



# THE PREMIER BASKETBALL LEAGUE WEEKLY REPORT

Volume 1, Issue 2

January 14, 2008

## THIS WEEK'S SCORES

### Fri, Jan 11

Arkansas 89, Jacksonville 84

### Sat, Jan 12

Rochester 115, Reading 108  
Wilmington 94, Arkansas 87  
Quad Cities 133, Rockford 105

### Sun, Jan 13

Rochester 104, Jacksonville 89  
Reading 98, Maryland 94  
Rockford 109, Dallas 108 (OT)  
Quad Cities 128, Chicago 120

## STANDINGS

### EAST DIVISION

Team	W	L	.PCT	GB
Wilmington	3	0	1.000	--
Rochester	3	1	.667	0.5
Reading	2	2	.500	1.5
Jacksonville	1	3	.333	2.5
Maryland	0	3	.000	3

### WEST DIVISION

Team	W	L	.PCT	GB
Quad Cities	3	0	1.000	--
Arkansas	2	1	.667	1
Chicago	1	2	.333	2
Rockford	1	2	.333	2
Dallas	0	2	.000	2.5

## UPCOMING GAMES

(all times local)

### Fri, Jan 18

Wilmington at Reading 7:00E  
Maryland at Jacksonville 7:30E  
Rockford at Chicago 8:00C  
Quad Cities at Arkansas 7:00C

### Sat, Jan 19

Maryland at Wilmington 7:00E  
Dallas at Arkansas 7:00C

### Sun, Jan 20

Jacksonville at Reading 1:00E  
Quad Cities at Chicago 3:00C  
Rockford at Dallas 3:00C



**"THE ROCK"**

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## PBL TEAM REPORTS

<p><b>Arkansas Impact</b>            2600 Howard Street            Little Rock, AR 72206            Office: (501) 821-0166            Fax: (501) 821-0166            Head coach: Todd Day            Home arena: Barton Coliseum  <a href="http://arkansasimpactbasketball.com">arkansasimpactbasketball.com</a></p>	<p>The Arkansas Impact traveled to the UNF Arena on Friday night for a game against the Jacksonville Jam, and after four tough quarters of play, the Impact took the victory 89-84. Jeremy Bell, a guard who played virtually all 48 minutes of the game, finished with 25 points to lead all Impacters in scoring; Bell also had two steals and four assists. Bell was steady in the fourth quarter, sinking all seven of his free-throw attempts. Kenny Langhorne was the top rebounder for the Impact, pulling down six boards; Tarik Wallace's six assists led the Impact in that category; Wallace also garnered 17 points, including five three-pointers. Brian Bunche had five steals and twelve points.</p> <p>Next up was a matchup of undefeated teams on Saturday night – the Impact traveled to Wilmington to face the Sea Dawgs. Despite leading for most of the game, the Impact fell to the Sea Dawgs 94-87. The Impact led by as many as 17 points in the game, including a 12-point lead with five minutes to play. Tarik Wallace was the top scorer for the Impact, with 20 points, including four three-pointers; Kenny Langhorne added 18 and Ryan Holmes finished with 13 points. "We just didn't respond," said Arkansas head coach Todd Day to the <i>Wilmington Star-News</i>. "They were at home. They made a couple of baskets and the crowd got into it."</p>	
<p><b>Chicago Throwbacks</b>            P.O. Box 1608            Calumet City, IL 60409            Office: (515) 208-1231            Fax: (219) 884-4558            Head coach: Donnie Boyce            Home arena: Attack Athletics  <a href="http://chicagotrowbacks.com">chicagotrowbacks.com</a></p>	<p>The Chicago Throwbacks' only game this weekend came on Sunday afternoon, when the Throwbacks lost an in-state matchup against the Quad Cities Riverhawks 128-120. Stanley Thomas was the top scorer for the Throwbacks, with 37 points; Jerome Harper and Steve Strong each had 21. Chicago was able to garner many second-attempt shots, which kept them in the game throughout. "We have to defend better as a team, we had every opportunity to win the game. We needed to win this one. Our next two games are at home, hopefully we can pull together and turn this thing around." said Head Coach Donnie Boyce.</p>	
<p><b>Dallas Defenders</b>            15305 North Dallas Parkway            Suite 300            Addison TX 75001            Office: (972) 455-2883            Fax: (972) 715-2099            Head coach: Chuck Davisson            Home arena: Alfred J. Loos            Fieldhouse  <a href="http://defendershoops.com">defendershoops.com</a></p>	<p>The Dallas Defenders took a trip to Rockford to play the Fury, and although the Defenders fell behind 28-11, Dallas came back, thanks to 21 points apiece from Ronald Blackshear and Andre Heard. Eventually the two teams battled to a 99-99 tie, then into overtime. After Rockford's Zach Ramey hit a 3-pointer with 4.6 seconds left on the clock, Ronald Blackshear tried a 3-pointer of his own, but Blackshear's shot was short, and Dallas suffered their second loss, a 109-108 overtime defeat. Blackshear and Heard each finished with 21 points.</p>	
<p><b>Jacksonville Jam</b>            11111-70 San Jose Blvd #188            Jacksonville FL 32223            Phone: (904) 302-5323            Fax: (813) 283-7887            Head coach: Mike Gillespie            Home arena: University of North            Florida Arena  <a href="http://jaxjam.com">jaxjam.com</a></p>	<p>On Friday night, the Jacksonville Jam welcomed the Arkansas Impact to UNF Arena, but despite outrebounding the Impact 42-27, the Jam lost to Arkansas 89-84. Jacksonville was ice-cold in the third quarter, not scoring for nearly the first five minutes of the game, allowing the Impact to take a 13-2 run in the quarter and grow a 14-point lead in the first half. Jerry Williams was the top scorer for the Jam with 22 points; while Brian Greene's 17 points were augmented with 20 rebounds, almost half the Jam's total rebounding output for the game; Greene also blocked two shots and dished out 7 assists. Chad Johnson notched 16 points, while Golden Ingle stole the ball five times in the Jacksonville loss.</p> <p>The Jam next traveled to New York, to play the Rochester Razorsharks on Sunday afternoon. The weary Jam fell behind 25-18 in the first quarter, 54-34 at the half, and despite outscoring the Razorsharks 35-22 in the final quarter, the Jam lost 104-89. The Sharks controlled the tempo from the tip-off, by blocking 18 attempted Jacksonville scores. Brian Greene's 17 points led all Jammers in scoring, while Jerry Williams added 15 points and Chad Johnson put 14 on the board. Napoleon Rhodes was the top rebounder for the Jam, with 8 of the team's 46 boards. Golden Ingle dished out 7 assists and garnered 3 steals in the Jacksonville loss.</p> <p>In other news, the Jam signed Delta State signed Florida A&amp;M guard Tony Tate, and released guard Travis Degroot.</p>	

## Maryland Nighthawks

101 North Adams Street  
Rockville, MD 20850  
Office: (301) 758-1090  
Fax: (301) 738-3709  
Head coach: Lawrence Moten  
Home arena: Hanley Center for  
Athletic Excellence, Georgetown  
Prep H.S.  
marylandnighthawks.com

In their only contest of the weekend, the Maryland Nighthawks hosted the Reading Railers in Bethesda, Md. Despite 18 points from Hugh Jones, who led all Nighthawks in scoring on the day, the Nighthawks lost to Reading, 98-94. Maryland had a chance to win, as Reading was leading in the final seconds 95-91, when Hugh Jones stepped to the line to attempt two technical free throws; unfortunately, the normally reliable Jones missed both shots. Reading eventually scored on a dunk "and one," and despite a 3-pointer from Yohan Matos, the Nighthawks lost their third straight match. The Nighthawks were playing without Tamir Goodman, who dislocated his finger in last Sunday's game against Reading. Ratdech "J.O." Kruatiwa played in the first quarter, but two minutes into his playing time, he sprained his ankle and did not return. Nighthawks forward David Bailey suffered a concussion in the fourth quarter and was taken to a hospital for a CT scan. Bailey is expected to miss 1-3 weeks.



PHOTO: Hugh "Baby Shaq" Jones driving to score his team-high 18 points in Maryland's loss to Reading. Photo Credit: Michael Starghill, Jr.

## Quad Cities Riverhawks

Beyond The Baseline  
1540 W 12th Street  
Davenport, IA 52804  
Office: 1-866-694-5728  
Fax: 1-800-970-2479  
Head coach: LaTroy Farrow  
Home arena: Wharton Fieldhouse  
qcriverhawks.com

The Quad Cities Riverhawks remained undefeated on the young season with a 133-105 domination of the Rockford Fury. Quad Cities, who led by as many as 32 points in the match, had four scorers with 20 points or more, including 25 by Bobby Anderson.



Next up for the Riverhawks was a 128-120 victory over the Chicago Throwbacks. Ty Johnson was the top scorer for the Riverhawks with 31 points, while Ryan Edwards added 22, Keith Gaydon and Bobby Anderson each had 19 points. "We needed this," said Ty Johnson to the *Quad City Times*. "We had two blowout wins, and we needed a competitive game like this to learn something. We just pulled together and said we had to dig deep and search for character, search for toughness, and we pulled it out." Johnson became the first PBL player to record a triple-double, as the 6'4" guard from Mountain Stage added 10 rebounds and 11 assists to his 31 total points.

In other Riverhawks news, the team named Eric Hutchins as general manager of the franchise. Hutchins previously worked with the Quad City Mallards of the Colonial/United Hockey League, and the Quad City Steamwheelers of af2 indoor football. "Is there potential here?" said the newly-hired Hutchins to the *Quad City Times*. "Absolutely, we're 3-0. People want to come out and see winning basketball."

## Reading Railers

35 N 6th Street  
Reading, PA 19601  
Office: (610) 898-9466  
Fax: (610) 898-9386  
Head coach: Sal Mentesana  
Home arena: Sovereign Center  
[readingrailers.com](http://readingrailers.com)

The Railers made the trip to Rochester to help the Razorsharks open their 2008 PBL home season on Saturday afternoon. Reading started out strong in the match, taking a 51-49 lead into the half, and then gunning a 12-2 run in the third period. But in the third quarter, Jared Mills took an elbow to the face as he was attempting to take a charge, and suffered a hairline fracture of the orbital bone. "That knocked the stuffing out of us," said Mentesana to the *Reading Eagle*. "It shouldn't have, and that's no excuse, but we looked flat after that for about three or four minutes and they caught right back up. That changed the tempo of the game." Despite 28 points from Tayron Thomas, including three 3-pointers, the Railers lost the match 115-108. Thomas, who also had six assists, a block and three steals, was one of three Railers with 20 points



or more in the game, joining Jerald Brown (22 pts) and Ira Miller (20 pts) in completing that statistic. Aaron Williams pulled down 16 rebounds in the Reading loss.



PHOTO: Reading's Ira Miller to the line in the Railers' loss to Rochester. Photo Credit: Chuck Miller.

On Sunday, the Railers visited Bethesda, Md. for a battle with the Maryland Nighthawks. After Reading watched a nine-point lead whittle away to 95-91 in the final moments, Reading coach Sal Mentesana was whistled for a two-shot technical foul. The Maryland shooter, the normally reliable Hugh Jones, missed both attempts, and Reading's Aaron Williams got loose to attempt a game-winning dunk – he was fouled as the ball went in – and converted the extra point to give Reading a 98-91 lead, and eventually a 98-94 victory. Tayron Thomas scored a game-high 25 points, hitting 10-of-24 shots from the field. He also had a team-high eight assists. Ira Miller scored 23 points, including five 3-pointers, while Aaron Williams had a double-double of 12 rebounds and 10 points.

## Rochester Razorsharks

39 State Street, Suite 100  
Rochester NY 14614  
Office: (585) 232-9190  
Fax: (585) 232-8086  
Head Coach: Rod Baker  
Home Venue: Blue Cross Arena  
[razorsharks.com](http://razorsharks.com)





Rochester hosted the Reading Railers at Blue Cross Arena Saturday afternoon, for the Razorsharks' first home game in nearly a year. The fans came out strong, as 3,081 cheered and hollered for their returning Razorsharks. The Railers actually got the early jump on Rochester, ending the first half with a 51-49 lead and at one point holding a 63-50 lead in the third quarter. Head Coach Rod Baker decided on a "line change" – pulling all five players off the court and inserting his bench players. The strategy paid off, as bench players Vidal Massiah dropped 28 points in Rochester's 115-108 victory over the Railers. In the second half, Keith Friel's 19 points included four three-pointers; while Marlin Johnson notched 11 rebounds in the game. James "Mook" Reaves left in the first quarter; his foot was wrapped in an ice pack and he did not return to the game.



PHOTO: Rochester's Sammy Monroe with two of his 12 points in the Razorsharks' victory over Reading. Photo credit: Chuck Miller.

Rochester concluded their weekend with a 104-89 victory Sunday afternoon against the Jacksonville Jam, on what was designated "Fan Appreciation Night." Rochester led the game from the start with a 20-4 run halfway through the 1st quarter and never looked back. Sammy Monroe led all Razorsharks in scoring with 20 points. James "Mook" Reaves returned to the lineup after his foot injury Saturday, and led the Sharks with 11 rebounds, completing a double-double with 17 points. Among the prizes at "Fan Appreciation Night" were the awarding of five Razorsharks autographed jerseys to raffle winners, and the designation of one fan that can now "Act Like An Owner" for the 2008 season; the lucky fan now can attend practices, pre-games and shootarounds, as well as hang around with the players before every Sharks home game.

<p><b>Rockford Fury</b>  5301 East State Street, Suite 114  Rockford IL 61108  Office: (815) 399-4222  Fax: 1-800-970-2479  Head coach: Dave Knickelbein  Home arena: Seaver Gymnasium,  Rockford College  rockfordfury.com</p>	<p>The Rockford Fury signed three new players for this weekend's matches, in the hopes of jump-starting their offense. Unfortunately for the Fury, the Quad Cities Riverhawks exploited Rockford's miscues, taking a 15-6 run into a 133-105 win for the Riverhawks. The Fury's scoring punch came from John Jackson, a former member of the CBA's Rockford Lightning, with 19 points and Kyle Myrick, another new signee, with 16.</p> <p>Next up for the Fury was a home matchup on Sunday night with the Dallas Defenders. Rockford had a lead as large as 21 points, but the Defenders whittled it away. The second quarter turned into a 3-point shooting contest, with eight straight treys registered by both teams (Zach Ramey, Ameer Watts, Michael Hadley and Kyle Myrick for Rockford, Lonnie Randolph and Andre Heard for Dallas). The game was tied 99-99 at the end of four quarters; and it was Zach Ramey's three-pointer in overtime, with four seconds remaining, that capped a 109-108 overtime win for the Fury. Ramey finished with 26 points, including a league-record eight 3-pointers; Ramey was 6-for-7 from 3-point range in regulation, and hit two in overtime.</p>	
<p><b>Wilmington Sea Dawgs</b>  232 Causeway Drive  Unit 2-3  Wrightsville Beach, NC 28480  Office: (910) 256-2565  Fax: (910) 256-4589  Head coach: Kevin Whitted  Home arena: Joe and Barbara  Schwartz Center, Cape Fear CC  goseadawgs.com</p>	<p>The Sea Dawgs extended their winning streak to three games with a 94-87 victory over the Arkansas Impact, erasing a lead that the Impact held throughout most of the contest. Despite being down in score with six minutes to play, the Sea Dawgs ran off a 20-3 run to pull ahead and eventually win the game. Alexander Harper finished with 23 points, while Alvin Jefferson added 14 and Charles Ward had 13. "Once we made plays (on defense), we were able to come down and make plays on the offensive end," said coach Kevin Whitted to <i>Wilmington Star-News Online.com</i> reporter Rachel George. "When Charles Ward started securing rebounds, and Alvin as well, we were able to really build some momentum. And we made free throws." The contest was a tough battle; as guard Tre Whitted left the game in the first half with a lower ankle sprain; and guard Zach Herrmann left with a swollen left eye after getting hit on a foul. The Saturday night contest was designated as "Kids' Night," and all children aged 12 and under were able to attend for \$5 apiece. The first 100 children that entered the arena received special free prizes, courtesy of the Sea Dawgs.</p>	

Game reports compiled via team press releases, and from articles appearing in the Rochester Democrat and Chronicle, the Reading Eagle, the Rockford Register-Star, the Quad City Times, the Wilmington Star-News, and other newspapers.

# PBL PLAYER STATISTICS (courtesy JocTrac, <http://www.joctrac.com>)

## SCORING AVERAGE

	G	FG	FT	3P	PTS	AVG
Stanley Thomas, Chicago	2	21	9	4	55	27.5
Ameer Watts, Rockford	1	7	6	6	26	26.0
Willie Mitchell, Quad Cities	1	8	3	2	21	21.0
Marco Cole, Arkansas	1	6	9	0	21	21.0
Ira Miller, Reading	3	14	22	10	60	20.0
Jerome Harper, Chicago	2	18	2	2	40	20.0
Jeremy Bell, Arkansas	2	13	12	2	40	20.0
Ryan Edwards, Quad Cities	1	7	2	4	20	20.0
Daniel Artest, Rockford	1	7	5	1	20	20.0
Imari Sawyer, Chicago	2	16	4	3	39	19.5

## SCORING AVERAGE

	G	FG	FT	3P	PTS	AVG
Nicholas Gipson, Dallas	1	4	9	1	18	18.0
Nick Michael, Rockford	1	6	6	0	18	18.0
Hugh Jones, Maryland	3	18	15	5	56	17.8
Tayron Thomas, Reading	3	20	9	4	53	17.7
Brian Greene, Jacksonville	3	18	14	3	53	17.7
Cedric McGinnis, Wilmington	2	10	11	4	35	17.5
Keith Friel, Rochester	3	14	12	11	51	17.0
Jerald Brown, Reading	3	15	19	2	51	17.0
Tarik Wallace, Arkansas	2	13	2	6	34	17.0
Charles Ward, Wilmington	2	15	2	0	32	16.0

## REBOUNDS

	G	REB	AVG
Keith Gaydon, Quad Cities	1	17	17.0
Dave Bancroft, Quad Cities	1	14	14.0
Mister Major, Rockford	1	14	14.0
Willie Mitchell, Quad Cities	1	13	13.0
Reggie George, Rockford	1	13	13.0
Brian Greene, Jacksonville	4	46	11.5
Aaron Williams, Reading	3	34	11.3
Nick Michael, Rockford	1	11	11.0
Alvin Jefferson, Wilmington	2	20	10.0
O'Neal Mims, Dallas	1	10	10.0
Daniel Artest, Rockford	1	10	10.0
David Bailey, Maryland	3	28	9.3

## ASSISTS TO TURNOVER RATIO

	G	AST	TO	AVG
Lonnie Randolph, Dallas	1	12	2	6.00
Tarik Wallace, Arkansas	2	6	1	6.00
Frank Richards, Rockford	1	8	2	4.00
Lamont Evans, Dallas	1	4	1	4.00
Ryan Edwards, Quad Cities	1	3	1	3.00
Willie Mitchell, Quad Cities	1	3	1	3.00
Ty Johnson, Quad Cities	1	11	4	2.75
Jerice Crouch, Rochester	4	8	3	2.67
Rich Baker, Reading	3	18	8	2.25
John Halas, Rochester	3	8	4	2.00
Nick Tuggle, Arkansas	2	6	3	2.00
Isiah Johnson, Quad Cities	1	2	1	2.00

## BLOCKED SHOTS

	G	BLK	AVG
Ron Rollerson, Rochester	2	8	4.0
Jermaine Bell, Rochester	4	7	1.8
Sammy Monroe, Rochester	4	6	1.5
Eddie Washington, Chicago	2	3	1.5
Charles Ward, Wilmington	2	3	1.5
Brian Greene, Jacksonville	4	5	1.3
Antric Klaiber, Maryland	3	4	1.3
Ron Alexander, Jacksonville	4	4	1.0
Vidal Massiah, Rochester	4	4	1.0
Michael O'Neal, Chicago	2	2	1.0

## STEALS

	G	STL	AVG
Ameer Watts, Rockford	1	5	5.0
Jermaine Williams, Wilmington	2	7	3.5
Imari Sawyer, Chicago	2	6	3.0
Bobby Anderson, Quad Cities	1	3	3.0
Nicholas Gipson, Dallas	1	3	3.0
Lonnie Randolph, Dallas	1	3	3.0
Frank Richards, Rockford	1	3	3.0
Brian Bunche, Arkansas	2	5	2.5
Craig Franklin, Chicago	2	5	2.5
Warren Jefferson, Maryland	3	7	2.3

## FIELD GOAL PERCENTAGE

	FGM	FGA	AVG
Marco Cole, Arkansas	6	7	.857
Jerry Williams, Jacksonville	23	36	.639
Ryan Edwards, Quad Cities	7	11	.636
Willie Mitchell, Quad Cities	8	13	.615
Keith Gaydon, Quad Cities	6	10	.600
Ryan Holmes, Arkansas	11	19	.579
Charles Ward, Wilmington	15	26	.577
Vidal Massiah, Rochester	22	40	.550
David Bailey, Maryland	15	33	.455

## FREE THROW PERCENTAGE

	FTM	FTA	AVG
Antony Hardin, Quad Cities	5	5	1.000
Willie Mitchell, Quad Cities	3	3	1.000
Jared Mills, Reading	14	16	.875
Ira Miller, Reading	22	26	.846
Keith Friel, Rochester	14	17	.824
Marco Cole, Arkansas	9	11	.818
Steve Hailey, Rochester	5	6	.833
Stanley Thomas, Chicago	9	11	.818

## 3-POINT FIELD GOAL PERCENTAGE

	3PM	3PA	AVG
Ken Barnes, Dallas	4	4	1.000
Warren Beulah, Arkansas	3	3	1.000
Kelvin Green, Reading	4	5	.800
Isiah Johnson, Quad Cities	3	4	.750
Ryan Edwards, Quad Cities	4	6	.667
Anthony Lumpkin, Jacksonville	4	6	.667
Chuck Davis, Reading	4	6	.667
Derik Hollyfield, Rochester	6	10	.600
Ira Miller, Reading	10	17	.588

## DOUBLE-DOUBLES

	TOTAL
Brian Greene, Jacksonville	2
James Reaves, Rochester	2
Six players with	1

## PBL PLAYER PROFILE: BOBBY ANDERSON, QUAD CITIES RIVERHAWKS

Second chance: Riverhawks Anderson reviving career derailed by 4½-year prison term

By Eric Page

Originally published in Quad City Times

Photo Credit: John Schultz/Quad-City Times



It took 4½ years in prison for him to see the light.

Now a 28-year-old shooting guard for the Quad-City Riverhawks, Anderson is a man at peace with his troubled past, a man content in the present, a man excited about the possibilities of the future.

### *A late bloomer*

Anderson was a good basketball player in a time when greatness reigned in high school gyms in Peoria. He was in the same class as famed high school stars and future University of Illinois players Sergio McClain and Marcus Griffin, who led Peoria Manual to four straight state titles from 1994-97. But, because he was always undersized, Anderson didn't start at Central until he was a senior.

"He always had talent, always could score, always could shoot," said former Central coach Chuck Buescher. "Unfortunately for us, he was a late developer."

Anderson, who grew to 5-foot-10 by the end of his high school career, once made 11 3-pointers on his way to 40 points in a high school game. He led his team in scoring as a senior and was named all-conference, all-area and honorable-mention all-state.

Bobby Anderson always could make the right decision on a basketball court. There never was any question of that. Even as a 5-foot-4, 85-pound freshman at Peoria (Ill.) Central High School, he knew when to shoot it, when to pass it, when to take it to the hole.

It was off the court where he ran into problems.

At first, it was little things like throwing rocks at cars and sticks at dogs when he was a kid. Eventually, it was selling drugs.

Anderson could have let his physical talents carry him to the NBA — or his personal demons carry him to jail.

Two lives pulled him in opposite directions.

The wrong life won.

But while he flourished on the court, he floundered in the classroom and was not recruited by four-year schools. Instead, he landed at Kirkwood Community College in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

In his first semester at Kirkwood Anderson led the Eagles in scoring, but he again failed in the classroom and was ineligible for the second semester. He watched from the bench as Kirkwood won the 1998 NJCAA national championship.

"It was hard," Anderson said. "That was one of the hardest things ever."

Anderson followed Kirkwood coach Chris Jans to Independence (Kan.) Community College in the summer of '98. He got his grades in order while sitting out the first semester and returned to the court after winter break.

By then, he'd grown to 6-5 and filled out his frame. He was dominant, scoring with ease and attracting attention from a long list of Division I schools that included Iowa, Iowa State, West Virginia, UAB, Kansas State and Rhode Island.

"He just had a natural feel. He just had it," said Jans, now an assistant at Wichita State, who added Anderson is the best player he has coached in 15 seasons.

"He had instincts. He had things you can't teach. He just had a feel for the game. The game went in slow motion for him. He had one of the purest, sweetest jump shots I've ever seen."

But then, it all came undone.

### *Trouble with the law*

It's amazing how things can snowball once they start rolling in the wrong direction.

Shortly after Anderson completed the 1998-99 season at Independence ranked as the No. 2 junior college shooting guard in America, a teammate got in a fight, and Anderson shared in the blame. He continued to struggle academically and left school right before graduation.

Less than a month after returning to Peoria, Anderson was caught in a bind once again. He and two friends were arrested for spraying bleach, from a squirt gun, in the eyes of two people. He served 90 days in jail, paid restitution and performed community service.

That was only the beginning.

After being released, with basketball no longer an option, Anderson turned to what he knew. Like he'd seen countless others in his neighborhood do, he sold drugs.

"It was always around," Anderson said. "I was always curious and dabbled, but never really got off into it. But once I wasn't playing basketball anymore and wasn't going to school, I was just looking for the easy way. I wasn't willing to work hard. I was looking for an easy way out."

In June 2002 Anderson was arrested for selling cocaine to an undercover police officer. He was carrying a gun at the time of the arrest, and he already was facing charges on a residential burglary because he refused to testify against a friend in another case.

He was sentenced to six years in prison.

### *An awakening*

Anderson's time behind bars was an awakening.

He took classes for anger management, got involved in intramural basketball and worked in the library.

He loved the job in the library. It allowed him to get his hands on books, which he'd ignored in his previous life. And for the first time, he read — everything from black history to the dictionary, non-fiction to fiction. He absorbed the words. He opened his mind.

"It wasn't really a dark time for me," Anderson said. "That was the best thing that ever happened to me — me going to prison. I learned a lot. I grew up. I learned how to go without, to sacrifice. I humbled myself.

"That experience right there is why I'm here right now. If it weren't for that, I don't think I'd be here. Those 4½ years changed my life."

All told, Anderson spent time at seven Illinois prisons. He stayed out of trouble and was awarded an early release for good behavior. He was sent to a halfway house in Peoria in spring 2006, and that's when an old rival got in touch with him.

McClain, who had gone on to lead Illinois to a pair of Big Ten championships in the late '90s, was back in town as a player/coach for the Peoria Kings, an expansion team in the American Basketball Association. He remembered Anderson could play, and he wanted to help him land on his feet.

### *A second chance*

Anderson was released from prison the day before Thanksgiving 2006. Nine days later, he joined the Kings, who were struggling to an 0-8 start. Anderson changed all that.

He averaged more than 30 points and close to 10 rebounds while leading the Kings to the ABA playoffs. He was named an all-star, though the terms of his three-year parole would not allow him to travel to the game, which was played in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

For the first time in a long time, Anderson was proud, rather than ashamed.

"For me to come back and do well, it shows that, hey, everybody can make a mistake," Anderson said, "but it's what you do after you make that mistake — are you going to keep making mistakes, or are you going to learn from that mistake?"

Anderson also found some stability off the court. He was married last December and is a stepfather to four children.

The Kings folded last month, and Riverhawks owner Tom McGinn jumped at the opportunity to sign a player capable of scoring the way Anderson did last season in the ABA.

Because he was a late addition to the team, Anderson did not start the team's Premier Basketball League season opener against Dallas last week. But he scored 17 points in limited action, taking over in the fourth quarter of a 127-92 rout.

He hasn't lost his touch.

### *'A dirty rotten shame'*

"It's a shame. It's a dirty rotten shame," Buescher said. "Had he stayed clean ... a guy that can shoot and score like that, I can't tell you he wouldn't have played in the (NBA). He was that good.

"I think Bobby could have gone in the Big Ten and averaged 16 to 20 points a game easy, maybe more than that."

Jans can't argue with that.

"We used to talk about it, that he had a legit chance to be a pro," Jans said. "He had the skills. That's why it saddens me, because who knows where it could have led him.

"It saddens me, because as a coach you can see all the talent he had, and I couldn't get to him. I couldn't get him to stay the course.

"I'm sure if he had things to do over, he would make some different decisions."

Anderson can't — and won't — allow himself to think that way.

This is the life he chose.

This is his path.

And he's happy.

"I messed up," Anderson said. "And, yeah, if I hadn't messed up, I'd probably be somewhere. But I would have messed up eventually. I needed to go through what I went through so I would appreciate it more. I needed time to grow up."

### *Don't sweat the small stuff*

One of the many books Anderson read in prison was "Don't Sweat the Small Stuff ... and it's all small stuff."

Its message, "Don't let the things you can't control control you or your actions," Anderson said, is something he lives his life by.

He's going to take basketball as far as he can, but the game will not define him or his existence.

Neither will the crimes he committed.

His time behind bars might very well have been his salvation. He can't get those 4½ years back. But it was those 4½ years lost that gave him the rest of his life.

And now, he wants to give back.

He wants speak to youth groups, at basketball camps, at detention centers, anywhere he can reach out to kids on the verge of making the same bad decisions he made.

"I think a lot of kids get lost in the hype of basketball ... and they've got so many crutches that they don't learn to stand on their own. So, when they do get to the point when they've got to stand on their own, they get lost," Anderson said. "I just think we don't get enough guidance at a young age and don't really know what we're dealing with, and that leads to making bad decisions.

"When it's all said and done, everything is about decision making. Whatever decisions you make, you've got to be willing to live with. If you're comfortable with that, by all means, live your life. But you've got to live with it. You've got to own the decisions you make and be prepared to suffer the consequences."

## PBL SCHEDULES AND RESULTS

### ARKANSAS IMPACT GAME-BY-GAME

Date	H/A	Opponent	Score	W	L	Record	Attend	Leading Scorer
01/06/08	a	Chicago Throwbacks	114-103	W		1-0	--	(25) R. Holmes
01/11/08	a	Jacksonville Jam	89-84	W		2-0		(25) J. Bell
01/12/08	a	Wilmington Sea Dawgs	87-94		L	2-1		(20) T. Wallace
01/18/08	h	Quad Cities Riverhawks						
01/19/08	h	Dallas Defenders						
01/26/08	a	Rockford Fury						
01/27/08	a	Dallas Defenders						
02/03/08	a	Chicago Throwbacks						
02/08/08	h	Rockford Fury						
02/10/08	a	Quad Cities Riverhawks						
02/15/08	h	Rockford Fury						
02/16/08	h	Quad Cities Riverhawks						
02/23/08	h	Maryland Nighthawks						
02/24/08	h	Dallas Defenders						
02/29/08	a	Quad Cities Riverhawks						
03/02/08	a	Rockford Fury						
03/07/08	h	Chicago Throwbacks						
03/09/08	h	Reading Railers						
03/14/08	h	Rochester Razorsharks						
03/16/08	a	Maryland Nighthawks						

### CHICAGO THROWBACKS GAME-BY-GAME

Date	H/A	Opponent	Score	W	L	Record	Attend	Leading Scorer
01/05/08	a	Rockford Fury	136-134 2OT	W		1-0		(30) S. Harper, J. Thomas
01/06/08	h	Arkansas Impact	103-114		L	1-1	---	(24) S. Thomas
01/13/08	a	Quad Cities Riverhawks	120-128		L	1-2		(37) S. Thomas
01/18/08	h	Rockford Fury						
01/20/08	h	Quad Cities Riverhawks						
01/27/08	a	Rochester Razorsharks						
02/01/08	a	Dallas Defenders						
02/03/08	h	Arkansas Impact						
02/08/08	a	Jacksonville Jam						
02/09/08	a	Dallas Defenders						
02/15/08	h	Rochester Razorsharks						
02/16/08	h	Dallas Defenders						
02/23/08	a	Quad Cities Riverhawks						
02/24/08	a	Rockford Fury						
02/28/08	a	Reading Railers						
02/29/08	h	Maryland Nighthawks						
03/03/08	a	Arkansas Impact						
03/09/08	a	Rockford Fury						
03/14/08	h	Dallas Defenders						
03/16/08	h	Quad Cities Riverhawks						

### DALLAS DEFENDERS GAME-BY-GAME

Date	H/A	Opponent	Score	W	L	Record	Attend	Leading Scorer
01/04/08	a	Quad Cities Riverhawks	92-127		L	0-1		(19) R. Blackshear
01/13/08	a	Rockford Fury	108-109 OT		L	0-2		(21) R. Blackshear, A. Heard
01/19/08	a	Arkansas Impact						
01/20/08	h	Rockford Fury						
01/26/08	a	Quad Cities Riverhawks						
01/27/08	h	Arkansas Impact						
02/01/08	a	Chicago Throwbacks						
02/02/08	h	Maryland Nighthawks						
02/09/08	h	Chicago Throwbacks						
02/16/08	h	Chicago Throwbacks						
02/17/08	h	Quad Cities Riverhawks						
02/23/08	a	Rockford Fury						
02/24/08	a	Arkansas Impact						
02/29/08	a	Jacksonville Jam						
03/02/08	h	Quad Cities Riverhawks						
03/08/08	h	Reading Railers						
03/13/08	h	Wilmington Sea Dawgs						
03/14/08	a	Chicago Throwbacks						
03/15/08	h	Rochester Razorsharks						

### JACKSONVILLE JAM GAME-BY-GAME

Date	H/A	Opponent	Score	W	L	Record	Attend	Leading Scorer
01/04/08	h	Rochester Razorsharks	83-101		L	0-1	---	(17) B. Greene
01/05/08	a	Reading Railers	104-101	W		1-1		(19) B. Greene
01/11/08	h	Arkansas Impact	84-89		L	1-2		(22) J. Williams
01/13/08	a	Rochester Razorsharks	89-104		L	1-3		(17) B. Greene
01/18/08	h	Maryland Nighthawks						
01/20/08	a	Reading Railers						
01/25/08	a	Wilmington Sea Dawgs						
01/26/08	a	Maryland Nighthawks						
02/01/08	h	Rockford Fury						
02/08/08	h	Chicago Throwbacks						
02/10/08	h	Reading Railers						
02/15/08	h	Reading Railers						
02/16/08	a	Maryland Nighthawks						
02/22/08	h	Wilmington Sea Dawgs						
02/23/08	a	Wilmington Sea Dawgs						
02/29/08	h	Dallas Defenders						
03/02/08	a	Rochester Razorsharks						
03/07/08	h	Wilmington Sea Dawgs						
03/15/08	a	Quad Cities Riverhawks						
03/16/08	a	Rockford Fury						

### MARYLAND NIGHTHAWKS GAME-BY-GAME

Date	H/A	Opponent	Score	W	L	Record	Attend	Leading Scorer
01/05/08	h	Wilmington Sea Dawgs	89-92		L	0-1	---	(17) A. Klaiber
01/06/08	a	Reading Railers	121-145		L	0-2	---	(25) H. Jones
01/13/08	h	Reading Railers	94-98		L	0-3		(18) H. Jones
01/18/08	a	Jacksonville Jam						
01/19/08	a	Wilmington Sea Dawgs						
01/26/08	h	Jacksonville Jam						
01/27/08	h	Reading Railers						
02/02/08	a	Dallas Defenders						
02/09/08	h	Wilmington Sea Dawgs						
02/10/08	h	Rochester Razorsharks						
02/16/08	h	Jacksonville Jam						
02/17/08	h	Rockford Fury						
02/21/08	a	Rochester Razorsharks						
02/23/08	a	Arkansas Impact						
02/24/08	h	Rochester Razorsharks						
02/29/08	a	Chicago Throwbacks						
03/06/08	a	Rochester Razorsharks						
03/08/08	a	Quad Cities Riverhawks						
03/15/08	a	Reading Railers						
03/16/08	h	Arkansas Impact						

### QUAD CITIES RIVERHAWKS GAME-BY-GAME

Date	H/A	Opponent	Score	W	L	Record	Attend	Leading Scorer
01/04/08	h	Dallas Defenders	127-92	W		1-0	125	(21) W. Mitchell
01/12/08	a	Rockford Fury	133-105	W		2-0		(25) B. Harrison
01/13/08	h	Chicago Throwbacks	128-120	W		3-0	200	(31) T. Johnson
01/18/08	a	Arkansas Impact						
01/20/08	a	Chicago Throwbacks						
01/24/08	a	Rochester Razorsharks						
01/26/08	h	Dallas Defenders						
02/07/08	a	Reading Railers						
02/09/08	a	Rockford Fury						
02/10/08	h	Arkansas Impact						
02/16/08	a	Arkansas Impact						
02/17/08	a	Dallas Defenders						
02/23/08	h	Chicago Throwbacks						
02/24/08	h	Reading Railers						
02/29/08	h	Arkansas Impact						
03/02/08	a	Dallas Defenders						
03/07/08	h	Rockford Fury						
03/08/08	h	Maryland Nighthawks						
03/15/08	h	Jacksonville Jam						
03/16/08	a	Chicago Throwbacks						

### READING RAILERS GAME-BY-GAME

Date	H/A	Opponent	Score	W	L	Record	Attend	Leading Scorer
01/05/08	h	Jacksonville Jam	101-104		L	0-1	1379	(22) J. Brown
01/06/08	h	Maryland Nighthawks	145-121	W		1-1	---	(25) J. Mills
01/12/08	a	Rochester Razorsharks	108-115		L	1-2		(28) T. Thomas
01/13/08	a	Maryland Nighthawks	98-94	W		2-2		(25) T. Thomas
01/18/08	h	Wilmington Sea Dawgs						
01/19/08	h	Jacksonville Jam						
01/26/08	a	Wilmington Sea Dawgs						
01/27/08	a	Maryland Nighthawks						
02/07/08	h	Quad Cities Riverhawks						
02/09/08	h	Rochester Razorsharks						
02/10/08	a	Jacksonville Jam						
02/15/08	a	Jacksonville Jam						
02/23/08	h	Rochester Razorsharks						
02/24/08	a	Quad Cities Riverhawks						
02/28/08	h	Chicago Throwbacks						
03/08/08	a	Dallas Defenders						
03/09/08	a	Arkansas Impact						
03/13/08	h	Wilmington Sea Dawgs						
03/15/08	h	Maryland Nighthawks						
03/16/08	a	Wilmington Sea Dawgs						

### ROCHESTER RAZORSHARKS GAME-BY-GAME

Date	H/A	Opponent	Score	W	L	Record	Attend	Leading Scorer
01/04/08	a	Jacksonville Jam	101-83	W		1-0	---	(20) J. Reaves
01/06/08	a	Wilmington Sea Dawgs	81-83		L	1-1		(15) S. Monroe
01/12/08	h	Reading Railers	115-108	W		2-1	3,081	(28) V. Massiah
01/13/08	h	Jacksonville Jam	104-89	W		3-1	1,207	(20) S. Monroe
01/24/08	h	Quad Cities Riverhawks						
01/27/08	h	Chicago Throwbacks						
02/03/08	h	Wilmington Sea Dawgs						
02/09/08	a	Reading Railers						
02/10/08	a	Maryland Nighthawks						
02/13/08	a	Wilmington Sea Dawgs						
02/15/08	a	Chicago Throwbacks						
02/16/08	h	Wilmington Sea Dawgs						
02/18/08	h	Rockford Fury						
02/21/08	h	Maryland Nighthawks						
02/23/08	a	Reading Railers						
02/24/08	a	Maryland Nighthawks						
03/02/08	h	Jacksonville Jam						
03/12/08	h	Maryland Nighthawks						
03/14/08	a	Arkansas Impact						
03/15/08	a	Dallas Defenders						


### ROCKFORD FURY GAME-BY-GAME

Date	H/A	Opponent	Score	W	L	Record	Attend	Leading Scorer
01/05/08	h	Chicago Throwbacks	134-136 2OT		L	0-1	--	(26) A. Watts
01/12/08	h	Quad Cities Riverhawks	105-133		L	0-2		(19) J. Jackson
01/13/08	h	Dallas Defenders	109-108 OT	W		1-2		(26) Z. Ramey
01/18/08	a	Chicago Throwbacks						
01/20/08	a	Dallas Defenders						
01/26/08	h	Arkansas Impact						
02/01/08	a	Jacksonville Jam						
02/08/08	a	Arkansas Impact						
02/09/08	h	Quad Cities Riverhawks						
02/15/08	a	Arkansas Impact						
02/17/08	a	Maryland Nighthawks						
02/18/08	a	Rochester Razorsharks						
02/23/08	h	Dallas Defenders						
02/24/08	h	Chicago Throwbacks						
03/01/08	h	Wilmington Sea Dawgs						
03/02/08	h	Arkansas Impact						
03/07/08	a	Quad Cities Riverhawks						
03/09/08	h	Chicago Throwbacks						
03/14/08	a	Wilmington Sea Dawgs						
03/16/08	h	Jacksonville Jam						

## WILMINGTON SEA DAWGS GAME-BY-GAME

Date	H/A	Opponent	Score	W	L	Record	Attend	Leading Scorer
01/05/08	a	Maryland Nighthawks	92-89	W		1-0	--	(27) C. McGinnis
01/06/08	h	Rochester Razorsharks	83-81	W		2-0	--	(17) J. Williams
01/12/08	h	Arkansas Impact	94-87	W		3-0		(25) A. Harper
01/18/08	a	Reading Railers						
01/19/08	h	Maryland Nighthawks						
01/25/08	h	Jacksonville Jam						
01/26/08	h	Reading Railers						
02/03/08	a	Rochester Razorsharks						
02/08/08	h	Dallas Defenders						
02/09/08	a	Maryland Nighthawks						
02/13/08	h	Rochester Razorsharks						
02/16/08	a	Rochester Razorsharks						
02/22/08	a	Jacksonville Jam						
02/23/08	h	Jacksonville Jam						
03/01/08	a	Rockford Fury						
03/07/08	a	Jacksonville Jam						
03/09/08	a	Dallas Defenders						
03/13/08	a	Reading Railers						
03/14/08	h	Rockford Fury						
03/16/08	h	Reading Railers						

## PBL LEAGUE OFFICE CONTACT INFORMATION

<p><b>Executive Offices</b> <b>Chicago</b> 4958 W. Irving Park Road Chicago, IL 60641 (773) 844-PBL1 [Office] (773) 794-4950 [Fax]</p> <p>Chairman of the Board: Dr. Severko Hrywnak</p> <p>Executive Assistant Carrie Ann May Carriepbl@aol.com</p>	<p><b>Executive Offices</b> <b>Washington, D.C.</b> 101 North Adams Street Rockville, MD 20850 (301) 424-8612 [Office] (301) 738-3709 [Fax]</p> <p>President &amp; Chief Executive Officer Thomas E. Doyle pblleague@aol.com</p> <p>VP of International Strategies/Global Media Relations Mark Schlossenberg pblleague@aol.com</p> <p>Supervisor of Officials Charlie Neal cnealpbl@aol.com (773) 844-PBL1 [Office] (773) 794-4950 [Fax]</p>	<p><b>PBL Commissioner</b> Kenneth Smith</p> 
<p><b>TRIVIA</b> Wilmington Sea Dawgs head coach Kevin Whitted attended the same high school as Michael Jordan (Emsley A. Laney High School) and subsequently broke Jordan's school scoring record.</p>	<p><b>TRIVIA</b> Johnny Jackson, who signed with the Rockford Fury, is the all-time leading rebounder in the history of the United States Basketball League.</p>	<p><b>TRIVIA</b> Counting contests played in other leagues, the Rochester Razorsharks have amassed a 37-game home winning streak.</p>