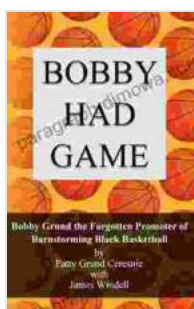


# Bobby Grund: The Forgotten Promoter of Barnstorming Black Basketball

Bobby Grund was a visionary promoter who helped to break down racial barriers in basketball. He organized barnstorming tours that featured some of the greatest black players of the era, and his efforts helped to pave the way for the integration of the NBA.



## Bobby Had Game: Bobby Grund The Forgotten

**Promoter of Barnstorming Black Basketball** by James Windell

★★★★★ 4.9 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 4026 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 143 pages  
Lending : Enabled



Grund was born in 1905 in New York City. He was a gifted athlete who played baseball and basketball in high school. After graduating from high school, Grund attended Columbia University, where he played on the basketball team. In 1927, Grund graduated from Columbia with a degree in economics.

After college, Grund worked as a stockbroker. However, his true passion was basketball. In 1933, he founded the Harlem Globetrotters, a

barnstorming team that featured some of the greatest black players of the era. The Globetrotters quickly became one of the most popular teams in the country, and they helped to popularize the game of basketball among black audiences.

In 1946, Grund founded the National Basketball League (NBL), the first professional basketball league in the United States. The NBL was a rival to the National Basketball Association (NBA), which was founded in 1949. The NBL folded in 1950, but it played an important role in the development of professional basketball.

Grund was a tireless advocate for the integration of the NBA. In 1950, he helped to convince the NBA to sign its first black player, Earl Lloyd. Lloyd's signing was a major milestone in the history of basketball, and it helped to pave the way for the integration of the NBA.

Grund died in 1975 at the age of 70. He is considered one of the most important figures in the history of basketball. His efforts helped to break down racial barriers in the sport, and he played a major role in the development of professional basketball.

## **Legacy**

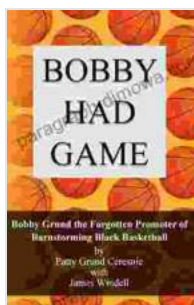
Bobby Grund's legacy is one of innovation and inclusion. He was a visionary promoter who saw the potential of basketball to break down racial barriers. His barnstorming tours helped to popularize the game among black audiences, and his efforts helped to pave the way for the integration of the NBA.

Grund was a tireless advocate for the integration of the NBA. He helped to convince the league to sign its first black player, Earl Lloyd, in 1950. Lloyd's signing was a major milestone in the history of basketball, and it helped to open the door for other black players to enter the NBA.

Grund's legacy is one of lasting impact. He helped to break down racial barriers in basketball, and he played a major role in the development of the sport. He is remembered as one of the most important figures in the history of basketball.

## Additional Resources

- HoopsHype: Bobby Grund: The Forgotten Promoter of Black Basketball
- The New York Times: Bobby Grund, Forgotten Promoter of Black Basketball
- NBA: Bobby Grund



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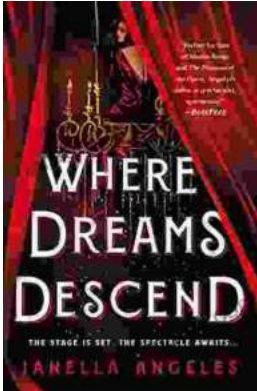
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