



Commercial Club Bandits
Border Basketball Club Incorporated
PO Box 1261 Albury NSW 2640
ABN: 59 838 022 758

MEDIA RELEASE – BANDITS SIGN STAR DONTE NICHOLAS

The Albury/Wodonga Commercial Club Bandits Coaching Staff and Board would like to announce the signing Donte Nicholas as the first import player for the men's team for the 2015 SEABL Season.

Donte is a native of Washington D.C and is an explosive and versatile 197cm (6'5") 93 kg SF who successfully played two years at NCAA Division II powerhouse Metro State University in Denver and one season at Fresno Pacific University in California. As a junior at Metro State he led the team in both scoring and rebounding, averaging 17.5 points, 6.2 rebounds, 2.5 assists and 1.9 steals per game, while shooting 45 percent from the field. He was named NCAA Division II Preseason All-American and First Team All-RMAC as a junior and earned team MVP, conference tournament MVP and was a 7-time RMAC Player of the Week. In two seasons as a starter, he was instrumental in leading Metro State to a 51-11 record and two RMAC titles and two trips to the NCAA Tournament. After transferring to Fresno Pacific University for his senior year he carried the program and produced excellent numbers of 19.7pts, 7.1rebs and 4.5ass and was named 2011-12 NAIA Honourable Mention All-American, First team All-Region and finished runner in the Conference MVP to current Cairns NBL star Cam Gliddon.

As a pro Donte has spent time with the Santa Cruz Warriors in the NBA D-League and one season with US semi-pro team the Rockville Victors where he was an MVP candidate and posted impressive numbers of 25ppg @60%FG, 7rebs, 4ass & 2 stls per contest.

Donte is an extremely versatile guard/forward who can play anywhere from the PG to SF positions and is an excellent offensive threat from a multitude of positions on the floor. Most pleasingly though is the fact that he has a very high basketball IQ, has held leadership roles with his teams previously and is a very polished player with excellent fundamentals and a real feel for the game. He also fits our main criteria of being a willing defensive presence who gives us some much needed agility, size and length on the perimeter.

We see this as a great opportunity for Donte to showcase his skills at the SEABL level and help lead our team on the court in 2015 and alongside our other key additions gives us great flexibility in the roster.

Head Coach of the Commercial Club Bandits, Brad Chalmers welcomes the signing of Donte as a key piece in 2015. "Donte has a fantastic pedigree coming from a winning program like Metro State which we really liked and we feel will provide the team with another weapon in regards to the on floor execution at both ends. From my conversations with him he seems like a fine young man who is up for the challenge and is really hungry for a chance to show his worth". "He is known as a true professional in his preparation and play and the feedback from some very astute basketball people we spoke to has been that we are getting an extremely versatile, smart, hardworking and talented player that will be a very good player in this league".

Donte will arrive on the Border in February to commence pre-season training with the team.

Patron: Lauren Jackson