

Trades Made Difference

Deep South 'Super' Basketball Victor

And, a little mood music, please.

Hopefully the replay the Review is about to present will inspire dice-rollers to throw up the first jump ball for a full-season replay of their own. Baseball and Football replays are commonplace, but those basketball replays--especially of any duration--are extremely rare.

Basketball's all part of the cycle that the Super Strat-O-Matic League goes through, however. The S-O-M league for all seasons plays through an entire baseball, football as well as basketball season.

The basketball season is shortened to 40 games, plus playoffs, but nonetheless it still is one of the few replays of the hardwood sport to go the limit each season.

Super S-O-M, founded by David Lewis of Monticello, FL, has a summary of its most recent basketball season in its yearbook--a 60-page spectacular, jammed with team rundowns and mountains of statistics.

DEEP SOUTH WINS SUPER BASKETBALL II

Deep South, guided by Lewis, jumped from fifth place a year ago to the top in Super S-O-M's second season. Six teams were engaged in the draft league--making for some super teams. The Southmen, for instance, were led by Walt Frazier [acquired via trade], Wes Unseld, Dave Cowens and Nate Archibald, who recovered from injuries [real-life, two years earlier] to help lead the Daredevils to a 27-13 record.

Bob McAdoo of the New England Court Dusters was the league's MVP after another fabulous season. All the Big Mo did this time around was average 45 points a game, lead in field goal percentage (.596) and finish third in rebounding with 13 a game. McAdoo holds nine individual league records, six being set the last season, including scoring 72 points in a single game.

FLORIDIANS BIGGEST SURPRISES

Biggest surprise in Super Basketball II was the showing by the Fort Lauderdale Floridians, coached by Bruce Weinstock, who finished tied for second fielding a lineup decidedly sub-par in comparison to the others. Bob Lanier, a bonafide all-star to be sure, had plenty of help from lesser lights such as Don Nelson, John Drew, Paul Silas, Kevin Kunnert, Dick Snyder, Archie Clark and Ed Ratleff.

Weinstock turned this gang into a 25-15 record team, and won Coach of the Year honors for the feat. The Floridians scored at a 120.6 per-game clip and were held under 100 points only once. Lanier finished third in scoring (32.0) and field goal percentage (.588). Nelson was runnerup in field goal accuracy (.593), averaging 22.1 points, while Snyder averaged 18.6 and won a spot on the All-Pro second team.

"This team really had balance in every category," according to Weinstock. "Each player was a specialist who filled a certain role."

TRADES MAKE DIFFERENCE

A pair of trades by Lewis were instrumental in Deep South turning into the league's finest. Frazier (21.2 and 7.5 assists per game) was one, while power forward Happy Hairston (second in rebounding, 13.5) was the other. Combined, they gave the Daredevils the defense that had been lacking previously. Big scoring stars, in addition to Frazier, were Rudy Tomjanovich (26.7) and Dave Cowens (26.5). Cowens was also the rebounding champ, picking off 13.7 missed shots each contest.

Rial Cummings, who won the football championship, shared second with the Bay Area Miracles. It was a miracle the nets weren't burned from the baskets each game since the team had Kareem Abdul-Jabbar (30.3 points, 11.4 rebounds) and his scoring sidekick Rick Barry (29, plus .926 free throw accuracy). John Havlicek also added to Bay Area's might, averaging 17 points, while Curtis Perry was fifth in rebounding (12.8). In one game, the Miracles exploded for

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a league record 151 points.

New England, coached by Dick Kapitan, finished fourth with a 22-18 record, mainly because of poor guard play from Calvin Murphy, Geil Goodrich and Pete Maravich. The switching of McAdoo to forward was okay, but the change of Curtis Rowe to the pivot backfired.

Parsippany had to win its last eight games, all against the 76ers, to wind up fifth. Coach Tom Natoli had the flop of the year in Elvin Hayes (14.6) and a close second in Dave Bing. On the bright side, Earl Monroe, Spencer Haywood and Bobby Dandridge all averaged 20 points or more.

Dennis Yost traded away the "franchise" in Jabbar, and wound up last with a dismal 6-34 record. Phil Chenier (34.8) and Keith Wilkes (18.5) were the best of a sorry Baltimore 76er lineup. Bill Walton, although limited to 25 games because of injuries [what else is new?], scored 24.7 points and grabbed 18.9 rebounds--but didn't qualify for the final statistical lists.

Standings and leaders:

	<u>Won-Lost</u>	<u>GB</u>	<u>Home</u>	<u>Away</u>	<u>Off.</u>	<u>Def.</u>	<u>FG%</u>	<u>FT%</u>	<u>Reb.</u>
Deep South	27-13	--	15-5	12-8	117.1	110.5	.509	.821	53.0
Bay Area	25-15	2	14-6	11-9	112.2	110.2	.505	.783	51.3
Ft. Lauderdale	25-15	2	14-6	11-9	120.6	112.6	.531	.730	53.1
New England	22-18	5	14-6	8-12	112.0	113.0	.496	.798	47.9
Parsippany	15-25	12	9-11	6-14	107.3	113.1	.478	.775	46.3
Baltimore	6-34	21	3-17	3-17	102.3	112.1	.455	.714	52.4

Scoring

McAdoo [NE]	44.9	Tomjanovich [DS]	26.7	<u>Rebounds</u>	
Chenier [BAL]	34.8	Cowens [DS]	26.5	Cowens [DS]	13.7
Lanier [FL]	32.0	Haywood [PAR]	22.4	Hairston [DS]	13.5
Jabbar [BA]	30.3	Monroe [PAR]	22.1	McAdoo [NE]	13.2
Barry [BA]	28.9	Nelson [FL]	22.1	Perry [BA]	12.8
				Wiokes [BAL]	11.6
				Jabbar [BA]	11.4

Field Goal %

McAdoo [NE]	.596	<u>Free Throw %</u>	
Nelson [FL]	.593	Barry [BA]	.926
Lanier [FL]	.588	Murphy [NE]	.806
		Frazier [DS]	.853
		<u>Assists</u>	
		Frazier [DS]	7.5
		Watts [BAL]	7.4

Playoffs: [Semifinal] Bay Area d. Fort Lauderdale, 112-100, 119-122, 110-104, 127-108. [Final] Deep South d. Bay Area, 105-111, 110-103, 117-106, 111-120, 118-117, 108-105.

Highlights of final series: Jabbar scored 44 points in game four; Barry scored 39 in game six; Tomjanovich, who had 39 points in game four, averaged 32.8 points for series; Jabbar averaged 31.1, Barry 28.0 for Bay Area; Cowens had 23 rebounds in game two.
