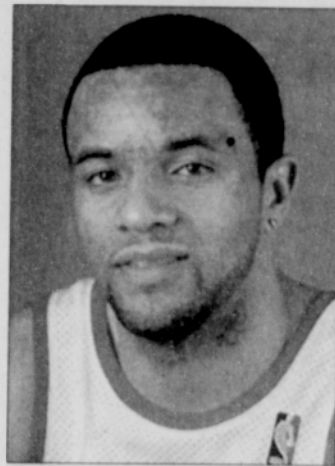


SPORTS



Damon Stoudamire

Community Assist Winner Stoudamire honored for helping kids

Trail Blazer guard and Portland native Damon Stoudamire is being honored for his civic involvement in helping kids as the NBA's Community Assist Award winner for October.

Stoudamire was recently on hand for the grand opening of the Albina Head Start McCormack Matthews center serving north and northeast Portland, co-named after Stoudamire's grandmother, Wanda Matthews.

With his \$250,000 donation that was matched by the Trail Blazers, Albina Head Start put Mrs. Matthews name on the building in Damon's honor.

Stoudamire has been a long-time supporter of the local Head Start, adopting a classroom each Christmas to provide gifts and clothes for the preschoolers and their families, visiting classrooms and donating game tickets.

Additionally, Stoudamire has partnered with Schoolhouse Supplies for five years to help them with their mission of collecting and distributing supplies for both teachers and students in low-income schools.

"I have been blessed with the opportunity to spend a great portion of my career in the town I grew up in. There are a lot of people in the Portland community who have helped me along the way," said Stoudamire.

As the recipient of the NBA Community Assist Award, Stoudamire will receive the David Robinson Plaque, with the inscription "Following the standard set by NBA Legend David Robinson who improved the community piece by piece."

PIL Player of the Year

Benson senior Amanda Boggan goes far

Add another honor to Benson senior Amanda Boggan's list of achievements: PIL player of the year.

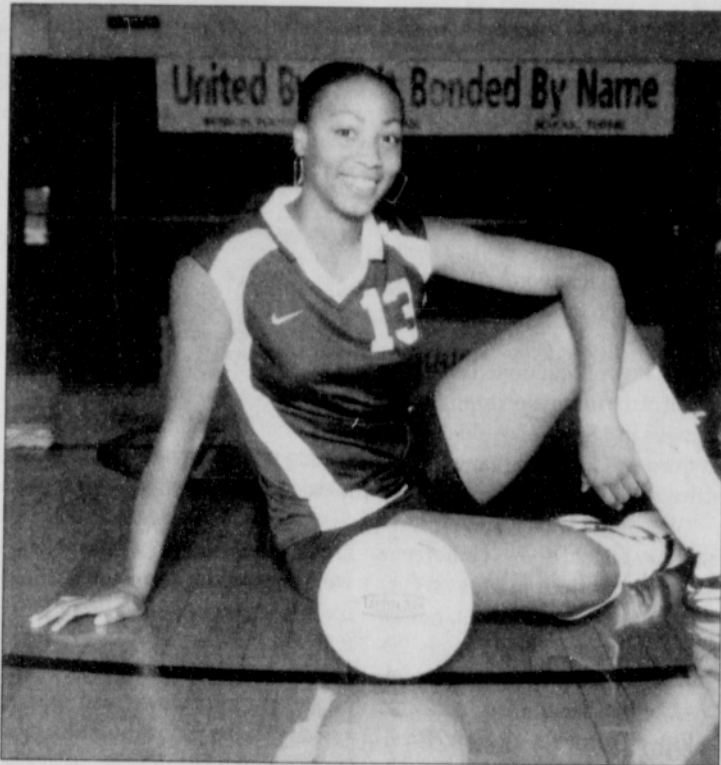
Boggan, a 5-foot-9 outside hitter earned that title in volleyball when she led her team to an 18-0 win for the Portland Interscholastic League's title for the fourth time in five years.

Volleyball isn't even Boggan's main sport. She admits softball is her favorite and has been singled out in that sport for her range and skill. She has been a first team all-PIL pick in softball for the last two seasons.

Besides being a standout leaper, Boggan also runs at a state level, though she has not joined Benson's track team in exchange for successful seasons in softball, volleyball and even basketball.

Boggan was a second team all-PIL pick last winter for Benson's basketball team.

But the quality of Boggan's volleyball game had set up Benson for a PIL championship title. Benson and Lincoln were the only PIL teams



Benson senior Amanda Boggan is PIL Player of the Year for volleyball.

competing in last weekend's 16-team state tournament at the University of Portland's Chiles Center.

Benson's hopes for a state championship title were lost when it suffered defeats by Roseburg and Reynolds.

But Boggan's individual titles should take her far. She is considering a college career in softball at Grambling State University in Louisiana.

A well rounded student, she holds a 3.67 grade point average.

Kansas Tops in Basketball Poll

First No. 1 start since Chamberlain

(AP) Kansas stood atop The Associated Press' Top 25 on Monday, the 13th straight season the Jayhawks have been ranked 11th or higher in the first poll, but the school's first preseason No. 1 ranking since a player named Wilt Chamberlain suited up for the Jayhawks in the 1950s.

Kansas received 25 first-place votes and 1,697 points from the national media panel, edging Wake Forest, which had 22 first-place votes and 1,680 points.

Four starters are back for Kansas, which lost to Georgia Tech in the NCAA tournament's regional finals last season. The Jayhawks were ranked No. 1 for one week last season and they have been ranked No. 2 in five of the last 12 preseason polls.

They hope they can do even better than the last time they were No. 1 in the preseason: In 1956-57, Chamberlain led them to the national championship game, a triple-



Kansas guard Aaron Miles, a former Jefferson High School player, joins Kansas coach Bill Self and referee Steve Welmer during Sunday's exhibition game against Emporia State in Lawrence, Kan.

overtime loss to North Carolina.

As for Wake Forest, it has all five starters back from the team that lost to Saint Joseph's in the round of 16.

Georgia Tech and North Carolina were third and fourth in the balloting. Illinois was fifth. Syracuse was sixth, followed by Oklahoma State, defending national

champion Connecticut, Kentucky and Arizona.

After Duke came Mississippi State, Michigan State, Louisville, Maryland, Texas, Pittsburgh, Alabama, North Carolina State and Notre Dame.

The last five teams in the poll were Wisconsin, Washington, Florida, Memphis and Gonzaga.

ABA TEAM Ready for Tip-off

It was absolutely a goal of mine that this team would field as many local talents as we could because I'm a strong believer that there's a tremendous amount of basketball skill and talent in the Pacific Northwest.

-Mary Liss, Portland Reign founding partner

continued from Front

city of Cincinnati, John Outlaw, related to Trail Blazer Travis Outlaw, Brandon Payton of Oregon State University, Mike McShane from South Salem High and Ha Seung-Jin, the first player drafted from South Korea.

Liss says the high amount of local talent composing the team is by design.

"It was absolutely a goal of

mine that this team would field as many local talents as we could because I'm a strong believer that there's a tremendous amount of basketball skill and talent in the Pacific Northwest," she said.

The inaugural season of 18 home games begins on Thursday, Nov. 18 and Saturday, Nov. 20 against the Fresno Heatwave.

For tickets and more information, call 503-885-9299 or visit www.theportlandreign.com.

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