

Twardzik (Finally) Becomes a Squire

By FRANK VEHORN

Virginian-Pilot Sports Writer

NORFOLK —It took Squires owner Earl Foreman and Dave Twardzik a week to get together but only a few minutes Friday to join forces.

Twardzik, the All-American from Old Dominion University, formally signed his contract with the Squires a week after he had announced his intentions.

"There were no problems," explained Twardzik. "Mr. Foreman is just a very busy man and it was a matter of getting an agreeable time between the two of us."

Twardzik, a 6-1 guard, is believed to have signed a two-year, no-cut contract worth \$65,000. He received a \$2,500 bonus and the promise of another \$2,500 should he make the ABA all-rookie team.

"We are very pleased to have Dave join us," said Foreman. "He will be working with our front office, under Johnny Kerr, this summer."

Twardzik was joined in the signing by ODU coach Sonny Allen. "Dave has a big adjustment to make in the pros," said Allen. "He has to make adjustment on defense and learn to play without the ball."

"At ODU he controlled the ball about 90 per cent of the time for us. But I'm sure he can make whatever adjustments are necessary."

Twardzik was equally as confident, but not overly so.

"Some people may feel I should perform as well in the pros as I did in college," said Twardzik. "But I'm not going to let that affect my game. I've seen some who felt the pressure and I'm just going to play the best I can."

Twardzik said he had been involved in fast-break offense since high school didn't expect many problems adjusting to the Squires' running game. "But there will be some tricks of the trade I'll have to pick up on defense," he noted.

In three varsity seasons at Old Dominion, Twardzik averaged 20.2 points and had a record 880 assists. He also set career records for the most points scored (1660) and most free throws made (548).

Individual season records included most free throws, best free throw percentage (.845) and most assists (332). Individual single game records were: most free throws (24), most free throws attempted (26) and most assists (20).



CHARLIE

SCOTT

Future

May Be

Set Soon

Scott Case Being Heard On June 5

NORFOLK—Squires owner Earl Foreman disclosed Friday the U.S. Ninth Circuit Appeals Court will hear the Charlie Scott case on June 5 in Los Angeles.

Scott jumped the Squires in March and signed a contract with the Phoenix Suns of the National Basketball Association.

An earlier request by the Squires for a preliminary injunction to bar Scott from playing for Phoenix while under contract with the Squires was denied by a lower court.

The Squires requested the appeals court hear the case as quickly as possible.

"We have received an exceedingly early date," said Foreman, "and that could indicate a decision before the start of next season."

The appeals court in the Fourth District was the one which ruled Billy Cunningham must honor a Carolina Cougars contract from which he tried to escape. The Ninth District court also held Rick Barry to his contract with the then Washington Caps three years ago.

Foreman said the appeals court could agree with the lower court and reject the request for

Frank Vehorn

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PK Power Struck Down Squires

The PK Man has struck again.

While most Virginians were fearful of what Rick Barry of John Roche would do to the Squires in the ABA playoff series, they should have been concerned with a fellow named Ted Owens who resides in Cape Charles.

No doubt you have heard of Mr. Owens. By his own count he has brought about 300 miracles, documented by lawyers and scientists, and has 92 per cent accuracy for achieving his avowed missions. He performs these feats, he claims by powers of the brain.

If you were at the Norfolk Sports Club some months ago perhaps you laughed at Owens. Now you, too, must share the blame for the Squires' defeat to New York.



Ted Owens

The real blame must belong to the Squires, though. Not only did the Squires spurn the assistance of the PK Man in the playoffs but they angered him by hiring a pretender, "The Great Kahuna," to put a whammy on the Nets.

So while most Squires fans were feeling confident on April 30, what with the Squires holding a 3-2 edge in the series and needing only one game to win, the PK Man set out to change the Squires fortunes.

In a letter to Squires vice president Johnny Keery, Owens typed:

"I am notifying you, on record, that I am going one-on-one with the Squires. My object will be . . . to make the Squires lose the playoffs. I like a challenge. This is a good challenge.

"Your Squires are red-hot and beating the stuffings out of the Nets. Let's see if I and my powers and my UFO intelligences can turn this around and beat the stuffings out of the Squires."

Great Kahuna Insulted Owens

Owens explained that a member of the Squires' staff had phoned him and wanted him to work for the team. But when Owens requested a fee the matter was dropped and "The Great Kahuna" brought in. "So I had to show what I could do, as a matter of pride," he said.

On May 1 the Nets beat the Squires to even the series at 3-3. Owens wrote to Kerr:

"Tonight I wiped out the Squires. I told you I would. Thursday night (for the deciding seventh

points on 12... a 31.5 average... games of this... ted 12 points... fore intermissi... consecutive sh... second period... in the game.

The Pacers, two minutes t... half, scored th... on a pair of fo... Freddie Lewis... Billy Keller's... seconds left... 52 lead at inter...

Indiana ther... side for the go... hitting the op... ly, while the M... efficient with... ing.

The Pacers the end of th... ahead 97-87 w... game and push... 11 points at 11... ves remaining

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The Virginian-Pilot

MORNING AND SUNDAY

ESTABLISHED 1865...NORFOLK AND PORTSMOUTH, VIRGINIA

TELEPHONE MADISON 5-1431
NORFOLK, VIRGINIA 23501
16 May 1972

Dear Mr. Owens,

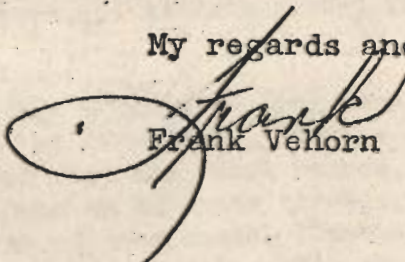
I thank you both for your letter and your gracious attitude toward the Squires.

There certainly was no need for you to have been concerned that I would have taken you to task for what you did to the Squires in the final two playoff games.

I, too, am of the opinion the Squires acted foolishly and certainly if they had researched your career and accomplishments they would not have pressed the point by bringing in the "great kahuna."

So while I was disappointed the Squires could not win, I certainly was able to appreciate your position. The fault belonged to the Squires, not to you.

My regards and best wishes



Frank Venhorn

P.S. - I also have no sympathy with the Norfolk Sports Club. There can be no excuse for the rudeness displayed when you spoke there. I regret I was not able to attend that meeting.

1, 1972

Mr. Frank Vehorn, Sports Columnist
Virginian-Pilot, Norfolk, Va.

Dear Mr. Vehorn:

Thank you for your personal letter. It is deeply appreciated.

The completely objective attitude, on the part of yourself and the Virginian-Pilot staff...toward my use of psi-force to defeat Norfolk's own team...has given me what amounts to a traumatic shock! Simply, I am not accustomed to encountering intelligence at a high level, encased in objectivity.

Well...

After much reflection, I've figured out...to myself, at least...what is fair.

This season...I personally was responsible for the Squires losing two games, and probably the championship...because they were the hottest team I'd seen, up until I came into the picture.

So next season...I will replace these two games that I took away...just for you, personally. And this is not a publicity stunt. We will keep this completely off the record if you wish. Here is how it will work, if it is your, and your paper's wish, to put my powers behind the Squires for two games.

When the playoffs begin, watch how the Squires are doing. If they get into trouble, get down 2-1, or 3-1...ring me up and tell me the key game you want me to attend. Follow that up with two tickets (I always take my son with me) and \$15 for transportation money. (The paper might like to back you up with the tickets and financing.) I'll go to that game (with you, if you like, sitting with Beau and I) and work the other team over...to make them miss, and help the Squires win. Then, if there is a second key game where I might be needed...I'll come running in the same fashion, if you say so.

I do not successfully control every game, always...when I work on pro basketball teams. However...both this season, as well as the season before...I was 100% successful in beating the Baltimore Bullets and the Squires (and off the record, not documented, I beat the Celtics, because of a personal difference with Bill Russell...to show him what I could do.) So for two years...I haven't missed in the games I've worked to control, in pro basketball.

Personally...to me, the Squires are a business, run very badly by their management...otherwise they would never have let Rick Barry, Charlie Scott and Julius Erving (who is fast approaching the genius of Earl the Pearl Monroe...if not there already) get away from them. If they'd hung on to these three...what team in the NBA or ABA could beat them? My guess...none of them could. However, to residents of Norfolk...they attach loyalty to "their" team (forgetting it's the owner's team). So, there are always different viewpoints...perhaps all with some validity.

So, Mr. Vehorn...tell your Virginian-Pilot staff...that strictly as a favor to you, and to them, for your-all fairness...I'll come running to replace those two lost key games next season...should you whistle. If you don't ~~blow~~ whistle, fine; I'll not sweat it...and all is well.

My regards and best wishes.....

-Owene (PK Man)