Robert W. Leishman
Past, Present and Future: Three Jolly Green Giants

Robert W. Leishman
Past, Present and Future: Three Jolly Green Giants

Number 18, Big Red. Over 15,000 loyal Celtics fans turned out two weeks ago to witness the peak of pro basketball's all-time great centers, Dave Cowens. Few people thought the Celtics would be able to hold off Florida State could make it in a big league center but his performance during the past decade proved them wrong.

Cowens may not have been a giant physically, but his hard-nosed determination and hustle made him a superstar. He played the game, aggressive defense that continued pro ball's transition from a run-and-shoot offensive tactic to an all-around (offense defense / fast break) team game that began with Boston's own Bill Russell. Dave Cowens will be remembered for outside shooting ability, going to the floor for loose balls, mobility, passing, and tenacious in-your-shirt defense, changes in the style of play at center that has brought the game to a much more intense and exciting level.

While his era ended seemingly all too quickly, Cowens exited gracefully, receiving gifts from both fans and management (which included a motorcycle and sidecar) and thanking his support for the choice sent up to the heavens (the upper balcony at the Garden). You made it easy for me to play hard.” And he certainly did.

As much as I loathed Notre Dame basketball teams, I’ve got to respect and admire them for their competitive courage. That is something that is rare today in pro basketball's all-time greats.

The first base of Larry Bird, Nate Archibald, Chris Ford, and the hustle and all-around instinct of Larry Bird, now in his sophomore year at Boston University, will have a little difficulty if he would be out for any length of time. Maxwell and McHale are the other forwards, both strong power players. "Cornbread" had the best field goal percentage in the NBA last season and is doing very well again this season, and he again leading the team in field goals, which is good. McHale, who came to the Celtics as the third pick in the college draft, is an outstanding young player and one of the future's best power forwards.

As much as I loathed Notre Dame basketball teams, I’ve got to respect and admire them for their competitive courage. That is something that is rare today in pro basketball's all-time greats.

As the conference races heat up, the frenetic pace continues. As the conference races heat up, the frenetic pace continues.

Robert W. Leishman
Past, Present and Future: Three Jolly Green Giants

Robert W. Leishman
Past, Present and Future: Three Jolly Green Giants

Number 18, Big Red. Over 15,000 loyal Celtics fans turned out two weeks ago to witness the peak of pro basketball's all-time great centers, Dave Cowens. Few people thought the Celtics would be able to hold off Florida State could make it in a big league center but his performance during the past decade proved them wrong.

Cowens may not have been a giant physically, but his hard-nosed determination and hustle made him a superstar. He played the game, aggressive defense that continued pro ball's transition from a run-and-shoot offensive tactic to an all-around (offense defense / fast break) team game that began with Boston's own Bill Russell. Dave Cowens will be remembered for outside shooting ability, going to the floor for loose balls, mobility, passing, and tenacious in-your-shirt defense, changes in the style of play at center that has brought the game to a much more intense and exciting level.

While his era ended seemingly all too quickly, Cowens exited gracefully, receiving gifts from both fans and management (which included a motorcycle and sidecar) and thanking his support for the choice sent up to the heavens (the upper balcony at the Garden). You made it easy for me to play hard.” And he certainly did.

As much as I loathed Notre Dame basketball teams, I’ve got to respect and admire them for their competitive courage. That is something that is rare today in pro basketball's all-time greats.

The first base of Larry Bird, Nate Archibald, Chris Ford, and the hustle and all-around instinct of Larry Bird, now in his sophomore year at Boston University, will have a little difficulty if he would be out for any length of time. Maxwell and McHale are the other forwards, both strong power players. "Cornbread" had the best field goal percentage in the NBA last season and is doing very well again this season, and he again leading the team in field goals, which is good. McHale, who came to the Celtics as the third pick in the college draft, is an outstanding young player and one of the future's best power forwards.

As much as I loathed Notre Dame basketball teams, I’ve got to respect and admire them for their competitive courage. That is something that is rare today in pro basketball's all-time greats.

As much as I loathed Notre Dame basketball teams, I’ve got to respect and admire them for their competitive courage. That is something that is rare today in pro basketball's all-time greats.