



Sport Talk

by Ron Sykes, Sports Editor

Anthony Taylor, Oregon's player of the year, is still pondering just which school will get his tremendous basketball talent. Before visiting Houston last Friday, it was generally thought that the Beaverton ace was leaning toward the University of Oregon. Taylor had announced last week that he would make his decision on Monday. While media people gathered around the state, the 6'4" Taylor decided that he needed more time, which prompted many writers to call both Eugene and Corvallis in hot pursuit of a lead. Couch Monson's line was busy all day; while Ralph Miller's office would only reply, "We haven't heard anything yet."

It now appears that Oregon is no longer the frontrunner; but is now in a dog fight with Guy Lewis' University of Houston's Cougars. And common sense will tell you that the Cougars are a formidable foe. Houston has won the SWC four years in a row; they've been to the prestigious final four three years in a row and the championship game twice. All this must loom big in Taylor's mind. Houston's program has already achieved what Monson is now putting together. Is Don Monson now challenging Ralph Miller for the State's best? You better believe it!

Oregon pulled off a coup by grabbing Parkrose's Rick Osborn, perhaps the second best, complete player, in the state: despite coaxing by coach Terry Woods who—before this year—had a direct pipeline for his players to OSU. Many Duck fans envisioned a backcourt of Osborn and Taylor. And this still pretty much could happen. But for the moment, the Cougars are presenting a big problem with all of Houston's national successes. Oregon does have its pluses, too. If Taylor does opt for Eugene, he'll only be slightly less than a two-hour drive from his family and friends.

His best friend, Anthony Newman, has signed in as a defensive back at Eugene. It should be mentioned that Newman turned down such perennial powers as Oklahoma and Nebraska to play at Autzen. And, finally, it is rumored that Taylor's girlfriend has registered at the U of O. For Monson, there's still hope.

Now, the State of Oregon isn't particularly known for its earthquakes, but there's a small rumbling going on within that will soon erupt into something big...say around May. You see there's a young track and field star in Salem, Gus Envela, and one in Portland, John Frazier, who are on a collision course. Frazier is a senior and the reigning sprint champion in this state. Envela is a sophomore sprinter that is growing stronger and stronger each year. Envela holds national age group records in every sprinting event on record. Young Gus has been running since he was nine years old and until he ran his first varsity race, as a frosh, was never beaten. Grant's senior sprinter, Anthony Hines, nipped young Envela at the tape to capture first place in the Grasham Invitational at 100 meters. Then Frazier also defeated young Envela in both sprints at State. But, the man from McKay didn't despair. Over the summer, Gus worked out and grew stronger. With the 1984 track season barely underway, Envela has posted at 10.6 in the 100 meters and 21.8 for 200. Both marks are number one in the state.

Both athletes are gearing their training toward that one day in May when they'll meet in Eugene. Gus is entering the 800 meters for endurance, while Frazier often runs four events in Jefferson's quest for respectability.

The earth will surely shake when these two sprinters hook up. While we will not predict a winner at this time, we would suggest that this will

be a "don't miss" meet for all track and field enthusiasts.

Okay, so one NBA season is ending and another draws near. The Trailblazers are assured of finishing second in the Pacific division behind the Lakers. They (Blazers) are also assured of having the home court advantage against all opponents except L.A. And, with three games remaining, they are assured of Indiana's pick. What they are not assured of is whether or not they will be involved in the coin flip.

As all able minded Blazer fans know...the Pacers are involved in a dogfight with both Chicago and Cleveland as to who will finish last. And believe me, Chicago, who owns their own first round choice, is trying harder...to lose that is. The Bulls have won just one of their last ten games. And are challenging both Indiana and Cleveland to do worse.

The Pacers have the best record of the three going to the wire. In the last ten contests, Coach Jack McKinney's crew has managed to break even, at 5-5. However, Indiana does have a two-game lead with just three games remaining. What does this mean for Portland? It means that they will be able to

add that missing link—a center. It means that they will be in position to sign either Kentucky's Sam Bowie or Houston's Akeem Olajuwon. That's right, Akeem has said that he was staying in. There are some strong signs pointing toward his departure. Didn't Akeem really want to come out last year, but only stayed because of sound advice from his friends. And wouldn't the chance to join Clyde Drexler in Portland weigh heavily on his mind? Akeem is a young man of many moods. It is said that his mind changes are as numerous as Oregon's weather changes. One week during final four practice sessions the tall Nigerian announced that he would no longer be available for interviews. Yet, after the very next Houston victory, there was Akeem smiling into the camera.

If the coin toss is won by Portland, then the 7'0" Olajuwon will be all that's needed to bring Portland into a different league. The Blazers are as good now as any team playing in the NBA—except they do not have a center. With, and if they are lucky enough to get Olajuwon, they will be right there with the elite clubs: Boston, Philly and L.A.



Los Angeles' Kent Rambis earns two points toward the Lakers' 119 to 113 win Sunday, April 8th.

(Photo: Dan Long)

VIRGINIA SLIMS



Menthol and
Lights Menthol

You've come
a long way, baby.

© Philip Morris Inc. 1984

Warning: The Surgeon General Has Determined
That Cigarette Smoking Is Dangerous to Your Health.

Menthol: 15 mg "tar," 1.0 mg nicotine—Lights Menthol: 8 mg "tar,"
0.6 mg nicotine av. per cigarette, FTC Report Mar '83.

For Pictures — All Occasions

Richard J. Brown
Photographer



10 N.E. Ainsworth
Portland, OR 97211
By appt: (503) 289-0707

BEEPERS



& CAR
TELEPHONES

RAM

THE BEEPER PEOPLE.

713 S.W. 12th Street
Call 224-BEEP for a free demonstration.

Variety I and II Beauty Salon



Announces Easter

Special

Curls. \$30 and up

Relaxers. . . . \$16 and up

Visit our newly remodeled salon.

3516 N.E. 15th
287-5618

Mgr/stylist-Melvia • Stylists: Jeanne & Jewel

Also visit Variety I
4554 N.E. Union • 284-6017

Stylists: Sonya • Gloria • Valorie