

= Darrun Hilliard =

Darrun Hilliard II (born April 13 , 1993) is an American professional basketball player for the Detroit Pistons of the National Basketball Association (NBA) . He attended Liberty High School in Bethlehem , Pennsylvania , where he was a two @-@ time Associated Press first @-@ team selection . As a senior in high school , he averaged 19 @.@ 7 points per game . Hilliard committed to play college basketball for the Villanova Wildcats and coach Jay Wright . He showed steady improvement every year , going from 4 @.@ 8 points per game as a freshman to 14 @.@ 3 points per game as a senior as he helped Villanova reach the NCAA Tournament in three straight seasons . As a senior , he was named to the first @-@ team All @-@ Big East and was honored as Big 5 Player of the Year .

= = Early life = =

Hilliard was born on April 13 , 1993 to Charlene Jenkins and Darrun Hilliard . His mother is a representative for an insurance company . His father played basketball at the high school level and first introduced his son to the sport when he was five years old . The younger Hilliard also played football growing up , but preferred basketball . His favorite NBA player was Allen Iverson . He used to bike to Philadelphia Eagles practices as a kid .

= = High school career = =

Hilliard attended Liberty High School in Bethlehem , Pennsylvania , where he was a two @-@ time Associated Press first @-@ team selection . Despite eating , writing , and throwing a football right handed , Hilliard shoots left @-@ handed . As a freshman , he measured 6 ' 1 . His parents split up after his freshman year , and he developed a unique bond with Liberty assistant coach Mike Bachman . As a junior , he averaged 18 points and six rebounds per game and shot 52 percent from the field . Hilliard led the Hurricanes to PIAA state semifinals , where Liberty lost to Penn Wood . In the loss to Penn Wood , Hilliard had 26 points . He was named Morning Call player of the year as a junior . In addition , he was selected to the First Team Class AAAA .

Hilliard averaged 19 @.@ 7 points per game as a senior . He was named Express @-@ Times player of the year after leading the Hurricanes to the second round of the PIAA playoffs . Hilliard scored 1 @,@ 413 points in his high school career , finishing second in Liberty history to Warren West . He committed to Villanova in November 2010 . When Hilliard informed his mother he was receiving a full scholarship to Villanova , she did not understand and was trying to figure how much she would have to pay for her son 's education . In addition to his basketball prowess , Hilliard was the quarterback on his high school football team and could throw the ball 65 yards .

= = College career = =

= = = Freshman = = =

Villanova coach Jay Wright considered redshirting Hilliard in his freshman season , but Wright decided against it after a rash of injuries to his players . He had 13 points in back @-@ to @-@ back games against Penn and Missouri in December 2011 . As a freshman , Hilliard averaged 4 @.@ 8 points , 2 @.@ 5 rebounds and 18 @.@ 1 minutes per game in 29 games and shot 29 @.@ 2 percent from behind the 3 @-@ point arc . During the season , he reached out to his family and friends to see if he made the right decision to come to Villanova . He said , " Freshman year was probably my toughest year of basketball " , due to difficulties in adjusting to a new coach and teammates . He described himself as a mentally unstable 17 @-@ year @-@ old .

= = = Sophomore = = =

In his sophomore season (2012 ? 13) , he averaged 11 @.@ 4 points in just under 30 minutes a game . This proved to be his breakout season and he would go on to start all 34 games that year . He helped Villanova defeat a few top five teams that season . In a comeback win over # 5 Louisville on January 22 , he made a 3 @-@ point play after making a steal at halfcourt which helped spark the rally . In a 75 ? 71 overtime victory over # 3 Syracuse on January 26 , 2013 , he had 25 points and six assists in 38 minutes . As a result of his play against Syracuse , Hilliard was honored as Big East Player of the Week and Oscar Robertson National Player of the Week . He also helped them beat then # 5 Georgetown on March 6 by the score of 67 ? 57 . In that game , he had 14 points and three steals .

Villanova enjoyed a 20 ? 14 season after a down year and reached the NCAA Tournament where they were seeded ninth and matched up with eight seed North Carolina in the first round . Hilliard had a strong showing in a 78 ? 71 loss to North Carolina , scoring 18 points .

= = = Junior = = =

Hilliard improved in most offensive categories in the 2013 ? 14 season , his junior year . He averaged 14 @.@ 3 points per game that season and improved his three @-@ point shooting percentage to 41 @.@ 4 percent (up from 31 @.@ 5 percent the year before) . He made 70 three @-@ pointers that year out of 169 attempts . Hilliard scored 20 points on 8 @-@ of @-@ 13 shooting against Marquette in a 94 ? 85 victory on January 25 , 2014 . In an 82 ? 79 win over Providence , he hit a crucial 3 @-@ pointer with a minute left in overtime . In a 73 ? 56 win over Marquette on March 2 at the Wells Fargo Center , he established a new career high with 26 points on 7 @-@ of @-@ 11 shooting from the field .

Villanova compiled a 29 ? 5 record and won the Big East regular season championship and Battle for Atlantis title despite not being ranked in the preseason . In the 2014 NCAA Tournament , Hilliard scored 16 points to help Villanova get past Milwaukee . Villanova lost to eventual national champion Connecticut in the Round of 32 , with Hilliard adding 13 points in the 77 ? 65 loss . He was an honorable mention all @-@ Big East selection at the conclusion of the regular season . He shared Big East Most Improved Player award with teammate Daniel Ochefu . Hilliard joined teammate Ryan Arcidiacono on the All @-@ Big 5 Second Team .

= = = Senior = = =

Coming into the 2014 ? 15 season , Hilliard was named to the Preseason Second Team All @-@ Big East . He averaged 14 @.@ 3 points , 3 @.@ 6 rebounds , and 2 @.@ 1 assists per game as a senior . Villanova was ranked in the top ten for most of the season thanks to a balanced offense . Hilliard scored 23 points on December 20 in an overtime victory over Syracuse , hitting 9 @-@ of @-@ 17 shots . He hit two free throws to give the Wildcats the first lead of the game in overtime before being kicked in the face and tested for concussion @-@ like symptoms . Against Creighton on January 25 , 2015 , he scored 24 points and made 6 @-@ of @-@ 10 three @-@ pointers in a 71 ? 50 victory at home . On February 14 , in a 78 ? 75 victory over Butler , Hilliard scored a career @-@ high 31 points and also set a career high with 8 three @-@ pointers made out of 13 attempts . He also hit the game @-@ winning three @-@ pointer with 1 @.@ 5 seconds to play in the game . Eight of his nine field goals in that game were three @-@ pointers , and his eight rebounds were one short of a career @-@ high . He averaged 18 @.@ 7 points during a nine @-@ game stretch that included the Butler game .

Hilliard led the Wildcats to a 33 ? 3 season . His final game at Villanova was a 71 @-@ 68 upset at the hands of N.C. State in the NCAA Tournament Round of 32 , despite contributing 27 points . Hilliard finished his Villanova career with 1 @,@ 511 points , 18th highest in school history ; 400 rebounds ; and 176 steals . Hilliard was a 2014 ? 15 Men 's All @-@ District II Team selection by the U.S. Basketball Writers Association . The Sporting News selected him to be a Second Team All American . Hilliard was one of three players , along with LaDontae Henton and Kris Dunn , to be

named to the All Big East First Team . He was named to the First Team All @-@ District V by the National Association of Basketball Coaches , and was named Big 5 Player of the Year . After the season he was invited to the Portsmouth Invitational Tournament .

= = Professional career = =

= = = Detroit Pistons (2015 ? present) = = =

Prior to the 2015 NBA draft , Hilliard signed with James Dunleavy as his agent . He was listed in the 55 @-@ 70 range among NBA Draft prospects by several media agencies . On June 25 , 2015 , Hilliard was selected 38th overall by the Detroit Pistons in the second round of the draft . Hilliard attributed the decision to a productive workout with the team . After averaging 9 @.@ 4 points per game in Orlando Summer League play , on July 20 , Hilliard signed a three @-@ year deal with the Pistons , with one year being guaranteed . Coach Stan Van Gundy praised Hilliard 's shooting prowess , despite a poor showing in the Summer League .

He broke his nose during training camp after engaging in a pickup game . The injury required surgery and he needed to wear a mask . On November 23 , he made his NBA debut in a 109 ? 88 loss against the Milwaukee Bucks , recording two points and three rebounds in 12 minutes . During his rookie season , he received multiple assignments to the Grand Rapids Drive , the Pistons ' D @-@ League affiliate .

On June 30 , 2016 , Hilliard was ruled out of the 2016 NBA Summer League after he suffered a stress fracture of the lower back .

= = NBA career statistics = =

= = = Regular season = = =