

Moore fitting in at Detroit Beckerman wants to end on top

BY J.J. HARDER

DETROIT, Mich. — After a successful basketball career at Nebraska, Mikki Moore once again fits in.

After shipping from league to league, Moore just received a bigger contract than almost any former Husker to ever play in the NBA. Last summer, the Detroit Pistons signed Moore to a three-year, \$9 million contract after he played 29 games with them in 1999-2000.

And while Moore sported an intense scowl before a recent game against the Portland Trail Blazers, he usually shows a relieved grin now that he has finally landed a deal in the big league.

"It hasn't even settled in yet," Moore said, "but I get a lot of gratification out of being able to do the extra things for my mom."

Moore had a tough time getting a high paying basketball gig after graduating from Nebraska in 1997. The center averaged 11.7 points and 7.4 rebounds as a senior but went unnoticed in that season's NBA draft.

"I was disappointed because I hoped that I would (get drafted) in at least the second round," Moore said. "I just worked hard and luckily got on a CBA team where the

coach had faith in me."

Moore played the better part of two seasons with the Continental Basketball Association's Fort Wayne Fury. He also had stints in Greece, the United States Basketball League and the Minnesota Timberwolves.

"I stuck with it, and my mom and my best friend stayed with me," Moore said. "I ended up getting the green light and showing off the little bit of teeth that I had."

Moore's canines finally came out late in the 1999-2000 season. The Pistons gave Moore more game time, and he responded, shooting better than 60 percent from the field. Moore then signed the three-year deal on August 11, and he's begun to feel comfortable in Detroit.

This season, he's averaging 7.9 points and nearly 17 minutes a game. He's bought a house in Michigan and said he feels like he is starting to fit in, calling Detroit his "second home."

While Moore may finally be fitting in with the Pistons, the franchise has endured some serious shakeups in the off-season. All-star Grant Hill became a free agent last summer and signed with the Orlando Magic.

Hill's departure hurt the team

in many ways, but Moore especially felt the impact.

"It was hard because I had a bond with him," he said. "I used to sit down and talk about personal problems, and he always had an open ear. He had great wisdom in telling me what things I need to do in my life. I soaked in everything that he told me, and it helped me get to where I am now."

And right now, Moore is learning to adjust to the league's size, talent and the nuances that weren't there in the college game.

"In college, I could just sit in the paint and track the ball," said Moore who had a knack for redirecting shots. "Now I have to go out and check (the smaller players). That's a big change for me."

Besides working on improving his game, Moore has tried to keep an eye on his alma mater's team as well.

While Moore said he wasn't sure if ex-coach Danny Nee should have been fired or not, he is eager to catch a glimpse of the Barry Collier era at Nebraska.

"I really want to go back to one of the games before the season's over and show my support for the team," Moore said. "I just want to show the community that I still love Nebraska."

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former Coach Tim Neumann.

Beckerman said he initially had second thoughts about staying but was reassured with the assistants Manning brought in. Assistants Terry Brands and Eric Akin have both helped him progress this season, he said.

Manning said Beckerman made a good impression to the new coaching staff and dealt with the transition well.

"His attitude's been great from day one," Manning said. "He's just bought into believing that we're going to get him there. He believes in what we're trying to do."

Coming off last season's fifth place finish, Beckerman started his senior year on fire, with three straight pins en route to a 14-0 record.

Riding high, Beckerman lost his first match of the year in a dual against Minnesota on Jan. 11 to third-ranked Brett Lawrence, 7-4. In a rematch Jan. 20 at the National Duals, Lawrence came out on top again in a 5-4 decision.

In his most recent match at the NWCA All-Star Dual on Jan. 29, Beckerman was handled by Iowa's top-ranked Eric Juergens, losing 10-2.

Looking at his career, Manning credits Beckerman's work ethic and attitude to his success.

"He's had some tough times," Manning said. "Todd wrestled as a true freshman and got thrown right into the fire. I think it's a testament to Todd that he's stuck with it when some kids would give up."

"He pushed through those

times and that's why he's having a good year now. He's learned from those tough times. ... He's going to be fine."

Beckerman said he just hopes that he's taken the last dip in his roller-coaster career.

"Now, I want it to go all the way up to the top and not end," he said. "I want the finish line to be as I'm going up the hill. The plateau right there is the title."

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McTorry battles torn ACL

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initely sideline a competitor.

"He'll be fine," Manning said. "There's been lots of guys that wrestle with torn ACLs. He'll be fine; he's wearing a brace."

The brace is just part of the rehabilitation program McTorry has used to get back in the lineup. He has been working with trainers for the past month trying to strengthen the stabilizing muscles around the knee by riding a stationary bike and working the hamstring and quadriceps, assistant trainer Greer Monasterelli said.

With the progress, McTorry said he isn't as worried about how his knee will hold up on the mat as much as he was con-

cerned about the time he missed.

"I'll be more nervous about the mat time I've had this year and my stamina more than my knee," he said. "But my knee will also be a concern."

Awaiting McTorry's return will be the toughest stretch of the wrestling season. If not back for the Northern Iowa dual, McTorry could be in the lineup for the remaining matches against No. 2 Oklahoma State, No. 8 Oklahoma, No. 4 Iowa State and the Big 12 Championships.

His presence, according to Manning, would fill a big gap in the lineup and "be a spark."

"We'd like to get him back so he can get some confidence in match situations," Manning said.

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Intramural Sports

- Swim Meet (M,W), Feb. 1 @MLH Pool
Pre-registration not required.
- Laser Quest Tournament (M,W)
Registration: Now - Feb. 6
- Chess (O)
Registration: Now - Feb. 6
- Floor Hockey Officials Training, Feb. 13, 4:30pm @CREC Room 55.
- Floor Hockey (M,W,C) Managers Meeting, Feb. 15, 5pm @Nebraska Union.
- Warball Tournament (M,W)
Registration: Now - Feb. 13
- Floor Hockey (M,W,C)
Registration: Now - Feb. 13
- Flickerball Tournament (M,W,C)
Registration: Now - Feb. 20
- Indoor Track Meet (M,W), Feb. 25 @Devaney Sports Center
Pre-registration not required.
- Table Tennis Singles (M,W)
Registration: Feb. 7 - 20
- Table Tennis Doubles (M,W,C)
Registration: Feb. 7 - 20
- Badminton Singles (M,W)
Registration: Feb. 14 - 27
- Wrestling Meet (M,W), Feb. 26-Mar. 1 @CREC
Pre-registration not required.

Fitness & Wellness Services

- Drop-In Body Composition Testing, Feb. 7 (2-3pm) @CREC Weight Training & Conditioning Room.
- Drop-In Saturday Mixer Aerobic Fitness Class, Feb. 3, 10, 17, 24 (10-11am) @CREC Fitness & Aerobics Room.
- Drop-In Cycle Fit Class, Feb. 3, 10, 17, 24 (10-11am) @CREC Indoor Cycling Room.
- Drop-In Butts & Guts Fitness Class, Feb. 3, 10, 17, 24 (11:05-11:35am) @CREC Fitness & Aerobics Room.
- Drop-In EnduroCycle Class, Feb. 4, 11, 18, 25 (5-6pm) @CREC Indoor Cycling Room.
- Drop-In Fitness Yoga Class, Feb. 4, 11, 18, 25 (5-6pm) @CREC Fitness & Aerobics Room.
- "Puzzled about Nutrition?" sensible nutrition clinic, Feb. 7, 5-6:30pm @CREC Room 230.
- 2-for-1 Valentine Special! FitCard members can bring a friend/guest for free to any Fitness Class on Feb. 14. (One-day FitCard passes can be purchased at CREC and ECAB).
- All fitness classes are FREE Feb. 22 to celebrate National Recreational Sports and Fitness Day.
- Eating Disorders Awareness Week, Feb. 26-Mar. 2.
- Feb. 26 (M): Body Bazaar, 10am-2pm @Nebraska

- Union; *Eating in the Light of the Moon*, 7-8pm @Nebraska Union.
- Feb. 27 (T): *How Can I Help?* 8:30am @Nebraska Union; *Dying to be Thin* NETV Panel Discussion, 8pm @ Nebraska Union.
- Call 472-7450 for information

Outdoor Recreation

- Indoor Climbing Wall Safety Classes - Level I will be held Feb. 6 (6-8:30pm), Feb. 8 (4-6:30pm), Feb. 10 (2:30-5pm), Feb. 13 (6-8:30pm), Feb. 15 (4-6:30pm), Feb. 20 (6-8:30pm), Feb. 22 (4-6:30pm), Feb. 24 (2:30-5pm), Feb. 27 (6-8:30pm). Level II will be Feb. 15 (6-8pm).
- Wilderness First Responder Medical Course, Mar. 9-18
Registration: Now - Feb. 26
- White Rock, NM Rock Climbing Trip, Mar. 9-18
Registration: Now - Feb. 26
- Flatlands Climbing Competition, March 31
Registration: Now - Mar. 31
- Blue Mounds Rock Climbing Trip, Apr. 20-22
Registration: Now - Apr. 17
- Elkhorn River Canoe Trip, Apr. 21
Registration: Now - Apr. 18
- Veedawoo, WY Rock Climbing Trip, May 7-15
Registration: Now - Apr. 30
- Grand Canyon Backpacking Trip, May 7-15
Registration: Now - Apr. 30

Instructional Programs

- (Pre-registration recommended)
- Weight Training for Women Clinic, Feb. 3 (Sat), 9:30am-12:30pm @CREC Room 55
- Adult Swim Lessons, Feb. 5-26 (M), 7:15-8:15pm @CREC Pool
- Ballroom and Country Dance Class, Feb. 6-27 (T), 7:30-8:30pm @East Campus Union
- Creative Scrapbooking and Photo Preservation Class, Feb. 21 (W), 6-8:30pm @CREC Room 230
- Sport Enhancement Through Balance Training Class, Feb. 27-Apr. 3 (T), 4:30-5pm @Mabel Lee Hall South Gym
- Community CPR Course, Feb. 28 (W), 5:30-10pm @CREC Room 230
- Adult CPR Course, Feb. 28 (W), 5:30-8:30pm @CREC Room 230
- Infant/Child CPR Course, Feb. 28 (W), 8-10pm @CREC Room 230

Family & Youth Programs

- Children's Swim Lessons, Session IV, Feb 6-March 8 (T/R), 6:15-7:00pm. Levels I-VII.
- Husker Kids & Husker Adventures Summer Camps, Priority registration begins Feb. 1. Priority registration is for past and university community participants only.

- Applications for summer camp counselors will be accepted beginning March 1.

Sport Clubs

(Local or nearby events)

- Youth Rugby Development and Coaches Clinic, Feb. 17.
- Rifle Club @NRA Collegiate Sectionals, Feb. 17-18.
- Sport Clubs Council Meeting, Feb. 21, 4:45pm @CREC Room 230.

Special Events

- Free Skate Night, Feb. 4 and Feb. 18, 9:40-11pm @"The Ice Box".
- Saturday Night at the Rec, Feb. 10, 4-8pm. Activities include: Free Indoor Rock Climbing, Pool Games, "Friendly Feud" quiz game, Soccer Tournament, and *Adrenaline Rush* Obstacle Course. Free Food and Prizes!

Campus Recreation Advisory Council Election

Applications for the 2001-2002 Campus Recreation Advisory Council are now available at the Campus Recreation Center and East Campus Activities Building. Application deadline is February 13.

Saturday Night
at the Rec
Feb. 10th

<http://www.unl.edu/crec>

For Information visit the Campus Recreation Center and East Campus Activities Building or call 472.3467 or 472.2692. Flyers and brochures for activities and programs are available at both locations. Campus Recreation attempts to fulfill all published activities and schedules, however changes may occur. Registration and program fees may be associated with activities.

