

SPORTS

GERVIN, THOMPSON, GOODRICH NAMED TO HALL

Former college and pro stars George Gervin, David Thompson and Gail Goodrich were among six former players elected Monday to the Basketball Hall of Fame.

Also elected were former European star Kresimir Cosic, who died last May at the age of 46, women's star Nancy Lieberman-Cline and early National Basketball Association star George Yardley.

Enshrinement ceremonies at the Basketball Hall of Fame will be May 6.

Gervin, who played in the American Basketball Association and the NBA, was a 12-time All-Star and one of only three players in NBA history to win four or more scoring titles. His career scoring average of 26.2 points a game is the sixth highest in NBA history.

Gervin is one of only seven players in NBA history to score more than 2,000 points in six consecutive seasons and he is one of only four players in league history to score in double figures in 400 or more games. Gervin had a 63-point single-game

performance in 1978 and is one of only 15 players in NBA history to surpass 60 points in a regular-season game.

Thompson was a three-time All-America at North Carolina State and was named College Basketball Player of the Year twice. Thompson was named the Most Valuable Player of the 1974 NCAA Championship tournament and his No. 44 jersey is the only one ever retired at North Carolina State.

Thompson was the ABA Rookie of the Year and Most Valuable Player

in the All-Star game, played in four NBA All-Star games and was named the game's MVP in 1979, becoming the only player to win the award in both leagues.

Thompson averaged 22.1 points a game and his 73-point performance against Detroit in April 1978 is the third highest in NBA history. His No. 33 jersey also has been retired by the Denver Nuggets.

Goodrich helped lead UCLA to two NCAA championships and led his conference in scoring as the Bruins went 30-0 in 1964. He went on to

play 14 seasons in the NBA, where he was selected to the All-Star team five times.

Yardley played seven seasons in the NBA and in 1957-58 became the first player to score 2,000 points in a season. He was named to the NBA All-Star team six times and averaged 19.2 points for his career.

Cosic, who died last May from lymphoma, starred at Brigham Young but made his reputation on the international scene. After leading BYU in scoring in his final two years, he went on to play on four Olympic teams for

the former Yugoslavia.

He was a member of the silver medal team in 1968 and the gold medal team in 1980 and starred for two World Championship Gold Medal teams.

Lieberman played on two Pan American gold medal winning teams and played for the U.S. team that won the silver medal at the 1976 Olympics. Lieberman was a three-time All-America at Old Dominion and led the school to back-to-back national championships in 1979 and 1980.

SPORTS BRIEFS

BY ERIC NOON

Seahawks Flying South

The Seattle Seahawks are looking to move to Southern California and play football in the Rose Bowl next year.

NFL owners will discuss the situation at their regular meeting Thursday and Friday. Superior Court Judge Dale Ramerhann will hear arguments on whether to issue an injunction to stop the move on Feb. 16.

Benson Stays Atop PIL

The Benson Boys and girls basketball teams stay atop the PIL standings this week with impressive wins over Grant.

The No. 1-ranked boys got 18 points from Vernon Cropper and 17 from Mark Tomas as the Techmen remained unbeaten in league at 11-0 with a 72-62 win.

Blazers Struggle Mid-Way

At 22-24, the Portland Trail Blazers have struggled through the first half of the NBA season. With big wins over Utah and New York at home early on the team was looking strong, but with erratic play by the bench and a team really not finding an identity for itself, it's been tough.

The Blazers, to their credit, have remained competitive and have been in most games, including the two with the 41-4 Chicago Bulls. The free-throw shooting has cost them dearly as they are on pace (62 percent) to break the NBA record for worst percentage in a season.

Look for the Blazers to battle the Nuggets for the eighth spot in the west right down to the last game to keep it's 13-year playoff streak alive.

Nuggets Snap Bulls Streak

All the stars were out to see Magic Johnson and the Lakers break the 17-game winning streak of the Chicago Bulls as "Showtime" was alive again in L.A. But Magic scored 15 points and the Lakers lost 84-99 Friday night. Sunday the Bulls walked into McNichols Arena with a 41-3 record and walked away with the fourth longest winning streak halted in the hands of the 19-26 Denver Nuggets.

The Nuggets withstood a 31-point come-back from the Bulls to win 105-99 with Michael Jordan scoring 22 in the third quarter and 39 for the game. The loss was Chicago's first since a 103-97 defeat Dec. 26, and broke their nine game road victory streak.

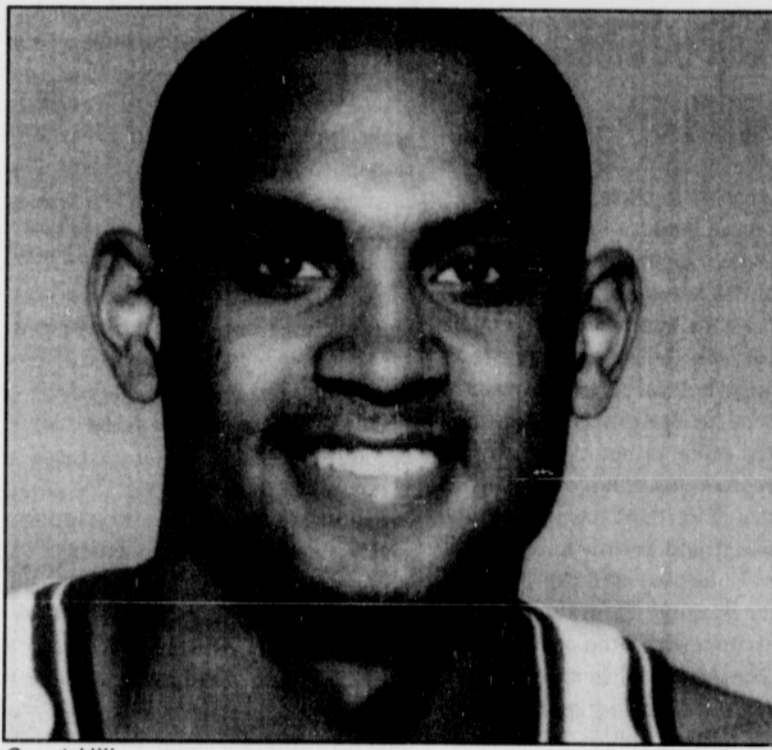
"I expected us to lose sometime, but I feel bad because we played bad," said the rebounding champion, who had fell short of Dikembo Mutombo 12-17 in boards, "That team (Denver) is not that good. I'm not going to give that team any credit at all."

Hill Leads All-Star Balloting

Grant Hill of the Detroit Pistons has edged Michael Jordan of the Chicago Bulls as the top NBA All-Star vote-getter, marking his second consecutive year as the No. 1 fan favorite.

Hill is joined by two Bulls, Jordan and Scottie Pippen, and two members of the Orlando Magic, Shaquille O'Neal and Anfernee Hardaway, on the starting Eastern Conference squad in next month's All-Star Game in San Antonio.

Center Hakeem Olajuwon and guard Clyde Drexler from the two-time defending champion Houston Rockets are joined on the Western Conference starting team by the Phoenix Suns' Charles



Grant Hill

Barkley and the Seattle SuperSonics' Shawn Kemp at forward and the Dallas Mavericks' Jason Kidd at guard.

Hill, who became the first rookie in NBA history to lead all players in votes last season, surpass Jordan by 16,582 votes.

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BOYZ II MEN, BRANDY STAR IN YOUTH GALA

The NBA All-Star Youth Celebration this weekend will showcase top musicians and television stars

The National Basketball Association recently announced that multi-platinum recording artists Boyz II Men and singing sensation Brandy will headline the 1996 NBA All-Star Youth Celebration at noon (EST) on Saturday, Feb. 10, 1996.

The one-hour special will be broadcast simultaneously on NBC, TNT, Nickelodeon and BET in the United States and YTV in Canada from the Alamodome in San Antonio.

The "Celebration" is a tribute to 20,000 students from nearly 100 San Antonio and South Texas middle schools who have demonstrated improvements in the areas of academics, behavior and citizenship. They will be entertained by today's hottest

film, television and music celebrities, as well as NBA stars, who are donating their time to support the importance of education.

Hosting the telecast, along with Boyz II Men and Brandy, will be Ahmad Rashad and Willow Bay, co-hosts of "NBA Inside Stuff." The "Celebration" will feature Brandy and Wanya Morris of Boyz II Men, singing their top ten smash single "Brokenhearted," and Grammy Award winners All-4-One performing "I Can Love You Like That."

NBA players making appearances include, 1994-1995 NBA Co-Rookie of the Year and Detroit Piston forward Grant Hill, Golden State Warriors forward Joe Smith, Philadelphia 76ers guard Jerry Stackhouse, San Antonio Spurs forward Sean Elliott and Toronto Raptors guard Damon Stoudamire.

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