books and had no soccer experience.

"But once the Timbers came to Portland all that changed," Persijn said.

Persijn said that "people are surprised that the PCC is all local people from high schools around



Pat Mulin, followed by Rich Smith, (in dark jerseys) take possessions of the ball for Portland Community College soccer team to win the state championship against Southern Oregon College 2 - 1.

here. Teams use to be just made up of foreigners living in the Portland area. But now we have good high school teams and good experienced coaching in Portland. We are starting to develop local players who can beat any of the ones from outside."

Persijn said the team's freshman goalkeeper, Chris Sigler from Beaverton High School, is among the talented hometown soccer players.

"Chris is a good goalie who has been getting used to defense players in front of him and handling the game very well," Persijn said.

He also sees Rocky Herauf, defender from Rex Putnam, as the PCC team's most improved player—"a left fullback with more confidence and teamwork than last year." Rich Smith, a PCC freshman from Jefferson High, has also improved because of confidence in the game and in team playing, according to Persijn.

"The reason PCC is good is the attitude of the team," Persijn said. "We play well and we hang around

together. If one player, no matter how good, doesn't get along with the others we would just as soon not have him."

Persijn said "stars" who just want to kick the ball in and score and are not team players are not recruited for the team.

"An attitude makes all the difference in soccer teams and a player," Persijn said. During the championship game Persijn and team members constantly shout encouragement and praise to one another during the game.

"When you make a mistake it is obvious," Rudi Sommer, the PCC coach, explained. "There's no reason to point it out, but when you do something right you ought to hear about it."

Persijn is also the team captain of a Portland City League team, the Hollindo Soccer Club. He was voted the Sportsman of the Year by the City League in 1975 and was on the first team of the City League's all star soccer team in 1978. He was the

defensive player of the year at PCC last year.

Persijn is the assistant manager of the Grove Loggers Supply in Forest Grove.

He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ben Persijn of Southwest Portland.

His brother is the coach of an Army soccer team in Honolulu, Hawaii where the Portland Community College team has been invited to play in the Rainbow Invitational, and international soccer tournament, March 30.

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## KATU series features Trailblazer history

This year marks the 10th anniversary of the Portland Trail Blazers, the small-town pro basketball team that dazzled the world in 1977 by capturing the NBA Championship title. KATU, Television Two in Portland, presents an hour-long look at the Portland Trail Blazers in the first of four specials -- "Blazer Prime Time Special" -- Friday night, November 30th, at 8:00 p.m. The remaining three specials will air in January, February and March of 1980.

Hosts for the "Blazer Prime Time Special" include Steve Arena, KATU Sports Director; Bill Schonely, veteran Trail Blazer play-by-play announcer; and former University of Oregon and pro basketball star, Steve Jones. Arena presents an update on current Blazer activities, including a look at how diet affects a pro athlete. Blazer Trainer Ron Culp discusses the common injury of sprained ankles; how it happens and methods of treatment. Stu Inman, Director of Player Personnel, offers a

look at the philosophy and techniques behind Blazer college scouting. Other highlights include a behind-the-scenes look at the Closed Circuit Blazer telecasts at the Paramount Theatre, a look at the first Blazer team, answers to letters by Harry Glickman and various player interviews.

For an inside look at Portland's world-renowned pro basketball team, watch the "Blazer Prime Time Special".

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