



THE LOCKER ROOM

NBC Picks Roy Jay's Limo

Open up the yellow pages and you will find no less than 2 pages of limousine companies that have been around for a great number of years. However, NBC SPORTS in New York, picked the newest kid on the block to handle transportation for their network executives and TV announcers during the Portland Trailblazer playoffs.

Portland businessman, Roy Jay said that his company's corporate limousine has been contracted by NBC for as long as the Blazers are in the playoffs. To date they have already accommodated such notables as Dick Enberg, NBC Sports Executives, Phoenix Sun's head coach, Cotton Fitzsimmons and others.

Jay, was not even aware of the NBC transportation needs, but had been highly recommended by several hotels who are members of his Oregon Business Network. "It was a matter of the three P's...Price, Personality and Professionalism", he said.

Jay's Oregon Business Network members are covering the cost of the corporate limousine to transport Josuha Smith, keynote speaker at the upcoming Oregon Association of Minority Entrepreneurs conference on May 16 as well as handling Shirley Chisholm for the Blacks In Government convention on May 22.

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Kareem: Early Doubts About Magic

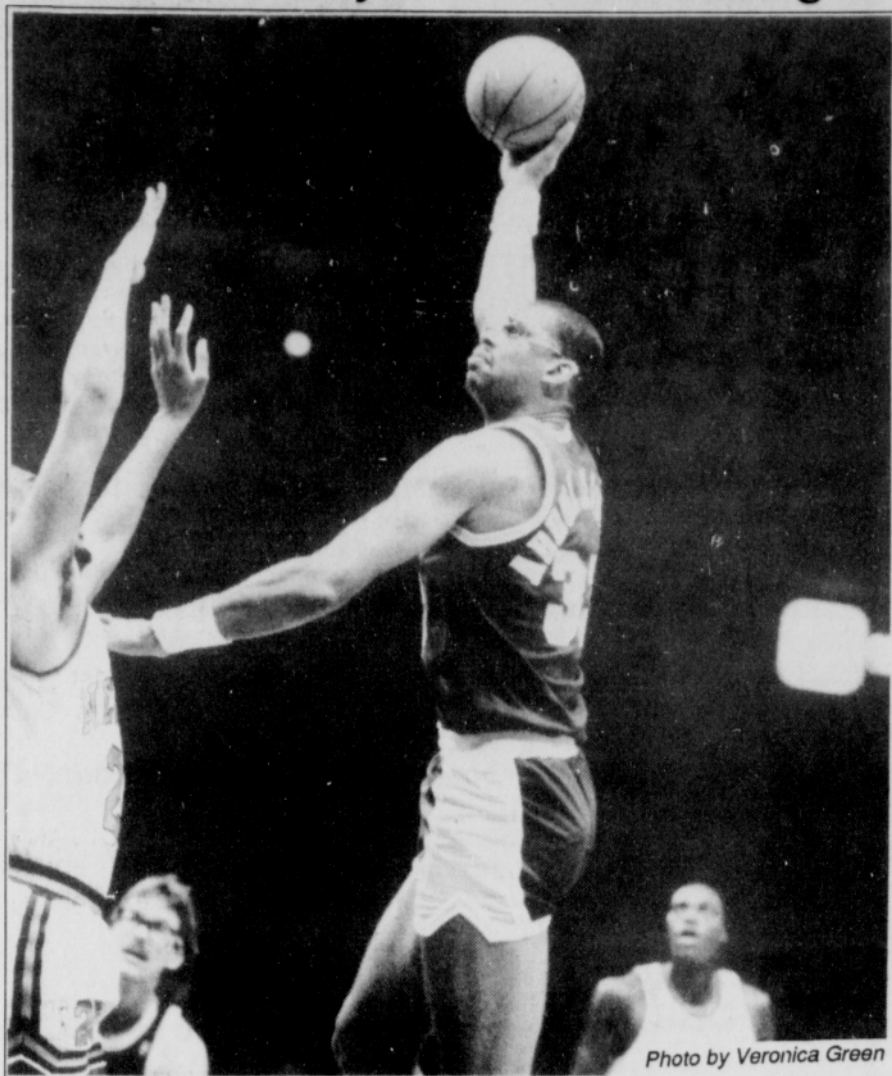
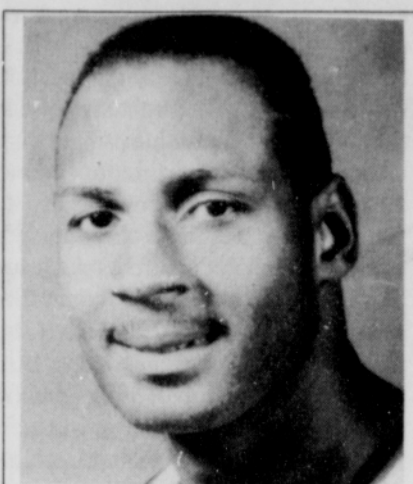


Photo by Veronica Green

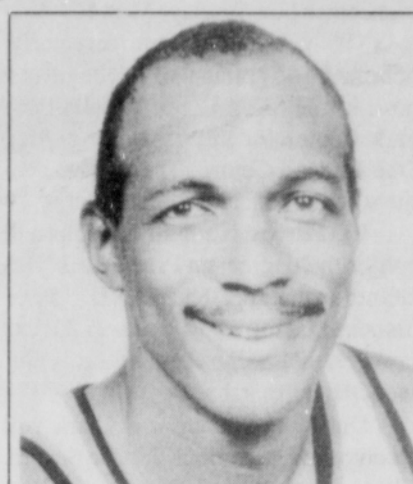
"Magic Johnson's assault on Oscar Robertson's all-time assist record has further enhanced his reputation as one of the greatest players ever, but the one man who was the teammate of both Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, admits that he had doubts about Johnson as a rookie in 1979-80. "He was unique-he's 6-9 and does all that stuff. I had doubts at first, but I talked to (former coach) Jack McKinney during that summer before his rookie season, and Jack kept saying, "Magic has such unique talent, you're going to love it. We'll be able to run all the time, and nobody is going to be able to concentrate on you. Because Magic's going to have the ball in the paint, teams are going to change how they play us...it enabled us to win world championships between 1979-80-1986."

If you are a graduating student, it's time to shine. You can be what you want to be. Don't forget the ones who have carried you thus far. Let them know that you appreciate them in what ever capacity they have fulfilled for you. Remember to be good to each other!

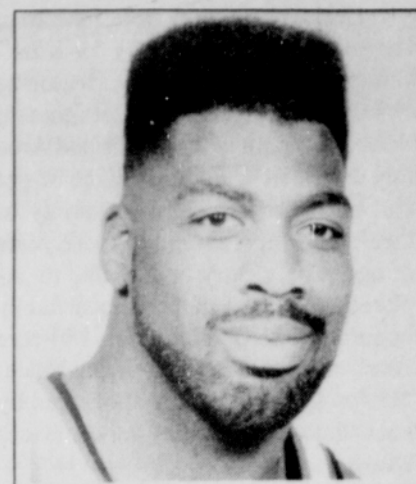
Portland Prepares For NBA West Finals



Kevin Duckworth



Clyde Drexler



Mark Bryant

BY ULLYSES TUCKER, JR.

The Portland Trail Blazers, as talented a collection of players as they are, need a little more "killer instinct" if they are to be taken seriously as a contender for the NBA Title. All season long, the Blazers have blown big leads after having teams on the ropes, displayed bad judgement in their shot selection, and there have been occasions where mental lapses have resulted in losses. Luckily for the Blazers, the Utah Jazz was not a team blessed with moving beyond the semi-finals in the Western Conference in recent memory (correct me if I'm wrong). Thus, they still have to learn how to progress to the next level. The Blazers, though crushed by the illusion of home court advantage by Detroit last season, have been to the "mountaintop" and their eyes have seen the glory associated with a championship ring. So have the Los Angeles Lakers. Five times in the last decade or so and if the Blazers continue to show flashes of wanting an early summer vacation, "Magic" Johnson and Company will be more than happy to send them home to North Carolina, Houston, Virginia, and other geographical locations for reflection and introspection. At this level, the Blazers can ill-afford to exercise bad judgement or take shots at crunch time. Thus, the Conference Finals, is the last huddle in a season long attempt to purge themselves of champagne being uncorked in

Memorial Coliseum last year after game five. It's tough (I'm told by NBA players) to see someone else party on your home court. The Lakers, bumped out early last season by the Phoenix Suns and losers of the Pacific Division for the first time in nine seasons, also have something to prove to hoop fans all of the world. It should be classic Laker-Blazer basketball and the winner of the Western Conference finals should win it all. Blazers in seven.

* Speaking of summer vacations, Karl Malone will have plenty of time to think about his pass attempt to teammate Thurl Bailey that resulted in a Clyde Drexler steal during the final half-minute of play. "That pass", Malone. "I was going to shoot it, but then I saw Thurl go across at the last minute...Maybe I shouldn't have thrown that pass. I can accept that." Bailey said, "Karl saw me cutting across. He had been shooting the jump shot pretty well. I probably shouldn't (cut cross) done it..." Lou Rawls once made a song entitled, "If I could have should have," it's the type of song that makes summer vacations longer and hotter. Malone and Bailey will run that same play throughout their minds all summer, but the end result will be the same. It's the type of play demons are born on.

* According to one NBA official, Salt Lake has the worst fans in the league when it comes to insults and foul language. You would think that

Chicago, New York, Detroit, or someplace like Philadelphia but the Mormon state? "The crowd here is rougher on me than anywhere in the league," said Kevin Duckworth, who scored 30 points and grabbed 11 boards. "Other places, there might be four or five people on me. I tell you, people here talk to me like a dog. They're bad enough things, that I'm just shocked!"

The most polite crowd in the league? Wrong! Portland. Portland is the only city in the NBA where the crowd claps for the opposing team during player introductions. Nice, huh?

* Six NBA teams have been in the NBA Playoffs each of the past seven years, since the field was expanded to 16 teams. They are Boston, Detroit, the LA Lakers, Milwaukee, Portland and Utah. Other than the four expansion teams, only one franchise has failed to qualify at least once in that time-the LA Clippers. The team with the home court advantage won 12 of 15 series in last year's NBA playoffs.

* Portland's Mark Bryant on his very physical play on the inside against Karl Malone. In some instances, Bryant looks like he's ready to become a member of the World Wrestling Federation. Mark enjoys contact and he likes to mix it up. "you might as well bang a little," he said, "The times that I'm out there, I may as well play hard and hopefully that will keep me in there longer. Hustling and playing hard is what it's all about."

Blazers Advance to Western Conference Finals



Photo by Veronica Green

The Portland Trail Blazers advance to the Western Conference finals Tuesday night by beating the Utah Jazz 103 to 96. The Blazers will meet the Los Angeles Lakers in a best of seven series to determine the Western Conference champions.

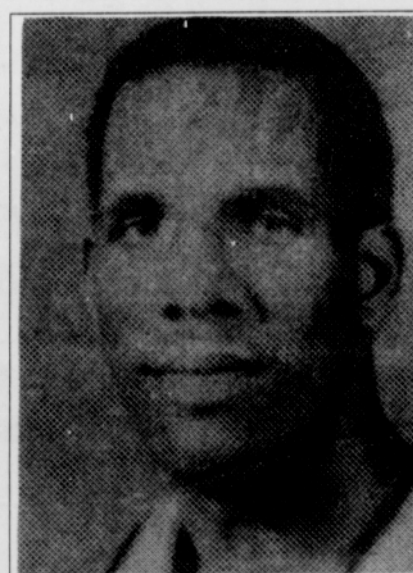
POWER PLAY



Photo by Veronica Green

Karl Malone one of the top power forwards in the NBA goes up for the slam.

The Blazers Are Planning A Party!



Ramon Ramos

The Portland Trail Blazers annual summer event at Civic Stadium is going to be extra special this year. They're turning the event into a fundraiser for former teammate Ramon Ramos who was critically injured in an auto accident in December of 1989.

Ramos currently lives with his family in Puerto Rico. "Even though Ramon's progress has been tremendous he still has many medical and therapeutic costs to cover," says Blazer

team co-captain Terry Porter, "and that's why we are having this party for his benefit."

As might be expected when you have a pro basketball team throwing a party, you're going to have some basketball involved somewhere. The Bank of America Blazer Slam 'N Jam '91 promises some great on-court action with the "Ramon Ramos All-Star Classic". Blazer head coach Rick Adelman and senior vice-president Geoff Petrie are working hard to secure commitments from some of the league's greatest players. Those players will join the entire Blazer team in a regulation game.

Tickets for Bank of America Blazer Slam 'N Jam '91 are on sale at Ticket-Master Northwest outlets throughout Oregon and southwest Washington. Event date is Saturday, July 20th. All profits will be donated for the benefit of Ramon Ramos. The Blazers have guaranteed a minimum contribution of \$100,000.

In addition to the Pro All-Star game, attendees can plan on catching some of Oregon's best nationally known music groups. A three-point shoot out will be held prior to the game featuring some of the best long distance shooters from around the league.

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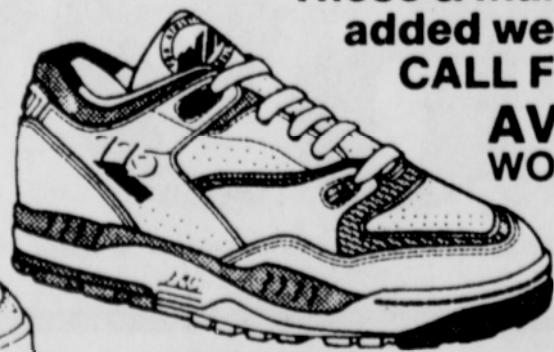
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PDX Buys Shuttle Buses For Parking System

Portland International Airport (PDX) will be soon changing its parking system shuttle bus fleet with the purchase of 11 Blue Bird buses.

The Port of Portland Commission, operators of the airport, approved the purchase of the 23-passenger, heavy-duty buses at its May meeting. The buses will replace the oldest 17- and 13-passenger buses in PDX's fleet.

The buses will be purchased for \$131,000 per bus from Western Bus Sales, of Clackamas, Oregon. Delivery of the Blue Bird-manufactured buses is expected by December 1. The new buses will combine with four buses from the current fleet to expand the shuttle system's total from the current 13 buses to 15.

With delivery of the Blue Bird buses, the PDX shuttle buses will be accessible for use by the disabled.

Lifeguard Course

Portland Parks and Recreation presents a National Pool and Waterpark Lifeguard Course, May 17 through May 19 at Grant Swim Pool, 2300 N.E. 33rd. After successful completion of the course, participants will receive a lifeguard certificate accepted by the

State of Oregon. Successful candidates will also be considered for Portland Parks summer lifeguard positions. The starting lifeguard salary for the summer of 1991 will be \$5.40 per hour. Cost of the course is \$50. To register or for more information call 823-3669.

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