

T.J. Rhodes of Roosevelt High School wrestling team, makes quick work of pinning his opponent during last week's matches at Roosevelt.

(Photo: Richard Brown)

## Sports Talk

by Ron Sykes  
Sports editor

There seems to be some unrest over at Benson High. The Techmen have had their problems this year and with the talent they have one would have to wonder why.

Certainly when a program is going bad then it becomes easier and easier to point the finger at the coach.

A good source informed me that some Benson mothers recently met with coach Dick Gray and discussed his alleged unfair treatment of his Black players. If this allegation is true then perhaps school officials should take a stand, because this is certainly not something that should be tolerated in our school system.

One player, who choose to remain anonymous, for obvious reasons has flatly stated, "Yes, there is prejudice by our coach, he plays white guys with lesser talent while better Blacks remain on the bench."

Struggling Blazers overcome struggling Warriors. When the two worst teams in the NBA meet it's highly unlikely that one should expect a great game, or should not expect to see great play. In order to expect that then one would have to travel north and visit Seattle's Kingdome, not Portland's Memorial Coliseum. The Seattle - Boston game shown on the tube last Sunday was a beauty to watch.

The way that game was played, with Seattle finally pulling it out with a 17 foot jump shot by D.J., in reminiscence of Portland's games of yesteryear when the "Big Redhead" was leading the charge, grabbing rebounds and flickering those adept passes midcourt to either Lionel Hollins, or Johnny Davis to begin the most feared fast break in basket-

ball.

Ah! but that was yesterday and yesterday's gone. Kudos...to Coach Jack Ramsey for finally inserting Abdul Jeelani into the starting lineup. Jeelani responded, as always, with a fine game.

The 6-8 forward, out of tiny Wisconsin-Parkside had a team high 26 pts, 10 rebounds, 7 assists, along with one blocked shot.

By today's NBA payscale, Abdul is a bargain. The Blazers are paying him a mere \$40,000 and getting in return the play of a \$140,000 man. Now that's a bargain. On the other hand rookie guard Jim Paxson is receiving something like \$115,000 and by his playing performance should be somewhere below the minimum wage, which happens to be \$40,000 in the NBA.

Basketball reportedly was the game of the 70s. Then how was it played in the 30s? Interestingly enough we uncovered an article written in 1937, which appeared in the old Northwest Enterprise, and written on basketball by ex U of Oregon player, Charles Patterson. Patterson wrote "basketball is fast becoming the most popular national winter pastime of many." In 1937, this sport was rated first as a drawing card and in popularity, packing in some 80 million spectators throughout the season.

He explains that there are two systems of offense in basketball; the fast break offense and the set play offense. Amazingly after some 44 years this hasn't changed at all. He goes on to explain a fast breaking offense as an offense that works the ball down the court before the defense gets set. And it calls for men

who can keep going at top speed every moment.

Nothing has changed here except that in 1937 these men operating the fast break were usually 5'6" to 5'10." Today these men have grown to 6-3 to 7-4 and are running much faster. Mr. Patterson in his article attempted to defend the fast break. Some said it led to more bad passes, sloppier play etc. In those days it was probably true, but if they could

only see it now. The speed and accuracy, sometimes is simply fascinating.

Patterson said, "for color, for action, it's the fast break that gets the call everytime." He says it takes more chances, it brings more points, and it puts a greater premium on split second maneuvers and individual decision. It's amazing how much the game hasn't changed. Only the size of the players.



President Carter responds with laughter as Reggie Jackson makes a point during a recent meeting with, left to right: Dave Parker, Franco Harris and Julius Erving in the White House Oval Office. The four athletes met with the President to discuss his proposed youth initiatives program.

## Community Calendar

**Karate.** James Faison is presently leading an adult karate class every Monday and Wednesday from 5-7 pm. Cost is \$20 per month. He would like to begin a class for children 10 years and up on Monday and Wednesday from 5-6 pm. Cost is \$15 per month. Interested parents need to sign up on Monday or Wednesday at 5 pm, at The Salvation Army Moore Street Community Center, 5430 N. Moore Street. 282-2572

**Sabin Community Association.** February 25, 7:30 p.m., Sabin School, 4013 N.E. 18th.

**King Neighborhood Association.** February 26, 7:00 p.m., King Neighborhood Facility 4815 N.E. 7th.

**Piedmont Neighborhood Association.** February 27, 7:00 p.m., Holy Redeemer School, 127 N. Portland Blvd.

**Portland Development Commission.** 1) Home buying in the Mt. Hood Corridor. February 21, 7:30 p.m., 5224 S.E. Foster.

**Forum.** On Sunday, February 24, the Militant Bookstore will present a forum on the draft. The speakers will be Michael Stoops of the Oregon Coalition Against the Draft; Fred Auger, Socialist Worker candidate for mayor of Portland; and Tom Kaye of the Oregon Coalition Against the Draft and a student at Catlin Gable school. The talks will be held at the Militant Bookstore, 711 N.W. Everett St., Portland. It will begin at 7:30 p.m. Call 222-7225

**Workshop.** Mount Hood Community College will present a workshop titled "Women, Law and Money," February 25, from 9 a.m. in the Town and Gown Room on campus. For further information or to register in advance, call Mount Hood Community College, 667.7324.

**Senior Citizen Feasibility Study.** The Salvation Army, in cooperation with P.S.U.'s institute on Aging program, is conducting a feasibility study to determine what types of programs would be most feasible for senior citizens at the Moore Street Center. If there are any seniors interested in starting a program or who have any suggestions on the type of activities they would like to see offered at the Center, please don't hesitate to drop by or give us a call. We are open to new ideas! Call (or see) Elizabeth Taylor, 282-2571.

**Islam,** speaker scheduled at 7:00 p.m., topic "Effects of Slavery and New Names for Afro-Americans" Friday, February 22nd, 1980, in auditorium, Portland Community College. The speaker will be Mikal Shabazz.

**Eye Run for OMSI.** Serious as well as "fun" runners are invited to test their tendons and tenaciousness at OMSI's Eye Run for OMSI benefit, to be held Saturday, March 1, at 10 a.m. Sponsored by the Oregon Optometric Association and OMSI, the run will cover the Washington Park course with a choice of a 10 Kilometer (6.2 mile) run or a 2.5 kilometer (1.5 mile) run. Runners may register before Feb. 23 for a fee of \$5 and pick up packets at Beaverton Optometric Group 2365 SW Cedar Hills Blvd in Portland. Entry coupons are available at the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry and at most sporting goods outlets in the Portland area. For further information, call 748-5000

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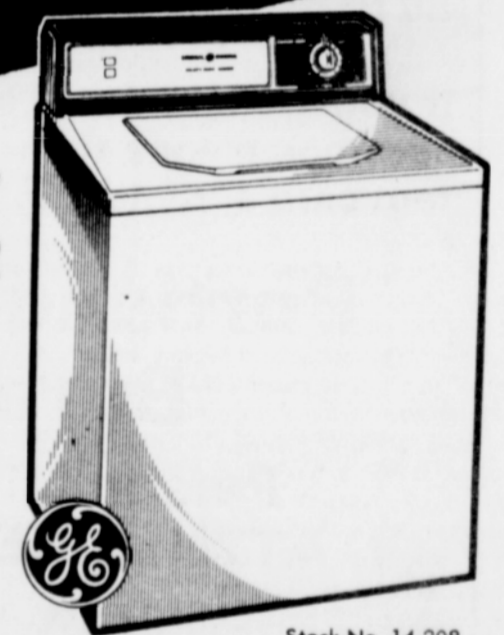


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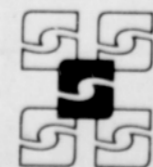
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