

## Basketball Concludes Year-Around Play

# Super S-O-M League A Super Success!

History was made some months back when the Super Strat-O-Matic league put the final touches on its mammoth 63-page, all-sports yearbook. The league, fulfilling a dream of commissioner Dave Lewis of Monticello, FL, completed not only a baseball play-by-mail replay, but also a football and basketball as well--making it the first such league to complete year-round S-O-M sports action.

A 40-game basketball season was the culmination of 1974-75 Super S-O-M activity. The New England Court-Dusters [yep, that's right, Court-Dusters], coached by Dick Kapitan of Malden, MA, won the playoffs after a 25-15 second-place regular-season finish. New England "dusted" off Van Nuys, 3 games to 1, in the first round of the playoffs and then went seven games before disposing of regular-season king, Rial Cummings' Bay Area Miracles, with a 97-91 conquest.

Altogether, six members participated in the basketball league. It was a draft affair and some outstanding quintets were put together.

### HOME IS WHERE COURT-DUSTERS ROAMED

New England, which was virtually unbeatable at home, winning 18 of 20 games, for instance, featured an offense built around Bob McAdoo, Cazzie Russell and guards Calvin Murphy, Pete Maravich and Jerry West. McAdoo was runnerup in league scoring with a 32.1 average, was second in field goal accuracy (54.7) and was tops in rebounding with 16.8 per game. Murphy sped through opposing defenses for 23.1 points a game while shooting at a 53.8 per cent clip. Defense and rebounding were Duster weak points, but a league-leading 117.3 scoring average more than made up for them.

Rick Barry, John Havlicek and trade-acquisition Nate Thurmond sparked Bay Area to a 26-14 regular-season mark. Barry led the league with a whopping 36.6 scoring average and Havlicek was fifth with a 26-point output each game. Thurmond, with help from Cliff Ray, proved that it wasn't necessary to have a super center to win. Thurmond, in the twilight of his career and notably weak scoring and passing, bewitched, bothered and bewildered McAdoo into a seven-of-25 shooting performance on one occasion.

### DEFENSE, REBOUNDING KEY VAGABONDS

Mike Quintero coached and coaxed the Van Nuys Vagabonds to a third-place, 23-17 finish. Rebounding [Van Nuys led the league with 52.3 per game] and a sticky defense [allowing a league-leading 107 points each outing] were the team's trademarks. The offense sputtered and often stalled, however, finishing last in field goal percentage (44.3) and next-to-last in scoring (106.5). Spencer Haywood, Elvin Hayes, Lucius Allen and Dave Bing were the flashiest Vagabonds.

Fourth place went to Ted Dinkel's Delaware Dunk-Hunters, who surprisingly wound up fourth in scoring (110.4) despite a lineup comprised of Bob Lanier, Walt Frazier, Dave DeBusschere and Paul Silas.

Dave Lewis' Deep South Daredevils, like Evel Knievel, didn't get far off the ground, losing all but six road games and finishing with a fifth-place 14-26 record. Rudy Tomjanovich averaged 22.8 points and Charlie Scott 22.4, with Bobby Dandridge, after a slow start, chipping in 19.9. Dave Cowens, although a terror on defense, disappointed when his team had the ball, averaging 17.6 points but connecting on only 43.6 per cent of his field goal attempts.

Dennis Yost's Baltimore Bullets fired only blanks at the outset, losing 21 of their first 24 games. Despite the presence of Mr. "Skyhook" himself, Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, the Bullets could win but 10 of 40 games. Jabbar did pour in 29.2 points per game and Phil Chenier helped out with 22.1. Sidney Wicks, Jim McMillan and Geoff Petrie should have made this a super team, instead it was last in scoring (105.7) and committed a league-high 571 turnovers.

Turn to the next page for team standings and individual leaders:

<u>Standings</u>	<u>Won</u>	<u>Lost</u>	<u>Home</u>	<u>Away</u>	<u>Off. Avg.</u>	<u>Def. Avg.</u>	<u>Turnovers</u>
Bay Area	26	14	14-6	12-8	2 - 112.0	2 - 107.3	5 - 14.3
New England	25	15	18-2	7-13	1 - 118.6	6 - 115.3	3 - 13.4
Van Nuys	23	17	15-5	8-12	5 - 106.5	1 - 107.0	1 - 12.3
Delaware	22	18	15-5	7-13	4 - 110.4	3 - 110.1	4 - 14.1
Deep South	14	26	8-12	6-14	3 - 111.5	5 - 114.7	2 - 12.7
Baltimore	10	30	3-17	7-13	6 - 105.7	4 - 110.2	5 - 14.3

Coch of the Year: Rial Cummings; Player of the Year: Rick Barry.

<u>Scoring</u>		<u>Rebounding</u>		<u>Field Goal %</u>	
Barry (BA)	36.6	McAdoo (NE)	16.8	Maravich (NE)	.549
McAdoo (NE)	32.1	Jabbar (BAL)	15.4	McAdoo (NE)	.547
Jabbar (BAL)	29.2	Silas (DEL)	15.1	Jabbar (BAL)	.542
Haywood (VN)	27.0	Cowens (OS)	14.8	Murphy (NE)	.538
Havlicek (BA)	26.0	Hayes (VN)	13.9	Johnson (BA)	.526
Lanier (DEL)	24.8	Haywood (VN)	13.2	Hudson (OS)	.521
Frazier (DEL)	23.4	Dickey (BA)	12.2	Russell (NE)	.514
Murphy (NE)	23.1	DeBusschere (DEL)	11.2	West (NE)	.498
Tomjanovich (OS)	22.6	Tomjanovich (OS)	9.9	Barry (BA)	.491
C.Scott (OS)	22.4				
Chenier (BAL)	22.1	<u>Assists</u>		<u>Free Throw %</u>	
DeBusschere (DEL)	21.8	Murphy (NE)	5.8	Barry (BA)	.914
Allen (WN)	20.5	Price (BA)	5.8	Tomjanovich (OS)	.894
Dandridge (OS)	19.9	Scott (OS)	5.4	Goodrich (NE)	.889
Snyder (DEL)	18.5	Frazier (DEL)	5.2	Johnson (BA)	.875
Cowens (OS)	17.6	Havlicek (BA)	5.2	Murphy (NE)	.868
Russell (NE)	16.5	White (OS)	5.2	Russell (NE)	.863

Records: Scoring - Abdul-Jabbar, 71; Team - New England, 148. Rebounding - McAdoo, 34; Assists - West, 15.

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