



THE LOCKER ROOM

Locker Room Profile: Tony Hampton



Tony Hampton

BY: ULLYSSESTUCKER, JR.

Eight years ago, Tony Hampton was a skinny tenth grader at Grant High School with dreams of playing for UCLA and majoring in Communications. He barely stood six foot. Thanks to his early heroes, Adron and LaVerne Hampton-his parents, Tony had a firm grip on life and was taught by them to set goals. Hampton also looked up to Julius Erving and professional baseball player Darryl Motley, who hails from Portland.

There is something else that you should know about Tony Hampton. He never attended UCLA and he did not major in Communications. Instead he attended College of the Desert (Palm Desert, Ca.) and Montana State (87) University. His degree is in Public Relations. Hampton earned All-Conference and All State honors at College of the Desert (82-84). At Montana State, Hampton again earned All-Conference honors and was named the MVP of the Big Sky Athletic Conference (1986). He left his impact in the record books at MSU. Hampton also led his team to an NCAA berth and later played in the CBA.

Today, Hampton is still under six-foot and skinny. If a strong Montana wind blew through town, Hampton looks as though he would need some rocks in his pocket to prevent an unplanned trip to Texas. He never grew to that 6 foot 5 guard everyone expected, but Hampton did develop into a solid citizen and professional in the corporate community. Hampton currently works as a marketing representative for the Xerox Corporation. He enjoys selling products and the challenge of creating new business. Wise beyond his twenty five years, Hampton attributes most of his success to listening and learning from the experiences of older adults. He respects their wisdom, insight, and secrets to build his life.

The Locker Room caught up with Hampton by appointment, recently at

Holiday market. He was in between clients and took a few moments to reflect on his basketball career and future direction. Hampton even found time to talk about another dream of his that he has since let go, playing in the National Basketball Association.

"I get asked about the NBA a lot", he said. "Are you going to try out for the Blazers? Why didn't you make it? I wasn't good enough to make it is the answer, but that does not mean that I'm a failure at all. What I've done is use basketball to the utmost and as a stepping stone to achieve other things such as your Masters and my education. It's all been a very positive experience. Also, it's not always about talent. It's a little bit about politics and being in the right place at the right time. When people ask me that question about playing in the NBA, they do not realize how complicated a question that is."

Locker Room-How do you feel when you look at television and see guys you played against or played real tough?

Hampton-"I deal with it realistically. I believe that you can always dream, but that does not mean that all your dreams will come true. It helps to make life a little easier. I get satisfaction knowing that on any given day I can play on that level or in that league (NBA). I may not be a better player or perform better at all times, but I know that I can get on the same floor."

Locker Room-What are your responsibilities with the Xerox Corporation?

Hampton-"I'm a Marketing Representative for Xerox Corporation. I handle copiers/duplicators and fax machines. I'm responsible for the Northwest territory, meaning that I have a large number of new business or existing accounts in the area. My job is to manage these accounts to the best of my ability. I sell products. I do anything from flyers, telephonics, etc...anyway that I can to generate business for my corporation."

Locker Room-How would you compare Xerox with basketball. Both are very competitive.

Hampton-"There is not a day that goes by where I fail to relate my job to sports-any sport. Basketball or football. You must have the discipline to get up everyday and have the desire to make your business better. You have to have the same level of intensity and work ethic as an athlete."

Locker Room-How do you cope with rejection in your line of work?

Hampton-"I handle it pretty good. As long as I can go out each day and work as hard as I can, I believe that I will eventually get that sale. Adversity in life, as well as the corporate world, is an

everyday part of life. I deal with it from day to day and look for ways to improve my skills, the same way I dealt with basketball."

Locker Room-How does a person develop character to endure adversity or grow from it.

Hampton-"You must have goals. You must have a vision of where you would like to be in your field. As long as that vision is clear. I don't believe that there is any amount of adversity or road-blocks, outside of death, that should be able to stop you."

Locker Room-What advice do you offer young people chasing that NBA dream?

Hampton-"They need to listen and take advantage of the experiences of the older athletes around town. Young people need to seek out those who have been where they are trying to go and ask questions. I did. Once they do that, it makes attaining ones goals much easier because you know something that people on your level don't know or understand yet."

Locker Room-How do you convince "Knucklehead" youngsters to listen more?

Hampton-"I think real examples always help. Through my experiences, I seen a lot of players come and go. by using examples with young people, not preaching, you can hopefully depict a real view of what can happen if you do not take care of business, if you don't go to school, or if you don't listen. I think, for the most part, a lot of young people will listen if they are around the right role models."

Locker Room-What is a good role model?

Hampton-"A good role model doesn't have to be a ball player. It could be your brother, your sister, or anyone with leadership skills, anyone that has discipline, is motivated to achieve, and a strong sense of self-esteem. A role model, is different things for different people."

Locker room-What about the youth with no sense of hope, motivation, or good role models?

Hampton-"The trouble is not so much getting them motivated, it's finding them and getting them into some type of program. I think, however, that it all starts at home. Your parents are your first role models and the most important ones. My parents were very important for me."

Locker Room-Thanks Tony.

Hampton-"You're welcome!" Hampton, in summary, said that he would like to be used as a resource in the community for kids and his peers. His ultimate goals is to help those who helped him. Good luck at Xerox.

Players Have Right to Privacy in Locker Rooms, Women Have Right to Report

by Aaron Fentress

Should Women reporters be allowed into men's locker rooms? Should male reporters be allowed into women's locker rooms? Should any reporter be allowed into either sex's locker rooms? The question is not about sex or discrimination, it's about privacy.

There is no question that denying woman reporters access to men's locker rooms while male reporters are getting the stories is wrong. If the men are in there then the woman should have the right to also be there. Woman reporters do not (for the most part) salivate at the sight of sweaty naked athletes after a sporting event.

"We go into locker rooms not because we want to, but because we have to," said Christine Brennan a woman reporter for the L.A. Times-Washington Post Service. "The locker room is the place where writers interview athletes. It's not exciting or sexy or tantalizing. It's cramped and steamy and messy."

Point well taken. For woman reporters scuffling through a locker room filled with 45 football players, 15 coaches, and countless other reporters doesn't sound like much fun. It's get in, get the story and get out. No time to look at girating buttocks or anything else that might be girating behind a towel. It's a job and woman have a right to do it.

But what about the rights of the players. Should male athletes be forced to have woman reporters in their locker room if it makes them uncomfortable? Cincinnati Bengal's head coach Sam Wyche didn't think so three weeks ago when he barred a female reporter from his teams locker room following a Monday night loss to the Seattle Seahawks. Wyche was fined \$30,000 even though his actions were not sexually discriminantly intended.

"Sam Wyche was not letting a woman into the locker room with all his players naked," said Wyche. "I am not doing that to these guys. I'm not doing it to their wives. I'll be out of this business before I do that. Our guys don't want a woman to walk into a situation like that."

Although the incident was treated seriously, considering the amount of Wyche's fine, Wyche really did nothing wrong. He allowed the reporter, Denise Tom from the USA TODAY, to talk to any player she wanted to. But the interview had to be done outside the locker room. In my opinion no harm done. According to Brennan many of her male colleagues don't really care for the locker room either. And many of the players, as do Wyche's, don't really want any reporters, male or female, in their locker rooms. There's really only one solution to this problem.

Special rooms where interviews can be held. The only problem is that many of the N.F.L. stadiums don't have this type of facility. They need to be built.

Professional athletes are public figures who are under the microscope of the press and both men and woman have the right to interview them. But the athletes involved also have a right to their privacy. Under league rules N.F.L. players are allowed a 10 minute cooling off period in the locker room following a game before reporters are let in. This time is used to either be praised or chewed out by the coach. Not to shower. It was once suggested that the players be allowed to shower and get dressed before being interviewed. The problem with that bright idea was that after showering and dressing most players, especially following a loss, high tailed it out of the stadium. In addition allowing that much time for players cut into reporters deadline time, especially following a night game.

The only solution is to build special rooms designated for player interviews. Such a system wouldn't be unlike the typical press conference seen which follows Super Bowls and another big sporting event. And for those team owners who would complain about the costs. If you can build your multi-million dollar sky boxes then you can build interview rooms.

portland trailblazers



TRAIL BLAZER TICKETS AVAILABLE

The Portland Trail Blazers have announced that tickets to the preseason games on October 16th and October 27th at Memorial Coliseum can be purchased at G.I. Joe's TicketMaster outlets and the Memorial Coliseum box office. Available tickets include paired seats usually set aside for special group sections during the regular season and scattered singles. A limited number of tickets will also be available for regular season Blazer games. Regular season tickets will go on sale beginning October 26th.

1990 WESTERN CONFERENCE CHAMPIONS

DANIELS STARS FOR DAVID DOUGLAS



Al Daniels is a shining Senior at David Douglas High School this year. He is known for his quick plays as a Running Back. He is also known for receiving the Outstanding Student Award, Student of the Month, perfect attendance the four years in High School, Computers, Band, Track and an active member at Emmanuel Temple Church. Al is having a Spectacular year and is to be commended for his dedication. He is the son of Alfred Daniels (a retired engineer for the government) and Rosemary Daniels who is the principal of Brooklyn School.



'1990' World Series



Nikes New World Campus Offers 90's Work environment

NIKE, Inc., has opened the doors to its new World Campus in Beaverton, Oregon, bringing together some 1,400 Oregon employees for the first time. The bulk of NIKE employees will be moved in by mid-November. The athletic footwear and apparel company's new headquarters offers employees more than just a unified location.

The nine-building, 570,000 square-foot complex is located on a 74-acre site at S.W. Jenkins and Murray Roads in Beaverton, approximately 10 miles from downtown Portland. The entire campus is surrounded by large, beautifully landscaped, earthen berms which not act as a natural fence to shield the buildings from street view, but also serve as sound barriers from street noise.

The first man-made structures which come into view are the formal-looking "gateways" spanning the two main entries. Visitors may be surprised to realize these are actually jogging bridges, a continuation of the running rails which twist and turn through the unspoiled woods around the perimeter of the campus. All of the buildings are named after prominent athletes. The main entry at One Bowerman Drive (named after NIKE co-founder and two-time Olympic Track and Field coach Bill Bowerman) leads past a flag court and fountains to main reception building. In the Steve Prefontaine Center, visitors can pick up some NIKE history by browsing through the NIKE Hall of Fame and Museum. The Prefontaine Center also houses meeting rooms and a 65 seat auditorium.

The entire NIKE World Campus is organized efficiently around a seven-acre man-made lake. In addition to the

Prefontaine Center, other structures include:

Five four-story office buildings with many office spaces offering breathtaking views. Open work spaces are provided with an abundance of natural light from the large windows and four-story lobby atriums. The major office buildings are linked by covered arcades featuring commemorative plaques honoring more than 175 world-class athletes with whom NIKE has been closely associated over the years.

A campus employee center offers dining rooms, sports deli, employee store, hair salon, bank teller machine and gift shop.

A fully-appointed athletic club equipped with, among other things, an indoor track, basketball courts, squash and racquetball courts, aerobics and weight-training rooms, locker rooms, sauna, jacuzzi and a juice bar. Multi-purpose playing fields, tennis courts and outdoor facilities for volleyball and basketball are adjacent to the Athletic Club.

Future plans include a 12,000 square-foot Day Care Center slated to open in the summer of '91; and an additional 240,000 square feet of office space to be completed by Fall '92. The company recently purchased 100 adjoining acres of land which are earmarked for future expansion.

NIKE developed the entire World Campus project in-house. Under the day-to-day coordination of Jim Robison, NIKE's Director of Administration, a team of local Northwest professionals was retained to make the corporate dream a reality.

BLITZ-WEINHARD BEGINS REFILLING BOTTLES THROUGHOUT THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST

You might say 1100 million beer bottles can't go wrong.

In the past four years alone, that's how many empty bottles have been returned to the Blitz-Weinhard brewery in Portland for refilling. Not recycled. Refilled. Used again. And again.

Blitz-Weinhard is the only brewer that has refilled its bottles continuously since the Oregon bottle bill became effective in 1972-even though that law only requires bottles to be redeemed. Blitz-Weinhard now refills 78 percent of all bottles of Henry Weinhard's Private Reserve sold in Oregon.

The brewery's success in bucking a national trend away from refillables has led it to take its bottle refilling campaign to other Pacific Northwest states, including Washington, Montana and now Idaho, where distributors have been clamoring for refillables-and the good guy image

that goes with them.

The decision to extend refilling into other states follows a promising start with refilling in Washington, according to company President Bruce Vaughan. Returns are now averaging 20.4 percent, encouraging for a program that is still in the start-up phase, he said.

To further stimulate the return of bottles, the brewery announced plans today to begin paying consumers in Washington, Montana and Idaho a minimum of 50 cents a case for Henry Weinhard- and Rainier-brand bottles returned to recyclers, distributors and a new redemption center being opened in Seattle Monday. The center will be operated by Northwest Center Industries, an employment program for people with developmental disabilities. Information on all redemption locations is available by calling 1-800-6-BOTTLE.



Don't Forget to Vote

"ALL THE GOOD ONES ARE TAKEN!"

You've just about given up!
You've tried the dating scene: night clubs, bars, social lounges.
All the prospects just were not what you were looking for in a permanent relationship.

Please send me more information and a membership packet. I don't want to let this unique opportunity pass me by. I have enclosed \$2.00 for shipping and handling.
Name: _____ Male _____ Female _____
Address: _____
City/State/Zip: _____
I certify that I'm 21 years of age or older, single, and African American.
Signature: _____

African American Singles Network, P.O. Box 12514, Portland, OR 97212, (503)293-7979

