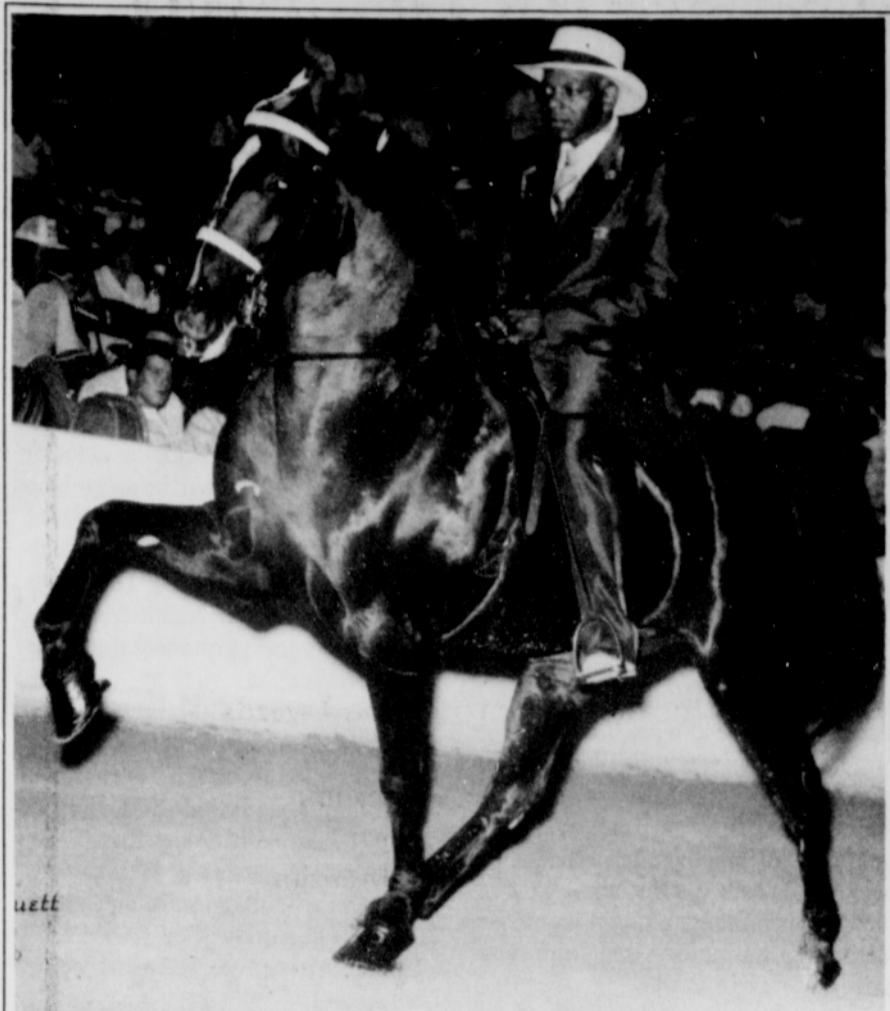


Eugene Resident Breeds Show Horses



Frank White is shown riding champion show horse "Gems Amazing Grace"

As a twelve year old growing up in Jackson, Mississippi, Frank White often wondered what his future would be like in years to come. He knew that being black and living in the deep south, opportunities, if any, would be far and few between.

He also knew that the cotton fields of Mississippi, or any other job, would not be attractive-not only because of the color of his skin, but mostly, because he could neither read or write.

As the oldest of nine brothers and sisters, Frank knew he had to work some where to help his parents support the family. So he went to work in a stable for a white businessman, helping

to care for the horses. It was there he developed a love affair for the animal (horse).

At the age of thirteen, he learned to ride, to feed them properly, to care for them when they were sick, to shoe them correctly, and to help the mares to give birth to their colts. As a teenager, Frank White substituted books for horses. It was a education which today ranks him as one of the most knowledgeable and respected trainers and breeders of show horses in the country today. His reputation as a "Class Act" extends into Canada as well.

Now fifty years old, the Junction City resident looks back over the years

and readily acknowledges that life has been good to him.

"When I left home at thirteen, people thought I was crazy. They told me that since I couldn't read or write, there was no way I could make it in life", he remembers. "But", he added, "my parents always told me a person could be anything they wanted to be if they put their mind to it."

And one look at the more than 500 awards Frank has received, including some 250 for 1st place, serves proper notice that he has, "put his mind to it."

For a man without a formal education, Frank White is a very smart man. "Business smart" with a mixture of "school smart", and "street smart."

He wanted to be a success, and he knew in order to do so, he would have to set his priorities. Number one was to become financially secure. Number two, work for himself. Number three, build a business that would command the respect and patronage of those with money.

Frank knew that people with money attracts people with money. He also knew that a bad environment was bad for business. He was careful to associate himself with friends who avoided life's temptations.

"I lost many friends because I didn't fool with drugs or alcohol," he claims.

Leaving Mississippi at the age of nineteen, he traveled to New Orleans, Los Angeles, Ontario, California, Washington State, and finally ended up in Junction City, where he today boards and trains some 22 show horses for his cliental. He also has five prize winning champions of his own that he breeds for sale. The going rate for those two horses range from \$25,000 and up.

So far business is good. Next weekend, Frank travels to Mt. Hood with his sights set on bringing home at least 15 first place awards.

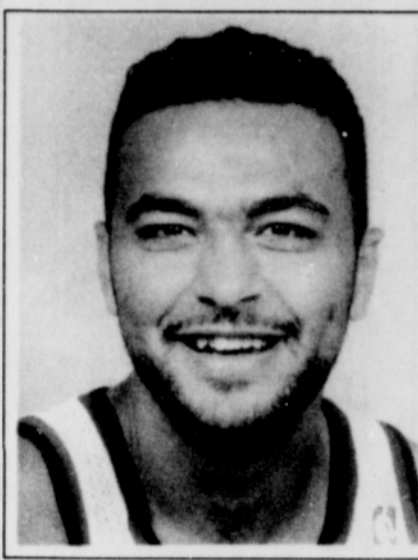
Yes folks, for some one who neither reads or writes, Frank White is an amazing man.

Praise Be To Alaa: Abdelnaby

BY ULLYSSES TUCKER, JR.

Alaa Abdelnaby has already watched (or played in) enough NBA basketball games to equal three college seasons at Duke University. He mostly watches from the bench as a Trail Blazer, but Alaa knows that there are better days ahead and much to be learned about the professional game.

As a Duke Blue Devil, Alaa had the opportunity to participate in three NCAA Final Four tournaments, (87-



ALAA ABDELNABY

90). Duke never won the big one during his tenure, but he received the opportunity to showcase his talents on national television, meet athletes that will be friends for life, and pick up some nice jewelry to say the least. Playing the role of a bridesmaid three times in real life would send most people into hibernation or erode one's self-esteem. Basketball is a different story. Alaa is used to being at the big dance. The only difference between the big dance going on at Memorial Coliseum this week, compared to other sites he's known in the past, is that Alaa's not dancing much. It's been mostly toe tapping from the bench, playing hard against Cliff Robinson in pre-game warm ups, or goofing off with one of his little "ball-boy friends". When he has been called out to dance, Alaa has shown flashes of

brilliance and a work ethic. When questioned about not being able to participate as much as he would like at the big dance, Alaa, clearly the most articulate Trail Blazer, admits that it's tough.

"Most of the time I've been a contributor at the big dance," he said. "It's hard and frustrating for me because there are things that I see out there and things that are happening out there and I can't live it out. Right now, my thing is to observe and hopefully learn from every situation I'm exposed to on the court. This, the NBA Play-offs, is a new situation for me. I've got to learn from this. Hopefully, when my time does come, I'll be more aware of the intensity level and what it takes to compete. It may sound a little 'cliche-ish' to say that I'm going to work hard until my time comes, but it's true."

Contrary to the ego's of most NBA players, Alaa says that a young player or any player can learn from sitting on the bench. "You can learn how the game is really played," he said. It's that attitude, said Blazer coach Rick Adelman, that will make him a better player and enhance his stay in the league. "He has a great attitude and he works very hard. Alaa is very good for this team too. Some guys would have a problem with his role, but he sees the big picture. He knows that he can play in this league and he knows that he has a lot to learn. We are glad to have him."

Born in Lairo, Egypt, Alaa was the 25th player selected in the 1990 NBA draft. A strong final four appearance and a solid senior season (15.1 ppg and 6.6. ppg) really increased his stock tremendously. He only averaged 8.5ppg for his career at Duke University and he played in the shadows of Danny Ferry, Johnny Dawkins, and David Henderson. The average 3.1 ppg and 2.1ppg as a Blazer in 6.7, minutes (43 appearances).

"I learned a great deal at Duke," he said. "It prepared me well for this level, but there are still adjustments. Things like handling other players and what they like to do (offensively and defensively), refs, crowds, and watching guys like Buck (Williams), Duck,

and Mark Bryant prepare for games and carry themselves off the court has taught me a lot too."

When questioned about how he maintains his self-esteem and confidence on the bench, the Bloomfield, NJ native shook his head slightly and looked this reporter straight into the eyes.

"It's hard", he said. "Your ego takes a beating. You want to be out there, you love to play the game, and you are used to begin looked at as someone important or as an important cog (in the wheel) and when you're not, it's hard to all of a sudden put your self-worth on one thing and say 'okay, this is something I'm good at or not good at'. It goes downhill from there.

Are you suggesting that you would do something much different than the player you find yourself watching from the bench?

"Not just that. It's so easy to do that. Reporters do it all the time. They sit there and say 'God, why didn't they make that play?' It's a lot harder than they think it is. There have been times when I've gone into games and it's not as easy as it looks. More than anything, there is a big part of me that loves to play. All of me loves to play. Pick up games, one-on-ones, games with ball-boys, and I know my opportunity is not there yet: I'm not worried, though, because it will be there."

There's not much that bothers Alaa these days, except for the chants of "Alaa, Alaa, Alaa, Alaa" when the Blazers are clearly ahead or out of a basketball game. "I'm not a victory cigar", said Alaa in reference to a story published in Willamette Week by the often criticized Jim Patton. "I'm a basketball player.

Alaa doesn't worry much because he has one of the best jobs in America, a fine group of co-workers, and being at the big dance is what he enjoys the most. Remember, he's used to being at the big dance. Alaa just want to 'shake-a-leg' and break in those Nike tennis shoes he's wearing, in the NBA play-offs and championship series that is-not in warmups.

Western Confernece Semi-finals Jazz vs Blazers



Photo by Veronica Green

Blazers win game one at the Memorial Colisuem

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