

# SPORTS

## SPORTS BRIEFS

### Howard Cosell dies at 77:

Howard Cosell a legendary figure in sports broadcasting died Sunday at New York University Hospital for Joint Deceases. His grandson Justin Cohane said Cosell died of a heart embolism.

Cosell is most remembered for his 14 years as a broadcaster on "Monday Night Football" and his verbal sparring matches with Muhammad Ali. Cosell was revered and ridiculed for his tell-it-like-it-is approach to broadcasting.

In 1954 he left a lucrative law practice, for an ABC radio job that paid \$250 a week.

"Howard Cosell was one of the most original people ever to appear on American television," said ABC News president Roone Arledge, in charge of ABC Sports during Cosell's hey day.

### GOLF

#### Jacobsen Comes In Second:

Peter Jacobsen the Portland based P.G.A. golfer regained the top money winner honors on the circuit with a second place tie with Jeff Sluman. Both men had an opportunity to win but let it slip away as Jom Gallagher made a phenomenal comeback to win the Greater Greensboro open.

Jacobsen shot an even par and Sluman was two over, as Gallagher manage a 6 under in the final. Jacobsen's check of \$132,000 for second place tie lifted him past Davis Love III as the top money winner with earnings of \$870,321 for the 1995 season. Jacobsen has two first, two seconds and a third.

### GYMNASTICS

A young Oregon State team making its first appearance in the six team finals NCAA national Women's Gymnastics Championships. Finished sixth Friday before a crowd of 7,758 in the Georgia Coliseum.

### BASKETBALL

Blazers will play the Phoenix Suns starting Friday in the best of five play-off. Phoenix swept the Blazers during the regular season.



BY DANNY BELL

Damon Stoudamire the stellar guard for Arizona, decided in the last week to by-pass the Desert Classic a

showcase for the top seniors in the country at which many pro scouts will be attending.

Instead he spent the week in Oregon, visiting parents and friends

and taking a break from his studies. Stoudamire who has a good chance to end up in the lottery felt that the risk of hurting his standing with the scouts out-weighed the chance of

## STOUDAMIRE AWAITS FUTURE

climbing in the draft.

"I sat down with my family, I talked to my coaches at Arizona and they called a lot of people for me" the Wilson High Graduate said "the consensus was, I had four solid years at Arizona and I had proved myself by playing international ball over the past couple of years "It wasn't that I thought I didn't have anything to prove at Phoenix (the Desert Classic) but what more could I have done to improve my stock in the draft.

In light of that Stoudamire decided since he is only taking two courses at Arizona this term to visit his girlfriend Renee Evans, who lives in Eugene, visit with his parents, Willie Stoudamire and Liz Washington, and play some hoop with the old gang including cousin Antoine, a former Oregon Duck guard.

Stoudamire said he carries a 2.4 grade point average and is only a semester short of graduating with a degree in media arts. He claims to have every intention of one day getting a diploma.

"Most people tell me it doesn't make any difference, that I'll be playing pro ball" he said "but it's important to me. It's something I want for myself. I'll feel like I'll have accomplished something important".

One of the most pressing issues for Stoudamire to resolve now is the selection of an agent. Since last season he has been a hot item. He will be glad to have the process over. "There are so many people coming at you, or trying to, he said.

"I'd say I've heard from 60 (agents) at least, maybe more.

You go to your hotel room on a road trip and you might have four or five messages waiting for you from agents. You just don't call them back.

"I've narrowed it down the best I can. My parents are helping me. You have to find someone you feel comfortable with, but it's hard to trust someone with handling your money."

Evidently there will be money to handle. Opinion varies among NBA executives on how good he will be, but just about everyone likes the 5 foot 10 inch guard. He averaged 22.8 points, and 7.3 assists and shot .476 from the field, 46.5 from the 3-point line as a senior.

"In my opinion, he is the best point guard in the country" said Bob

Kloppenburn, Seattle vice president/player personnel. "To me he's a can't miss player. I think you'll be talking about him like you do about Kevin Johnson in three or four years."

"If he's not the top, he's the second best point guard in the guard, said Jon Jennings, Boston's director of basketball development. "He has phenomenal talent. He's probably the best guard when it comes to the pick-and-roll which is conducive to offenses being employed in the NBA today."

Stoudamire is a shooter and scorer, but the typical set-up point seems to be fading from the horizon.

"He is one of those players who has to somewhat dominate the ball to be effective," Jennings said. "A team has to understand he is going to have to be focal point of an offense. The good thing is that he is an initiator, a creator and willing to make decisions."

Obviously as Stoudamire acclimates to the N.B.A there will be a period of adjustment.

But as Dave Twarzik, director player personnel for the Charlotte Hornets said, He's a guy you're going to play and a guy you're going to have to live with... I think you have to let him go. To corral him too much, it may inhibit his game."

At 5'10" Stoudamire is kind of smallish, however he has demonstrated he has the quickness to compensate for lack of size. Its too early to know where Stoudamire might go in the draft, However there's strong indications that he'll be chosen in the top 15.

He said "I'd be very disappointed I went after 15."

Several teams that are in immediate need of a point guard also are in the lottery they are Detroit, the L.A. Clippers, Miami, Milwaukee, Minnesota and Washington.

Stoudamire said he's made up a list and all the lottery teams are on it. He said "I know Minnesota has shown extreme interest, and I've even heard they've told a couple of people they would like to have me. But those are just words" going to a losing team doesn't seem to faze Stoudamire, in fact he seems to invite the opportunity to be on a team like "Washington or Detroit, or teams with good young talent." Stoudamire said. "I think I could blend right in, be successful and be a part of something on the rise."

## JIMMY JONES VETERAN SPORTCASTER DIES

BY DANNY BELL

Jimmy Jones who had been a fixture in the early television era of Portland's sport scene and once served as the voice of the Portland Trailblazers and Seattle Super Sonics, died at his Bellevue home last Thursday on April 20th.

Jones who was 62 had suffered a history of heart problems dating back to 1975 when he experienced a serious seizure on Super Bowl Sunday while in Phoenix on a road trip with the Trailblazers.

In the last few years, Jones had worked as a TV play by play announcer for Prime sports. His last telecast was Easter Sunday in which he called a baseball game between Oregon State and Portland State at Coleman Field on the Oregon State campus.

Jones, was born in 1933 was an all-city fullback at Grant High in Portland, then played football for the University of Oregon for three years.

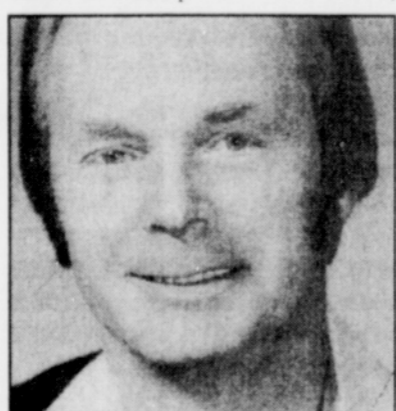
Jones began his career in television at KPTV in 1960, eight years after Portland's initial T.V. station took to the air. It was while at KPTV that Jones became one of the states best known figures in sports doing play by play in a variety of sports. He became best known for his coverage of the Portland Buckaroos hockey team, delayed football games, then

later for announcer and T.V. play by play man for the Portland Trailblazers.

During all this, Jones stayed on to anchor sports for KPTV.

In 1983 Jones left channel 12 television and Portland to become the play by play announcer for telecast of the Seattle SuperSonics games.

Doug LaMear, a long time local sports anchor at KGW-TV who knew Jones as a competitor and a friend,



Jimmy Jones

said "I considered him a great guy to work with although we were competitors I'm very sorry to see him go he was a nice guy to have in the business."

Reached at Palm Springs, Calif., Harry Glickman, president emeritus of the Trail Blazers, said "I can't recall anyone who ever had an unkind word to say about Jimmy Jones. He was a great guy, a great friend,

and in my opinion, a very great sports caster."

George Wasch the executive producer/director for Blazer Broadcasting, grew up with Jones and worked with him from the beginning at KPTV and with the Blazer organization as well. "After college his first job was in radio in Salem, Wasch said. "I encouraged him to come up to Portland and audition for some sports. One of the first he auditioned for and got was for Hollywood Ford. Then we had a show called "Sports Byline" and he did that. He did such a terrific job they hired him full time."

"Jones," Wasch said was "as good as anybody in the business and better than most. When he went on the air, he was really prepared. He had a great announcing voice, had nice style and was enthusiastic. He was a real pro.

Oregon State sports information director worked with Jones early in his career and his last baseball game on Easter Sunday, commented "from a professional stand point he said" I always thought he was one of best in the business. He was a consummate pro. You knew he was always "And he was one of the best friends I ever had."

Funeral service are to be held to day, Wednesday April 26 at 1:30 p.m. at Westminster Presbyterian Church.

## SECOND SEASON BEGINS

BY ERIC NOON

For the 13th straight year The Portland Trailblazers are in the NBA Play-Offs, and for The Blazers the Second season will bring new life to a team who has struggled at times. The feeling among players is the real season begins in the Play-Offs and if your on a roll you can make a run at the finals.

This year might be a little different.

The Blazers face off with The Phoenix Suns in the first round and are 0-5 in that season that decides if you get to move on.

The Suns are a deep team and put a lot of points on the board. The Suns will also let you back in the game and try to finish you off by relying on the outside shot. The Blazers need to slow down the tempo and use their size to force The Suns into a half court game. A half-court game and The Blazers usually don't go together. With the addition of Otis "My Man" Thorpe down in the paint, and Harvey Grant inserted in the line-up the Blazers have a different look. Thorpe has been able to control Charles Barkley down low in the past. In a close game with Chris Dudley on the bench Thorpe could be the man to shut down Sir Charles and give The Blazers an inside threat on offense.

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