

= Ryan Arcidiacono =

Ryan Curran Arcidiacono (/ ʔʔʔrtʔiʔdiʔʔʔʔkʔnoʔ / AHR @-@ chee @-@ dee @-@ AH @-@ kʔ @-@ noh ; born March 26 , 1994) is an Italian @-@ American professional basketball player for the San Antonio Spurs of the National Basketball Association (NBA) . He attended Neshaminy High School , where he averaged 20 @.@ 4 points and 5 @.@ 6 rebounds per game as a junior to lead Neshaminy to the PIAA playoffs . As a freshman at Villanova , he was named to the Big East Conference All @-@ Rookie Team . Arcidiacono , as a junior , was co @-@ winner of the conference 's Player of the Year award . As part of Villanova 's 2016 National Championship team , Arcidiacono was awarded the Most Outstanding Player award and assisted on the game @-@ winning basket to Kris Jenkins as time expired . He also holds Italian citizenship , and has played for the Italian national team .

= = Early life = =

Arcidiacono was born on March 26 , 1994 in Philadelphia , Pennsylvania . He has three older siblings , Sabrina , Nicole , Michael ; and younger twin siblings , Christopher and Courtney . His parents , Joe and Patti Arcidiacono , met at Villanova University , where Joe was an offensive lineman on the football team . When he was young , his father installed a 6 @-@ foot plastic hoop in the family living room . Arcidiacono would often practice shooting jump shots and hitting layups on the small hoop before progressing to an actual basketball court . At one AAU game , Arcidiacono scored 50 points . At another , he hit eight three @-@ pointers in a row . When he was in 7th grade at a basketball camp , Villanova coach Jay Wright said he would one day play for the Wildcats . Growing up , his favorite athletes were the 76ers ' Allen Iverson and the Eagles ' Brian Dawkins . In eighth grade , Arcidiacono trained with former Penn State player Ben Luber .

= = High school career = =

Arcidiacono attended Neshaminy High School , where he was coached by Jerry Devine . Arcidiacono led the team to a PIAA Class AAAA tournament as a sophomore . In a playoff game against Bartram High School , he tallied a triple @-@ double of 26 points , 10 rebounds and 10 assists . He averaged 18 points per game and was named to the Class AAAA second team . At the end of his sophomore season , Arcidiacono travelled with his AAU team , the PA Playaz , to North Carolina for the Bob Gibbons Tournament of Champions . In the first game of the tournament , he crashed into the floor face @-@ first , an injury that required eight stitches . Despite the advice of doctors , he decided to play in the following game , and responded with 35 points . He continued to score at the same pace for the remainder of the tournament , and major college programs took notice . Arcidiacono received recruiting offers from Syracuse , Florida , Texas , and Villanova , among others . In October 2010 , after attending Villanova 's Hoops Mania event , he committed to play for the Villanova Wildcats .

As a junior , Arcidiacono guided Neshaminy to a 22 ? 7 record while averaging 20 @.@ 4 points , 5 @.@ 6 rebounds , 5 @.@ 0 assists , and 2 @.@ 2 steals . He surpassed the 1 @,@ 000 point mark in a game against Pennsbury , scoring 29 points in a 83 ? 52 win . The Neshaminy Redskins reached the state quarterfinals in 2011 before losing to Penn Wood . At the conclusion of his junior season , he was named the Bucks County Courier Times player of the year . The Philadelphia Inquirer selected him to the first @-@ team all @-@ Southeastern Pennsylvania .

He began to feel pain in his lower back shortly after the end of his junior season . In May 2011 , while attending a basketball camp at the Deron Williams Academy in Chicago , Arcidiacono complained of poor mobility and soreness . He was diagnosed with a herniated disk in his back , forcing him to miss his senior season . Arcidiacono had surgery to repair the disk on December 21 , and he could not leave his house for two weeks thereafter . Arcidiacono finished his career at Neshaminy High School as the program 's all @-@ time leading scorer . He tallied 1 @,@ 498 points , 449 rebounds , 378 assists , 178 steals , and 160 three @-@ pointers . Despite missing the

season , ESPN ranked him among the top 50 seniors in the country .

= = College career = =

= = = Freshman = = =

Arcidiacono began his freshman season not fully recovered from his back injury . He made his collegiate debut scoring 11 points against the University of the District of Columbia . In the following game against Marshall , Arcidiacono became the first Wildcat freshman to score 25 points since Scottie Reynolds . Arcidiacono garnered his first Big East rookie of the week honors on November 18 , after an 18 @-@ point six @-@ assist performance in an overtime win against Purdue . He was again named Big East rookie of the week on December 31 after a 17 @-@ point performance against NJIT . He had a career @-@ high 32 points on January 2 , 2013 , to propel Villanova to a 98 ? 86 overtime victory over St. John 's . This performance earned Arcidiacono Big East rookie of the week honors for the week of January 6 . In the January 26 contest against third @-@ ranked Syracuse , Arcidiacono made a 3 @-@ pointer with 2 @.@ 2 seconds remaining in regulation to tie the game at 61 . The Wildcats ended up defeating Syracuse in overtime 75 ? 71 . Arcidiacono earned his fourth rookie of the week honors in the last week of the regular season .

Led by Arcidiacono , Villanova enjoyed a 20 ? 14 season and reached the NCAA Tournament where they were seeded ninth and matched up with eight seed North Carolina in the first round . Arcidiacono had 10 points , but his Wildcats lost to the Tar Heels 78 ? 71 . He posted averages of 11 @.@ 9 points , 3 @.@ 5 assists and 2 @.@ 1 rebounds per game . Arcidiacono started all 34 games and played an average of 34 @.@ 0 minutes per game , which led the team . He was named Philadelphia Big 5 rookie of the year and was selected to the Big East All @-@ Rookie team .

= = = Sophomore = = =

Going into his sophomore campaign , Arcidiacono focused on improving his footwork and shooting mechanics . Arcidiacono hit a 3 @-@ pointer with 10 @.@ 1 seconds left in a November 29 matchup against Kansas despite not making a shot until that point . The Wildcats held on to upset the second @-@ ranked Jayhawks 63 @-@ 59 . Arcidiacono had his first double @-@ double with 20 points and 11 assists in a 94 ? 85 overtime win over Marquette on January 25 , 2014 . He recorded a season @-@ high 21 points in the February 18 game against Providence . With 3 @.@ 1 seconds left in double overtime , Arcidiacono completed a three @-@ point play to help the Wildcats to a 82 ? 79 victory .

He was an honorable mention all @-@ Big East selection at the conclusion of the regular season . He joined teammate Darrun Hilliard on the All @-@ Big 5 Second Team . He posted averages of 9 @.@ 9 points , 3 @.@ 5 assists and 2 @.@ 4 rebounds per contest . Arcidiacono started 33 games and played an average of 31 @.@ 1 minutes per game , leading the team .

= = = Junior = = =

Arcidiacono was selected to the preseason second team All @-@ Big East . In its preseason top 100 college basketball player rankings , ESPN ranked Arcidiacono # 84 . Arcidiacono was named to the 36 @-@ man Bob Cousy Award Preseason Watch List . On November 14 , Arcidiacono scored 16 points in his season debut , a 77 ? 66 victory over Lehigh . He had 10 points in an 80 ? 54 victory over Seton Hall on February 17 , 2015 , and received a hit on the nose from the forearm of Seton Hall guard Sterling Gibbs , who was suspended and subsequently apologized . On March 3 , Arcidiacono scored 23 points , including the go @-@ ahead 3 @-@ pointer , in a 76 ? 72 win over Creighton . In the semifinals of the Big East tournament , Villanova defeated Providence 63 ? 61 after Arcidiacono hit a pair of free throws with 3 @.@ 1 seconds remaining .

After overcoming a nagging right wrist injury in December , Arcidiacono averaged 12 @.@ 9 points

and 3 @. @ 6 assists and made 45 @. @ 5 percent of his attempts from the floor and 44 @. @ 4 percent from the three point arc in Big East conference play . He shared Big East Player of the Year honors with Providence guard Kris Dunn , feeling " kind of shocked " about the selection . Arcidiacono was a 2014 ? 15 Men 's All @- @ District II Team selection by the U.S. Basketball Writers Association . He was named to the Second Team All @- @ District V by the National Association of Basketball Coaches . He was named to the All @- @ Big 5 First Team .

= = = Senior = = =

Going into his senior year at Villanova , Arcidiacono was named to the Preseason First Team All @- @ Big East . He was listed on the Oscar Robertson Award preseason watchlist as well as the Naismith College Player of the Year watchlist . In his season debut , a 91 @- @ 54 win over Fairleigh Dickinson on November 13 , Arcidiacono had 12 points . On December 31 , in a 95 @- @ 64 victory over sixth @- @ ranked Xavier , he connected on seven 3 @- @ pointers and scored 27 points .

He was named one of the ten finalists for the Senior CLASS Award . At the conclusion of the regular season , Arcidiacono was selected to the Second Team All @- @ Big East . Arcidiacono helped lead Villanova to the 2016 NCAA Men 's Division I basketball championship , had the game @- @ winning assist to Kris Jenkins in the title game , and was named Most Outstanding Player for his performance .

= = Professional career = =

After going undrafted in the 2016 NBA draft , Arcidiacono joined the San Antonio Spurs for the 2016 NBA Summer League . On July 14 , 2016 , he signed with the Spurs .

= = National team career = =

In June 2012 , Arcidiacono was called up by the USA Basketball Men 's U18 National Team . In June 2013 , he was called up as one of the candidates to join the 2013 FIBA Under @- @ 19 World Championship .

On May 21 , 2015 , he was selected by the Italian national team to play in an international tournament .