

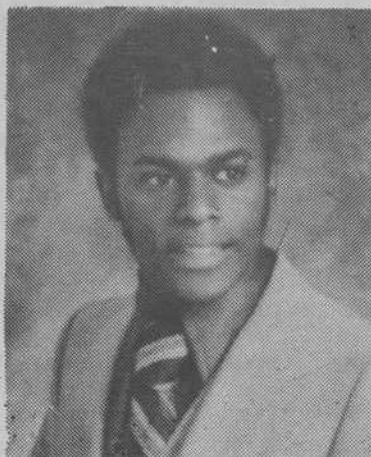
SPORTS BOARD

SPORTS, GAMING, HORSERACING

June 20, 1985



KEN'S COMMENTS



By Ken Wilson

The Lakers' sneakers have yet to cool off as Los Angeles was recently crowned National Basketball Association champions, but already the league is in consensus that the future is already at hand.

Good things appear to be in store for the NBA as Tuesday's 1985 draft presented a limitless amount of standout athletes as this year's collegiate talent pool is the deepest in the last decade.

The NBA's first draft lottery held last month took away most of the suspense as Georgetown's Patrick Ewing will be tabbed as the first pick by New York. They acquiring the right by winning the lottery.

The six other non-playoff teams pick in the following order in the initial round: Indiana Pacers, Los Angeles Clippers, Seattle SuperSonics, Atlanta Hawks, Sacramento Kings, and the Golden State Warriors.

Indiana, which owns the second pick, should determine the way other teams choose in the first round, however, regardless of position each club should be able to go for true need instead of the best available theory.

League officials all agree that the quality of players that will be entering the NBA could set the stage for a new era in pro basketball in the same fashion as did Larry Bird and Magic Johnson.

While some may need adjustment time or be a project, other players should be able to step in and make an impact right away.

It is said to win a title in the NBA a club must have a big man in the middle, and this year there is no shortage of centers to be picked. After Ewing, there are at least eight giants up for grabs, most of them over 7-feet tall.

Scouts and general managers alike have tabbed several as top prospects: Benoit Benjamin, 7-0 Creighton postman, 7-0 Jon Koncak of SMU, 6-11 Joe Kleine of Arkansas, St. John's 7-0 Bill Wenninton, and 7-2 Uwe Blab of Indiana.

Other possibilities include: 7-2 Blair Rasmussen of Oregon, 7-2 Nick Vanos of Santa Clara, 6-11 Yvon Joseph of Georgia Tech, and a long shot in 7-6 Manute Bol from Sudan.

A brief look at other top players by position: power forwards — 6-9 Wayman Tisdale of Oklahoma, 6-9 Karl Malone of Louisiana Tech, 6-10 Keith Lee of Memphis State, and Ed Pinckney of Villanova.

Small forwards — St. John's 6-6 Chris Mullin, 6-9 Dettlef Schrempf of Washington, and 6-8 Xavier McDaniel from Wichita State.

Point guards — Sam Vincent, 6-2 of Michigan State, Joe Dumars, 6-3 of McNeese State, and Terry Porter, 6-3 of Wisconsin Point.

Shooting guards — 6-8 Adrian Branch of Maryland,

On Separate Bills Hagler, Hearn set for Caesars Nov. 14

Marvin Hagler and Thomas Hearn are coming back to Caesars Palace in November.

It's almost set for Hagler and Hearn to return to Caesars Palace on Nov. 14 in another big outdoor promotion.

But it won't be Hagler and Hearn in a rematch of their April 15 extravaganza at Caesars. They'll be in separate bouts with Hagler defending his undisputed world middleweight championship against John "The Beast" Mugabi and Hearn putting his World Boxing Council super welterweight (aka junior middleweight) crown against James Shuler.

The fight card, to be promoted by Bob Arum's Top Rank, Inc., isn't official yet, but it is all but set.

Bob Halloran, the corporate director of sports for Caesars World, cautiously said, "We haven't signed yet. We are working on finalizing contracts. We expect to have an official announcement within the next month. I would say that Caesars is optimistic."

Halloran said the Nov. 14 card would be held in the same 15,000-seat outdoor stadium as was used for the Hagler-Hearn biggie.

As for the television rights, Halloran said, "I believe Arum is planning to go closed circuit with it."

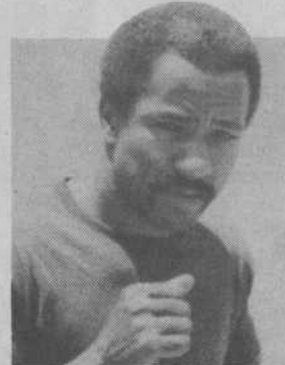
Hagler's opponent, Mugabi, is a native of Uganda who has been guided by British promoter-manager Mickey Duff. The 25-year-old Mugabi is the World Boxing Council No. 1 super welterweight contender. But the undefeated Mugabi, who has been fighting out of Tampa, Fla., will be moving up to the middleweight division for this fight.

6-5 Alfrederick Hughes of Loyola (Ill.), and Steve Harris, Tulsa's all-time leading scorer.

Horace Shufford takes 25th win on Don King card

Horace Shufford, Las Vegas, the WBC's No. 1 welterweight contender, ran his record to 25-2-1 with a unanimous 10-round decision over Efen Olivo, Harlington, Texas, in a support bout on promoter Don King's premier boxing card last Saturday at the Riviera Hotel.

Shufford, born in Danville, Virginia some 32 years ago, came to Las Vegas during



Horace Shufford

1976 to move up into the professional ranks. At that time, he carried a 7-0 amateur record. His first professional fight was held at the Silver Slipper on those famous Wednesday night cards.

At present he is ranked at the No. 1 NBC contender and slated as No. 7 by the WBA.

"I want to continue fighting until I win the big one," said Shufford.

NEW TOWN LAVERN AND CASINO

Las Vegas, Nev.



Proudly Presents

PAPER BAG & CO.

Those sexy Men of Sound

from St. Louis, Mo.

4 Shows Nightly - Doors open at 11:00 p.m.

Absolutely No Cover Charge Lighted Parking 24 hour Security

THURSDAY thru SUNDAY

Ladies Night, Thursday, June 20

Free to ladies:

Chicken Wings, Hors d'Ouvres

and there will be Free Drawings

Video Poker | Join the action | Slots

600 W. Jackson 647-3995 Open 24 Hours

Corner "F" & Jackson

Free Drink Coupon For Players