

25,232 fans attend Breakers home opener

As the Portland Breakers came through the tunnel at Civic Stadium Saturday night, it was the beginning of a new love affair. Portland welcomed their new USFL franchise with open arms and plenty of noise. The players responded by upsetting the favored Los Angeles Express 14-10. The game went right down to the last play on an Express-completed pass at the Breaker 4-yard line.

From my vantage point in the press box, all I could see was fun being had by all in attendance. In fact, two young ladies that were new to the business of being football fans, had the press box rocking with laughter. With the help of Allison and Monica, the Breaker brass knows how to throw

a party. Buford Jordan proved to be more than capable in the Breaker backfield, as he rambled for 110 yards on 17 carries. After falling behind 3-0 in the first quarter, the Breakers went to Jordan, and on his first carry he broke loose for a hard 25-yard gain. Four plays later, the Breakers scored on a 32-yard flea flicker from quarterback Doug Woodwad to wide receiver Frank Lockett. Tim Mazetti then ran his string of consecutive extra-

point kicks to 100 and Portland forged ahead 7-3. The Express retaliated with a 64-yard touchdown drive of their own when L.A. quarterback, Steve Young scrambled for 16, 11 and, finally, 8 yards for the score. Zendeja's point after returned the lead to L.A., 10-7. Mazetti attempted a field goal from the 32 but the kick was wide left with 1:02 remaining in the half. Jordan got the Breakers out of the blocks early in the third and broke

away for a 15-yard gain that fueled the Breakers' momentum. Jordan was still hauling it when the fourth period began as he drove through the L.A. line for a 3-yard touchdown run. That touchdown run proved to be the game winner for the Breakers. Fumbles by both teams in the last 4:18 caused some anxious moments for the Breaker fans but the team came through it and pulled out the win to endear themselves to the 25,232 in attendance.



Breakers' Buford is a beaut... Portland's Buford Jordan, No. 24, goes in for the winning touchdown in the Breakers' 14-10 opener with the Los Angeles Express. (Photo: Dan Long)

PM introduces twin trifecta

The twin trifecta, an exotic wager highly popular at some Eastern tracks, will be introduced at Portland Meadows March 8, it was announced by president and general manager John Jensen.

The Oregon Racing Commission approved rules for the new bet Thursday permitting Portland Meadows to become the first Far Western track to offer the "twin tri."

The twin trifecta, a minimum \$3 bet, will be offered on the 8th and 10th races. The wager involves a ticket exchange and carryover jackpot pool.

Under the rules, 50 percent of the 8th race trifecta pool will be set aside for the second half of the twin trifecta — the 10th race. Bettors must win the 8th race trifecta in order to be eligible for the second half, or twin trifecta jackpot. The other 50 percent will be paid to 8th race trifecta winners.

Eighth race trifecta winners will exchange their tickets and make their 10th race twin trifecta bets while cashing in their 8th race winners. There is no additional cost to 8th race trifecta winners when making the 10th race exchange. They may make one 10th race selection for each 8th race winning combination.

"We are excited about being able to offer this new bet to our patrons," Jensen said. "It is very popular back East. The twin tri generates big jackpots like the \$320,000 won at East Suffolk in Boston last week." He explained that many tracks are going to highly exotic wagers such as the twin tri in order to combat the lotteries.

Major stakes races including the \$20,000 Portland Mile and the second leg of the \$40,000 Oregon-bred Triple Crown are scheduled in March at Portland Meadows as the final one-third of the meeting gets under way.

The March stakes include the \$10,000-added Preview Stakes, March 16, the second leg of the \$40,000 Oregon-bred Triple Crown. Polynesian Flyer, winner of the first leg — the Oregon Futurity over six furlongs — rules as the heavy favorite to annex the Preview which will be run over a mile.

The third and final jewel of the Triple Crown — the Oregon Derby — will be contested over a mile and one-sixteenth April 6. Victory in the final two will mean a \$40,000 payoff for George and Dorothy Grimm of Bremerton, Washington, owners of The Flyer, plus the lion's share of the \$15,000 Oregon Derby Purse.

Portland Mayor Bud Clark is scheduled to serve as honorary steward for the Oregon Derby.

Chum Salmon, winner of the 1984 Portland Mile, was being wooed by racing secretary Nick Puhich, the \$20,000 Mile, scheduled March 30, will co-incide with Hat Day at the track with free hats going to all paid admissions.

Jody Davidson of Ridgefield, the early riding leader, returned to Portland last week from Golden Gate Fields, along with his 17-year-old brother Kevin, a promising apprentice.

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