

By Bob Wolfley of the Journal Sentinel, Nov. 8, 2012

If you prefer basketball broadcasters who won championships in college and the NBA, who worship the Grateful Dead and who use expressions like "that was a terrible call, terrrrrible!" or "throw it down, big man, throw it down!," then you are back in business.

Bill Walton, 60, has rejoined ESPN as a college basketball analyst and will work primarily Pac-12 telecasts on Wednesday and Thursday with play-by-play announcer Dave Pasch.

Walton worked NBA games for ESPN from 2002 to '09, but left broadcasting because of serious health issues with his back. He has since had surgery and returned part-time with the Sacramento Kings and Boston Celtics.

In announcing other changes this week in its college basketball broadcasting lineups, ESPN said analyst Fran Fraschilla will work with Brent Musburger on Big 12 telecasts on Monday. Musburger's former regular partner, Bob Knight, will now work with Rece Davis on SEC telecasts on Thursday. Fraschilla worked Big 12 games for ESPN from 2004-'09.

Mike Tirico and Dan Dakich return for a second season together on Big Ten games on Tuesday. Bob Wischusen and Dakich will work Big Ten games on Saturday.

Sean McDonough and analysts Jay Bilas and Bill Raftery return to handle Big East telecasts on Monday.

If you don't like college basketball, then stay away from ESPN and its relatives (ESPN2, ESPNU). Those three channels are scheduled to carry about 1,450 men's games this season.