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For Immediate Release

Donnie Seales the Deal with Smoothness

Secaucus, NJ- Donnie Seale is the real deal. That's what college scouts would say about him when he was a can't-miss prospect and McDonald's All-American in high school. Now an established veteran of the Harlem Wizards, fans across the world say the same thing. Previously called "Dangerous Donnie" and "Dazzle," Donnie will show Wizards fans this year why he is now being called a nickname that fits his world-class game and personality: Smooth.

At the scholastic level, Donnie Seale had a basketball career that most players would dream of. At Eden's Morehead High School in North Carolina, Donnie became a McDonald's All-American and was named Mr. Basketball, an award distributed to the best high school player in the state. Standing at a rugged 6'5, he was a tremendous offensive player that could play either guard position because of his size and versatility. What allowed Donnie to dominate the high school game so thoroughly was the fact that he was a big time scorer, passer, rebounder and defender. A major factor in his development as a player during this time was his close relationship with Hall-of-Fame coach, Dean Smith, of the University of North Carolina. Dean Smith would bring UNC stars such as JR Reid down to Donnie's high school gym to play with Donnie, which gave Donnie extra incentive to improve his game. These motivation tactics paid off and by the end of his high school career, he was heavily recruited by over 75 colleges, including the most prominent programs in the country. In the end, it came down to either Dean's Smith's University of North Carolina or Jim Valvano's North Carolina State University. After much deliberation, Donnie chose North Carolina State, where he teamed with future NBA players, Tom Gugliotta and Chris Corchiani.

Speaking of big names, Donnie was talented and fortunate enough to play with the biggest name of them all: Michael "Air" Jordan. Every summer at his camp in North Carolina, Michael Jordan hosts the "World Series Pick Up Game" in which he hand-selected certain college players to play in these heated summer battles. Donnie was chosen to play in the game three times and held his own playing with and against arguably the

greatest player in basketball history. At North Carolina State, he became a point guard during his sophomore, junior and senior years. He was a dominant player offensively and defensively for the Wolfpack, often scoring in double figures, and averaging 6 assists and 5 rebounds per game.

Donnie's experiences at the professional level are almost as diverse as his basketball talents. His professional background includes training camp stints with the NBA's Charlotte Hornets and the Denver Nuggets; in addition to playing professionally in Germany, Switzerland, Philippines, Honduras, China, Uruguay and Columbia. Donnie led the teams in scoring and assists while playing overseas in all the above named countries. Donnie was at a CBA tryout when he heard from Andy Eckman, the Harlem Wizards' Road Manager at the time, about a team that puts smiles on kids' faces all over the world. In the Harlem Wizards, Donnie Seale found a team that would allow him to use his basketball gifts to bring excitement to arenas and gyms all over the world.

One of Donnie's primary accomplishments as a Wizard was setting up the foundation for establishing a second team. He brought Dwayne "Swoop" Simpson to the Wizards and recruited other players to a Wizards organization that now consists of three teams. Within the game, Donnie now plays the role of set-up man, floor leader, and does whatever is needed to make sure the show runs smoothly. Although he has successfully made the transition to show basketball, Donnie points out that the Wizards' competition on any given night is always looking to beat them. Donnie looks forward to the challenge of leading his Wizards teammates to victory and he has been perfect in doing so, as the Wizards currently have a winning streak of over 3,500 games! Donnie also has an infectious smile and a personality that truly makes him one-of-a-kind.

In 2002, Donnie took a five year hiatus from the Wizards to build up another show basketball team, the Harlem Rockets. The Rockets are a team that specializes in supporting fundraisers for schools, charities, and civic organizations. Despite Donnie playing a leading role with the Rockets, Donnie always kept a close relationship with the Wizards and their President, Todd Davis. In 2007, when the time was right for Donnie to make a return to the Wizards, they welcomed him back with open arms. Donnie still has the same passion for the Wizards that he did on his first day over twelve years ago. As he said, "My favorite moment with the Wizards happens everyday: walking into a classroom and seeing the smiles on the children's faces." He delivers the message to children that they should get a strong education, have a plan, and stick to the plan, even when faced with hardship. Donnie has also established camps for children and this is just the beginning of his own long-term plan to mentor children when his playing days are over.

Whether you choose to call him "Dangerous Donnie," "Dazzle," or "Smooth," Donnie is sure to put on a great show and pack the stands for another exciting Wizards season. By watching him play, Donnie will have Wizards' fans exclaiming: Donnie Seale is unreal!

Health and Fitness Fact- Thanks to Dr. Fuhrman's lectures, Donnie stays away from sugar, doesn't eat red meat, or drink soda. His workouts consist of yoga, calisthenics, stretching, and plyometrics. Nearing the age of 40, Donnie has maintained his adventurous spirit and has recently taken up rock-climbing.