AFRO Sports

Court rejects S. Diego plea to block Padres

SAN DIEGO — A federal judge has refused to issue an order blocking the proposed move of the San Diego Padres baseball franchise to Washington, D.C.

U.S. District Court Judge Howard B. Turrentine said his decision against granting the temporary restraining order was not a reflection on the merits of the $72 million antitrust suit against the National League.

* * *

The suit, filed last week, accused league owners and several public officials, including Vice President Gerald R. Ford of conspiring to deprive San Diego of its lawful business relationship with the baseball team. The Padres have 15 years remaining on a 20-year pact for use of San Diego Stadium.

Turrentine said the restraining order sought by the city was too drastic, but added that if the team's transfer is judged wrongful the city will be "adequately compensated."

* * *

Earlier this month the National League owners approved the transfer of the franchise.

The suit contends the defendants violated federal antitrust laws by conspiring to shift the franchise.

THEY'RE BILLS MVP'S — The Buffalo Bills Booster Club presented trophies Thursday nights to the three players voted the NFL team's most valuable players. Left to right, they were Reggie McKenzie as offensive lineman, O. J. Smpson as running back, and Walt Patulski as defensive lineman. These are annual awards by the Bills Boosters, and Simpson is expected to receive the Buffalo player-of-the-year award later.

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Catonsville gals coach seeks 5th cage title

While University of Maryland coach Lefty Driesell is still seeking to become the UCLA of the East, the state of Maryland has already staked claim to basketball domination in the women's tem at Catonsville Community College.

Under the direction of coach Mrs. Hilda Anderson the Cardinalettes have taken four of the last five Md. JuCo women's crowns, and have lost but one conference game in that time. To Essex back in 1970.

* * *

In addition to 23 conference wins, with a streak of 23 wins in a row going, Catonsville has gone 67-21 overall during those five seasons. Of those 24 losses 22 have come at the hands of four year schools. Besides Essex the only other two year school to top CCC was Glouchester (N.J.) CC last season.

Mrs. Anderson is presently in her eighth year at Catonsville and has also taught at Lander College in Greenville, S.C., and in the Baltimore county school system for 19 years.

* * *

The Cardinalettes will open the season at home on January 5, versus Bergen County (.J.) CC and follow that with 16 more games.

Catonsville will also host the first ever Eastern Regional Women's Intercollegiate Basketball Tournament for Junior Colleges, March 7, 8, 9.

Unseld knee back in cast

Forward Wes Unseld of the Capital Bullets, in an effort to avoid surgery, had his left knee placed in a walking cast Wednesday for the second time this season, and club officials said it would be after the first of the year before he will be able to play again.

Unseld, a six-year veteran from the University of Louisville, had an operation on the knee two years ago and came back to play without suffering a loss in effectiveness. But swelling developed this fall and the knee has been drained of fluid at almost every contest.

"The purpose of this is just to rest his knee and see if a few days' rest will help," team spokesman Mark Splaver said.

"I'm sick of needles," Unseld said after Tuesday night's game with Atlanta. "I can play after they drain my knee, but I can't get it drained every game."

Should treatment with the walking cast prove unsuccessful, the only recourse would be surgery which would put Unseld's knee in a cast for six months.

MSA scoreboard

FRIDAY SCHEDULE
Varsity Basketball
Southern at Mervo
Southwestern at Gilman
JV Basketball
Southern at Mervo
Southwestern at Gilman
Wrestling
City at Loyola
City JV at Loyola JV

Bob McAdoo once again NBA leader

NEW YORK — Bob McAdoo of Buffalo and Pete Maravich of Atlanta continued their two man competition for the National Basketball Association's scoring average leadership last week, and before 10,173 enthusiastic fans in Toronto, McAdoo moved ahead of Maravich once again.

McAdoo had 49 points (a club record) 21 field goals (another club mark), 17 rebounds five blocked shots and two steals, but Boston won its 16th game in its last 18, 118-114.

After 28 games McAdoo had 806 points and the scoring average lead at 28.8 points a game to Maravich's 27.7. McAdoo also took over the NBA field goal percentage lead at .52[illegible].

Kareem Abdul-Jabbar of Milwaukee, Calvin Murphy of Houston and Clifford Ray of Chicago are tied for second at .537.

Elmore Smith of Los Angeles continues to lead in blocked shots, 6.14 per game. Capital's Elvin Hayes maintains his rebounding average lead at 18.6 per game. And Ernie DiGregorio of Buffalo is still the assists average leader at 7.9 per game.

Bears spoil Spartan visit

Morgan State, sparked by Jethroe Crum and Marvin Webster, fought off stubborn Norfolk State 65-80 in E.P. Hurtt Gymnasium Saturday night.

Norfolk, down by 20 at one point, fought back to give the Bears a scare in the final three minutes of the showdown. The Spartans came within four, 8" before Morgan recovered to seal the game for good.

Center Eugene Cunningham of Norfolk led all scorers with 25 points while Morgan, with a balanced scoring attack got 16 and 15-point performances from Crum and Webster respectively. Webster also grabbed 16 rebounds.

The Bears remained undefeated in four games while Norfolk evened its record to 2-2 SCHARTZMAN.

Redskins at 10-0 for 'Super' title

RENO, Nev. (UPI) — The Reno Turf Club has picked the Miami Dolphins as the 2-1 favorite to go all the way in the National Football League playoffs and take the crown.

The odds for the other playoff teams: Minnesota, 3-1; Dallas, 4-1; Los Angeles, 4-1; Oakland, 5-1; Pittsburgh, 6-1; Washington, 10-1; Cincinnati, 20-1.

Were you there this time?

IS THIS YOU who AFRO photographer Ben Phillips snapped at a recent Baltimore sports event? If so, clip this picture and present it to Mrs. Gertrude Steele with proper identification, on the 3rd floor of the AFRO building BEFORE NOON Wednesday. By following these directions, you may receive $5 for being in the right place at the right time.

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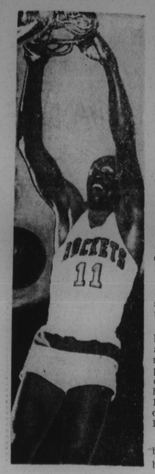
Scoring isn't everything barks Bullets' MVP Hayes



ELVIN HAYES

LANDOVER, Md. — Elvin Hayes sat in the Bullets' lockerroom recently and admonished a reporter for his postgame questions. Just like the Elvin Hayes of old, eh?

Well, not exactly. The conversation was more indicative of why Hayes, always one of the most talented basketball players in creation, is now a leading candidate for Most Vluable Player.

"All you guys ever think about is scoring," Hayes said to the reporter. "I'm thinking about winning."

Winning is what the Bullets are doing plenty of, and Hayes is the major reason. He is still scoring plenty (26-point average over his last 11 games) and he is also rebounding (his 18.6 average is way ahead of runner-up Dave Cowens 15.2).

But Elvin is playing team basketball, he making the big plays and he has taken the Bullets' rebounding burden almost exclusively on his own shoulders.

Hayes will lead the Bullets against the Atlanta Hawks tonight (Tuesday), their first appearance at their new Capiteal Centre home since they inaugurated the arena on Dec. 2.

The Bullets return from a Western swing in first place and the credit goes to Hayes.

"Elvin is making all the big, winning plays," says general manager Bob Ferry. "He has been the vital factor in all our wins making the plays a superstar is supposed to make."

So, with center Wes Unseld, the great rebounder, hobbled by knee problems, Hayes has kept the Bullets in first place. And he has done it with performances like this:

(a) 36 points 29 rebounds and 5 blocked shots (two were tossed back at Seattle opponents in the final five seconds of a two-point Bullets' victory) in the Capital Centre opener.

(b) 43 points, 32 rebounds and 5 blocks as the Bullets came from 19 points behind the third quarter to beat Atlanta, at Atlanta.

(c) 43 points and 18 rebounds at Buggalo in a 121-113 Bullets' victory.

(d) 40 points, 21 rebounds and 5 blocks in a 110-98 victory over Los Angeles, at Los Angeles.

* * *

That Hays has super talent has never been questioned. He is the leading scorer in the NBA over the past five years and he is already the only player other than Wilt Chamberlain and Bill Russell to lead the NBA in rebounding since 1957.

But, more than a great talent, Elvin Hayes is now a great team player. And that should mean a fourt consecutive Central Division championship for the Bullets, and perhaps another addition to Hayes' collection of awards, one which few thought he would ever win the Podoloff Cup, symbolic of the NBA's Most Valuable Player.

TOP PLAYER — Virginia Union lineman Herb Scott of Virginia Beach who has been named to the Associated Press College Division All-American football squad first team.

Weatherman out of reach, Skins eye groundskeeper

There is absolutely nothing mortal man can do about the weatherman — even pontifical George Allen and his team's spiritual advisor Bob Skinner — so the Washington Redskins are praying for Dick Erickson to win over adversity.

Erickson is the supervisor of the ground crew at Bloomington's Metropolitan Stadium where the Redskins battle the Minnesota Vikings tomorrow (Saturday) for the National Conference title in the NFL playoffs.

The December weather in Minnesota is brutal, and for the last two weeks it has been cold as all get-out in Bloomington. So cold, in fact, that even the hometown Vikings had to get out of town.

They have been practicing this week in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

* * *

That makes the role of Erickson more imortant. It is his job to see that the playing field is ready.

"I'm hopeful we can give them a good fast track for Saturday," said Erickson, who has 20 men working on the field to try to keep it unfrozen. "A heavy snowfall shortly before the game could wreck everything."

* * *

Temperatures in Bloomington have been in the teens and lower. It may be down around zero for the playoff battle, which will put the winner a step close to the Super Bowl.

Minnesota coach Bud Grant, who has refused to let his players use handwarmers in the northland cold, agreed that practicing in Tulsa might be wise.

Naturally, Allen and his cohorts have been drilling in warmer weather, too, but that won't help Saturday — it will be some comfort, if Erickson wins his pre-game battle . . . LACY.

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Edmondson 5 hopeful; Douglass view gloomy

We're going to be a contender in the A conference (of the MSA) if we settle down, mature, and cut our turnovers."

That's what basketball coach Bob Wade said of his Edmondson Redskins Tuesday afternoon prior to their home opener against the Douglass Ducks.

After losing to Southwestern last week 71-69, the Redskins cut giveaways from 43 to 20 while drowning the Ducks 63-43.

Seniors Raymond Thomas and Edwin Hopkins led the victors with 22 points and 16 rebounds, respectively.

Young Hopkins in agreement with his coach, feels that they can hold their own later against favorites Dunbar and City College. "It's a matter of playing together," says Hopkins.

Wade expects help from newcomers Nate Topping from New York, and City College transfer George Mc Kession. Hopkins, Thomas, Roland Seymore and Marvin Payne return from last year's state contenders.

* * *

The outlook at Douglass is not so promising. Coach John Nash says graduation hurt him. Outside of big threat Joe McDaniels, his team is young and inexperienced.

Coach Nash looks for Southwestern to be the team to beat for Conference "B" honors. . . Schatzman

Mergenthaler opens adult registration

The principal of the Mergenthaler Adult Education Center, 35th Street and Hillen Road, has announced that registration for the spring semester will be held on Monday, Feb. 4, at 7 p.m.

Courses are tuition free for residents of Baltimore City. In some courses, however, there is a charge for materials and supplies used by the students.

For further information please call 467-3743 from 7 to 10 p.m.

Great career in pro ball predicted for Herb Scott

Virginia Union football coach Willard Bailey sees a bright future in professional football for Panther Guard Herbert Scott, who has been named to the Associated Press College Division All-American football squad for it team.

"Scott is a tremendous hitter," said Bailey in praise of the junior guard who played a major role in the success of the Panthers who rocked up the CIAA championship this year. "He has size, speed and mental attitude necessary to be an outstanding professional player. On our 5-point rating system for lineman, Herb has a rating of 4.8 . . . he's undoubtedly the best offensive lineman to grace the campus of Virginia Union."

Scott, a 1970 graduate of Kelham High School in Virginia Beach, was a natural for the Associated Press award. He was instrumental in blocking for an offensive unit that gained 2112 yards rushing and was the lead blocker on 95 per cent of the runs by junior All-CIAA running back Larry Roberts.

Scott himself did not expect the Little All-American title. The first won by a VU player. "An offensive lineman has to resign himself to the fact that he won't get the publicity that goes to the fleeting running backs. But it is up to the lineman to live with himself based upon his own performance," Scott commented.

Scott was not the only Panther to win recognition by the Associated Press. Sophomore cornerback Anthony Leonary was chosen for the third team Little All - American. Leonard, a graduate of Maggie Walker High School and an All - CIAA cornerback holds 18 records at Union and has tied two. This year he had 21 punt returns, a 20.2 punt return average and two touchdowns by kickoff returns. Leonard holds career records for punt returns, punt return yards, touchdowns by punt return, kickoff return yards, kickoff return average, touchdowns by kickoff return and interception return yard.

Coach Bailey called Leonard one of the most complete ball players in the country, and noted that he can play end, halfback, quarterback, cornerback, safety and punt.

"When I see Leonard warming up, I know that VUU is already six points ahead," Bailey commented.

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