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For Immediate Release

### **David “DP” Paul Is Truly The Fan Favorite!**

Secaucus, NJ – Setting his college’s all-time scoring record. Having good looks, an engaging enthusiasm, and fun personality that make Wizards fans gravitate towards him after the game. As the Wizards “designated heartthrob” it is common to hear screams and squeals throughout the gym whenever his name is called.. DP may have the shortest nickname on the Harlem Wizards, but, there is also a good reason why his autograph line is often the longest after a Harlem Wizards game.

David Paul is extremely pleased with the direction that his basketball career has taken as a member of the Wizards. As he said, “I didn’t expect for there to be so much fun involved with the interaction from the crowd, the reaction of the kids, and the great group of guys on the team. I love the effect that we have on kids.”

Basketball wise, David Paul is the epitome of a “late bloomer.” In not even starting until his senior year at Lafayette High School in Brooklyn and never really distinguishing himself as a high school player, nobody thought that he would go on to set an all-time scoring record at the college level and become a show basketball star. But, that’s exactly what he did. At the College of Staten Island (CUNY, Division III), DP worked tirelessly with their long-time coach, Tony Petosa, to improve his game. Whether it was arriving at practice an hour early, staying late to get extra shots in, or putting in extra conditioning time in the offseason, David did whatever was necessary to become a better basketball player. The results were gradual and impressive. By the time he was a senior, DP was a two-time CUNYAC Conference Player of the year, averaged 19 points and 7 rebounds per game, shot an astonishing 66% from the field, and was the star player for a team that won two CUNYAC Conference championships. “DP” might have a short nickname but with such a long list of accomplishments at the college level, it is no wonder why the Wizards invited him to join the team in 2003.

While he was once a quiet, talented player in serious, competitive basketball, he has successfully made the transition over to show basketball. As Wizards President, Todd Davis, said, “He started out strictly as a good player, but a little reserved for show basketball. Now, all of a sudden, it seems, he is Mr. Energy and the crowd

favorite.” Indeed, David Paul now gets to display his complete personality, which is engaging, funny, energetic, and warm-hearted. At every Wizards performance, DP shows that he loves to have fun, goof around, and try wild maneuvers, like dunking and suspending his body from the rim.

According to Wizards President, Todd Davis, DP’s career with the Wizards should be a long, successful one. As he said, “David Paul has a great future in show basketball. His combination of fundamentals, serious skills, and fun is exactly what the Wizards thrive on.” Despite a brief stint playing professional basketball in Germany during 2006, DP has returned for a second run with the Wizards rejuvenated and with a more clear sense of purpose. DP wants to continue to spread his message to kids across the world that they should always work hard and try their best in all aspects of their life. His basketball career is a perfect example of that advice.

For the upcoming season, fans can expect more theatrics, antics, tricks, comedy, and jams from the man known as DP. DP has stated that his goal for the season is to “give fans the greatest show they have ever seen.” Coming from a man that “does it all”, would you doubt him?

David recalled with great joy many of his favorite Wizards memories including the time when the Wizards beat the Hungarian national team. David truly is an ideal fit for the Wizards because his favorite thing to do when not playing basketball is travel. David mentioned that through his experiences with the Wizards, he has traveled to many US States and four different countries. His long-term goal for life after basketball is to go into nursing, so he can positively impact people’s bodies in the same way that he positively impacts people’s spirits as a member of the Wizards.

**Health and Fitness Fact-** DP has been one of the players most affected by Dr. Fuhrman’s lecture. David even went as far to bring a George Foreman Grill on the road with him so he can prepare his own food on the road and not rely on fatty, fast food restaurants. He grills chicken a few times per week and often prepares other healthy meals for himself including string beans, potatoes, and carrots. Now on the other side of 30, DP says that he has never felt better.