

MR.

Vast talent has made Detroit Redford's Corperryale Harris this year's Mr. Basketball. The next question: Is he still ...

MICHIGAN?

BY VINCE ELLIS | FREE PRESS SPORTS WRITER

Corperryale Harris knew it was coming.

He had just picked up the Hal Schram Mr. Basketball Award, given annually to the state's best senior, but the first question asked of him was about Tommy Amaker, who was fired Saturday as Michigan's basketball coach.

"I'm going to wait and see who they hire," said Harris, the 27th winner of the prestigious award, selected by the Basketball Coaches Association of Michigan in conjunction with the Free Press. "But my heart is still with Michigan."

Harris, a 6-5 guard from Detroit Redford, signed a National Letter of Intent to attend Michigan but could ask the university for a release from his commitment. If Michigan were to deny the request, Harris could transfer but then would have to sit out a season.

Saturday was bittersweet for Harris. His coach, Ken Flowers, called him in the early afternoon to let him know he would be named Mr. Basketball.

Thirty minutes later Amaker called Harris.

"His voice sounded regular... he first was calling to congratulate me on my game," Harris said of Amaker, who attended Redford's

regional final win over Taylor Truman on Friday. "I told him I won Mr. Basketball and he was excited again.

"Then he told me he was fired. I was shocked because he had such a good recruiting class coming in."

The class includes 6-5 guard Alex Legion of Oak Hill (Va.) Academy and 6-0 guard Kelvin Grady of East Grand Rapids. Amaker had some advice for Harris.

"He told me 'Michigan is still Michigan,'" Harris said. "It's still a good school."

As for the honor, when Flowers first saw Harris as a 5-7 freshman, he didn't think he was looking at a

See MR. BASKETBALL, 10D

ABOUT MR. BASKETBALL

What's in a name?

So how did Corperryale (Manny) Harris get his first name?

The "Cor" part comes from a cousin named Corine.

The "perry" part comes from an uncle named Perry.

The "ale" part comes from his brothers and sisters, all of whom have L's in their names.

Big sister Janelle, by the way, plays for Marquette, which was playing Oklahoma in Austin, Texas, in the NCAA women's tournament — and that's where his parents, James Carter and Merrick Carter-Harris, were Monday.

So where did the name Manny come from?

He was a character in the movie "Scarface."

The voting

Results of the 27th annual Hal Schram Mr. Basketball Award, given by the Basketball Coaches Association of Michigan, in conjunction with the Detroit Free Press. Only BCAM members are permitted to vote. Points awarded on a 5-3-1 basis.

PLAYER	SCHOOL	PTS
1. Corperryale Harris	Detroit Redford	924
2. Dar Tucker	Saginaw Arthur Hill	900
3. Kalin Lucas	Orchard Lake St. Mary's	632
4. Durrell Summers	Redford Covenant	426
5. Laval Lucas-Perry	Flint Powers	306

MR. BASKETBALL | Harris grows into Michigan's best

From Page 1D

future Mr. Basketball.

His big brother, Alfonzo Harris, 24, didn't think so either.

"It's unexplainable," said Alfonzo, who was on hand Monday to see his little brother accept the award. "I still see him as that little guy running around getting on my nerves."

But by the time Harris — whose nickname is Manny — was a sophomore, he had grown into a 6-2 guard. That year Redford won the first of three consecutive Detroit Public School League titles.

"That year... is when he started to come into his own," Flowers said. "He's mature, he understands what the team needs."

Harris never stopped working on his game.

"He's always in the gym," Flowers said. "Last year they said he couldn't shoot the jump shot. Now he has a consistent shot."

Harris used that shot and his athleticism to average nearly 34 points and 12 rebounds. He is shooting 42% from the field and 82% from the free-throw line.

Harris is the first PSL player to win the award since Michigan senior Dion Harris, another Redford standout, won it in 2003.

Some observers felt Saginaw Arthur Hill's Dar Tucker had the upper hand in Mr. Bas-



DAVID P. GILKEY/Detroit Free Press

Corperryale Harris answers questions after receiving the Mr. Basketball Award on Monday.

ketball voting because his team won the Class A state title last season, but Harris was undaunted.

"If we were winning and I put up some good numbers, I figured I would have a chance," Harris said.

His team has been winning, and at 5 p.m. today Redford plays Osborn in the Class A state quarterfinals at Detroit Mercy's Calihan Hall.

Harris topped Tucker, Kalin Lucas (Orchard Lake St. Mary's), Laval Lucas-Perry (Flint Powers) and Durrell Summers (Redford Covenant) for the honor. Harris won with 924 points to Tucker's 900 — the closest vote since 1996.

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Former Mr. Basketball winners

Year	Player	High school	College
2006	David Kool	Grand Rapids South Christian	Western Michigan
2005	Wilson Chandler	Benton Harbor	DePaul
2004	Drew Neitzel	Wyoming Park	Michigan State
2003	Dion Harris	Detroit Redford	Michigan
2002	Paul Davis	Rochester	Michigan State
2001	Kelvin Torbert	Flint Northwestern	Michigan State
2000	Marcus Taylor	Lansing Waverly	Michigan State
1999	Jason Richardson	Saginaw Arthur Hill	Michigan State
1998	Dane Fife	Clarkston	Indiana
1997	Shane Battler	Birmingham Detroit Country Day	Duke
1996	Winfred Walton	Detroit Pershing	Syracuse, Fresno State
1995	Robert Traylor	Detroit Murray-Wright	Michigan
1994	Willie Mitchell	Detroit Pershing	Michigan, UAB
1993	Jon Garavaglia	Southgate Aquinas	Michigan State
1992	Kenyon Murray	Battle Creek Central	Iowa
1991	Chris Webber	Birmingham Detroit Country Day	Michigan
1990	Anthony Miller	Benton Harbor	Michigan State
1989	Michael Talley	Detroit Cooley	Michigan
1988	Matt Steigenga	Grand Rapids South Christian	Michigan State
1987	Mark Macon	Saginaw Buena Vista	Temple
1986	Terry Mills	Romulus	Michigan
1985	Glen Rice	Flint Northwestern	Michigan
1984	Demetreus Gore	Detroit Chadsey	Pittsburgh
1983	Antoine Joubert	Detroit Southwestern	Michigan
1982	Robert Henderson	Lansing Eastern	Michigan
1981	Sam Vincent	Lansing Eastern	Michigan State



**MR BASKETBALL
CORPERRYALE
HARRIS
DETROIT REDFORD**



2006-07 MR BASKETBALL BALLOTING

CORPERRYALE HARRIS * Detroit Redford	924
DAR TUCKER * Saginaw Arthur Hill	900
KALIN LUCAS * Orchard Lake St Mary	632
DURRELL SUMMERS * Detroit Covenant	426
LEON FREEMAN * Belleville	306