

# SPORTS BRIEFS

## Prost looking Trulli good for grand prix

The Prost Grand Prix announced Monday that Italian driver Jarno Trulli would take over for injured Olivier Panis in Sunday's French Grand Prix and remain with the team until the Frenchman is able to return.

## New programming alliance formed

Fox/Liberty Networks and Cablevision's Rainbow Media Holdings, Inc. Monday announced the formation of a national sports programming venture that hopes to compete with ESPN. Fox/Liberty Networks, a joint venture of Tele-Communications, Inc. and Rupert Murdoch's News Corporation, will pay \$850 million for a 40 percent equity interest in a joint venture in which it will own Rainbow Media's regional sports network currently operating under the brand name of SportsChannel.

## BASKETBALL

### Celtics-Sixers deal may be voided if Radja fails to report

Put last Friday's trade between the Boston Celtics and Philadelphia 76ers on hold. The Celtics sent forward Dino Radja to Philadelphia for forwards Clarence Weatherspoon and Michael Cage, but Radja has yet to report to the Sixers for a physical. If he does not report to Philadelphia by 5 p.m. EDT Tuesday, then the Sixers will likely void the trade.

### Women's NBA draws high ratings

The Women's National Basketball Association began this past weekend with large crowds and better television ratings than projected. The opener of the WNBA season between the New York Liberty and Los Angeles Sparks on NBC topped all Saturday afternoon sports shows with a 3.8 overnight national television rating. Each rating point represents 972,000 homes. Sunday's game between the Charlotte Sting and Phoenix Mercury drew 16,102 fans to America West Arena, a women's pro record.

## GOLF

### Colbert undergoes prostate surgery

Jim Colbert, the Senior Tour Player of the Year in 1995 and 1996, underwent surgery for prostate cancer Monday. The Senior PGA Tour announced that Colbert underwent the procedure at Scripps Hospital in La Jolla, California. The surgery "went well", but no additional details on the golfer were released. Colbert has withdrawn from the U.S. Senior Open scheduled for this weekend in Olympia Fields, Illinois. The 56-year-old Colbert won four Senior PGA Tour events in 1995 and five in 1996, but is winless so far this year.

## TENNIS

### Krajicek, Ivanisevic win first round matches at Wimbledon

Fourth seed Richard Krajicek of the Netherlands began defense of his Wimbledon crown with a 7-6 (7-5), 6-2, 6-4 victory over Germany's Marcello Craca on the first day of the rain-plagued \$9.62 million tournament at the All-England Club. Second seed Goran Ivanisevic of Croatia also advanced to the second round Monday, powering his way past Romania's Dinu Pescariu, 6-1, 6-3, 6-3.

# SPORTS

## TIGER TAKES TIME OFF

Tiger Woods says he has sought opinions on how to deal with the crush of crowds and media attention he encounters, but is having trouble getting useful advice.

"It's hard because no one's really dealt with the magnitude of this," Woods said after Sunday's final round of the Buick Classic at the Westchester Country Club.

"Arnold (Palmer) has given me some advice, but he's never dealt with the volume of people that I have to deal with," Woods said. "Plus the generations have changed, too. People are not as courteous as they used to be."

Woods' golfing buddy Michael Jordan has also made some suggestions, but Woods said that when Jordan is at a basketball venue, he can more easily stay away from crowds than Woods can on a golf course.

"People have a direct effect on how I play," Woods said. "They can and sometimes they do. It's a little more difficult. It's a little more with the public. Then again, it gives you the personal touch as well. There are both positives and negatives."

"They can be a little difficult," Woods said. "I think a lot of it has to do with the fact that, one, it's hot. And, two, they're selling alcohol. That's not a good combo. When you get that combination, it can be a little tough on us as players."

Woods noted that organizers of the Byron Nelson Classic in Texas, where the weather often is as hot and humid as it was at the Buick Classic Saturday and Sunday, don't serve alcohol for fear of contributing to the rowdiness of some fans.

Woods said the more boisterous crowds he attracts reflects changes in society and sports as a whole since the days when Palmer and Jack Nicklaus were young golfing phenomons.

Woods said Sunday he's going home to Florida to fish, rest and get away from golf for a while.

"I'm going to be relaxing," he said. "I'm not going to pick up a club for a while. I've had enough golf for a bit. And I'm going to get my mind squared away and get my focus back."

Woods plans to play at the Western Open near Chicago starting July 3.

## WNBA ANNAUGURAL SEASON

The Women's National Basketball Association tipped off its eight-team, 10-week, 28-game season with three contests Saturday.

The marquee matchup was between the new league's top two markets and featured two of its biggest stars.

U.S. Olympic gold medallists Rebecca Lobo and Lisa Leslie each scored 16 points but Lobo scored 11 of hers in the second half as her New York Liberty scored a 67-57 victory over Leslie's Los Angeles Sparks before 14,284 fans at The Forum.

"It wasn't the prettiest of basket-

ball games, but I think we showed a little bit of what we can do," said Lobo after a game that got off to a slow start on poor shooting. "We got a great crowd out here and it can only get better."

Cynthia Cooper scored 25 points as the visiting Houston Comets beat the Cleveland Rockers 76-56 before a crowd of 11,455 at Gund Arena. The Comets played without star forward Sheryl Swoopes, who is awaiting birth of her child.

The Utah Starzz were hosting the Sacramento Monarchs in Saturday's third game.

## THORNTON TOP PICK FOR NHL

The Boston Bruins have high hopes for center Joe Thornton, who they made the top pick in this weekend's NHL draft.

Nicknamed "Big Bird," the 6-4, 198-pound Thornton has drawn comparisons to Wayne Gretzky, who also played junior hockey for the Sault Ste. Marie Greyhounds of the Ontario Hockey League.

He was the top-rated skater available, according to the NHL's Central Scouting Bureau and became

the first 17-year-old selected with the top pick since the Buffalo Sabres tabbed Pierre Turgeon in 1987.

Thornton also was the first center taken with the top pick since the Ottawa Senators selected Alexandre Daigle in 1993. Thornton's selection ended a streak of three years in which a defenseman was the top overall pick.

He will join a Bruins' team that failed to make the playoffs for the first time in 30 years.

## HOLYFIELD - TYSON FIGHT WARMS UP

Evander Holyfield sees it as a chance to put an exclamation point on his first-fight victory.

"I want to give Mike an opportunity to let him know it wasn't a fluke, that I can do it again," the heavyweight champion said of his rematch with Mike Tyson Saturday

at Las Vegas. "Everyone can have a bad day and that shouldn't stop them from getting an opportunity."

A fluke? A bad day? The answers to those questions are what sell rematches, especially rematches with the heavyweight championship at stake.

Only three fighters have become heavyweight champs again in second fights with their conquerors - Holyfield against Riddick Bowe in 1993, Muhammad Ali against Leon Spinks in 1978 and Floyd Patterson against Ingemar Johansson in 1960.

## ALLEN MAKES BID FOR SEATTLE STADIUM

Supporters of a financing plan for a new football-soccer stadium held a lead Friday on vote counting on the statewide ballot measure.

The latest vote totals from Tuesday's election - which was conducted by mail only in most counties - showed 795,564 votes (51 percent) in favor of the plan, and 761,571 (49 percent) against. Elections officials said about 97 percent of the votes had been

counted. Susan Pierson, a spokeswoman for potential Seattle Seahawks buyer Paul Allen, said supporters are not declaring victory yet.

"We're going to wait until the election is certified," she said. Allen had said he would exercise his option to purchase the team only if voters approved his plan for a \$425 million stadium complex.

The plan would involve \$300 million in public money.

Stadium opponents said they awaited the rest of the votes from Eastern Washington - mostly "no" votes so far.

The proposal to build a new Seattle Seahawks stadium, coupled with a new baseball stadium for the Mariners, will give Seattle the most complete sports complex west of the Mississippi.

The Seahawks' project includes an exhibition center and parking garage.



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From the May 22, 1997, drawing

<p><b>1st prize - \$1,000 plus jacket</b> Judith Flynn, Corvallis</p> <p><b>2nd prize - \$500 plus jacket</b> Arthur Rollins, Portland</p> <p><b>3rd prize - \$100 plus jacket</b> Harold Waffle, Beaverton Betty Pribil, Portland Robert Douglas, Vale Irene Sklarsh, Portland Daniel Abel, Bend</p>	<p><b>4th prize - MEGABUCKS DOUGH denim baseball jacket</b> Rosalee Davis, Salem Terry Farley, Portland Timothy Olson, Clackamas Jodine Alherty, Grass Valley Shirley Higgins, Bend Stephen Paup, Roseburg John Ream, Redmond Donna Sicker, Portland Michael Pera, Junction City Delores Layson, Florence Richard Morgan, Burns K.V. Newell, Myrtle Pt. Ann Gardner, Grants Pass Stella Cruson, Lyons Anita Bockmon, Portland R. Wilson, Portland Don Zimmerman, Eugene Joseph H. Lederer, Portland Debra Hetz, Sandy Howard Moran, Portland Billie Phillips, Portland Rose Blake, North Powder William Bolick, Beaverton Mary Lou Horton, Grants Pass Bill Wondra, Milton-Freewater</p>
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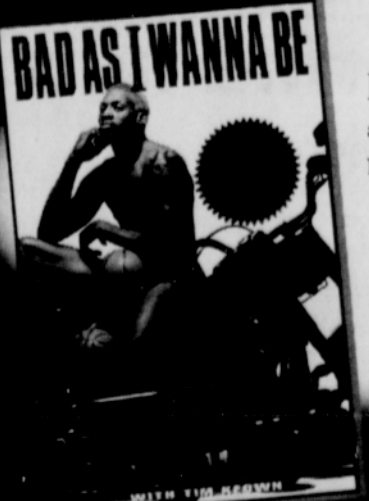


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