

## Heron overpowers foes in Pangos AA Camp opener

Written on May 30, 2015 by [Frank Burlison](#)



ARSON, Ca. – The 13<sup>th</sup> version of the Pangos All-American Camp tipped off Friday night at Al State Dominguez Hills.

oughly 100 players were on hand, with some expected attendees unable to play because of illness or injury and some others expected to show up on Saturday morning.

The players are spread over 12 teams, split between “ACC” and “Pac 12” school names.

Of the six games played Friday night, I zeroed in on the two played on Court 1, beginning with the “ACC” clash between “Duke” and “Georgia Tech”:

**\*Mustapha Heron** (Class of 2016/Waterbury, CT, Sacred Heart) is a 6-foot-5 left hander with the body making him look like one of those “big” modern National Football League receivers, a la **Larry Fitzgerald**, who catch 80-plus footballs per season.

He missed all three of his shots behind the arc but had few other problems doing whatever he wanted, with 26 points, in Duke’s 66-55 win.

Not only was he making his way to the basket with absurd regularity, he also executed a nice side pick-and-roll bounce pass to **Cameron McGriff** (2016/Grand Prairie, TX, South) for a big dunk.

Also impressing for Duke were 6-9 **Nate Morris** (2016/Lancaster, TX, Lancaster) and point guard **Spencer Freedman** (2018/Santa Monica, CA, Santa Monica).

Morris had five buckets, three by way of jump shots (one, after a couple of dribbles, from the left wing; one after an offensive rebound, on a turn-around from the right baseline; and another, from the foul line, after a penetration pass from Freedman).

The left handed Freedman hit a couple of 3s, and had at least three passes that led directly to baskets (although, in the “official” statistics, he wasn’t credited with an assist).

For Georgia Tech, three Southern California-based players from the Class of 2016 had some impressive moments.

Guard **Leland Green** (Redondo Beach Redondo) scored 11 points, mostly via some hi-speed and change-of-pace drives past defenders and was credited with three assists.

**Michael Cage Jr.** (Santa Ana Mater Dei) and **T.J. Leaf** (El Cajon Foothills Christian), both 6-9, combined for 17 points and seven rebounds, with Cage blocking two shots.

Leaf had one of the more eye-catching sequences of the night, snatching a defensive rebound, pushing the ball quickly and rising up and knocking down a 3.

## Meet Frank

Frank Burlison is a well-regarded basketball writer who was inducted into the U.S. Basketball Writers Association Hall of Fame in 2005. His opinions on the potential of high school and college players are widely respected and sought by college coaches and NBA scouts, personnel directors and general managers from coast to coast. Oh, yes – he can offer plenty of thoughts on movies, television and pop music. Yes, he can rank those, too. Hint: He’s a big The Godfather, Larry Sanders, The Wire and The Beatles loyalist.



To learn more about Frank’s scouting services, [click here](#).

## Endorsements

“I’ve known Frank since he was a student at Long Beach State and no writer ever worked harder at studying and understanding basketball. When I was coaching I always put more stock into what he said about (high school) players than anyone I knew. As far as I’m concerned, he’s the best there is at evaluating the potential of basketball players.”

**Lute Olson, Hall of Fame and NCAA Championship Winning Coach**

“I have known Frank for 15 years and there is no one outside of those in the Clippers’ organization that I trust more than Frank when it comes to player evaluations.”

**Neil Olshey, Portland Trail Blazers’ General Manager**

“Frank Burlison has always been a proponent of my talent and, even more so, of my potential – far before it was evident to most. Even as a smaller and determined player who was being overlooked by most high-major colleges and national scouting services, Frank always served as a friendly voice who got me into the door to most events to help me prove my talents.”

**Russell Westbrook, the No. 4 overall selection in the 2008 NBA Draft out of UCLA and an all-star guard for the Oklahoma City Thunder**

To see what other people in basketball are saying about Frank, [click here](#).

\*In the Pac 12 game I watched, “Cal” edged “Stanford”, 59-58.

Stanford got 13 points apiece from guards **Christian Popoola Jr.** (2017/Highland, UT, Lone Peak) and **Cassius Stanley** (2019/Encino, CA).

Popoola struggled with his jump shot (he missed 10 of 13 shots) but was credited with three assists and may have actually had more than that.

Stanley, one of the more impressive vertical athletes in the camp, used that leaping ability to fly over or around defenders for well-above-the-rim layups. He may attend Harvard-Westlake (Studio City in Southern California) as a freshman.

And their teammate, 6-6 **Terrence Ferguson** (2016/Dallas Prime Prep), may be the biggest jumper in the camp.

He had a couple of you’ve-got-to-be-kidding-me slams and also knocked in a deep, deep 3.

Six-six **Curtis Hollis** (2016/Mansfield, TX, Summit), like Heron in the game before, seemed to fly to the glass with the greatest of ease, too, while scoring 23 points via bangs and high-flying layups.

**Xavier Tillman** (2017/Grand Rapids, MI, Forest Hills Central), at 6-7 and about 240 pounds or so, came to the camp with the reputation of being one of the best power forward prospects in his national class and he looked the part Friday night for Stanford with nine points and four rebounds (he had more than that).

Here are some of the (statistical) performances from players in games I didn’t watch last night:

\***Andre Rafus** (6-8/2017/Newark, NJ, St. Benedict’s) and **Isaiah Washington** (6-0/2017/New York St. Raymond’s) of “North Carolina State” went for 24 points (Rafus, including five 3s) and seven points and five assists (Washington).

\***Mario Kegler** (6-7/2016/Arlington, FL, Country Day) had 21 points and six rebounds for “Washington”.

\***Billy Preston** (6-9/2017/Dallas Prime Prep) was credited with 11 points, four rebounds and three assists for “USC”.

\*East Coast shooting guards **Myles Powell** (2016/Trenton, NJ, Catholic), **Rawle Alkins** (2016/New York Christ the King) and **Keith Williams** (2017/Brooklyn Bishop Loughlin) combined for 49 points of the 69 “UCLA” scored in its 72-69 loss to “Arizona”.

\*Six-ten **Taurean Thompson** (2016/Jersey City St. Anthony) racked up the most impressive statistical performance of any post Friday night for Arizona: 23 points (11 of 13 from the field) and 10 rebounds.

Camp games action resumes at 3 o’clock Saturday afternoon.



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