

The Sixers in Six

by Al McGilberry

Madison Avenue is smiling now; basketball finally came into real prime time. It will rank with the super bowl, college final two, championship heavyweight fight, World Series and all the top sports events, everyone seems to watch. What am I talking about? The Championship National Basketball Series between the L.A. Lakers and the Philadelphia 76ers.

What names you have; the best: Magic, "Dr. J," Andrew Toney, Norm Nixon, Bobby Jones, "Kareem," et cetera. Our fantasy is now real, and so is the game. Their opposing teams were weak.

All I can hear is how great they are. Someone wrote that they are the best ever; can you believe that?

Phoenix just didn't have the muscle up front, or the quickness of the Laker juggernaut. The Spurs had Ice, Ice, and Ice. George realizes he is the whole team and wants his contract renewed. One player does not make a team. Weak teams.

Some writers who don't know basketball called the Philly team "Chokers." Ha! Ha! The last five years their total game wins are the best in basketball. The Boston monkey on their backs? Even Boston laughs at that phrase. In 1980 they beat Boston in five games.

In 1981 the series went to seven games. Call it what you want; I feel that in a final series the tide can flow either way or—who's hot and stays hot.

Magic was hot in the 1980 series final. He hasn't been that great since. Check it out!

Philly has a sound team; it's deep and confident. It can beat the run and gun Lakers. The match-up is what counts and they match up well player-wise with the Lakers. Can the Lakers stop Toney? Can "J" be forgotten? Will Dawkins finally grow up? Yes! Yes! It's time, and Philly has the gold rings ready for its team. Let's have fun and watch them get the crown at last. I think they owe us one, don't you?

This series can only help put basketball back in the good graces of the fans. They've heard enough from writers killing the bouncing ball. They've read enough about drugs, money, black players, gates and all that mess. I hope for once we can get the reports about the game: about the fantastic skill of these great players. The jumping ability of "J". The whole game of Bobby J. The passing of Magic. The skills of Silk. What a series this will be. Keep your television fixed to six.

My! I just forgot its only a game (smile). Philly in six.



Kareem: Can he sink the Sixers?

Beavers qualify

The Oregon State track team wasn't expected to fight it out with pre-meet favorite Arizona State, UCLA and Washington State at the Pac-10 meet . . . and they didn't. The Bruins eventually won after a strong WSU showing in the distances.

The Beavers have now qualified seven men and four women for the nationals; OSU junior Dick Oldfield qualified for the pre-10 meet with a time of 3:43.2, good for third place in the 1600 meters.

The highlight of the meet for OSU was a win by Kasheef Hassan in the 400 meters. Hassan, a senior,

went out fast, glided down the first straight-away, then blazed home to win going away. Kasheef easily defeated ASU's Leon Tuggs to win in 45.8.

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Adams community loses football teams

The Pop Warner football program in the former Adams High School District of Northeast Portland ceases to exist as of May 24th.

The reasons for the dissolution of this program are as follows: The Portland Youth Football League limits only one team per high school district. Since Adams High School is closed, that eliminates the possibility of an Adams-area football team. Therefore the teams have had con-

tinuing difficulties with the Park Bureau and Portland Public Schools in acquiring a practice field and a game field within the immediate area. A final reason for dissolving the three teams is the excessive cost of transportation and of field rental fees outside the district.

The Adams clubs thank the hundreds of players who have participated over the past decade, the rally squads, former coaches, parents, sponsors, area high school coaches,

area middle schools, and especially Jefferson Pop Warner, Ralph Nickerson or Roy Pittman, Peninsula Park Sports Center, 6400 N. Albina Avenue, Portland, OR 97217, 285-4222.

Grant Pop Warner, Grant Swimming Center, NE 33rd & Thompson, Portland, OR 97212.

Columbia Boys' Club, Ken Thompson, Director, 7602 N. Emerald Avenue, Portland, OR 97217, 289-8803.

All returning players are encouraged to contact one of the following people if they wish to continue playing football:

Madison Pop Warner, Bob Nelcor, 1644 NE 55th Avenue, Portland, OR 97213, 287-7289.

Jefferson Pop Warner, Ralph Nickerson or Roy Pittman, Peninsula Park Sports Center, 6400 N. Albina Avenue, Portland, OR 97217, 285-4222.

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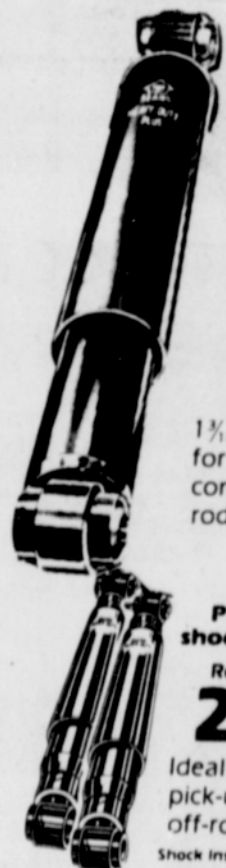
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