

# SPORTS

## SPORTS BRIEFS

BY ERIC NOON

### Pilots Fall To Notre Dame

The University of Portland's women's soccer team lost a hard fought battle in sudden-death overtime 1-0 to Notre Dame in the NCAA Women's Soccer Championship Sunday.

The match, which lasted an exhausting 125 minutes, came down to one kick that one of the Irish in Chapel Hill, N.C. The Pilots, who will bring home the second place trophy, had another great season and championship run.

"This is how a final should be played, said the proud U of P Coach Clive Charles. "It was a constant struggle back and forth, tactically and physically."

### UP Men Face Wisconsin

The University of Portland's men's soccer team will play Wisconsin at 11 a.m. (PST) Friday in the NCAA semifinals at Richmond, Virginia. Duke will meet Virginia in the second semifinal. The championship game is Sunday at 10:30 (PST). The semifinals games will be broadcast live on Prime Sports Northwest and the championship game delayed until 4:30 p.m. (PST). However, the broadcast times are subject to change.

### Drexler Gets Extension

Former Trail Blazer Clyde Drexler signed a two-year extension to his contract with the World Champion Houston Rockets for a reported \$12 million. The extension would give the future Hall of Famer \$22 million over the next three years. Drexler, who helped lead the rockets to the championship, looks to be set to finish his career where it all started in Texas. They say that in Texas, when the do things, they do it big, well \$12 million over two years for a player of Drexler's age is big, indeed.

## DON'T TAKE THE SPORT OUT OF SPORTS

BY ERIC NOON

What ever happened to good sports, bad sports and poor sports?

Nowadays it seems the sports generation is all about me sports. When was the last time you heard someone claim he or she's just a poor sport?

It is understood that professional sports is just a business and the entertainment is what sells. But when did things change so much that showing your opponent up was secondary to sportsmanship and sometimes even winning?

Standing over your opponent after a tackle, taunting and celebrating after holding him to a five yard gain, seems to be a little much folks. It's one thing to celebrate after a big sack or a touchdown and entice the crowd, but these professional athletes care more about shoe contracts than they do fans - it seems like at times.

The main problem is this com-

mercialization of sports has filtered down to the youngest of levels and today, coaches, some who volunteer their time, are up against some challenges with attitudes and approach with these kids that is out of control.

Sports is not about being seen or making your opponent look bad. It's still like it always was, about winning and losing and how you handle both.

Television is right at the top of the list when you think of the decline in sports. Like so many other things in life, it's the avenue that brings you so much success and brings you down the road to failure.

Television has brought sports billion dollar contracts (Fox for the NFL) and also made sport figures household names, but the revenue that television has generated, has driven the huge contracts for players and coaches out of proportion.

Sure there's a demand for competition and achievement by the fans, but what they receive sometimes is

an overpaid athlete with a big contract and maybe a shoe deal giving them a second rate lesson in class.

The fans are the ones who ultimately pay their contracts and they deserve more. There just isn't enough Barry Sanders' or Clyde Drexler's around. Players who handle themselves with class and let their play not their dancing or their mouth speak for them are a dying breed.

Bottom line is, this is the "Me Generation" and "Me." I'd like to see the kids of today and the kids of tomorrow emulate sports figures who might say, "Now he's a good sport."

We need more guys with nick names like "The Kid," "The Glide," or "Mr. Baseball," not "Neon Deion," "The Worm" or "Mr. Bad Moon Risen."

The evolution of sports is non-stop and we can only hope that the roots of this game can always feed a few good leaves that can keep those good sports a nice cool place to reflect.

## Salem To Host U.S. Slowpitch Tourney

Salem and Wallace Sports Complex was awarded the honor of hosting future United States Slowpitch Softball Association (USSSA) regional, divisional, and national softball tournaments. A delegation of Salem representatives exhibited during the trade show and represented the bids at the National USSSA Softball Convention which awarded the following tournaments to Salem:

The Men's Modified World Series will be held in Salem July 26-28, 1996 and will attract up to 32 teams from across the country. This tournament will conservatively generate \$115,200 in economic spending for the Salem community.

Forty-two teams competing in the men's Church "B / C"

Regionals will travel to Salem to compete for a national tournament berths September 6-7, 1996. The Western Region consists of Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana, Alaska, Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, California, Hawaii, Arizona, and Nevada. This tournament will generate approximately \$151,200 in economic spending for Salem.

Over Labor Day weekend 1997, Salem will be the host city for the men's "D" Divisional Softball Tournament. The Northwestern Division includes Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana, Alaska, Wyoming, Utah, and Nevada. This tournament will host 80 teams and their families for three nights.

The Men's "D" tournament will conservatively generate \$432,000 in economic impact for the area.

## Oregon Fans Warned Of Scams

Attorney General Theodore R. Kulongoski is warning University of Oregon football fans to use caution when purchasing travel packages to attend the Cotton Bowl in Dallas, Texas on January 1, 1996.

"We are all excited that the University of Oregon is playing in its second consecutive New Year's Day bowl game," Kulongoski said. "But we cannot let the excitement get in the way of our better judgment. While most sports package offers are legitimate, past experience indicates there are fraudulent operations that promise service they never intend to provide."

### It's Huskers Vs. Gators For No. 1

The No. 1 Nebraska Cornhuskers (12-0) will take on the No. 2 Florida Gators (12-0) on Jan. 2 to decide the national championship in NCAA Division 1 football in the Fiesta Bowl.

The only undefeated teams in the country will square off in college football's first championship game in quite a few years. Quarterback

Tommy Frazier will lead Nebraska's high-powered running offense against Florida's Danny Wuerffel, whose 178.4 passing efficiency rating broke Jim McMahon's 1980 record of 176.9, leads the Gators into the bowl with big numbers an impressive aerial assault.

When selecting a travel agent, consumers should inquire whether agents have a history of handling sports packages to attend major sporting events and whether agents are registered with the State and insured. The official University of Oregon Cotton Bowl travel package is only available through its Alumni Association. Travel agents claiming any "official" connection with the University should be reported to the Association office at (541) 346-5656 or the Attorney General's consumer hotline.

Additionally, consumers should call the Attorney General's consumer hotline to check for consumer complaints, (503) 378-4320 or 229-5576 (Portland only). Travel agents also are required to register with the Department of Consumer and Business Services, (503) 378-4140.

After selecting a travel agent, consumers should maintain communication with the agent and, if time permits, obtain all tickets, including those for the event, before departing on their trip. Buyers of the official package through the Alumni Association will receive a confirmation letter but won't be able to pick up the pack-

age until the day of departure at the airport. As an extra precaution, consumers working with out-of-state companies on packages that include tickets to the game should ask the company to fax a photocopy of the actual tickets before sending a check or providing a credit card number. Consumers should never pay cash, as consumer using cash instead of credit cards lose their rights to dispute fraudulent charges under the federal Fair Credit Billing Act.

One last area of concern for Kulongoski involves scalping of tickets. While Oregon has no state statute making it illegal to scalp tickets, there are local ordinances that prohibit scalping in certain areas. In general, scalping is prohibited within a certain distance of an auditorium or stadium. Regardless, consumers need to be very careful when purchasing tickets from a scalper as it greatly increases their risk of being scammed.

For information on purchasing tickets from the University of Oregon, consumers may contact the University of Oregon Cotton Bowl Ticket Information Line at (541) 346-4461 for a tape recording on how to purchase tickets.

## Referees Return To NBA Arenas

National Basketball Association referees Monday night ratified a contract proposal from the league ending a lockout imposed by owners since before the season began.

According to a league spokesman, the referees ratified a five-year

contract that provides an 18.7 per cent salary increase in the first year and 60 percent over the duration of the deal.

"We are pleased that the referees have voted to accept our proposal and we will be meeting with

(union general counsel) Fred Slaughter," said Jeff Mishkin, the league's lead negotiator.

"If we can reach a signed agreement in the next few days, then the referees should be back on the court within a week."

Under the last proposal submitted by the NBA, referees with the least tenure would receive \$85,000 and the senior referees would earn \$261,000. In the final year of the agreement, the salary would range from \$90,000 to \$328,000.

WMVP Radio in Chicago -

where 53 veteran referees met on Monday to vote on the proposal - reported that the deal was approved by a 27-26 vote. The vote came on the same night the league expanded crews of replacements from two to three.

The referees were convening for the first time since February. Only two of the 55 referees were absent from the meetings. Slaughter had said the league's last proposal of five years was too long.

The referees were seeking a 19 per cent to 22 per cent increase over a three-year contract.

The league decided to lock out the referees Oct. 1 after the union's rejection of a no-strike, no-lockout agreement that would have enabled the referees to continue to work while a new agreement was being negotiated.

Referees from the Continental Basketball Association are being used in regular-season games. Due to anti-lockout labor laws in the province of Ontario, non-union officials cannot work in the city of Toronto, which is the home of the expansion Raptors. Regular NBA refs have been used for Raptors' home games.

# AUTOMOTIVE

## Tri-Met Pauses Construction Downtown For The Holidays

Weekend shuttle buses travel every 7-1/2 minutes to Northwest Portland.

In the spirit of the holidays, downtown Portland MAX light rail construction is on recess Thanksgiving through New Year's Day, and shuttle buses are running 7-1/2 minutes to Northwest Portland on weekends.

The recess allows people to ride Tri-Met MAX trains, shop and celebrate downtown without running into any construction obstacles.

Construction crews have completed downtown improvements to Yamhill District and Third Avenue MAX stations, and earlier in November opened Galleria/10th Avenue and Library/9th Avenue stations. Station improvements will accommodate new low-floor trains when they arrive, which will make board-

ing easier for everyone. As required under federal guidelines, the platforms also feature tactile warning strips on platform edges to assist customers who are visually impaired.

Meanwhile, only finishing touches remain on Westside MAX construction work in the downtown core arena. That work will pause as well. Downtown visitors can get a look at finished portions of the project on Morrison and Yamhill between 11th and 13th.

Weekend Shuttle Buses to Northwest Portland: Busy Northwest stores will be easier to get to during holiday weekends.

To help holiday shoppers avoid traffic and parking congestion, Tri-Met is beefing up bus service to run every 7-1/2 minutes between 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. weekends through Dec. 31. The increased frequency is offered on three bus routes:

- Line 15--NW 23rd Avenue, between downtown and Montgomery Park.

- Line 17--NW 21st-St. Helens Road, between downtown and Montgomery Park.

- Line 77--Broadway-Lovejoy, between Rose Quarter Transit Center and Montgomery Park (Line 77 connects with MAX at Rose Quarter Transit Center).

As an added incentive many businesses offer special discounts for anyone who uses Tri-Met to shop.

Tri-Met, in partnership with the Northwest District (neighborhood) Association and Nob Hill Business Association, is also encouraging neighbors and workers to help reduce traffic congestion by taking Tri-Met or carpooling.

## Gang Youth Make A Start In Auto Detail

Youth Employment and Empowerment Coalition offer the first entrepreneur business owned and operated by gang involved and gang affected youth.

Grandeur Auto Detail is the first for profit business run by youth that were former gang members or involved in a gang environment. Youth Employment and Empowerment Coalition is an agency that draws gang involved/affected youth from 16 provider agencies and specializes in job placement. A division of YEEC is the entrepreneur program. Grandeur Auto Detail is the first business from this program.

The youth involved in this program would like to give a special thank you to some of the people that made this possible.

## A Neighborhood Opportunity.

Did you know you can complete the first two years of a bachelor's degree at the Cascade Campus, right here in North Portland, in your own neighborhood? There's no need to commute south or west!

- ◆ The Oregon Block Transfer Degree at PCC Cascade transfers easily and is equal to two years of bachelor's-level credits at Oregon four-year colleges.

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