

Coliseum show features sport celebrities

MILWAUKEE—Dick Butkus is perennial All-Pro linebacker during his seven-year National Football League career with the Chicago Bears.

A Chicago native, Butkus played collegiately at the University of Illinois as a center and linebacker. He enjoyed the distinction of earning *Sporting News'* All-America honors as a center in 1963 and as a linebacker in 1964. As a senior, he was named "College Player of the Year" by that publication.

With the Bears, Butkus earned All-Pro status in each of his seven professional seasons. During that time, he intercepted 19 passes and returned them for a total of 147 yards.

Since retiring from pro football, Butkus has been among the busiest speakers on the sports dinner circuit and has worked as a football announcer for the New Orleans Saints and Tampa Bay Buccaneers.

MILWAUKEE—Bob Cousy was a perennial NBA All-Star during his 13 years with the Boston Celtics.

A native of New York City, Cousy played collegiately at Holy Cross where he achieved All-American honors four consecutive years.



Celebrities and former sports greats Dick Butkus and Bob Cousy will be in Portland to participate in the 1983 Sports Connection which is co-sponsored by Lite Beer from the Miller Brewing Company. Butkus (left) will be at the show on Saturday, January 22nd, and Cousy (right) will be there on Sunday, January 23rd. The show will feature the latest in sports equipment as well as many other sports personalities. The show will be at the Memorial Coliseum.

Cousy led the Celtics to six championships during his 13 years with Boston. In 1971, Cousy was elected to the Basketball Hall of Fame and was chosen by an AP poll in 1974,

as one of the top five basketball players of all time.

In 1975, Cousy was selected by the National Association of Basketball Coaches for its Silver Anniver-

sary Team.

Following his pro career, Cousy turned to coaching. He racked up an impressive 117-34 record in six seasons at Boston College. He coached the Cincinnati Royals of the NBA briefly, before leaving in 1974 to return to private business endeavors in Worcester, Mass.

Later that year he was asked to coach the U.S. All-Stars in a six game series against the Russian National Team that had defeated the United States in the 1972 Munich Olympics. In the emotion-filled series, the U.S. captured four of the six games during the cross-country tour.

"Mr. Basketball," as Cousy is affectionately known, has been active for many years both on the local and national scenes of Big Brothers of America. In 1965, Cousy was named "Big Brother of the Year," the award presented to him by then-President Lyndon B. Johnson at the White House. He has traveled to all parts of the world for the U.S. State Department and private industry on lecture and goodwill tours.

Golf, tennis and racquetball are now his major forms of physical recreation. He has a six handicap in golf and holds an "A" ranking in tennis.



Ousmane-Ba of Senegal, who palms basketballs as if they were cantaloupes, is the first international student to play basketball for Howard University's Bison. He is only one of a few African athletes playing NCAA Division 1 basketball in this country.



Eddie Robinson, the legendary football coach of Grambling State University, is shown sending one of his "Tigers" into play.

Grambling coach makes history

Eddie Robinson recently became the fourth coach and the first black in the history of college football to win 300 games.

During his 41-year-career at Grambling State University, Robinson has sent more players (205) into

the National Football League than any other college coach. Under Robinson's leadership, one of the many championships the Grambling Tigers have won is the five-time victory of the Southwestern Athletic Conference Title.

Coach Robinson goes out of his way to make sure his players develop into well-rounded students that will succeed in society. His dedication has been recognized with a multitude of awards. When asked if he would coach for the NFL, Robinson says, "I understand the politics of coaching in the pros, and I just think I can make a bigger contribution right here at Grambling."



Ray Robinson, who won fame as one of history's greatest boxers, got his nickname "Sugar Ray" when a sportswriter described him as the "sweetest fighter...sweet as sugar."

African student joins Howard ball team

by Shaun Powell

When Howard University basketball coach A.B. Williamson fielded his basketball team for the 1982-83 season, he found 11 new faces on the squad. Standing out among the first-year transfer and freshman players was a big six-eight, 230-pound athlete from the African nation of Senegal.

Center Ousmane-Ba (pronounced OOSE-mahn BAA) is Howard's first international player on its men's basketball team. He is also only one of a few African athletes playing NCAA Division 1 basketball in this country.

Born in Ethiopia and educated under the French educational system in Dakar, Senegal, the walk-on freshman joined the Howard Bison with only 1½ years of basketball experience. Nonetheless, he palms basketballs as if they were cantaloupes.

The electrical engineering major compensates for his lack of basketball experience by being an excellent student and an inspiration to the team. Says Coach Williamson, "He's a good example of an athlete who is academically sound."

Ousmane-Ba, who speaks several languages, did not play organized basketball until his senior year at Lycee Van Vollenhoven High School in Dakar. Before that, his ball-playing training came from playground pick-up games.

"Basketball is popular in Senegal, but there's no professional team to go to; it's pure amateurism. It's not on the same level as it is here," says Ousmane-Ba.

"We had maybe two gymnasiums in the whole state. Fortunately, the largest gymnasium, with a seating capacity of about 2,000, wasn't too

far from me."

Ousmane-Ba had no real intention of playing basketball, but when you are six-foot-eight, 17 years old and one of the tallest individuals in the country, coaches there couldn't see his NOT playing the sport.

"I was watching my high school team play, and a friend with me said I should play because I was taller than anyone on the court. At this point, I wasn't hooked on playing ball, but the coaches kept pressuring me to play.

"Most of the people around my height didn't have any coordination," he says. "A lot of coaches wanted me to play because I could run and was better coordinated for my size."

After high school, Ousmane-Ba played center on the Converse sectional team from the Ivory Coast. There, he says, he developed various individual basketball skills.

Ousmane-Ba had intentions of attending college. He chose Howard, he says, "because of a sound engineering department. I also knew that many prominent black people had gone through Howard. It's also one of the few schools that really reaches out for overseas students."

Ousmane-Ba has seen only limited action on the court for Howard's Bison. But he's not bitter about it.

"I think that it's better if I don't play this soon. I feel I have to learn the game better and cut down on my mistakes. Playing American ball takes time to get adjusted to."

Says Williamson, "He never complains about not playing. He's also willing to learn and has good potential." The coach anticipates that his promise will pay off in one to two years.

Letter

To the sports editor:

When will you admit that Jim Paxson carries his weight on the court? Last year, you accused the Blazers of racism for starting Paxson instead of Bates. It did look that way at the time, but the season indicated otherwise. You claimed all Paxson can do is shoot—a 20-plus ppg average in Jack Ramsay's team offense speaks for itself. But he's also proven himself to be a smart, consistently intense competitor who knows how to win. As a white player in a racist town in a racist league, he sometimes receives a disproportionate share of media attention (though far less than some white "stars"), but he still deserves credit from you as a white player who can really play. As long as you rely on racially-motivated cheap shots rather than impartial observation, it is difficult for knowledgeable b-ball fans to take your column seriously.

Richard Ruby

Ron Skyes replies: O.K., if it's crow you want me to eat, I'll eat. Paxson does carry his weight as an off guard. The NBA needs the Jim Paxsons; unfortunately there are many Billy Ray Bateses around. Therefore, Jimmy is still playing and Billy's gone. And I just have to believe that ability was not the deciding factor. No one ever said Billy couldn't play. Problems, yes.



Boxing promoter Don King was pardoned by Ohio Governor J.A. Rhodes for a manslaughter. King served one year in prison in 1971.

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Josephine Baker, the famous singer, was known for walking her pet leopards down the Champs Elysees in Paris.

The earliest known members of the modern cat family first appeared about 13 million years ago.

New York City's massive Pennsylvania Railroad Station was originally modeled after the ancient Roman baths of Caracalla.

In old Japan it was believed that eating ginseng root would help ensure long life.

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