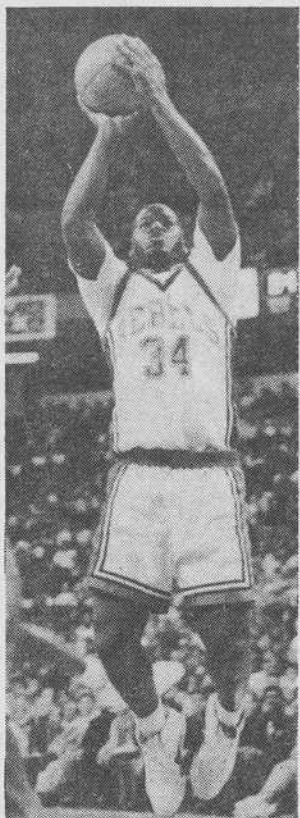


SPORTS BRIEFS



FORMER RUNNIN' REBEL IN TROUBLE WITH THE LAW

Former UNLV star Isiah Rider and his Portland Trailblazer teammate Gary Trent are facing legal troubles. Rider recently pleaded no contest in a California Court to a misdemeanor charge of possessing four illegal cellular phones. Rider, a one-time University of Nevada, Las Vegas standout, faces up to 18 months probation, 100 hours of community service and a fine of up to \$3,500. No trial date was set for Trent who pleaded innocent to a fourth-degree assault charge in Portland, Ore.

CHIEF CALLING IT QUILTS AFTER 21 SEASONS

Robert Parish, affectionately known as the "Chief," announced his retirement Monday. After winning four NBA titles and appearing in more games than any other player, Parish decided to call it quits. Twenty-one seasons ago, Parish was a young rookie picked eighth overall in the 1976 draft. Little did anyone know that he would go on to play in a record 1,611 NBA games, averaging 14.5 points and 9.1 rebounds. He has also played with two of the game's greatest players, Michael Jordan and Larry Bird. Last season, Parish added a fourth NBA title (as a Chicago Bull) to the three he won as a Boston Celtic. But Parish urged people not to let the last title fool anyone, he said he'll always be a Celtic at heart.

76ER PLEADS NO CONTEST TO WEAPONS CHARGE

Philadelphia 76ers Allen Iverson pleaded no contest Tuesday to carrying a concealed weapon. He faces three years probation and monthly drug testing for two years. In a plea agreement, the marijuana possession charge was dropped. A marijuana cigarette had been found in the vehicle where the gun was discovered. Under the agreement the second-year NBA star must undergo monthly drug testing for two years and cannot own a gun during that time. After the 10-minute hearing in Virginia's New Kent County General District Court, neither Iverson nor his attorneys would comment. Philadelphia 76ers president Pat Croce also left the courtroom without commenting. Last year, Iverson won the NBA's Rookie of the Year award.



IVERSON

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TRACK ICON ENDS LEGENDARY COMPETITIVE CAREER

Carl Lewis capped off his track and field career Tuesday night the way he ended most of his competitions, in victory. In his final competitive race, Lewis anchored a world-class relay team to victory in the 400-meter relay to end the night at the ISTAF Grand Prix meet in Berlin. Lewis is considered by many to be the greatest track athlete in history. He won nine Olympic gold medals, eight world titles and set numerous world records. He went unbeaten for nearly a decade in the long jump. The crowd of nearly 60,000 fans gave Lewis a standing ovation.



CARL LEWIS

Lyons

(Continued from Page 19)

million in debt. Our college in Nashville had no heat, and was about to be foreclosed on. When I took over we were able to renovate the dormitories, add heat and take care of our college. We reduced the debt to \$3.7 million.

The Sunday School Publishing Board has now paid all of its bills, cleared up back debts with the IRS and for the first time is showing a profit. Instead of pastors trying to carry the added burden of running the center, we now have 10-12 workers; full-time insurance for ministers and a pastors retirement plan.

Q: You've been described by some black clergy as power-hungry and pompous and headed for this fall from grace. How do you respond?

A: I've never thought of myself as power-hungry. I may have been relentless in my pursuit to become president, but my spirit is totally humble. I have never been pompous. When I see and hear about this in the media, I don't see me. I have never thought of myself as living a lavish lifestyle. I'm not about that.

Q: How are Mrs. Lyons and your children fairing?

A: We are closer than we've ever been before. My wife seems to be the stronger one through all this and it often seems she is holding me up. The children are doing quite well. Out of the five of us, I'm the least one who seems to be handling this well. It's very stressful.

With hindsight, I realize that some of the decisions that I made were errors. I should have said "no" when I said, "yes." I have admitted to the board that I made some errors trying to help out a friend. But I was never a diamond-wearing, woman-chasing wimp.

Q: When the word "apologize" keeps coming up what do you think the public means by this?

A: My world is the church. We don't handle our business in the media. I am not a public official, I was elected by the church. I have apologized over and over to the church and the National Baptist Convention's Board of Directors. I have apologized over and over to the world, but everything I have said has been so twisted and distorted. They put their own spin and slant on it.

Q: What were some of the concerns of the board and church members?

A: The members had some moral concerns. They can't have a leader having (illicit relations) with women. They were also concerned about the house and cars and any convention funds being used. I presented documentation to prove no convention funds were ever used.

Q: As the leader of the Baptist Convention, how do you plan to bring back integrity to your office and to the group? Has resignation been considered?

A: Resignation has not been considered. There is a lot of rebuilding that has to be done, a lot of healing that has to take place. My integrity has been shot to pieces. But I have to live on this planet until I die. I want to live that life as an honorable man.

Q: Do you feel that you have the board's support?

A: I honestly feel that I have the support of the board, in light of how they have been bombarded by the *St. Petersburg Press*.

Q: What about your previous marriages?

A: I have been married to my wife for 25 years and I just forgot about those marriages. Both were for a very short period of time. I never lived with my second wife after the marriage.

Q: What about the two children that you are said to have fathered out of wedlock?

A: With Marty, his mother and I are very good friends. I was not living here at the time and when I did come to town, sometimes I would call her and sometimes I wouldn't. I don't know if he is my child or not, but if his mother ever needed anything and I had it, I gave it to her.

Q: What about the young woman who lives in Boca Baton?

A: I was a student at Bethune-Cookman in 1963, when I was confronted with the news of the pregnancy. Her parents met

with my parents in Gainesville, and they talked for three hours. Finally, I spoke out and said (Rev. Lyons goes off the record) something that totally changed the tone of the meeting. Afterwards they all agreed that based on that statement and the involvement of another man on the same night in question, that I could not be the father and that I did not have to support the child. But my parents would help with the support and rearing of the child.

Q: What about the property purchased in Lake Tahoe with Edwards?

A: We were in the area for a conference, Edwards was looking for property for tax shelters and looked into the time share aspect. I am a businessman and I was advising her as a businessman about investments.



Rev. Henry J. Lyons and his wife Debora

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Tribunal

(Continued from Page 3)

physician and national chairman of the National Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression, alleged Las Vegas police had targeted members of his group for harassment. He said a tribunal would be convened to expose similar abuses of the justice system.

Tate's local branch chairman Kalib Hall said police have stopped him at least 10 times since January, but have never issued a citation.

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