

Sports

NBA Playoffs

by John Musser
Asst. Sports Editor

Eastern Conference

Detroit Pistons v. Boston Celtics. The Pistons finished the regular season having posted the league's best record, thanks to the aggressive play of Joe Dumars, Bill Laimbeer, Rick Mahorn and Dennis Rodman. The Celtics struggled to stay above .500 throughout the year as the team adjusted to a new system and life without Larry Bird. Detroit, the bad boys of basketball, defeated the Celts in the Eastern Finals last year when Boston had Bird and should have no trouble making it a first round sweep this year.

New York Knicks v. Philadelphia 76'ers. Coach Rick Pitino likes to turn up the pressure on opposing teams and he has given the green light to guards Mark Jackson and Trent Tucker to crank up the three-pointers. After missing the playoffs last year, Philly might be satisfied with just getting here. Considering their success against the Knicks in the regular season and the fact that Philly has never lost a playoff series to New York, this could be an early round upset.

Cleveland Cavaliers v. Chicago Bulls. It's five good basketball players against the league's leading scorer and four average ones. This is a rematch of last years first rounder in which the Bulls won, but this time Cleveland has the home-court advantage and the confidence to beat the Bulls.

Atlanta Hawks v. Milwaukee Bucks. With Dominique Wilkins incredible scoring abilities and Moses Malone controlling the boards, the Hawks have the look of a team that is ready to challenge for the title. The Bucks have the look of age, and this may be there last chance to do something with the veteran talent that they have.

Western Conference

Los Angeles Lakers v. Portland Trailblazers. Do I really have to tell you about this one? The Trailblazers couldn't beat the Lakers with a stick.

Utah Jazz v. Golden State Warriors. The Warriors have taken great strides as a team, easily doubling last year's win total behind the strength of Chris Mullin. Utah is strong, featuring the explosive combination of Karl Malone and assists leader John Stockton on offense plus the best defensive center in the game, Mark Eaton, whose shot blocking ability can disrupt offenses. Expect the Mailman to deliver an early round victory for the Jazz.

Phoenix Suns v. Denver Nuggets. The Nuggets are mostly made up of aging vets, but Alex English and (*Lafayette*) Lever can still play ball with the best of them. The Suns have one of the best up and coming guards in the game in Kevin Johnson, and Tom Chambers is having a superb season while giving the Suns needed leadership.

Seattle SuperSonics v. Houston Rockets. Akeem Olajuwon has put together one of his finest seasons ever for the Rockets, but he has mostly been doing it on his own in Houston. Dale Ellis and Xavier head an offense that should be potent enough to take care of Houston.

The NFL Draft

First Round Picks

#1	Dallas Cowboys	Troy Aikman	QB	UCLA
#2	Green Bay Packers	Tony Mandarich	OT	Michigan St.
#3	Detroit Lions	Barry Sanders	RB	Oklahoma St.
#4	Kansas City	Derrick Thomas	LB	Alabama
#5	Atlanta Falcons	Deion Sanders	CB	Florida St.
#6	Tampa Bay Buccaneers	Broderick Thomas	LB	Nebraska
#7	Pittsburgh	Tim Worley	RB	Georgia
#8	San Diego Chargers	Burt Grossman	DE	Pittsburgh
#9	Miami Dolphins	Sammie Smith	RB	Florida St.
#10	Phoenix Cardinals	Eric Hill	LB	LSU
#11	Chicago Bears	Donnell Woolford	CB	Clemson
#12	Chicago Bears	Trace Armstrong	DE	Florida
#13	Cleveland Browns	Eric Metcalf	RB	Texas
#14	New York Jets	Jeff Lageman	LB	Virginia
#15	Seattle Seahawks	Andy Heck	OT	Notre Dame
#16	New England Patriots	Hart Lee Dykes	WR	Oklahoma St.
#17	Phoenix Cardinals	Joe Wolf	G	Boston College
#18	New York Giants	Brian Williams	G-C	Minnesota
#19	New Orleans Saints	Wayne Martin	DE	Arkansas
#20	Denver Broncos	Steve Atwater	S	Arkansas
#21	Los Angeles Rams	Bill Hawkins	OT	Miami
#22	Indianapolis Colts	Andre Rison	WR	Michigan St.
#23	Houston Oilers	Davud Williams	OT	Florida
#24	Pittsburgh	Tom Ricketts	OT	Pittsburgh
#25	Miami Dolphins	Louis Oliver	S	Florida
#26	Los Angeles Rams	Cleveland Gary	RB	Miami
#27	Atlanta Falcons	Shawn Collins	WR	No. Arizona
#28	San Francisco 49'ers	Keith Delong	LB	Tennessee

Other Notables

#29	Los Angeles Raiders	Steve Wisniewski	G	Penn State
#57	Dallas Cowboys	Mark Stepnoski*	G	Pittsburgh
#100	New England Patriots	Michael Timpson	WR	Penn State

*(Stepnoski is a native of Erie who graduated from Cathedral Prep)

Track Club Competes At Slippery Rock

On Saturday April 26, the Penn State Behrend Track Club travelled to Slippery Rock University to compete in an invitational with Mount Union, Slippery Rock, Westminster, Case Western and Grove City.

Ala Stanford placed first in the 100m high hurdles and third in the 400m low hurdles. Jeff Lavelle placed third in the 400m with a time of 53.0 seconds and fourth in the 200m. Michael D'Angelo threw his personal best in the javelin.

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