



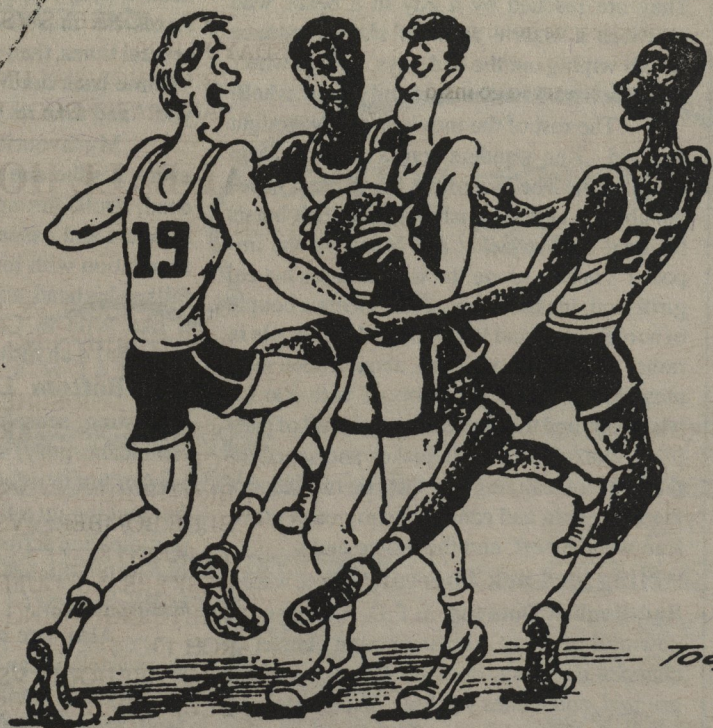
*By the time this comes out the Super Bowl will just be another drunken blur for many of the fans who watched it; but hope that this year it will have drama and competitive fire, two things it often lacks. It seems funny that the most watched and highly hyped game of the year usually turns into a one-sided affair where half of the fans stop watching midway through the fourth quarter. Hopefully the game this year will be better than the critics are proclaiming. The San Francisco 49ers were the class of the NFL this season, featuring this year's MVP (quarterback Steve Young), the Defensive Player of the Year (cornerback "Neon" Deion Sanders), the greatest receiver in NFL history (All-Pro Jerry Rice), and running back Ricky Williams. The Niners head into the Super Bowl as heavy 18 1/2 point favorites, with everyone declaring the San Diego Chargers dead in the water. The Chargers should be cheered for however, as throughout the playoffs they've shown the ability to climb out of any hole with the ability to make the big drive down the key goal line stand when the money's on the line; coming away with some exciting wins. The Chargers (to use a cliched term) are this year's "team of destiny", as the San Diego faithful hope that lightning can strike twice. San Diego has worn the crown of underdog all season long; at the beginning of the year people would have laughed if you said that Junior Seau and the bolts would be playing in the Super Bowl. In fact people probably would've given you a funny look if you thought that they would have made the playoffs. Stan Humphries and his crew though have continually proven the critics wrong,

and their win over the Steelers in the conference final was a fan's dream game; earmarked with high tension during the Steelers final touchdown drive halted by a swarming Charger defence. I doubt that anyone can stop the 49ers, (on paper they are one of the most talented clubs ever assembled) as Young surpassed records set by his mentor Joe Montana. They are head and shoulders above the Chargers talent-wise. San Diego could best be characterized as the little train that could. Whether or not they can make it back to the station in San Diego with a Super Bowl trophy in their caboose though seems most unlikely. Nevertheless, if I could see one upset in sports this year, I think I'm pulling for this one. I know there is one certain red haired Bernadine girl who was cheering for her home town club this past weekend.

***Congratulations to the women's volleyball team who finally threw the monkey off their backs last weekend as the split a weekend series with Acadia to notch their first win of the season. Saturday night marked the first time that the girls have come away with a volleyball victory since last year.

***Injuries are hurting the Panthers sports teams more than any opponent could lately. Hockey has seen frosh Calvin Chaisson and Brett Kowan suffer injuries serious enough to end their seasons. Chaisson is gone for the remainder of the season with a busted ankle, while Kowan hopes to be back for the end of the season and for the playoffs after suffering a dislocated shoulder in a recent game against Moncton. Women's basketballs Kara Saunders will be out for at least another two to three weeks with a dislocated kneecap. Pete Richard of the mens team is out indefinitely with a case of mono, a possible season ending illness.

***In other news for the mens basketball team, senior forward Jason Kielley has quit the team due to personal differences with head coach George Morrison. Kielley had been starting for most of the season, but was unhappy with his playing time as of late.



'Well, at least we're holding him under his average.'

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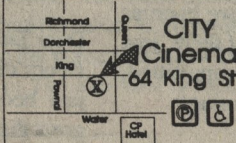


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