

| | |
|--|--|
| UN Sung HOLLYWOOD: HARLEM GLOBETROTTERS | Writer/Director/Producer: Adrian Maher |
| COLD OPEN | |
| Tape 023 Ben Green | The style of the NBA today goes straight back, uh, to the Harlem Globetrotters.... Magic Johnson and Showtime that was Globetrotter basketball. |
| Tape 030 Mannie Jackson | [01:04:17] The Harlem Globetrotters are arguably the best known sports franchise probably one of the best known brands in the world. |
| Tape 028 Kevin Frazier | [16:13:32] The Harlem Globetrotters are a team that revolutionized basketball...There may not be Black basketball without the Harlem Globetrotters. |
| Tape 001 Sweet Lou Dunbar | [01:10:28] Abe Saperstein, he's only about this tall.....he had these five guys from the south side of Chicago, they..... all crammed into this one small car. And, they'd travel. |
| Tape 030 Mannie Jackson Tape 033 Mannie Jackson | [01:20:06] Abe was a showman..... (04:18:53) he's the first person that really recognized that sports and entertainment were blended. |
| Tape 018 Kevin "Special K" Daly | [19:01:53] back in the day, uh, because of the racism that was going on the Harlem Globetrotters couldn't stay at the regular hotel so they had to sleep in jail sometimes or barns, in the car, slaughterhouses |
| Tape 034 Bijan Bayne | [09:37:30] the Globetrotters were prophets.....But they were aliens in their own land. |
| Tape 007 Curly Neal | [04:21:26] we invented the slam dunk, the ally-oop shot which is very famous and....between the legs, passes |
| Tape 030 Mannie Jackson | [01:21:33] They made the game look so easy, they did things so fast it looked magical..... |
| Tape 024 Ben Green | [05:27:25] One of the most complicated parts of Globetrotter history is the minstrel aspect of it.... Part of the gags involved, uh, shooting craps, rolling dice [05:28:20] what they were using was sort of stereotype dialect, the way they yelled, kinda squealing noises |
| Tape 031 Mannie Jackson | [02:08:41] The big lie was that Blacks couldn't play an organized game. They couldn't play against the best. They were clowns. |
| Tape 028 Kevin Frazier | [16:26:05] |

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| | <p>The Minneapolis Lakers..... the Harlem Globetrotters. No way the clowns can compete against the NBA champions and George Mikan and this great team.....it was a huge moment, not just for basketball, but for race relations and especially African-Americans.</p> |
| Tape 036 Bijan Bayne | <p>(10:54:47) The history of this team and its owner is a very complex mix in terms of the racial element and there's a constant push/pull over the decades of the way the Globetrotters are perceived and branded.</p> |
| Tape 031 Mannie Jackson | <p>[02:19:13] who would ever think about going to London and -- and going ... to Berlin and playing games?</p> |
| Tape 028 Kevin Frazier | <p>[16:31:32] All of a sudden they realize wait a minute, so in America I can't stay in the best hotel, but I can go to Argentina or Brazil or Europe and I'm treated like a conquering hero? And no one looks at my skin.</p> |
| Tape 025 Ben Green | <p>[07:14:00] no matter how much they're treated like royalty. [07:14:29] No matter how much the US State Department wants to parade them around the world, the reality is when they get back home, Jim Crow America is still front and center.</p> |
| Tape 024 Ben Green | <p>[06:23:47] BENJAMIN : Abe had a monopoly on the best black ballplayers in the country. And he wanted to keep it. And he knew that if the NBA started drafting black ballplayers he was gonna lose that control.</p> |
| Tape 036 Bijan Bayne | <p>[10:52:03] Bijan : While the country was changing, while black people were embracing their African-ness, their heritage, they were embracing natural hairstyles, African garb (10:46:08) In 1968 you would still go see a Harlem Globetrotters game and the Globetrotters are basically behaving like children.</p> |
| Tape 032 Mannie Jackson | <p>[03:13:06] the concentration on being comic and cartoon began to dominate because it was makin' money -- dominate the culture and the way the organization was managed.</p> |
| Tape 036 Bijan Bayne | <p>(10:59:48) One can actually see the evolution of America's racial issues through the microcosm of the Harlem Globetrotters.</p> |
| Tape 005 Buckets Blakes | <p>(03:23:48) Buckets: We are accepted now because those guys broke down those barriers.</p> |
| Tape 006 Dizzy Grant | <p>(04:04:13) The Harlem Globetrotters have made basketball universal.</p> |
| Tape 032 Mannie Jackson | <p>(04:03:31) You're talkin about unsung heroes.</p> |

| | |
|---|--|
| | UNBELIEVABLE, UNSTOPPABLE, UNBEATABLE.....UNsung HOLLYWOOD: HARLEM GLOBETROTTERS. |
| ACT ONE | |
| FLASHPOINT | FEBRUARY 19, 1948. IT'S THE DAWN OF AMERICA'S COMING CIVIL RIGHTS REVOLUTION. THAT EVENING, A GAME WILL BE PLAYED IN FRONT OF 18,000 HYSTERICAL FANS IN CHICAGO STADIUM THAT WILL DETERMINE THE WORLD'S BEST BASKETBALL TEAM – THE ALL-WHITE, REGIMENTED, CONTROLLED STYLE OF THE MINNEAPOLIS LAKERS VERSUS THE ALL-BLACK, IMPROVISATIONAL, FAST-COURT PLAY OF THE HARLEM GLOBETROTTERS. IT IS A CLASH OF RACIAL IDENTITY, DEEP-ROOTED PREJUDICES, AND ATHLETIC DOMINATION THAT WILL HAVE LASTING CONSEQUENCES. |
| Tape 028 Kevin Frazier | (16:27:00) That's what people need to understand about that game.....it changed the country. |
| Montage of Jordan, Magic and Dr. J | DECADES BEFORE MICHAEL JORDAN'S "BLIND" FREE THROWS, MAGIC JOHNSON'S NO-LOOK PASSES AND THE ROOF-RATTLING DUNKS OF JULIUS ERVING....THERE WERE THE HARLEM GLOBETROTTERS. |
| Dunk | Sound-up |
| Montage of no-look passes, alley-oops, between the legs dribbling, behind the back passes. etc. | AFTER NEARLY NINE DECADES, THESE GLOBETROTTER TRICKS ARE STILL A TREAT. |
| More montage | Sound-up |
| | THE SHOW BEGINS BEFORE THE GAME EVEN STARTS |
| | Sound-up – Magic Circle |
| Tape 001 Sweet Lou Dunbar: Harlem Globetrotters Coach and Director of Player Personnel | [01:22:10] Sweet Lou : The essence of the magic circle is to get everybody going. Get ... your juices flowing. And to show the people in the audience what we do. Is handle the basketball like ... nobody else can. |
| | THE BALL IS MOVIN AND THE TEAM'S CATCHY THEME-SONG IS GROOVIN |
| | Sound-up – "Sweet Georgia Brown" |
| Tape 004 Buckets Blakes: Current Player – Harlem Globetrotters | [02:53:12] when you hear the "Sweet Georgia Brown", you hear the whistling, you know the Globetrotters are somewhere to be found. |
| More showtime montage | THEN TIP-OFF AND THESE LEGENDARY BASKETBALL BARNSTORMERS GO FULL COURT.....SHOWBOAT DRIBBLING.....TRICK PASSING.....AND WHIPPING WILD SHOTS. |
| Tape 017 Kevin "Special K" Daly: – | [18:28:43] |

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>Showman-Harlem Globetrotters (Note: Don't know if any players hit the half-court hook when I filmed! Makes you realize how special Meadowlark was!!) (Note: Yes, Globetrotters can supply this footage!!!)</p> | <p>Kevin : it's definitely difficult to shoot the half court hook shot. Uh, a lot of people think that it's a trick, but it's definitely not a trick... that takes a lot of, uh, practice, a lot of skill too.</p> |
| | <p>THERE ARE STRING BALLS....WOBBLY BALLS.....AND FUNNY STUNTS WITH FANS.</p> |
| <p>Tape 017 Kevin "Special K" Daly</p> | <p>[18:27:28] Kevin : Some of the current gags that we do today that are my favorites are definitely the ones when we are interacting with the crowd. I like to improvise. Uh, so whenever I see somebody walking by and I go over, I mess with them the whole crowd laughs.</p> |
| | <p>AND THE MOST FAMOUS GLOBETROTTER GAG ALWAYS GETS A CHUCKLE</p> |
| | <p>Sound Up – Water Bucket gag</p> |
| <p>Tape 017 Kevin "Special K" Daly</p> | <p>[18:25:02] Kevin : the bucket of water with the confetti. Nobody.... wants to come to a Harlem Globetrotter game and not see that.</p> |
| <p>Tape 007 Curly Neal: Former Harlem Globetrotter Player and Current Ambassador at Large</p> | <p>[04:36:22] CURLY : That's the key, having a good time....after the Globetrotters' game, nobody never knows the score, but everybody leaves with a smile on their face.</p> |
| <p>FADE OUT OF FLASHPOINT FADE UP ON BACKSTORY, VINTAGE EARLY BASKETBALL</p> | |
| <p>EARLY BASKETBALL</p> | <p>THE HARLEM GLOBETROTTERS CURRENT MIX OF ATHLETIC EXPLOITS AND EYE-POPPING ENTERTAINMENT IS A FAR CRY FROM HOW THE SPORT STARTED OUT A HUNDRED YEARS AGO...</p> |
| <p>Tape 023 Ben Green: Author: Spinning the Globe: The Rise, Fall and Return to Greatness of the Harlem Globetrotters</p> | <p>[05:04:17] Benjamin : basketball in the early twentieth century I think would be unrecognizable to fans today. It was literally played in cages, uh, by immigrants, uh, a lot of who were Jewish</p> |
| <p>Tape 019 Eloise Saperstein: Daughter of Globetrotter Founder Abe Saperstein</p> | <p>[01:10:14] Eloise: They didn't need equipment. They could take a ... clothes hanger and make it into a hoop and just ball up.</p> |
| | <p>[05:04:17] Benjamin : it was a very slow game. There was no 24 second rule.....games would be in single digits sometimes.</p> |
| <p>SAVOY BALLROOM</p> | <p>BY THE EARLY 1920S, SMALL SEMIPRO BLACK BASKETBALL TEAMS WERE SPROUTING UP ON</p> |

| | |
|--|--|
| | AMERICA’S EAST COAST AND IN THE MIDWEST. ONE OF THE MOST NOTABLE WAS A GROUP OF EX-HIGH SCHOOL PLAYERS FROM CHICAGO’S SOUTH SIDE. THEY CALLED THEMSELVES THE “SAVOY BIG FIVE,” AND TOMMY BROOKINS WAS THEIR LEADER. |
| Tape 028 Kevin Frazier: Host of OMG Insider | [16:15:17] Kevin Frazier : So there's the Savoy ballroom in Chicago, and they have dances in there. And before the dances, and sometimes after the dances, they would have basketball games, these five guys would come out and entertain folks with the way they played. |
| EARLY ABE | |
| Tape 023 Ben Green | [05:09:23] Benjamin : they were just playing in Chicago and then they wanted to play around the Midwest and it was a whole lot easier for a white guy to book games in Iowa and Michigan and Wisconsin than it was for a black guy. [05:09:39] Benjamin : And so they hired Abe Saperstein who had been doing bookings for some of the Negro League teams and sort of knew the circuit. |
| Tape 030 Mannie Jackson: Former player and owner – Harlem Globetrotters. | (01:07:27) MANNIE : I knew Abe Saperstein I think very well. ...I met him when I was eight or nine years old....And ... what I remember about him he was about my size. |
| Tape 019 Eloise Saperstein | [01:12:19] ELOISE : my dad played... point guard because he was very good at giving directions. |
| Tape 034 Bijan Bayne | [09:38:55] BIJAN : I would describe Abe Saperstein as the ultimate showman. He..... probably could have sold anything. He just happened to latch onto to basketball because of his knowledge of black schoolboy basketball.....in Chicago. |
| | FOR THE FIRST FEW MONTHS BROOKINS AND ABE WORKED WELL TOGETHER. THEN BROOKINS FOUND OUT ABE WAS BOOKING A DUPLICATE TEAM BEHIND HIS BACK. |
| HARLEM NAME | |
| | THOUGH STUNG, BROOKINS HAD AMBITIONS TO BE A SINGER, AND AGREED TO LET ABE TAKE OVER THE TEAM. ABE QUICKLY RENAMED IT THE “HARLEM GLOBETROTTERS”, MAKING IT CLEAR TO MIDWESTERN FARMBOYS THAT A SNAZZY BRAND OF URBAN BLACK BASKETBALL WAS BOUNCING THEIR WAY. |
| Tape 034 Bijan Bayne | [09:45:28] |

| | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| | <p>BIJAN: he knew that Harlem was the cultural capital of the United States, the black cultural capital. [09:48:44] So by calling them the Harlem Globetrotters people knew that they were gonna see black players that were gonna be a different brand of basketball. It was a novelty act that was coming to your town.</p> |
| Tape 019 Eloise Saperstein | <p>[01:15:13] And Globetrotters because he said maybe we could go as far East as Michigan, perhaps to Wisconsin, and maybe to Iowa. That was my father's globe.</p> |
| FINANCIAL AGREEMENT | ABE QUICKLY MADE A HANDSHAKE DEAL WITH THE REMAINING BALLPLAYERS. |
| Tape 023 Ben Green | <p>[05:17:55] Benjamin : they would split the gate and so there were five players, plus Abe and Abe got an extra share because he had the car, he was paying for the gas.</p> |
| Tape 019 Eloise Saperstein | <p>[01:20:23]Eloise if it was 35 dollars, the take that night, five went to each player, one portion same amount went to my father. And then ... - one seventh would go to what they called Betsy. That was the car. if they didn't have gas they couldn't be Globetrotters.</p> |
| EARLY BARNSTORMING | |
| Tape 023 Ben Green | <p>[05:14:46] Benjamin : They could barely fit in the car and they-- they were playing hundred, hundred twenty games a year. They're driving through the Midwest in the dead of winter, stopping at every little town, playing seven days a week.</p> |
| Tape 018 Kevin "Special K" Daly | <p>[19:01:53] back in the day, uh, because of the racism that was going on the Harlem Globetrotters couldn't stay at the regular hotel so they had to sleep in jail sometimes or barns, in the car, slaughterhouses, anywhere that they could lay their heads up</p> |
| Tape 019 Eloise Saperstein | <p>ELOISE the stories were horrific...., I mean here they were in a broken down Ford. [01:28:18] if it did stall ... would a gas attendant even give a group of Black players even with a White manager help? [01:28:50] ELOISE : if it was below zero I mean they could have all been gone. It was a very scary time.</p> |
| Great footage available! | <p>THE TEAM PLAYED ANYWHERE, ANYONE, ANYTIME...SEVEN DAYS A WEEK AND TWICE ON SUNDAYS.....TAKING ON SHOE SALESMEN IN A CONVERTED BARN, A FACTORY TEAM IN AN EMPTY SWIMMING POOL, AND LOCAL RINGERS IN HIGH SCHOOL GYMS ACROSS THE MIDWEST.</p> |
| | THEN, ONE FREEZING NIGHT ON A MAKESHIFT COURT |

| | |
|--|--|
| | LINED WITH POT-BELLY STOVES IN IOWA, A BIZARRE INCIDENT SPARKED A REVELATION. |
| Tape 001 “Sweet” Lou Dunbar: Harlem Globetrotter Player and Director of Player Personnel Footage available! | [01:06:32] one of the guys went to keep his self warm and his pants caught on fire. And, he actually start runnin' across the floor. And the people just started crackin' up. |
| Tape 023 Ben Green Footage available! | [05:20:17] another time where they’re playing in a barn and this guy Lester Johnson flies through the door and falls into this giant pie-- pile of cow manure and was thereafter known as “Luscious Lester”. |
| Tape 001 “Sweet” Lou Dunbar: Harlem Globetrotter Player and Director of Player Personnel Footage available! | [01:06:32] And this just kinda, uh, struck a note in Abe Saperstein's mind. Maybe we should do something - - a little comedy in the show. |
| | WHY NOT? FOR ONE THING, THE COMEDY GAVE THE ROAD WEARY GLOBETROTTERS—WHO BARNSTORMED THROUGH 150 TOWNS A YEAR-- A MUCH NEEDED REST. |
| Tape 019 Eloise Saperstein | [01:18:59] ELOISE : ... the clowning began just out of necessity ...A...player would spin the ball on his finger, and the other four would lay down on the floor to catch their breath// |
| Tape 023 Ben Green | [05:18:49] And then..... they knew if they beat the local factory team by 20, 30 points they wouldn’t be invited back. So what evolved was they would get seven, eight, ten points ahead and then they would put on the show. They’d stall for time, they’d let the other team get back in the game, and then they’d pull it off in the last seconds to win the game. |
| Tape 030 Mannie Jackson Tape 033 Mannie Jackson Tape 033 Mannie Jackson. | [01:20:06] Abe was a showman..... (04:18:53) he’s the first person that really recognized that sports and entertainment were blended. (04:19:26) That changed the marketability of sports like crazy. All that stuff you’re seeing in the NBA arenas and football and stuff, that was all Abe...came up with ideas like you wouldn’t believe. |
| | BUT THE SHOW NEARLY ENDED BEFORE IT BEGAN. ABE MADE A BRUTAL BASELINE MOVE THAT FLOORED HIS PLAYERS AND ALMOST BENCHED THE TEAM. |
| | |
| END ACT ONE | |
| ACT TWO | |

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| | Clips of hard times depression-era America. Blacks and whites in freezing bread lines. |
| 1934 | THE FACT THAT A WHITE MAN AND FIVE BLACKS COULD BARNSTORM TOGETHER PLAYING BASKETBALL AND SHARE PROFITS EQUALLY WAS UNHEARD OF IN 1930S JIM CROW AMERICA. AND IT DID NOT LAST. IN FEBRUARY, 1934, AFTER A GAME IN BILLINGS, MONTANA, ABE SAPERSTEIN CONFRONTED HIS PLAYERS WITH AN ULTIMATUM. |
| Tape 024 Ben Green | [05:23:47] Benjamin : they had been splitting the gate, basically a cooperative company. And that night Abe announced that that was ending and from then on he was gonna be the owner of the team and he would pay them a salary, but no more splitting the gate. |
| | THREE OF THE GLOBETROTTERS IMMEDIATELY QUIT. |
| | BUT ABE KNEW HE HAD THE UPPER HAND. IT WAS THE HEIGHT OF THE DEPRESSION, AND THE BLACK UNEMPLOYMENT RATE WAS SKY HIGH. ABE QUICKLY RETURNED TO CHICAGO, RECRUITED SOME NEW BLACK PLAYERS DESPERATE TO PLAY BALL AND WENT RIGHT BACK ON THE ROAD. |
| Tape 030 Mannie Jackson | [01:06:20] MANNIE : Abe was, uh, an incredible entrepreneur and most incredible entrepreneurs today and then are hustlers and it's winner take all. [01:06:54] And he took a, uh, a disadvantaged Black group with two hands tied behind their back and exploited the... opportunity to put a team on the road. |
| Tape 022 Eloise Saperstein | [04:06:30] most of the early Globetrotters, were brought to my father by their mothers, it was a matriarch society. [04:07:02] And, they would say, Mr. Saperstein, please take care of my son, if he's out in the streets I won't have a son. And they came and they played, basketball |
| Tape 034 Bijan Bayne | [09:53:01] BIJAN : Because Saperstein had a virtual monopoly on black talent, and the black promoters couldn't gain access to the arenas and gymnasiums he could..... he knew he had interchangeable parts. And if some players were dissatisfied, he could change them out, and.... still not miss a beat |
| | NOW IN CONTROL, ABE SHARPENED HIS STRATEGY BY HYPING THE CLOWNING ASPECTS OF THE GLOBETROTTER SHOW TO HIS PRIMARILY WHITE AUDIENCE. |

| | |
|---|--|
| <p>Tape 034 Bijan Bayne</p> | <p>[09:54:20] BIJAN : he knew because of the way that blacks were portrayed in movies, and on radio at the time -- this is the era of Amos and Andy of Step and Fetch It,</p> <p>[09:55:00] And during the Globetrotters..... comedy bits, he built in things ...</p> <p>[09:56:04] like rolling of the dice, reading of the comic books, the loud banter and interaction with the fans..... A lot of which was done... with exaggerated facial features, and heavy,negro dialect.</p> |
| | <p>THE RACIAL BUFFOONERY, OF COURSE, ONLY WORKED BECAUSE THE GLOBETROTTERS WERE SPECTACULAR ATHLETES.</p> |
| <p>Tape 030 Mannie Jackson</p> | <p>[01:21:04] MANNIE : It's so wrong when people say it was minstrel. ...when you reduce what the Globetrotters did to clowning.... They made the game look so easy, they did things so fast it looked magical.....</p> <p>[01:22:06] those skills were so unique and so dominant the only phrase that Whites at that time could put togetherThey were clowns.</p> |
| <p>Tape 001 "Sweet" Lou Dunbar</p> | <p>[01:27:52] Sweet Lou : It's hard to be able to run up and down the floor, play the game at a high level.... talk to everybody, go over here and get popcorn from somebody, and then go back there and make a basket, and then go back and do something else....</p> <p>[01:28:20] every night, is phenomenal.</p> |
| | <p>GREAT AS THEY WERE, THE GLOBETROTTERS WERE ABOUT TO PUMP THINGS UP A NOTCH. ABE OWNED SOME NEGRO LEAGUE BASEBALL TEAMS, AND IN 1942, ONE OF HIS SCOUTS DISCOVERED A UNIQUE TALENT ON THE DIAMOND, A FARMBOY FROM ARKANSAS NAMED GOOSE TATUM.</p> |
| <p>Tape 030 Mannie Jackson</p> | <p>[01:24:42] MANNIE : When I look back over the history of the Harlem Globetrottersthe most significant player that came through that 80 years would be Goose Tatum.</p> |
| <p>Tape 014 Marques Haynes Former Legendary Harlem Globetrotter Player</p> | <p>[15:40:38] the Globetrotters were just fortunate that a fellow like, uh, Goose Tatum came along that's where a lot of that "now you see it, now you don't" type of play got started, with him.</p> |
| <p>Tape 019 Eloise Saperstein</p> | <p>[01:29:58] ELOISE</p> |

| | |
|---|--|
| | <p>if you ever saw him in person ... Goose was... very dark skinned and, uh, his teeth were very large....And his hands were very big [01:30:30] His wingspan from fingertip to fingertip was 84 inches. That’s seven feet. Goose was maybe six one, [01:31:00] so he was very unusual looking. I mean you wanted to giggle.</p> |
| <p>Tape 014 Marques Haynes Great footage of Goose clowning with the baseball</p> | <p>[15:51:14] MARQUES : Goose was agreat baseball player. He played first base.Kansas City Monarchs.....they would play what you call pepper ball, even with the baseball.....break time with the baseball.</p> |
| <p>Tape 017 Kevin “Special K” Daly Note: Great footage of Goose performing tricks on baseball diamond.</p> | <p>[18:30:35] Kevin : the tricks that we do with the basketball actually came from the baseball field back then..... they used to warm up with the baseball and do tricks with the baseball and roll it over their heads and roll it..... catch it at the back of the neck and pass it with the elbow.</p> |
| | <p>GOOSE’S THEATRICS AND ATHLETIC SKILLS WERE IMMEDIATELY APPARENT. ABE QUICKLY SIGNED THE 24-YEAR-OLD SIX-FOOT-THREE-INCH MARVEL, AND MADE HIM THE MAIN PLAYMAKER AND SHOWMAN ON THE TEAM.</p> |
| <p>Tape 024 Ben Green</p> | <p>[06:04:36] BENJAMIN : I don’t think Abe realized what he was getting with Goose.... he started inventing new tricks and new gags.....every night he would come up with something new.</p> |
| <p>Tape 014 Marques Haynes: Former Legendary Harlem Globetrotter Player Great footage!</p> | <p>[15:50:02] MARQUES : put a string in the ball. We shoot it, and the ball comes right back to you. That was Goose Tatum. having the ball, throwing it behind him, passing to somebody from the leg.... [15:53:45] Never saw anybody block his hook shot. That’s a fact.....he’s going away from the basket with that span.....I don’t care how high you could jump.</p> |
| <p>Tape 018 Kevin “Special K” Daly Great footage!</p> | <p>[19:08:25] Kevin : he used to do the no look pass. He would have the no look jump shot, the no look hook, put the ball behind somebody’s back, throw it up, the player turns around, he catches it and goes around and score on the player. He was just magical on the basketball court.</p> |

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Tape 030 Mannie Jackson | (01:29:34) I'm told he could palm two basketballs. He could actually hold two basketballs in one hand. |
| | AND GOOSE COULD ALSO HOLD AN AUDIENCE IN EITHER HAND, CONSTANTLY INTERACTING AND PLAYING TO THE CROWD WITH HIS COMIC STUNTS OR "REEMS". |
| Tape 014 Marques Haynes | [15:55:34] MARQUES : he was ... very creative....with the bucket of the water, he was throwing it on the teammate...and they'd get another one, ...and run over to throw it to where people ...are seated. ... But it's all confetti's coming out of it. And Goose did all of that. |
| Tape 030 Mannie Jackson | [01:26:58] MANNIE : I've heard he studied the great comics, Chaplin and the others. But when people ask me to describe ... Goose I often say he had the looks of Denzel Washington. He had the ... comic skills of probably the greatest of the comedians. I mean whether it was mime, which he had to do with foreign audiences. He couldn't do it with words [01:27:24] And he had the basketball skills of the greatest basketball players of our time now. All that combined |
| Tape 028 Kevin Frazier | [16:21:06] Kevin Frazier ÷ Goose Tatum was a comedic genius, but he was also so physically gifted that he could pull off those things. And remember, those half-court hook shots and the crazy passes and all that stuff, it wasn't easy. Goose performed it night after night after night in little raggedy towns in little raggedy gyms. He was the best player on the court. [16:21:26] But he never let you know that he was the best player on the court, cause you were watching his antics. |
| | IF GOOSE TATUM WAS THE GREATEST SHOWMAN IN GLOBETROTTER HISTORY, MARQUES HAYNES MAY WELL HAVE BEEN THE GREATEST SINGLE PLAYER, WITH MACHINE-GUN, KNEE-DROP DRIBBLING SKILLS AND IMPOSSIBLY NIMBLE MOVES. ABE PULLED HAYNES ONTO THE TEAM IN 1946. |
| Tape 024 Ben Green | [06:11:32] BENJAMIN : he was from Oklahoma uh, again country boy. Um, grew up bouncing a ball just endlessly.... [06:12:02] He could do things with a basketball nobody had ever done before. Uh, trick dribbling, sliding around the floor, |
| Tape 008 Curly Neal | (04:41:35) He's one of the greatest dribblers that ever lived. |
| Tape 005 Buckets Blakes | [03:12:11] |

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| | <p>no one was dribbling the ball that way. No one was going full court and laying the ball up, uh, from end to end.....</p> <p>[03:11:32]</p> <p>..... breaking a full court press all by himself</p> |
| Tape 031 Mannie Jackson | <p>[02:04:54]</p> <p>MANNIE : He may be the best guard that ever played the game of basketball.</p> <p>[02:05:23]</p> <p>Nobody could see the floor like him and no one had ... the shot like he had, and leadership like he had.</p> |
| | <p>MARQUES HAYNES GREW UP IN A LARGE FAMILY IN SAND SPRINGS, OKLAHOMA WITH A SINGLE MOTHER WHO WORKED AS A MAID. HIS OLDER SISTER WAS HIS BABYSITTER AND ALSO A DEDICATED BASKETBALL PLAYER.</p> |
| Tape 014 Marques Haynes | <p>[15:41:46]</p> <p>she just ...threw me a basketball over at the corner, and told me to just to just stay right here. She put some chairs around me and said, "You can just do what you want to do with This basketball." But eventually, she did get me out on ... the court, and started showing me a few things aboutbouncing the ball.</p> |
| | <p>MARQUES STARRED IN HIGH SCHOOL AND WENT ON TO PLAY WITH LANGSTON UNIVERSITY IN OKLAHOMA CITY. ONE NIGHT, THE TROTTERS CAME THROUGH TOWN. THEIR OPPOSING TEAM DIDN'T SHOW UP AND MARQUES' SQUAD FILLED IN.</p> |
| Tape 014 Marques Haynes | <p>[15:44:40]</p> <p>Globetrotters captain and coach both told my coach of, uh, Langston University that what they were going to do is when they start doing their little deals out on the floor....to let them go. And ...just to enjoy themselves.</p> <p>[15:45:15]</p> <p>And our coach told them, "Look, we don't play that kind of basketball." Said, ..."You better get another team."So they said, "Well, OK. The game is on".I think we're still.... The only college team to ever beat the Harlem Globetrotters.</p> |
| | <p>ABE SIGNED HAYNES STRAIGHT OUT OF COLLEGE, AND THE ROOKIE INSTANTLY TURNED THE HUMBLE ART OF DRIBBLING INTO A SPECTACULAR SHOWCASE.</p> |
| Tape 001 Sweet Lou Dunbar | <p>[01:18:37]</p> <p>Sweet Lou : we were playing one night. And Marques Haynes went into his dribbling routine.</p> <p>[01:19:04]</p> <p>.....and he lost his balance. And his nose was about this far from the floor. And he was still pattin' it like this, he never lost control of the</p> |

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| | ball. |
| Tape 001 Sweet Lou Dunbar | [01:20:01] I can never forget. Um, one of the, the opposition team came and said, uh, Mr. Haynes, uh, they told me I was chasing you tonight. He said, uh, is there anything you want me to do?he didn't even look at the guy. He said, just try to take it..... There's no routine. Just try and take it. And that was his routine. |
| | IN 1946, TWO WHITE SEGREGATED PRO LEAGUES WERE OPERATING - THE BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA AND THE NATIONAL BASKETBALL LEAGUE – FORERUNNERS OF THE NBA. THEIR GAMES WERE CONSIDERED SERIOUS BASKETBALL AND THEY PLAYED IN A PARALLEL WORLD COMPARED TO THE FLASHY, EXHIBITION BALL OF THE HARLEM GLOBETROTTERS. |
| | FINALLY, IN FEBRUARY, 1948, AFTER TWO DECADES OF SHOWING OFF THEIR FREE-FLOWING STYLE OF BASKETBALL IN AMERICA'S FORGOTTEN TANK TOWNS, THE ALL-BLACK TROTTERS GOT TO FACE THE ALL-WHITE NATIONAL CHAMPIONS – THE MINNEAPOLIS LAKERS - IN ONE OF BASKETBALL'S MECCAS, CHICAGO STADIUM. LED BY GOOSE AND HAYNES, THE TROTTERS FOUGHT FOR A DECISION AS CLEAR AS BLACK AND WHITE – WHAT RACE, WHOSE STYLE AND WHICH ATHLETES WOULD MAKE UP AMERICA'S GREATEST BASKETBALL TEAM? IT WAS AN EPIC SHOWDOWN, AN EARLY CRACK IN THE DAM OF RACIAL SEGREGATION AND SIGNALLED THE COMING CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT. |
| Tape 024 Ben Green | [06:16:55] BENJAMIN : the Lakers represented white basketball, this disciplined, efficient machine like precision orchestrated offense. |
| Tape 031 Mannie Jackson | [02:07:43] MANNIE : That game in my opinion had a bigger impact than, uh, Jackie Robinson playing baseball for the first time. [02:08:41] The big lie was that Blacks couldn't play an organized game. They couldn't play against the best. They were clowns. ...In an apartheid community people need that big lie to justify the treatment they were putting on Black folks. When that game was played it just completely disrupted the paradigm. |
| Tape 028 Kevin Frazier | [16:26:05] Kevin Frazier : The Minneapolis Lakers, considered the greatest basketball team in the history of the gameThey had George |

| | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| | <p>Mikan at the time, the first big man in the history of the NBA and considered one of the first great players in league history. They also had a roster full of hall of famers [16:26:32] the Harlem Globetrotters. No way the clowns can compete against the NBA champions and George Mikan and this great team.....it was a huge moment, not just for basketball, but for race relations and especially African-Americans.</p> |
| Tape 020 Eloise Saperstein | <p>[02:21:44]ELOISE: they had Mikan -- they had the height -- the Globetrotters, the tallest one they had was -- was Goose.</p> |
| Tape 014 Marques Haynes | <p>[16:06:44] MARQUES : they thought it was going to be a runaway. But we knew better. We just had, the best team, you know?</p> |
| | <p>IT WAS SAID MOST OF SOUTHSIDE CHICAGO SHOWED UP FOR THE GAME. THE WHITE CROWD WAS BIGGER, BUT NOT BY MUCH. WITH ROUGHLY 18,000 INTEGRATED BLACK AND WHITE FANS SCREAMING FOR THEIR RACIALLY SEGREGATED TEAMS, THE GAME PIVOTED ON AN EXPLOSIVE PLAY.</p> |
| Tape 024 Ben Green | <p>[06:20:02] BENJAMIN : Marques Haynes and George Mikan go up ... the same time for a rebound come down sort of together entangled, Marques crashes to the floor, lands on his back and breaks two vertebra.... the stadium goes dead silent.</p> |
| Tape 017 Kevin “Special K” Daly | <p>[18:35:05] Kevin : Well right when that happened everybody kinda took a deep breath because they believed that that was the moment that if anything was gonna happen between the two races, that was the moment that it was gonna happen. Nothing happened.</p> |
| Tape 015 Marques Haynes | <p>[16:15:52] MARQUES : Well, we both went up for a rebound. And we both caught the ball at the same time. He snatched the ball. My hand come loose and then I’m on my back.....My fourth lumbar vertebrae was fractured but I finished the ballgame.</p> |
| | <p>WITH FIVE SECONDS LEFT, THE SCORE WAS TIED 59-ALL.</p> |
| Tape 020 Eloise Saperstein | <p>[02:22:13] Ermer Robinson was standing ... one foot inside of the half court, uh, line. [02:22:46] And put up the ball and it seemed like it hung in the air. And when it was midway up the horn went off and then it was swish. It was all net.</p> |
| Tape 034 Bijan Bayne | <p>[10:01:50] BIJAN : The 1948 defeat of the Minneapolis Lakers proved</p> |

| | |
|--|---|
| | that the Globetrotters were more than just clowns. They were in fact the best basketball players in the world. |
| Tape 020 Eloise Saperstein | [02:23:36] ELOISE : it was a moment that people could see that Blacks were not just playing comedy ball with the Globetrotters.....they could win. |
| Tape 031 Mannie Jackson | [02:09:34] Mannie: What happened was a trickledown effect...Because now at the university level it began to make sense to recruit black ball players. ...many of the players that we know now as all time greats would have been Globetrotters had it not been for that game against the Lakers in Chicago Stadium back to back years. |
| 1949 – LAKERS REMATCH | THE LAKERS AND MOST SPORTSWRITERS SAW THE GLOBETROTTER’S TWO-POINT WIN AS A FLUKE. THE LAKERS PROPOSED A REMATCH WHICH TOOK PLACE ONE YEAR LATER IN THE SAME STADIUM. BUT NOW THE TROTTERS FINALLY HAD THEIR OWN BIG MAN – 6’7” NAT “SWEETWATER” CLIFTON—AND THE GAME WASN’T EVEN CLOSE. |
| Tape 028 Kevin Frazier Great footage of Trotters clowning!! | [16:27:35] Kevin Frazier : This time the Trotters beat the Lakers handily. They beat them so bad that at one point the Trotters start to clown. [16:28:07] it showed that the Trotters were the supreme basketball team in this nation, and it also made people think why aren't there African-Americans in the NBA? |
| Tape 024 Ben Green | [06:17:52] BENJAMIN : Marques is doing his dribbling, Goose is doing his show time act. Um, they didn’t just beat whitey they danced on his grave. ...And I think it is no coincidence that the very next season the NBA integrated. |
| Tape 024 Ben Green | [06:21:51] It also um, was recorded by Movie Tone News. So now it’s shown in on newsreels in theaters all over the country so it opened up really the electronic age for the Globetrotters. |
| | TEASE Clip: Movie Tone News highlights of 1949 game |
| END ACT TWO | |
| ACT THREE | |
| | Open with more Movie Tone News clips of 1949 Laker/Trotter game. |
| | BY BEATING THE NATIONAL CHAMPION MINNEAPOLIS LAKERS AGAIN IN 1949, THE HARLEM GLOBETROTTERS WERE REACHING THE PEAK OF THEIR SUCCESS. |
| CROSSROADS - 1950 | |

| | |
|---|--|
| <p>Tape 024 Ben Green</p> | <p>[06:28:15] BENJAMIN : 1950 was a, was a tremendous year for the Globetrotters. I mean they're in Madison Square Garden, they're treated like royalty when they go to Europe. They're playing in front of standing room crowds in Wembley Stadium in London.... Hollywood comes calling to make a movie called the Harlem Globetrotters.</p> |
| <p>HOLLYWOOD – HG MOVIE 1950</p> | <p>THE 1950 HOLLYWOOD FILM “THE HARLEM GLOBETROTTERS” TOLD THE TEAM’S STORY USING MANY OF ITS PLAYERS. IT SHOWED IN THEATERS ALL OVER THE WORLD.</p> |
| <p>Tape 031 Mannie Jackson</p> | <p>[02:29:16] MANNIE : I went to the movie one day and left there -- got there at noon or something like that and walked out at eight o'clock that night and I did that two days back to back just mesmerized by the show and seeing us on the big screen, not Uncle Toming and not, .. being, ... stupid.</p> <p>[02:29:47] Just seeing treatment, people getting respect that looked like me on the big screen. And I think that happened all over ... all around the country.</p> |
| | <p>MEANWHILE, ABE AND THE GLOBETROTTERS KEPT BREAKING NEW GROUND. IN 1950, THEY TOOK ON THE COLLEGE ALL-STARS, PLAYING 18 GAMES IN 17 CITIES—THE GLOBETROTTERS WON 11-- AND TOURING WITH THEIR WHITE ADVERSARIES SIDE BY SIDE.</p> |
| <p>Tape 024 Ben Green Lots of footage!</p> | <p>[06:30:22] BENJAMIN : By far the most popular basketball events in America in the early 50's were what were known as the college all-star tours and that was the Harlem Globetrotters against the college all Americans. They took the top all American college players and for three weeks they travelled from city to city, coast to coast playing a different city every night.</p> |
| <p>Tape 001 Sweet Lou Dunbar</p> | <p>[01:30:11] Sweet Lou : never in the game have you seen so many black guys and white guys sitting together on a plane. That hadn't happened before. And not only did they, uh, revolutionize the game of basketball. But I think they, um, helped revolutionize the ... era of communication with people.</p> <p>[01:30:56] Sweet Lou : that airplane was the most integrated place in America.</p> |
| <p>Tape 018 Kevin “Special K” Daly</p> | <p>[19:12:55] Kevin : They were playing cards together, laughing together, sharing stories together and then they would go on the court and battle against each other and then get back on that same plane and do</p> |

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| | <p>the same thing over and over again. [19:13:28] Kevin : It changed the views of a lot of the players</p> |
| Tape 009 Curly Neal | <p>[05:25:09] CURLY : All traveled together, rode on the planes, had dinner together.....color didn't mean nothing.</p> |
| | <p>DESPITE THE FEEL-GOOD BREAKTHROUGHS ON THE COURT AND IN THE AIR, AMERICA’S RACIAL DOUBLE STANDARDS WERE STILL VERY STRONG, AND ABE SAPERSTEIN’S PROGRESSIVISM ENDED ON PAYDAY.</p> |
| Tape 025 Ben Green | <p>[07:02:32] BENJAMIN: there's a huge disparity on the money situation. The white players are getting paid \$2,500 for three weeks. The Globetrotter players are making 250, \$300 a month. [07:03:08] Marques Haynes went to Abe and confronted him over this disparity between what the white players were getting and the black players.</p> |
| Tape 015 Marques Haynes | <p>[16:28:16] MARQUES : that man said, you know, blacks don’t need as much money as the Whites. [LAUGHS] Well, hell, it’s the same damn price -- you go to the grocery store and buy food the Black gonna pay the same -- have to pay the same thing that the Whites paid.</p> |
| | <p>ABE, OF COURSE, HELD ALL THE CARDS, SINCE THE NBA DIDN’T ACCEPT BLACK PLAYERS. AND EVEN IF IT DID, THERE WASN’T A LOT OF MONEY TO GO AROUND. IN FACT, THE STRUGGLING LEAGUE NEEDED HELP FROM ABE—AND HIS MUCH MORE POPULAR TEAM OF BLACK PHENOMS-- TO STAY AFLOAT.</p> |
| Tape 031 Mannie Jackson | <p>[02:12:45] MANNIE : the NBA was failing and not making a lot of money, [02:13:15] They had to bring the Globetrotters in to play the preliminary games to attract people to come see the NBA or what was then the league play.</p> |
| Tape 014 Marques Haynes | <p>[16:10:52] MARQUES : The Globetrotters would play, and the league team would play. And it got to the point that most people, after the Globetrotters finish.... they left, ...the biggest part of the crowd. So they changed it around and just made it just the opposite.</p> |
| Tape 020 Eloise Saperstein | <p>[02:25:05] ELOISE : nobody would come for the NBA game. They would come to see the Globetrotters. [02:25:33] So then they came up with the brilliant idea, they weren’t gonna advertise who was playing first and who was playing second. you’d just have to sit there and you’ll have to watch an NBA</p> |

| | |
|--|--|
| | game. |
| | PARADOXICALLY, BY DISPLAYING SUCH OVERWHELMING SKILL AS BALL PLAYERS AND ENTERTAINERS, ABE SAPERSTEIN’S STRANGLEHOLD ON BLACK TALENT WAS DOOMED. |
| Tape 024 Ben Green | [06:23:47] BENJAMIN : Abe had a monopoly on the best black ballplayers in the country. And he wanted to keep it. And he knew that if the NBA started drafting black ballplayers he was gonna lose that control. [06:24:18] he also wanted an NBA franchise and he felt like they had promised him an NBA franchise and then that sort of fell through. |
| | ABE WAS DEEPLY CONFLICTED, BUT IN A SUDDEN MOVE ON MAY 3RD, 1950, HE SOLD GLOBETROTTER NAT “SWEETWATER” CLIFTON TO THE NBA’S NEW YORK KNICKS FOR \$12,500. CLIFTON, WITH AN ASSIST FROM ABE, BROKE THE NBA COLOR LINE. |
| Tape 017 Kevin “Special K” Daly | [18:36:32] Kevin : When Abe Saperstein allowed Sweetwater Clifton to be picked up by ... an NBA team,I think he realized that it was something that he really couldn’t stop at the moment because....it was already proven that, uh, the black players could play at a high level and they could play together, uh, with the white, uh, players from the NBA. |
| Tape 031 Mannie Jackson Clip: Sweetwater Clifton and other early black players playing in newly integrated NBA. | [02:17:29] Mannie: the tides of time like oceans keep moving and Abe found himself trying to catch up when the ball players found they had options. |
| Clips of early NBA with first black basketball players – Sweetwater Clifton, Chuck Cooper, Earl Lloyd and Harold Hunter | AS THE NBA BEGAN SIGNING BLACK TALENT AND COMPETING WITH THE GLOBETROTTERS MORE SERIOUSLY FOR PLAYERS AND FANS, ABE MADE A RADICAL BET AND SHIFTED HIS SIGHTS OVERSEAS. |
| Tape 035 Bijan Bayne | [10:09:19] Bijan : The risk that Saperstein took taking the team abroad It was really substantial because for all he knew, most of the countries They knew nothing about basketball. So Abe could have lost everything |
| Tape 014 Marques Haynes | [16:08:47] MARQUES : when we first went....to Europe ...started playing basketball.....everybody came out to watch it because they never heard of it, but every place we played turned away crowds. Had to play two games many times in the same night. |

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| <p>Tape 008 Curly Neal</p> | <p>[04:52:54] CURLY : we were like the first professional basketball team playing in those countries and they used to give us ... tickertape parades.</p> |
| <p>Tape 025 Ben Green</p> | <p>[07:05:43] two million people lining the roadways from the airport in Tokyo.... they showed up in Osaka, and there's a four-story-high poster on the hotel of Goose Tatum.</p> <p>[07:06:18] This was in 1950. Forty years before Michael Jordan is an international brand, the Globetrotters are celebrities all over the world.</p> |
| <p>Tape 007 Curly Neal</p> | <p>[04:30:30] CURLY : one time we was in, uh, northern Rhodesia, in Africa and we played ... on a soccer field, 105 – 125 degrees outside. ... We used to play....bull rings, ... You know, they had the bull fight before and I had to dribble in the nubby-dubby stuff. [LAUGHS] ... You had 15 to 20,000 people looking down.</p> |
| <p>Tape 031 Mannie Jackson</p> | <p>[02:19:13] MANNIE : who would ever think about going to London and -- and going to -- to Berlin and playing games. But Abehad the product and he had the vision to understand the potential of the international market.</p> |
| <p>Tape 022 Eloise Saperstein</p> | <p>[04:10:04] ELOISE : My dad took Black players to places they had never been before, were not even allowed in, and they went as Globetrotters all over the world.... when they went to Europe they were treated like kings. They stayed at the best hotels, I mean it was a different life, there was no color barrier in.....Europe, in the Orient</p> |
| <p>RED KLOTZ-WASHINGTON GENERALS</p> | <p>WHEN ABE’S TEAMS TRAVELED OVERSEAS THERE WERE OFTEN NO OPPONENTS TO PLAY AGAINST. SO IN 1953, ABE FOUND THE PERFECT, PERMANENT FOIL FOR THE GLOBETROTTERS – “THE WASHINGTON GENERALS” - RUN BY PLAYER/OWNER “RED” KLOTZ.</p> |
| <p>Tape 025 Ben Green</p> | <p>[07:18:49] BENJAMIN: the Washington Generals, Red Klotz, certainly objected to being called a stooge team. What they would describe themselves as- as a really good basketball team for three-quarters of the game. And then for 25 percent of the time, they'd let the Globetrotters do their gags. So they'd kind of roll over and go through the motions.</p> |
| | <p>SUCH WAS THE POWER AND CELEBRITY OF THE GLOBETROTTERS THAT THEY WERE ABLE TO TRAVEL SAFELY TO ARGENTINA IN 1951, DESPITE AN AMERICAN EMBARGO AGAINST THE LEFTIST</p> |

| | |
|---|--|
| | GOVERNMENT OF JUAN PERON. |
| Tape 025 Ben Green (Note: Great footage of this!!) | [07:06:45] (Travel to Argentina) BENJAMIN : the US State Department warned them. They weren't sure they could protect them....they performed and played in front of Juan and Eva Peron. Eva Peron made, uh, Sweet Georgia Brown the theme song of the Argentine National Basketball Team. |
| | THEIR TRIP TO PERU A FEW YEARS LATER WAS AN EVEN CRAZIER SUCCESS. |
| Tape 002 Sweet Lou Dunbar | [01:36:01] Sweet Lou: they had a civil war going on..... So word got out that the Harlem Globetrotters were at the airport. So they stopped the war for three days. So that the Harlem Globetrotters could play. And, after the Globetrotters left, they started right back to fighting. [01:35:06] that's showing the power, that, laughter and basketball can do for anything. |
| | WITH THE COLD WAR AS A BACKDROP, THE US STATE DEPT ASSISTED ABE IN FERRYING THE GLOBETROTTERS AROUND THE WORLD. THEY UNDERSTOOD THE PROPAGANDA VALUE OF EXUBERANT BLACK ATHLETES TRAVELING THE GLOBE IN THEIR RED, WHITE AND BLUE UNIFORMS. |
| Tape 035 Bijan Bayne | [10:14:46] Bijan : The State Department knew that if people abroad saw that the Globetrotters ... were worldly, they were well dressed, their suits were custom made and tailored, they spoke two or three languages, at least the veteran players did. That they would see that Negroes in the United States are not suppressed, they're not second-class citizens. |
| BERLIN | WHEN THE SOVIET UNION ORGANIZED A COMMUNIST YOUTH LEAGUE-IN BERLIN IN 1951, WHAT BETTER WAY TO COUNTER-THAN WITH A VISIT BY THE HARLEM GLOBETROTTERS TO BERLIN'S OLYMPIC STADIUM?? |
| Tape 021 Eloise Saperstein | [03:07:10] ELOISE: all these Communists youngsters came to the game. [03:07:36] Andthey were asking the players... is it true that Mr. Saperstein has you picking cotton in the morning? And the Globetrotters would shake their head no, we play basketball. |
| Tape 021 Eloise Saperstein | [03:08:04]ELOISE |

| | |
|--|--|
| | <p>does Mr. Saperstein whip you? I mean they must have given them, uh, Uncle Tom’s Cabin to read before they came to the Globetrotter game-</p> |
| | <p>THE STADIUM WAS PACKED WITH 75,000 FANS, THE LARGEST CROWD TO EVER WATCH A BASKETBALL GAME. AT HALFTIME A U.S. ARMY HELICOPTER DELIVERED JESSE OWENS, THE TRACK STAR-HERO OF THE 1936 OLYMPIC GAMES, ONTO THE FIELD.</p> |
| <p>Abe Saperstein footage available</p> | <p>ABE SAPERSTEIN SOT: Coming out of the stands was a man identified as Ludwig Schreiber the Vice Mayor of West Berlin. He turned to Jesse Owens and said these words I’ll always remember “Jesse, 15 years ago this month, on this spot, Adolf Hitler refused to give you his hand. This afternoon, I gladly give you both of mine.” I realized then and there that sports is a great common denominator. I realized my greatest thrill.</p> |
| <p>CICERO</p> | |
| <p>Tape 025 Ben Green Note: Footage available!</p> | <p>[07:14:00] BENJAMIN : Meanwhile ... at the exact same moment of this great triumph in Berlin... back home in Cicero, Illinois, a black man is trying to move into an apartment, and 5,000 whites start a race riot to prevent him from moving into this apartment.....And the reality is no matter how the Globetrotters are treated abroad, [07:14:29] No matter how much the US State Department wants to parade them around the world..... when they get back home, Jim Crow America is still front and center.</p> |
| <p>Clips: Trotters in front of foreign crowds, with film of Wilt.</p> | <p>BUT ABE KEPT PUSHING THE GLOBETROTTERS TO NEW HEIGHTS. IN THE LATE 1950S, HE SCORED A SLAM-DUNK BY NABBING ONE OF BASKETBALL’S MOST TOWERING SUPERSTARS AND TOURING HIM AROUND THE COUNTRY AND OVERSEAS.</p> |
| <p>END OF ACT THREE</p> | |
| <p>ACT FOUR</p> | |
| | <p>Open with clips of Trotters playing in front of huge foreign crowds and then traveling in America in cramped buses and visiting small, rundown towns.</p> |
| <p>RACISM ON THE ROAD</p> | <p>THOUGH SHOWERED WITH PRAISE AND AFFECTION OVERSEAS, LIFE FOR THE HARLEM GLOBETROTTERS IN PRE-CIVIL RIGHTS AMERICA IN THE 1950s WAS, AT TIMES, A SCALDING EXPERIENCE. IN SOUTHERN STATES IN PARTICULAR, NOT MUCH HAD CHANGED SINCE THE 20S AND 30S.</p> |
| <p>Tape 001 Sweet Lou Dunbar</p> | <p>[01:08:30] Sweet Lou : weren't allowed to go to a lot of hotels. We had to stay with black families in a lot of places.</p> |

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>Tape 035 Bijan Bayne</p> | <p>[10:16:56] Bijan : when they played to their sold out arenas there was the adulation of the fans, the children going crazy, the adults laughing at their comedy bits. But then when they exited the arena they couldn't check into the hotels that were segregated. [10:17:31] They couldn't necessarily eat in the first class and four-star restaurants (10:18:26) There was a searing dichotomy (10:19:08) That wore on the players psychologically.</p> |
| <p>Tape 025 Ben Green</p> | <p>[07:27:10] They ended up one night they stayed in a slaughterhouse. They woke up to the sound of pigs being, um, slaughtered and squealing.</p> |
| <p>Tape 019 Eloise Saperstein</p> | <p>[01:23:52] Eloise: When I got older like seven, eight, nine [01:24:33] the Globetrotters would say to me "would you mind?" [01:25:15] And "would you mind" meant there's a grocery store.... I would go in get whatever they had written down, ten pounds of baloney, or four pounds of salami and cheese and so many loaves of bread. [01:25:48] otherwise they would not eat. There would be no place.</p> |
| <p>Tape 028 Kevin Frazier</p> | <p>16.34.30 Kevin : you look at a man like Goose Tatum, you look at Marques Haynes, you look at these great entertainers who were beloved by millions and at the same time you can't stay at this hotel. You can't eat at this restaurant. [16:34:52] Um, you really don't want to travel at night too much because you don't want to be caught in the wrong place at the wrong time. And you also don't want to beat a team too badly because you know, you may not make it out of town..... Think about every day you are considering life or death decisions.</p> |
| <p>HE'S A COMPLEX FIGURE, WE NEED TO GET OUR VIEWERS TO APPRECIATE THAT. LET'S BE SURE TO LET PEOPLE KNOW WHAT THE PLAYERS WERE GETTING PAID, AND THAT THE STARS WERE DOING PRETTY WELL.</p> | <p>THE DAILY HARDSHIPS TOOK A PSYCHIC TOLL, AND THE PAY WAS NOT ENOUGH TO COMPENSATE. GOOSE TATUM WAS MAKING \$30-40,000 A YEAR AND MARQUES HAYNES WAS PAID AROUND \$20,000 ANNUALLY. BUT MOST OF THE OTHER PLAYERS WERE GETTING \$5-6,000 A YEAR - SIMILAR TO WHAT NBA PLAYERS WERE PULLING IN - BUT A FRACTION OF THE</p> |

| | |
|-------------------------|--|
| | GLOBETROTTER’S OVERALL TAKE. ABE, MEANWHILE, WAS LIVING LARGE. |
| Tape 035 Bijan Bayne | [10:31:32] there were a lot of double standards about how he lived as opposed to how they lived and where they stayed, where he ate and where they dined and stayed. They also felt that there was a double standard about the way that he attracted them to the team, with promises of, “Oh, abroad. Guess what? You’ll be able to date white girls.” And he would actually pull out photographs of scantily clad white women to entice the players to sign. Yet, when the players went on the road, he would harshly reprimand any player that he saw dating a white girl abroad. |
| Tape 035 Bijan Bayne | [10:32:29] Some of the players loved Saperstein. Some of them had mixed feelings. Some of them thought he was just a savvy businessman Some of them felt that he exploited the team. their contracts, about the lodging, about the fact that they toured 300 nights a year. |
| | ON OCTOBER 31, 1953, LONG SIMMERING TENSIONS WITHIN THE TEAM CAME TO A HEAD. MARQUES HAYNES CONFRONTED ABE AND SAID HE WAS THROUGH. |
| Tape 025 Ben Green | [07:19:32] BENJAMIN: Marques Haynes certainly in basketball was the first true free agent. Uh, he went to Abe. He wanted to renegotiate his contract. And it wasn't just about his salary....I mean he and Goose were doing commercials for Coca Cola, for Beechnut gum, uh, for hair cleaning, uh, hair products..... [07:20:08] the Hollywood movies, .. and Abe is making a whole lot of money by this time. And ... Marques wanted a percentage. |
| Tape 015 Marques Haynes | [16:28:48] MARQUES : he had a habit saying I’m gonna let you have a little money.....And in the dressing room, [16:29:18] He came up to me and I’ll be damn, you know, we shook hands. And he had money in his hands. I said oh, no, Abe you keep that that’s your money. He said no, you take it I just want you to have a little extra. I said if I should happen to stay you can put it on my salary. |
| Tape 015 Marques Haynes | [16:18:06] Saperstein and I had a big disagreement.And he kept telling me what I had to do. I said no, you don’t tell me what I have to do, man. I do what I want to do. And then it was on [16:18:34] |

| | |
|--|--|
| | <p>he wasn't giving anybody any raises. I told him, you know, you're - you're not gonna have a team out here.....I said I'm gone, good bye.</p> |
| Tape 028 Kevin Frazier | <p>(16:38:50) Kevin: Abe Saperstein believed that these players aren't smart enough to do the business dealings that I do. (16:39:15]And because he believed that they couldn't handle money and engagements and moving a team around, he overlooked the fact that you know what? Actually these men are pretty damn smart. Marques Haynes said I'll form my own team, I'll book my own team. I'll do my own thing.</p> |
| | <p>WHEN HAYNES STARTED THE “MARQUES HAYNES ALL-STARS” TEAM, ABE SUED HIM OVER COPYRIGHT ISSUES BUT LOST IN COURT. HAYNES SUCCESSFULLY RAN HIS OWN TEAM FOR NEARLY TWO DECADES.</p> |
| | <p>THEN 15 MONTHS LATER, GOOSE TATUM, THE TEAM'S OTHER CORNERSTONE, ALSO DECIDED TO LEAVE. HE TOO FORMED HIS OWN BARNSTORMING TEAM, “THE HARLEM ROAD KINGS,” ONE OF MANY THAT HE OWNED AND MANAGED WITH VARYING DEGREES OF SUCCESS OVER THE NEXT DECADE.</p> |
| Tape 030 Mannie Jackson | <p>[01:25:31] Mannie: He took a stand on a salary structure that didn't match what he saw as his value to the team... he took a stand on that.</p> |
| Tape 028 Kevin Frazier | <p>[16:37:54] Abe Saperstein saw the value in his players, but at the same time he also felt they were all replaceable. Goose Tatum leaves, it's okay ,Goose, because I'd rather you leave and not have to pay you a penny more cause I can get another.</p> |
| Tape 022 Eloise Saperstein | <p>(04:04:00) ELOISE: When Goose would make that half court hook shot that Meadowlark does now, he got five hundred dollars, in his pocket, cash money, did not go on the check, so there was no taxes, no social security, that was fun money for that night. Every night if he made two a night, if he made three, that was his.</p> |
| Tape 025 Ben Green (Note: footage available!) | <p>[07:22:57] BENJAMIN : Goose Tatum's final game as a Globetrotter was in 1955 at Great Lakes Naval Air Station in Illinois, which was the first nationally broad cast Globetrotter game on CBS. [07:22:21] broadcast to millions of people across the country. Goose has the game of his life. He scores 50 points. He puts on a show. The next morning he's gone. He doesn't get on the team plane, and he never comes back.</p> |
| | <p>WITH GOOSE AND MARCUS GONE, THE GLOBETROTTERS SEEMED IN CRISIS. AMAZINGLY, BY 1956, ABE WAS QUICKLY ABLE TO RELOAD.</p> |

| | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| <p>Tape 035 Bijan Bayne</p> | <p>[10:36:38] Bijan : Abe had to find someone without skipping a beat that physically resembled Goose Tatum, could play as well as Goose Tatum, could make the trick shots that Goose Tatum made, and was the clown prince with the comedic timing of Goose Tatum. [10:37:18] And he did find that fortunately in a player named Meadowlark Lemon</p> |
| <p>Tape 032 Mannie Jackson</p> | <p>[03:06:11] Meadowlark never missed a game for 27 years. 27 years averaging, I suspect he averaged 250, 300 games a year. And my knowledge of Meadowlark, he's always the first one in the gym, the last one out. My experience with Meadowlark, he worked harder, took his craft more serious than anyone I've ever seen take their craft.</p> |
| <p>Tape 002 Sweet Lou Dunbar</p> | <p>[01:47:46] Sweet Lou : my coach Tex Harrison roomed with Meadowlark. He used to tell us stories about how, he - - he would drive you crazy in there. Because, he was just such a perfectionist, he would dribble the ball off the walls. Shoot hook shots in the room. I mean he wanted to be the best.</p> |
| <p>Tape 032 Mannie Jackson</p> | <p>[03:06:47] Mannie : he had a skill that -- it just can't be explained.....And I'll start with the half-court hook shot. You're not supposed to be able to make, you know.....seven out of ten of those shots.....And I saw him do it over and over again. I saw him take shots out of the stands. [03:09:31] Mannie : He had a way of communicating with an audience, like, I've never seen anybody do it like that.</p> |
| <p>Tape 029 Kevin Frazier</p> | <p>16:47:53] Kevin : Meadowlark Lemon had the skill set, but he also had that megawatt personality. If you want to talk about Magic Johnson and the smile, that's Meadowlark Lemon. [16:48:19] And he orchestrated the entire game and he kept everything going and he kept your attention. I mean think about how hard it is to pull off all these tricks.... [16:48:47] Calling the plays, being funny, you know, calling the bits out. He was an incredible showman.</p> |
| | <p>IN 1958, ABE PULLED OFF AN EVEN BIGGER COUP— LITERALLY—SIGNING NONE OTHER THAN WILT CHAMBERLAIN TO SPEND THE FIRST FEW SUMMERS OF HIS PRO CAREER AS A GLOBETROTTER. IN A BRILLIANT MOVE, ABE DECIDED TO MAKE <i>WILT</i> A BALL-HANDLER.</p> |
| <p>Tape 026 Ben Green</p> | <p>[08:03:12]</p> |

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| | BENJAMIN : the most, uh, famous basketball player in the country. ... seven foot-one. They put him at point guard. |
| Tape 002 Sweet Lou Dunbar | [01:42:47] Sweet Lou : to put that kind of, uh, athleticism in a ... body, and the size of Wilt Chamberlain, in the fifties, you know. It's hard to see a seven foot walk and chew gumat the same time. Well, Wilt could walk and chew gum, dribble a basketball and have a drink, at the same time. And then still put the ball in the basket. |
| CURLY NEAL | WILT WAS ONLY A PART-TIME ATTRACTION, AND IN 1963, ABE RECRUITED ANOTHER LEGEND IN THE MAKING WHO WOULD SET THE GLOBETROTTERS UP FOR A GLORIOUS NEW RUN. FRED “CURLY” NEAL WAS A HOOPS PRODIGY FROM JOHNSON C. SMITH UNIVERSITY IN CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA WHO AVERAGED 23 POINTS A GAME HIS SENIOR YEAR. |
| Tape 007 Curly Neal | [04:24:50] CURLY : Abe sent me a plane ticket, room and board, come to Chicago. [04:25:18] CURLY : there was 125 guys from all over the United States trying out for five positions, just basketball then, no hoopla, ...And I was chosen in that five and I lasted for 22 years as a player and about 45 as an ambassador which is marvelous.... (04:26:01) I never thought of trying out for the NBA, it just never phased my mind anymore. I was a Globetrotter. |
| Tape 032 Mannie Jackson | [03:10:53] Mannie : He was a super basketball player. I'd say if he were comin' outta' college today, he'd be a first -- first round pick. And.....You add that kinda' basketball skill to this personality he has. Charismatic. [03:11:24] Mannie : He just has that magic about him. |
| Tape 029 Kevin Frazier | [16:45:22] Kevin : Curly Neal made it cool to be bald. Like all the way bald. Not with a little bozo afro, but fully bald and think of the name-- Curly Neal... And he could play. |
| Tape 002 Sweet Lou Dunbar | [01:45:02] Sweet Lou : Curly Neal could sit at half court ... long as you pass it to him, he'd drop 'em. And he had one of the greatest jump shots in the game of basketball. Not just that, he became one of the great dribblers of all time.....flair was his big thing. Curly had that slide, he could glide, once he hit the floor. |

| | |
|--|--|
| | [01:45:30] Go between his leg, behind his back and then lay it in with grace. |
| Tape 017 Kevin “Special K” Daly | [18:39:57] Kevin : You know to this day if you think of Curly Neal you think bald head, the smile, and the dribble.....four or five people trying to steal that ball and he’s still holding it and cool-- not even breaking a sweat. |
| Tape 003 Handles Franklin | [02:20:52] HANDLES : I started off wanting to be a Harlem Globetrotter because of Curly Neal. I saw him dribbling the ball all over the place and walking on his knees....I saw everyone with smiles on their faces of all ages- from little kids to all the way up to grandparents. and I said, that’s what I want to do in life. |
| Tape 008 Curly Neal | [05:01:05] CURLY : one kid came out one time, we was in, uh, San Antonio, Texas and – had a wig on, ... was bald and he whispered in my ear, “Curly, pull this off.” So I pulled it off. We looked just alike. [LAUGHS] But it was funny. That’s just something he made up as a fan. Little boy. |
| Footage shot in Atlantic City of kids with Curly. He signs autographs and looks directly at camera spinning the ball on his finger. | Sot: Curly interacting courtside with kids during autograph session. |
| Film of 60s, 70s protests, Globies at their nadir. | THE TEAM SEEMED SET, BUT WITH THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT, VIETNAM AND WATERGATE ROILING THINGS OUTSIDE THE ARENA, TENSIONS INSIDE THE GLOBETROTTER LOCKER-ROOM EXPLODED. THE TEAM BEGAN A LONG SLOW SLIDE THAT ENDED IN A CIRCUS OF CARTOONS, CLOWNING AND SPANDEX COSTUMES. |
| ACT FOUR END | |
| ACT FIVE STARTS HERE | |
| | Sot: dissolve to 60s clip of Globies in play |
| | AS THE 1950S CAME TO AN END. THE HARLEM GLOBETROTTERS—NOW ENTERING THEIR FOURTH DECADE-- WERE STILL GOING STRONG. |
| | BUT FOR THE TEAM’S OLD-SCHOOL OWNER, ABE SAPERSTEIN, AND A NEW GENERATION OF YOUNG PLAYERS, THE SIXTIES WOULD PROVE A DIFFICULT DECADE TO NAVIGATE. |

| | | |
|----------|----------------|--|
| | | WITH BLACK CONSCIOUSNESS ON THE RISE, A SWELLING CRITICISM OF THE TEAM’S MINSTREL ACT BEGAN RE-SURFACING AMONG BLACK AUDIENCES. |
| Tape 036 | Bijan Bayne | [10:41:57] Meadowlark is going up into the stands and he’s speaking in a voice that’s almost higher than any woman’s voice. He’s yelling, he’s squealing, he’s got these exaggerated facial, uh, gestures that are sort of designed to showing his teeth and his smile and guys were uncomfortable with that. |
| | | IRONICALLY, THE TEAM THAT HAD DONE SO MUCH TO BREAK RACIAL BARRIERS JUST BY SHOWING WHAT THEY COULD DO ON A BASKETBALL COURT WAS FALLING HOPELESSLY BEHIND THE TIMES. |
| Tape 036 | Bijan Bayne | [10:52:03] Bijan : While the country was changing, while black people were embracing their African-ness, their heritage, they were embracing natural hairstyles, African garb (10:44:39) You had people like Muhammad Ali and Kareem Abdul Jabbar who had changed their names (10:46:08) In 1968 you would still go see a Harlem Globetrotters game and the Globetrotters are basically behaving like children. |
| | | SAPERSTEIN WAS NOTABLY OUT OF TOUCH, ESPECIALLY WHEN IT CAME TO PAY. EVEN A BASKETBALL PHENOM LIKE CONNIE HAWKINS WAS ONLY EARNING \$35 A GAME IN THE MID 1960s. ONE CHRISTMAS, ABE CAME UP WITH A TONE DEAF GESTURE AS A MEANS OF MAKING UP. |
| Tape 015 | Marques Haynes | [16:22:30] MARQUES : He gave everybody a neck tie with Abe Saperstein on it. [16:22:35] MARQUES : That’s the way he was, you know, and everybody put their ties together and burned them. |
| Tape 036 | Bijan Bayne | [10:48:09] Even in the 1960’s Abe Saperstein is still calling all the Globetrotters players regardless of their first names ‘Oscars.’sort of a nickname for black men and he insists they call him Skip as..... you would call a baseball manager because he’s the manager. |
| | | ONCE AHEAD OF HIS TIME, ABE HAD NOW OUTLIVED IT AS IF ON CUE HIS HEALTH BEGAN DETERIORATING. |

| | |
|--|--|
| | IN 1965, AFTER FIVE MILLION MILES OF TRAVEL TO 89 COUNTRIES - THE MAN TOO BUSY TO GET SICK- FINALLY SUFFERED A HEART ATTACK WHILE TOURING IN THE PHILIPPINES. A YEAR LATER, ON MARCH 15, 1966, AFTER ANOTHER MASSIVE HEART ATTACK, HE DIED. |
| Tape 030 Mannie Jackson | [01:13:46] Mannie: a little White guy who's five foot three.....inches tall, parading around with, uh, the most strongest athletes all of color and making some order out of chaos.He had to have a special personality. |
| Tape 036 Bijan Bayne (Note: Trim as needed in editing bay). | [11:12:45] He's a visionary.... he's really a half century ahead of David Stern and being able to see basketball as something that had global appeal.....Abe Saperstein's legacy on the other side is that he really never evolved, he never became sensitive to the changing times around him. He really never became sensitive to the racial backdrop. He really doesn't acknowledge the Civil Rights Movement. |
| Tape 021 Eloise Saperstein | [03:30:19] ELOISE: he had, uh, a glass wall in his office and it was always-- don't go in that filing cabinet. [03:30:49] after he died, the first thing I went ...to look ..and the filing cabinet was filled with pictures of children, children all laughing at the Globetrotters. I mean you could see from their dress that some of them were in grass skirts, some of them were in kimonos. They were from Japan, they were from China. And these were his joys. He made the world laugh. |
| Tape 030 Mannie Jackson | [01:12:11] He was not the easiest person to get along with because he was the owner operator and he had standards. [01:11:33] He did something really well when you think about taking African-Americans off the street from many different directions and molding a team, providing employment and putting together one of the greatest entertainment shows in the world. |
| | FOR ALL HIS FLAWS, ABE WAS A FORCE THAT HELD THE GLOBETROTTERS TOGETHER. HIS VAUDEVILLE VISION MAY HAVE BEEN LIMITED, BUT IT WAS STRONG, AND WHEN HE DEPARTED, THE TEAM HE RULED WITH AN IRON FIST QUICKLY UNRAVELLED. |
| Tape 037 Bijan Bayne | [11:15:07] They are no longer able to attract the best black college basketball players in the country because the NBA by that time is more than 50% black and blacks feel welcome on NBA teams. |

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| | (11:23:42) The Trotters are actually just entertaining. They're like a figure skating troop. They're like a circus team. |
| Tape 032 Mannie Jackson | [03:12:33] Mannie : It's just a natural law of economics. And if you don't renew yourself or reinvent yourself, ...your brand.....gets stale... the sign of that came with the cartoons. |
| | Sot: Cartoony Globies |
| END ACT FIVE | |
| START ACT SIX HERE | |
| | Music and archival trans of Globetrotters in 1970s. |
| | BY THE 1970S, THE GLOBETROTTERS HAD BECOME A PARODY OF THEMSELVES, NO LONGER ABLE TO PULL IN GREAT YOUNG TALENT, WITH AGING STARS, AND A SERIES OF NEW OWNERS WHO JUST WANTED TO CASH IN WITH A QUICK BUCK. |
| Tape 032 Mannie Jackson | [03:15:00] When brands are struggling, they go to -- to gimmickry. ... people that don't know the game ... will try to cheat. Take a short-cut to -- to the magic. |
| Tape 037 Ben Green | [11:21:37] They couldn't get the best players in the world, the uniforms became more and more outlandish and garish. At one time they even wore one piece jump suits of spandex. The routines became more desperate because they had to do more clowning. |
| Tape 037 Bijan Bayne | [11:22:08] By the 1980s people could go see Magic Johnson. A no-look pass was no longer unique to the Harlem Globetrotters. If the fans wanted to see slam dunks they could go see Julius Irving ...and Michael Jordan. [11:18:02] ... in addition the Globetrotters are facing the competition of a new league called the ABA which uses a lot of elements of the Globetrotters to attract fans..... they have a three point shot They've got a multi colored ball that's red and white and blue ... They've gotthe up tempo fast breaking game, they've got the behind the back dribbles |
| | BY 1992, THE TROTTERS WERE NEARLY BANKRUPT. MANNIE JACKSON, WHO PLAYED FOR THE GLOBETROTTERS IN THE EARLY 1960S, WAS NOW A SUCCESSFUL BUSINESSMAN ON THE VERGE OF BUYING THE TEAM. ONE NIGHT HE TOOK HIS KIDS TO SEE THE SHOW AND HE HATED WHAT HE SAW. |
| Tape 032 Mannie Jackson | [03:16:18] Mannie : I never expected I'd go there and see...the game with my |

| | |
|------------------------------|--|
| | <p>kids and see, uh, the players just tired.</p> <p>[03:16:55] Mannie : Not caring. And never expected to see the -- the routines that I saw 30 years earlier trying to be done by people who were half the athletes that, ... Goose and Marques and Curly -- guys like that - - had been. And that hurt me. And my daughters, who had never seen 'em before.....Their reaction was: 'Dad, I can't believe you did this. And that you speak so highly of it.'</p> |
| | <p>AFTER THE GAME JACKSON, WHO HAD ALREADY CORRALED A GROUP OF INVESTORS TO BUY THE TEAM, WENT TO ADDRESS THE TROTTERS AT A LOCAL HOTEL.</p> |
| Tape 032 Mannie Jackson | <p>[03:18:13] I was gonna' shut the team down.....I couldn't pull the trigger. I -- I looked out there, and I saw myself as a kid. And I said, this thing is too rich and has too much potential for the world to lose it.</p> |
| Tape 026 Ben Green | <p>[08:25:13] The echoes of all these years of what the Globetrotters meant and their history and their significance, and the great players who played for 'em, he was feeling that.</p> <p>[08:25:44] And so he tells them just the opposite. That he's gonna buy the team, and he's gonna turn it around.</p> |
| | <p>JACKSON BOUGHT THE GLOBETROTTERS FOR 5.5 MILLION DOLLARS AND BECAME THE FIRST AFRICAN-AMERICAN TO OWN A LARGE SPORTS FRANCHISE.</p> |
| Footage available of Magic!! | <p>HE QUICKLY BROUGHT BACK SKILLED, ATHLETIC PLAYERS AND DOWNPLAYED THE CLOWNING. HONORARY TROTTER MAGIC JOHNSON PLAYED FOR THE TEAM IN 1997 AND HELPED BEAT THE COLLEGE-ALL STAR SQUAD. JACKSON ALSO REACHED OUT TO LEGENDARY GLOBETROTTERS, GAVE THEM RINGS AND SOUGHT THEIR ADVICE. AND HE MADE SURE HIS PLAYERS CONNECTED WITH THEIR KEY AUDIENCE.</p> |
| Tape 032 Mannie Jackson | <p>[03:24:25] Mannie : The autograph sessions, making contact with our fans and kids and not just doing it, but being engaged with it.</p> |
| Tape 026 Ben Green | <p>[08:29:04] BENJAMIN : within just a couple of years, they were making tons of money. Um, their audiences increased dramatically. Their popularity ratings, their Q ratings skyrocketed.</p> |
| | <p>Sot: Globetrotters footage today</p> |
| | <p>THE HARLEM GLOBETROTTERS CURRENTLY FIELD FOUR SEPARATE TEAMS THAT PLAY IN DOZENS OF</p> |

| | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| | COUNTRIES IN FRONT OF MILLIONS OF FANS EACH YEAR. AMAZINGLY, AFTER NEARLY 90 YEARS, THEY CONTINUE TO PLAY A VITAL ROLE IN THE GLOBAL EVOLUTION OF BASKETBALL. |
| Tape 037 Bijan Bayne | [11:28:56] Bijan : it's the Globetrotters that introduced basketball to Argentina.....when Lithuania started to field basketball teams that were gold medal contenders in the 1990s and early 2000s it's because Abe Saperstein took his team to Eastern Europe and behind the Iron Curtain [11:30:11] Bijan : By 2004 the Argentine team is so good and so talented that it defeats the American team in the Olympics. |
| Tape 018 Kevin "Special K" Daly | [19:02:37] Kevin : We have players today; Yao Ming said that the reason why he started playing basketball was because he saw the Harlem Globetrotters play in China. Dirk Nowitski said the same thing about Germany. |
| | Sot: Globetrotters footage today |
| Tape 005 Buckets Blakes | (03:23:48) Buckets: We are accepted now because those guys broke down those barriers. |
| Tape 008 Curly Neal | [04:47:41] CURLY : at my age, at 71, I'm still getting fan mail. ... I got a letter last week from France; kid want an autograph. ...And that's real special. [04:48:09] CURLY : when I go through the airports to the hotels, and people remember me, [EMOTIONAL] I'm getting emotional [LAUGHS] – it's just something good - [HAS HIS HEAD IN HIS HANDS, CRYING] that I work for – pardon me guys. [BREAK TO FIND CURLY A NAPKIN] [04:49:41] CURLY : But it's a good feeling to be remembered [OVERLAP] while you're still living. |
| Tape 026 Ben Green | [08:30:34] You go to a Globetrotter game today, and you'll literally see three generations. You'll see grandparents, parents, and kids. You'll see the parents who saw the Globetrotters when they were kids and on down the line. |
| Tape 029 Kevin Frazier | [16:50:33] when you go into an arena to see your favorite team play there is that anxiety, the win/lose factor, you know, and so there's still tension. When you go to see the Harlem Globetrotters it's just for the joy of basketball |

| | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| | <p>[16:51:08] they really have brought people together.</p> <p>[16:51:37] And stopped people looking at each other as black or white or yellow or red or whatever color and looking at just we're all people who enjoy watching these great basketball players play.</p> |
| Tape 002 Sweet Lou Dunbar | <p>[02:03:35] People always ask, being in Harlem Globetrotters, you know, where have you been? ...I always say to people, it's where I'm going, is the best place that I've .. never been.And you know they're starting space travel now. So we would be the first sports attraction on the moon. So look forward to that.</p> |
| Tape 037 Bijan Bayne | <p>[11:34:22] The Harlem Globetrotters.....are unsung because</p> <p>[11:34:52] Bijan : They were playing up tempo basketball when other teams were walking the ball up the court. They were dunking the basketball when most college teams and high school teams were emphasizing the set shot. They were doing no look passes when coaches frowned upon their players and benched their players for doing no look passes.</p> |
| Tape 027 Ben Green | <p>[10:03:43] Who knew that a round ball from a stodgy game invented in Springfield, Massachusetts would be picked up by a short, little Jewish marketing genius and carried around the world by Black giants. Who knew?</p> |
| Tape 032 Mannie Jackson | <p>[03:28:28] Abe said this a long time ago, to me.....the universal gesture is a smile, and the universal language is laughter. And, uh, we don't get enough smiles, enough laughter in our lives, and the Globetrotters are the merchants of good times, smiles, and laughter. Never goes away.</p> |
| Tape 018 Kevin "Special K" Daly | <p>[19:20:40] Kevin : Well for the Globetrotters the future looks bright obviously. We've been going strong for 87 years so I believe we're gonna be going for 87,000 more years and I definitely want to be at that game when we play on the moon.</p> |
| | END |