

ASU Welcomes Canty

Written by Charles Cochrum
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Appalachian State University men's basketball head coach Jason Capel announced the addition of Jay Canty (Jamestown, N.C./Xavier/Oak Ridge Military), who transfers from Xavier University after his freshman campaign in 2010-11. The 6-6, 200-pound guard/forward is the former Oak Ridge Military teammate of ASU signee Michael Neal (Greensboro, N.C./Oak Ridge). Capel added, "We are extremely excited to add Jay to our basketball family. He is an exceptional young man who fits well with what we are building. He is a tremendous athlete who can affect the game dramatically on both ends of the floor. His length will make him a great defender and his versatility will allow us to use him in many facets on the offensive end. More than anything, Jay is a tireless worker, a fierce competitor and a winner."

Canty will earn a redshirt in 2011-12 per NCAA transfer rules before taking to the court in 2012-13 for his remaining three years of eligibility.

Canty saw action in 17 games, including the first 11 of the season, in his freshman season at NCAA Tournament participant Xavier. He averaged 1.5 points and 0.8 rebounds in 7.4 minutes per game with a 41.7 field goal percentage. The wing missed 12 games with a right foot injury. The Jamestown, N.C. native scored a season-high 10 points on 4-of-5 shooting in just 11 minutes against La Salle after returning from injury, and led the team's freshmen in minutes. At Oak Ridge in 2009-10, Canty averaged 21.4 points, 8.2 rebounds, 3.8 assists and 2.8 steals per game to garner first team Associated Press all-state honors. He was named the Piedmont Triad Player of the Year by Sports Carolina Monthly for leading coach Stan Kowalewski's squad to a 30-10 record.

Prior to transferring to Oak Ridge, Canty shined at Jamestown's Ragsdale High School, where he nearly averaged a double-double as a junior. In 2008-09, he notched 20 points, 9.4 rebounds, 3.0 steals, 3.0 assists and 2.4 blocks per game to help the team to a 26-2 record and undefeated mark in Mid-Piedmont 3A Conference play for coach Craig Shoemaker.

Canty earned first team all-area honors from the Greensboro News and Record. As a sophomore, he posted 17.5 points and 7.2 rebounds per contest.

Canty joins freshmen Neal and Tabarris Hamilton (Winston-Salem, N.C./Fishburne Military Academy) in the class, as well as juniors Rodney Milum (Houston, Texas/Midland College) and Jamaal Trice (Los Angeles, Calif./Midland College/Connecticut), who both signed with Appalachian last week.