



Metro/Sports

Title game ends L.A.'s too long wait

ASSOCIATED PRESS

So this is how it looks. The big man hugs his mother and weeps. The bright kid jumps on a table and bounces. Through a fine mist of a purple-and-gold confetti snowstorm, a city dances around them. So this is how it sounds. A train rolling through Staples Center, an airplane landing outside, different accents, varied tongues, one three-hour, deafening, glorious noise. "I love L.A.," croons the singer. "We love it!" shouts the town. So this is how it feels, after 12 long years, to again live in a place where a professional sports team takes the very best of that place and captures the globe with it.

From a kneeling Orel Hershiser in 1988 to a leaping Shaquille O'Neal on Monday, the faintly flickering torch has been passed.

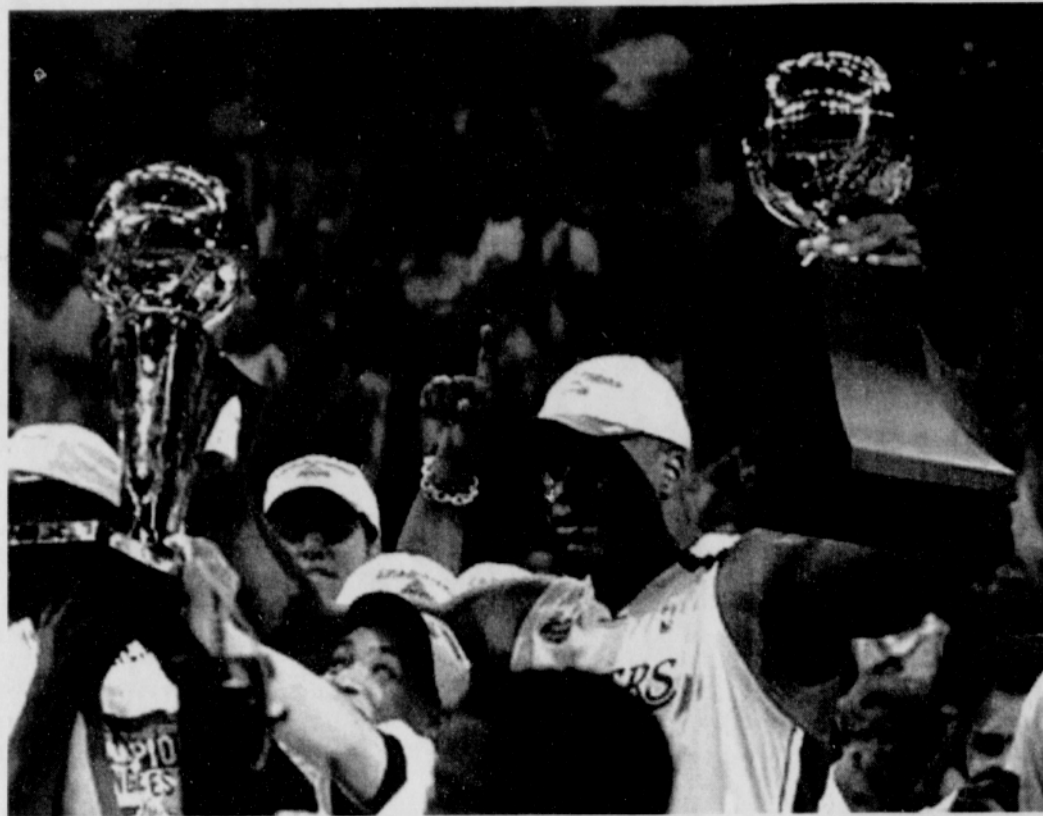
Today it burns deeply again in the spirit of a town that has been brought together through two words that work in any accent, any language, any neighborhood.

World champions.

So describes the Lakers after their 116-111 victory over the Indiana Pacers in Game 6 of the NBA finals Monday gave them a four-games-to-two series win. It was this city's first professional sports championship since the Dodgers won the 1988 World Series, a period marked.

World champions.

Idiot's tried to ruin it afterward as idiot's usually do, with a disturbance in the streets. But it is hoped those images do not last, and will not stain



Los Angeles Lakers' Shaquille O'Neal hoists the NBA Championship trophy, left, and his MVP trophy after the Lakers won the NBA Championship over the Indiana Pacers Monday, June 19, 2000 in Los Angeles. The Lakers won the game 16-111.

a triumph for the other 99.9%. With 18,997 screaming in the Staples Center, and thousands more watching on a giant screen outside, the Lakers created a new reality for a place usually brought together under vastly different circumstances.

This time, the earthquake was O'Neal, who bulled through the Pacer defense for 41 points before tenderly embracing.

"Those were tears of joy," he said later. "I just want to thank this city for being so patient with me." The mudslide was Kobe Bryant, whose intensity blanketed the Pacers before his 21-year-old boyishness landed him on a table. "Man, I didn't know champagne hurt so much when it got in your eyes," he said smilingly, typically.

And the smog? It was everyone else,

a group usually considered bit players, but on this night penetrating everywhere, with important 3-point baskets from Robert Horry and Rick Fox and free throws from Glen Rice. "This one is for the city," said guard Derek Fisher. "They have been through so much with us... from the top of the mountain to the bottom of the San Fernando Valley. This is for them."

Sydney Olympics gets \$140 million in funding

BLOOMBERG

The New South Wales State government will provide an additional \$140 million (\$84.8 million) in funding for the Sydney Olympic Games, the Australian Associated Press reported. The additional funding includes \$50 million for immediate use to cover revenue shortfalls and cost blowouts in sponsorship revenue, expanding telephone ticket sales, higher ticket distribution costs and an increase in the number of ceremonies, the agency said. Some A\$70 million of the funding will replace a A\$50 million contingency fund, which has already been spent, the report said.

When he released the New South Wales state budget May 23, Treasurer Michael Egan said all costs for hosting the Olympic Games were paid, adding the government plans to use international interest in the Olympics, provide long-term backing for the state's economy.

Schonely from page 1

rally generator, a three-pointer against the clock, a momentum maker. In 1977, the Schonzy was selected Oregon's SportsCaster of the Year by a panel of National Sportscasters and Sportswriters.

Three years earlier, he was named Oregon Broadcaster of the Year by the Oregon Association of Broadcasters, which has established a scholarship in Bill's name to be presented annually to a deserving college student who is pursuing a career in broadcast journalism. In 1999, Schonely became the first broadcaster to be inducted into the Oregon Sports Hall of Fame. For several years, he has served as master of ceremonies for the Hall of Fame's annual induction gala. Schonely's broadcasting career is thoroughly detailed in his biography, "Wherever You May Be—The Bill Schonely Story." Published in 1998, and written by Oregonian sportswriter Kerry Eggers, the book serves as a documentary of Trail Blazer basketball. It is available at book stores throughout Oregon.

Highly visible in Portland and throughout the state, Schonely regularly lends his support to a variety of charitable causes, such as those sponsored by the American Heart Association, the Life Flight program and M.D.A. Charities. He serves on the board of directors of Emanuel Hospital.

In 1998, Providence Child Care Center foundation honored Schonely with its annual Heart of Gold Award, which goes to individuals who have improved the lives of children with special needs in a positive way through advocacy and action. The Hearing and Speech Institute of Oregon also has honored Schonely with a "roast." And he began the new century by serving as holiday chairman for the National Kidney Foundation of Oregon and Washington. Last summer, Schonzy fulfilled another fantasy goal when he was invited by James DePriest, music director of the Oregon symphony, to guest conduct the orchestra during an outdoor concert in Portland's Tom McCall Waterfront Park.

On April 30, 1998, when Schonely put the wrap on his 28 year-career of calling Trail Blazer basketball games, he ended with his patented signoff:

"Wherever, you may be... Good Night Everybody!"

But it clearly wasn't a "goodbye." As one of the golden voices of 20th century radio, Schonely continues his career in the new Millenium with some sage advice to his ardent fans about how to succeed in life.

"You've got to make your free throws," he says.

Monica Hoffman tops 4A again

ASSOCIATED PRESS

It was a bittersweet season for Monica Hoffman. The Central Catholic High School senior pitcher had one of the most dominant seasons in state history. She did not give up a run until there were two outs in the final inning of the final game of the season. And although that run, which gave North Eugene a 1-0 win in the state title game, cost Hoffman and the Rams their second straight Class 4A title, it did not stop Hoffman from winning her second straight player of the year award. Hoffman, who was the player of the year after leading the Rams to the state title last year, won the award again in a vote of coaches around the state.

"Winning the award last year made

me work harder this year," Hoffman said. "Whenever you win an award, people are going to come out and try to beat you. It was the same thing for our team this season."

Hoffman transferred to Central Catholic from Prairie High in Brush Prairie, Wash., after her sophomore year and instantly was the top pitcher in the state. Last season, she finished 16-1 with 297 strikeouts, including 17 in the 1-0 eight-inning win over North Eugene in the title game. She was 25-1 this season. Over two seasons, Hoffman compiled a 41-2 record with 635 strikeouts and a 0.09 earned-run average.

Hoffman has signed a letter of intent with Oregon State. She will join 1996 player of the year Crystal Draper of Hood River Valley on the Beavers'

pitching staff. Meeting North Eugene in two straight title games was like a passing of the torch between Hoffman and North Eugene pitcher Amy Harris.

Harris, who got the win in this year's championship game, is the only sophomore on the all-state first team, and with North Eugene's upset of the Rams in the title game, Harris and the Highlanders are already the team to beat next year.

"I thought with the outcome of the championship game that Amy might get (player of the year)," Hoffman said. "She was pretty dominant against us." Harris was 16-1 this year and struck out 15 in the final. She and Hoffman are the only repeat first-team selections from last season. North Eugene's Mike Jodoin was

selected coach of the year for the first time in a career that goes back to when softball became an Oregon School Activities Association-sanctioned sport in 1979.

This was Jodoin's 19th season as North Eugene coach, and the state title was his first. "It's quite an honor," he said. "But our success has a lot more to do with my assistants and my players. It's kind of an honor for your whole school."

2000 PORTLAND FIRE SCHEDULE



MAY, 2000 (Preseason)

14 Sun Utah 6:00pm
26 Fri at Minnesota 5:00pm

MAY, 2000 (Regular Season)

31 Wed Houston 7:00pm

JUNE, 2000

3 Sat at Seattle 7:00pm
KPTV 6 Tues at Los Angeles 7:30pm

8 Thurs Utah 7:00pm

13 Tues Phoenix 7:00pm

14 Wed at Phoenix 7:00pm

17 Sat Los Angeles 7:00pm

20 Tues Charlotte 7:00pm

Lifetime 23 Fri Seattle 6:00pm

KPTV 25 Sun at Sacramento 7:00pm

28 Wed Cleveland 7:00pm

30 Fri at Houston 6:30pm

JULY, 2000

2 Sun at Minnesota 3:00pm

3 Mon at Indiana 6:30pm

KPTV 5 Wed at New York 4:30pm

JULY, 2000 (continued)

7 Fri Sacramento 7:00pm

9 Sun Washington 7:00pm

KPTV 11 Tues at Los Angeles 7:30pm

12 Wed at Utah 6:00pm*

14 Fri Minnesota 7:00pm

19 Wed at Miami 6:30pm

21 Fri at Charlotte 6:30pm

KPTV 23 Sun at Minnesota 3:00pm

24 Mon at Detroit 6:30pm

26 Wed Sacramento 7:00pm

28 Fri Indiana 7:00pm

30 Sun Orlando 7:00pm

AUGUST, 2000

1 Tues Miami 7:00pm

4 Fri Houston 7:00pm

KPTV 6 Sun at Seattle 5:00pm

7 Mon at Utah 6:00pm*

9 Wed Phoenix 7:00pm



Car Wash



Saturday, JUNE 24th

And

Saturday, JULY 1st

10am-2pm

4747 NE MLK

PORTLAND OBSERVER

OR

3034 NE MLK

NORTHEAST ONE STOP

CAREER CENTER

Help support the Home team!