



Sport Talk

by Ron Sykes
Sports editor

Yes, there is a superman and he lives in Portland and plays guard for the Trailblazers.

His name is Billy Ray Bates. Sure, the Blazers lost to a better Seattle Supersonic team, but Billy Ray was a winner. How can you both lose and win? Consider this young man's accomplishments since rising from the dead Continental League, and resurfacing in the tough N.B.A. All he's done is shot .500 from the field, but many clutch shots, was chosen NBA Player of the Week, and won the hearts of Blazer fans.

Yes, Billy Ray is a winner now and will be for many years to come. Sure, Portland was crushed by Seattle 103-86. And yes, there were signs scattered throughout the Dome downing Billy Ray for his harsh statement, "we are going to blow them out," and some got on him labeling the rookie as "Big mouth Billy."

But you'd have to understand Billy to know that the young man was not bragging, or purposely trying to taunt the world champions. The confident Bates, I believe, really thought his team could blow them out, and the Seattle blow out was no reflection on Billy's game.

While the vets Calvin Natt, with all the minutes played this year can no longer be considered a rookie, Ron Brewer and Tom Owens wilted like the last rose of summer and Sonic pressure, while the rookie Bates stood tall and strong like the first tulip of

spring. Bates game is more than one-on-one. This young player has all the tools and to label him strictly one-on-one is grossly unfair. Did you hear that Bobby Gross? "Wait til next year," use to be a familiar cliché of the old Brooklyn Dodgers, but now can be said by Blazer fans. And just have to believe with Mychal Thompson at center, backed up by Kevin Kunnert, the Blazers will be a contender.

Now, all you brothers that have in the past avoided the Coliseum like the bubonic plague, can now line up for tickets because finally you'll have a line up you can cheer for. And certainly identify with if you know what I mean.

And the real rookie of the year plays for the Portland Trailblazers.

Spring football practice opened for real Monday and the Oregon Ducks are awesome. Football at the University of Oregon had its greatest success in a decade last fall -- and all indications are that the Ducks could paddle even higher in 1980.

The squad that put together a 6-5 record and attracted the largest crowds in Oregon history is back almost intact, as only three starters were lost on defense, the offense lost two.

All four starters return to a backfield that last year set a school season record for first downs and that fell just 34 yards short of a school season rushing mark that has stood for a

quarter of a century.

Returning to the starting tailback position is Dwight Robertson, who as a soph last year scored nine touchdowns -- the most by a duck since Rashad scored ten in 1971.

Robertson was also the PAC-10 kickoff return leader. But the fact is Robertson must meet the challenge of a highly-touted JC transfer, Reggie Brown (Pasadena CC) to keep his starting spot. Reggie Brown is so good that his arrival caused the departure of another outstanding running back, Reggie Young, who now is reported on the way to Illinois in search of more playing time.

The Ducks are deep at all positions but the key figure will again be senior quarterback Reggie Ogburn, who many felt was the most exciting newcomer in major college ball on the West coast last year as a junior college transfer. Ogburn's ability to run and pass enabled Brooks to use for the first time in four years the rollout attack he prefers.

Ogburn led the team in rushing with 644 yards, carrying for 100 or more yards three times. His total offense figure, 1,549, was the fifth highest in school history, ranking behind only All-Americans Dan Fouts and Bob Berry.

"We open with three straight home games next September. What we're looking for is three straight sellouts," said Brooks.

And don't rule out three straight wins either.

Successful programs can work wonders in recruiting. Brooks is now getting the size he has always wanted. His frosh recruits on the offensive line goes like this: Randy Hogbin, 6-3, 225; Tom Lovelace, 6-4, 255; Monte Olson, 6-3, 225; Gary Zimmerman, 6-3, 210; Ryan Zinke, 6-3, 220. The new defensive linemen are even more impressive: Don Boyd, 6-3, 220; David Culp, 6-4, 245; Brad Hicks, 6-5, 215; Craig Kaylor, 6-4, 230; Terry Youngblood, 6-5, 265.

Remember these are frosh who are young and have not had access to the weight training.

Things are definitely on the upswing in Eugene and could possibly lead to a post season bowl bid.

FIGHT OF THE WEEK

Michael "Dynamite" Dokes VS Ossie Acasio. Acasio is the veteran and more experienced, having fought once for the title. But Dokes is dynamite, will win, and truly one of the many good heavyweights on the horizon. Boxing, thanks to the 1976 Olympic team, is truly exciting again.

And when will Bobby Gross stop blaming his poor season on his teammates. His statement in Seattle was uncalled for, "I'm doing one thing out there," said Gross, "and everybody else is doing something else." Well, perhaps Gross was right. Judging on this season's play, Gross had to mean that he was not playing basketball, while everybody else was. Wait til next year, Bobby.

Wyden hosts hotdog dinner

Want to grab your piece of the political pie - and not give up your life savings in the process?

Third District Democratic contender. Ron Wyden is inviting the "whole city of Portland" to join him for a \$3 a plate hot dog and beer feed, Friday, April 11, 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the Teamsters Hall, 1020 N.W. 3rd. There will be a \$1 donation for the elderly and children.

Wyden said he's sponsoring the affair to show people that grassroots politics is still alive and well in Oregon.

"Bob Duncan is throwing a \$250 per couple dinner at the same time at the Benson," Wyden explained. "I want working people, retirees, housewives and others to feel they're not getting their share of the political pie to know you don't have to have big money to have dinner with a politician."

Bill Russell: A living legend

(Continued from P1 Col 6)

The "old men" of the Celtics were generally written off after that, but they bounced back to win the title again in 1968, Russell's second season as a player-coach, and again in 1969, a so called miracle year for Boston.

This was because they had finished fourth in the Eastern Division during the regular season, barely getting into the playoffs. While at Boston, Russell scored only 14,522 points, dished out 4,096 assists, and grabbed 21,721 rebounds. Russell's career scoring average is 15.1 points per contest.

An unselfish player, the lean 6-foot-9 postman concentrated on rebounding, setting off the fast break, and blocking shots. Russell's presence near the basket intimidated shooters and forced them to change their style. Russell played with the likes of K.C. Jones, a teammate at USF, Sam Jones, John Havelicek, Bob Cousery,

Bill Sharman, "Satch" Sanders, and others. He was named "Player of the Decade" in 1970.

Russell ranks on the N.B.A. "All-time Leader List" in rebounding (2nd to Wilt Chamberlain's 23,942), and fourth in minutes played behind Wilt, Havlicek, and the "Big O." Russell's blocked shot total were not available.

How's life as a broadcaster for CBS Sports?

"It's been treating me real well since I entered the field. The people here at CBS treat me real good, that's mainly because I make people treat me good," he said laughing while looking towards Brent Musburger.

How do you feel about the hardship rule. Is it the hardship of the owners or the players in college?

"Some of the young guys in college have to go hardship. What's the use of going to college and taking a load of snap courses? You come out going straight to the pros. That's why most of them go to college anyway. Very few are there to obtain a college education," he said with passion.

What about Boston trying to lure Ralph Sampson, the '74 freshman from Virginia out of college?

"If the pay is well then go pro. First he has to educate himself as a student and athlete before he does anything. I know Boston will be very patient with his development as a player. If he went to a loser they would want him to produce right away. He will learn the game in Boston if he goes. The hardship rule hasn't hurt Darryl Dawkins or Moses Malone."

What's your advice to young athletes chasing the pro dream?

"I think that youngsters have to get a better understanding of our society, and it doesn't matter if you're playing basketball or not. It all boils down to being able to take care of yourself off the court or they'll be in for a big heartbreak," he said.

By this time about ten young autograph hounds rushed over to where the interview was being con-

ducted. Bill Russell said no politely and turned back towards the journalist talking to him.

In his book -- "Bill Russell -- The Memoirs of an Opinionated Man," he mentioned why autograph seekers turn him off.

"In the autograph business, either the fans are prostrate and the stars are high and mighty, or vice versa. There's no such thing as an even keel, which is why the whole exchange is phony...but they are too young to understand that."

On why he refused to be inducted into "Basketball Hall of Fame."

"I know that an institution has to start somewhere but in the long run respect for it will depend on how it's built. If the people who wrote the American Constitution had decided that they would be members of the first Congress, and that each Congressman would always appoint his own successor, I doubt that the Constitution would have lasted very long or commanded much respect."

"A lot of people would have said hey, they can have that Constitution. They wrote it for themselves, but it doesn't have anything to do with me."

"That's the way I feel about the Hall of Fame. I don't respect it as an institution. The only possible lesson for anybody else in this is that some people accept institutions too readily. Ironically, in spite of my convictions, the Hall enshrined me. One of my uniforms is in the Hall of Fame -- on a white mannequin."

"Thank you Bill for the very positive interview."

"Thank you," said the former head coach and general manager for the Seattle Supersonics.

Russell motioned to Brent Musburger that he was now ready to leave for the hotel; headed out into the cold wet night where there was nothing to feel, but the bitter rain of Portland.

Recruitment faces problems

(Continued from P 1 Col 6)

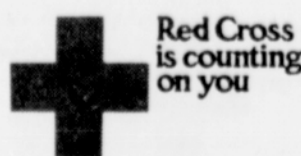
and with the examination.

Captain Schwartz is not sure how the new system will work, but he does not agree that everyone on the civil service list is qualified, so it doesn't matter how far down on the list the person is. "I take the lowest personnel risk possible," he said, "and those at the top of the list will make the best police officers. Also, taking people low on the list will have people coming into the Bureau who won't be able to compete for advancement."

While the Portland Police Bureau might be faced with a suit to halt "affirmative action hiring," departments across the country are either being ordered by courts or signing consent decrees, agreeing to hire more minority personnel.

police and fire departments agreed to fill one-third of their vacancies with Blacks until they reach approximately 17 percent, and the Chicago fire department agreed to promote one Black or Hispanic for every five vacancies in engineer and lieutenant ranks.

Black spokesmen agree that with 3 percent minority police officers, if a suit is filed here the Bureau will be ordered to meet similar numerical quotas.



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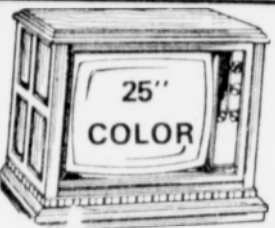
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Citizen of the Week



Born and raised in Portland, Charlotte Williams' community involvement has been life-long. As a small child she helped her parents, Otto and Verdell Rutherford, with sorting NAACP newsletters and fliers for mail. Her more recent involvement has been in more non-traditional "grass roots" groups organized by persons who are not the recognized community "leaders."

Ms. Williams is currently active in the Black United Front and was earlier chairperson of the Black Justice Committee. She was active in the development of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Scholarship Fund and the PSU Educational Center. More recently she served for three years on the Metropolitan Human Relations Commission education committee. In 1979, she was selected a Young Black Leader of the 1980s by the Northwest Conference of Black Public Officials.

She edited a local Black owned newspaper, The Advance Times, in the late 1960s and in 1968, "before Black was beautiful" opened a Black Boutique on Union Avenue, selling African art, clothing and books.

Mrs. Williams attended Highland Elementary School, Jefferson High School, Los Angeles City College, the University of Washington, and in 1976 earned a BS in Administration of Justice and a certificate in Black Studies from PSU.

Since October of 1976 she has been employed by the Civil Rights Division, where she is a compliance officer. She is divorced and has a daughter, eleven-year-old Al-Yasha, and an eight year old son, Damani.

This fall Ms. Williams intends to attend Law School on the east coast, but will return to Portland to practice as she is concerned about the shortage of competent civil rights attorneys here. Her primary interest is in civil rights law, but she is also interested in international law. (She adds that anyone so inclined can contribute to the Charlotte Williams Law School Fund since she hasn't arranged the finances for her three years in law school). Another reason for going to school in the east is her concern about the "lack of responsible Black men" in Portland.

A primary focus of Ms. Williams' life - both professionally and in her community activities - is the improvement of the conditions of life for Black people.

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