**ESPN Suggestions**:

* Name Bob Lee, Chris Burman and Stuart Scott emeriti
* Exchange ‘Best” with “Favorite”
* There are Lies, Damn Lies and Statistics. Sport throws statistics around without understanding the numbers or relationships. Percentages are lies in disguise.

**GOATs**

**Kareem Abdul Jabbar**

By any measures including statistics, championships, dominance and impact, Kareem is the greatest athlete of all time.

* National High School championship including 77 wins in a row.
* National Junior Varsity champions and defeats the UCLA varsity team which just won the National Championship
* National varsity champion three times including 88 game win streak.
* NBA Rookie of the year
* 6 times NBA champion
* 19 time All-Star, 16 All-Star starts
* Greatest scorer in the history of basketball
* MVP of league
* And possessor of the single most unstoppable scoring move in any sport, The Sky Hook

**My most respected athletes, all sports:**

* Secretariat
* Kareem
* Ali
* Bob Beamon
* Erwin Magic Johnson
* Michael Jordan
* Wayne Gretzky [Hockey will forever be Wayne Gratz’s record book.]
* Tom Brady
* Tim Duncan
* Lebron James
* Pete Rose
* Julius Erving - Dr J
* Wilt Chamberlain
* Emmitt Smith [heart and soul]
* Ricky Henderson (1,400 steals)
* Mike Tyson [a force-of-nature]
* Hershel Walker (greatest college football player)
* OJ Simpson [I lived in Buffalo and sat in War Memorial Stadium, in raging snow, and OJ would come running out a cloud like a freight train.] [very sad his is such a despicable person]

**GOATS:**

* Secretariat
* Ali
* Kareem
* Wayne Gretzky
* Michael Jordon
* Tom Brady
* Babe Ruth
* Bob Beamon

**My Basketball Mount Rushmore:**

* Kareem
* Tim Duncan
* Lebron
* Michael
* Magic
* First off bench: Kobe

**Basketball: My first pick (a la a pickup game)**

* Magic

**Basketball player by Decade:**

* 1960s Wilt Chamberlain
* 1970s Dr J
* 1980s Magic & Bird
* 1990s Michael Jordon
* 2000s Kobe Bryant & Tim Duncan
* 2010s Lebron James

1. **Athletes Career: Kareem**

* **Kareem as noted above**

1. **Athletes Outstanding Year: 1962: Wilt Chamberlain**

* Wilt played every minute of every game and evry minute of every overtime, thus he averaged more than 48 minutes a game
* Scored 50,8 points all 82 games
* Grabbed 26.7 rebounds every game
* Scored 100 points in one game
* He didn’t foul out once, and I would venture to say, no one in any sport has every been beat on as Wilt was. And Wilt was so damn stoic, if would not move. So, he didn’t get the fouls called because he wouldn’t move. The idea of Wilt flopping, just makes me laugh. Wes Unsel, center for the Washington Bullets, would say that at his height 6’6” going against Wilt at 7’ plus, he was physical. He had to move Wilt from his spots.
* Wilt scored to bulk of his points in his first 10 years and the last 4 as a defensive and assist specialist.

1. **Athletic Series: 1972 Secretariat**
   * How greatest is defined, that horse had it. He was not going to be beat. He would humiliate you if could, and he did with any shame. If he was ahead, it was by how much could he beat you. The Kentucky Derby, Preakness and Belmont that year we historic. It was the greatest moment in horse racing history. It was too many years without a Triple Crown. That horse knew the moment, understood the significance, and embraced it. If you think I assigns too many human characteristics to just a horse, You re missing the point of greatness. Greatness is not confined to a human point of view. Grandeur transcends boundaries and preconceptions. Greatness is not to be judged but embraced. Secretariat was an athlete. He was a winner. He was driven and undefeated. Greatness.
2. **Athletes Outstanding Game: 1980, Magic Johnson**
   * 1980 NBA finals, Magic is Rookie of the Year in the League, 6th game of the Finals against my beloved 76s with Dr. J in Philadelphia, and Kareen didn’t travel east due to a migraine. Magic scores 42 points, plays all 5 positions and dominates my favorite team and wins the NBA Finals. Either you hate or embrace greatness. Magic would still be my first player chosen in a game of All-Time greats.
3. **Athletes Outstanding Moment/Event: 1968, Olympics, Bob Beamon.**
   * The world long-jump record was 27’4” and regularly broken by a quarter or half inch at a time. Beamon jumped 29’4” breaking the world record by 22 inches. An incredible moment that is yet to be rivaled.

**Suggestions continued:**

* Avoid sighting a player’s talent or years playing or years signed going forward, **with** salary in same breath
* Create a social networking show to discuss players personal issues, salary or relate topics. Non-sport issues belong on this show.
* Personalities have not been a stable source for branding shows. Transition back to making the show the purpose and not the personalities.
* Sport requires an exchange between participants. From Boxing to badminton and all teams are sport. If timed or raced to a finish, these re competition. NASCAR to golf are competition.
* The NFL has only one problem – violence. The league reacts each time violence against women, players or life are treated independently. Its all violence. Tackling s not violence, but spearing is violence.
* Sports and competition are NOT war or battles. It is an insult to compare them.
* Reporters are not more important than the athlete
* An athletes’ performance is separate from the person and their private life.
* Every record broken is NOT monumental or absolute historically.
* Avoid absolutes - Best and Worst. Be objective as reporters should be.
* Compare athletes by decade not all-time.
* There are athletes who compete in sports and in competition. But not all competition has athletes. All sport has athletes.
* Stop the condemning ala “You Got Mossed” segment. It is demeaning and judgmental. You may scar a person for life with these insensitive and humiliating comments repeated ad nauseum.
* There are good plays and bad plays, do not sensationalize them as absolutes, like being Best or Worst.
* Betting is what drives all sports. Football has more ways to bet, including fantasy games, fantasy players, and point spreads. The point spread is what separates football from al other sports. Soccer and hockey have no spread, so bets are straight-up win or lose. Betting was very limited with baseball, but football is tailored made for gamblers. The gambler mentality is evident every time someone thinks they know when the streak will fail. Gambling is all about predicting against the odds. [My gambling principle is simple – when a streak reaches three (3) wins or losses, bet the streak.
* “Greatest” needs to first recognize those from the past. Ali is The Greatest. Wayne Gretzsky is the greatest. Pele may never be surpassed in talent or popularity. Bob Beamon will forever be the best long jumper. Michael Jordan will be a consummate winner, but my basketball G.O.A.T. is Kareem. Kareem was high school champion. Junior Varsity Champion. Three-time Varsity champion. Now 6-time NBA champion and the greatest scorer in the history of the sport with the single most unstoppable shot in any sport.
* Drafting athletes is a version of a slave auction. Give the choice to the athlete where they play. [see notes on chips and drafting]