

SPORTS

GIRL'S TRACK IN THE PORTLAND INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE



Udemeh Elijah (right) crosses the finish line to win the relay race for Benson Tech.

BY DANNY BELL

With the budget cuts that came as a result of measure 5. The consequent repercussions resulted in lower turn out at some schools due to recently instituted pay to play plan. Now students must pay \$50.00 to

participate - in track and field. This is further amplified by the fact that spring is the third athletic season of the school year and many students can not afford the compounding cost.

"This pay for play is really hurting turnouts," Franklin coach Dan

Kendig said" many kids just can't afford to pay the extra money for the spring season.

However some programs are fairing better than others Lincoln last years P.I.L. power still looks to be on top, with strong athletes returning. Other programs that promise to

be competitive are Grant and Benson.

Leading Lincoln's girls squad is senior distance runner Marie Davis. This year she will compete in the 1,500 and 3,000 meter races. she finished second in state in the 3,000 meters last year. Davis is joined in the distance events by Christy Lacey Krietz.

Along with Davis and Lacey-Krietz, sprinters Larisa Pennington a senior, and Maren Elliott a sophomore compose the 1,600 meter relay, team which placed second in last years state meet.

Where Lincoln has strength in the distance events Benson has the same in the sprinting events.

Tech has the returning state champion in the 100 meters in senior Udemeh Elijah.

"Udemeh is really focused and has set goals to repeat her city and state titles this year," Benson coach Leon McKenzie said. "We have great competitors great talent and great versatility."

McKenzie pointed out that he is encouraged because of the potential he sees in track members: sprinter Katrina Hopkins, distance runner Ginnette Marbury, triple jumper Ito Elijan, pole vaulter Shei-Meaka Newman and hurdler Wanjeria Washington.

Then there is the perennial track team from Grant.

"We graduated a lot of girls who routinely pulled out a lot of points for us," Grant coach Gary Noble said.

Even so Emily Pokornv and

Megan Farris return to the track while Carolyn Johnson and Kristy Warren are back in the field events for the Generals.

"Were very young, but we also have quality older kids" Noble said. Still we have over 30 freshman girls who turned out for track".

Although they had to field teams without the luxury of a large turn out, coaches Bill Franzke of Madison, Dan Kenig of Franklin, and Dan Malone of Roosevelt still have managed to recruit some young and talented athletes who have the promise to make a mark in the P.I.L.

Franklin sophomore Kate Kaufman set a school record last year as a freshman, running the 1,500 meters in 4:57. Quakers sophomore Nuki Mills sprinted the 100 meters in 12.5 last year.

clocking in at 5:45 Amber Hawthorne, a freshman is another Quaker to watch in the 1,500 meters.

Basketball players, Madison's, Leslie Dukart Katie Holified, and Tami Powers will run on the cinders and Kristi Power returns to throw the discus, javelin, and shot put.

"Were going to have a good short relay because we have good team speed" Franzke said.

Even though overall turnout numbers are up at Roosevelt the girls numbers are down" Malone said.

Even so the one to keep your eye on is senior thrower Kehau Kahaloa. "She's expected to throw (the discus) well over a 100 feet.

SPORTS BRIEFS

BASKETBALL

Final Four:

Sunday The Last of the final four won berths to play in Seattle for a chance to win the national championship.

Arkansas last years champion will be returning. U.C.L.A. will be making its first serious final four bid in 15 years. The field is rounded out by North Carolina and Oklahoma state.

Vikings play in Final

The hot shooting Portland State women's basketball team couldn't quite keep up with North Dakota State (32-0) in the finals of N.C.A.A. Division II basketball, losing 98-85.

The Bisons went on to win their third consecutive title and fourth in the last five years, despite Portland (26-6) shooting .630 for the game.

The two teams posted the same amount of field goals made, but the crucial difference was at the freethrow line where Bisons visited the charity stripe 29 times and made 27. Portland only had sixteen freethrow chances.

Naismith Awards

Joe Smith, a sophomore from Maryland and Rebecca Lobo, a senior from Connecticut were named the winners of the Naismith Award as the players of the year in college basketball.

FOOTBALL

Falcons Acquire Metcalf

Eric Metcalf has been traded to the Atlanta Falcons, in a trade that involved swapping the team's first round draft picks.

Watters Becomes An Eagle

Ricky Watters formerly of the San Francisco 49ers became a Philadelphia Eagle when San Francisco refused to match a \$6.9 million deal offered by the Eagles.

BASEBALL

The National Labor Relations Board in a rare Sunday session voted 3-2 to seek an injunction against the baseball owners. That could lead to an end of the 7 1/2 month strike.

Players say they will end the walkout, if a judge issues an injunction, which would restore salary arbitration, free agent bidding and anti-collusion rules.

Many owners however are in favor of locking out the players if the union ends the strike without agreement.

BLAZERS UNVEIL LEGENDARY LINE-UP

BY ERIC NOON

The Portland Trail Blazers put the best players on the court, but the problem was only two of them were dressed down to play.

Oh how could the Blazers have used Bill Walton's interior passing or how about a little of Maurice Lucas' enforcing, when high-flying Shawn Kemp came up the middle.

Those days are past and last Friday was a night of reminiscing for the fans and organization of Portland.

The Trail Blazers introduced their "Legendary Line-Up" during half-time as the current squad went head-to-head with the Seattle Super-sonics and came up just short with the 122-118 defeat. Gary Payton led the Sonics, going 15-17 from the field.

Along with Lucas and Walton, the fan-balloted team was strung with many Blazer greats.

The fan's all-time Blazers line-up: Mychal Thompson and Walton at center; Geoff Petrie, Clyde "The Glide" Drexler, Terry Porter and Jim Paxson at guards; and Lucas, Calvin Natt, Buck Williams and Sidney Wicks at the forward positions.

A great line-up with many great players and even more memorable moments in the Blazers' 25-year his-

tory. Speaking of 25 years, one man has seen them all come and go and for him, this night was very special. That man, also legendary, was Bill Schonely who continues to be the voice of the Blazers and one of the original seven people to start the franchise back in 1970.

"It's a very humbling experience now to reflect on it after 25 years," said Schonely. "Just to think that I was apart of it too, and also to be apart of their life."

Schonely is truly one of the best in the business and one of the nicest men in the Blazers organization.

Although the line-up was filled with a great many stars, the big one had to be "Big Red" Bill Walton who was introduced first to the half-time crowd.

"This is where I played my best basketball. I've had a lot of special moments in my life, in some of the great basketball arenas around the country, but none more special than here," Walton said.

The former All-American from UCLA, led the Blazers to their only world championship in 1976-77.

"The fans, the unique teams, the legendary Jack Ramsay, all the memories were great," Walton said.

There have been many great players that have come and gone through

Portland, but when you look up and down the line-up, it's hard to find one that was treated fairly in the end.

It's not so much management's fault, but the nature of the game that these players are used for their skills

and then let go and then the business and the ugly side of the game takes over.

Sure a lot of fans wanted to see Drexler retire here. Sure we didn't want to see Calvin Natt go in a trade



Award-Winning Film 'Hardwood Dreams' Comes To Fox: Bringing the March Madness of basketball into April, FOX will present a one-hour documentary narrated by actor Wesley Snipes, Hardwood Dreams, that chronicles the aspirations and hardships of five members of a high school basketball team, Sunday, April 2 (7:00-8:00 PM ET/PT). The players pictured are (L to R) Corey Saffold, Stais Boseman, Sean Harris, Dwight Curry and Donminic Ellison.

IRON MIKE TYSON RETURNS FROM THREE YEARS OF INCARCERATION

BY DANNY BELL

Early Saturday morning former heavy weight boxing champion Mike Tyson was released from the Indiana Youth Center where he has spent the last three years.

Awaiting him was a throng of promoters, city stadiums, networks, boxers and fans.

"The first thing you prepare Mike for is the people coming at him" said promoter Butch Lewis, a periodic visitor. "The leeches and so forth."

However the media was mildly surprised when instead of catching a plane and flying to his estate in northern Ohio, he elected to first visit a mosque of the Islamic Society of North America, where he got down on his knees and prayed for half an hour. There he was joined by former champion Muhammed Ali, NFL Hall of fame member Mel Blount, rapper

MC Hammer and hundreds of others.

Among the entourage that greeted Tyson on his return was promoter Don King who still figures to be an influential individual in Tyson's comeback bid in the world of boxing.

Tyson took his brute force instincts into prison, but ran into early discipline problems, however he seemed able to adjust to the strict regimen and discipline that prison demands. He failed his highschool equivalency exam, and he never apologized or admitted to raping Desiree Washington, the beauty pageant contestant he was convicted of raping.

But he did read regularly, recited Maya Angelo's poetry to her when she visited him.

He also became a student of Islam, and was tutored in Islam by Muhammad Siddeeq, who led Saturday's service.

"He's learned about respecting himself, which is how you respect others," said Rev. Charles Williams a longtime friend who visited Tyson regularly. "I think he's going to be very selective of the persons around him."

Tyson took a private jet to his 66 acre farm about 45 miles southeast of Cleveland, after he said prayers at the mosque.

He has not made any public statements, other than to say he is very happy to be out, and that he appreciates the support that he has received.

Now that Tyson has been released speculation is swirling as to how he will pursue his quest to gain another crown.

Among a crowded landscape of tittles and boxers, only Tyson stands out as the great boxing heavy weight of the era.

Tyson lost his crown to Buster

Douglas, a little known boxer in 1990. In the five years and three months since the Douglas upset five new boxing organizations have come into existence to join the other three.

Eighteen new champions have been crowned, among them are people like, Herbie Hide, Michael Bentt, Lionel Butler, Jimmy thunder to name a few. Two former champs over 40 are still active Larry Holmes 42, and George Foreman 46.

Foreman even holds two of the titles and is considered the most attractive (ie: the most money) if not the most legitimate match.

It is estimated that Tyson could generate between 75-100 million a year in income as an active boxer.

On his list of potential opponents includes George Foreman, Riddick Bowe, Evander Holyfield, another possibility is Buster Douglas.

"The key is Tyson is going to have to want it," said Angelo Dundee, the trainer for Ali and Foreman. "Everybody wants to get in line and fight."

Tyson hasn't fought since June 28, 1991, when he won a decision over Razor Ruddock.

Tyson was sentenced to 10 years with four suspended. He received one day good time for each day served shortening his time to three years.

He still has four years probation, plus court mandated psychoanalysis and must put in 100 hours of community service for each year of his probation.

Tyson police record dates back to 1978 when 12 years old. He was picked for purse snatching. He discovered boxing in reform school where Cus D'Amato discovered him and groomed him into a champion.