

MAY 4, 2010, 4:22 PM

CU hoops signee boasts impressive bloodlines

By **TOM KENSLER** |  No Comments

During this time of year I pay particular interest to bloodlines. It has nothing to do with the Kentucky Derby.

It's always interesting to see whether college basketball signees (and recruits in other sports, as well) come from athletic stock. Did their parents play hoops? What about their siblings?

There are no guarantees that family success will be passed down and around. But anytime I read the bio of a recruit and see a mention of good bloodlines, I take that as a good sign.

In that regard, I like the chances of 6-foot-7, 190-pound Andre Roberson, who on Monday officially became the first signee of new Colorado men's basketball coach Tad Boyle.

Roberson, who picked CU over Penn State, earned district player of the year honors as a senior at Converse (Texas) Wagner in suburban San Antonio this past season after averaging 15 points and 12 rebounds. He certainly comes from an athletic family. Andre's father, John Roberson, played basketball at New Mexico State before embarking on an overseas pro career that lasted a dozen years. Andre's mother, Lisa, played volleyball at NMSU.

There's more. One sister, Ashlee Roberson, completed her basketball career in March by earning honorable-mention all-Big 12 honors at Texas Tech. She averaged 12.2 points as a senior. A younger sister, Amber, is a two-year letter winner in volleyball at Texas. She will be a junior next fall.

We'll see how far Roberson's bloodlines take him. But consider that CU's top two players have a strong lineage. Cory Higgins' father, Rod Higgins, played 13 seasons in the NBA (1982-95) and is general manager of the Charlotte Bobcats. Alec Burks' father, Steve Burks, played guard for the University of Washington in the late 1970s and early 1980s.

Roberson is considered a late bloomer – which is mostly what's available in the spring because most bluechippers sign in November – and Boyle raves about the Texan's potential.

And Roberson's strong family ties already have benefitted Colorado. Andre said he had been torn between Colorado and Penn State but decided on the Buffs because his parents would get to see him play more often, with CU being in the Big 12 Conference.

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San Antonio new CU recruiting area for hoops?

By **TOM KENSLE** |  No Comments

It should not have come as a surprise that new Colorado men's basketball coach Tad Boyle reached into the Lone Star State for his first CU signing.

Boyle obviously knows his way around San Antonio and other cities in Texas, which coaches say is an underrated and sometimes underappreciated hotbed for high school hoops.

This week, Boyle landed 6-foot-7 Andre Roberson on Converse (Texas) Wagner High in suburban San Antonio. In November as Northern Colorado's coach, Boyle's top signee for the Bears was Paul Garnica of San Antonio Lee. All Garnica did during his prep career was become the all-time leading scorer (3,012 points) for San Antonio's city high schools.

Figure on Boyle racking up a lot of frequent flyer miles during recruiting trips to Texas.

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