

NBA Hall Of Famer And Boston Celtics Legend Bill Walton Has Died

****In Memoriam: Bill Walton (1952–2024)****

The basketball world mourns the loss of a true legend as Bill Walton, former NBA player and beloved Boston Celtics figure, has passed at the age of 71 after a courageous battle with cancer.

Born on November 5, 1952, in La Mesa, California, Walton's passion for basketball ignited early in his life. His towering presence and unmatched skills on the court propelled him to become one of the most dominant players of his era.

Walton's basketball journey reached its zenith during his collegiate years at UCLA under the tutelage of the legendary coach John Wooden. As a Bruin, he achieved unprecedented success, leading UCLA to two NCAA championships in 1972 and 1973. His exceptional performance earned him numerous accolades, including the Naismith College Player of the Year award.

Selected as the first overall pick in the 1974 NBA Draft by the Portland Trail Blazers, Walton quickly made his mark in the professional league. In 1977, he guided the Trail Blazers to their first and only NBA championship, earning Finals MVP honors for his stellar contributions.

Despite facing persistent injuries throughout his career, Walton's resilience and determination never wavered. His journey took an unforgettable turn when he joined the Boston Celtics in 1985. As a pivotal member of the team, he provided invaluable leadership and experience, contributing to the Celtics' 1986 NBA championship victory.

Off the court, Walton's passion for the game extended beyond his playing days. Renowned for his insightful commentary and colorful personality, he became a fixture in the world of basketball broadcasting, captivating audiences with his unique blend of knowledge and enthusiasm.

Throughout his life, Walton embodied the essence of sportsmanship, humility, and resilience. His impact on the basketball community transcended the court, leaving an indelible legacy that will continue to inspire generations to come.

Bill Walton will be remembered not only for his remarkable achievements but also for his unwavering dedication to the game he loved. He leaves behind a profound void in the hearts of fans, teammates, and colleagues alike.

"Bill Walton was truly one of a kind," NBA Commissioner Adam Silver said in a statement. "As a Hall of Fame player, he redefined the center position. His unique all-around skills made him a dominant force at UCLA and led to an NBA regular-season and Finals MVP, two NBA championships and a spot on the NBA's 50th and 75th Anniversary Teams"

Rest in peace, Bill Walton. Your legacy will forever shine brightly in the annals of basketball history.

**New Bedford High School's
pool now open after multi-**

million dollar renovation

“ALL LANES OPEN! – The New Bedford High School pool is open for swim season after a multimillion dollar renovation.

Interim Superintendent O’Leary expressed “Thanks to the commitment of the worksite team who oversaw all aspects of the repairs and renovation, including Bruce Oliveira, Brittany Hullinger and Barry Rabinovitch.

Along with Mark Champagne, Tom Tarpey and many other staff, our student athletes are fortunate to have such professionals dedicated to providing them the best possible spaces for Whaler athletics.” The Whalers’ six-lane pool is 25 yards long with a maximum depth of 12-feet. #WhalerPride”-New Bedford Public Schools.



Adjoining locker and shower rooms were also fully renovated. New Bedford Public Schools photo.



Pool renovations included state-of-the-art filtration, treatment, and temperature control systems. New Bedford Public Schools photo.



The pool saw a complete overhaul over the last year (July 2023). New Bedford Public Schools photo.

New Bedford man makes it on ESPN's 'Turkey Bowl Top Plays' with hilarious juke

Ben Mello and Wayne Oliver made it on ESPN during the "Turkey Bowl Top Plays" segment on Thanksgiving. Coming in at #3 on the list you can see Ben Mello stopping on a dime as if he was Lamar Jackson himself, sending his buddy on a journey to find his own ankles.

Here is the video of the juke:

Turkey bowl pic.twitter.com/BUEQ8b2ikm

– Andrew (@andrewf190) November 24, 2023

“We recently did a flag football game to raise money for the Pacheco Center in #Dartmouth which helps children with autism and raised over \$1200. We also had a play from the game make it onto ESPN this morning.” said Sean Cote.

If you want to watch the Top 5 segment which consists of NFL legends Randy Moss, Teddy Bruschi, Alex Smith, and Rex Ryan laughing and analyzing the plays, [CLICK HERE](#).

City of New Bedford DPI makes upgrades to Clegg Field

“It’s getting colder in New Bedford, but spring will (hopefully) be here before you know it.

Ballplayers in the South End will notice some upgrades at Clegg Field when Opening Day arrives next year.

Recently, City DPI crews finished installing new lights at the field (the flat lights seen in the blue sky pictures) and taking down the old fixtures that lit countless games over the years.”-City of New Bedford.

All photos by the City of New Bedford:











[Watch] New Bedford's Brycen Goodine scores 22 points vs

Boston College in 1st game of season

The New Bedford native, Brycen Goodine had a big game against Boston College to start the 2023/24 NCAA season. He is now a 6'4 senior guard playing for the Fairfield Stags NCAA mens basketball team.

He played high school ball at Bishop Stang in Dartmouth, MA and St. Andrew's School in Barrington, R.I., where he was named the 2019 NEPSAC Class AA Player of the Year and 2018 Gatorade Player of the Year for Rhode Island. Goodine was a top-100 player in his high school class per ESPN.com, Rivals.com and 247Sports.com.

He began his collegiate career in the ACC at Syracuse, playing in 23 games in 2019-20. He then appeared in 21 games at Providence this past season, including the Friars' NCAA Tournament Second Round win against Richmond and Sweet 16 contest against eventual National Champion Kansas. He totaled 40 points and 13 rebounds while playing just under six minutes per outing.

Now with the Fairfield Stags, he looks impressive! Checkout his highlights against Boston College.

@BrycenGoodine highlights vs Boston College

*22 pt game, Great to see my guy healthy and hooping!
pic.twitter.com/DInugZXL9X*

– Joel Giroux (@JoelGiroux1) November 12, 2023

Patriots player, Navy Lt. leaves locker room to honor U.S. Army, Massachusetts National Guard at half time

An ESPN reporter caught a photo of a touching moment at Gillette Stadium during the Patriots game this past Sunday. Patriots Long snapper and Navy Lieutenant Joe Cardona was coming back to the field after halftime for his warmup, and noticed an on-field enlistment ceremony for the U.S. Army and Massachusetts National Guard. He then stood at attention to honor them.

Capturing a unique moment from Sunday:

Patriots LS and Navy Lieutenant Joe Cardona was coming back to the field after halftime for his warmup, and noticed an on-field enlistment ceremony for the U.S. Army and Massachusetts National Guard.

*He stood at attention to honor them.
pic.twitter.com/TyHNuh6pc6*

– Mike Reiss (@MikeReiss) November 6, 2023

Cardona has played 9 seasons with the Patriots after being drafted by them in the 2015 NFL draft. This heartfelt moment is extra appreciated as there aren't many good things to talk about after Sundays loss to the Washington Commanders!

After female athlete suffers severe facial, dental injuries, Dighton-Rehoboth students plead for change

In the state of Massachusetts, a biological male is allowed to play in female high school sports due to the "equal play act". This past week we saw this in action when a male student was participating in girls field hockey in a match between Swampscott and Dighton-Rehoboth.

In a frightening scene the Swampscott male athlete is seen taking a shot and hitting the Dighton-Rehoboth female athlete square in the face. This resulted in several broken teeth and other "significant facial and dental injuries".

It's reported that male player (#2 for Swampscott) knocked the teeth out of female player. Males are allowed to play on female teams in MA because of the "equal play act"

This is the town where NCAA president and past gov, Charlie baker lives. Care to comment, @CharlieBakerMA ? pic.twitter.com/ahyGrzA20x

– Riley Gaines (@Riley_Gaines_) November 3, 2023

Kelsey Bain, who is one of the captains of the Dighton-Rehoboth field hockey team released a three page statement pleading for change of this "equal play act". She states, "There will always be significant numbers of boys and men who would beat the best girls and woman in head-to-head competition. Claims to the contrary are simply a denial of science".

Her full statement regarding the situation is embed below.

This is a letter I sent to the MIAA in response to the recent Swampscott vs. Dighton-Rehoboth field hockey incident. @FoxNews @Riley_Gaines_ @MIAA033 @MAGovArchive @grossmanhannah @Nicoletta0602@DRHighSchool pic.twitter.com/WuvjxY5Vnq

– Kelsey Bain (@KelseyBain13) November 5, 2023

Security cameras capture moment New Bedford High School hits game-saving goal against GNB Voc-Tech

Many were bummed out they couldn't rewatch the moment the New Bedford Whalers hit an amazing last minute goal to tie GNB Voc-Tech in their New Bedford rivalry match. But the fine folks over at New Bedford High School dug deep and found a security camera that was able to capture the goal!

“OH NO! YOU WON'T BELIEVE IT! – Here's a closer look at one of the best Soccer goals of the season, scored on Saturday, October 28 as the New Bedford High School Whalers tied with GNB Voc-Tech. It seemed like there was no video record of the match. But Whalers' Edahi Mejia (24), playing right back position, made an incredible last-minute equalizer against our rivals and it is amazing. Thanks to our security cameras, we have captured the unforgettable moment for all to see! What do you think? Are the Whalers ready for the Playoffs?! #GoWhalers

#WhalerPride”

Massachusetts residents gambled over \$500 million dollars on sports betting in September alone

September kicked off the 2023 NFL season which was a special one in Massachusetts as it is the first year you can legally gamble on sports in the state. According to the Massachusetts gaming commission, Massachusetts residents wagered a whopping \$512 million dollars on sports betting in the first month of the NFL regular season.




SEPTEMBER 2023 REVENUE REPORT

SPORTS WAGERING	CURRENT & FUTURE WAGERS SETTLED	ACCRUAL WIN BY LICENSEE	REVENUE HOLD %	TAXABLE GAMING REVENUE	TAX COLLECTED
RETAIL LICENSEES (TAXED AT 15%)	\$12,429,636.81	\$814,331.55	6.55%	\$783,017.39	\$108,763.61
ONLINE LICENSEES (TAXED AT 20%)	\$499,748,033.95	\$50,230,855.93	10.05%	\$49,026,912.17	\$9,805,382.89
TOTAL	\$512,177,670.76	\$51,045,187.48	9.97%	\$49,809,929.56	\$9,914,146.50

Photo by Massachusetts Gaming Commission.

\$499.7 million was wagered via online sports betting, with Draftkings being the most popular in the state. \$49 Million was considered “taxable gaming revenue” and \$9.8 Million was collected for taxes.



★★★★★ September 2023 Revenue Report

ONLINE LICENSEE	Current & Future Wagers Settled	Accrual Win by Licensee	Revenue Hold %	Taxable Gaming Revenue	Tax Collected (20% for Online/Mobile)
Barstool Sportsbook	\$12,953,075.81	\$974,737.88	7.53%	\$942,103.41	\$188,420.68
BetMGM	\$33,533,024.96	\$3,698,816.70	11.03%	\$3,614,984.14	\$722,996.83
Betr	\$303,158.53	\$28,691.57	9.46%	\$28,021.67	\$5,604.33
Caesars Sportsbook	\$18,137,418.40	\$1,640,430.39	9.04%	\$1,595,089.39	\$319,017.88
DraftKings	\$290,142,168.48	\$28,228,841.82	9.73%	\$27,528,120.00	\$5,505,624.01
Fanatics	\$8,895,193.78	\$577,200.52	6.49%	\$565,005.26	\$113,001.50
FanDuel	\$121,929,643.30	\$14,213,751.46	11.66%	\$13,919,838.71	\$2,783,967.74
WynnBet	\$13,854,350.69	\$868,385.59	6.27%	\$833,749.59	\$166,749.92
Total	\$499,748,033.95	\$50,230,855.93	10.05%	\$49,026,912.17	\$9,805,382.89

Photo by Massachusetts Gaming Commission.

Between the NBA now tipping off, the MLB World Series, and the NFL in full swing, one would imagine these numbers will rise even higher in October and November.

First Portuguese NBA player “Neemias Queta” having an impressive start with the

Boston Celtics

Users on Twitter have already coined the nickname “Big Portugal” for Neemias Queta after he has put together an impressive start to the preseason with the Boston Celtics. On October 19th he scored 12 points and 7 rebounds in only 13 minutes of play against the Charlotte Hornets.

Celtics announcers were very impressed with what they were seeing from Queta on the court.

*Neemias Queta, preseason MVP. #NBA #BleedGreen
#DifferentHerepic.twitter.com/p5tE6Y3ifB*

– Ricardo Brito Reis (@rbritoreis) October 20, 2023

If Neemias Queta earns a spot on the roster and sees playing time during the regular season, im sure that will add an extra layer of excitement for fans in the south coast of Massachusetts.

TV ratings definitely going up in New Bedford and Fall River this year

– Ned Brady (@therealnedbrady) October 20, 2023

Queta was born in Lisbon, Portugal and raised in Vale da Amoreira. In 2018 he signed to play basketball at Utah State who was the only school to give him an offer. He became the first Portuguese player ever drafted after being selected with the 39th overall pick in the 2021 NBA draft by the Sacramento Kings. On December 17th, 2021 he became the first Portuguese player ever to play in the NBA.

Now, in 2023 he is a new member of the Boston Celtics and has gotten off to a fantastic start!

"The vibes are great right now"@tvabby caught up with Neemias Queta after the C's win pic.twitter.com/2IUyn45djn

– Celtics on NBC Sports Boston (@NBCSCeltics) October 20, 2023