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For Immediate Release

### **Fit for a King, the Trickery of a Wizard**

Secaucus, NJ - In watching Arthur Lewis dribble a basketball, it is pretty clear to see why he has earned the nickname, “King Arthur.” To the Harlem Wizards, he is the King of Show Dribbling, and he even has his own “court.” His nickname is a play on the legendary British King, who according to Medieval histories and romances, led the defense of Britain against Saxon invaders in the early sixth century. Although this King Arthur’s work is quite different, he is becoming legendary in his own way.

While the original King Arthur had the Wizard Merlin in his court, there are many Wizards on Arthur’s court, and his court of admirers are the kids who swarm him during the audience participation halftime show and hug him after the game. Harlem Wizards President Todd Davis said, “This is a guy who is 100% genuine and gives it all to the kids and the fans, he is a gem.”

As a point guard for the Harlem Wizards for the upcoming 2010-2011 season, the King’s throne will extend to gyms and arenas worldwide. While King James’ decision was ballyhooed, King Arthur quietly rejected the interest of the Globetrotters in order to stay where his heart was, with the Harlem Wizards- King Arthur’s court.

Arthur Lewis came from humble beginnings. Raised on the tough streets of Baltimore, Maryland, he has had to overcome much adversity in his young life. At a height of 5’10” in a sport that is often dominated by giants, Arthur was forced to play the role of underdog not only in life, but on the court, as well. Despite this fact, he was lucky to have a strong support system and his parents instilled a strong work ethic in him at an early age. As he told me, “If I didn’t make the Honor Roll, I wasn’t allowed to play ball.”

It was this type of dedication that allowed Arthur to achieve the rare distinction of being an Academic All-American (making the Dean’s List three times) during his stay at Bowie State University. But, during his time at Bowie State, King Arthur was not only King of the Classroom; he was King of the Hardwood, too. In fact, during his senior season, he led the Bulldogs to a 31-4 record and to the Division 2 Final Four, all while leading the UCIAA Conference in Assist/Turnover ratio.

His success then carried over to the professional ranks. After having a successful stint with the New York Nationals and two good seasons in the ABA with the Baltimore Pearls and Maryland Nighthawks, Arthur joined the Central Oregon Hotshots of the IBL, where he truly shined. He became a two-time IBL All-Star and in 2007, he averaged 21.7 points and 9.7 assists per game. He also served as the Director of Promotions for the team — a job that involved coordinating local school visits, youth clinics, and appearances by the team. Similar to the Harlem Wizards, the Central Oregon Hotshots of the IBL were a team that stressed the importance of a good education. Their motto is “Education is the slam dunk to success.”

When considering joining the Wizards, Arthur took their educational focus into account and also noticed that his dazzling style of play would make him an ideal fit for a team that is all about “Trick-Hoops & Alley-Oops.” Arthur mentioned, “I always wanted to be an entertainer and put smiles on kids’ faces. Joining the Harlem Wizards seemed like the perfect way to do that.”

In his rookie season with the Wizards, King Arthur did not disappoint. His role on the team was that of the energizer. In addition to having cat-like quickness, he slides on the floor, handles the ball with exceptional creativity, and does the dances that keep the audiences on their feet and coming back for more. By patterning his game after Isiah Thomas, Arthur Lewis has the moves and flair that make him a crowd favorite. He has shown that even at standing 5’10”, he has what it takes to make a difference and hopes that kids who see him play are inspired by that fact. Arthur explained that, “Despite the fact that I may be small for a basketball player, with hard work and dedication, anything is possible.”

Arthur mentioned that his goal for the upcoming season is to continue to build the Wizards brand and continue to positively affect lives in the same way that the Wizards have since 1962. He feels that even some Wizards fans don’t realize just how strong the tradition of the Wizards is, as they boast former NBA Hall of Famers and Top 50 selections, Connie Hawkins and Nate Archibald. But, what truly touches Arthur are the shows that the Wizards put on for individuals who are less fortunate or disadvantaged. Arthur said it best when he mentioned that, “I am so thankful for every day that I put on that Wizards uniform.”

Now, those sound like words that are truly fit for a king.

**Fitness Fact** - To stay in shape, Arthur emphasized that he works on his core three days per week during the season. This involves weights, riding an exercise bike, and using an elliptical machine. During the offseason, he increases his workout regimen to five days per week.

Arthur believes that true fitness involves mind, body, and soul. He feels that having all three being fit together in unison is the ideal way to stay fit. During the 2010-2011 season, he challenges all Wizards fans to try achieve this goal, which is also known as, “King Arthur’s Workout.”