

# The Lady Knows The Game



By Rhonda V. Smith

I read the other morning about some very strange goings-on in the NBA. It seems that the Atlanta Hawks recently signed free agent Jon Koncak, a 7-foot center who averaged 4.7 points and 6.1 rebounds last season, to a six-year, \$13.2 million deal. He will make \$2.5 million this season, the same salary as Magic Johnson. Now, you go figure that one out.

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Cardinals Coach Gene Stallings and his 89-year old mother, Nell, did a local TV commercial for a Phoenix bank. Even under the hot camera lights, Mrs. Stallings remained calm. She became obstinate on only one point: The script called for her to say "Educate your kids," but she didn't like that. "I'm going to say 'Educate your children.' That sounds better," she said.

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QUOTE, UNQUOTE: Philadelphia Eagles Coach Buddy Ryan believes he was sent to Philadelphia for a reason: "I really think I'm a religious guy. I felt that I was sent here for a reason. And that reason, I'm hoping, is to go to the Super Bowl. Of course, it could have been to be humiliated. I don't know. But I was sent here."

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When the Cleveland Browns defeated the Pittsburgh Steelers, 51-0, in week one of the regular season (Sept. 10), it marked the second largest margin of victory in the NFL during the 1980s and seventh most points scored by one team in a game during the decade. The New York Jets scored the most points in a single game in the '80s when they defeated Tampa Bay 62-28 on November 17, 1985. The San Diego Chargers and the Cincinnati Bengals were the only NFL teams to score 50 or more points in four separate games in the last nine years.

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## LESSON #20 - PASS PLAYS

Receivers run three different types of routes on pass plays: INDIVIDUAL PATTERNS, in which the receiver attempts to get open by his own fakes; COMBINATION PATTERNS, in which he and a teammate combine their patterns to enable the primary receiver to get open; and PLAY ACTION PASSES, in which the fake of the running play lures the defensive secondary up to stop the run and thereby allows the receiver to get open.

Different teams use different terms to describe individual patterns, but they are generally descriptive of the pattern to be run and include: the *Slant*—receiver moves at a 45-degree angle to the inside and looks for the ball immediately; the *Hitch*—receiver takes two steps downfield, then drops back a step while looking for the ball; the *Sideline*—receiver breaks downfield as fast as possible and attempts to lure the defender into turning and running to keep the receiver from getting behind him. As the defender turns, the receiver plants his inside foot and breaks on a slight angle back and toward the sideline; the *Curl or Hook*—receiver breaks downfield as fast as possible toward a spot about two yards outside the man covering him, attempting to force the defender to move to the outside. As the defender moves back and to the outside, the receiver curls (or "hooks") to the inside, getting his back and shoulders between the defender and the flight of the ball; the *Flag*—receiver attempts to get behind the defender, then breaks at full speed for the flag at the goal line on the sideline; and the *Post*—receiver breaks downfield at full speed, running at an angle that will put him directly in the middle of the goal posts.

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