

# SPORTS BRIEFS

## U.S. women's hockey takes gold; figure skating

The United States women's hockey team is enjoying some well-earned time in the spotlight after winning the inaugural Olympic gold medal in the event in Nagano. The attention may be short-lived with one of the marquee events of any Winter Olympics — women's figure skating — set to begin. The busy night also features the quarterfinals in men's hockey, including the United States against the Czech Republic.

## Sixers acquire Joe Smith in four-player deal

The Philadelphia 76ers acquired former top draft pick Joe Smith and guard Brian Shaw from the Golden State Warriors for veterans Jimmy Jackson and Clarence Weatherspoon. In a deal involving four impending free agents, the 76ers get Smith, the top overall pick in the 1995 draft. He joins a team that includes Allen Iverson, the top pick in 1996, and Derrick Coleman, the first pick in 1990.

## DT John Randle agrees to terms with Vikings

The Minnesota Vikings, apparently willing to keep defensive tackle and transition free agent John Randle at any cost, have agreed to terms on a five-year contract with the five-time Pro Bowler. ESPN reported that the deal is worth \$32.5 million, including a \$10 million signing bonus with \$20 million of the contract guaranteed.

## Ravens acquire RB Rhett from Bucs, re-sign Eric Green

The Baltimore Ravens continued their busy week by acquiring running back Errict Rhett from the Tampa Bay Buccaneers for a 1999 third-round draft pick, and re-signing unrestricted free agent tight end Eric Green. Rhett, who fell out of favor with coach Tony Dungy following a contract dispute and then became expendable due to the emergence of Warrick Dunn, will be counted on to boost a Ravens game that finished 22nd in the league last season and averaged less than 100 yards per game.

## Giants sign Kent Graham; release of Brown expected

Four years ago, Kent Graham lost the job as starting quarterback of the New York Giants to Dave Brown. Now, in an ironic twist, he will replace Brown as Danny Kanell's backup. The Giants announced today that they have re-signed Graham, a seven-year veteran who played with New York from 1992-94 before spending the last two seasons in Arizona.

## Dolphins sign Oilers Kevin Donnalley

The Miami Dolphins, looking to bolster their running game, today signed former Tennessee Oilers guard Kevin Donnalley to a four-year contract. Terms were not disclosed, but the Sun-Sentinel in Fort Lauderdale reported today that the deal for the unrestricted free agent is worth about \$20 million. ESPN, however, is reporting that the deal is worth just \$12.4 million.

# SPORTS

## NBA MOMS SUPPORT PLAYERS



CONTINUED FROM FRONT

"You meet the mothers and tie them together with the players on the floor," said Leola Green, whose son A.C. plays for the Phoenix Suns.

"The first meeting was very exciting for me," she said. But she thought a special part of the NBA Moms organization was being there when something has happened in a player's family.

Charlotte Brandon agreed, recalling when New Jersey player Chris Gatlin's mother went through surgery before Christmas and he was upset about it, needing emotional support.

"I remember my own bouts with cancer," said Charlotte, how Terrell was upset and he "turned to God for comfort." The moms relayed the news, prompting calls and cards to cheer up the player's mother.

Charlotte's activities have brought her a bit of fame, with appearances on Oprah Winfrey, Good Morning America and some local Portland shows. Walking on a New York street with other NBA moms, "A lady with a baby came up and said, 'I saw you on Oprah and I know you love the Lord.'"

The group also plans charity events, fund raisers to help their communities.

## DAMON IS FINALLY IN A BLAZER UNIFORM

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

Toronto debuts Thursday night against the Bulls.

"There was a minor concern with Williams' right knee," Toronto spokesman Matt Akler said. "The doctors think Williams may need arthroscopic surgery, so to give further insurance, Portland is adding a second-round draft pick this year."

The Trail Blazers had already included two 1998 first-round picks — their own No. 1 and New York's lottery-protected No. 1 acquired in

the Chris Dudley trade.

Stoudamire was prepared to make his debut for the Blazers on Sunday night, but the hold-up in the trade prevented it. Many in a near-capacity crowd of 21,140 at the Rose Garden booed when it was announced before the game that Stoudamire would sit out.

The Raptors said Anderson has until Tuesday to report.

Grunwald did not indicate if he planned to suspend Anderson.

"I spoke to him (Saturday) and told him about the situation here and

he had very little to say at that time," Grunwald said. "I explained to him how much we liked him as a player and how much we'd like him to be part of our future here."

"We've got a young group of talented guys who play hard every night, we've got a new coach who's going to work with these guys and help them develop. We'd like him to be part of the future here with the new stadium, new ownership. We think it would be a great situation here for him."

## Benson Gets New Coach

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

He credits his wife Tina as his own organizer who "supports me, shows up and gets involved, reminding me of appointments and reminding the players to tow the line when she sees them in social settings."

Principal Bob O'Neill told The Observer Waller was selected because "he can reach our students very well in the context of academics and athletics, in a manner that they understand the necessity for his constructive criticism."

"I'm a player's coach and I can get kids to perform at high levels," Waller said. "They get to know me so when I have to hit them with a hammer I can and when I need to give them a hug I can. They know I'm looking out for their good."

Why coach? "I love kids and I love drawing correlations between athletics and life which enhance the academic performance of the children."

## Power Clinches Division Title



Portland Power under the direction of Lin Dunn, (Head Coach) captures it's first Divisional Championship in two Years. (Photo By M. Washington)

## SPORTS STANDINGS WINTER STANDINGS 1997/98

### BOYS BASKETBALL

	W	L	TO
Benson	13	0	
Jefferson	9	4	R,R,L,B
Wilson	9	4	B,G,J,R
Cleveland	8	5	J,W,B,L,J
Grant	7	6	B,C,J,B,C,J
Roosevelt	7	6	B,C,G,W,L,B
Lincoln	6	7	F,W,B,G,W,M,B
Franklin	3	10	
Madison	3	10	
Marshall	0	13	

### BOYS - FINAL SWIMMING

	W	L	I
Lincoln	8	0	
Benson	7	1	
Wilson	6	2	
Grant	5	3	
Cleveland	4	4	
Franklin	3	5	
Madison	2	6	
Roosevelt	1	7	
Jefferson	0	8	

### GIRLS BASKETBALL

	W	L	TO
Jefferson-M,F,L	14	1	W
Benson-F,W,C	11	4	L,J,G,J
Lincoln-JM,G,J	11	4	W,J,W,B
Wilson*-C,B,G	11	4	J,B,G,JM
Grant-R,L,W	10	5	B,J,L,F,J
Franklin-B,J,JM	8	7	L,W,J,B,G,L,W
Madison-J,JM,R	4	11	
Cleveland-W,R,B	3	12	
Marshall*-L,M,F	2	13	
Roosevelt-G,C,M	1	14	

\*Wilson forfeited to Marshall

### GIRLS - FINAL SWIMMING

	W	L	I
Lincoln	8	0	
Grant	7	1	
Wilson	6	2	
Roosevelt	5	3	
Cleveland	4	3	
Benson	3	5	
Franklin	2	6	
Madison	1	7	
Jefferson	0	8	

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