

Photo by Anne Litz

left, and his father Andrea Foreman play a little one on one in Northside Park in

Like father like son for now

■ Maryland signee Milbourne shares talent with his father Andre Foreman, but the Georgia high schooler could be a bigger star

By Jay Hodgkins
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Playing for the small town Stephen Decatur Seahawks, Andre Foreman never got his shot at playing in the big time lights of major college basketball.

Despite leaving college as the all-time leading scorer in Division III history, he never got a look from the NBA either.

Being overlooked despite achieving and succeeding over and over again makes it that much sweeter, however, now that Foreman's son, Landon Milbourne, has become one of the top high school basketball players in the country.

Milbourne has also accepted a scholarship to play for the Maryland Terrapins starting in 2006.

"I am happy and proud," Fore-

man said about his son's ascension as a big-time nationally recognized basketball player. "It's like he gets to fulfill the dreams I couldn't do."

The rising senior who lives and plays his high school ball in Roswell, Ga., stands a little bit taller than his father — 6-feet 7-inches compared with Foreman's 6-feet 6 inches — and is not quite as filled out physically.

But there is absolutely no comparison when it comes to the attention the two received as basketball players.

Milbourne received multiple scholarship offers from Division I schools all over the country and is ranked the No. 110 basketball player in the country by rivals.com. Foreman might not have ranked in the top 1,000 players by recruiting services when

he graduated from Decatur in 1988.

Despite the different routes it appears their lives in basketball may take, a recent visit by Milbourne to see his father, who still lives in Berlin, showed the two are much the same — quiet, polite and humble — and are great friends as much as anything else.

Working separately at the recent AAU Ocean City Classic basketball tournament, Foreman and Milbourne both said they would beat the other in a game of one-on-one basketball, both with the same mischievous smile on their face.

While sitting together, Foreman said he'd win more games out of 10, but "in a couple of years he'll be beating me consistently."

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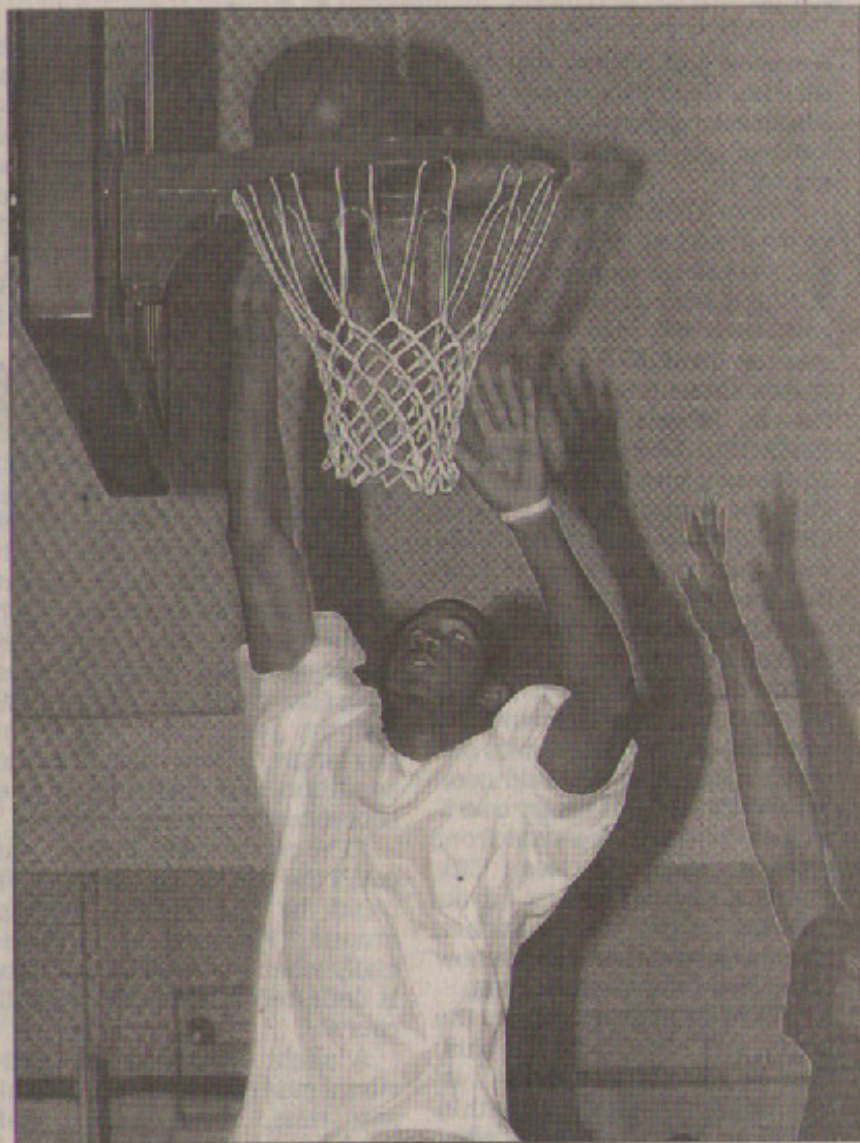


Photo by Anne Litz

Landon Millborne 18 and his father Andrea Foreman play a little one on one in Northside Park in Ocean City, Saturday.

MILBOURNE: Terrapins recruit has father's game

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which of course caused Milbourne to smile and silently shake his head 'no' behind his dad because he "can do it right now."

Foreman admits his son already has a better inside game. Milbourne relinquishes the fact that his dad has a better outside jump shot.

The playful relationship is born from being two great competitors on the basketball court. Foreman was the Player of the Year in Finland's professional basketball league last year while Milbourne is considered one of the best small forwards in the country.

However, the two appreciate each other and their relationship.

Despite Foreman being away in Finland for half of the year and living in Georgia, Milbourne said, "I still feel like home is up here. Maryland is close to home. I always wanted to go to Maryland. It was always my dream because I grew up here."

Milbourne learned from his father at an early age how to

work for his dream, when the now 35-year-old Foreman was forced to travel throughout Europe and Asia to play basketball during Milbourne's childhood — despite his fathers' success at high levels everywhere he went.

"I had to go hard on Landon to instill in him how to avoid what I went through," Foreman said.

Now the still-growing 17-year-old who beat his dad for the first time at the age of 15 has grown with the skills of his father and is prepared to surpass him.

Asked about the chance that he and his son could both be playing professionally in a couple of years, Foreman smiled.

"He'll be playing in a different league from the one I'll be playing in," he said.

That would be the perfect ending for a father who never complains about being passed over, but whose game to this day proves he was.

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