



# SPORTS



## How Many African Sports Millionaires Are There?

by Prof. Mckinley Burt

Last weekend was the date for my little neighborhood discussion group to have its monthly luncheon at a local restaurant. Two topics in particular fueled some very passionate debates. Certainly, that Jet Magazine article on 'Black High School Athletes' must have sparked a lot of dialogue around the country (Nov. 29).

A nationwide survey, conducted for the Northeastern University Center for the Study of Sport in Society (Boston), used Lou Harris Associates to poll 865 high school students at the end of the 1992-93 school year with the following results. "72 percent of black high school students put education ahead of athletics, however the same percentage of them still rely on athletics for fame and fortune."

Richard Lapchick, director of the sports center, ventured out into left field, and maybe even into the bleachers, according to most of my group: "while many of them still carry the unrealistic belief that they can be the newest rising star, they 'clearly' understand that playing sports is a vehicle that can deliver benefits that will help them become productive members of society—educational, social and life-skills". This assessment of a group where 51 percent believe they will make it to the professional level of their respective sports brought groans



Charles Barkley and Michael Jordan

of apprehension from my fellow diners (several mothers among them).

Undoubtedly, there were other groans as well. "But Dr. Harry Edwards, a sociology professor at the University of California at Berkeley and a leading authority on Black athletes and the effect it has on them in society, is at the very least skeptical about the poll".

There is no way Dr. Edwards could be more skeptical than my companions since half were parents or grandparents of high school age youth and fighting daily battles over grades, motivation and realistic goals. Where as the good professor used relatively mild terms and phrases like "dubious value" and "not nearly enough information", several of my group embellished and enhanced their observations with comments I won't repeat here.

Sufficient to quote Edwards: "If you were to ask a college coach whether his priority is athletics or academics,

the coach would say without question; 'academics'. I think this is a case where the student-athletes have learned to say the right things", i.e. the poll insults our intelligence. All of us at our lunch time roundtable were quite suspicious of the motivation for this survey. It would be interesting to learn who paid for it and how the respondents were selected. Even better than that we decided to write both the 'Lou Harris Poll Inc.' and the Sports Center for answers to these questions; even requesting a sample questionnaire. Also, Dr. Edwards will be hearing from us.

From the necessarily superficial perspective that can be gleaned from a short news article, it would be fair to assume that this poll was deliberately designed to produce a spectrum of statements to answer some severe criticism of the exploitation of black youth in sports. As one mother said "my son has been brain damaged by the ability of this multi-billion dollar pro sports machine to manipulate our youth -- from the high school "farm teams" to the failures in prisons or homeless shelters. He can't understand that 'one-in-a-million' makes a million!

That "Second Topic" will appear here next week: "Oregon's High Ed System promises correlation with High Schools". Are they serious and is it "correlation" or disintegration?

## SIGNS OF LIFE

By ERIC NOON

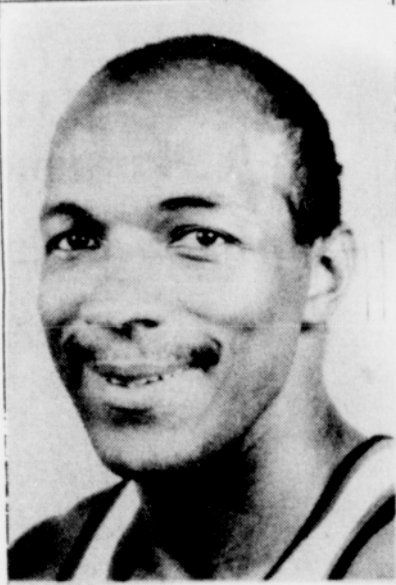
Although the Portland Trailblazers lost their all-star guard Clyde Drexler with an ankle injury over the weekend, they found something they've been missing all season.

The Blazers found that intensity on the defensive end of the court that made them one of the successful teams the last few years. The Blazers also found patience and movement on offense that we haven't seen all year.

This is the NBA and when you move the ball around on offense and get good looks at the basket, more often than not these players will knock down their shots.

"When you move the ball you bet wide open jumpers," said Rod Strickland.

The Blazers started leading scorer Clifford Robinson Saturday night against the Minnesota Timberwolves in a impressive



Clyde Drexler

105-95 win.

With Robinson starting, the Blazers got off to a fast start with a season high 34 points in the first quarter. Head coach Rick Adelman played 10 players in the

first quarter and they turned up the defensive pressure in route to their best start of the year.

"We want to come out and play more consistency," said Adelman. The Blazers showed their patience with a session long in field goal attempts (81), and tied a high with 40 free throw attempts. The win 13th in 14 games against the Timberwolves was just confidence and poise that will go a long way in building chemistry and stability to a team that has looked lost on the court at times.

The characteristics that made so many of us enjoy the Blazers like hustle, pressure defense, transition baskets and the never give up attitude might be on the way back. But with the franchise player out for the next couple of weeks, the rest of the team is going to have to step up and turn this ship in the right direction.

## Let's R.A.P.

The "Let's R.A.P. Program" (Let's Recreate and Play) is an opportunity for children to participate in recreational classes and activities. The program is designed to give children a chance to learn new skills, make friends, and develop self-confidence.

### ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

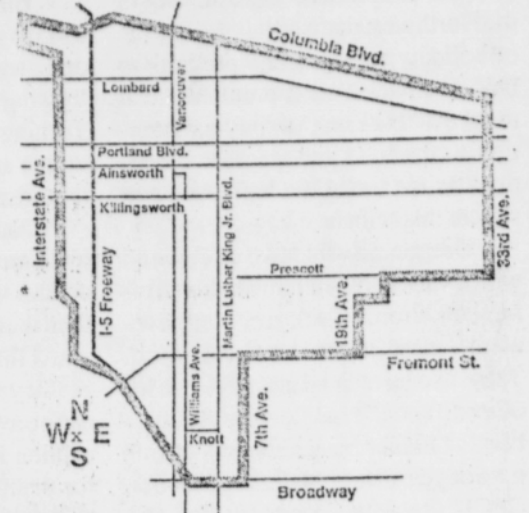
Your child must meet eligibility requirements to participate in this program.

Live within neighborhood boundaries as shown on map.

Or

Attend one of the schools listed below:

- Applegate
- Beach
- Black Education Center
- Boise-Eliot
- Faubion
- Holy Redeemer
- Humboldt
- Jefferson
- King
- Ockley Green
- Sabin
- Tubman
- Vernon
- Woodlawn
- Kenten



### LET'S RAP FREE CLASSES AT PENINSULA

- Pre School Dance I
- Pre School Dance II
- Tiny Tot's Tumbling A
- Tiny Tot's Tumbling B
- Wonderful Clay
- Music, Marching Make Believe
- Pre School Karate
- Animals In Clay
- Crafts Series
- Modeling
- Hair Care
- Ballet I
- Ballet II
- African Dance
- Theater Fun
- Wrestling Character Building
- Soccer
- Basketball Skills?
- Video Production
- Sports Skills

You can register for classes when you get the RAP application. RAP applications will be available at your child's school, here at Peninsula Park Community Center. Classes will start Tue Jan 19, 1994. For more information contact Peninsula Park Community Center at 823-3620.

## Local Aerobic Director Selected As Chairperson For Workout For Hope



Kim R. Jones

Kim R. Jones, Aerobic Director for Portland's Lloyd Athletic Club, has been named Event Chairperson

for the sixth annual Workout for Hope - Fitness Against Aids. Workout for Hope is one of the biggest star-studded exercise events in the country. The coast-to-coast sweat-hop attracts thousands of aerobic and fitness enthusiasts and draws attention to a life-threatening disease and international health issue: Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS). This year's exercise extravaganza will be staged in Portland on Saturday, April 9, 1994 and in over one hundred cities across the country. Workout for Hope is open to everyone regardless of age or fitness ability. Funds are raised by participants obtaining sponsors (pledges) - who make a contribution to the City of Hope. For more information, Kim Jones can be reached at Lloyd Athletic Club/287-4594.

### P.I.L. BASKETBALL STANDINGS AS OF 12-22-93

BOYS	W	L
Benson	2	0
Wilson	2	0
Grant	2	0
Jefferson	2	0
Cleveland	2	0
Franklin	0	2
Lincoln	0	2
Madison	0	2
Marshall	0	2
Roosevelt	0	2

GIRLS	W	L
Benson	2	0
Roosevelt	2	0
Madison	2	0
Wilson	2	0
Jefferson	1	1
Lincoln	1	1
Cleveland	1	1
Franklin	0	2
Grant	0	2
Marshall	0	2

## REESE'S OIL



Joe Reese

**HEATING OIL DELIVERY SAME DAY SERVICE!**



24 Hour Service

Why Wait When You're Cold? Delivery On Saturday And Sunday

(503) 287-2121

Use This Coupon for \$5 off any order, or say you saw it in the Observer this issue only.

Furnace Repair 24 Hour Service

## BENSON'S BOYS AND GIRLS START ON TOP IN P.L.L. BASKETBALL

By JOHN PHILLIPS

Benson's Boys Basketball team got off to a fast start to open the 1993-94 Portland Interscholastic League. Tech's first win of the week came at Franklin, 55-36 Earl Clark led in scoring with 14 points for Benson. Sidkie Kamara and Derek White had 10 points each for the Quakers.

Jason Franklin scored 18 big points in Tech's 69-44 win over Lincoln. Daksha McGhee's eight points led the Cardinals.

Benson's girls also started out 2-0 with wins over Franklin, 66-42 and 79-40 against Lincoln. Monica Watts had 19 points in the win over the Quakers. Kim Heitkenper scored 11 points for Franklin Tech got 18 points from Kim Green, while Kenan Kafoury's 10 points led Lincoln.

Jefferson's Boys also are 2-0 after wins over Marshall, 84-61, as K'Zell Wesson had a big night with

26 points all-around player Robby Buen scored 24. Terrell Penny's 23 points paced the Demos past Roosevelt, 75-58. The Rough Riders were led by Robert Wicklund's 23 points.

The Democrats girls team went 1 and 1 winning their first game over Marshall 86-70 as Stephanie Lincoln had 19 points and Erica Marshia added 17 points in their loss to Roosevelt, 60-57. Ikeya Hillman scored 23 points. The Lady Rough Riders were led by Amanda Campbell and Mira Bastrica with 13 points each.

Wilson's Boys are good, very good. They got off to a 2-0 start, 80 to 46 over Lincoln behind Tyrone Manlove's 23 points. Jake Hebenstreich led the Cardinals with 15 points. It was Manlove 27 points in the win over Franklin, 78-64. Shawn Lindsey scored 24 for Franklin.

Wilson's girls also are 2-0 after

wins over Lincoln, 61-47, and 59-45 over Franklin. Elizabeth Weege had 14 points. Carla Parker paced the Trojans over Franklin with 13 points. Heitkenper again led the Quakes with 13 points.

Cleveland had wins over Madison 96-60 as Leonard Prescott scored 20 points.

Hot shooting Joel Green led the Senators with 22 points. Prescott again scored 26 points in a close 83-80 win over Marshall. Robby Buen had a outstanding night for the Minutemen with 41 super points.

Grant's boys are also 2-0 after a 89-66 win over Roosevelt and a 64-58 win over Madison. Brandon Davidson's 27 points led the

Generals over the Rough Riders. Greg Dumas scored 15 points in the win over Madison. Greene's 26 points again led Madison.



## Chill out.

In winter, the way to go is slow. You'll come out ahead.

### 10 tips for safe driving in rain, ice or snow.

1. Winterize Your Car - Check the following: tires, antifreeze, wipers, heater/defroster, battery and exhaust system. Always carry chains, and keep your gas tank at least half full.
2. Clear Windows - Wipe off snow, ice and moisture before starting out.
3. Slow Down - Allow extra travel time in winter.
4. Give Yourself Room - Maintain at least three times the normal following distance.

### 5. Use Headlights - In snow, rain, fog or whenever visibility is poor.

6. Watch For Ice - Let up on the gas and roll through slippery areas.
7. Keep Cool In A Skid - Take your foot off the gas and brake, and gently steer in the direction of the skid.
8. Brake Smoothly - Know what kind of brakes you have. Drum brakes: pump. Disc: light, slow pulses. Anti-lock/ABS: slow, steady pressure.
9. Don't Pass Snow Plows, Sanders - Wait until they pull over.
10. Pack A Survival Kit - Keep in your trunk: Chains, flares, flashlight, blanket, shovel and sand or traction mat.

And remember: always buckle up.

ODOT Statewide Road Condition Hotline: 1-503-976-7277

Drive Safely. The Way To Go. Oregon Department of Transportation.