

# SPORTS

## SPORTS BRIEFS

### Tyson and Holyfield Reportedly Agree To Bout

Mike Tyson and Evander Holyfield reportedly are on the verge of fighting this fall, five years after their scheduled heavyweight title bout was postponed. The New York Daily News is reporting that Holyfield met last weekend with Tyson promoter Don King. The meeting reportedly took place in Toronto and included Holyfield, his lawyer, Jim Thomas, Jay Larkin of Showtime Sports and King. A source from the King camp said the talks are in "the final stages" and the bout would be held at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas. King and Tyson signed a contract to fight on November 8th, 1991 but Tyson was charged with raping a beauty pageant contestant in Indianapolis less than a month after the deal was completed. Tyson then withdrew from the fight with a questionable rib injury. Tyson was convicted of rape in 1992 and spent three years in prison.

### Panthers, Avalanche Begin Stanley Cup Final

In June of 1993, the Florida Panthers did not exist and there was no hockey in Colorado. In June of 1996, the Panthers and Colorado Avalanche will play for the Stanley Cup. The Florida Panthers try to extend the Year of the Rat in just their third season in the NHL. Their road to the Stanley Cup Finals has been the shortest since the St. Louis Blues made it in their expansion season of 1968. An expansion team was guaranteed a spot in the Finals that year as a result of a revised divisional alignment. The Avalanche moved to Denver for the 1995-96 season after 16 campaigns in Quebec City. They also are making their first appearance in the Stanley Cup Finals. The-then Quebec Nordiques made it to the conference championship twice before, but were swept by the New York Islanders in 1982 and ousted in six games by Philadelphia in 1985.

### Seles Ousted, Graf Advances, Sampras Rallies

Co-number one seed Monica Seles of the United States suffered her earliest exit from the French Open today when she was ousted by 10th seed Jana Novotna of the Czech Republic in quarterfinal action in Paris. Defending champion and four-time French Open winner Steffi Graf of Germany advanced to her 10th consecutive French Open semifinal by rolling past fifth seed Iva Majoli of Croatia, 6-3, 6-1 in just 51 minutes. Men's top seed Pete Sampras of the United States has rallied from two sets down to get even with seventh seed and fellow American Jim Courier. Sampras broke Courier to go up 5-4 in the fourth set, and held to take the set.

### Baseball draft Starts, Pirates Have First Pick

The Pittsburgh Pirates are expected to select Clemson pitcher Kris Benson of Clemson with the top pick in the 1996 baseball free agent draft, which begins today in New York. A last-place finish in 1995 has given the Pirates the first pick for the first time since 1986, when they selected infielder Jeff King. Benson, a 6-foot-4, 182-pound righthander from Durham, North Carolina, headlines a draft considered rich in pitching talent. Benson won his first 14 games this season before losing to Miami in the College World Series. He led the nation with a 1.40 ERA and struck out 17 batters during a nine-inning outing against Virginia Tech on March 10th. Baseball America magazine projects that 60 of the first 100 selections will be pitchers.

### Marcus Camby Reportedly Took Money, Gifts From Agent

Marcus Camby, the consensus national college basketball Player of the Year, told a Connecticut newspaper that he accepted cash and gifts from a Hartford-based agent while playing for the University of Massachusetts last season. According to today's Hartford Courant, Camby accepted cash from one agent and jewelry from friends that another agent purchased. NCAA officials couldn't be reached for comment. Camby said that two friends accepted money, merchandise and rental cars from one of the agents during the 1995-96 season. Camby detailed his dealings with agents when questioned by the Courant, which obtained documents and information provided by an unidentified source. Massachusetts coach John Calipari hasn't spoken to Camby and declined comment.

### Belle, Matheny, Tavaréz Appeal Suspensions

Controversial Cleveland outfielder Albert Belle and two other players have appealed five-game suspensions for their roles in Friday's brawl between the Indians and the Brewers. Mike Matheny of Milwaukee and Julian Tavaréz of Cleveland also were suspended for five games by American League President Doctor Gene Budig. All three players are eligible to play pending a hearing. The Indians begin a series with the Seattle Mariners tonight while Milwaukee hosts Texas. Players Association spokesman Richard Weiss said that the appeals have been filed with the league office in New York. A hearing will be scheduled at Budig's discretion. A likely scenario has Belle's hearing taking place next week in New York. The Indians have a four-game series against the Yankees in New York beginning June 13th.

## CHICAGO AND SEATTLE IN NBA FINALS.

While the Bulls dispatched the Orlando Magic in a four-game sweep in the Eastern Conference finals, the Seattle SuperSonics and Utah Jazz battled to the seven-game limit in the Western Conference finals.

The Sonics defeated Utah, 90-86, in the decisive seventh game Sunday night at Seattle and advanced to the NBA Finals for the first time in 17 years.

The best-of-seven NBA Finals will begin Wednesday night at Chicago. It will be the first game in nine days for the Bulls, who completed a sweep of the Magic last Monday.

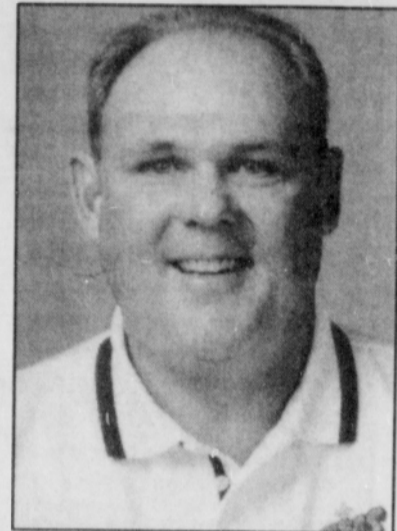
Chicago is shooting for its fourth NBA title in six years. The Bulls, led

by four-time NBA Most Valuable Player Michael Jordan and Scottie Pippen, won three consecutive titles from 1991 to 1993 under coach Phil Jackson.

After winning a record 72 games in the regular season, Chicago is 11-1 in the playoffs and is four wins away from completing the greatest season in NBA annals. The Bulls swept Miami three straight in the first round and defeated New York, 4-1, in the East semifinals.

The SuperSonics shed the tag of "chokers" after first round playoff collapses in 1994 and 1995.

Seattle led the Western Conference with 64 wins, second only



Sonics Coach George Karl

to Chicago's 72. The Sonics beat Sacramento, 3-1, in the first round of the playoffs and then swept the two-time defending champion Houston Rockets in four straight.

The Sonics held a 3-1 series lead over Utah, but the Jazz won the next two games to even the series. But Seattle stars Shawn Kemp and Gary Payton delivered in the decisive seventh game win.

Kemp had 26 points and 14 rebounds and Payton added 21 points for the Sonics.

The Sonics last appeared in the NBA Finals in 1979 and beat the Washington Bullets, 4-1.

## THE OLYMPIC TORCH REACHES CHICAGO

The 19-car train bearing the Olympic flame was greeted at its final destination by thousands of people hoping to catch a glimpse of one of Illinois' 77 Olympic torchbearers.

In Chicago, families garbed in red, white and blue, cheered from the sidewalks. Business people peered down from highrise windows and helmeted construction workers, who had adorned girders with American flags stopped working and banged iron tools together as the torch passed below.

Torchbearer Glen Knauz of

Waukegan trained for five weeks for his one-kilometer run. Knauz, a parts manager for Olympic sponsor BMW, was chosen by his company because he displays the desire symbolic of great athletes.

Kidney failure has forced Knauz to undergo dialysis for eight months now. The 36-year-old awaits a donor.

"There were so many people cheering me on that I wasn't even thinking about the running," he said. "It really gave me the energy to go on with the torch."

The 1996 Torch Relay is an 84-day, 15,000-mile trek across the country that will reach Atlanta for the Olympic Games on July 19.

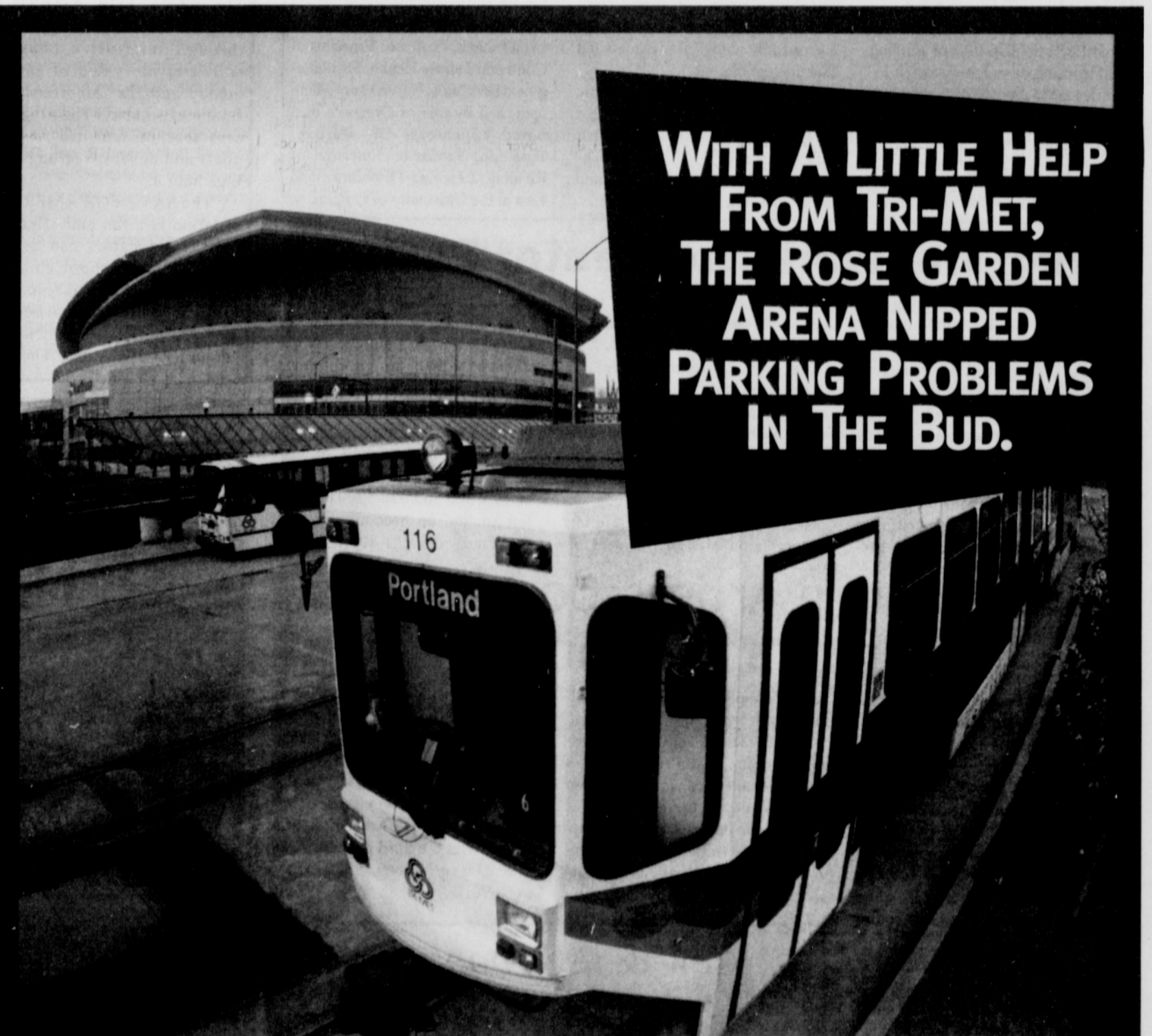
The Olympic flame for the first time was transported by rail, on a Union Pacific train with an 80-ton cauldron car that could be seen from more than a mile away. The train left Los Angeles on April 27.

Rick Schwarz greeted the train at the Chicago terminal in hopes that he could pass on well wishes from his mother.

At age 16, Elizabeth Robinson was the first woman ever to win a gold medal in track. In 1928, she won a gold medal in the 100-meter dash and helped her team to a silver medal in the 400-meter relay.

Now 85, she lives in Colorado and was a torchbearer there earlier this year.

"She was hoping that some of her teammates who live here now would be part of the celebration," Schwarz said. "She just wanted to tell everyone she is still running."



Parking at the Rose Garden could have posed a thorny problem for the almost three million fans who attend events there each year. But Tri-Met rose to the occasion and helped avert potential snags before they could grow.

convenience, but it's also a necessity. The building holds over 20,000 people and has only 2,400 parking spots. That's why many sports, music, and event fans are also fans of Tri-Met.

Working with the Blazers and Rose Quarter officials, Tri-Met devised a comprehensive plan providing bus, MAX, and shuttle service to and from the facility. In fact, 12 different Tri-Met routes serve the Rose Quarter, in addition to a dedicated MAX station. There's simply no faster, cheaper, or easier way to get to the arena.

The Rose Garden Arena is just one example of Tri-Met's successful problem-solving efforts around Portland. Tri-Met has also customized innovative programs to serve the Marquam Hill medical community, Portland International Airport, and over 200 local businesses.

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