

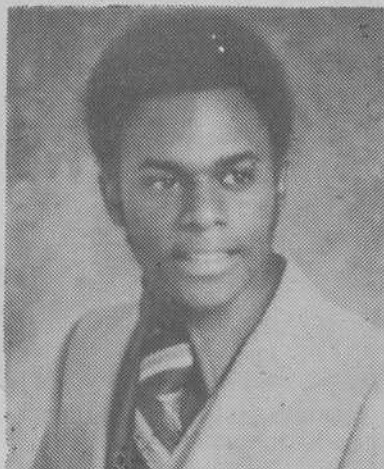
# SPORTS BOARD

SPORTS, GAMING, HORSERACING

JUNE 23, 1983



## KEN'S COMMENTS



By Ken Wilson

Should you happen to be one of those lucky persons currently making plans to attend the 1984 Summer Olympics in Los Angeles, one of the hottest selling tickets undoubtedly will be that of the track and field events.

Recent outings by America's brightest individuals in the sport, makes the U.S. one of several favorites along with the U.S.S.R., Cuba, and West Germany, to collect several gold medals during the summer games.

A list of stars is headed by Carl Lewis, one of the world's top athletes. He'll be joined by the likes of world-class hurdler Edwin Moses, record-setting sprinter Evelyn Ashford, plus America's distance hopefuls, Mary Decker and Steve Scott and many other top individual performers.

This past weekend during the U.S. Track and Field Championships, Lewis, a native of Willingboro, N.J., continued to establish himself as one of the dominating forces in the sport by capturing first place in a trio of events. After placing first in both the 100 and 200-meter races, Lewis then scored a jump of 28-10 1/2 inches for the top spot in the long jump event.

Soon all of the talk will be finished. All of the last minute trading and wondering surrounding the upcoming NBA college draft will be a thing of the past.

Yet, even with all of the uncertainty connected with the 1983 draft, there is still one sure beat: the next NBA \$2 million dollar baby will stand 7-foot-4. This is not to say that Karreem Abdul-Jabbar, who is currently seeking the big money also, won't get his, but when the Houston Rockets make Ralph Sampson the first pick on June 28th, he will immediately become the highest paid rookie in the leagues' history.

Locally, the NBA draft presents an opportunity for employment also. Las Vegas has played a significant role in the development of several players who are looking towards a career in professional basketball.

UNLV has two hopefuls in 6-9 Sidney Green and 6-6 Larry Anderson, both four-year starters for Jerry Tarkanian's Runnin' Rebels. Also, 6-9 Pace Mannion, a former Chaparral High School standout before a sparkling four-year career at Utah where he concluded his collegiate career with a stellar NCAA postseason tournament performance.

Green, who finished his UNLV career by helping the Rebels achieve a number 1 ranking in the wire polls while going 28-3 during the season, averaged 22.1 points and 11.9 rebounds per game. Green is currently projected as one of the players to be picked in the first ten. Both Mannion and Anderson could go near and the end of the first round or

## LARRY HOLMES - MARVIS FRAZIER FIGHT LOOMS FOR SEPTEMBER

Marvis Frazier will fight Larry Holmes for the heavyweight title only if two conditions are met, Joe Verne, who holds promotional rights to Frazier, said Tuesday.

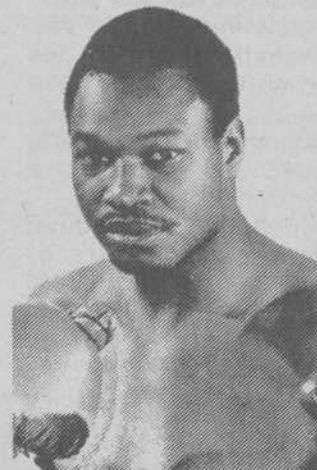
Verne, responding to a report that Holmes would fight Frazier on Sept. 30, said that Marvis, son of former heavyweight champion

Joe Frazier, would have to be guaranteed \$1 million and that he, Verne, would have to be co-promoter.

"I have exclusive promotional rights to all the Fraziers," said Verne, referring to heavyweight Rodney Frazier and middleweight Mark Frazier, both nephews of the

former champion, and sons Marvis and junior welterweight Joe Jr.

Holmes said Monday he has signed a \$3.1 million contract to defend his World Boxing



Larry Holmes

Council heavyweight title against Marvis on Sept. 30 in a fight to be promoted by Murad Muhammad of Secaucus, N.J., and Robert Andreoli of Providence, R.I.

"Murad called me yesterday (Monday), and I told him no fight unless Joe Verne co-promoted," Verne said. "We want to

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fight in November, and the networks want it then because it's a ratings period.

"Larry says between Sept. 23 and Oct. 15. We can close it, make a deal if they meet my conditions. Otherwise Larry will need somebody to fight. He has to get the networks to accept his dates."

Verne also said he had a commitment to Bob Arum of Top Rank Inc., and would include Arum in the Frazier end of the deal.

early in the second.

After Houston, which owns the first pick, the second choice belongs to the Indiana Pacers who have already indicated they will select Missouri's 6-11 Steve Stipanovich to man the frontcourt along with former Ohio State stars Clark Kellogg and Herb Williams. The Rockets also own the No. 3 pick and are said to be searching for a top-notch small forward. After Houston the remaining teams have their own special needs and preferences.

Here is a brief glance at the positions and the top players projected to fill these positions on an NBA roster next season:

-After Ralph Sampson, Virginia's prize prospect, the talent at the pivot position greatly diminishes. Missouri's 6-11 Steve Stipanovich (18.4, 8.8) and Minnesota center Randy Breuer, who stands 7-3 and averaged 20.4 points a game and 8.9 rebounds in a tough Big 10 conference, are generally seen as the only true centers available in the draft. Other top centers include, Mark West, a 6-10 performer from Old Dominion, and 6-11 Greg Kite of BYU.

Sunday past, the Las Vegas Stars had a very good reason to celebrate, The Stars, owners of a 44-25 record became the first league team to capture a division title first.

By virtue of placing first in the initial portion of the Pacific Coast League, Las Vegas automatically qualifies for the playoffs, regardless of the outcome of the second half of the season.

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