

# SPORTS

## NIKE Matches \$100,000 Gift To UNCF For "Malcolm X" Premiere

NIKE, Inc. the world's leading athletic shoe and apparel company will mark the premiere of film director Spike Lee's much-anticipated new movie, "Malcolm X," with a gift of \$100,000 to the United Negro College Fund (UNCF). NIKE's contribution matches Lee's gift of \$100,000 to establish the United Negro College Fund Malcolm X Foundation, a scholarship fund for African-American students administered by UNCF.

NIKE's check will be presented by Georgetown University Head Basketball Coach John Thompson, a member of NIKE's Board of Directors, to UNCF's President and Chief Executive Officer, William H. Gray, III, at a gala premiere of the movie at the Ziegfeld Theater in New York on November 16.

According to Virginia Hensen, NIKE's Director of Public Affairs, the

company has matched Lee's charitable gifts at each of the film director's past two movie premieres. Hensen said Lee and NIKE each contributed \$25,000 to a special UNCF fund for Bedford-Stuyvesant students in 1989 in connection with "Do the Right Thing." In 1991, when Lee's movie "Jungle Fever" opened, Lee and NIKE each donated \$25,000 to the Mother Hale House in New York City, a home for drug-affected infants.

In addition to the UNCF gift, NIKE is underwriting a special premiere of "Malcolm X" in Portland, Oregon where NIKE's world headquarters is based, as a benefit for the Urban League of Portland. The long-awaited biography of Malcolm X, starring Denzel Washington, opens in theaters nationally on November 18.

## Brandon Returns

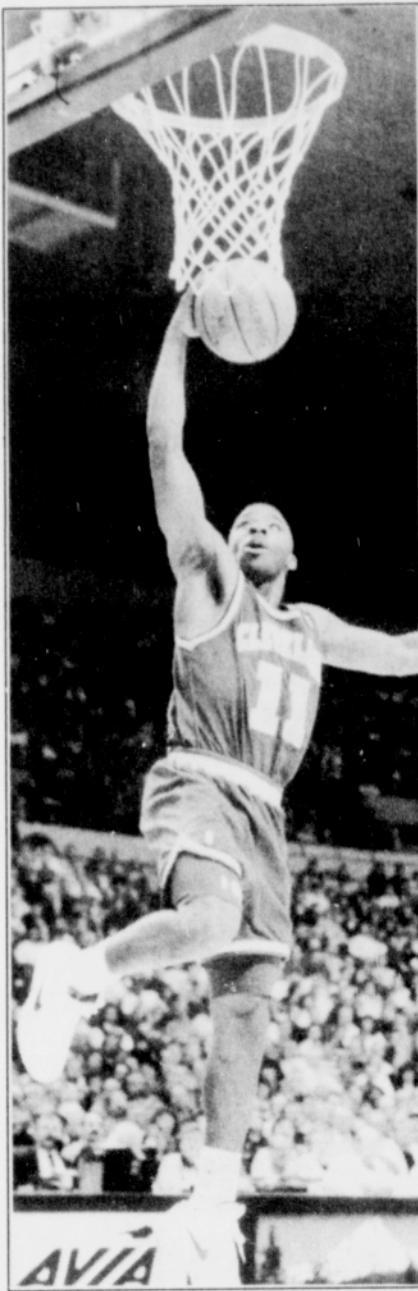


Photo by Veronica Green

Last Friday, former Grant High School student Terrell Brandon returned to Portland with the Cleveland Cavaliers to battle the Blazers. Brandon scored 10 points and Cleveland fought hard, but the Blazers won 115-109.

## Player Of The Week

This week's Observer Player of the Week is Lamarcus Kelly of Roosevelt High School. Kelly, a 5-foot-7 inch, 170-pound senior running back scored two touchdowns in a season-ending win over Madison 19-6. Lamarcus had touchdown runs of 10 and 29 yards. He ran for 87 yards on 11 carries.

This past week, Kelly was picked as the most outstanding back on the team, as well as being named Team Captain for the season.

Coach Jim MacDicken says that Lamarcus was a very good leader and he wish he had him back for another year.

Mr. Lamarcus Kelly, we at the Observer take our hats off to you for being a highly commended football player and leader!



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## Class With A Camera

By John Phillips

If you follow sports in the Portland Observer, you have seen the very best sports photos in the state of Oregon. The young lady behind all of this is Ms. Veronica Green. In over twenty years in this business, I have yet to see the quality of sports photos that equal what readers of *The Portland Observer* have become accustomed to.

Ms. Green, born and raised in Portland, attended James Monroe High School. She played softball and basketball while attending Monroe. Green continued in softball while studying at the University of Oregon and was a member of the Ducks' softball team. But most important, Green received her degree in telecommunications. After years of hard work and the learning the ropes, she landed a job with KATU-TV Channel 2, and has been there for the past seven years. Ms. Green is the weekend newscast director, graphics operator, and floor director, which is something for an attractive, young lady from James Monroe.

Veronica's special love is freelance sports photography. She is one of the very best in the United States. You will see her at courtside at most Trail Blazers games, and on the



sidelines of many sporting events.

One of the best sports photos I've ever seen, came from Veronica's camera during the NBA finals between the Portland Trail Blazers and the Chicago Bulls. She captured Michael "Air" Jordan high off the floor on a jump shot. Accompanying him in the "meeting in the air" was Blazer Jerome Kersey with both of his hands, that's right, both

hands on the ball. It's one thing to block someone's shot with one hand, but two! What a picture!

So look for outstanding things to come from Miss Veronica Green, which could land in publications like *Sports Illustrated*, *Washington Post*, *USA Today* or the *Los Angeles Times*. It wouldn't surprise me in the least.

## Boys and Girls Club Accompany Blazers



Linda White

From the midst of negativity, astonishingly, a bit of positive emerges. A flower in a field of weeds, a ray of hope in a world of despair.

A line from an Edgar Allen Poe poem? No, but certainly an accurate description of a successful youth program in north Portland, the Columbia Boys and Girls Club.

Linda White a soft spoken, black lady, describes how she, at the insistence of a friend, moved from Arizona to Portland and accepted employment as the Director of the Youth Club. Her love for kids, fueled by innovative and aggressive ideas, provides the kids in the program with some great and memorable experi-

ences.

One idea in particular, resulted in a wonderful program that potentially could be a catalyst for a national model. The program is supported by the Portland Trailblazers, and in particular, two Trailblazer stars, Terry Porter, and Jerome Kersey. Six lucky young people will be selected to go to Phoenix Arizona, attend a Trailblazer, Phoenix game, have lunch with Jerome, and Terry, and visit the Trailblazers locker room in Phoenix. To qualify for this wonderful experience, school grades must be maintained at a 2.5 level, attitudes must be acceptable and other positive criteria must be adhered to.

## The One And Only

BY ERIC NOON

The Portland Trailblazers pushed their league leading record to 5-0 Monday night. The 109-94 victory left the Blazers the one and only undefeated team in the NBA. The Blazers have played with great enthusiasm so far this season. Their defensive intensity has been up and down, while they've had many different players step up offensively each game.

The Blazers have spread out the wealth of their scoring early this season. Five different Blazers have led the team in scoring in all five Blazer wins. The bench has contributed significantly, with Cliff Robinson, Mario Elie, and Rod Stickland getting most of the playing time off the bench.

"I like the way the scoring has been spread out so far this season. The bench has really been coming in and getting the job done," said Blazer guard Clyde Drexler.

Last Friday night Riddick Bowe wasn't the only happy big man in professional sports. While Bowe was punching it out with former heavyweight champion Evander Holyfield, Portland's big man in the middle, Kevin Duckworth was throwing a few Duck hooks himself. Duckworth led the Blazers to a 115-109 victory over the Brad Daugherty less Cleveland Cavaliers. Duckworth led all scorers with 26 points while grabbing 11 rebounds in an emotional win for the big man. How will this game effect Duckworth's confidence?

"I think Kevin's confidence is more on an even keel this year," said Assistant Coach Jack Schalow. "He seems to not let things bother him as much so far this season."

"I was glad to be able to help out when it counts" Duckworth said. And boy did it count. Duckworth hit two clutch buckets in the last two minutes to put the late Cavalier rally to rest.

T.P. Heats Up In O-Town

With the Blazer three-point guns only hitting 26 percent, you knew something was bound to heat up. And heat up it did.

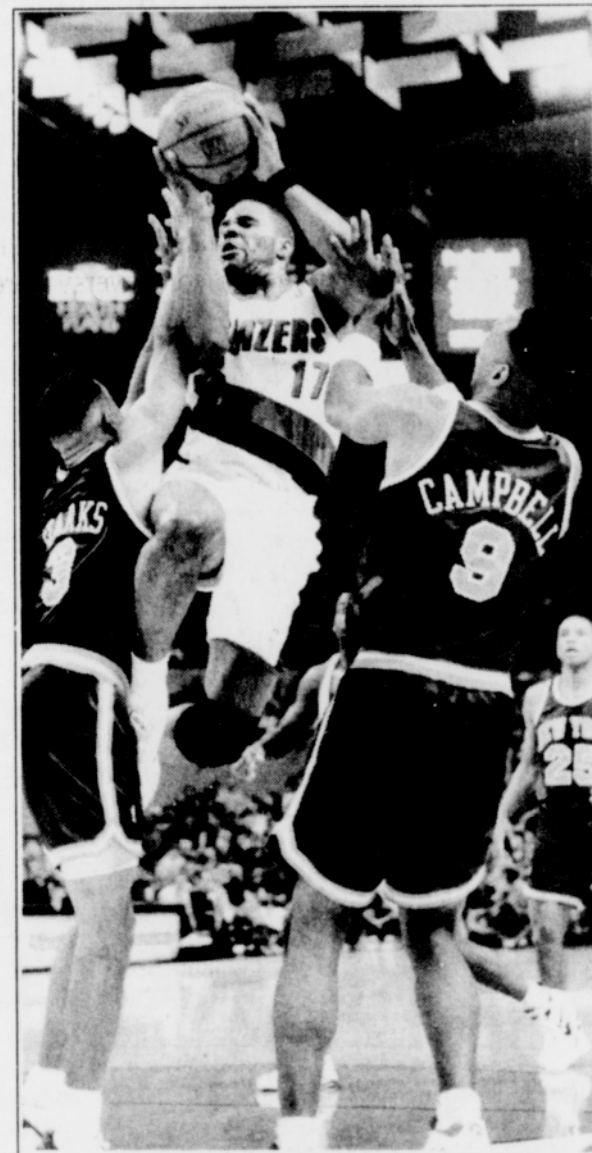


Photo by Veronica Green

Terry Porter was on fire, leading the Blazer squad with seven for seven shooting from the three point strike. Hitting on all seven of three point attempts, gave Porter a new NBA record for consecutive three pointers.

It seemed like old times, as the Blazer back-court duo, combined for 71 points in the 130-116 high scoring victory over the Golden State Warriors. Drexler looked to show improved mobility, with 31 points and 10 rebounds, while Porter matched his career high with 40 points and great fourth quarter leadership. Mario Elie had even more reason to be happy with the win.

"I've got a lot of friends down there, and now a lot of bragging rights with the victory" Elie said.

The new look New York Knicks were in town Monday night looking to start their west coast road trip with a win. But it wasn't so, as the Trailblazers kept those 82-0 hopeful going strong with a victory to maintain their undefeated record. Although the Blazers won in convincing fashion, it didn't start real well. Patrick Ewing scored 8 of the first 13 Knick points as they took a quick 13-7 lead. At first it looked to be another long night for Duckworth, but Robinson gave the big guy a break, coming

in for Buck Williams with 6:49 remaining in the first quarter. Robinson's stellar defense and all out hustle ignited the Blazers to a 23-19 first quarter lead. Led by Robinson's 21 points and a 4-3-28 rebound advantage, the Blazers rolled to victory over a probable NBA Finals foe.

Although four of the five victories were at home and some players such as Kevin Johnson, and Brad Daugherty were out with injuries, the Blazers have had five worthy opponents and come out with five victories. What does Terry Porter think of their team so far? "I think we're playing pretty well; the bench has really come in and has been a big lift." "Hopefully we can go 82 and 0, no I'll take 80 and 2."

## Youth Basketball Tournament Slated To Begin

The 10th annual Fred Meyer/Blazers Youth Basketball Tournament is slated to begin January 17, 1993. Boys and girls in the sixth, seventh and eighth grades that are involved in a registered basketball league in Oregon or southwest Washington are eligible to participate in the competition.

Entries for the tournament must be postmarked by December 11, and can be found at all 45 Fred Meyer Customer Service Desks in Oregon and southwest Washington, and the Trail Blazers office (700 NE Multnomah, Portland, OR 97232). The entry fee for the tournament

is \$25 per team, and teams cannot exceed 15 players. A team roster must be submitted with the application and entry fee.

The tournament, a single-elimination event, will hold its preliminary rounds January 17 and 24, 1993 at local schools in the greater Portland area. Two teams from each grade level will advance to the championship round, which will be played prior to a Blazers home game at Memorial Coliseum on February 2, 5 and 14, 1993. All participants will receive a free gift, compliments of Fred Meyer and the Trail Blazers.

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