



# Sport Talk

by Ron Sykes, Sports Editor

# Blazermania

Why the Cowboys lost or how the forty-niners won will be the topic of conversation in many bars across the land for many months to come. This game, like the classic between Miami and San Diego, was truly one that will long be remembered. It was well played, intense and thrilling. Glenn Dickey of the *Chronicle* says, "Coaches never learn, even a smart coach like Dallas' Tom Landry. The Cowboys' strategy in the closing minutes of yesterday's NFL championship game contributed almost as much to the outcome as the 49er's determination."

When the 49ers got the ball for the last time, almost five minutes still remained. Though the 49ers were 89 yards from the goal, that is plenty of time to win a football game."

At this point instead of applying maximum pressure, the Cowboys elected to go instead to the notorious "prevent" defense.

In the "prevent" Dallas brought in six defensive backs and thus gave the No. 1 passing quarterback in the NFL, Joe Montana, all the time and space to do whatever he wanted.

In the "prevent" the backs take deep drops, which leaves them extremely vulnerable to the run, even against a team which isn't noted for a strong running game. Montana went to work immediately with runs and short passes.

Dallas' so-called prevent defense allowed Halfback Leavil Elliott to look like Tony Dorsett reading off conservative runs of six, 11 and seven yards, something that probably would not have happened had Dallas stayed in their conventional defense.

It's always amazed me how effective teams are, all teams, with their two minute drills. And how ineffective these prevent defense are, and yet these highly successful coaches game after game and year after year.

With 1:15 left in the game the 49ers got to the Dallas 13 after Freddie Solomon swept the left side for 15 on a reverse. At this point the

forty-niners could use the entire play book, time was no longer a factor. The rest you know. The following is a list of reasons why San Francisco won: Montana had plenty of time to exploit the weakness of the Dallas secondary and particularly Charlie Waters.

Charlie Young, tight end, had "too tall" Jones in his hip pocket all day long.

The soggy field neutralized Tony Dorsett's speed.

Defensively, they kept the Cowboys from moving the ball with any consistency by pressuring the receivers and playing them tightly.

Dallas only had three sacks all day.

### OSU Basketball

Oregon State was simply fantastic as they rolled Stanford 81-38 Monday night.

How does one describe the Oregon State Beavers? Think about a machine that's dirt free, well-oiled and pumping with precision and you have the 1891-82 Orange express.

Oregon State, 15th-ranked in the nation, pushed it's record to 11-2 and to 4-0 in the conference. Make no bones about it this game was won on defense.

Lester Conner and his OSU teammates were all over the floor. In one five-minute span OSU forced six Stanford turnovers. And you don't have to be a mathematician to know that that's better than one per minute.

The Cardinals must now know how General Custer felt at the Little Big Horn.

Lester Conner, OSU guard, is perhaps the best lead guard in the nation. The 6-4, Oakland product put on quite a show for his Bay area fans. Conner in 38 minutes had 17 points on 8-10 shooting, and tied the school record with seven steals.

The Beavers are a talented group. Is Ralph Miller building dynasty?

### Injuries hamper Oregon

Oregon football may be borrow-

ing its approach to next season from General Douglas MacArthur. But the approach holds true for what happened last fall and what is expected for the Ducks next fall.

MacArthur said, upon escaping from the Philippine Islands early in the war, "I shall return!"

The Ducks, who were expected to challenge for the PAC-10 title last fall, wound up 2-9 instead, as an unprecedented cluster of injuries hit the interior offensive line and the quarterback position.

So it's only natural that the bugle call for next autumn be as some on the football staff already have been saying, "We shall return!" It's also natural because there are a good number of players back from the team that in 1980 won over both Washington and UCLA on the road and tied USC on Oregon's way to a 6-3-2 record.

Among them will be three defensive players with All-American credentials, middle-linebacker Chris Cosgrove, cornerback Steve Brown, and end Mike Walter. Also back will be a quarterback, Kevin Lusk, who was out of action much of the past season with a dislocated collarbone, plus freshman quarterbacks Mike Owens and Mike Jorgensen, who got game experience prematurely in 1981.

Despite the unexpected turnaround of the record there was much to take pride in last fall that was reflected in the individual awards given at the annual football banquet.

Named outstanding player to receive the Hoffman Award was tailback Reggie Brown, who led the team in rushing again, and in two seasons was able to move into the school's list of top-10 career rushers.

The Len Casanova first-year award went to defensive tackle Mike Gray, another man who should make the defense potent next fall. Defensive tackle Steve Johnson received the Clarke award as the most improved player, and also is back

next season. Cornerback Ross Gibbs received the Bob Officer Award for battling back from injuries.

Footnote: And the Ducks are one of seven teams still being considered by Beaverton's 6-8, 265 pound Andy Fitzpatrick. Notre Dame, USC, Washington, Arizona State and Oklahoma are the others.

### Washington helps Oregon

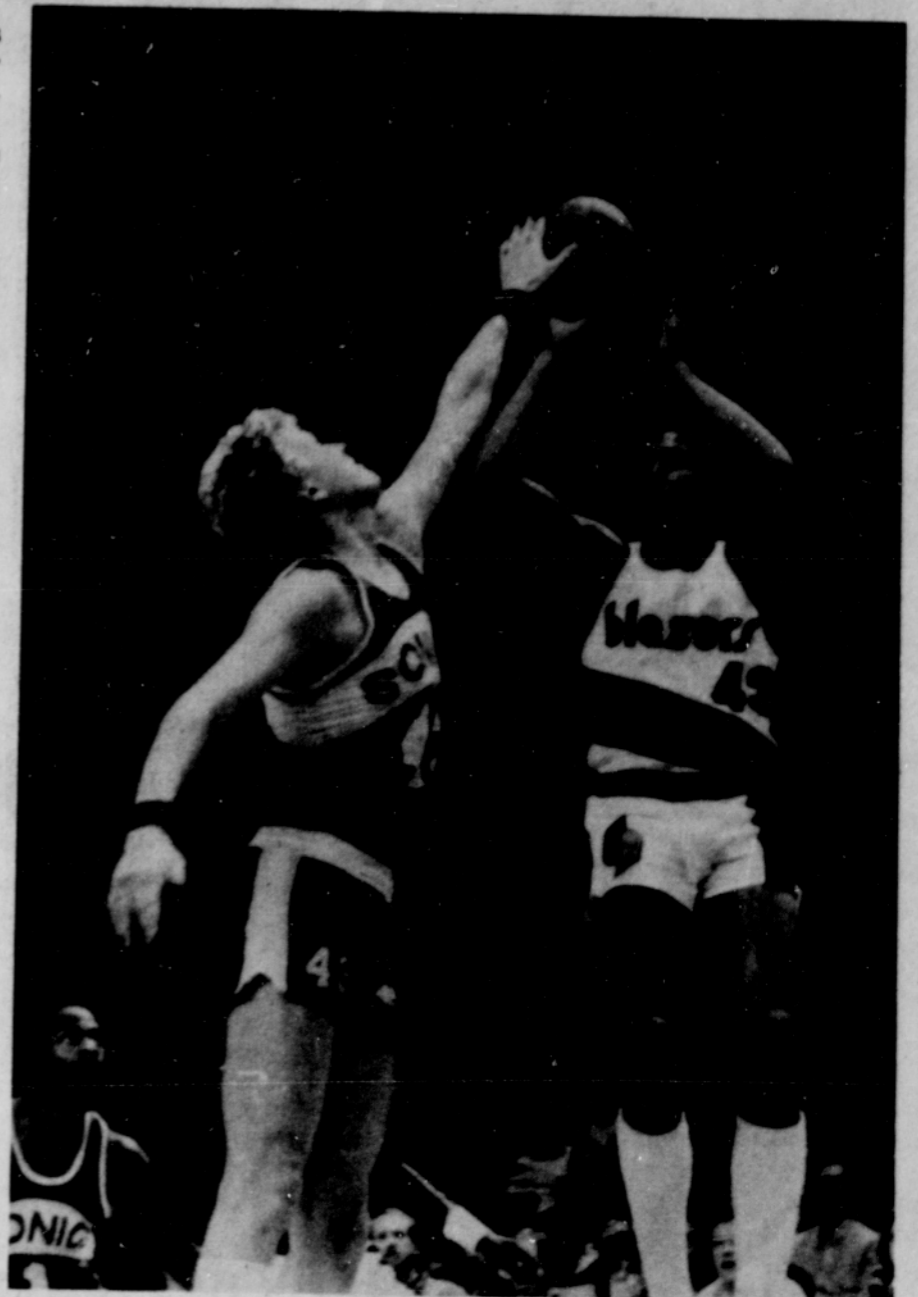
Friendship between the states of Oregon and Washington may have improved or diminished... depending on your point of view and your geographical prejudice... because of the success Oregon basketball coach Jim Haney has had in convincing Washington high school basketball stars to enroll at the UO.

No fewer than five of Washington's finets have chosen Oregon over home state schools in the past three years. It really didn't begin with Captain John Greig of Olympia, for there have been others in years past going both ways. But Greig, a 6-7 forward, is the first of the current quintet. He holds the PAC-10 record of 40 conservative free throws, having transferred to Oregon from Wenatchee Junior College three years ago, when many believed he was headed for the University of Washington.

Two year ago, the Ducks welcomed two Washingtonians, seven-foot center Ron Burns (Tacoma), now sidelined for the season with a back ailment, and guard/forward Paul Bain, Mercer Island.

This year produced the real coup, however, as Oregon was the choice of two players generally considered the best in Washington: seven-foot center Blair Rasmussen (Auburn) and 6-8 quicksilver forward Rodnie Taylor, Bothell.

—Oregon Today



Good luck on the road!

# Top Twenty

For the first time since season began UCLA failed to make top twenty chart.

Idaho moves up to 14. Vandals at 12-0 deserve top ten ranking. DePaul at No. 4 is probably overrated. North Carolina Tarheels is good choice for top after beating a good Virginia team led by the irrepressible Ralph Sampson. San Francisco, the only West Coast team in top 10, led by 6-4 guard Quentin Dailey, is solid at No. 7. Georgetown ranked No. 8 should be ranked second.

Hoyas are strong and each game 7-0 freshman center Pat Ewing plays, they get better and better. Look for Coach Joba Thompson's Georgetown team to make final four in NCAA tourney. Kentucky, ranked sixth, should be ready to move now that star center Sam Bowie is ready for action. By seasons end look for Idaho Vandals to move into top 8 or 10.

### UPI Top Twenty

1. North Carolina
2. Missouri
3. Virginia
4. DePaul
5. Iowa
6. Kentucky
7. San Francisco
8. Georgetown
9. Arkansas
10. Houston
11. Minnesota
12. North Carolina St.
13. Alabama
14. Idaho
15. Oregon State
16. Wichita State
17. Louisville
18. Tulsa
19. Texas
20. Virginia Tech

### Portland Observer Top Twenty

1. North Carolina
2. Georgetown
3. DePaul
4. Virginia
5. Missouri
6. North Carolina State
7. Wichita State
8. Villanova
9. Iowa
10. Kentucky
11. Oregon State
12. Minnesota
13. San Francisco
14. Louisville
15. Indiana
16. Tulsa
17. St. Johns
18. Georgia
19. Arkansas
20. Idaho

# Ron Brewer starts again

Remember Jim Brewer, another one that could not make Jack Ramsay's team?

During Kareem Abdul-Jabbar's recent injury, Brewer came on and showed the L.A. crowd that he could do some good things.

As the starting center in the Laker six-game winning stretch Brewer contributed immensely.

Brewer had earned the power forward position left vacant by the injury to starter Mitch Kupchak.

But when Kareem returned to the

lineup patient Jim Brewer found himself in a position that he's grown accustomed to, that is at the far end of the bench.

Coach Pat Riley had been somewhat pleased with a line-up of Kareem and his greyhounds. That lineup included Jabbar, Magic Johnson, Norm Nixon and Jamaal Wilkes. But that lasted about one week as the Lakers were humiliated in a 20-point loss to Phoenix.

Enter Jim Brewer, 6-8, power forward and a veteran of 11 years.

Brewer will not score many points, but neither will his man. He plays tenacious defense, clashes the boards and runs well. What Jim Brewer does is give the Lakers a solid game each time he takes the floor.

Now after being resurrected by Portland, Brewer is again a starter on an NBA club.



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