

House finds new home on Cartoon Network

Ex-ASU standout House - and his son- to be featured on TV show

By Jeff Metcalfe
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Eddie House is old enough to remember "Scooby-Doo Meets the Harlem Globetrotters."

Now he's famous enough to warrant his own show on the Cartoon Network, the TV home of Scooby-Doo.

House, still Arizona State's basketball career scoring leader and going into his 10th NBA season, is happily playing a supporting role to his 7-year-old son **Jaelen** in "My Dad's a Pro."

"I know I would have killed to be at that age and been on TV," House said. "I feel happy for him. I really don't want the focus to be on me. I just happen to be his dad. We can look back at it when he's much older and see how they captured that moment in time in our life. We'll have that forever."

House is best known from his ASU days (1996-2000) for the cartoonish 61 points he put up as a senior in a double-overtime game at California. **Curly Neal** didn't do that much damage vs. a **Shaggy/Velma** double-team.

Unlike the 'Trotters, the Houses are not animated in "My Dad's a Pro." It's a live-action series of 10 four-minute episodes that are to begin airing in November.

Half of the episodes were shot during House's recently completed second season with the Boston Celtics, for whom Jaelen is a ball boy. The rest are from the off-season - including Jaelen training with former Suns player **Eddie Johnson** and with ASU basketball coach **Herb Sendek**.

"We shot a 'Cribs' episode where Jaelen was showing off the house (in Scottsdale) and all the cool cars and pool," said Executive Producer **Brian Nashel** of Left/Right, a New York-based company that has created shows for VH1, MTV, History Channel, TV Land, style and truTV. There's no advance word on what Jaelen was doing to his 2-year-old twin brothers.



Eddie House (left) and his son, Jaelen (center), talk with ASU basketball coach Herb Sendek while filming a segment for their new Cartoon Network show called "My Dad is a Pro." Filming took place at ASU's Weatherup Center.

Nashel and his crew were at ASU's Weatherup Center - "Where was this when I was here?" wondered House of the spectacular new practice facility - last week while Sendek put Jaelen through dribbling and layup drills. They worked extra on dribbling between the legs, going front to back to protect the ball.

"He put me through some hard workouts," said Jaelen, who talked more when questions were directed at his dad. He plays on a 12-under team that forced him to keep up.

"You see how he was having problems going through the legs," Eddie said. "They (Jaelen's older teammates) do that easy. It's a good learning experience for him to watch them and see what he has to do to get to that level, to keep pushing himself if he wants to do it. Whatever he wants to do, he has my full support."

Sendek, ever the teacher, lit up while working with Jaelen, although he takes qualified exception to the show's premise.

"I reminded Jaelen that so many people identify with his dad as a pro basketball player, but more importantly he's Jaelen's dad," Sendek said. "He's no more his job than any of the rest of us are. It's important to have that separation and not overidentify with his dad as a pro basketball player."

Sendek, son of a basketball coach, sees Jaelen's potential.

"A lot of young folks his age couldn't even get the ball up to the basket."

Sendek also relates to the fun he's having with Eddie.

"My best days in basketball were when I was Jaelen's age with the T-shirt down below my knees. When I was growing up, some of the best people on Earth were coaches. They remembered your name; they cared about you."

As filming nears an end, Sendek frees Jaelen from drills for the fun part: shooting.

"Check his form, Eddie," Sendek said.

"That's in his genes," joked House, who shot a Celtics-record 44 percent from 3-point range this past season, and whose wife, **Charlsie**, is Atlanta Hawks guard **Mike Bibby's** sister. "If he can't do anything else, at least be able to shoot."

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