

# SPORTS

## IN PEAK FORM



The above photograph by Peggy M. Stone of Portland, Oregon, is one of 100 winners in the "Champions" photography contest, sponsored by PARADE and Eastman Kodak Company and featured in this Sunday's issue of the magazine. Stone used an Olympus camera and Kodak film to capture this exhilarating moment between 43-year-old Loy MacIver, who is blind, and her climbing partner, Elmer Willmore, also of Portland, after they conquered Mt. St. Helens just one year before it erupted. MacIver, who also climbed Mt. Hood and Mt. Adams that year, was honored with The Guardian Peak Award from the Mazamas, a climbing club in Portland, Oregon. All 100 winning photographs have been compiled in a national exhibit, which opens December 11 in the CommuniCore West Pavilion in Future World of Walt Disney World Epcot Center, Lake Buena Vista, Florida. Each Winner received \$100 in cash.

## Seasons Greetings



# East Coast Split

BY ERIC NOON

The Portland Trailblazers east coast road trip, showed Blazer fans a lot about his years teams desire to win. By going two and two the Blazers not only displayed their depth as a team, but gained valuable confidence by playing well in adverse conditions.

Spilling the homecoming of Blazer guards Rod Strickland and Mario Elie, The New York Knicks manhandled the Blazers last Tuesday, in an embarrassing 101-85 route. Once again the Blazers couldn't get their offense going and struggled the rest of the night.

Then, down 16 points in the first quarter against the Indiana Pacers, the real Blazers came alive and rallied to a valuable road victory.

Cliff Robinson led scoring with, a career high, 31 pints as the Blazers outgunned the Pacers in route to a 112-103 victory. "We had to get back to doing what we do best," Robinson said.

Friday night, it was the big showdown against the World Champion Chicago Bulls. Wait, Michael Jordan

isn't going to play, as the media speculated. The Blazers have a chance for sure. Wrong, the media had the wrong star, as the Blazers sent home Clyde Drexler and Jerome Kersey with nagging injuries. Well the Blazers are in trouble for sure now? Wrong again, as the Blazers gave the Bulls all they could handle, for three quarters, in an impressive display of heart as a team.

Missing two starters, the Blazers fought hard most of the way until the one, two punch of Jordan and Scottie Pippen became too much for the beat up Blazers. Mario Elie played 27 minutes on a bad ankle, while having to guard both Jordan and Pippen.

Jordan, who wasn't supposed to play, only scored 38 points while pulling down 13 rebounds in 38 minutes. Meanwhile, Pippen dropped in 28 points and grabbed 11 rebounds in route to a 111-99 victory. The Blazers stayed close until an 11-0 run at the end of the third quarter and the beginning of the fourth closed the door on their hopes of a undermanned victory.

## Trail Blazers name Rudy Williams director of human resources

The Portland Trail Blazers have announced the addition of Rudy Williams to its staff as the newly appointed director of human resources supporting the Oregon Arena Project.

Williams most recently served as the human resources manager for NIKE's domestic sales operations, information services, administrative services, and financing and accounting groups at its world campus headquarters in Beaverton.

Prior to joining NIKE, Williams worked 10 years at Digital Equipment Corporation as a district human resources manager and district customer services manager.

"The construction of the new arena will create a large number of job opportunities and Rudy's knowledge and experience will provide us with a vital resource in our future growth," says Marshall Glickman, Blazers senior vice-president of marketing. "He will be responsible for implementing and managing our Affirmative Action program, which will ensure that we maintain a diverse work force. Rudy will also play a key role in establishing administrative procedures, employee training and career development programs, and will oversee our staffing transition as we move



Rudy Williams

closer to assuming management of Memorial Coliseum in July."

Williams is active in a variety of organizations, including the Mentorship Program for Disadvantaged Youth, Portland Urban League, Neighborhood House Association, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, NAACP, and Sigma Delta Chi - Society of Professional Journalists.

A native of St. Louis, Mo., he has lived in the Pacific Northwest for the past eight years and in Portland since November 1988. Williams holds bachelor of science and master of science degrees from Southern Illinois University in mass communications and educational media.

## ERICA MASHIA

R I S I N G S T A R

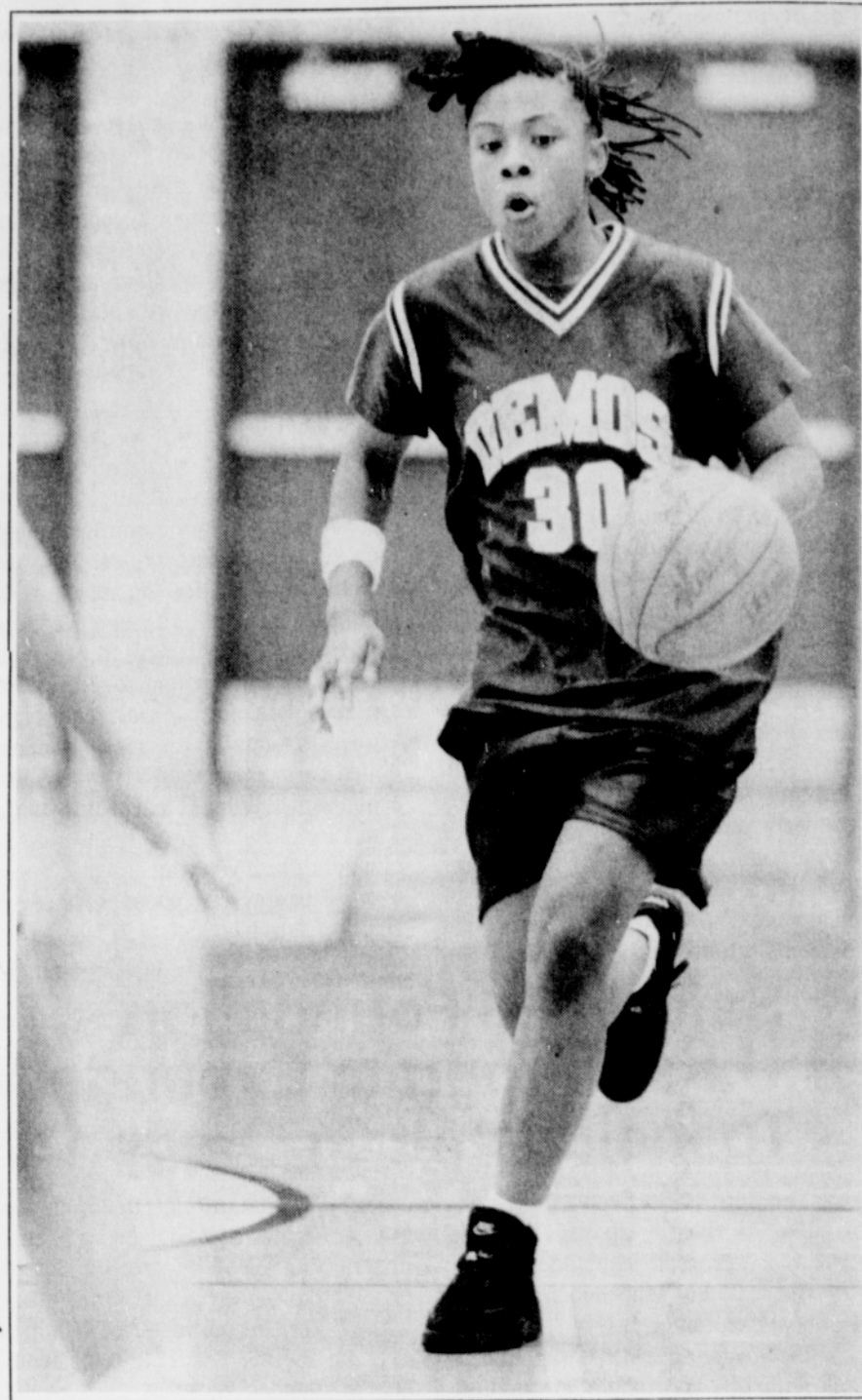


Photo by Veronica Green

An excellent student and sensational athlete, Erica Mashia returns to the court this season to lead the Lady Democrats.77

## ESPN To Discuss Race And Sports Dec. 17

ESPN will televise Outside the Lines: Portraits in Black and White Thursday, Dec. 17 at 7:30 p.m. ET. The 60-minute program, co-hosted by SportsCenter's Bob Ley and Robin Roberts, will examine the current status of African-Americans in sports.

"This show, which our staff has been researching for more than five months, is intended to raise awareness and to provoke more discussion," said Steve Anderson, ESPN managing editor. "We will present portraits of prominent individuals and report on current race and sports issues."

Contributing reporters to the show will be NFL studio analyst/reporter Tom Jackson and ABC News' Armen Keteyian.

Highlights:

A discussion of the pressure and responsibility of being a black athlete. Interviewees include Hank Aaron, Arthur Ashe, Charles Barkley, Bryant Gumbel, Evander Holyfield, Bo Jackson and Jackie Joyner-Kersey.

Kateyan will take a closer look at the Marge Schott controversy and the Cincinnati Reds' organization.

Ley will narrate a segment on coaching in America. Interviews include University of Kansas women's basketball coach Marian Washington, University of Mississippi Chancellor Dr. R. Gerald Turner and North Carolina A&T head football coach Bill Hayes.

ESPN has conducted a national survey to research the attitudes of sports fans on racial issues. Ley will provide analysis of the results.

A focus group was conducted with fans to discuss race and sports and their comments will be included in the show.

Ley will report on three prominent universities where the percentage of African-American student-athletes is higher than the percentage for the overall student body.

## Who Is Eric Noon?

Two years ago after a Portland Saints/Portland State University women's basketball game, a wide-eyed, eager, young man asked me for an interview for the Portland State University newspaper, The Vanguard.

After the interview, I remember commenting to my assistant coach Jeff Gamble on what an impression this young man made on me. So in a telephone conversation I asked him his name; he responded "Eric Noon."

A short time after I became sports editor of the Observer, I ran into Eric one day, and again he underscored the initial impression I had of him -- something special. I gave Eric a call that night to ask what his goals were. He commented that he wanted to write for a newspaper some day. So I asked him

if he would like to cover some of the Trail Blazers games for the Observer. The rest is history, and as you have read, he has done a very commendable job of covering the Blazers early this season.

Noon, 24, hails from Lebanon, Oregon, is a junior at Portland State University and is an advertising management major. After his graduation from high school in 1986, he took a year off before entering college. During this time off, he became involved in a work study program, teaching baseball skills to kids four to sixteen years of age.

Eric Noon will some day write for a major newspaper, because he has helped young people along the way. I have always felt that what goes around, comes around -- and what's to come for Eric looks to be very promising.

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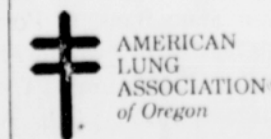
## Knock Out The FLU



Remember to get your flu shot

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A message from the



## The Portland Observer

### Martin Luther King, Jr.

SPECIAL EDITION

Martin Luther King Jr. has distinguished himself as a champion for peace and justice, by boldly dedicating his life to the struggle for equality for all humanity. On Tuesday, January 13, 1992, The Portland Observer will feature our annual Martin Luther King birthday celebration edition. Now is the time to place your order and take advantage of these special rates for your business, organization or personal message ad. Do not delay the deadline to reserve your space is January 8. For your orders, call (503) 288-0033 or FAX your information to us by dialing (503) 288-0015.