

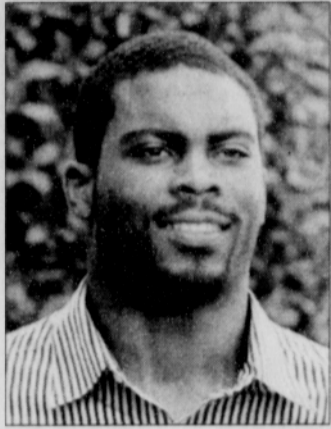
SPORTS

Michael Vick Reinstated by NFL, Expresses Thanks

Awaits team to sign up quarterback

(AP) -- The door is ajar for Michael Vick to return to the NFL. Only Vick, and any team willing to sign him, can open it fully.

NFL commissioner Roger Goodell reinstated Vick on Monday, with conditions. Free after serving 18 months in



Michael Vick

prison for running a dogfighting ring, Vick could participate in regular-season games as early as October.

Vick can immediately take part in preseason practices, workouts and meetings and can play in the final two preseason games—if he can find a team. A number of clubs have already said they are not interested.

Once the season begins, Vick may participate in all team activities except games, and Goodell said he would consider Vick for

full reinstatement by Week 6 (Oct. 18-19) at the latest.

"I would like to express my sincere gratitude and appreciation to commissioner Goodell for allowing me to be readmitted to the National Football League," Vick said in a statement released by his agent, Joel Segal. "I fully understand that playing football in the NFL is a privilege, not a right, and I am truly thankful for the opportunity I have been given.

"As you can imagine, the last

two years have given me time to re-evaluate my life, mature as an individual and fully understand the terrible mistakes I have made in the past and what type of life I must lead moving forward," he said.

Goodell suspended Vick indefinitely in August 2007 after the former Atlanta Falcons quarterback admitted bankrolling a dogfighting operation on his property in Virginia. At the time, Goodell said Vick must show remorse before he would con-

sider reinstating him.

"I accept that you are sincere when you say that you want to, and will, turn your life around, and that you intend to be a positive role model for others," Goodell said in his letter to Vick. "I am prepared to offer you that opportunity. Whether you succeed is entirely in your hands."

Goodell said he spoke to numerous current and former players and coaches as he weighed his decision and that the responses were "very mixed."

Trio Elected into Hall of Fame *Gordon got start in Portland*

(AP) -- Former left fielders Jim Rice and Rickey Henderson were inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, N.Y. on Sunday along with the late Joe Gordon who grew up in Portland graduating from Jefferson High School.

Henderson, baseball's all-time leading base stealer, was briefly overcome before evoking some hearty laughs.

"My journey as a player is complete," Henderson said. "I am now in the class of the greatest players of all time, and at this moment I am very humbled."

Born in Chicago on Christmas Day 1958, Henderson moved with his family to California when he was 7 years old and became a three-sport star at Oakland Technical High School. Football was his forte and he received numerous scholarships. He was persuaded to turn them down for a shot



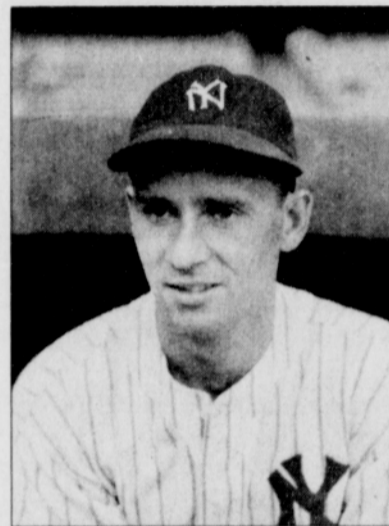
at baseball.

While Henderson, now 50, was just the 44th player elected to the Hall in his first year of eligibility, Rice had to wait until his final year of eligibility to be selected.

"It doesn't matter that the call came 15 years later," Rice said. "What matters is that I got it."

Rice batted .298 with 382 home runs and 1,451 RBIs from 1974-89. He drove in 100 or more runs eight times, batted over .300 seven times, and topped 200 hits four times. And he's the only player in major league his-

← Rickey Henderson (left) and Jim Rice hold their plaques after their induction into the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, N.Y. (AP Photo)



Joe Gordon, a Jefferson High School baseball player who went on to become an all-star in the Major Leagues, was voted into the Baseball Hall of Fame Sunday.

tory with at least 35 homers and 200 hits in three consecutive seasons (1977-79).

The day's most poignant moment came from Gordon's daughter, Judy. Gordon died in 1978 at age 63.

"We consider Cooperstown and the National Baseball Hall of Fame as his final resting place, a place he'll be honored forever," Judy Gordon said, tears welling in her eyes.

Gordon won the 1942 AL MVP, beating out Triple Crown winner Ted Williams, and was an All-Star nine times in 11 seasons, leading the league in assists four times and in double plays three times. Nicknamed "Flash" because of his quick feet, Gordon was the first AL second baseman to hit 20 home runs in a season — he did it seven times — and still holds the league mark for career homers by a second baseman (246).

Ask Deanna!
Real People, Real Advice
An advice column known for reality based subjects!

Dear Deanna!
I'm in a relationship and I think my boyfriend has another life. We've dated for two years and he's always worked third shift. While on medical leave I noticed he never came home until noon. When I asked about this he told me that he goes to the gym. I followed him and his gym turned out to be an apartment complex. We argued. Instead of telling me about the apartment, he accused me of not trusting him. What do I do? -- *Insecure and Worried; Tampa, Fla.*

Dear Insecure:
If you have to stalk a man and chase him

down for answers, then you're with the wrong person. He placed the blame on you instead of confessing the truth and being honest. He's burning two ends of the candle by working at night, being with one woman in the morning and being with you in the evening. Don't settle for less because you deserve more. Heal yourself from the inside out, count your loss and keep it moving.

Dear Deanna!
I'm a 50-year old divorcee that met a man last year who is 62 and widowed. We've been going out every other weekend for a year but haven't been intimate. We hang out late and he's never asked me to stay all night at his place. He never calls me and the only time we talk is when I call him and he appears happy. His birthday is in two weeks and I want to seduce him. Should I do this and do you think he's

interested in me? --*Sexy Senior Woman; Los Angeles*

Dear Sexy Senior Woman:
Don't play yourself. After a year if you do all the calling and he still hasn't made room for your toothbrush is a good sign he only likes you as a friend. Don't force yourself on him through seduction because it may turn ugly. Obviously there's some interest because he spends time with you. Respect his space and decisions because for all you know, he may be impotent or still grieving for his late wife. One day he may come around and see you in a different light, but don't hold your breath.

Ask Deanna is written by Deanna M. Write Ask Deanna! at the email askdeanna1@yahoo.com or 264 S. LaCienega Blvd. Suite 1283 Beverly Hills, CA 90211. Website: www.askdeanna.com

Blazers Sign Philly Starter

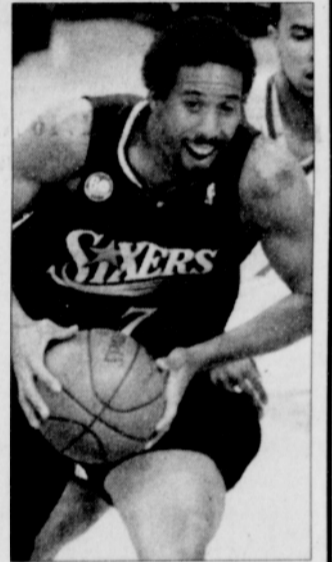
(AP) -- The Portland Trail Blazers signed veteran free agent guard Andre Miller on Friday to a three-year, \$21 million deal.

Miller, whose NBA career has spanned 10 seasons with four teams, averaged 16.3 points and 6.5 assists as a starter for the Philadelphia 76ers last season.

"I'm just looking forward to the challenge" Miller said in a conference call. "I know Portland wants to accomplish a lot of things, and I want to add to that."

Miller joins point guards Steve Blake and Jerryd Bayless with the Blazers, the second-youngest team in the NBA last season. Portland won 54 games and advanced to the playoffs for the first time since 2003.

The 33-year-old has played an NBA-high 530 straight games. He has missed just three in his career.



Andre Miller

In Loving Memory

Christine Jones

Christine Jones was born Sept. 12, 1924 in Pine Bluff, Ark., to loving parents Jordan and Ione Rayfus, the first daughter of nine children.

After graduating from Merrill High School, she met the love of her life, Willie Amos Jones Sr., and not long after, they married on March 31, 1944. They started their own family by having two beautiful girls in Arkansas. Not long after, they made the journey to Portland where Christine attended nursing school, and had seven more beautiful children -- six girls and one boy.

Christine worked as a certified nurse for Emanuel Hospital for over 26 years. She retired and went on to open her own daycare



center. With her heart being as big as it was, she decided to do foster care and run a day care center at the same time.

Christine received Christ in her life at a very early age and later was baptized at Mt. Carmel Missionary Baptist Church. She had lots of love to give and will be remembered for her glowing smile, sparkling eyes, loving personality and big heart.

Preceding her in death were her parents and husband; three brothers, two sisters and five grandchildren.

She leaves to mourn two brothers; a sister; her nine children, Ernestine Batchelor, Ameera Sahiir, Willie A Jones Jr., Cynthia Simms, Patricia Jones and Jacqueline Jones-Martin, all of Portland, and Dolores Jones of Tacoma, Wash., Ishan Rushdan of Richmond, Calif., and Celeste Jones of San Bernardino, Calif.

Christine also leaves 33 grandchildren, 53 great grandchildren and 5 great-great grandchildren and a host of friends and extended family.

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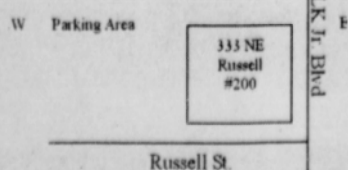
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