



Sports Talk

By Ron Sykes, Sports Editor

Oregon State broke a 23 year jinx by defeating the UCLA Bruins 72-64 Sunday at Pauley Pavilion. The UCLA home court domination of the Beavers covered all 16 years that Pauley Pavilion has existed. What happened down South was beautiful. The Beavers showed the world, that is the region, why they're the nation's best team and why they're still undefeated with a 25-0 record and the nation's longest winning streak, also at 25. All the Beavers were magnificent but if one had to single out one player, then 6-4 forward-guard Lester Conner was the man.

Conner's stats read 17 points, 10 assists, 7 steals and believe me the young man was awesome!

And freshman sensation Charlie Sitton played his best all around game of the year. Sitton is aggressive and showed the Bruins early that he would not be intimidated.

Oregon State is just a delight to watch. The Beavers are a well coached team that operates like a machine; a well oiled machine with no flaws and all pistons driving in unison. They make few mistakes, take no bad shots, are patient and pass the ball better than any team playing basketball today, professional or amateur.

So Reggie Jackson was late reporting to spring training. I'm sure owner George Steinbrenner should have suspected this flamboyant super star to pull some sort of protest. After all, Reggie is no longer the highest paid Yankee. Dave Winfield, formerly of San Diego, is now making three times the salary of Jackson. And there's no way Reggie is going to remain silent while this happens.

Reggie has a legitimate beef because it's Mr. Jackson that attracts the attention and fills Yankee Stadium as well as all the other stadiums in the American League.

Will OSU's Steve Johnson go high in the upcoming NBA draft? The book on Johnson is changing rapidly. It was first believed that he was too soft, that his range was limited and some doubted his ability to keep his head in the game. Now pro scouts are impressed with his movement, are delighted at his added bulk, and are more than impressed with his ability to score in the areas that a 6-10½ player should score. Where will Johnson play? Depends on whether Virginia's All-American center Ralph Sampson decides to go hardship or not. Johnson will definitely go in the first

five.

The battle that took place in Pauley last Saturday didn't just occur on the playing floor, but on the bench as well. Miller vs Brown. Bud Withere of the *Eugene Register-Guard* reports that mostly it's a difference of philosophy, this smoldering feud between Larry Brown and Ralph Miller. It is a contest of roots, of styles, of beliefs. In fact, there is very little that is similar about these two men, aside from the fact they both coach college basketball teams and they happen to do it in the same conference.

It seems that Miller, the Oregon State coach, called at timeout with 31 seconds left in OSU's 81-67 romp over the Bruins in Corvallis a month ago. Brown was unhappy with that...he considered it a prolonging of the funeral the Beavers were holding for his team...as well as what he thought was a bit too much celebration on the part of the Beavers.

"Anybody," Miller says now "who takes things like that personally is making a mistake." Miller explained that the timeout was taken to get three players into the game and nothing more. Miller contends that Brown misread the whole thing. But, anyway the feud was started and Brown made the

statement that "OSU had better circle their wagons because when they get to Pauley the war will be on." Well, the war did occur but the outcome was no different.

Anyway this coaching feud between Miller and Brown will come to an abrupt end after this year, because Larry Brown is definitely headed to the New Jersey Nets. Whe Brown agreed to reinstate Kenny Fields that was the signal to the world that he (Brown) was gone.

Every year some deserving Black P.I.C. basketball player is left off either the All-City or State team. Why it's done only a few can tell, and that few are the ones who decide that the ghetto kids aren't intelligent enough. This year that great injustice that befalls all inner city youth fell on the head of Grant High's Terrel Cage. The 6-0 senior forward led the General's in scoring, was second in the P.I.L. to Benson's A.C. Green, and was one of the best all around players in the City. Cage ended the season at 19.2 points per game. And if there was a better guard in the City, he surely didn't play basketball this year. As always, this is only one Black man's opinion.

George Gervin: 'Ice Man'

By Ulysses Tucker, Jr.

George Gervin, the San Antonio Spurs scoring machine is so smooth that he looks like he does not enjoy the game of basketball. Rarely does he smile during the course of the contest or sweats while playing. He has a "cotton soft" jump shot that looks effortless, and a wide variety of graceful moves to the hoop.

When questioned about his poise on the floor, the three time National Basketball Association scoring champion was quick to point out that he was not always a cool individual.

"It all goes back to when I was in college," he said recently in a private interview. "When I was at Eastern Michigan University, I got frustrated during the course of a game and hit a player. Since then, I have learned that there is no room in the game for an emotional acts like that. My emotions no longer get in my way while playing and I guess my manner shows where I am at."

After the altercation, which was in the NCAA semifinals against Roanoke (Virginia) when he was only a sophomore, the NCAA ruled Gervin ineligible for his junior season and the invitation for him to try out for the 1972 Olympic Team was withdrawn. Gervin had averaged 29.5 points as a sophomore.

Gervin then dropped out of college and joined the Pontiac (Michigan) Firebirds of the world famous Continental League until he was discovered by the Virginia Squires of the old American Basketball Association. Gervin was a steady force in the ABA and when the NBA merged both leagues, he became even more famous with the Spurs.

"Ice Man," like millions of youths growing up in large urban areas, had a tough time while growing up in Detroit, Michigan and used basketball to escape the situation surrounding him.

"Basketball was my outlet. That's where my heart was. A lot of



GEORGE GERVIN

my friends did not have an outlet. They got into drugs and trouble. I'm the lucky guy. I thank God every day for it."

Gervin, one of six kids raised by his mother continued after a brief pause, "We had it rough. But those times are over."

At 6 feet 8 inches, Gervin is the biggest guard in the league next to Magic Johnson of the Lakers, has had N.B.A., scoring highs of 73, and has hit 50 on several occasions. Currently, he is third in the N.B.A., in scoring with a 27.7 scoring clip

for the division Spurs. Expect Gervin to make a run at Adrian Dantley, the league's scoring leader down the home stretch.

How do you feel about youngsters all around the country looking up to you?

"It's a great feeling that people look up to you and respect you for

your contributions to the sport. I get out into the community a great deal to show youngster that I'm just as human as they are but my job happens to be in the limelight. I enjoy kidding with the youngsters and I love to do things like talk to groups and giving summer basketball camps. I guess you could say that it's my way of giving something back to people for supporting me.

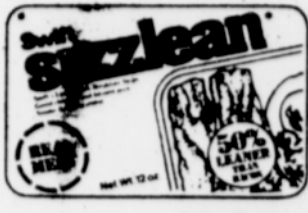
"I have three kids of my own," he said. "So I know how important it is for them to have someone to look up to."

Wilson heads First National

Janice Wilson, a Vice President of First National Bank of Oregon, has been appointed Manager of the Walnut Park Branch to succeed retiring Carl Kelley.

Ms. Wilson, who joined the bank in 1960, was promoted to Affirmative Action Officer in 1974 and was named Vice President in 1975. In 1978 she accepted a two year assignment as Director of the Bureau of Human Resources for the City of Portland at the request of then mayor, Neil Goldschmidt. Her responsibilities there included implementation of the "First Source" portion of the City's Economic Development Policy.

Since her leave of absence expired in June, she has been in a branch management training program.



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