

**"Super Matchup"**

No, it's not the Stupor Bowl any more, the game finally has come of age.



See Sports, page B2.

**The Laura Russo Gallery Presents:**

Robert Cloescott; his expressive cartoon like portrayals of American slices of life and thought-provoking images.



See Family, page A6.

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## Federal Retiree Refund Checks To Be Mailed in February

The Oregon Department of Revenue will begin mailing refund checks to eligible U.S. Government retirees and their beneficiaries in mid-to-late February. Currently, the department is readying its process to send checks to federal retirees who paid state taxes on their federal pension from 1991 through 1997.

"From the beginning our goal is to quickly and accurately issue refund checks to federal retirees and their beneficiaries," said Ben Gille of the Oregon Department of Revenue. "At this time, our staff is testing the computer systems to ensure the check amounts are correct."

To receive a check, federal retirees and their beneficiaries must accurately complete and send verification forms provided by the revenue department. If you have not received the forms in the mail, please contact the department's Tax Help unit at (503) 378-4988, or toll-free in Oregon 1-800-356-4222 (January through April only). For TTY (hearing or speech impaired only), the year-round toll-free number within Oregon is 1-800-886-7204. In Salem the number is (503) 945-8617. These numbers are answered by machine only and are not for voice use. Telephone hours are Monday - Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 5:10 p.m., except Wednesday when the hours are 9:00 a.m. to 5:10 p.m.

The forms and instructions also are available on the department's Web site at [www.dor.state.or.us](http://www.dor.state.or.us)

The information needed on the form includes date of retirement, number of months worked before and after October 1, 1991, and federal pension amounts for each affected year. Civilian federal employees who receive a pension from the U.S. Office of Personnel Management and are unsure of their service months may contact the revenue department at the above phone numbers for that information.

## Stoudamire signs \$81 million dollar deal

*"Let Stoudamire run the show, and you have a talent base that compares favorably with any in the league"*

Portland-The Blazers have taken care of their most important business by reaching an agreement with free agent Damon Stoudamire on a seven-year, \$81 million deal that makes him the highest-paid point guard in the NBA. Quick Facts 1997-98 record:46-36 Coach Mike Dunleavy

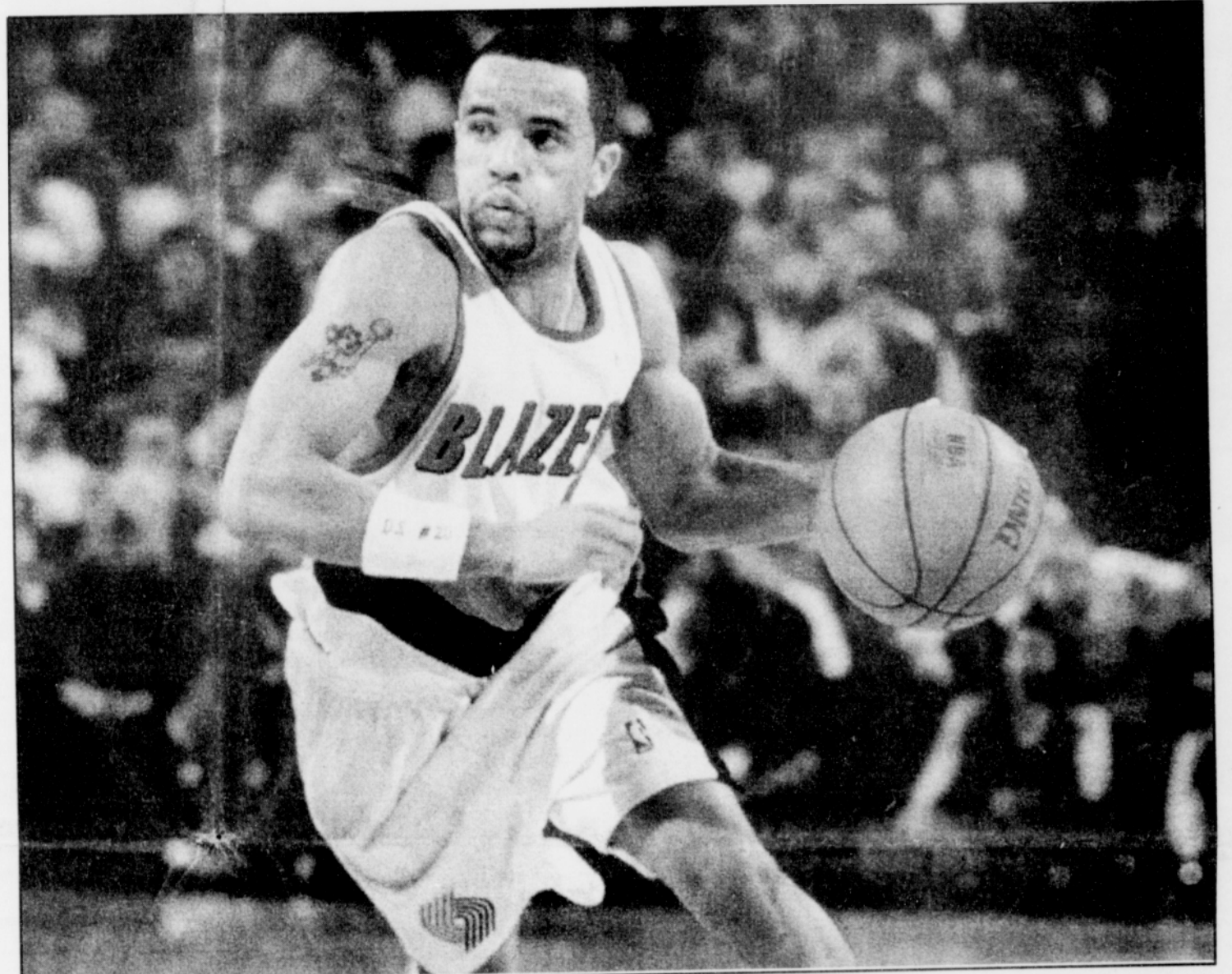
Unsigned rookies: Bonzi Wells  
Returning: Stacey Augmon, Kelvin Cato, John Crotty, Brian Grant, Jermaine O'Neal, Isaiah Rider, Carlos Rogers, Damon Stoudamire, Rasheed Wallace, Walt Williams, Arvydas Sabonis

New faces: None.

Free Agents: None

Next up for the team was re-signing center Arvydas Sabonis, and the Blazers got that done as well. Thursday night Sabonis agreed to a three-year deal that will pay him \$30 million. Portland was also in the running for free agent Dell Curry, who opted to sign with the Milwaukee Bucks.

Arvydas Sabonis and Stoudamire signings are great news for the Blazers, who have exciting young talent, projected to be very good - possibly soon. Michael Jordan's retirement



Portland Trail Blazer Point Guard, Damon Stoudamire

makes just about anything possible but the Blazers are at least a year away from their breakthrough. Getting back to the shape the team was in during the early portion of the decade contending for the NBA title may not be far off. Combine Rasheed Wallace, Brian

Grant, Isaiah Rider, Walt Williams and Stacey Augmon with Sabonis and then let Stoudamire run the show and you have a talent base that compares favorably with any in the league.

It's the mental game that must be conquered for the Blazers to rise and

that may never get done with this current crew. The biggest question is how to maximize Grant and Wallace, who basically play the same position. It just may be to trade one of them and Grant appears the designated man on the move.

## Warren Appointed NIKE Community Affairs Director

Gina A. Warren, a seasoned professional with nearly 15 years of community affairs, foundation and corporate responsibility experience, has been appointed director of community affairs at NIKE, effective immediately.

Warren will lead and manage the NIKE community affairs team," said Maria Eitel, NIKE vice president for corporate responsibility. "She brings to the position a diversified background which includes work in the area of corporate philanthropy, foundations, public affairs, business operations and human resources. This combination of experience will be a much welcome asset as we embark on an aggressive plan to focus NIKE's community outreach activities."

Warren comes to NIKE from Levi Strauss & Co. in San Francisco where

she had been director of community affairs for the Americas, and director of contributions at the Levi Strauss Foundation since 1993. In that capacity, she managed the company's \$15 million social investment program for the region. She also served as advisor to the company's senior management, and foundation board on business and social issues.

Prior to Levi Strauss & Co., Warren was vice president of the AT&T Foundation (New York and Los Angeles). In that capacity, Warren managed the foundation's grants budget for national and regional health and human services non-profit organizations.

Warren received her masters and bachelor's degrees of arts in education from Arizona State University. She succeeds Doug Stamm, who left NIKE in August 1998. ■



## THE WEEK IN REVIEW

### Impeachment Proceedings

The Senate has entered its third week of proceedings where a modest witness list was proposed by Republicans of the House and Senate. Monica Lewinsky was interviewed recently by House managers and was considered a good witness to help the Senate "determine the truth."

### Olympic Committee Scandal

Six officials tried to avoid expulsion in the largest financial scandal involving the Olympics. There are as many as 11 members that were given the choice of resigning or being suspended and eventually expelled. They were charged with misusing Olympic

funds totaling an estimated three-quarter of a million dollars.

### Social Security Plan

President Clinton pressed Congress to begin contributing \$33 billion a year to a new system of retirement accounts for American workers. This was his first proposal to have the Federal Government to invest for the first time in the stock market to strengthen social security. His plan was delivered as a report during the State of the Union address.

### Legal Immigrant Aid

The Clinton administration released their

plan that would allow legal immigrants to receive a \$1.3 billion medical and food-stamps benefit package. The change is part of a revision in the welfare laws. It is projected to help cover at least 132,000 ethnic people for the next five years.

### Costly Prescription Drugs

The cost of out-of-pocket prescription drugs has increased dramatically. Even standard co-payments have doubled for drugs that patients have been using for years. Many drugs that are deemed nonessential and don't appear on insurers' lists of approved drugs such as those for male impotence, baldness or wrinkles are even more expensive. Presi-

dent Clinton wants "affordable prescription drugs" to be included in a restructured Medicare program.

### Golden Globe Award

The Golden Globe award for best motion picture musical or comedy went to "Shakespeare in Love" and the best dramatic movie went to "Saving Private Ryan". Some award recipients included Cate Blanchett in "Elizabeth", Jim Carrey of "The Truman Show" and Ed Harris for best supporting actor. Jack Nicholson was presented with the Cecil B. De Mille Award for lifetime achievement.