

SPORTS

SPORTS BRIEFS

BASKETBALL

Kidd reportedly gives Mavs ultimatum

Dallas Mavericks All-Star point guard Jason Kidd has reportedly issued an ultimatum to team management to trade him or backcourt partner Jim Jackson before next season due to philosophical differences between the players. Kidd and Jackson have a sour relationship which reached a boiling point during an April 25th game at Utah. According to Kidd, Jackson physically and verbally abused backup point guard Scott Brooks for not passing him the ball. "I told (management) one or the other needs to be — has to be — traded," Kidd told the Fort Worth Star Telegram. "We've tried to patch things up. But it's more a basketball thing than our personalities. I'm not trying to run the team, but my only goal is to win a championship. To do that we need 12 guys willing to dump their own agendas and bust their butts. I'm not sure (Jackson) is committed to that."

HOCKEY

Berard expected to sign with Isles this week

Bryan Berard, the first overall pick in the 1995 National Hockey League draft, is expected to sign a three-year contract with the New York Islanders within the next few days. The Islanders acquired the 19-year-old Berard from the Ottawa Senators last January in the three-year deal that sent Kirk Muller to Toronto and defenseman Wade Redden, the second overall pick in the 1995 draft, to Ottawa. Islanders general manager and head coach Mike Milbury said that he expects the Islanders to sign Berard to a three-year contract by today or Tuesday. Berard was unable to reach contract terms with the Senators, who took him with the first overall pick in the 1995 draft.

Pain may be eliminated for millions

(SPECIAL)—A new drug has been approved that is exciting researchers in the treatment of pain. This material has been formulated into a new product known as "Arthur Itis™" and is being called a "Medical Miracle" by some, in the treatment of debilitating conditions such as arthritis, bursitis, rheumatism, painful muscle aches, joint aches, simple backache, bruises, and more. Although the mechanism of action is unclear, experiments indicate that Arthur Itis™ relieves pain by first selectively attracting, and then destroying the messenger chemical which carries pain sensations to the brain, thus eliminating pain in the affected area. Arthur Itis™ is an odorless, greaseless, non-staining cream and is available immediately without a prescription and is guaranteed to work. Use only as directed.

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LENTS BOYS & GIRLS CLUB TAKES NATIONAL HONORS

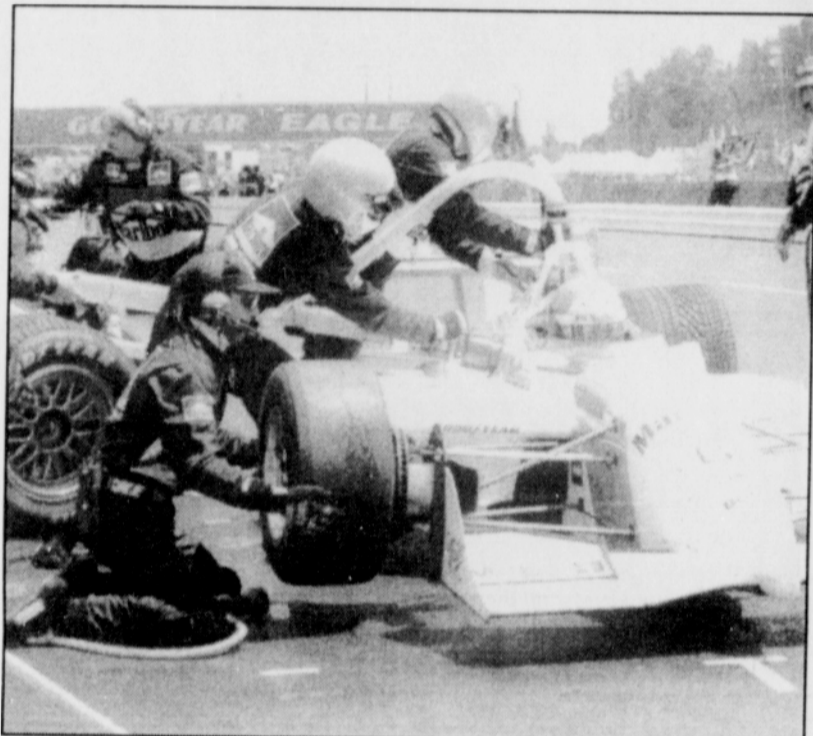
The Lents Boys & Girls Club received the Honor Award for Program Excellence in Health & Physical Education for its work developing the Young Ballers Association (YBA), emulating the NBA professional draft and league play for Club members. Club Director Mark Kuhnhausen and Sports Director Rodney Clemente accepted the award during the Boys & Girls Clubs of America National Conference at the Mirage Hotel in Las Vegas on May 16.

The Young Ballers Association basketball program is coupled with

an educational component, allowing about 100 participants to select and study a college of their choice. The Club member enters his/her name into the YBA draft as a college player, and is then drafted onto a team to play for a six-week season with teen coaches and referees.

"The YBA fills many needs for our young members," says Club Director Mark Kuhnhausen. "It offers a quality basketball program, an opportunity for teens to become leaders as coaches and referees and the challenge of researching what it takes to go to college."

Zandardi Earns First Indy Win In Portland



As rain begins to fall, pit crew scrabbles to change the tire of Al Unser Jr.'s Indy Car. This year's Budweiser G.I. Joe's 200 was won by Alex Zanardi of Italy

Rookie Alex Zanardi of Italy started on the pole and finished all alone with a healthy margin of victory today at the IndyCar Budweiser/G.I. Joe's 200 at Portland International Raceway in Oregon.

Zanardi became the first rookie to win an IndyCar event this year, and the latest driver to move from the Formula One ranks to earn a title in an IndyCar event.

"It feels great," Zanardi said. "I'm happy for the Target team, Chip Ganassi and all of the guys."

Zanardi was followed by a pair of Brazilians who came out of the Formula One ranks — Gil de Ferran, last year's IndyCar Rookie of the Year, and Christian Fittipaldi, runnerup in rookie points last year. Al Unser Junior made a major gain in the PPG Cup points standings with a fourth-place finish, and Parker Johnstone had his second top five finish of the year.

Zanardi jumped right out to the lead as the field began to thin early on. Michael Andretti was hampered by an engine problem on the first lap and ended up with a 12th-place finish. Raul Boesel of Brazil, Canadian

ans Paul Tracy and Greg Moore, and Bryan Herta left with mechanical problems or accidents.

Began to fall about a third of the way into the race, and Zanardi lost his lead to Unser temporarily as the Penske driver switched to rain tires. As conditions dried, it was the Honda power of Zanardi that would overcome the challenge and lead the final 58 laps of the 98-lap race.

Although this was Zanardi's first win, it was the fifth win for Chip Ganassi Racing — which is partially owned by former NFL quarterback Joe Montana. Current points leader Jimmy Vasser, who finished a disappointing 13th today, won four of the first six races this year.

Vasser will see his points lead shrink to just 11 with Unser in second, and teammates Andretti and Fittipaldi tied for third, 26 points behind Vasser. De Ferran is in fourth, a point out of third.

The Budweiser/G.I. Joe's 200 was the ninth of 16 events on the 1996 IndyCar circuit. It was shortened from its previous length of 102 laps around the 1.95-mile road course this year.

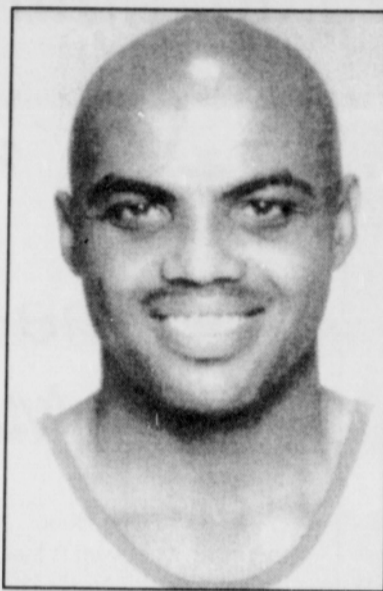
SUNS REPORTEDLY TO TRADE BARKLEY

Phoenix Suns star forward Charles Barkley may be joining superstar center Hakeem Olajuwon in Houston.

The New York Daily News reported Sunday that the Suns and Rockets have tentatively worked out a deal that would send Barkley and guard Elliot Perry to Houston in exchange for forward Robert Horry and guard Sam Cassell.

Barkley has been the subject of numerous trade offers. The Dallas Mavericks reportedly offered guard Jim Jackson and a first round pick for Barkley. The New York Knicks and Indiana Pacers have also made trade offers to the Suns for Barkley.

Barkley, who is one of just nine players in NBA history with 20,000 points and 10,000 rebounds, averaged 23.2 points and 11.6 rebounds in 71 games for the Suns this past season. The 33-year-old Barkley has played



Charles Barkley

12 seasons in the NBA, the last four with Phoenix. He earned Most Valuable Player honors in 1992-93 when

he averaged 25.6 points and 12.2 rebounds and led the Suns to the NBA Finals.

The 6-6, 252-pound Barkley spent his first eight seasons with Philadelphia.

The 27-year-old Perry is a backup to often-injured starter Kevin Johnson. Perry averaged 8.6 points and 4.4 assists in 81 games.

The 6-10, 220-pound Horry averaged 12.0 points and 5.8 rebounds in 71 games this past season, and was a starter on the Rockets' back-to-back championship teams in 1994 and 1995. Horry, who turns 26 in August, has the versatility to play both forward positions.

The 26-year-old Cassell replaced Kenny Smith as the Rockets starting point guard this past season and averaged 14.5 points and 4.6 assists in 61 games.

Michael Johnson Boosts Image With Record Run

World track and field chief Primo Nebiolo may have shed a patriotic tear when fellow Italian Pietro Mennea's 17-year-old 200-meter world record fell to the fast feet of Michael Johnson, but inwardly Nebiolo was probably cheering.

Johnson's magnificent run of 19.66 seconds at the U.S. Olympic trials only magnified the star quality of the 28-year-old Texan. It also justified the decision made by Nebiolo and the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) Council to change the Olympic schedule to bolster Johnson's chances of being the

hero of next month's Atlanta Games.

"We believe that the Olympic Games will be great but will be more important if the United States has its heroes," Nebiolo said in March in announcing the schedule change to aid Johnson's bid to become the first male to win both the 200 and 400 meters at the same Olympics.

Johnson did nothing to diminish those expectations during the 10-day American trials, sprinting to history's third-fastest 400 meters, 43.44 seconds, and twice beating Mennea's 1979 world record of 19.72 seconds in the 200. Only the second run,

which came on Sunday, counted though as an assisting wind too high for record purposes negated Johnson's semifinal dash of 19.70 seconds Saturday.

"This is a great time for me to go for some endorsements," Johnson said after Sunday's run.

It's also a great time for him to be running for America. At a time when past Olympic heroes Carl Lewis and Jackie Joyner-Kersey are showing the strains of age, Johnson should step forward to grab at least three gold medals before the Atlanta Games shut down Aug. 4.

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