



### Like Father, Like Son

Every year, there seem to be more sons of former major-league ballplayers playing in the big leagues. But, unlike most professions, nepotism in baseball has definite limits. No matter how influential the father, there is no way he can help his son get a hit, strike out a batter, field a ball or make a strong throw. The son has to achieve his own record in the batter's box and on the field.

Recently, my old teammate Felipe Alou was promoted to manager of the Montreal Expos. His son, Moises Alou, is an outfielder with the Expos, and his nephew, Mel Rojas, is a pitcher on the team. But both made the team under another manager and solely on their own merits.

In some cases, both father and son are above-average athletes. Ken Griffey, for example, was a solid player with the Cincinnati Reds and other teams for many years, and his son, Ken Jr., is currently a star with the Seattle Mariners.

And there are examples of a son doing better than his father. Sandy Alomar, who was another old teammate of mine on the Braves before he achieved greater success with the American League, has two sons currently playing in the American League. Sandy Jr., with the Cleveland Indians, and Roberto, with the Toronto Blue Jays, are early in their careers, but both have the potential to be true stars. Sandy Jr. was the "Rookie of the Year" in the American League in 1990, and Roberto hit .295, stole 43 bases and won a Golden Glove for his fielding at second base last season.

In other cases, a son makes it to the big leagues but never comes close to the success of his father. While comparisons are unavoidable, they really are unfair. For most young ballplayers, just making it to the major leagues is a proud achievement. Of the thousands of players who work from Little League through high school, college and the minor leagues, only a handful ever get even a day on a major-league roster.

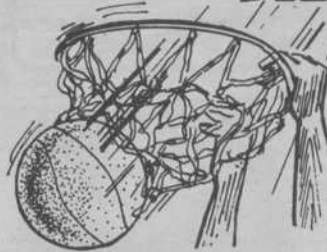
It is very easy for a kid to get frustrated trying to follow in his father's footsteps. My sons tried baseball, but I realized that because of my career, they could hit as well as .260 or .270 and still be frustrated ballplayers.

You have to be very careful about how you instruct kids. I just wanted my boys to be what they wanted to be. If they wanted to play baseball, I was going to try to help them, but my main concern was making sure they got a good education. That is what is needed to confront this world. It is wrong to try and push a kid to go in the same direction as a parent — father or mother.

I've been asked if seeing the sons of former teammates playing in the big leagues makes me feel old. Well, there's no denying it, I am getting older. But it makes me feel good to see a kid come along and know I played with his father. ■

Hank Aaron is the top home-run hitter of all time with 755 homers. A member of baseball's Hall of Fame, Hank is senior vice president of the Atlanta Braves.

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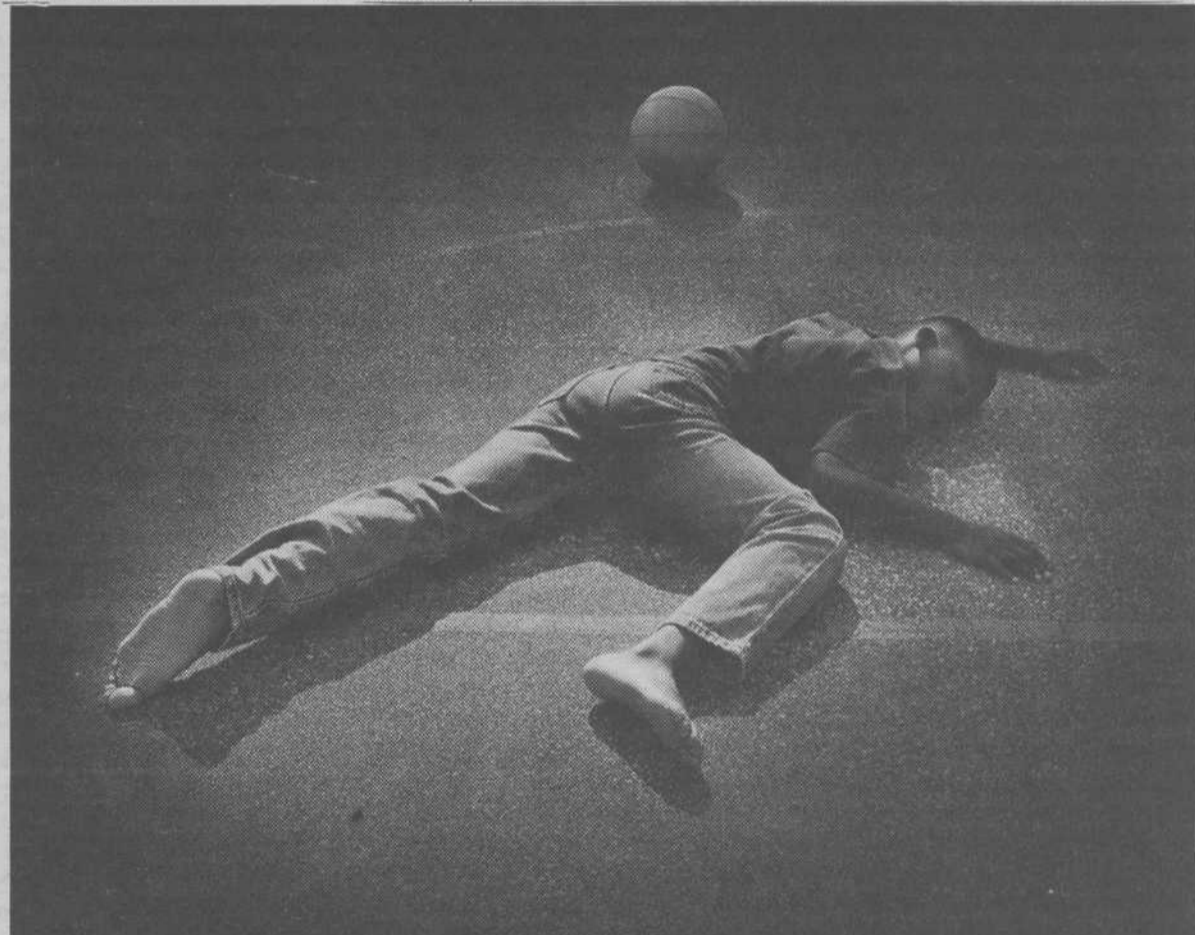


**1992 NBA HONOR ROLL**  
 Edge NBA Most Valuable Player  
*Michael Jordan, Chicago*  
 IBM NBA Coach of the Year  
*Don Nelson, Golden St.*

Coca-Cola Classic NBA Rookie of the Year  
*Larry Johnson, Charlotte*  
 Schick Award  
*Dennis Rodman, Detroit*  
 NBA Most Improved Player  
*Pervis Ellison, Washington*  
 NBA Defensive Player of Year  
*David Robinson, San Antonio*  
 Miller Genuine Draft NBA Sixth Man Award  
*Detlef Schrempf, Indiana*  
 J. Walter Kennedy PBWAA

Citizenship Award  
*Earvin Magic Johnson, Lakers*  
**ALL-NBA TEAM**  
 G *Michael Jordan, Chicago*  
 G *Clyde Drexler, Portland*  
 C *David Robinson, San Antonio*  
 F *Karl Malone, Utah*  
 F *Chris Mullin, Golden St.*  
**NBA ALL-DEFENSE TEAM**  
 G *Michael Jordan, Chicago*  
 G *Joe Dumars, Detroit*  
 C *David Robinson, San Antonio*  
 F *Dennis Rodman, Detroit*

F *Scottie Pippen, Chicago*  
**NBA ALL-ROOKIE TEAM**  
 (Chosen without regard to position. Followed by college that was attended)  
**Larry Johnson, Charlotte - UNLV**  
*Dikembe Mutombo, Denver - Georgetown*  
*Billy Owens, Golden St. - Syracuse*  
*Steve Smith, Miami - Michigan St.*  
**Stacey Augmon, Atlanta - UNLV**



# SOMEBODY'S DYING FOR A NEW PAIR OF SNEAKERS.

All over America children are the victims of violent crime. They are being assaulted and even murdered for the sake of anything from a pair of sneakers to some loose change in their pockets.

It's a situation that's only getting worse. Unless you do something to fight back, your child could become one of those victims.

You can make a difference. Start now by calling 1-800-WE PREVENT and we'll send you information on successful ways to join with others to protect your children from crime in your neighborhood. 1-800-WE PREVENT.



## ★ ★ ★ SPORTS BRIEFS ★ ★ ★

### THE GREATEST -

Muhammad Ali received the Life Time Achievement Award this past Monday night. The 50-year-old former three-time world heavyweight champion was given the award during the Jim Thorpe Pro Sports Awards. Actor James Earl Jones made the presentation.

### MUSICAL DIVISIONS -

Commissioner Fay Vincent forced realignment on the National League, sending the Chicago Cubs and St. Louis Cardinals to the West and moving the Atlanta Braves and the Cincinnati Reds to the East. The Cubs filed suit in federal court Tuesday to stop Vincent from forcing the team to switch divisions.

### TYSON:

### "A COLLECTORS ITEM?" -

Tina Hansford, an artist who

captured Mike Tyson during his rape trial, has put seven sketches on the market, all signed by the convicted boxer. Hansford said she would receive \$400 for each sketch, which were originally priced between \$750 - \$2000.

### EYES ARE BIGGER THAN THEIR BASKET -

The Dayton Wings of the World Basketball League want to play against the United States Olympic team. The Wings have promised to pay \$500,000 to the U.S. Olympic Committee in exchange for a game, said David Esrati, director of operations.

### PLACE YOUR BETS -

The National League will be a minus \$1.20 favorite against the American League in Tuesday night's All-Star game in San Diego. The total on the game will be 7 1/2 - minus \$1.30.

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