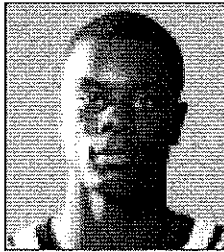




LANCE STEPHENSON
CINCINNATI



Lance Stephenson

Position: Forward
Height/Weight: 6-5 (1.96 m)/ 210 (95.3 kg)
Birthdate: September 5, 1990 (Brooklyn, N.Y.)
High School: Abraham Lincoln (Brooklyn, N.Y.)
College: Cincinnati

Season	G	GS	FGM	FGA	PCT	FTM	FTA	PCT	REB	AST	STL	BL	PTS	AVG
2009-10	34	32	162	368	.440	79	119	.664	182	84	31	6	419	12.3

Three-point field goals: 16-for-73 (.219).

An early entry candidate for the 2010 NBA Draft.

Career Highlights: Named Big East Rookie of the Year as a freshman in 2009-10. Three-time recipient of Big East Freshman of the Week. A 2009 McDonald's High School All-American. New York State's all-time leading prep scorer. Competed at the 2007 USA Basketball Men's Youth Development Festival and first played at the prestigious ABCD Camp as a rising high school freshman. Named 2006 EA Sports National Freshman of the Year and 2007 EA Sports National Sophomore of the Year.

Freshman (2009-10): The top freshman scorer in the Big East (12.3 ppg) and 2010 Big East Rookie of the Year in his first season with the Bearcats. Averaged 5.4 rebounds, 2.5 assists and started all but two games. Scored a season-best 23 points and made a season-high 11 field goals in 17 attempts at No. 20 Georgetown. Collected a team-high 22 points on 9-of-19 shooting against Xavier. Led UC to a win over No. 10 UConn with 21 points in his Big East debut, including the go-ahead free throws with 0.7 seconds to play. Notched his seventh consecutive double-figure scoring effort with a game-high 19 points in the quarterfinals of the Big East Championships against No. 6 West Virginia. Named Big East Freshman of the Week for a third time on March 1 after nearly averaging a double-double against DePaul and West Virginia. Totaled 18 and 10 vs. the Blue Demons and 14 and 9 against the Mountaineers. Poured in 15 points on 6-of-11 shooting at Seton Hall. Totaled 17 points, eight rebounds, three assists and three steals against Miami (OH). Poured in 13 points, including the game-winning free throw with less than two seconds to play, and grabbed nine rebounds in the first round of the conference tournament against Rutgers. Scored 13 of his 15 points in the first half vs. No. 23 Pittsburgh.

High School: Averaged 28.9 points, 10.2 rebounds, and 3.9 assists at Abraham Lincoln High School in Brooklyn, N.Y., to earn Class AA New York State Sports Writers Association (NYSSWA) Player of the Year honors his senior year. A 2009 McDonald's High School All-American and a three-time NYSSWA first-team selection. Graduated high school as the all-time leading scorer in the history of the state of New York with 2,946 points. Led Lincoln to an overall record of 22-11 and an unprecedented fourth consecutive Public School Athletic League (PSAL) Class AA championship.

Strengths: Tough, athletic wing. Slasher who can get off looks with his dribble drive. Good finisher. Able to post smaller defenders.

Personal: Attended the same high school that produced NBA stars Stephon Marbury and Sebastian Telfair.



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Prospect seeks to erase stormy past, start fresh

June 07, 2010 | By Rusty Simmons, Chronicle Staff Writer



Aubrey Coleman, who led Houston to a Conference USA title, was among the prospects working out for the Warriors.

Credit: Sue Ogrocki / Associated Press

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Five stops and five questions into his pre-draft workout tour, **Lance Stephenson** on Sunday tried a new strategy for handling questions about his embattled past: Deny it ever happened.

"All of the stuff that (supposedly) happened in my past is based on totally false statements," the Cincinnati combo guard said at the

Warriors' training facility in Oakland. "None of it happened."

The Warriors worked out Stephenson, along with Kansas' **Cole Aldrich**, Houston's **Aubrey Coleman**, South Florida's **Dominique Jones**, England's **Ryan Richards** and Missouri's **J.T. Tiller**. They'll bring in six more prospects today, highlighted by Wake Forest's **Al-Farouq Aminu** and Kentucky's **Patrick Patterson**.

While starring at Brooklyn's Lincoln High in October 2008, Stephenson was arrested on a charge of sexually abusing a 17-year-old girl inside the school. He was charged with a Class B misdemeanor for allegedly groping a woman's breasts and buttocks over her clothing. (He eventually pleaded guilty to a lesser charge.)

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Nine months earlier, he was suspended five days for fighting with a teammate. He also had to be cleared by the NCAA because of questions surrounding an online Web series about him called "Born Ready."

"Lots of things happened in my past, but I'm grown up now," Stephenson said before trying the all-out denial. "I'm ready to move on to another step. I hope nobody judges me on my past, because I'm a totally different person."

Stephenson, 6-foot-5 3/4, was the Big East Rookie of the Year after averaging 12.3 points, 5.4 rebounds and 2.5 assists a game. Though he's considered by most a second-round pick, he decided to enter the draft following his freshman year in part because he has a 2-year-old daughter.

"I don't think I'm a bad person," Stephenson said. "I'm not sure where that image comes from. I'm totally a good person."

"I don't think I'm going to fight with my teammates or anything like that."

Making a pitch: Aldrich, a 6-11 1/4, 236-pounder and the lone potential lottery pick at the workout, used his media session to appeal to the Warriors.

"I love to go out and dive on the ground, get loose balls, rebound and block shots," Aldrich said. "The Warriors struggled defensively and rebound-wise, and I think I could help them."

Aldrich said he fits the Warriors' up-tempo style and thinks they'll continue to run, even after the team is sold. "Coach (**Don**) **Nelson** has had so much success coaching at the NBA level that I would think he would stay around."

Globetrotting: Richards, a 6-11 3/4, 230-pounder who played in Spain and Switzerland last season, burst onto the NBA scene at the combine last month and is taking advantage of the momentum. He has already been to workouts at Chicago, Detroit and San Antonio and will go to Sacramento, Utah, Milwaukee, New York and Houston.

"It's been real different, and I'm enjoying every minute of it," Richards said. "Nobody knows me, so a lot of people want to see me."

High score: Coleman led the nation in scoring with 25.6 points a game. If he ends up with the Warriors, they'd have the scoring champion from the last four college seasons (**Stephen Curry** 2008-09 and **Reggie Williams** 2006-08).

E-mail Rusty Simmons at rsimmons@sfgate.com.

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Updated: Wed , Apr. 7, 2010, 7:20 PM

Brooklyn's Stephenson leaving Cincinnati for NBA

By DAN MARTIN

Last Updated: 7:20 PM, April 7, 2010

Posted: 10:28 AM, April 7, 2010

Lance Stephenson, one year removed from winning a fourth straight PSAL title at Lincoln, is headed to the NBA.

The 6-5 guard just finished his freshman season at Cincinnati and had said earlier he would return for his sophomore year, but he announced this morning he was leaving the school.

"I have decided to withdraw from the University of Cincinnati and enter my name into this year's NBA Draft," Stephenson said in a statement. "After carefully reviewing my options, it is now clear to me that the need to emotionally and financially support my family, especially my young daughter, along with my long-standing and burning passion to play in the NBA, outweighs my desire to return to the University of Cincinnati.

"I want to thank the administration, the athletic department and the entire coaching staff, especially [head coach] Mick Cronin and [assistant] Tony Stubblefield... for their support and guidance over the course of this past year. It was and always will be a privilege to be a Bearcat."

Stephenson hardly dominated in his lone season at Cincinnati, where he wound up after his initial hope of going to Kansas fell through. He averaged 12.3 points, 5.4 rebounds and 2.5 assists for the Bearcats, who lost in the second round of the NIT to eventual champion Dayton.

The four-time PSAL champ was named Big East Rookie of the Year.

"He proved some things this season," one NBA scout said. "He played within the framework of the team better than before. But he still has a lot of holes in his game."

Stephenson's high school coach, Tiny Morton, could only say, "Wow" when told the news.

Longtime high school basketball expert Tom Konchalski, who has seen Stephenson play since junior high, was ambivalent.

"Obviously, I feel he'd be much better prepared if he went back for another year," Konchalski said. "To take care of his family is a very admirable sentiment, but when he initially said he'd go back, I thought that was a landmark statement on his part of increased maturity and understanding of the facts."

It's certainly no guarantee he will join another former Railsplitter, Sebastian Telfair, as an NBA lottery pick, as Telfair was when he went straight to the pros out of Lincoln in 2004.

"At times it looked like he was more patient this year and willing to be a part of the puzzle rather than the entire puzzle," Konchalski said of Stephenson. "I hope it works out. He became too easy a target after everyone jumped off the bandwagon when they realized he wasn't

going to be the next LeBron [James]. I'm not confident this will work out, but he has great will and that's his strongest asset, even more than his ability to score."

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Updated: Mon, May 24, 2010, 4:45 PM

City HS legend Stephenson cast as draft underdog

By FRED KERBER

Last Updated: 4:45 PM, May 24, 2010

Posted: 3:11 AM, May 22, 2010

CHICAGO -- Lance Stephenson became New York State's all-time leading high school scorer. He led Lincoln to four city titles and two state championships. He was a McDonald's All-American before heading to Cincinnati. Now?

"Borderline first-rounder," said one NBA talent evaluator. "He has NBA talent, an NBA body, but he's still raw."

Stephenson said he likes the challenge of not being high on everyone's draft radar.

"I was being tracked since the eighth grade, the person everybody wanted to play against to get your name advanced," Stephenson said. "But now I feel like the underdog, not the focus. I like going after people now."

Stephenson said during the season that he would return to school for his sophomore campaign, then surprisingly declared for the NBA Draft after being named Big East Rookie of the Year. Many see huge holes in his game -- decision-making, quickness for the shooting guard position, me-first play. Nevertheless, Stephenson declared.

"I would say it was a family decision," said Stephenson, the father of a toddler daughter. "I'd say I was mentally and physically ready. I was working hard trying to get better, and [I am] ready to go to the next level."

The first step involved a change in his diet. Stephenson worked out after the season for five weeks in Las Vegas with other draft hopefuls. Those sessions became a wake-up call for what's ahead.

"I just didn't understand it all, [but saw] you really have to eat right," he said. "I was chicken wings, french fries, stuff like that. I went to Las Vegas, and they put me on a protein diet. It helped me lose weight and be more energized on the court."

Stephenson followed some other noted guards at Lincoln, including Stephon Marbury and Sebastian Telfair. Any quick games?

"They were always busy, and they were never really home," he said.