

# SPORTS

## SPORTS BRIEFS

### Tour de France enters third stage today

The 83rd running of the Tour de France, cycling's most prestigious race, continues with the third stage today in Wasquehal, France. The third of 21 stages will take the sprinters on a 121-mile jaunt from Wasquehal through Nogent-Sur-Oise. Italian sprinter Mario Cipollini, a member of the SAECO team, won Monday's second stage at Wasquehal, France.

### Lakers, Hornets agree to swap Divac and Bryant

The Los Angeles Lakers, who are expected to be the primary contenders for Orlando Magic free agent center Shaquille O'Neal, agreed Monday to send center Vlade Divac to the Charlotte Hornets for Kobe Bryant, the 13th overall pick in last week's draft. The move clears salary cap money for the Lakers, who reportedly will make a strong bid for O'Neal when the free agent signing period begins July 9th. The trade will not become official until July 9th, when an NBA-imposed moratorium ends.

### Dream Team III opens practice in Chicago

Dream Team III, expected to win another easy gold medal at the Olympics later this month, began facing their toughest challenge — playing against each other — when it opened practice Monday in Chicago. The Dream Team is training at the Solheim Center on the campus of the Moody Bible Institute through Friday before beginning a five-game exhibition slate. Unlike in 1992, when the team scrimmaged against a group of college all-stars, this year's team will not face any outside competition prior to its exhibition schedule. The first game is Saturday at the Palace in Auburn Hills, Michigan, against a USA Basketball select team. The exhibition tour heads to Cleveland's Gund Arena on July 7th, Phoenix's America West Arena on July 10th, Salt Lake City's Delta Center on July 12th and the RCA Dome in Indianapolis on July 14th.

### Wayne Gretzky heads list of NHL free agents

Superstar center Wayne Gretzky, who rejected an offer from the St. Louis Blues last week, tops the list of NHL free agents, released Monday by the league. Gretzky, Chicago Blackhawks center Bernie Nicholls, New Jersey Devils defenseman Phil Housley and New York Rangers forwards Pat Verbeek and Jari Kurri are among 168 players who have qualified for unrestricted free agency and can sign with any team. Golden State signs first-round pick Todd Fuller to contract.

### Golden State To sign Fuller

The Golden State Warriors Monday signed center Todd Fuller, the 11th pick in last week's draft, to a three-year contract. In accordance with team policy, financial terms were not disclosed. The 6-foot-11 Fuller was the second senior taken in the draft behind Kerry Kittles, who was selected eighth overall by the New Jersey Nets. Fuller, who played at North Carolina State, was a unanimous First Team All-ACC selection his senior year, averaging 20.9 points and 9.9 rebounds. He is ninth on the Wolfpack's all-time scoring list with 1,585 points and fifth with 887 rebounds.

### Celtics hire K.C. Jones as assistant coach; promote Johnson

The Boston Celtics Monday hired former coach K.C. Jones as an assistant to head coach M.L. Carr and promoted Dennis Johnson to the first assistant position. Jones was an assistant coach from 1978-83 before taking over as coach for the 1983-84 season. Jones compiled a 308-102 record in five seasons, winning two NBA Championships. His teams won at least 57 games in all five seasons and won titles in 1984 and 1986.

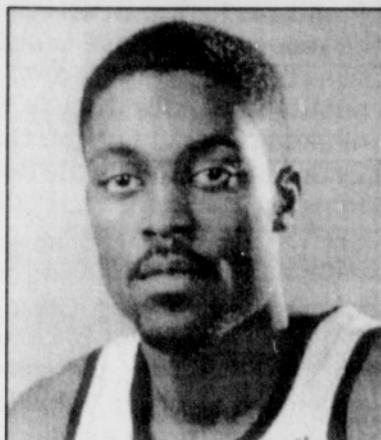
## BULLETS ACQUIRE STRICKLAND AND GRANT

The Washington Bullets acquired point guard Rod Strickland and forward Harvey Grant from the Portland Trail Blazers for forward Rasheed Wallace and guard Mitchell Butler.

In addition to the four-player deal, the Bullets dipped into the frenetic free-agent market and signed forward Tracy Murray, who had been with the Toronto Raptors, to a multi-year deal. Terms were not disclosed, but the FAN Radio in Toronto reported it was a seven-year deal worth \$19 million.

Strickland had a falling out with Portland coach P.J. Carlesimo during last season, coming at odds with Carlesimo's half-court offense. The 30-year-old Strickland was suspended in the middle of the season, but averaged 18.8 points and 9.6 assists in 67 games last season. His assist total placed him fourth in the league.

He helped the Trail Blazers push Utah to five games in the first round of the Western Conference playoffs, but had only 10 points and eight assists in the deciding game, a 102-64 humiliation at Utah.

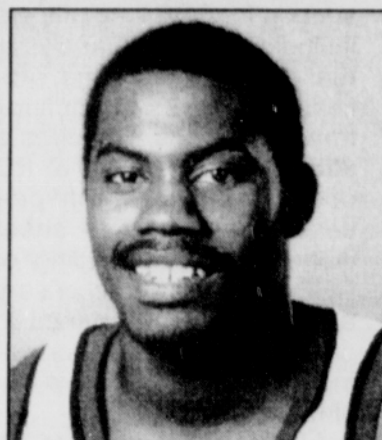


Rod Strickland

"Strickland is an outstanding point guard who is one of the league's best perimeter shooters," said Washington head coach Jim Lynam. "He's the type of player who makes teammates better, because of his ability to penetrate the defense and create."

Strickland is returning to the Atlantic Division, where he played for the New York Knicks in the 1988-89 and part of the 1989-90 season.

"We have upgraded our backcourt with the addition of Strickland," said Washington General Manager Wes Unseld. "He is a proven top point guard in the league."



Rasheed Wallace

The 31-year-old Grant is returning for his second stint with Washington, where he spent the first five years of his career. He was traded to Portland for center Kevin Duckworth in June 1993 and averaged 9.3 points and 4.8 rebounds in 75 games last season. Grant averaged 18 points or better the last three seasons he was with Washington.

"I coached Harvey for five seasons," added Unseld. "His versatility and strong defense will make him a solid addition to this team."

The move by Washington softens the blow of losing free agent forward Juwan Howard to the Miami Heat for a reported \$98 million over seven years.

Murray is a journeyman who started his career with the Trail Blazers. He was the third player in Portland's deal that sent Clyde Drexler to the Houston Rockets for Otis Thorpe last season.

Toronto picked the 24-year-old Murray in the expansion draft and he averaged 16.2 points and 4.3 rebounds in 82 games with the Raptors. Murray shot 45.4 percent from the field and 42.2 percent from three-point range.

Wallace was the fourth overall pick in last year's draft after playing only two years at North Carolina. The 6-foot-10 forward was erratic in his rookie season, averaging 10.1 points and 4.7 rebounds in 65 games. He suffered a torn ligament in his thumb and missed the final portion of the season.

Butler primarily was a reserve for Washington last season, averaging 3.9 points and 1.9 rebounds in 61 games. His best season was in 1994-95, when he averaged 7.9 points.

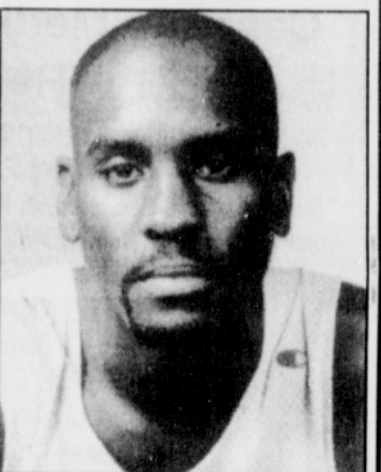
## PAYTON TO STAY IN SEATTLE

The Seattle SuperSonics reportedly have re-signed free agent point guard Gary Payton to a seven-year, \$85 million contract.

According to the Seattle Times, Payton rejected an offer from the Miami Heat over the weekend, leaving the Sonics as the only other option. The Heat reportedly has agreed to terms with free agent forward Juwan Howard on a seven-year, \$95 million deal.

"Gary wants to stay in Seattle," his agent, Aaron Goodwin, told the newspaper. "Although he received a significant offer from Miami, we've decided to fully work toward getting a contact done, but there are a few wrinkles to be ironed out."

Payton, a member of Dream Team III who turns 28 on July 23rd, made \$2.7 million this past season in the final year of a six-year, \$13.5 million contract.



Gary Payton

He emerged as the NBA's premier point guard in his sixth year in the league. Payton averaged 19.3 points, 7.5 assists and just over four rebounds per game and was named the NBA's Defensive Player of the Year.

## New Manager To Run Tennis And Racquetball Center

The Vancouver Tennis and Racquetball Center (VTC) at 18th and Stapleton Rd. will get a new manager, Kevin Young, starting July 15.

Young, 36, is a resident of Vancouver and has been the Director of Tennis and Head Tennis Professional at Club Green Meadows for the past two years. He is a graduate of the University of San Diego and holds a degree in Business Administration. Young played intercollegiate tennis at USD. He has been a full-time USPTA (United States Professional Tennis Association) certified tennis professional since 1984 and has worked at many top tennis facilities around the Pacific Northwest, including Central Park Tennis Club in Kirkland, Wa., the Yakima Tennis Club and the Seattle Tennis Club. Hector Mendoza and Michele Rudi will come with Young from their former positions at Club Green Meadows, where they served as the Junior Program Coordinator and the Director of Tennis Activities, respectively.

Mendoza and Rudi will join other VTC staff, including Roger Hart, VTC's current pro, to give VTC one of the strongest and most experienced tennis professional staffs in the Pacific Northwest.

Young will work to make improvements in the tennis center's financial stability by developing a large-scale junior development program, stimulating membership growth and improving service and communications to the members and the community.

Young's supervisor is Dave Miletich, Recreation Manager.

## Police Say Brawl Started by Bowe Camp

The New York Police said Friday instigators of the brawl after Thursday's Riddick Bowe-Andrew Golota fight at Madison Square Garden likely were members of the Bowe camp.

Police Commissioner Howard Safir said 14 people have been arrested for participating in the melee that broke out after Golota had been disqualified for repeated low blows.

Safir also said police are hunting a Jason Harris, whom Safir said would be charged with assault and reckless endangerment.

"At this point as far as we can tell the people who did the assaulting were

connected to the Bowe camp," Safir said.

"It appears the people who had felony records came out of the Bowe corner. But I can't tell you definitively until further investigation what their exact connection to Bowe is. But it is our belief they were connected to the Bowe camp," Safir said.

Bowe's manager, Rock Newman, said earlier Friday he had given police the name of the man who allegedly hit Golota on the back of the head with a walkie-talkie or a cellular phone.

It was not immediately clear if Harris was the man being sought for hitting

Golota, who said he had taken 12 stitches to close the gash from the blow just after he had been disqualified in the seventh round.

The riot broke out immediately after referee Wayne Kelly disqualified Golota following his fourth low blow of the fight, members of Bowe's camp jumped into the ring and attacked Golota. Then the entire ring was filled with brawlers. Hundreds of fans in the crowd of 11,752 got into the action too, throwing chairs and fighting.

The fighting continued for at least 15 minutes before some order was restored, prompting complaints from many that security at the fight was inadequate.

After the brawl, Madison Square Garden doctor Andrew Bazos reported "12 minor injuries, routine bruises and sprains. Seven were taken St. Vincent

Hospital for precautionary reasons."

The crowd was racially divided between Polish-American fans of Golota and black fans of the Brooklyn resident Bowe.

Golota's trainer, 74-year-old Lou Duva, who also jumped into the brawl, was taken to a hospital, suffering from chest pains. Duva, who has had heart bypass surgery, was released from the hospital Friday morning and is in good condition, a Duva spokesman said.

Newman said earlier he would look forward to a rematch, and Golota's promoter, Main Events, headed by the Duva's, said they would likely accept one. But Main Events spokeswoman Kathy Duva said her company will file a protest with the New York State Athletic Commission, saying it was a violation of rules to stop the fight for low blows.

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