



Sport Talk

by Ron Sykes, Sports Editor

We've had Superman I, II and last Saturday Kellen Winslow, the super fine tight end of the San Diego Chargers, showed us a sneak preview of Superman III. Before a full house in Miami's Orange Bowl Winslow was simply awesome in helping the Chargers to a 41-38 playoff victory.

Drowned in sweat, his jersey looking more like a doormat than anything else, his face showing the agony of the war he was certainly in, Kellen battled, and battled, and finally won.

On the day he had 13 catches (a playoff record that was previously held by Pittsburgh's John Stallworth), he blocked top punts and scored 2 TDs. This was a game full of NFL highlights. In fact we will venture to say it was the all-time great game in NFL history.

It was beautiful to watch, a thrill a minute by both teams. Miami lost

but they, too, won the hearts of millions on this bright January day.

And who can forget Oregon's Dan Fouts, who stood in the breach all day long firing one shot after another.

Danny, by his antics, isn't the most popular guy in the NFL. Fans wonder about the bearded young man who makes his home in Sisters, Oregon. But make no mistake the man can play.

Danny gave praise to his line. "They gave me the time," Danny replied when asked about his record setting performance.

Can you believe 79 combined points in a playoff game. And all this from a San Diego team that many believed had no heart.

And they're dancing in the streets of San Francisco. The mighty niners overwhelmed a good, yes good N.Y. Giants team, or is it New Jersey Giants, but whatever, the niners

were on the long end of a 38-24 contest.

The 49ers took USC's Ronnie Lott in the first round, Missouri's Eric Wright in the second and Pittsburgh's Carlton Williamson in the third. And it looks like they're going to take a Super Bowl. That's right the Forty-Niners are the team to beat.

Lott and Wright are starting at the corners with Williamson playing strong safety alongside Dwight Hicks. Ronnie, with three of his seven interceptions returned for touchdowns, and Hicks, with nine interceptions, made the Pro Bowl. Ronnie Lott on Monday was also named to the NFL All-Star team, which is quite an honor for the young man from USC.

And how about those up and down Oregon Ducks. Over the weekend the Ducks captured the

State of Arizona by downing both the Wildcats and Sun-Devs.

Haney's Ducks stomped Arizona 97-88, then roared back to overwhelm the Sun Devils 82-65.

Oregon shot a torrid (.569 on 33 of 58), owned the boards (41-29) and dished out enough assists to total 19.

The future is looking brighter in Eugene. Senior guard Barry Walker is probably the single most important reason for this early Oregon success. Walker is asserting himself and playing with complete confidence. Remember these Ducks are young.

Captain John Greig is the only senior in the starting five. Jerome Williams is a junior, center Blair Rasmussen, a freshman; and both guard Fred Cofield and Gary Gatewood are sophoms. They'll be up-and-down because of their immaturity. But given time they could prove to be a solid bunch.



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E.C. Morgan: Is he the best?

by Ron Sykes

As the old saying goes, "You can call him 'E.C.,' or you can call him 'C,' or you can call him Morgan." Some call E.C. Morgan, 6-8 center from Jesuit High School the best big man in the state.

"E.C.," says coach Jim Rolph, "plays well inside, he's practically unstoppable when he gets the ball down deep. He's probably the best position player in the state."

E.C., as he is called in the Jesuit community, has been a varsity player for the past three years. As a 6-5 freshman he played J.V. and was the team's leading rebounder (6.5) and second in scoring (11.7).

During his sophomore year, his first on the Varsity, E.C. was doing quite well until tragedy struck.

One night while driving home during the Christmas break, E.C. suddenly lost control of his sports car, left the road and turned completely over.

"This was really the first adversity that I had to overcome, and it really changed my outlook on life," says Morgan. "I realized that it all could have ended so suddenly that cold, wintry night."

E.C. recovered from his serious leg injury but his basketball season was over early.

Luckily for Morgan the basketball court was not the only court he excelled on. As a 6-5, 18-year-old freshman he was one of the best tennis players in the state. And as a 15-year-old he was ranked nationally in his age group.

E.C. has played No. 1 on the Crusader tennis team for three straight years. While his leg injury kept him out of action on the basketball court, he recovered sufficiently to lead Jesuit to their third straight state tennis championship.

Morgan helped the Crusaders by capturing two seconds and a third in single. Quite an accomplishment for a kid who by his junior year had shot up to 6-8.

"I love tennis," beamed E.C., "but really there aren't many 6-8 tennis players around." E.C. would like to play major college ball, but thinks a smaller school is more realistic.

"E.C. controls what we're going to do," says Crusader Coach Jim Rolph. "How E.C. goes is how we



E.C. MORGAN

go. The games that he doesn't perform well in are the ones we struggle in."

Jesuit stands 5-2 on the season and each win E.C. has scored over 20 points. In the school's loss to Lakeridge E.C. didn't get the ball and the Crusader offense just sim-

ply quit.

Morgan is currently averaging 20.1 ppg and 13 rebounds.

Morgan is considered the only threat in the Metro League to Parkrose's All-American center Steve Woodside. Woodside at 6-10 can dominate most, but against E.C. it is always tough.

"I enjoy our match-up," says Morgan. "Steve is really tough and when we bang heads it's always a good show."

Morgan refused to let a little adversity get in his way. His determination proved to be stronger than most, and with his skills and strong efforts the Jesuit Crusaders will probably show in March at the OSAA's annual prep show.

"Hard work will get you somewhere," he says. "And the State Tournament is where I want to be in March." Right now Jesuit is considered as only an outside chance of beating Parkrose, but it would be wise not to count E.C. Morgan out.

OSU Beavers head south

Oregon State will play California on Saturday, January 9th, and Stanford on January 11th.

California holds a 40-31 edge over OSU in the 71-game series. However, OSU has won the last eight games played. The last time the Beavers lost to Cal was 84-83 in Berkeley in 1977.

OSU holds a 44-26 lead over Stanford, including a current winning streak of four straight

games. Times have been tough in Palo Alto however; OSU had to struggle to win 62-57 last year and won 18-16 in 1980. At Corvallis it has been a different story as OSU defeated Stanford 85-67 and 76-62 in Gill Coliseum.

Ralph Miller commented on the trip to Cal and Stanford: "It is obvious after the first week of the conference season that there is no clear cut favorite. It is mandatory if

you are going to be in the race at all that you have to win at home. So far this season we have been a good example of Jekyll and Hyde. If we play as well and hard as we did against Arizona State we certainly will have a chance of coming back with two victories. However, if we play like we did against Arizona, or Idaho, or Portland the first time, then we could very easily come home with two defeats. It will take excellent effort by us against both teams in the Bay Area for us to have a chance at winning."

Oregon State enters Saturday's Cal game with a 9-game road winning streak in Pacific-10 play. OSU won all nine conference road games last year en route to a 17-1 Pacific-10 record. OSU is ranked 17th by AP and 19th by UPI this week after being ranked 15th and 12th last week.

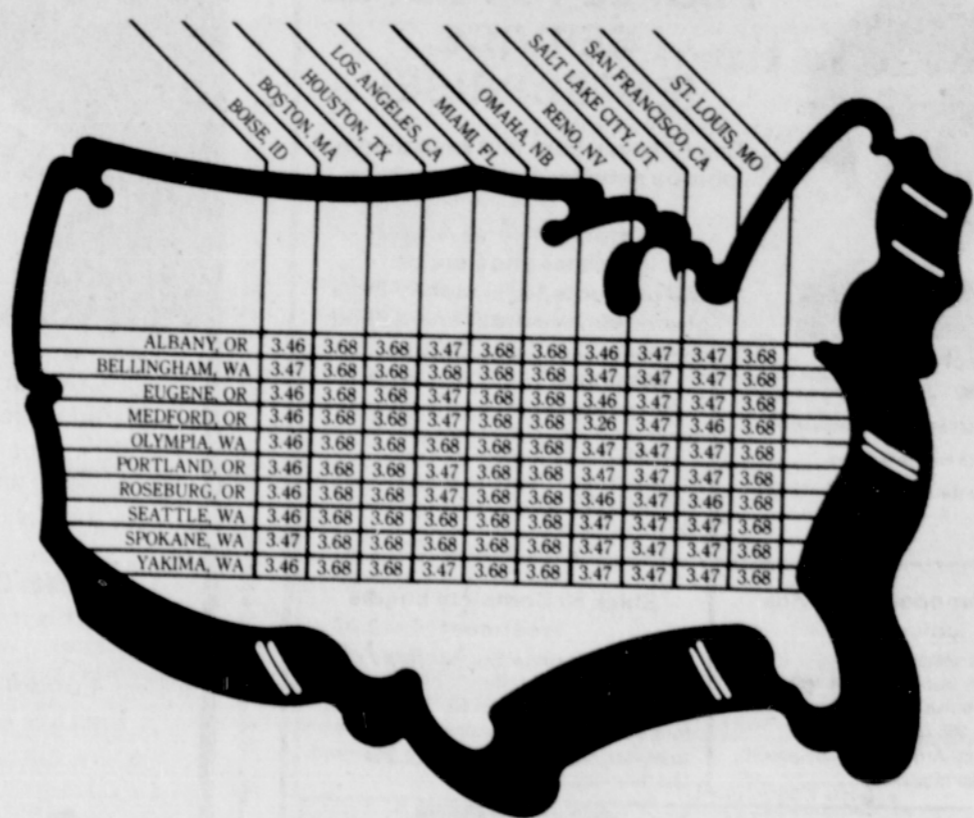
Lester Conner is leading the Beavers with a 14.9 scoring average. He leads in assists with 56 (5.1 average), in steals with 34 (3.1 average) and is second in rebounding with 53 (4.8 average).

As a team OSU is averaging 17.8 assists per game, an assist ratio of .656 per game based on 196 assists for 299 field goals. The Beavers nearly set a Gill Coliseum record in downing Arizona 68-55. OSU shot .909 (20-22) from the free throw line. Yale holds the record at .912 (31-34) in 1957. The Beavers hit 14 straight before Lester Conners missed the front half of a two-shot foul against Arizona.

Cal senior center Mark McNamara is currently leading the Pacific-10 in scoring and rebounding and the last player to finish the season leading both departments was UCLA's Bill Walton.

Only three other players have ever led in both counts, UCLA's Lew Alcindor three times, OSU's Mel Counts twice and USC's John Block one time. McNamara is scoring 23.7 and rebounding at a 13.4 clip pr game and is shooting .697 from the field.

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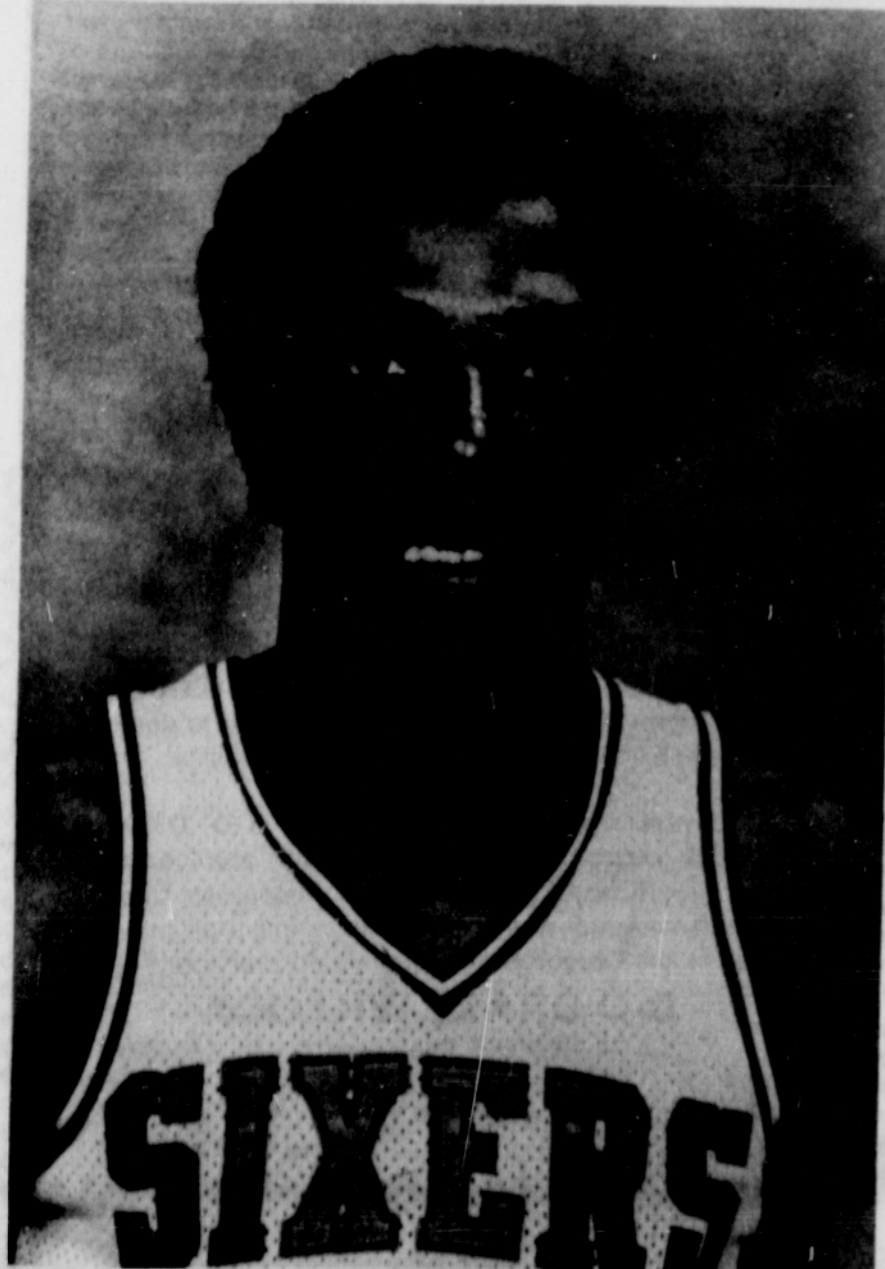


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