



Sports Talk

by Ron Sykes, Sports Editor



to Father Time.

Those close to Ali say he has taken far too many punches since he began boxing as a scrawny 12-year-old in Louisville, nearly 30 years ago. We agree for like others we can easily recognize the tell-tale symptoms. First we saw the loss of elasticity. With the loss of elasticity comes the steady decline of resiliency, the ability to bounce back, to recover from illness, injury or trauma. In Ali we first recognized his inability to snap his head back as he once did to avoid punches. After age 30 we saw this once-great warrior, who could no longer avoid punches *à la* his earlier days, now using the rope-a-dope. This style absorbed a barrage of punches.

This was the beginning of brain damage. Muhammad still denies that he has suffered brain damage but again symptoms don't lie.

The punch-drunk Syndrome is much evident in Ali: the rolling walking on your heels gait, thickened brow, thickened nose, cauliflower ears, stumbling muttering speech, inability to think quickly. Ali certainly doesn't possess all but anyone observing him can easily recognize one pattern and that's all it takes.

The brain was not meant to take such punishment as one would incur through 15 rounds in a hard fight. Minor concussions result in the brain hemorrhaging and these small bleeding spots cause the damage. It's there in Ali. But let's forget the bad, for this man provided us with far too many good, positive memories for us to dwell on the bad. Let's hope that this once-proud champion will retire and relish in the glory that he has won over so many

years.

Ali was and is the people's champ. And for those of us that were fortunate to live during the Ali era, we were also fortunate enough to be a part of history. Muhammad Ali, the Black Superman, is the greatest boxer this world has known.

The University of Oregon Women's basketball team will set its sights on the Giusti Tournament in Portland's Memorial Coliseum, when the Third annual Giusti tournament unfolds. The Lady Ducks are currently the nation's 16th-ranked team and is 3-1 on the season.

This year's tournament features four Northwest schools—Oregon, Oregon State, Portland State and Washington State—and four top teams from other parts of the country—Tennessee, Ohio State, California and LSU.

Tennessee, runner-up to Louisiana Tech in the AIAW final four in Eugene last March, was ranked second in national pre-season polls, but has had problems in early season games, losing recently to Colorado (78-60), the team which nipped Oregon, 69-68 on the final of the Cal Invitational. The Lady Vols, ranked 10th this week, are 2-4 for the season.

The Ducks have a 2-0 record against LSU, both games played last year in the Queens Classic and at Mac Court. LSU guards Joyce Walker and Jackie White dazzled the crowd last year and 5-8 Walker is back this season, averaging 23 points a game. Cheri Graham, the Tigers' 6-4 Parade All-American, freshman center, is averaging 12.1

points and 8.5 boards.

"LSU has one of the best guards in the nation, as we found out last year," said UO coach Elwin Heiny. "They're a more balanced team this year with Graham at center. They've got a lot of talent and will be looking for revenge for last year's losses to us."

The Ducks will open play Wednesday night, December 12th.

Oregon was second in the Giusti Tournament last year, losing in a heartbreaker, 68-67, to Old Dominion, then the defending AIAW champion.

Giusti Tournament Schedule

Wednesday, Dec. 16 (1st round)
(1980-81 Records in Parenthesis)—12 noon: Tennessee (25-6) vs. Washington State (12-16); 2 pm: Ohio State (17-15) vs. Portland State (7-17); 6:30 pm: Oregon State (22-6) vs. California (23-13); 8:30 pm: Oregon (25-7) vs. LSU (17-15).

Thursday, Dec. 17—12 noon: Loser Tennessee/WSU vs. Loser Ohio State/PSU; 2 pm: Loser OSU/Cal vs. Loser Oregon/LSU; 6:30 pm: Winner Tennessee/WSU vs. Winner Ohio State/PSU (Semi-finals); 8:30 pm: Winner OSU/Cal vs. Winner Oregon/LSU (Semi-finals).

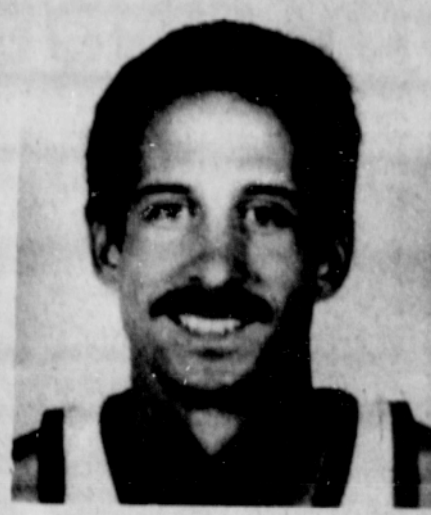
Friday, Dec. 18—12 noon: Loser game 5 vs. Loser game 6 (for 7th & 8th places); 2 pm: Winner game 5 vs. Winner game 6 (for 4th & 6th); 6:30 pm: Loser game 7 vs. Loser game 8 (for 3rd & 5th); 8:30 pm: Championship Game, Winner of 7 vs. 8 (for 1st and 2nd).

Past Champions—1979: University of Texas (Runnerup UCLA); 1980: Old Dominion (Runnerup Oregon).

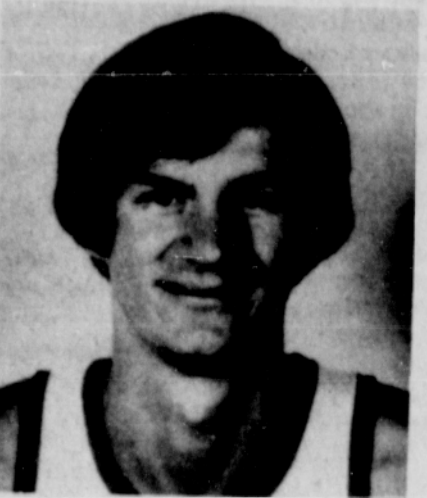
Trailblazer Action



Welcome back, Billy Ray!



Bob Gross: Will he stay or will he go?



Kevin Kunnert: Is he ready to play?



Jeff Lamp: Will he make it?

Last Friday night the fight that should not have been, took place on a small tropical island. Nassau was the scene and it was there a legend fell. But the saddest thing was not his fall, but that network television in the States would not touch a fight by the most recognized athlete in the world. So it was in obscurity that the greatest heavyweight that ever lived went out. Ali had nothing to prove against young Trevor Berbick, a fighter that the champ would have crushed in his heyday, for this Black superman had shown the world on so many occasions that in the ring none could stand taller, none could move easier, and none could throw those beautiful combinations in machine-gun fashion. Muhammad Ali destroyed all those that came before him except one. And that one proved to be the toughest opponent at all. That one he tried so hard to beat, but he, like so many others before him, all fell

Are the Pilots for real?

Two out of three "ain't" bad. The University of Portland Pilots of the WCAC pulled a big upset of the PAC-10's Oregon State Beavers last week and by doing so showed once again that Coach Jack Avina's Pilots can play with anyone.

Jose Slaughter, 6-5 senior guard, was the catalyst and got plenty of help from 5-10 point guard Moby Oliver. Oliver ran the Pilot attack like a man possessed. He was constantly disrupting the OSU game plan by making timely steals and hitting deadly baskets.

The Pilots were to be denied on this night as they shot over .600 for the first half and a steady .582 in the

second.

OSU trailed throughout the first half, climbed to a three-point lead briefly during the second, only to be turned back by Slaughter and his Pilots.

Portland now has beaten USC and OSU back to back. Both PAC-10 teams were considered preseason picks to challenge UCLA for the conference crown.

However, if the teams should meet in the upcoming Far West Classic expect the Beavers, with the emergence of ex-Benson star A.C. Green, to win handily.

Portland should fare well in the WCAC race.

A.C. ignites Beavers

A.C. is defined by Webster as an alternating current, an electric current that reverses its direction regularly and continually and A.C. Green is certainly doing plenty of that for Coach Ralph Miller's Oregon State Beavers.

The 6-8 freshman out of Benson High School received his first starting role against Pepperdine last Saturday and responded with a career high 17 points and 10 rebounds.

The classy forward's game was flawless and earned him a standing ovation when he left the floor after putting in 38 strong minutes.

Green came to OSU as one of the

state's most heralded players. Among last year's honors were: player of the year, all-state, all-district, all-metro and was chosen MVP in the Dapper Dan classic, an all-star game for the nation's best prep stars held in Pittsburgh, PA... 5-11 as a ninth grader, A.C. averaged 26.0 points as a 6-8 senior forward.

A.C. comes to play every night. His stellar performances in OSU's first three games have earned him a starting spot on the Beavers.

A.C. chose OSU over Washington State and the Beavers will surely reap a profit over the next four years. Green could easily become an all-American by his junior year.

Cuban boxers capture World Cup medals

A news blackout denied U.S. boxers Louis Howard, Johnny and Carl Williams, and Johnny Keys their deserved Boxing World Cup honors. Howard took 4th in the 67 kilogram class; Johnny Williams was second in 81 kilograms; Carl Williams took first at 91 kilograms and Keys was second at over 91 kilograms.

Perhaps the silence was because "North America" was represented by seven Cubans and five U.S. Citizens, each selected in recent competition in Shreveport. Or could it be because the Cubans outfought all competitors, winning 20 of "North America's" 41 points. All seven of the Cuban competitors won medals.

So it was left to the foreign press to let us know the results.

The Cuban press objected to the "erroneous standards" which placed the athletes of the two countries in a misnamed "North America" team. "Is it logical that Cuba, the world and Olympic champion, be made to participate in the elimination for this event? Is it logical that the United States, another country with proven power in this sport, be included in the confrontation as well?"

In Europe, the two top countries sent teams to the event: the USSR and Bulgaria. The Bulgarians, with only two gold medal winners, sent an 11-man team. European champions such as super-heavyweight Demiani of Italy and flyweight Richard Nowakowski of the German Democratic Republic were unable to participate.

Asia and Africa were given the right to field two teams each, but due to economic problems Africa sent only 6 men. Asia I was South Korean, and Asia II Philippines and

Iraq. Donald Hull, of the U.S., who heads the International Association of Amateur Boxing, said, "There are African boxing federations that lack the economic resources to send anybody. From now on we will have to consider the likelihood of a single team from that continent."

Addition teams represented South America, Oceania and Canada, the host.

Team scores were: North America, 41; USSR, 36; Bulgaria, 12; Canada, 10; South America, 10; Asia I (South Korea), 8; Asia II, 5; Oceania, 2; Africa I, 1; Africa II, 0.

Four Cubans won the gold. Jose Gomez, 75 kg, gold medal winner at the 1980 Olympics and star attraction at the 1980 World Tourney in Belgrad, defeated Yuri Torbeck of the USSR.

Angel Herrera, 57 kg., won over Victor Rybakov of the USSR. The tireless slugger has the distinction of being the only Cuban to have won Olympic titles in two divisions—57 kg. in Montreal in 1976 and 60 kg in Moscow in 1980.

Adolpho Hurta, 57 kg., winner of the Silver Medal in Moscow, defeated Samson Skhachatrain of the USSR.

Omar Santiesteban, 51 kg., won over Petar Lessov of Bulgaria.

A Silver Medal was won by Armando Martinez, 71 kg., who won the Gold in Moscow.

Bronze medal winners were Hipolito Romos, 48 kg., and Luis E. Delis, 54 kg.

The second Boxing World Cup was held in Montreal, November 11th to 18th. Average attendance was 400-500, reaching 4,000 for the finals. The Cubans did not participate in the first World Cup, held in

New York City in 1979. That contest drew only 300, with 2207 for the finals. This does not say much for public interest in amateur boxing.

Sports are important in Cuba where the Constitution guarantees all citizens the right to participate in sports and physical education and gives the government the duty to provide the broadest opportunities. The main purpose of mass participation by students and adults is to have people practice sports systematically to benefit their health and physical capacity and to prevent the illnesses and disorders that result from a sedentary life.

Physical education training is provided to all students, from first

GTO champs move up

by Timothy Holstein

David Cowart and Kenper Miller of the Red Lobster-sponsored racing team, champion and runner-up in the GTO Category of the International Motor Sports Association's 1981 Camel GT racing season, will move up to compete for the newly created North American endurance drivers' championship during the 1982 IMSA/CAMEL GT racing season.

The decision was made when the pair of stockbrokers/teamates unveiled their plans to campaign a BMW M1-powered March (82G) under the Red Lobster banner during 1982. The GT Prototype (GTP) entry is lower, lighter and aerodynamically more refined than March Engineering's BMW M1

Coupe based prototype driven by David Hobbs on the 1981 IMSA GT circuit, according to the manufacturer.

Led by Robin Herd, the March design team retained top aerodynamicist Max Sardou for its 82G program. The 82G March GTP design is being touted as the most aerodynamically clean sports car ever built.

Cowart and Miller will campaign the first and perhaps only BMW March (82G) on the IMSA/CAMEL GT circuit during 1982. They'll be participating in only the circuit's endurance events in 1982, going for the North American endurance drivers' championship for sponsor Red Lobster Inns of America, Inc., the nation's largest family seafood restaurant system.



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