

= Phil Pressey =

Phillip Michael " Phil " Pressey (born February 17 , 1991) is an American professional basketball player for the Salt Lake City Stars of the NBA Development League . His prior professional teams were the Boston Celtics , Philadelphia 76ers and Phoenix Suns of the National Basketball Association and the Maine Red Claws of the NBADL . As a junior playing point guard for the 2012 ? 13 Missouri Tigers men 's basketball team , Pressey announced on April 10 , 2013 , that he would forgo his senior season of eligibility at Missouri and enter the 2013 NBA draft instead . He led the 2011 ? 12 Big 12 Conference in assists , steals and assist @-@ to @-@ turnover ratio and was a 2011 ? 12 All @-@ Big 12 team selection as a result . He shares the Southeastern Conference (SEC) single @-@ game assists record (19) and was the 2012 SEC Preseason Player of the Year . He earned 2012 ? 13 All @-@ SEC First team selection and was the conference assist champion . He earned Associated Press 2013 All @-@ American honorable mention recognition . He holds Missouri single @-@ game , single @-@ season and career assists records and numerous Missouri steals records , including career steals .

Pressey was a high school basketball All @-@ state selection by the Texas Association of Basketball Coaches (TABC) and helped his team achieve 2009 and 2010 Southwest Preparatory Conference (SPC) state championships in basketball . In high school , several YouTube videos of him dunking (often over much taller players) became popular . He is the son of 1982 NBA Draft first @-@ round selection and 1982 Consensus All @-@ American Paul Pressey .

= = Early years = =

In June 2006 , Pressey stood at 5 feet 3 inches (1 @.@ 60 m) . That year , he led the Boston Amateur Basketball Club (BABC) , also known as the Boston Amateur Athletic Club , to the 2006 Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) National Championship . He had joined the team as a seventh grader in 2005 . He played his freshman and sophomore high school basketball seasons for Cushing Academy . As the family moved for Paul 's jobs with various NBA franchises , Pressey spent summers with BABC teammate (and future Missouri teammate) Alex Oriakhi .

In 2008 , Pressey 's family moved to Dallas when Paul took a job with the New Orleans Hornets , and Phil began to play with Episcopal School of Dallas for his junior season . During his two years at Episcopal , the team won its second and third consecutive SPC Division I boy 's state championship in 2009 and 2010 . He was one of the two best point guards at the July 2009 LeBron James Skills Academy , according to reports in The Plain Dealer . Pressey made his verbal commitment to Missouri on September 13 , 2009 . Pressey 's father , Paul , had been teammates with Missouri head coach Mike Anderson . Anderson had known Pressey since he was an infant and remained close to the family as " Uncle Mike " . On April 12 , 2010 , Pressey 's older brother Matt , who was a junior college transfer , gave his verbal commitment to join his brother in Missouri 's 2010 entering class . On April 15 , Oregon attempted to lure Anderson , but after meeting with Oregon 's athletic director , Anderson decided to stay at Missouri .

As a senior Pressey earned TABC All @-@ state recognition and Dallas Morning News first team All @-@ area recognition . The All @-@ area team included Perry Jones , Le 'Bryan Nash , Marcus Smart and Kyan Anderson . During the 2010 SPC championship game , Pressey tallied 32 points , 9 assists , 8 rebounds and 3 steals against Greenhill School . Videos of him dunking in high school have made him a YouTube sensation . During the 2010 TABC All @-@ star game , he dunked over Tony Mitchell , who at the time was a player approximately a foot taller than Pressey . As of 31 December 2012 , this video has about 800 @,@ 000 views . Because of his diminutive stature , he is often compared to another undersized Dallas basketball player , Spud Webb .

= = College career = =

= = = Freshman season = = =

On December 18 , 2010 , Pressey tallied 11 assists while adding 15 points against the Central Arkansas Bears . This tied a Missouri Tigers freshman single @-@ game assist record (Shawn Teague , 1980 vs. Lamar) . Then , he broke his right index finger prior to the December 22 , 2010 Braggin ' Rights game against Illinois . Pressey missed four games and did not return to the lineup until the January 8 Big 12 Conference opener against Colorado , where he appeared in the second half . Another highlight for Pressey came when he posted 6 steals for the Tigers against the Texas A & M Aggies in the 2011 Big 12 Men 's Basketball Tournament on March 10 , 2011 . This established a new Missouri Tigers postseason single @-@ game record . Freshman single @-@ game records do not appear in the media guide . He started 12 games for the 2010 ? 11 Tigers and set numerous Missouri freshman season records , including average steals (2 @.@ 0) , average assists (3 @.@ 9) and total assists (117) .

= = = Sophomore season = = =

In a January 14 , 2012 contest against the Texas Longhorns , Pressey posted 18 points and 10 assists for his second career double @-@ double . During his sophomore season for the 2011 ? 12 Tigers , he recorded 12 assists in a game four times : Villanova (12 / 6) , Texas Tech (1 / 28) , # 5 Kansas (2 / 25) and Oklahoma State (3 / 8) . At the end of February , he was named to the Naismith Award top 30 midseason Watchlist . Pressey 's total of 223 assists and average of 6 @.@ 4 assists broke Anthony Peeler 's school single @-@ season records (179 , 5 @.@ 8) set for the 1989 ? 90 Missouri Tigers . For the 2011 ? 12 Big 12 season , he was an All @-@ Big 12 selection (1st team - CBSSports.com ; 2nd team - Associated Press ; 3rd team - Big 12 coaches) . He was also a 2012 Big 12 Men 's Basketball Tournament all @-@ tournament selection and a Bob Cousy Award finalist .

= = = Junior season = = =

Pressey became captain of the Missouri team as a junior . CBS Sports listed him as a 2012 first team preseason All @-@ American and the 8th best player in its preseason top 100 . Sports Illustrated also named him to its preseason All @-@ American first team . CBS also named him the second best point guard (behind Isaiah Canaan) . Pressey was both a preseason John R. Wooden Award top 50 selection and a preseason Naismith Award top 50 selection in 2012 . Pressey was the preseason SEC player of the year selection by the SEC media and a first team All @-@ SEC selection by the coaches . Pressey holds the Missouri career assists average record and entered the season within striking distance of Peeler 's Missouri career assists and career steals totals of 497 and 196 .

In December , the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame named Pressey as a Cousy Award nominee . In the December 22 , 2012 Braggin ' Rights game against Illinois he posted 11 assists and 12 points for his third career double @-@ double . In Missouri 's subsequent game on December 28 , 2012 , he recorded another double @-@ double with 19 assists and 19 points against UCLA tying the Southeastern Conference single @-@ game assist record (Kenny Higgs , 1976 @-@ 77 LSU ; Bill Hann , 1967 @-@ 68 Tennessee) . On January 5 , Pressey established a new career high with 26 points , while recording 5 assists and 3 rebounds against Bucknell . This earned him SEC player of the week . On January 8 , Pressey tied the Mizzou Arena single @-@ game assist record with 13 against Alabama along with 11 points as part of his fifth double @-@ double . On January 9 , he was selected as one of 20 Cousy Award finalists . At the time , he was described as the most efficient defender in the nation in terms of points allowed per play defended . On January 10 the Wooden Award midseason top 25 list , which included Pressey , was announced . On February 9 , he surpassed Peeler 's career assist total of 497 against Ole Miss . Pressey posted a new career @-@ high 27 points along with 10 assists and 4 steals on February 23 against Kentucky as part of his fourth double @-@ double of the season and sixth of his career . On March 12 , the U.S. Basketball Writers Association named Pressey to its 2012 ? 13 Men 's All @-@ District

VI (IA , MO , KS , OK , NE , ND , SD) Team , based upon voting from its national membership . That same day , he was a selection to the 8 @-@ man 2013 All @-@ SEC First Team by the SEC coaches . He was a selection to the 5 @-@ man 2013 All @-@ SEC First Teams by three of four FOX Sports South writers . Pressey was also an All @-@ SEC First Team selection by the Kansas City Star . Pressey ended the season with 196 career steals , tying Peeler 's school record , and bettered his own school single @-@ season assist records with 240 and 7 @.@ 1 / game . He was named to the National Association of Basketball Coaches Division I All ? District 21 first team on March 26 , as selected and voted on by member coaches of the NABC , making him eligible for the State Farm Coaches ? Division I All @-@ America team . Pressey earned Associated Press honorable mention All @-@ American recognition . He was the 2012 ? 13 Southeastern Conference men 's basketball season assist champion with a 7 @.@ 1 assists / game average .

= = Professional career = =

= = = 2013 NBA Draft = = =

On April 10 , 2013 , Pressey announced he would not be returning to play his senior season for the Missouri Tigers , choosing instead to enter the 2013 NBA Draft . Pressey stated his intentions in a statement posted on the Tigers team website . According to the Associated Press , while averaging a career @-@ best 11 @.@ 9 points and 7 @.@ 1 assists as a junior his play was erratic as he also committed an average 3 @.@ 5 turnovers . Pressey had a 37 @.@ 6 % field goal percentage during his final season , which the Associated Press described as one in which he " struggled with late @-@ game decision @-@ making in losses to UCLA , Louisiana State , Texas A & M , Arkansas , Kentucky and Tennessee " . ESPN noted that he is projected to be a late second round draft selection at best . Three senior starters , including Oriakhi , as well as Laurence Bowers and Keion Bell were graduating . Pressey was one of 60 players invited to the NBA Draft Combine .

= = = Boston Celtics (2013 ? 2015) = = =

After going undrafted in the 2013 NBA Draft , Pressey signed with the Boston Celtics to play in the 2013 Orlando Summer League . He was a known commodity to the Celtics . Pressey 's AAU team had even practiced at the team facility in Waltham . His performance in the Summer League led to Pressey signing a deal with the Celtics on July 22 , 2013 . The contract was believed to be a three @-@ year deal for the league minimum , which was \$ 490 @,@ 180 during his rookie season . The Celtics began the season without four @-@ time All @-@ Star point guard Rajon Rondo who had endured a anterior cruciate ligament injury during the prior season . Pressey made his regular season debut in the 2013 ? 14 Celtics season opener on October 30 at the Air Canada Centre against the Toronto . He did not play in the next three games , but after the Celtics got off to an 0 ? 4 start , head coach Brad Stevens shuffled the lineup . On November 6 , at home against the Utah Jazz , Pressey recorded the first three assists , first steal and first field goal of his career . Then on November 9 , he posted four assists and tallied in 7 points in 21 minutes of play . He posted a team @-@ high 5 assists on November 19 , 2013 against the Houston Rockets . He established a new career high with 8 assists on November 25 against the Charlotte Bobcats . On January 15 , with Rondo 's return imminent , the Celtics traded guards Jordan Crawford and MarShon Brooks , clearing the way for Pressey to start that night against the Toronto Raptors . Pressey posted 10 assists and no turnovers in his first start . On January 22 , with Rondo , Avery Bradley and Jerryd Bayless all sitting out and Pressey making his second career start , Pressey scored a career @-@ high 20 points against Washington before fouling out . Since Rondo 's return , Pressey 's occasional starts have been to give Rondo rest . He posted a double @-@ double on April 5 against the Detroit Pistons with 12 points and a career @-@ high 11 assists . On April 11 , he had another career high with 13 assists as part of a 10 @-@ point double double against the Charlotte Bobcats . He matched the 13 assists the following night against the Cleveland Cavaliers .

In July 2014 , Pressey re @-@ joined the Celtics for the 2014 NBA Summer League . His performance earned him a roster spot for the regular season , as the team guaranteed his contract for the 2014 ? 15 season . On February 5 , 2015 , he was assigned to the Maine Red Claws of the NBA Development League . He was recalled the next day . On July 15 , Pressey was waived by the Celtics .

= = = Philadelphia 76ers (2015) = = =

On July 24 , 2015 , Pressey signed with the Portland Trail Blazers , but was waived on October 23 after appearing in four preseason games . On October 25 , he was claimed off waivers by the Utah Jazz , but was waived by the team the following day . On November 1 , he was acquired by the Idaho Stampede of the NBA Development League as an affiliate player of the Jazz . However , three days later , he signed with the Philadelphia 76ers to help the team deal with numerous injuries . Philadelphia had to use an NBA hardship exemption in order to sign him as he made their roster stand at 16 , one over the allowed limited of 15 . He debuted with the 76ers that night against the Milwaukee Bucks , his father 's long @-@ time team . On December 4 , he was waived by the 76ers after appearing in 14 games .

= = = Idaho Stampede / Phoenix Suns (2015 ? present) = = =

On December 7 , 2015 , Pressey was reacquired by the Idaho Stampede of the NBA Development League . Two days later , he made his debut with Idaho in a 102 ? 96 loss to the Texas Legends , recording four points , six rebounds , six assists and one steal in 24 minutes . He scored a season @-@ high 21 points twice , and had three double @-@ doubles for Idaho , recording a season @-@ high 13 assists on February 8 , 2016 against the Los Angeles D @-@ Fenders .

On February 20 , 2016 , Pressey signed a 10 ? day contract with the Phoenix Suns . He made his debut for the Suns the following day , recording six points , two rebounds , five assists , one steal and three blocks in 28 minutes off the bench in a 118 ? 111 loss to the San Antonio Spurs , becoming the first NBA player shorter than 6 ' 0 " to record three blocks in a game since Nate Robinson in 2013 . A day later , he had a 10 @-@ assist game against the Los Angeles Clippers . On March 1 , he signed a second 10 @-@ day contract with the Suns . Following the expiration of his second 10 @-@ day contract , the Suns parted ways with Pressey .

On March 12 , 2016 , Pressey was reacquired by Idaho .

= = NBA career statistics = =

= = = Regular season = = =

= = Personal = =

Phil 's parents are Elizabeth (Liz) and Paul Pressey . Together they have four children : Ashley , Angela , Paul Jr . (known by his middle name of Matthew) and Phillip . Paul was an NCAA basketball All @-@ American , National Invitation Tournament Champion , NBA All @-@ Defensive Team selection , JUCO National champion and a first round NBA Draft choice . Phil was teammates with his older brother Matt for two years at Missouri . As of September 2013 , Matt is playing with the Plymouth Raiders in the British Basketball League . Their older sister Angie was an All @-@ American volleyball player for the California Golden Bears . Pressey wore cornrows throughout his high school basketball career . Pressey was a childhood friend and AAU teammate of Alex Oriakhi who transferred from Connecticut after playing for the 2010 ? 11 national champion Huskies team to join the 2012 ? 13 Tigers .