



Name: Elton Brand

Years: March 11, 1979-Present

Residence: Cortlandt Manor, New York

Brief Biography: Brand grew up in Cortlandt Manor and was a standout on Peekskill High School's varsity basketball team, leading the school to two state championships while averaging 40 pts and 20 rebounds per game. Success followed Brand to Duke University, where he was named the ACC Men's Basketball Player of the Year despite the Blue Devils's elimination in the Final Four.

The twenty-year-old Brand benefitted off his quick national stardom by leaving Duke after just a year and entering the 1999 NBA draft. After the Chicago Bulls selected him

with the number one pick, Brand averaged 20 points and 10 rebounds per game, sharing co-Rookie of the Year honors with Steve Francis.

After two seasons, the Bulls traded Brand to the Los Angeles Clippers. Brand has seen most of his professional success in Los Angeles, where he earned a spot on the All-Star team in 2002. Brand saw his most successful season in 2006, when he averaged a career high 24.7 points per game. Brand's resurgent game made him a top-tier MVP candidate. His leadership helped the Clippers upset a third-seed Denver Nuggets team in the first round of the NBA playoffs. Brand was named to the All-NBA Second Team and also took home the NBA Sportmanship Award.

Brand was forced to miss most of the 2007-2008 season after he ruptured his left Achilles tendon while lifting weights. After a brief comeback for the Clippers at the end of the season, Brand opted out of his contract and signed a five-year deal with the Philadelphia 76ers.

Despite the new surroundings, Brand's injury woes followed him to his new team. A mere month into the 2008-2009 campaign, Brand suffered a dislocated shoulder while fighting for a rebound. He later concluded a season-ending shoulder surgery was necessary.

In 2000, Brand founded the Elton Brand Foundation, an organization that provides support to worthy causes in Peekskill, Chicago, and Durham. Brand is also a founding member and current president of Gibraltar Films, a company engaged in film investment, acquisition, production, and distribution. Currently, Elton Brand is gearing up for a comeback with the 76ers in the 2009-2010 season.

Major Accomplishments: 1999 ACC Men's Basketball Player of the Year, 1999 Adolph Rupp Trophy, 1999 Oscar Robertson Trophy, 1999 Naismith College Player of the Year, 1999 John R. Wooden Award, 2000 NBA Co-Rookie of the Year (with Steve Francis), 2-time NBA All-Star (2002, 2006), 2006 All-NBA Second Team, 2006 NBA Sportmanship Award.

Resources: <http://www.answers.com/topic/elton-brand>,
<http://www.hoopsvibe.com/nba/nba-players/elton-brand-ar20885/bio.html>