



Charlie Ward

Biographical Information

BACKGROUND SUMMARY

Listed among the most outstanding college athletes in modern history, Charlie Ward was a quarterback in football and point guard in basketball at Florida State University (FSU). During his senior year he won over thirty awards, set nineteen school and seven ACC records, won the **Heisman Trophy** and subsequently led the **FSU Seminoles** to their first-ever **National Championship** under legendary Coach Bobby Bowden. Though undrafted by the NFL in 1994, Ward became a first-round draft pick of the New York Knicks, helping them reach the playoffs 6 straight years from 1996 to 2001. He played eleven seasons in the NBA with New York, San Antonio, and Houston then served as an assistant coach with the Houston Rockets for two years.

In 2007 Ward accepted a position as assistant coach for the varsity boys basketball & football teams at Westbury Christian School in Houston, Texas. A year later he was named to his current position as head coach of the varsity football team. In 2006 he was elected to the **College Football Hall of Fame**. In 2008 he was honored as an **ACC Legend** and in 2009 he was inducted into the **Orange Bowl Hall of Fame**. During the 2010 NBA All-Star Weekend Ward was presented the **Bobby Jones Character Award** and he is the 2011 **John Wooden Legends of the Hardwood “Keys to Life” Award** winner.



PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

HEAD FOOTBALL COACH – WESTBURY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL 2007-present, Houston, TX

Coach for high school football team, provide oversight and direction for school football ministry. Assist with development office in building business contacts in the community, raising awareness and funding for the school. Chaired two “Tribute of Excellence” benefits as major fundraisers for the school’s sports complex. Represent the school at business breakfasts, lunches, and dinners. Charlie Ward Football Camps for kids.

ASSISTANT BASKETBALL COACH – HOUSTON ROCKETS, 2005-2007, Houston, TX

Worked with younger players to evaluate skill level then help with skill development for high-level competition. Created individualized workout plans and offered character mentoring. Assisted the head coach in scouting opponents and submitting scouting reports. Represented Rockets organization making community appearances and speaking at schools around the region and hosted the Charlie Ward Rockets basketball clinic for young people.

FOUNDER & DIRECTOR – CHARLIE WARD BASKETBALL CAMPS – 1997-2007

Created and underwrote Christian basketball camps in New York, Pennsylvania and Georgia for girls and boys ages 8-18 to help develop their basketball skills as well as their character using Christian principles. Incorporated an A-list of guest speakers and practical Bible studies. Several former campers went on to Division-1 programs and one is currently in the WNBA.

PROFESSIONAL ATHLETE 1994–2005

New York Knicks, San Antonio Spurs, Houston Rockets

Starting and back-up point guard. NBA All-Star 3-point contest participant. Spokesperson for Habitat for Humanity, Born to Read, Make a Wish, March of Dimes and other civic organizations in NY. Represented team organization making numerous community appearances to speak to young people and keynote events in the respective regions. Developed and sponsored Saturday enrichment program for youth in New York. Helped establish a bible study on the New York, San Antonio, and Houston teams. Ticket sponsor for community youth groups at home games in NY & Houston.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Community Advisory Board - The Dorothy Height Center for Health Equity and Evaluation Research (formerly the MD Anderson Center for Research on Minority Health)

Board of Trustees - Houston Baptist University, Houston, TX – Board of Trustees



International Sports Camps Missionary – Athletes in Action, European Tour; Rhema Church Basketball Court Sneaker Drive and Clinic, Johannesburg, South Africa; Football Clinic, Pago Pago, Samoa.

Speaker & Appearances: Air it Out Camp, Houston, TX; Texans Quarterback Camp, Houston, TX; Camp speaker at various football and basketball camps for children and college students nationally; NASA Black History keynote; Fellowship of Christian Athletes Speaker; Keynote address for Thomas University, Thomasville, GA; Keynote addresses for elementary, middle & high schools banquets, churches and civic organizations around the country; and various trade show and charity autograph signings.

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Arts, Therapeutic Recreation, 1993 - Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL

PERSONAL

Married to Tonja H. Ward, Father of three.