

Prediction: Blazers Beat LA

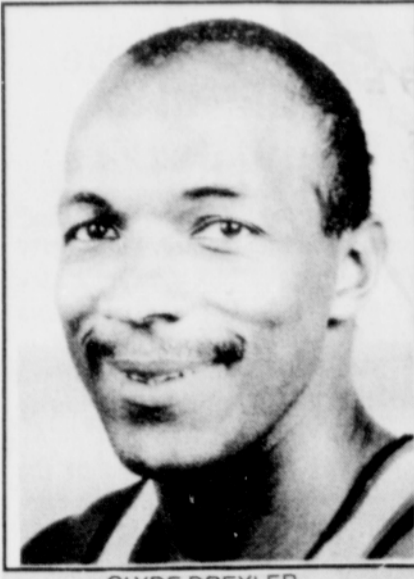
by Bill Barber



KEVIN DUCKWORTH



ALAA ABDELNABY



CLYDE DREXLER

Most of the fans in the Rose City couldn't be happier that the Portland Trail Blazers ended up playing the Los Angeles Lakers in the first round of the NBA championship series. The most frequently asked question of the Blazers' staff and players is about the opportunity to avenge last year's elimination of Portland by the Lakers. The fans and the media seem to be a lot more concerned with the "Get Even" attitude than the people who have to play the game. As Clyde Drexler put it, "It's just a question of getting to the next series. The bigger thrill would have been to beat them if they had all of their good players."

Man for man, the team seems to be firmly focused on the idea of winning the game Wednesday. Not out of some vindictive motivation... Quite simply, it is a goal, on the way to THE goal.

The Portland Observer's deadline for the Sports Department is Tuesday morning, so by the time you read this, you will know if the Blazers had a clean sweep of the series in three games. Looking a few days into the future, I wonder if the fans and the media will be satisfied if the Trail Blazers do not finish off LA Wednesday night in the forum. In the last three seasons, Portland has a winning record of 179-67. Only four games (183-63) separate them from Chicago's lead in the big show.

Portland has set a record in each of its first two games, yet the media generally glossed over both accomplishments. In game 1, the media raked the Blazers

over the coals for an admittedly dismal 3rd quarter effort. However, they almost totally failed to applaud the team for scoring record breaking 75 points in the first half of the game. The previous high was 73 points on May 31, 1977 when they played Philadelphia. In game 2, the media was harping on the low percentage of shots that fell thru the net. Yet the Blazers set another record. This time for allowing the fewest points scored by an opponent. Final score 101-79. The previous opponent team playoff low was 83 points on April 12, 1977 against Chicago. The defense was a beautiful sight to see that night. Kevin Duckworth, who had been bounced in the third quarter of game one, held Vlade Divac scoreless in the first half of the second game when they played head to head. Duckworth has been coming on big time in the past few weeks. There is a new spring in his step and a re-establishment of his dominant presence on the court. Duck is one of people who possesses the skill to self-analyze his game. He doesn't have to read it in the newspaper or see it on TV, to recognize what has to be done to step up his game at playoff time. His team mates will tell you he is one of the best in the league at setting picks, or intimidating his opponent into passing the ball back outside instead of risking a shot. He will also take the calculated risk of jumping out to guard smaller players on defense. The odds of finding him out of position on offense would be greater if you were trying to get playoff tickets. The high

point totals aren't always there, but that is more a result of the game strategy and the amount of playing time, than Duckworth's effort. It safe to predict he has a 20+ point game soon. The seven footer won't be denied.

As long as predictions are being made, Alaa Abdelnaby will be heard from before the end of the second season. The former Duke graduate and Portland crowd favorite has had limited playing time to say the least. However, Abdelnaby knows as much about crunch-time championship games as any young player in the NBA. He demonstrated he was ready for the Big Show when Coach Adelman cleared the bench in the last few minutes of Game 2. He scored a couple of times, but those elbows above the rim rebounds just leave the opposition standing there with their mouths open. Keep an eye on him.

Finally, as mentioned, since the deadline has to be honored on Tuesday, and the next game won't be played until Wednesday, we asked some of the players if it was okay if we just predicted a win in LA ahead of time? Alaa Abdelnaby said we could go ahead and print it. "We'll win it," he said. A good reporter always gets a second source. Clyde Drexler, usually the most diplomatic and humble player of the team said, "I know you have a dead line, but go ahead and tell your (Portland Observer) readers we are going to BEAT LA." Thanks Clyde; I know the readership appreciates that.

Budd Hopkins, Author of Intruders to Speak at Red Lion Hotel

The world's foremost UFO abduction investigator, Budd Hopkins will be speaking at the Red Lion Hotel at Lloyd Center Sunday, May 24th, at 6:00pm - 10:00pm. He will be sponsored by the Northwest UFO Group, Inc. Tickets are \$10.00 plus a convenience charge, and are available through FASTIX and G. I. Joe's Ticket Master. For more information on this event, call the Northwest UFO Group, Inc. at (503)699-8367.

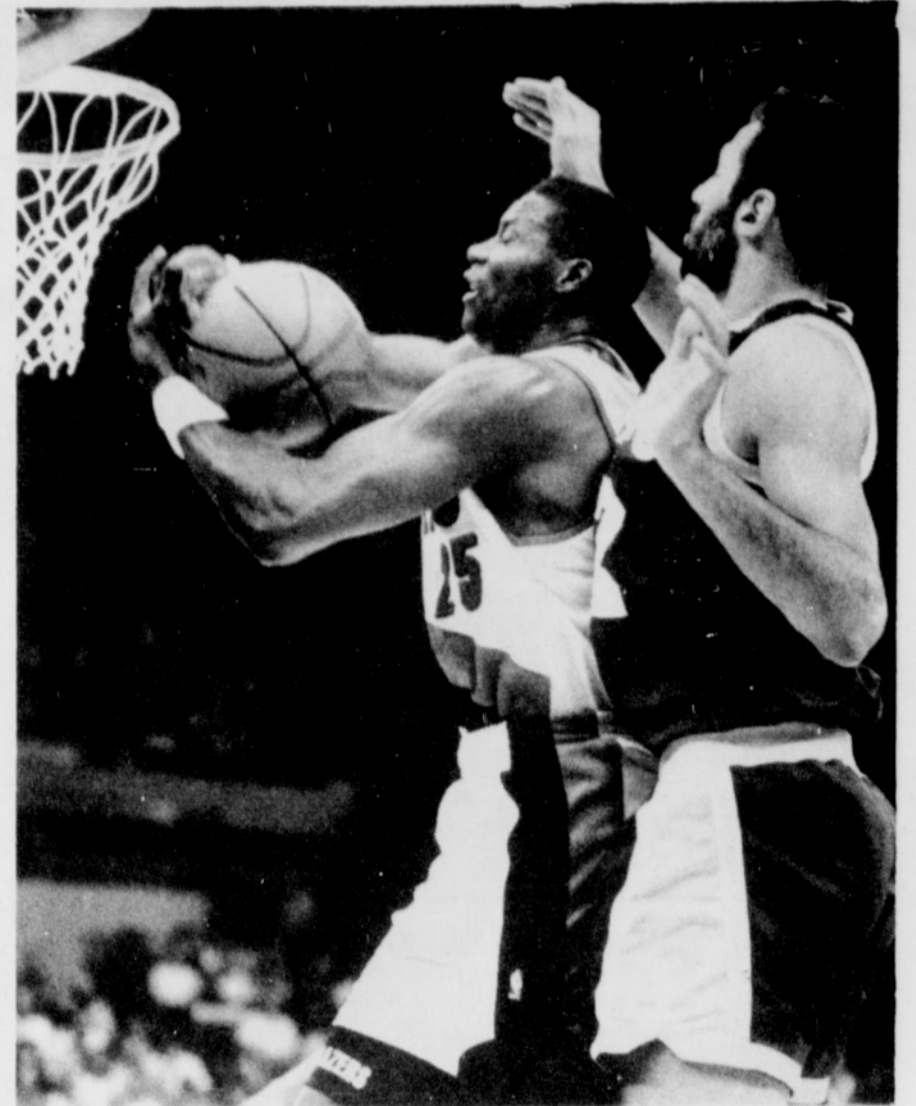
On a summer afternoon in 1964, Budd Hopkins and two others watched a small, round metallic craft maneuver in the sky over Cape Cod. This daylight sighting marked the beginning of Hopkins' interest in the UFO phenomenon, but his first nationally known investigation did not take place until 1975. Then, a UFO apparently landed less than a mile from Manhattan and was observed from various vantage points by a number of witnesses. Hopkins' carefully researched account of this incident appeared in *The Village Voice*, *Cosmopolitan* magazine and elsewhere, and was covered extensively by TV and radio.

Hopkins' first book, *Missing Time*, was published by Richard Marek/Putnam in 1981, and was the first work to compare a number of UFO abduction cases in order to locate the pattern inherent in such bizarre accounts. His second book, *Intruders-The Incredible Visitations at Copley Woods*, was published by Random House in 1987, and shortly thereafter became a national best seller. A television mini-series, based on Hopkins' work and to be entitled *Intruders*, will appear in May of 1992 on CBS. Check your program guide for scheduling information.

In 1989 Hopkins founded the *Intruders Foundation (IF)*, a not-for-profit organization devoted to research and public education concerning the UFO abduction phenomenon. *IF* publishes a highly-acclaimed bulletin as well as offering a nation-wide referral service for those wishing to explore their own suspected abductions experiences.

For more information about *IF* write:

IF-the Intruders Foundation
Box 30233
New York, NY 10011
(212) 645-5278



Jerome Kersey and the Portland Trail Blazers can wrap up their 1st round playoff series with a win tonight over the Lakers in Los Angeles. The Blazers have blown the Lakers out in the first two games. Jerome Kersey has played well despite being slowed by an ankle injury during the last part of the season.

Good Luck Blazers in the Play Offs!!

Honorable Margaret L. Carter Continued

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and out of Pretoria, the group I was traveling with, the American Legislative National Black Caucus (with representatives from various states) had as one of our main functions to get a look at (1) the process of apartheid being dismantled or the lack of it being dismantled; (2) the real effects of the economic sanctions, which were most recently lifted, and to see if they should be put back in place if meaningful progress isn't being implemented; 3) and being a study group on tour observing the procedures, pro and con, for future references.

"One of the main points that really stood out in my mind was the educational system. They have an extremely strange educational system. As I mentioned before, as we went in and out of Pretoria, on several occasions our ventures led us to the Center for Constitutional Analysis, where we found that their education system is built upon a 4-tiered program. Each tier has its own Minister of Education to manage each program individually. The bottom line is money. Under one system \$2,500 is designated per white child; under another system \$1,800 is designated per colored child; yet under another system \$1,600 is designated per Asian child, and only \$600 per Black child. Plus, to make matters seem worse, all the Ministers of Education are white!

"Through all our travels in Johannesburg, Pretoria, Ulendi, Bophuthatswana, Durban and Cape Town, I found it very unique that Mr.

Nelson Mandela had gained a lot of support from both Black and White, as well as Colored and Asian, who all seem very much united for the goals of the African National Congress.

"What proved to be a great highlight of this trip was the opportunity for us to meet with Chief Buthelezi and the Inkhata people. These people were striving to develop a National policy for health and education. It was truly a pleasure to see such a strong and powerful underground economy that still exists according to tribal standards of the Ulendi people.

"During my brief visits to Durban and Cape Town, I found that they both had small numbers of Blacks, which means that it is hard to get equal access to changing the laws if you don't have the numbers to vote for change. However, Durban did have a large number of Indians, and there was a large number of Coloreds in Cape Town.

"To give you a general outlook of the situation from my observation, it seems that one of the most troublesome things I noticed was the structure of the South African Police Force Special Unit. Now hear this real clear: it was rumored that this organization was directly responsible for keeping the flames of war burning hot between the Zulu Nation and the African National Congress. But this was only a rumor; there are no concrete facts to support such actions. However, when we take a real close look at the situation at face value, we see that 43 percent of the police force is

White, with only 1.73 percent of the officer core being Black, whereas the rest of the force are traffic police or work other units. Therefore, it is highly possible that the above cited rumor could be more than a rumor.

"Another important point I would like to share is the fact that 25 million Black South African people live on less than 11 percent of the land. And to complicate matters, the Black South Africans are not allowed to enjoy the fruits of the large amounts of natural resources, such as gold, diamonds, platinum, uranium, coal, iron-ore, asbestos, and manganese. One of the main reasons for this way of life stems from the long history established by the Dutch for a close system of government. And the White minority of South Africa feel that they have a God-given right to control all the natural resources as well as the lives of the Black people, based upon codes that existed over the past 900 years up to this very date. Something like America still feels towards the Native Americans.

"At any rate, I did get a chance to speak with Mr. Hank Roodt, who is over Foreign Affairs, and he thinks a change will take place, but it will be under a very slow process and it won't be any nationalization of country with a fair split on funding to keep schools, health care and a stable economic afloat either. But some kind of change for the better for our brothers and sisters in South Africa is on the horizon."

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