



Sport Talk

by Ron Sykes
Sports editor

O.K., so the bull, Roberto Duran, triumphed over the magnificent matador, Sugar Ray Leonard. Triumph, no! Decision of judges, yes. I don't know what effect the outdoor stadium at Montreal's Olympic Stadium had on the fighters but both gladiators can be happy they didn't have to endure what a jam packed Expo-Center audience did.

The smoke and lack of ventilation left the nearly 4,000 fight fans drenched in a sea of sweat. Realizing that every other facility in town was booked solid, the Expo Center was, on this night, the absolute pits for Portland fans.

Why did Sugar lose? Wasn't he the odds and favorite at 9-5? Many think the end came at the beginning of the first round, when after answering the bell, Leonard stood flat footed at ring center and defied the Panamanian to know him out. Sugar is a great fighter who forgot

to do the things that made him great.

To beat Duran, he had to stick and move, stick and move. In the past these were things that usually left Roberto desperately frustrated. What the fans did get however was a great action filled fight that both men should be proud of. Leonard wanted to prove, which was his big mistake, that he didn't have to stick and run. By doing this he strayed away from his strength and into Duran's. Then there was the referee, apparently he must moonlight as a wrestling referee because he allowed Duran to get away with some tactics that would have done justice to Gorgeous George and Toney Borne. The rematch should be very interesting.

Kelvin Ransey, blazer number one draftee, and last year's sensation Billy Bates arrived in town on

the same plane last week, and Blazer fans should see a lot of these two young men during the upcoming NBA campaign. Kelvin has been quite impressive during rookie camp, and we all know what Billy Ray can do.

Ransey, from Ohio State, is the lead guard Portland needs so badly after permitting Lionel Hollins to slip away. And Billy Ray, ex-Kentucky State, will be hard to beat as the off guard. During rookie camp, Billy has acted like any other rookie, which we know he's not. He's usually the first to arrive and the last to leave. And nobody worked any harder.

Bates is eager and hungry and in my opinion will soon develop into one of the NBA's finest. Speaking of finest...the Oregon Ducks will soon have one of the finest young runners in the country, David Mack, the brilliant freshman ran a 1:46.6 to finish sixth in the Olympic

trials. All David needs is maturity to become the best middle distance runner in the U.S.

Although Billy Ray and Kelvin Ransey are sure to be invited to fall camp, another almost in that category is David Lawrence, 6-10, F-C from McNeese State. David was the outstanding player in the Southland Conference a year ago. The 6-10 Lawrence can do it all.

A starter for the Cowboys since his freshman year, he was the only player in the nation to rank among the NCAA Division I leaders in three categories: scoring, rebounding and field goal percentage.

How did David feel when given the news of the NBA draft. "Yeah...I'm excited about it. I don't know about going to Portland and being up there in the cold and all that! But, I guess it's okay." Lets hope that David knows more about playing basketball than he does of the weather in Portland.

PCC offers alternative to outdoor jogging

Volcanic ash problems may curtail outdoor jogging for Portlanders this summer, but Bill MacDonald, chairman of the Portland Community College physical education department, said swimming, racketball, running flights of stairs and rope skipping are all methods which can maintain fitness in the committed runner.

An indoor heated swimming pool, racketball courts and gymnasium are open to the public at the PCC Sylvania Center, 12000 S.W. 49th Ave. A gymnasium at the PCC Cascade Center, 705 N. Killingsworth, is also open to the public. For hours call PCC information.

"Jogging outside when there's ash in the air is just crazy," MacDonald said. MacDonald suggests running stairwells only for the very fit person.

"But before you run stairs you

had better have a basic fitness examination because there really isn't anything more strenuous," MacDonald cautioned.

"Walking and jogging the stairwells is just for the jogging nuts, not somebody just starting," he added. PCC jogging and fitness classes have used a four flight indoor stair area in the Sylvania Center Health Technology building for fitness running, but MacDonald said this puts heavy stress on the knees even for joggers who have not experienced knee difficulty in track and cross country running.

MacDonald recommends swimming and racketball at PCC for people maintaining fitness.

"Those are the only two which really maintain fitness and possibly basketball if you play hard," MacDonald said. MacDonald suggests running stairwells only for the very fit person.

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So what is left to do to keep the jogging legs ready for non-ash days? "Skipping rope inside is excellent," MacDonald said. "It's cheap, it's fun, and you can do it at home, inside and keep fit."



Colonel Russell C. Davis has been appointed Executive Officer to the Chief, National Guard Bureau, effective March 1. In his new position Col. Davis' duties will entail the coordination and management of the joint Army and Air Force National Guard Bureau offices in the Pentagon. These offices, in conjunction with the Army and Air Force National Guard staffs, oversee the federal funding and training of the 53 state and territorial National Guards as well as provide the channel of communication between the states and Secretaries of the Army and Air Force.

Book review

"Almost a Famous Person", by Bob Presley, Harcourt, Brace Jovanovich Books, Inc., January 1980.

by Ulysses Tucker, Jr.

Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, Wilt Chamberlain, Bill Russell, Julius "Dr. J." Erving -- all are famous Black athletes. Their names are illustrious; all are shining success stories. But what about people like Big Bob Presley? Who? He was not as famous but he also chased the dream of becoming a pro. Unfortunately, Bob failed.

Herb Michelson's "Almost a Famous Person" is the heartbreaking biography of Robert Nathaniel Presley, a Black basketball player who attempted in the 1960's to succeed in the white-dominated world of sports.

Presley fell just short of "making it", but the fall was fatal. On the morning of Tuesday, March 25, 1975, his 6-11 1/2 body was found in the Willamette River in Portland. After all the evidence had been compiled, only one conclusion was plausible: suicide.

"Almost a Famous Person" chronicles Bob Presley's life from his troubled youth in the Detroit ghetto through his troubles as an athlete in white educational institutions; his years at the University of California-Berkeley as the center of the basketball team in 1967-68; his attempt to make the pros; his sado-masochistic relationship with his wife and other white women;

and, all else having failed, his futile struggle to find employment outside of basketball.

"Almost a Famous Person" is more than just a study of a basketball player. It is a complex portrait of an urban kid who, height being his only apparent asset, saw basketball as his way out of the ghetto and into fame and money. It is a picture of a victim, a victim of white mentors who -- intentionally or not -- exploited him; a victim of a society which his background had not prepared him to understand; and ultimately, a victim of his own self image.

Louis completes basic training

San Antonio, Texas -- Air National Guard Airman Priscilla L. Louis, daughter of Nannie L. Penn of Portland, has been assigned to Keesler Air Force Base, Miss., after completing Air Force basic training.

During the six weeks at Lackland Air Force Base, here, the airman studied the Air Force mission, organization and customs and received special training in human relations.

In addition, airmen who complete basic training earn credits toward an associate degree in applied science through the community college of the Air Force.

The airman will now receive specialized instruction in the administration field.

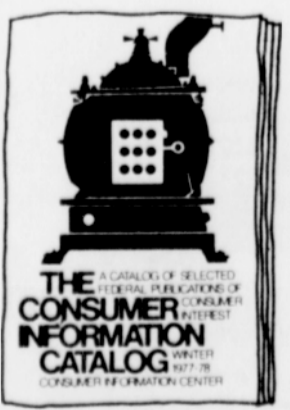
Airman Louis is a 1979 graduate of U.S. Grant High School, Portland.

I would like to thank all those who supported me in my campaign effort.

I look forward to your continued support in behalf of our common endeavor.

James Loving

Committee to elect James Loving, James Crolley, Tres., 26 N. Saratoga



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