

Clive Charles: Master Coach of University of Portland

By YEMA MEASHO

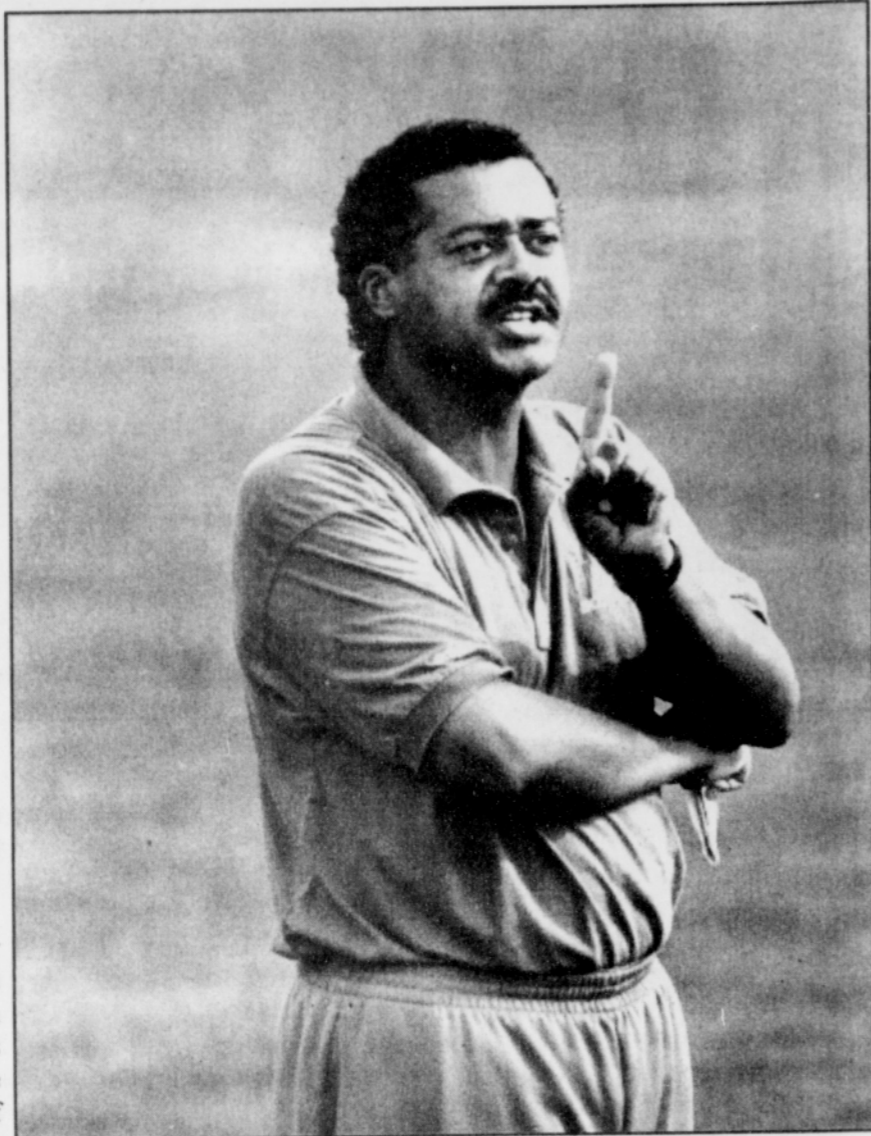
Until a couple of weeks ago, the women's soccer team of the University of Portland was rolling towards the Final Four of the NCAA Tournament before it lost to the University of Carolina. Since 1994, missing the '97 season, the team has enjoyed a tremendous success for four consecutive postseasons by going to the Final Four of the NCAA Tournament.

The men's team has made seven NCAA appearances in the last eight years going to the semifinals in 1988 and '95. Together the men and women's teams have earned nine conference championships and earned 11 NCAA playoff berths in a combined 17 seasons. In 1995, the school managed to get both teams in the finals.

The man behind these teams' success is Clive Charles, the school's director of soccer and head coach for both men and women soccer teams.

A former professional player for West Ham United in England and the Portland Timbers of the North American Soccer League, Charles began his coaching career for the men's team at the University of Portland in 1986. In 1990, he took over the women's program and became the director of soccer, coaching both teams. Since then, Charles has brought respect and success for both teams. He has helped develop the women's team from its infancy to what it has become today. Charles brought to the school not only his experience and love for the game but also recognition and success for the college.

"I don't think we can measure what Clive has brought to the school," said Loren Wohlgenuth, the schools sports information Director. "We have limited resource both in man power, staffing and



Clive Charles, a former professional player for West Ham United in England and the Portland Timbers of the North American Soccer League

money. The attention that soccer has brought to the Athletic department and the university is something we can never buy."

In 1996 Charles was selected to head coach the U.S Men's Olympic Soccer Team. He is also the assistant coach of the Men's National Team. Although some were with his own team, Charles was away from the university for over 200 days last year.

"Every time he goes out, he is Clive Charles, the University of Portland soccer coach in addition to whatever he is doing," says Wohlgenuth. "The easiest way to put it is that he is

a walking billboard." Although the women's team lost to UNC, Charles is proud of what his team was able to accomplish considering the number of injuries.

"Getting kids through, getting them in as freshmen and getting them out as young men and women is very rewarding for me," said Charles. "I see myself as a teacher more so than as coach. Because I like to teach and if their performance is satisfying then the result is secondary, where as the coach mentality the result is everything."



1998 Oregon Holiday Invitational Bracket 1997 Results | Press Release



Oregon Holiday Invitational

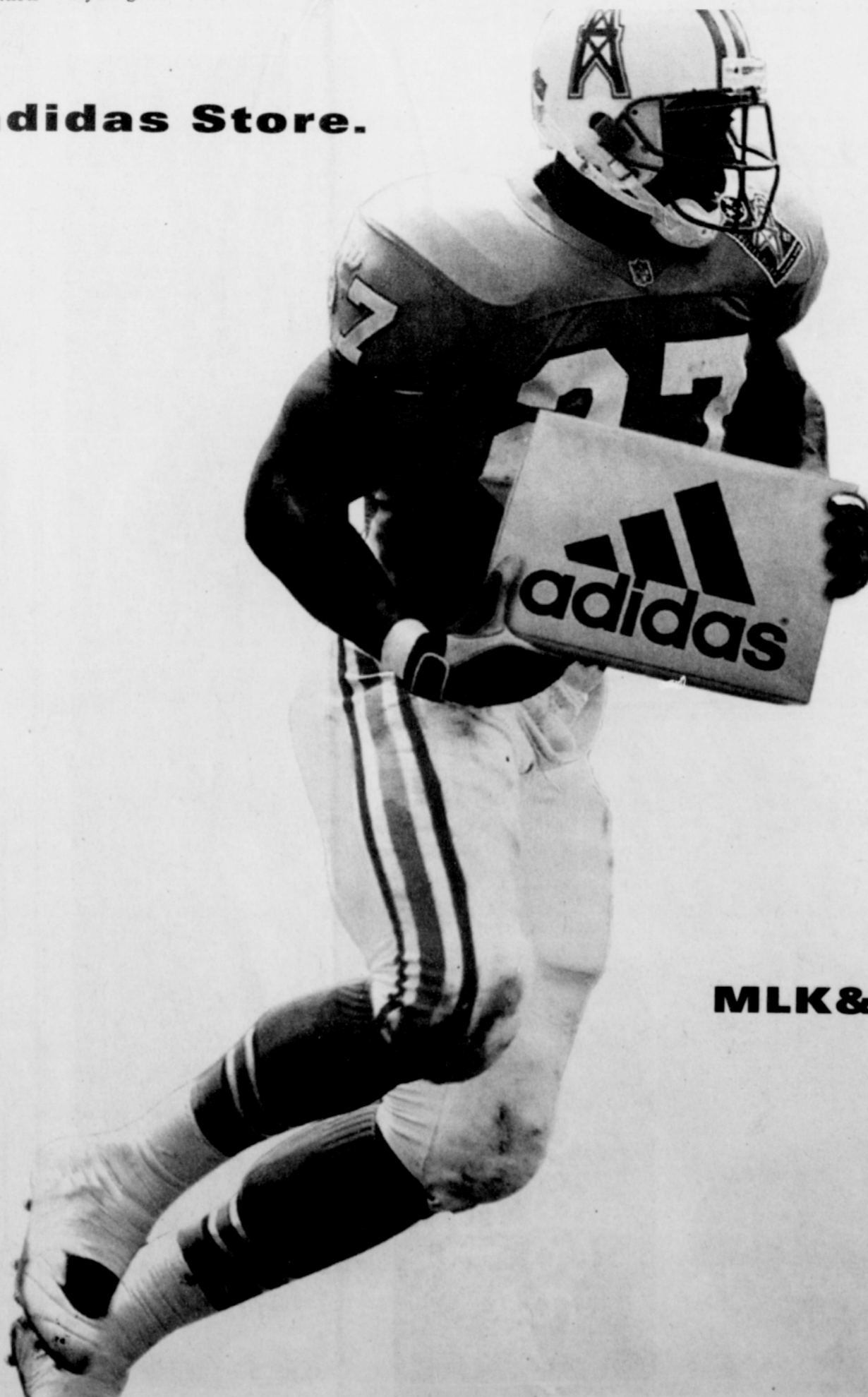
The Les Schwab Oregon Holiday invitational is set for tip-off December 19, 21-23, 1998. This state's only 16 team invitational boys tournament will feature outstanding high school talent from the state of Oregon and around the nation. The talent pool will reflect eight players listed as being within our nation's top 100. Headlining this group are Duke University

signees Michael Dunlevy Jr. and Tampa Prep's Casey Sanders. On the team front 11 of the 13 Oregon entrants are rated in the top 17 by our state's preseason coaches poll while Crenshaw and Lexington Catholic are rated in the nation's top 25 by WestCoastHoops.com

All games will be played at Lewis & Clark College with each day getting

underway at 9:00am. Each team is guaranteed four games. Opening round games will take place Saturday Dec. 19th and Sunday will be an off day. Opening round matchups post-game stats and next round pairings will be posted at www.promax1.com. For additional information contact tournament management at 503-227-1588.

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