

Season

Continued from Page 8.

centers at age 40, had to make an adjustment in his 18th NBA season. In the previous 17, he always was his team's leading scorer. But in 1986-87, Riley made a conscious decision to give Abdul-Jabbar a secondary, albeit important, offensive role to maintain his strength. "We wanted to create more opportunities for more people," Riley said. "Our objective was to get more balanced scoring. It makes for happier players when you have six guys in double figures." "I had to get used to not getting the ball as often, but when you know it's helping the team, it's an easy adjustment," Abdul-Jabbar said. "An NBA championship is a greater feather in your cap than any individual accomplishment. And me taking a lesser role, so others could prosper, was the best way for us to go about achieving that goal."

No longer constricted by an offense that nearly always went to Abdul-Jabbar when it needed a basket, Johnson flourished. While leading the NBA in assists for the fourth time, with a 12.2 average, Johnson finished 10th in the league in scoring with 23.9 points per game.

Johnson's efforts earned him his first regular-season Most Valuable Player Award.

The regular season, however, started the way the previous one ended, with a loss to the Rockets, 112-102, at Houston.

The Lakers then followed with nine consecutive victories to take over first place for good in the Pacific Division. The streak ended when the Atlanta Hawks won 113-107 in the Forum at Inglewood, Calif., outbounding the Lakers 52-35.

Past NBA champions

Season	Champion	Runner-up
1981-82	Boston	L.A. Lakers
1982-83	Boston	L.A. Lakers
1983-84	Boston	San Francisco
1984-85	Boston	L.A. Lakers
1985-86	Boston	L.A. Lakers
1986-87	76ers	San Francisco
1987-88	Boston	L.A. Lakers
1988-89	Boston	L.A. Lakers
1989-90	New York	Lakers
1970-71	Milwaukee	Baltimore
1971-72	L.A. Lakers	New York
1972-73	New York	L.A. Lakers
1973-74	Boston	Milwaukee
1974-75	Golden State	Washington
1975-76	Boston	Phoenix
1976-77	Portland	76ers
1977-78	Washington	Seattle
1978-79	Seattle	Washington
1979-80	L.A. Lakers	76ers
1980-81	Boston	Houston
1981-82	L.A. Lakers	76ers
1982-83	76ers	L.A. Lakers
1983-84	Boston	L.A. Lakers
1984-85	L.A. Lakers	Boston
1985-86	Boston	Houston
1986-87	L.A. Lakers	Boston

Champs--

Continued from Page 8.

two drives and a turnaround jumper.

L.A. won all home playoff games.

Boston, despite missing its first five shots, handled Los Angeles' initial spurt with poise. Dennis Johnson scored six of his 12 first-quarter points during a 15-2 streak that gave the Celtics a 19-12 lead. Boston led 32-25 at the end of the first period.

Worthy scored 10 points in the second quarter and Abdul-Jabbar eight, but the Celtics retained the advantage and led 56-51 at halftime. The closest the Lakers got was 50-49 with two minutes left, when Cooper scored on a fast break.

Draft

Continued from Page 8.

For the first time since 1978, every player taken in the first round was a Canadian.

Led by Buffalo's overall No. 1 choice, Pierre Turgeon of the Granby Bisons of the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League, all but one of the 21 first-round selections played for a team in one of Canada's three major Junior A leagues.

The exception was Toronto-born Bryan Deasley, 18, who played with the University of Michigan and was picked 19th overall by the Calgary Flames.

The Canadian accent continued into the second and third rounds, where 34 of the next 42 picks were born in Canada.

The first non-Canadian chosen was defenseman Rickard Persson of Ostersund, Sweden, by the New Jersey Devils. He was the second pick of the second round and 23rd overall.

The first American-born player chosen was John LeClair, a center from St. Albans, Vt., who was picked

in the second round — and 33rd overall — by the Montreal Canadiens.

It was a dramatic contrast to previous drafts, most notably last year when a record seven Americans were picked in the first round and 67 were taken overall.

While Canadians figured in 55 of the first 63 picks, the trend took a noticeably sharp turn toward the United States at that point.

The reason was new legislation, which has changed eligibility in the lower rounds of the draft with the idea of picking older, more experienced players.

For the first three rounds of this year's draft, nothing was altered: Players still had to turn 18 by Sept. 15, or be 19 or 20 at any time during the calendar year to be eligible for drafting.

But in rounds four through 12, a player had to meet certain requirements to be drafted, all of them dealing with more experience in either the major junior ranks, U.S. high schools and colleges or Europe.

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OBJECTIVE: Corporate lending or other credit-related positions.
EDUCATION: The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA
Bachelor of Science degree, Finance, May 1987
Major GPA: 4.0 GPA: 3.5
Relevant Courses: Speech Communications, Business Communications, Honors English Composition, Problems in Philosophy, Business Ethics, Developmental Psychology, Commercial Bank Management, Industrial Economics, Micro/Macro Economics, Economics of Money & Banking, Corporate Finance, Financial Accounting.
EXPERIENCE: Founder, Nitrazy Live Entertainment, January 1986-April 1986. Produced, financed and marketed a living/entertainment guide to the State College metropolitan area. Designed as a short term entrepreneurial venture, this project grossed revenue in excess of \$20,000.
District Sales Manager, Collegian, Inc., January 1985-November 1985. Managed filetech sales representatives for Penn State's daily newspaper, The Daily Collegian. Responsible for developing strategies and setting goals which led to a 25% increase in advertising space sold.
Research/Sales Assistant, E.F. Hutton and Company, Inc., September 1986-Present. Conducted research on a team that assisted superior in generating various trading strategies. Responsible for the production and distribution of a weekly newsletter for top clients.
HONORS: University Scholars Program, Golden Key National Honor Society, Beta Gamma Sigma Business Honor Society, Alpha Lambda Delta National Honor Society for Freshmen, Phi Eta Sigma Freshman Honor Society.
ACTIVITIES: Finance Club, President; Phi Mu Social Society, Rush Chairwoman; Intramural Soccer.
References available upon request.

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