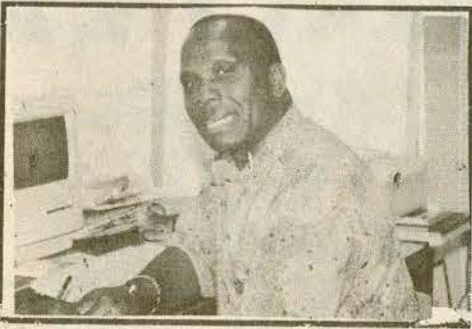


SPORTS

EXCITEMENT... EXCITEMENT... EXCITEMENT... EXCITEMENT... ENTERTAINMENT...



Mann Bits and Pieces

Just a few lines to say Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to the many readers of Bits & Pieces. It's been a glorious year for me and my only wish is that prosperity and health be abundant to you and yours in 1994.

Yours truly is heading home to his roots for the holidays to visit family members and friends.

So for the next two weeks remain strong in your faith and keep a sporting attitude at all times.

Sonics Continue on Roll

By Kurt Hanson

Depth and power have proven to be an ally to the Seattle SuperSonics. Despite losing their Shawn Kemp, the Sonics leading scorer, to injuries, the Sonics have found a way to win.

With Kemp out for two games rookie Ervin Johnson has stepped into the starting role for the Sonics while veteran Ricky Pierce has stepped up his scoring production to help Seattle out.

The Sonics beat the Golden State Warriors 126-111 at the Coliseum over the weekend. The Sonics ran their home record this season to 11-0. Pierce came off the bench to score a game-high 26 points.

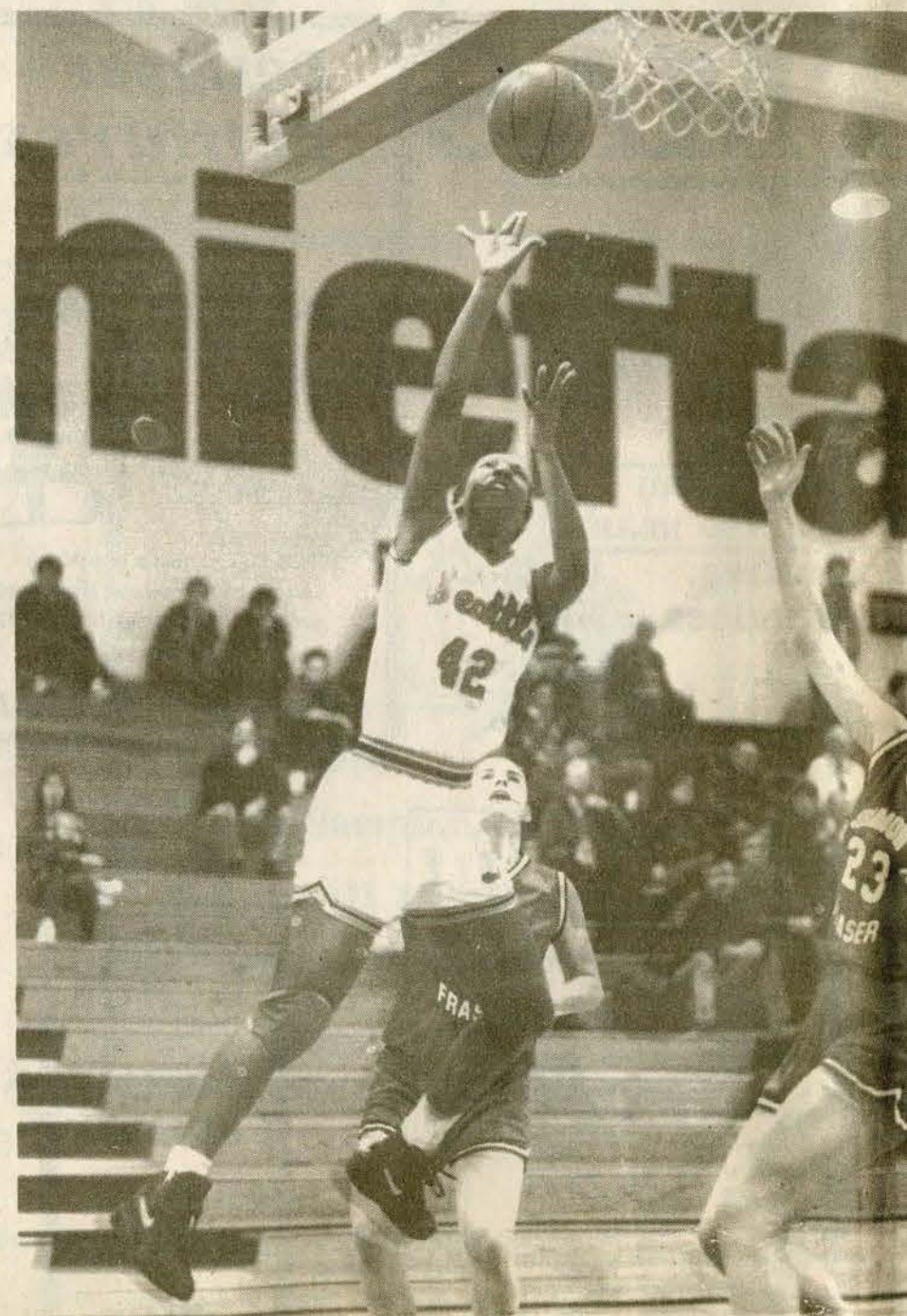
The Sonics jumped out to an early lead and retired to the locker room with a 61-56 lead.

During the second stanza the Sonics continued to put the pressure on Golden State. Lead by the 15 fourth quarter points by Pierce helped ensure the Sonics victory.

The Sonics defensive pressure forced 25 Warriors turnovers. Golden State captured the rebounding edge by grabbing 51 boards to the Sonics 42.

The Sonics will play host to Sir Charles (Barkley) and the Phoenix Suns on Thursday night.

LADY CHIEFTAINS LACKING INTENSITY



By Kurt Hanson

The Seattle University Lady Chieftains began the season as the 12th ranked team in the nation but have struggled against tough competition.

The Chieftains (4-4) are a young team but led by senior All-American LaShanna White, who is averaging 26.1 ppg and grabbing 11.3 rpg. Early in the season the Chieftains were hit by a setback when all-league point guard Jodi McCann went down with a blown knee, forcing her out for the season. Coach Dave Cox feels that this has hurt his young team with the loss of a veteran.

"We lose a lot of veteran leadership with Jodi out," said Cox. "She has been through almost every single situation possible. There are so many intangibles that a point guard does for you that we will miss."

Despite the Chieftains slow start Cox is pleased with his team's performance. Cox points out that his team has been playing well but lacks intensity from tip off to the final horn.

"The team has played with no intensity and consistency," said Cox. "That has been obvious on the defensive end from all of the points we have given up."

On Monday, the Chieftains played host to the Whitworth Pirates of Spokane. The Chieftains mixed things up and went with a new starting line up and looked like a different team, winning 74-56. They wasted no time jumping on top of Whitworth in the first half. The Lady Chieftains held a 31-22 lead at the half.

In the second half the Pirates closed the gap to 37-32 at the 16:00 mark of the second half. This was the closest that the Pirates came to winning the game. The Pirates shot a dismal 34% from the field.

White and forward Amy Kuchan lead the Lady Chieftains on a 16-4 run as Seattle University took a 51-36 lead with 10 minutes remaining in the game. White scored 10 points during the stretch, while Kuchan added six.

"I think it was our best defensive effort of the year," said Cox. "We improved on the intensity which I was pleased with. Stacia (Marriott) played real well at the guard spot. She shot a good percentage (5-5) and took good care of the ball."

The Lady Chieftains play host to Alaska Fairbanks on Wednesday and Thursday at Seattle University Connolly Center.

Chieftains Winning While Improving

By Kurt Hanson

A new year and new attitudes have helped turn the Seattle University Chieftains men's basketball team around. The Chieftains have won as many games this year (6-5) as last year.

"I think we are making progress in the direction we are trying to go," said Head Coach Al Hairston.

The Chieftains used a balanced attack to capture a 79-66 victory over Pacific Lutheran University this past weekend. Junior guard Mychal Brown playing in his first game, came off the bench to lead six Seattle University players in double figures with 16 points. Hugh Stephens added 14 points and 12 rebounds while Eton Pope, Kenny Bush and Jared Robinson added 11 apiece.

"Mike brings us another outside shooter which helps to open up the inside," said Hairston.

Seattle University led 40-37 at halftime but the Lutes tied the game at 40-40 early in the second stanza on a three-point shot by Brandon Fix. The Chieftains quickly regained control on Brown's three-point shot capped a 14-5 Chieftain run as Seattle University took a 54-45 lead with 13:35 remaining.

Pacific Lutheran closed the gap to 64-60 with 6:00 remaining in the contest but could get no closer.

"I think we have improved on our half-court defense which I was pleased about against PLU," said Hairston. "We neglected it for a while getting our offense understood, but we have practiced more on our defense."

Even with this positive start Hairston points out that his team still has a ways to go before the beginning of league.

"We still need to get better in all areas of our game," said Hairston. "The idea of pre-season is to prepare for districts and that is what we have been doing."

The Chieftains next action will be at the Pacific University Tournament December 28 and 29.

Barry Ackerley and Sonics Players Announce Formation of Ackerley Youth Foundation: Dedicate Refurbished Basketball Court

Barry Ackerley, Chairman and CEO of Ackerley Communications, Inc. announced today the formation of the Ackerley Youth Foundation to help at-risk youths in Seattle through the local resources of Ackerley Communications, Inc. Ackerley Outdoor Advertising, The Seattle SuperSonics, radio stations KJR-AM and KLTZ-FM, and television station KVO5 in Bellingham. The foundation's mission is to provide positive influences and recreational activities for at-risk youths as alternatives to violent actions.

Ackerley also unveiled the foundation's first project, a multi-level partnership of community investment between the Ackerley Youth Foundation and Seattle Department of Parks and Recreation called PROJECT HANGTIME. The announcement was made at the dedication of the refurbished Othello Playground basketball court.

PROJECT HANGTIME will work within existing city programs to enhance activities that are currently available to youth. The project's goal is to keep kids off the streets during "hangtime" and help them find positive recreational alternatives.

"We saw things happening in our own community, specifically relate to our area's youth and acts of violence, that we would like to help change. The Ackerley Youth Foundation is a small way of helping," said Barry Ackerley.

As part of the project, the Ackerley Youth Foundation will: buy five vans and donate them to five community centers to provide transportation for kids; pay for ten new teen leaders to develop and coordinate recreational activities for kids; refurbish three basketball courts in Seattle, including those in Othello Playground, Miller Community Center and Green Lake Community Center; provide athletic equipment including basketballs, footballs, soccer balls, t-shirts, uniforms and caps to community centers; coordinate school assemblies with Sonics players to encourage kids to stay in school and stay off drugs; coordinate Public Service Announcements with a message to kids to "get off the streets" and into their local community centers; coordinate a billboard art contest for youth with an anti-violence message.

SPORTS NEWS Chieftain Defenders Hartsough and Holmes Earn More All-America Honors

Seattle University Chieftain defenders Julie Holmes (Kennedy HS/Seattle, WA) and Keely Hartsough (Juanita HS/Kirkland, WA) were named to the NSCAA (National Soccer Coaches Association of America)/UMBRO All-America First-Team. Holmes and Hartsough along with teammate Sheralyn Stackhouse were named to the NAIA All-America First-Team earlier this month.

The duo anchored Seattle University's defense which allowed only 27 goals in 25 games. The Chieftain women scored a school record 69 goals while posting an 18-5-1 overall record and advancing to the NAIA national championships for the first time in team history.

Despite being the cornerstones of the Chieftain defense Holmes and Hartsough provided the Chieftains with plenty of offense. Hartsough was second on the team in scoring with 10 goals and five assists while Holmes added four goals and five assists from the sweeper position.

Balanced Chieftain Attack Helps Seattle University Down Pacific Lutheran University 79-66

The Seattle University Chieftain (6-5) used a balanced attack to capture a 79-66 victory over Pacific Lutheran University.

Junior guard Mychal Brown came off the bench to lead six Seattle University players in double figures with 16 points. Hugh Stephens added 14 points and 12 rebounds while Eton Pope, Kenny Bush and Jared Robinson added 11 apiece.

Seattle University led 40-37 at halftime but the Lutes tied the game at 40-40 early in the second stanza on a three-point shot by Brandon Fix. The Chieftains quickly regained control as Brown's three-point shot capped a 14-5 Chieftain run as Seattle University took a 54-45 lead with 13:35 remaining.

Pacific Lutheran closed the gap to 64-60 with 6:00 remaining in the contest but could get no closer. The Lutes (4-5) were led by the 20 points of Denathan Williams.

Alternative Elementary #5, a Cooperative, Holistic Seattle Public School

Seattle - AE#5 is an elementary school that focuses on the whole child by fostering creative thinking and independent learning skills in addition to cognitive learning and standard academics. We understand different children have different learning styles so we adapt our teaching methods to ensure all children learn. Our classes promote cooperative and peer assisted learning.

If you would like to know more about AE#5 please attend the Informational Meeting at the Douglass-Truth Library, 23rd and E. Yesler Way, on January 27, 1994 at 7:30pm. If these dates are not convenient please call AE#5 at 281-6280 to arrange a visit.

MINORITY COMPANY AWARDED KENT GOLF COMPLEX



Bob Duckworth and Jim Stone

Pictured above is the president of Fir State Golf Club, Bob Duckworth congratulating Jim Stone Sr., the president of SSMD for history-making achievement. Recently the SSMD company was awarded a five year operational contract for the Riverbend Golf Course in the City of Kent. The SSMD firm was in competition with nineteen other firms vying to get this contract.

SSMD emerged as the top awardee after getting stiff competition from former Supersonic player Jack Sigma's company, which operates and owns several other golf facilities in the Northwest.

To the knowledge of minority golfers in the Northwest there are no other golf facilities that were awarded to a minority company. The City of Kent has taken corrective action that is not matched by any other city or state.

The Riverbend Golf complex is one of the finest public golfing facilities in the United States offering 18-hole championship golf course, 9-hole par three course, driving range with 75 private stalls, mini-golf, putting course, eating facilities, and pro shop with the latest fashions and equipment. Roughly 140,000 rounds of golf are played at this course each year. The facilities are located at 2019 West Meeker Street in Kent. For reservations please call 854-3673.

Other minorities involved with SSMD are: Del Durden, Shirley Stone, Daniel Stone, and Joseph Drake. Mr. Stone indicated that this is a dream come true. He terminated his management position with U. S. West Communications.

Bob Duckworth stated that Jim Stone has been instrumental in helping the Fir State Golf Club to be recognized as a top club in the Seattle area and will continue to be involved in club activities. The community can take pride in SSMD achievement.

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