



Sport Talk

by Ron Sykes
Sports Editor

Oh boy! If KEX radio is right, then Portland, as a city, is in trouble. One local DJ was heard to say, "On September 10th college football will return to Portland when the Oregon State Beavers meet our own Portland State Vikings." He goes on to say that this contest will be the biggest football game in Portland in many years. I know the state of Oregon is not exactly the hotbed of collegiate football, but when a PAC-10 member (OSU) plays a NAIA Division 3 team (PSU) and it's being called the biggest game in Portland in years, it's really kind of ridiculous. Isn't it?

By comparison, the Washington Huskies will entertain the Michigan Wolverines in Seattle on that same day. Michigan, which sells 101,000 seats for each and every home game, has asked for 10,000 tickets for a game being played 2,300 miles away. Oregon State and Portland State will do well to draw 10,000 at the Civic Stadium. Washington and Michigan are playing a big game. Not OSU vs PSU.

Last year's Oregon vs Notre Dame game did wonders for the Eugene economy, pumping upwards of one million through the weekend. Just think what such a game could do for the Portland area.

What's up with Clyde Drexler?

And if any of you basketball fans are into reruns and want to see just how good and exciting Portland rookie Clyde Drexler is, just simply find someone who was lucky enough to tape the Louisville vs Houston NCAA game.

The game as a whole was exciting, but if you're pushed for time, you just might run it on fast forward and watch the second half. Now, settle into a comfortable chair and focus your attention on #22. What you'll then see is a very good basketball player. After viewing the reruns many times, I believe.

Drexler is a hard worker on both ends of the court. He runs the break extremely well. This writer believes in time he will be as good as Julius Erving in the open court. And that's saying something. Portland fans will find that Clyde is a quick and strong rebounder as well.

And if that isn't enough, the man led his conference in steals.

He anticipates well, to say the least. The big question now is: Where will Clyde fit in? Ramsay said on a local talk show that he plans to play him (Drexler) at both small forward and big guard.

All of us in the City of Roses know that those two positions are secured by the best two players on the roster, Calvin Natt and Jim Paxson.

So what's with Drexler? It's a certainty that the young ex-Cougar cannot be held to a bench role.

He's just too good for that. Clyde is a player that will have to have the minutes... big minutes if his game is to develop. In Clyde Drexler, Portland has a diamond in the rough. Let's hope he's around to receive the polish that's needed.

Elway a plus for Denver

In a bold and gallant move, Denver head coach, Dan Reeves, made John "10" Elway his number one quarterback.

Elway, ex-Stanford All-American, has shown steady improvement, thus winning the starting nod from veteran Steve Deberg. Elway's elevation is a plus to Denver's chances this season.

Young Elway simply has the most accurate aim in the game today.

He's intelligent, has good speed and agility, plus he can bust an egg from 60 yards. He's good. Elway is the Joe Namath of today... plus some.

Huskies health report

Many PAC-10 observers are writing this year's version of the Washington Huskies off as middle of the packers in the '83 race. Mainly

because Don James has lost 41 lettermen from last year. However, don't cry for the Dogs up north. They're still loaded.

Jack Smith, *Seattle Post Intelligencer*, reports: a skywriter from California stared disbelievingly at the purple jerseys compassing the long lunch line in the University of Washington Crew House. It wasn't just the length of it that confounded him, but trying to absorb all those dimensions at once.

"Where does that line end? Sea-Tac? They're all so big," he states.

"I mean huge. And there's so many of them." At this time it was brought to the writer's attention that all the players weren't available; that some were not in attendance due to photo taking.

It was particularly overwhelming, Smith writes, after visiting Oregon State, where the football team had assembled at a few tables bordering the basketball court and spoke grandly of their depth. But doesn't Joe Avezzano always go overboard on analyzing?

On the Oregon schools, it was said that Washington State was impressive, Oregon looked trim and muscular, Oregon State had grown some, but....



Lite All-Star Ben Davidson (left) and Houston Oilers running back Earl Campbell battled on the racquetball courts at the Houston Downtown YMCA in a celebrity match during national singles racquetball championships. The event was conducted by the American Amateur Racquetball Association.

More on Avezzano... Joe says that his fullback, Bryce Oglesby, 5'8" and 205 pounds is the best running back in the PAC-10. Now that's really going overboard.



Top home run hitter, Hank Aaron, focuses here on a Susan B. Anthony silver dollar and a two dollar bill, the kinds of currencies the NAACP is asking Black Americans to use during National Black Dollar Days, Sept. 1-5, 1983. Mr. Aaron has said the dollar days demonstration will show the importance of the Black buying power nationwide and this will lead to more jobs and business opportunities. A member of the National Board of the NAACP, Mr. Aaron hit 755 home runs during his professional baseball career, beating the old record of 714 set by Babe Ruth.

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The world's first known mariners were the *epibatae* — the "sea-soldiers" of the Greek navy in the 500's B.C.

The root of the marsh mallow plant was once used in the candy that we call marshmallows.

In ancient Russia it was believed that a skein of red wool wound about the arms and legs would ward off fevers.

Carrots were bred into existence 150 years ago in England from Queen Anne's Lace, a weed.

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