



by Roy Lee Jernigan  
Sports Editor

# SPORT TALK • SPORT TALK

The PFL had the week off so we'll kick around what's happening in the world of sports across the nation. Obviously we must drop in on the NFL playoffs. I'm taking Miami over San Francisco and I don't give points! The Marks brothers, Mark Clayton and Mark Duper, plus Dan Marino are just too potent an attack for the defense of the 49ers to stop.

Pittsburgh started Sunday's AFC Championship game with the idea of keeping the Miami offense off the field, a lofty goal but that rarely works. Miami struck for the first 7 on a 41-yard scoring toss to Mark Duper. The 77-yard opening drive took less than 90 seconds. Defensive coordinator, Tony Dungey, knew he had his work cut out for himself early. Dungey is 29 years old and is considered by many inside the NFL as the leading candidate to become the first Black head coach in the league.

Dan Marino reminds me of Joe Namath with healthy knees. His release is a killer! His fakes into the line are second only to Broadway Joe. Good hands and fakes into the line has become a lost art to present day quarterbacks. Charles "Goose" Gantler should give clinics to a few of these new breed quarterbacks.

Miami won 45-28 and Marino threw 4 touchdown passes and totaled 421 yards in the air. Mark Duper caught 5 passes for 148 yards, Mark Clayton pulled in 4 passes for 95 yards and Tony Nathan fingered 8 passes to his chest for 114 yards.

The Chicago Bears only lacked a quarterback in their 23-10 loss to the San Francisco 49ers. The 49er defense kept the Bears at bay until Joe Montana learned the defense he was facing, and then it was all San Francisco.

Walter Payton can't carry the entire offensive load against a solid defensive unit like the 49ers. Walter rushed for 92 yards on 22 carries and quarterback Steve Fuller passed for 87 yards. 87 passing yards in the playoffs won't get it!

Chicago head coach, Mike Ditka, said after the game that he took the responsibility for the loss because he thought he might have taken his team out of their game plan a little too early. Did you hear that, Jack?

What a lead-in to the TrailBlazers. I'm not going to knock Jack this week because he has impressed many of his detractors with at least trying something different. Portland snapped a three-game losing streak against the Seattle SuperSonics at the Coliseum last Thursday by mauling the Sonics 123-89. With Mychal Thompson and Kenny Carr injured the Blazers were a little shorthanded but found a way to get the job done. It was the fifth straight loss for the Sonics but still an impressive victory for Portland.

Fair exchange ain't no robbery. That should have been the Blazers' lament when they left Los Angeles the following night. The Lakers went Hollywood on the Blazers 120-95. The crisp passing attack that Portland displayed against the Sonics was only a memory when they landed at LAX.

Kareem toyed with Sam Bowie for 28 points in 28 minutes. Magic suffered a sprained right index finger and retired before the half. That's the only thing you can point your finger to if you're wondering if L.A. showed any mercy. Things went so bad for Sam that Kurt Rambis tried to dunk one on the big man, in the paint, from a standing start and while Sam was directly in front of him. No respect.



Portland's Clyde Draxler goes for two of his 25 points in Tuesday's 108 to 102 loss against the Dallas Mavericks. (Photo: Dan Long)

Now we get to Jack's moves. The Indiana Pacers came to town Saturday night and Ramsey had a new lineup. Drexler and Kiki up front. Bowie in the middle and Valentine and Pax guard. Portland 118-101. Indiana made the mistake of trying to run on this quick lineup and took their lumps. The crisp passing and ball movement was back in the Blazer arsenal and they played some ball. Kiki led the scoring with 26-points and Clyde followed with 23 points, 6 rebounds and 6 assists.

The guys on the bench are even getting more playing time now and that has to help the team overall. Valentine still can't shoot and hopefully Ramsey will keep Steve Colter on the floor longer with the first unit. Clyde has responded to starting like a duck to water. No matter what your game plan might be, there's no substitute for starting your best five players.

All teams go through losing streaks and Portland is no different. I'm going to stick with my prediction that the Blazers will win the western conference, in spite of the record right now. The trade has been done and there's no changing that now. Michael Jordan should be here, but he's not, and this team can still win.

Oregon State University hired David Kragthorpe as the new head coach for the Beaver football team. Good luck Coach! Dee Andros has been relieved of his duties as athletic director and an interim athletic director is to be named soon. Andros was booted upstairs with a hefty raise.

Good luck OSU! When all is said and done down in Corvallis, I only hope that someone in the school realizes that they have the perfect athletic director right there in Paul Valenti. Paul's hard-nosed but fair approach is precisely what that athletic department needs. Paul Valenti put the first Black basketball player on the floor for the Beavers and is a member of the Oregon Hall of Fame.

Julius "Dr. J." Erving has agreed to sign a one-year pact with the Philadelphia 76ers for next year. The Doctor handled his own contract negotiations and the contract is reported to be between \$1.2 million and \$1.7 million. The new pact will take effect immediately after his current contract expires.

John T. Brunelle has been named director of public relations.

Brunelle will be responsible for the team's local and national publicity, statistical crew, and press box supervision. A native of the Northwest, Brunelle was sports information director at Pacific U. in Forest Grove, Oregon. He is a graduate of Pacific and a native of Boise, Idaho.

John Thompson and his Georgetown Hoyas are atop the national polls and rated No. 1 in the country in NCAA basketball. The Hoyas are just getting into their tough Big East Conference schedule but there's little doubt that they are the cream of collegiate hoop. The toughest players these guys meet are in their own practice sessions. I would love to see Tony Ross on this squad down the line.

## Portland Meadows Top 10 Jockey Survey

AS OF 1-4-85

### THOROUGHBREDS

PLACING	NAME	STARTS	WINS	PLACE	SHOW	% OF WINS
1	DRUIDSON JOJO	154	34	25	28	22.1
2	HILLS BUFORD	170	27	29	28	15.9
3	JAMES MIKE	153	25	26	22	16.3
4	LONG BRIAN	150	23	13	17	15.3
5	MOORE DOUG	169	19	17	17	11.3
6	SONSOLUES FRANK	132	15	23	18	11.4
7	HENNO MARK	129	13	14	21	10.1
8	HAELEFVT BRUNO	144	12	11	10	8.3
9	KENNEV LISA	56	10	13	3	17.9
10	CUTHBERTSON ALLAN	78	10	12	7	13.2

### QUARTERHORSES

PLACING	NAME	STARTS	WINS	PLACE	SHOW	% OF WINS
1	BORG MARK	48	9	9	9	18.7
2	BURNS JIM	47	6	4	10	12.8
3	BURKE SHANE	58	6	3	7	10.3
4	SONSOLUES FRANK	12	5	0	2	41.7
5	STEVENS SCOTT	41	5	7	1	12.2
6	SLENN JIM	46	5	0	3	10.9
7	HALES HUGH	35	4	4	6	11.4
8	DRUIDSON JOJO	26	3	2	3	11.5
9	SANCHEZ DANNY	19	2	0	1	20.9
10	THORPEY RUSSELL	12	2	1	2	16.7

PORTLAND MEADOWS TOP 10 TRAINER SURVEY AS OF 1-5-85

### THOROUGHBREDS

PLACING	NAME	STARTS	WINS	PLACE	SHOW	% OF WINS
1	PEERY CHUCK	47	15	10	9	31.5
2	IRWIN B.T.	48	13	13	4	32.5
3	FORSTER DAVID	26	8	5	4	30.8
4	GLATT RON	28	8	7	4	28.6
5	PUNICH STEVE	64	8	5	10	12.5
6	HOWES MIKE	14	6	4	0	42.9
7	HERCHENT HARVE	16	6	1	3	37.5
8	CHAMBERS MIKE	24	6	2	4	25
9	NONGRWER H.H.	38	6	3	2	20
10	DAVIS DONNA	32	6	4	1	18.8

### QUARTERHORSES

PLACING	NAME	STARTS	WINS	PLACE	SHOW	% OF WINS
1	COPELAND CLAUDE	24	7	1	3	29.2
2	HARRIS JOHN	31	6	2	10	19.4
3	HELTON LIN	40	5	9	1	12.5
4	WHEELER HAROR	17	4	3	2	23.5
5	HILSON JOHN J	4	3	0	0	75
6	DAVIS ROBERT	11	3	2	2	27.3
7	DEAL JOHN	16	3	1	0	18.8
8	ANDRUSS BAXTER	23	3	0	1	13
9	HOWES DOROTHY	3	2	0	1	66.7
10	LUCHARRELL FRANK	4	2	1	0	50

## Jockeys vie for jackpot

Veteran rider Mike Baze has shipped in from Bay Meadows to join the jockey colony at Portland Meadows swelling the ranks to approximately 50 — one of the largest groups in recent years.

Also coming aboard after a brief vacation was Todd Stephens, the No. 3 rider at Longacres last summer when he booted home 70 winners. Gary Baze, the No. 2 Longacres reinsman in 1984 continues to ride himself into shape at Portland Meadows and plans to return to competition within a week or two.

Riding mishaps within the week are expected to keep Mike James and Allan Cuthbertson on the sidelines for a few days. Both were badly shaken up in spills, but neither was expected to be away from action very long.

Despite the increased competition, Jody Davidson of Ridgefield, WA, continues his hold on first place with 34 wins, seven more than Buford Mills, Jr., the 19-year-old practitioner

from Exhibition Park, B.C.

Chuck Peery of Kent has maintained first place in the thoroughbred trainer standings, but A.T. (Tex) Irwin of Battleground, WA is only two back, 15 to 13.

A contest to determine the handicapping champion of Portland Meadows will be conducted Sunday, Jan. 13. Paul George, direct of marketing, said the contest is open to the public and requires no entry fee or expenditure other than the strain on one's wits and handicapping skills.

A total of \$1,000 in cash prizes will be awarded with the champion — to be determined by points — to receive \$350 and a trophy.

Meanwhile, the Perfect 8 Jackpot pool continues to be an elusive target for PM patrons. the pool in the lottery-type bet has grown to \$80,486 and the prospects are good that the jackpot will top \$100,000 after mid-January.

### The Excitement Resumes

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## Parks offer wrestling fitness

Portland boys and girls grades one through eight are encouraged to participate in the wrestling fitness and development program offered by Portland Parks & Recreation and Portland Public Schools.

Wrestling Fitness sessions begin January 12 for one hour on five consecutive Saturdays. An \$8 registration fee includes a monogrammed

teeshirt. Sessions are offered at high schools throughout Portland and are taught by high school wrestling coaches and their staff.

The objective of Wrestling Fitness is to help youths to develop wholesome attitudes toward competition and appreciation for fitness.

For more information contact the Park Bureau Sports Office, 796-5150.

## The Black United Front Teenage Care Project - 232-9751

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