

Sports Talk

By Ron Sykes, Sports Editor



At last George Rogers will have his day.

Born dirt poor and often as a child not knowing when and where his next meal would come, the 6-2, 215 pound running back from South Carolina and this year's winner of the coveted Heisman Trophy award is expected to become the first player picked in the 1981 NFL draft.

Rogers is expected to be drafted and signed by the New Orleans Saints and where else but America can one go from dirt poor to filthy rich in one day?

Yes, what a difference a day will make for Mr. Rogers. All those who belittle sports on the collegiate level should only take a look in the life of one George Rogers. Athletics opened many doors to George Rogers, whose mother raised 10 children by herself, while the father was doing time in prison. Through sports young George was able to give a good life to the mother who struggled so hard so that her family could exist.

When George signs his lucrative contract, for him, the "American Dream" will have been realized. And Ralph Sampson, the 7-4 center from Virginia, has shocked the basketball world by declaring to remain at school. The Detroit Pistons and Dallas Mavericks of the NBA both vowed to make the young man the highest paid rookie ever.

period.

It's mind boggling to imagine anyone turning down that much money.

To earn a college degree is fine, but one has to ask "What is the reason for obtaining a degree?" A degree will help you get ahead in your chosen field; it will give you the potential to earn more money; it will give you a chance to secure your future; it will not earn you 3.3 million dollars probably in your entire lifetime.

It is the opinion here that the man from Virginia should have taken the money and run. It's obvious that at some venture in his life, he will become a pro basketball player. It is also a fact that if not for his basketball ability, the University of Virginia would not have been interested in Ralph Sampson, and it is also known that if he suffers a severe knee injury while playing basketball, and it could happen at anytime. His value will diminish, if not disappear, and that great love affair with the NBA will be over.

Congratulations to Indiana's Isiah Thomas, who knew all along his goal was to be a NBA player. Isiah announced that he was giving up his last two years at Indiana to earn money and take care of his mother who toiled for 19 years to take care of him.

The Philadelphia Sixers will finally pay their debt to the City

of Brotherly Love. For the past three years, after failing to capture the world championship, they've told the City "we owe you one." This year they will win, and for sure, the championship series is being played in the East between the Sixers and the Boston Celtics.

Houston has perhaps the best center playing the game today in Moses Malone, but Moses with all his talents cannot beat the many bodies that Philadelphia will have. And don't believe a certain TV announcer when he tells you Larry Bird is the best forward playing the game today. Bird is good but the best?

Bobby Jones, 6-9 forward for Philadelphia plays so well in every department and is just as effective as the Bird and with fewer turnovers. And I can just see Milwaukee's Marques Johnson laughing aloud when Bird is called the game's best. Bird is just another "Hope."

But as always, this is just one Black man's opinion.



Baseball great Lou Brock presents Chicago White Sox outfielder Ron LeFlore with the Lou Brock Award during opening day ceremonies at Comiskey Park. The award is presented annually to the National League base stealing champion. LeFlore stole 97 bases while playing for the Montreal Expos last season. Brock, a former St. Louis Cardinal, is baseball's greatest base stealer both for a single season (118) and for a career (938).

ACT-SO features youth

When is the last time you enjoyed top-rate entertainment free? It's probably been quite a while, and it's time now to treat yourself.

ACT-SO, short for Afro-Academic Cultural Technological Scientific Olympics, is sponsored by the Portland Branch of NAACP and is chaired by Multnomah County Commissioner Gladys McCoy, and has a number of distinguished community members serving on various committees.

The 1981 local ACT-SO Competition is to be held on Wednesday evening, May 6, at 7:00 p.m., at the Willamette Center Auditorium, located on 121 SW Salmon Street. Fifty-three students from thirteen public and two private high schools will compete in three major categories: Arts, Humanities, and Science. Projects this year include Architecture, Research, Film Making and Original Essays in addition to a wide range of talents

displayed and encompassed under Performing Arts. This year's Competition promises to make the local ACT-SO presentation a banner year and a gala affair.

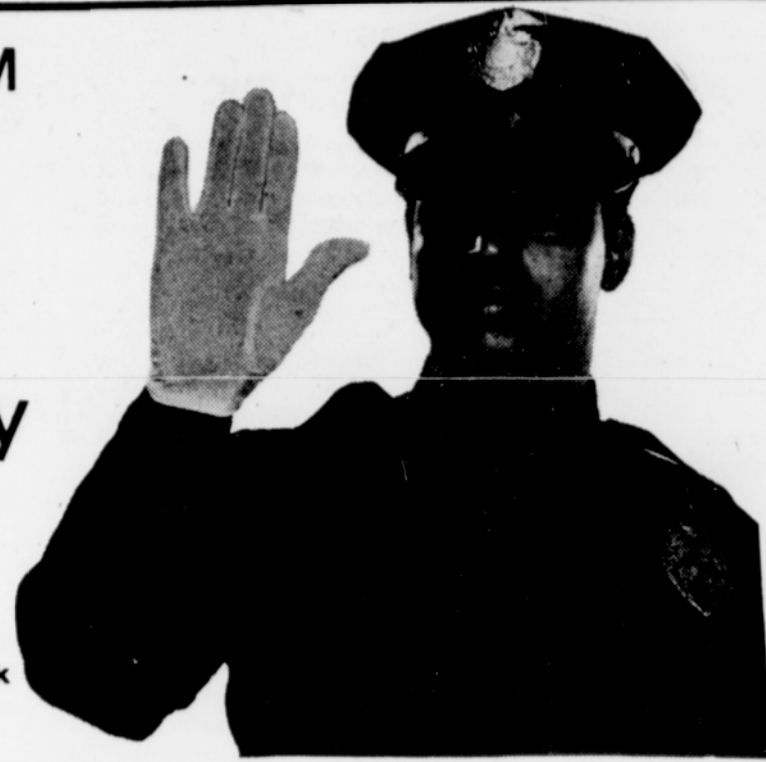
ACT-SO participants will be competing for Gold Medals, with a scholarship value of \$500 to the holder(s), Silver Medals, representing a scholarship value of \$250, and Bronze Medals, carrying a scholarship value of \$100. Finalists in the local competition will compete at the NAACP national competition in Denver, June 26-28.

Some fifty-four Judges for the Competition are local area employees of the University of Portland, Portland State University, Bonneville Power, Portland Public Schools, and several local professional groups are represented.

Art Alexander of KOAP, will be Master of Ceremonies. Admission is free, and refreshments will be available. Mark it on your calendar! You won't want to miss it.

PUBLIC FORUM

Police and the Community



- Deputy Chief Phil Smith
- Captain Ron Aichley, Internal Affairs
- Stan Peters, Portland Police Association
- District Attorney Mike Shrunck
- Public Defender's Office

- Citizen complaint process
- Internal Affairs
- Discipline policy
- Police misconduct and Crime

Saturday, May 2, 9:30 A.M.
Bourbon Street Restaurant
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