



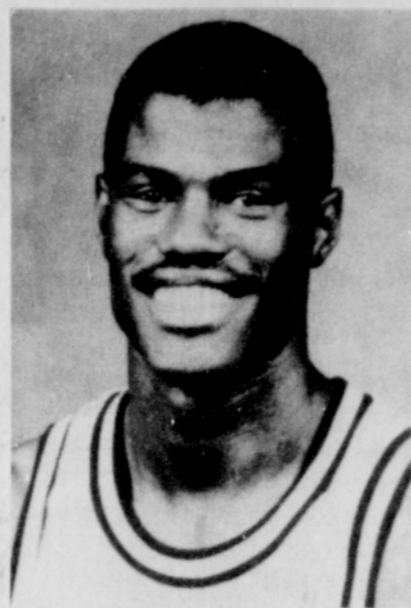
# NEWS AROUND TOWN

## The Locker Room

by Ulysses Tucker, Jr.



### Blazers Rap On Z100 To Benefit Boys And Girls Clubs



DAVID ROBINSON

"Rip City, Rhapsody, Portland, Oregon, USA. Rip City, Rhapsody, We're the Blazers and we love to play... Add a little bass music to those lyrics, some Portland rap musicians and three Portland Trail Blazers basketball players-turned singers, and you'll hear the latest song talking about one of the hottest teams in the National Basketball Association's Western conference: "Rip City Rhapsody".

Blazer players Jerome Kersey, Terry Porter and Danny Young teamed up with radio personalities Dan Clark and Tony Martinez of Z100's Morning Zoo and local songwriter Josh Mellicker to produce "Rip City Rhapsody", a rap song about the Portland Trail Blazers electrifying the fast-paced fame of professional basketball with their spectacular play this season. The song can be heard on Z100 and cassettes are being sold for \$3

at Payless Drug Stores in Oregon and southwest Washington. Proceeds from the sale of the cassette are being donated to the Boys and Girls Club of Portland to help their "Smart Moves" program.

To tip off the debut of "Rip City Rhapsody", Kersey, Porter and Young are scheduled to be at the Payless Drug Store in Beaverton Mall on Thursday, April 12 from 3:30 to 5 p.m. to autograph copies of the cassette.

The Boys and Girls Clubs "Smart Moves" program is being developed to help youth identify and resist peer, social and media pressures that promote high-risk behavior. The program will help provide information and resistance skills needed to say "No" to gang membership, alcohol and other drugs and to sexual involvement. The Boys and Girls Clubs of Portland are open to youth aged 7 to 18 for \$10 per year membership. They offer a variety of options for their members such as homework assistance, team sports, outdoor activities and more.

"The 'Smart Moves' program is new to Portland. It was developed by the Boys Clubs of America and is a concept brought to Portland when Executive Director H.C. "Butch" Holden was hired last September.

"Rip City Rhapsody" was the brainstorm of radio personality Dan Clark, a member of Portland's Morning Zoo on Z100. He wanted to write a fight song for the Blazers because they were playing so well, Clark said.

"I just wish I would have thought of it two months earlier," he said of his January idea.



LARRY BROWN, Coach

Clark and his radio partner, Tony Martinez, have dabbled in writing jingles for the Morning Zoo show. So it worked well for Clark to work on sound effects and friend Josh Mellicker to write the music. Martinez wrote the lyrics and came up with the title.

"It's like a puzzle with words," Tony said of writing down basketball terms and listening to Schonely announce the game. He listened closely to "The Schonz" and that's how a few of the lyrics came about:

"Steal it, Score it, Lickety Brindle That's what we call Swish and Swindle"

Once the song was presented to Blazer personnel, it took about two months for "Rip City Rhapsody" to debut in the Portland market.

### Rod Strickland: Kicking Up His Spurs In Texas

by Ulysses Tucker, Jr.

Rod Strickland was very unhappy in New York with the Knickerbockers. Like all NBA players, he wanted his minutes and the opportunity to show his skills night in and night out with the best athletes in the world.



Strickland did not hide his displeasure in playing behind former "Rookie of the Year", Mark Jackson, considered by some critics to be over-rated and a step slow by point guard standards. The Knicks tried everything. Splitting minutes, playing them together, individual meetings, and nothing worked. Jackson pouted when Strickland subbed for him and vice-versa. It got real ugly at times, according to the New York papers, but Strickland says that he does not want to talk about it. He calls it the past.

"I'm not going to say much about the New York situation," he said. "Things are great for me in San Antonio. I'm doing fine. I'm with a great organization, playing with a lot of talented players, and a fine coaching staff. I really like it here."

According to Spurs Coach Larry Brown, his team had no choice in trading Maurice Cheeks, who they acquired for Johnny Dawkins from Philadelphia before the season, for Strickland. Cheeks was unhappy with the trade and expressed his feelings by living in a hotel,

never accepting San Antonio as his new home. At the end of the season, Cheeks would have become a free-agent and hard to retain because of his unhappiness. The Spurs got something for Cheeks while they could. It's business.

In short, the Spurs gave up the stability to today for along range future with Rod Strickland. At 23 years old, Strickland is twelve years younger than Cheeks.

"I wanted Rod when he was at DePaul. He's tough. When my owner originally asked me about the trade, I told him that it would be phenomenal in the long range, but short range real tough," said Brown. "I can't think of a kid coming to a team with any more pressure. He came in during the middle of the year, we were going great because Mo helped us out with his leadership, and he helped our young players. Then all of a sudden, Rod comes in February and not only did we bring him in at the time, we lost Vernon Maxwell, our sixth man. It's tough losing two key players like we did, but after struggling a little, we made the adjustment. Rod has a good future here."

Strickland has a different opinion about the pressure some say that he is under. All he wants to do is play basketball and do well in the upcoming NBA playoffs.

"It's always pressure in this league, regardless of who you are," he said. "I just want to come out and help the team win. That's the bottom line." Currently, Strickland is averaging almost 14.0 per contest and eight assist. He is happy.

David Robinson, the "Anchor" of the Spurs and leading candidate for "Rookie of the Year", is a strong Rod Strickland fan too. He said "They are definitely different types of players," smiled Robinson. "Mo had a lot more experience. He had more leadership qualities, he was more subdued, and controlled. Rod likes to take chances, he penetrates, dishes the ball well, and you have to see the blind passes. Rod is a tremendous talent and I think our

team has done a good job in making that transition to a new point guard at a critical point during the season.

"He's going to be great for us in the future. His biggest thing in New York was just getting the time and knowing that he was the man. Here, he knows that he is the man."

A solid endorsement from Coach Larry Brown, great praise from the team's franchise player, David Robinson, and a competitive young team. What more can a player want?

"An NBA Championship is what life is all about in this league," he said. "That's what I live and play for every time I step on the basketball court." Perhaps, he will get a shot at the Knicks one day.

### SHORT SHAKES

Richard Maughan, KATU's Sales Dept., how long does it take to pay off for losing your NCAA Final Four bet? Yes, I picked UNLV from the start! You picked Arizona... Ken Fields, thanks for your prompt payment of those cold Henrys--they are still chilling in the fridge... A great quote from Coach Larry Brown of the Spurs, "I will take a Georgetown player any day of the week," he said "I like the John Tompson style. His guys hustle, play good defense, and they don't take it personal when you scream at them because they are used to it." Brown made his comments after being asked about former Hoya star Reggie Williams, who was picked up on waivers from the Cleveland Cavs. Williams was a former first round of the "L.A. Clippers"... My warmest regards to Terry Porter of the Blazers and his family. Porter's mother died last Friday after complications from a stroke. The funeral is scheduled to be in Milwaukee. Louise Porter was 62 years old... Roy Tarpley, please wake up and get your life--drugs are a drag and basketball is a kick... Congratulations to Wayne and Denise Cooper. The lovely couple celebrated their tenth wedding anniversary this week.

### Test Your Sports Trivia

1. Who was the first track and field athlete to win four Olympic gold medals?
2. What was Muhammed Ali's name before it was changed to Muhammed Ali?
3. Who was the first to win the Masters Tournament four times?
4. What is the most popular sport in the world?
5. In tennis, how wide is a singles court?
6. How many heads are there on a croquet mallet?
7. Where is the world's largest bullfighting ring?
8. What sporting good is not less than 9 inches nor more than 9 1/4 inches?
9. Who was nicknamed "The Georgia Peach" and was one of the first players elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame?

1. Jesse Owens
2. Cassius Marcellus Clay
3. Arnold Palmer—in 1958, 1960, 1962, and 1964
4. Soccer (In places other than the United States, soccer is referred to as football.)
5. 27 feet (8.2 meters) wide
6. two
7. Mexico City—The Plaza de Toros Monumental
8. the circumference of a baseball

### Good Friday Procession to Walk M.L.K.J. Blvd. to the New Convention Center

Over 250 members of the Portland Organizing Project (P.O.P.) are expected together at noon on April 13 at Immaculate Heart Church (2926 N. Williams) to participate in a Good Friday Pray Procession that will take place in the streets of Northeast Portland. The Procession is intended to be a sign of hope for the community and reflect the commitment of church and neighborhood people to overcome the problem of crime, poverty and unemployment in neighborhood throughout the City.

The Procession will begin at Immacu-

late Heart Church and culminate near the new Convention Center. In between, participants will walk the streets of Northeast, stopping at predetermined places to call attention and pray over signs of death and resurrection. The theme of this year's procession is "Let the Trumpet Sound" which symbolizes the hope that Easter brings to Christians everywhere--and especially to those who suffer from injustice and poverty, according to the P.O.P. "Let the Trumpet Sound" is also the title of Stephen B. Oates biography on Rev. Martin Luther

King. The procession intends to honor King by staying on M.L.K.J. Blvd. for a large portion of the procession.

The procession will end near the Convention Center and occur two days after the City Council is expected to vote on a "First Source" Jobs Policy for the City. Members of P.O.P., the Coalition of Black Men, and the AMA came together over a year ago when it became evident that the construction of the new Convention Center resulted in very few jobs for people in North & Northeast Portland.

### Jack and Jill Portland Chapter Spring Tea

The Portland Chapter of Jack and Jill of America, Inc. presents its annual Spring Tea on Sunday, April 29, 1990, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Town Hall, 3425 N. Kaiser Center Way.

This year's special event is a theme tea entitled "Sun Country", that includes an afternoon of tasting delicacies from the regions of Hawaii, Mexico, California and Southern states. Tea tables will be judged by Geneva Jones, Cooking Experts on AM NW; Sharon Mitchell, Reporter on PM Magazine; Kathryn Bogle, noted Columnist, Art Alexander, Assistant to Commissioner Mike Lindberg and Robert Phillips, President of the Portland NAACP. There is no admission charge, but donations will be accepted.

Jack and Jill of America, Inc. is a national organization whose focus is providing educational, social, recreational, and cultural enrichment of minority children.

### Adoption Sunday

April 29th is "Adoption Sunday." Over a hundred churches throughout the state have been invited to participate.

On April 29th pastors of each church will speak on adoption in their morning service. They will invite the congregation to open their hearts and homes to a Black child that is waiting for a loving home.

Also, lavender ribbons will be passed out for tying on car antennas to show support of the children waiting to be adopted. Adoption Sunday is sponsored by One Church, One Child and OCOB Board of Directors; each board member is a pastor. One Church, One Child is an organization whose goal is to have each congregation commit itself to yielding at least one family or single person from among its members who will adopt a waiting child. Oregon families are invited to open their hearts and minds to One Church, One Child challenge: Adopt a Black Child!!!

For more information, call One Church, One Child of Oregon at (503) 285-7634.



### AMA, Coalition of Black Men & P.O.P. Express Support For Mayor's Revised First Source Jobs Policy; Large Turnout At Council Vote Expected

Leaders of three Portland community groups greeted the release of the Mayor's first source job policy as an "important new tool" in the fight against crime and unemployment in the city. The three organizations have worked for the past year with the Mayor's Office to develop a Jobs Policy that would benefit Portland residents, North-Northeast residents and African Americans. Members of all three groups plan to be present in large numbers to testify at a City Council hearing on the Policy on Wednesday morning, April 11. The Policy is expected to come up for a vote around 10:30 a.m.

"Overall, I would say that we're pleased with the Mayor's Policy", commented Bishop A.A. Wells, Pastor of Emmanuel Temple & First Vice President of the Albina Ministerial Alliance (AMA). "It is significant that a City Policy acknowledges the economic realities & hardships that some of our people face. For example, the document points out quite clearly that the unemployment rate for African American youth is four times the overall unemployment rate." Bishop Wells recently presided over the funeral of a youth gang member who was killed by gunfire after a firebombing of a Northeast Portland home.

"We see the Policy as an important new tool in the City's fight against crime and unemployment," said Jim Francesconi of the Portland Organizing Project (P.O.P.). "The policy has great potential but we do have some specific suggestions to the Mayor on how it can

be strengthened. We plan to raise those with him before the policy comes up for a vote next Wednesday."

Leaders of the three organizations came together over 12 months ago when it became evident that only a handful of the construction jobs for the new Convention Center were going to North/Northeast residents. The goal of the discussions with the Mayor's Office over the past year has been to insure that the jobs that are created as a result of Portland taxes - benefit Portland residents. The most recent public meeting on First Source occurred on February 3 when over 350 people from the organizations met with Mayor Clark and Commissioner Bob Koch at St. Andrew's Church. Both City Council members gave their strong support to the policy.

"I see this policy not only benefiting the African American community - but the entire city," said Harold Williams, of the Coalition of Black Men. "I also think that the work of these three organizations over the past year has been very significant. We have come together around a common concern and helped to bring about something that can really have a positive impact on all Portland neighborhoods."

The policy would target a specific percentage of jobs to Portland residents and North/Northeast residents on Public Works projects and agreements reached with private companies that receive assistance from the City. It would also allow for a process whereby the City can enforce those agreements.

### AMA Banquet Holds Annual Banquet

The Albina Ministerial Alliance will hold its 11th Annual banquet "Commitment with Action-Agenda For the 90's" on Friday, April 27, 1990, 7 p.m. at the Holiday Inn-Airport (John Q. Hammond Trade Center).

Mr. Charles Jordan, Superintendent of Portland Bureau of Parks and Recreation will be the speaker. Ticket price is \$29.95 and can be purchased by calling the AMA office at 284-0493.

Albina Ministerial Alliance is a non-profit organization which operates on donations and grants. The community gives to AMA and it, in turn, gives back to the community through its programs and services.

### Urban League to Assess Needs of African Americans in Portland

The Urban League of Portland will conduct public community forums to assess and identify the current needs of Portland African-Americans. Those wishing to participate may attend one or both forums. The first will be held Tuesday, April 24, 1990 at Matt Dishman Community Center, 77 NE Knott Street, and the second one will be held Thursday, April 26, 1990 at the M.L. King Facility, 4815 NE 7th Avenue. Both sessions will be held from 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. For more information, call 280-2600.

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Enjoy the atmosphere and flavorful cuisine of Southwestern Louisiana at Immaculate Heart Church's annual chicken and seafood Gumbo Dinner.

Date: Saturday, April 21, 1990  
Time: Noon until 8:00 pm  
Place: St. Philip the Deacon Episcopal Church Hall  
120 NE Knott  
Portland  
Cost: Adults \$6.00, Children under 12, \$3.00  
For tickets, call Bonnie... 287-3724 or send a check to Immaculate Heart Church, 2926 N. Williams, Portland, OR 97227.

OMSI Seeks Volunteers  
The Oregon Museum of Science and Industry is looking for permanent and temporary volunteers, ages 16 and older, to work in various departments throughout the museum

starting May during the new Dinosaur exhibit.

OMSI needs explainers, who will work on the main floor to answer dinosaur questions; Chemistry and Physics Laboratory workers, to demonstrate and work with visitors on various experiments; Curator assistants, who will work with OMSI's Curator to categorize, clean and store many of OMSI's collections; data entry workers; photographers and graphic artists for exhibit production; admission workers; Discovery Space greeters; and workers with clerical skills.

Applications are being accepted through May. Contact OMSI at (503) 222-2828 or write to OMSI, Community Resources Director, 4015 S.W. Canyon Rd., Portland, Ore. 97221.

### WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Are you concerned about crime, gang activity, and youth prostitution in your

neighborhood? WE NEED YOUR INPUT!

Current services to the African American youth are being examined by the Children and Youth Services Commission (formerly the Juvenile Services Commission).

Two separate forums have been scheduled at the King Facility, 4815 NE Seventh Avenue on the following dates:

- April 12th**  
7:00 - 9:00 p.m.  
7:00 - 8:00--Service Provider Input  
8:00 - 9:00--Concerned Parents, Family, Citizens
- April 19th**  
7:00 - 9:00 p.m.  
7:00 - 8:00--Concerned parents, family, citizens  
8:00 - 9:00--Service Provider Input  
Everyone is welcome: service providers, community members, parents, current Children and Youth Commission Contractors, kids.  
Hope to see you there!