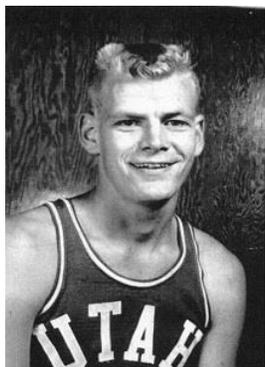
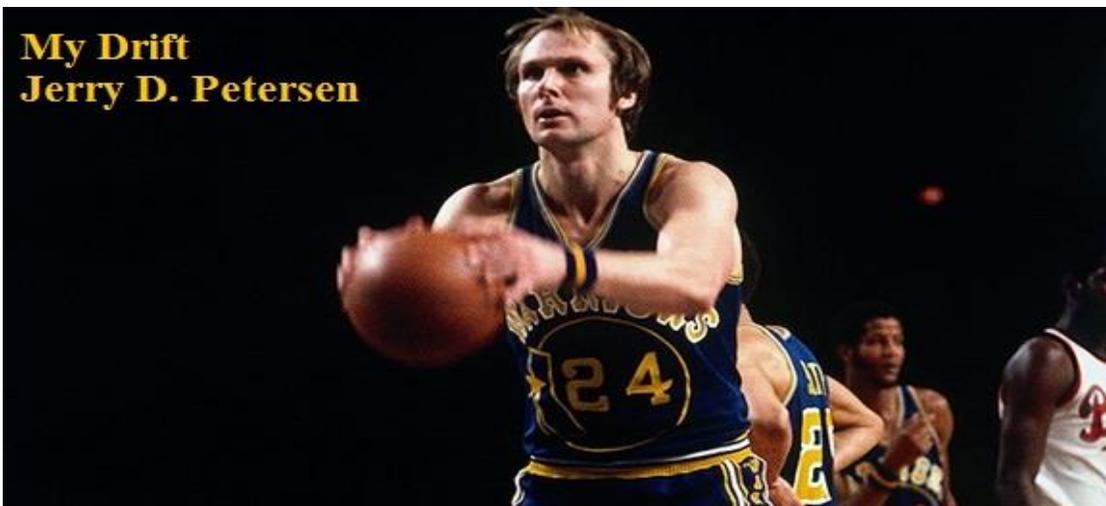


**My Drift
Jerry D. Petersen**



Rick Barry

5 Apr 2017

254-2017-10

I'm writing this article the week before the 2017 NCAA Men's Basketball Final Four. It should be an exciting weekend with all three Final Four games taking place in Glendale, Ariz., at University of Phoenix Stadium.

Here's the schedule for the Final Four games:

Semifinals (Saturday, April 1)

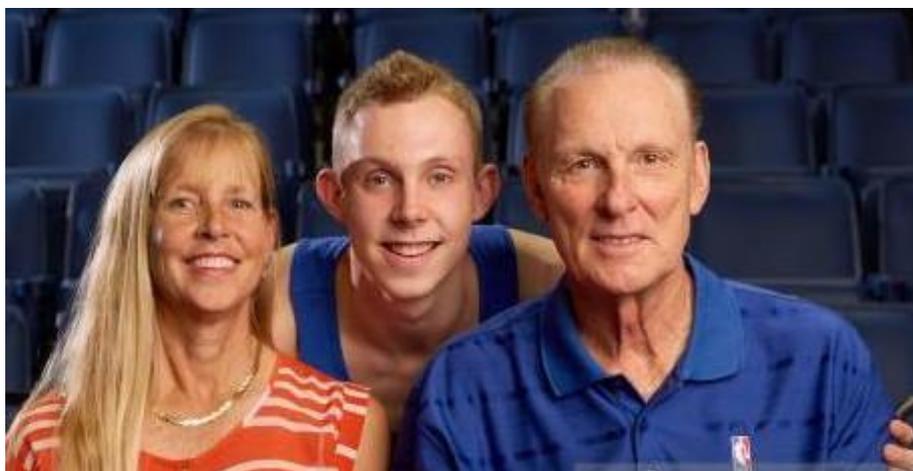
South Carolina vs. Gonzaga

Oregon vs. North Carolina

National championship (Monday, April 3)

Semifinal winners

On Sunday, 26 March, I was watching the South Carolina – Florida game on TV and they showed Rick Barry and his wife Lynn in the audience. They said he was there to watch his son Canyon, who plays for Florida. Well, I didn't know he had a fifth son and I also thought Rick Barry was too old to have a son in college. He is almost as old as me and my youngest son finished college in the mid-1990s. More about Canyon later but this sparked my interest in Rick Barry's career and his personal life.



Lynn, Canyon, and Rick Barry

Here is Rick Barry's BIO

Full Name: Richard Francis Dennis Barry III
Born: 3/28/44 in Elizabeth, N.J.
High School: Roselle Park (N.J.)
College: Miami (Fla.)
Drafted: San Francisco Warriors, 1965
Height/Weight: 6 foot 7 inches - 220 lbs.
Honors: Elected to Basketball Hall of Fame (1987);
NBA champion (1975);
NBA Finals MVP (1975);
All-NBA First Team (1966, '67, '74, '75, '76);
All-NBA Second Team (1973);
Rookie of the Year (1966);
Eight-time All-Star;
All-Star MVP (1967);
One of 50 Greatest Players in NBA History.

Hall of Fame forward Rick Barry is the only player ever to lead the NCAA, NBA, and ABA in scoring. His name appears near the top of every all-time offensive list. He scored more than 25,000 points in his professional career and in four different seasons averaged more than 30 points. He was named to 12 All-Star teams, four All-NBA First Teams, and five All-ABA First Teams. Barry was a nearly unstoppable offensive juggernaut, a passionate competitor with an untempered desire to win. Occasionally his fiery competitiveness would grate on rivals -- and teammates, too.

Mike Dunleavy, a teammate and friend of the tempestuous Barry, told the Chicago Tribune, "You could send him to the U.N., and he'd start World War III."

"I was not an easy person to get along with," Barry admitted in the same article. "I didn't have a lot of tact."

However, he did have remarkable talent. He led an otherwise ordinary Golden State club to the NBA Championship in 1975, captaining the team and averaging 30.6 points a game, second in the league.

When he left the game, Barry was sixth on the NBA-ABA all-time scoring list with 25,279 points. And although his defense was sometimes criticized for being less than intense, his 1,104 career steals ranked 10th. He was a deadly free-throw shooter, using an odd, outdated underhand style. At the time of his retirement, Barry's .900 career free-throw percentage was the best in NBA history. In one season, 1978-79, he missed only 9 free-throw attempts.



Born the son of a coach in Elizabeth, New Jersey, Barry attended Roselle Park High School and then accepted a scholarship to play for the University of Miami. In 1964-65, his senior season, he was the NCAA Division I scoring champion with 37.4 points per game.



Barry started his pro career with the San Francisco Warriors, who selected him in the first round of the 1965 NBA Draft. He scored 25.7 points per game (fourth in the league), made the All-Star Team, was named NBA Rookie of the Year and earned a berth on the All-NBA First Team.

In his second season, 1966-67, Barry hit for a career-high 2,775 points and led the league in scoring with an average of 35.6 points (5 points better than runner-up Oscar Robertson). Only Wilt Chamberlain and Elgin Baylor had previously averaged more, and only Michael Jordan did better over the next quarter century.

On Dec. 6, 1966, against the New York Knicks, Barry set an NBA record for most free throws made in one quarter when he canned 14, a record later matched by others. He made the second appearance of his eight NBA All-Star selections and won the game's MVP Award in 1967 after pouring in 38 points. At season's end, Barry earned a second consecutive selection to the All-NBA First Team.

The Warriors won the Western Division that year and took Chamberlain's great Philadelphia 76ers team to six games in the NBA Finals before losing. Barry matched Chamberlain's playoff record set five-years earlier by launching 48 shots in Game 3. He made 22 of them, to share the all-time Finals record with Baylor. His 55 points in the game are the second-highest total in NBA Finals history, tied later by Jordan in 1993 and trailing only Baylor's 61 for the Lakers in 1962. Barry also scored 43 and 44 points in two other games of the series. His 40.8 scoring average for the series was an NBA Finals record until Jordan scored 41.0 per game in the 1993 championship series.

After two seasons in San Francisco, which produced a league scoring title and two All-NBA First Team selections, Barry attempted to jump leagues and signed with the Oakland Oaks of the ABA. A court dispute over his obligation to the Warriors sidelined Barry for the entire 1967-68 season, but he did join the Oaks for the 1968-69 campaign. The ensuing public fuss did not reflect well on Barry. His league-jumping was perceived by fans as being driven by greed, even though other players were also taking advantage of the opportunities provided by the upstart ABA.



Barry made an immediate impact on the fledgling league, leading the Oaks to the ABA Championship in 1969 and finishing second to Indiana's Mel Daniels for the ABA Most Valuable Player Award. Although a knee injury limited him to 35 games, Barry averaged 34.0 points to become the first player to win scoring titles in both leagues. At season's end, Hannum was named ABA Coach of the Year.

Before the start of the 1969-70 season, the Oakland team announced plans to move to Washington and change its name to the Capitols. Barry balked. He was quoted in the Los Angeles Times: "If I wanted to go to Washington, I'd run for President."

According to Barry, the move was about more than money. San Francisco had offered equal compensation, but the Oakland franchise had hired Bruce Hale as its head coach. Hale was not only Barry's former head coach at Miami, but also his father-in-law. Ironically, by the time Barry was cleared to play for Oakland, Hale had departed and Alex Hannum had taken the coaching reins.

Instead, he tried to re-cross the Bay to the Warriors and the NBA. Once again, he wound up in court, where he was ordered to honor his ABA contract. After one season in Washington, the Caps moved again, to become the Virginia Squires. Barry made some comments to sportswriters about Virginians ("I don't want my son coming home saying 'Howdy, y'all'"), and he was soon dealt to the New York Nets. Somehow, the tumult settled down, and he averaged 29.4 and 31.5 points in two seasons with the Nets.



Barry's four seasons in the ABA produced four All-Star selections, a championship, and an ABA scoring title. But his seven seasons in professional basketball had landed him in two leagues -- with three different teams in four different cities -- and in court twice. "If I had to do it over again," Barry said, "I'd wait for some other fool to do it."

The saga wasn't over. Although he had become comfortable with the Nets of the ABA, a court decision forced Barry to return to the NBA's Golden State Warriors for the 1972-73 season. Upon his return to the NBA, he was a different, better player. For one thing, he had bulked up by about 20 pounds so that he could muscle with the NBA's big boys when he had to. He also had developed other skills beyond scoring.

Barry explained his development as an unexpected benefit of playing in the ABA, where the skill level was beneath that of the senior league. He had once distressed ABA officials when, with hyperbolic candor, he suggested that only two ABA players had the skills to play in the NBA. (He graciously excluded himself.) Barry's assessment was typically blunt, and, furthermore, it was wrong, since many ABA stars were able to flourish after the leagues merged. But his general point was well taken: he did not have much of a supporting cast. Because he had to do it all to win in the ABA, he had been forced to develop his ballhandling and defensive talents.

After his return to the NBA, Barry experienced the longest period of stability in his career. He played six more seasons with the Warriors, and they made the playoffs four times. In 1972-73, he scored 22.3 points per game. He also earned the first of six NBA free-throw percentage titles. A perennial All-Star, he began a string of six more midseason appearances and nabbed the first of three consecutive All-NBA First Team selections, to go with the two honors he had won in 1966 and 1967.



Barry boosted his scoring average to 25.1 points per game in 1973-74. He had his greatest scoring night on March 26, 1974 against the Portland Trail Blazers. In the first half he was merely hot, with 19 points. In the second half, however, he lit the Blazers up, hitting 21 field goals for 45 points. Barry's 64-point total was his career high and made him, at the time, only the third player to go over 63 (Chamberlain had done it 15 times, Baylor twice), although three other players would reach the same level over the next two decades.

So, to nobody's surprise, he could score. But Barry had added another dangerous dimension to his game. When the Rick Barry of old got the ball in his hands, he would shoot it. The new Rick Barry was passing, too. He ranked among the NBA's top 10 in assists with 6.1 per game.

Barry had a career year in 1974-75. He led the Warriors to the NBA title, averaged 30.6 points (second to the Buffalo Braves' Bob McAdoo), and led the league in free-throw percentage (.904) and steals (2.85 per game). He also ranked sixth in the NBA in assists with 6.2 per game, the only forward to make the top 10.

Golden State's 1974-75 roster included NBA Rookie of the Year Keith Wilkes (known later as Jamaal Wilkes), a smooth, unselfish, sure-handed small forward. The rest of the squad was a collection of hardworking but unspectacular role players. Barry led the team to a 48-34 regular-season record. Coach Al Attles used a 10-man rotation and pressure defense to keep opponents off balance. The Warriors led the league in scoring, with 108.5 points per game. Barry led the squad in scoring, and Wilkes was No. 2 with 14.2 points per game. Nine players logged more than 1,000 minutes and eight averaged better than 7.6 points.



In the 1975 NBA Finals, the Warriors astonished the basketball world by sweeping the Washington Bullets in four games. Because nobody had expected the Warriors to go so deep into the playoffs, the arena in Oakland had been booked for another event. The championship games were moved to the Cow Palace in San Francisco.

Barry was named NBA Finals MVP and began to attract increasing admiration for his play. During that era, Barry and Julius Erving were the yardsticks by which all forwards were measured. Barry was putting up some incredible numbers. The only member of an NBA championship team to have posted a higher scoring average was Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, who poured in 31.7 points per game for the Milwaukee Bucks in 1971. Those marks held up until Jordan hit 31.5 points per game in 1991 and then 32.6 points per game in 1993 for the Chicago Bulls.

But --and there was always that "but" -- Barry's behavior reflected the nature of a perfectionist, and an outspoken one at that. He played the game with a look of mild disdain (sometimes not so mild) that suggested his surroundings were beneath him. He never held his tongue. He was an equal-opportunity critic: teammate, opponent, referee, coach, or bystander might be the object of his choler. Not surprisingly, teammates and opponents alike often resented his blunt criticism.

Basically, Rick Barry was a jerk!!

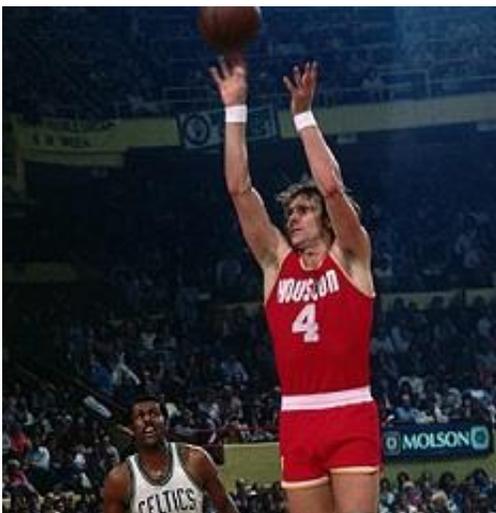
In subsequent years, some NBA players have cultivated a villainous image as part of their court persona. The Detroit Pistons' Bill Laimbeer, for example, played rough, complained to referees and was booed by fans around the league in the 1980s. But that seemed, at least partly, to be an act. Rick Barry did all the same things, but for him they weren't theater, just a natural result of his single-minded desire to succeed. Teammate Clifford Ray diplomatically told Sports Illustrated, "Rick may not be the kind of guy to say please, but he's in it to win."

When it came time to dole out the 1974-75 postseason honors, Barry was snubbed, despite having had a great year. He finished third in the NBA MVP balloting, behind the winner, McAdoo and Boston's Dave Cowens.

"There's no doubt Rick's on-court demeanor hurt his image," said Butch Beard, point guard on the 1975 Warriors, to HOOP magazine in 1990.

The next season, 1975-76, the Warriors won 59 games, tops in the league, but fell to Phoenix in seven games in the Western Conference Finals. With the Warriors' young players developing both skills and confidence, Barry shouldered less of the scoring burden. He averaged 21.0 points while distributing 496 assists.

In 1976-77, Barry averaged 21.8 points, as the Warriors fell off to 46-36 and lost in the conference semifinals. The next season he averaged 23.1 points, a single tick below his career average of 23.2. Golden State, despite a winning record, finished out of the playoffs in the resurgent Pacific Division.



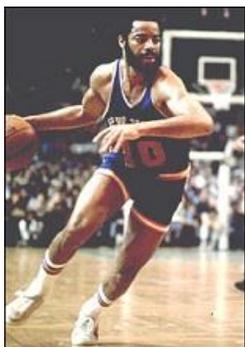
When his contract with Golden State expired in 1978, Barry shopped his talent around the league and signed with the Houston Rockets, where he played the final two seasons of his illustrious career. With the Rockets in 1978-79 his role changed. Houston had Moses Malone, Calvin Murphy and Rudy Tomjanovich to do the scoring, so Barry was used as a passing forward. He dished out a career-high 502 assists (6.3 apg), while his scoring average fell from 23.1 to 13.5 points per game. The next season his productivity dropped even further, to 12.0 points per game.

Although his impact was diminished, Barry made the most of his opportunities. He led the league in free-throw percentage in both seasons, at .947 in 1978-79 and .935 in 1979-80, closing out his career with three consecutive free-throw crowns. Including his ABA years, Barry claimed eight free-throw percentage titles in the 1970s. Only Ernie DiGregorio, who bested him twice, stood between Barry and a solid decade of charity-stripe dominance.

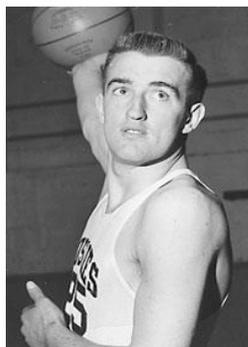
Barry retired after the 1979-80 season. In 14 seasons of professional basketball (10 in the NBA), he had played in more than 1,000 games, never missing more than four NBA games in a row until his final year. He averaged 23.2 points in the NBA and 30.5 points in his four ABA seasons. His combined scoring totaled 25,279 points, which ranks him among the top scorers in professional basketball history.

In the playoffs, he was even more prolific, scoring 24.8 points per game in his NBA postseason career and 33.5 points per game in the ABA. At the time of his retirement, Barry was the most accurate free-throw shooter in NBA history, having hit 90.0 percent of his free-throw attempts.

In 1987, along with Walt "Clyde" Frazier, Bob Houbregs, Bobby Wanzer, and "Pistol Pete" Maravich, Barry was elected to the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame.



Walt Frazier



Bob Houbregs



Bobby Wanzer



Pete Maravich



Rick Barry

After his career ended, Barry became a broadcaster, at one point teaming with Bill Russell to form a highly opinionated announcing duo. After several seasons at the mic, he drifted out of the public spotlight in the mid-1980s.

In the late 1980s and early 1990s, he was mentioned mainly as the father of four talented college and professional players. Scooter Barry played for the University of Kansas and then in the Continental Basketball Association; Jon played for Georgia Tech and various NBA teams. Barry's second youngest son, Drew, played for Georgia

Tech, and the youngest son, Brent, played at Oregon State and entered the NBA as the 15th overall selection of the 1995 Draft by the Denver Nuggets although his draft rights were traded to the Los Angeles Clippers. (Note: Son Canyon came later.)

In the early 1990s, Barry resurfaced as a minor league coach. He began in the Global Basketball Association, then moved on to the CBA's Fort Wayne Fury, who went 19-37 in 1993-94.

In 1996, he was named to the NBA's 50th Anniversary All-Time Top 50 Team.

Career Statistics

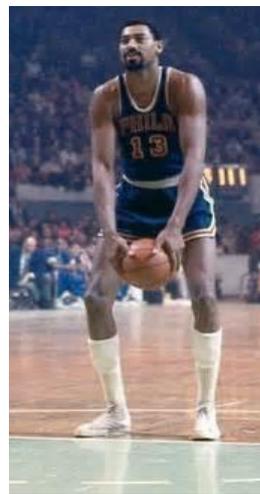
Games	Points per Game	Rebounds per Game	Assists per Game	Field Goal %	Field Goal 3 %	Foul Shot %
1020	24.8	6.7	4.9	45.6	29.7	90.0

The Art of the Underhand Free Throw

Back in the days when I was playing basketball on a regular basis, I experimented with the underhand way of shooting free throws. I found it quite effective but not quite as good as my regular one-handed shooting style. Do you remember any other NBA player who shot free throws underhanded? I can only think of one – the great Wilt “The Stilt” Chamberlain. He was a great player but could not make a free throw to save his life. His career free throw shooting percentage was 51.1%. He threw up bricks no matter how he tried to shoot free throws.



Rick - 90 Percent



Wilt - 51 Percent

The free throw. It's either a basketball player's best friend or worst enemy. While shooting percentages of the uncontested 15-footer have steadily increased since the

beginnings of the NBA -- the league average is now about 75 percent – however, some of its best players still struggle with the shot.

Hall of Famer Rick Barry, who famously converted 90 percent of his attempts during his 14-year pro career, all while tossing them "granny style." Still No. 3 on the all-time list behind ex-Cav Mark Price and ex-Sun/Laker Steve Nash, Barry thinks more players should be shooting underhanded to increase their free-throw percentage.

Rick Barry Explains How to Shoot Free Throws Underhanded

"If you're shooting 80 percent or better, great," he says. "If you can't shoot 80 percent, you're not a good free-throw shooter, that simple. If you can't shoot in the mid-70s, you need to think seriously about it. If you're a 60-percent, 50-percent free-throw shooter, by God, you should try anything."

And so, Barry persists in passing along the technique for which he is most remembered, step-by-step:

First and foremost, regardless of which free-throw style, Barry says you need a routine. "Every shot that you take, you have to take it exactly the same way every single time the ball is placed into your hands," he says. "I don't care if it's bounce the ball off your head three times, bounce it off your stomach, kick it with your knee, I don't care what your routine is, you have to do it every single time."

Barry thinks the mental game is a big aspect of free throws. He says having a set routine is important because in a critical moment, you won't think about making them, but rather simply go through a consistent and familiar progression. "The last thing you want to be worried about is, 'Oh, God, I've got to make these to tie the game, or win the game,'" he says. "Go into your routine, like you've practiced thousands and thousands and thousands of times. So your entire being is focused on what? Your routine, not the situation."

With his trademark underhand technique, Barry says the shooter has to be old enough to hold the ball properly. As he explains it, the shooter's palms should not go underneath the ball with what may come to mind with the typical granny shot. "Your hands have to be big enough to get over the top of the ball properly," says Barry. "And your thumbs should be even."

Next, the arms. "Everything you do in the game, at least if you're playing it properly, your arms are up in an unnatural position," he explains. "You've got your arms up playing defense, you're shooting the ball up there, you're rebounding up there, and

during the course of a game, you're going to get a little tired. When I get to the free-throw line, my arms are hanging down in a totally, completely relaxed, natural position. So, I'm not going to get tense and tighten up or anything, because I'm in a totally natural position."

Rather than shooting the free throw with just one hand like every other shot in the game, with his method Barry emphasizes the benefits of using both. "I control the flight of the ball with two hands, not one," he says. "The technique itself is a soft shot, and it's feel, so much feel, and control.



"The way I teach it is you open up the basket -- the ball has a chance to go in the entire circumference of the basket ... almost two balls can fit in the basket. When you shoot flat, the first-third of the basket is taken out of play, and in essence, you're shooting at a smaller target. And, it's not as soft a shot. It's not necessarily a higher arc, but the way that the ball comes, it's coming from such an angle that as it goes up there, the arc is pretty good on it, so you still have a good portion of it that it can go in, but it's a much softer shot. If I shoot a free throw and I missed it a little bit and it hits the rim, the ball hits very softly. If you take a shot and shoot it from up high and go to the basket, it's going to hit much harder than it would going underhand, much, much softer.

After taking a comfortable base, feet spread comfortably apart about shoulder-width, Barry continues his routine by taking a deep breath and positioning his wrists correctly. Then he dips down and prepares to release the shot. "Just before I'm ready to shoot, I would just make a little cock of the wrist, which puts it into a total natural position, and it was kind of like my trigger to go," he says. "When I bend, there's no motion. There's no movement of my arms, there's no movement of my hands –

nothing happens. As I come up, I start to take my arms and swing my arms toward the basket, and that's where you get the feel, to how much effort do I have to put into that arm swing. That's where you have to practice."

Last comes the roll. "Then it's a matter of the feel of when I actually take my hands and, when I get to about chest level -- parallel to the floor -- I just roll my hands together, and finish," he says. "It's that simple."

Barry, has a few last pieces of advice about his signature shot. "It's like anything else," he says. "If you're going to try to do it, you've got to go out, come and learn the technique and then you have to go out and practice it over, and over, and over again. Just make sure you're practicing it properly. But it's repetition. The more you shoot it, the better you're going to get. It's like riding a bike, you never forget how to do it. The whole thing to doing it, as I said earlier, you have to have the proper technique, then you have to practice it enough to get the feel, and you have to continue to practice until you gain confidence in yourself that you're going to make it. And once you get that, it just keeps getting easier and easier and easier. You have to believe in yourself that you're going to make every one that you take. I never, ever thought I was going to miss a free throw.

"Anybody can become a good free-throw shooter. If you have somebody working with you on the proper technique and you practiced it enough and get confident in yourself, you can be a good free-throw shooter. Your size means nothing. It's your technique."



Mark Price
90.4 % Free Throw Shooter



Steve Nash
90.4 % Free Throw Shooter

Rick Barry's Personal Life

Rick was 21 when he married Pam Hale, the daughter of his coach at the University of Miami, where he was the nation's leading scorer and an All-America as a senior. During the 1965—66 season, when Rick was a rookie with the San Francisco Warriors, Pam gave birth to their first child, Richard Francis Barry IV, called Scooter for the way he could cover ground on all fours. Over the next 7 years, three more sons and a daughter were added to the Barry family.



Richard Francis "Scooter" Barry IV was born August 13, 1966 in San Francisco, California. He is a 6' 3" Shooting Guard who went undrafted and never played in the NBA. Barry played for the University of Kansas Jayhawks' 1988 NCAA title team, and went on to play 17 years professionally in the US and overseas in the Germany, Spain, Italy, France, Belgium and Australia. He won a CBA title in 1995, a Belgian League title in 2004 and reached the NBL finals in 1995.



Jon Alan Barry was born July 25, 1969 in Oakland, CA. Jon is a 6'4" Shooting Guard who played his high school basketball at De La Salle High School in Concord, CA. He then played at University of the Pacific and Paris Junior College, before receiving a basketball scholarship to attend Georgia Tech in Atlanta, Georgia. During his 13-year NBA career, he played for the Milwaukee Bucks, Detroit Pistons, Atlanta Hawks, Los Angeles Lakers, Golden State Warriors, Sacramento Kings, Denver Nuggets and most recently the Houston Rockets.



Brent Robert Barry was born December 31, 1971 in Hempstead, NY. Brent is a 6'7" Shooting Guard and was arguably the best player of the four basketball-playing Rick Barry sons. He played college basketball at Oregon State and was drafted in the first round by the Denver Nuggets. He went on to win two championships with the San Antonio Spurs. He also won the 1996 NBA Slam Dunk Contest.



Drew William Barry was born February 17, 1973 in Oakland, CA. Drew a 6'5" Shooting Guard graduated from De La Salle High School in Concord in 1991 and played four seasons with the Yellow Jackets at Georgia Tech. The all-time assists leader of Georgia Tech, Barry played briefly for the Fort Wayne Fury in the CBA and in the NBA for the Atlanta Hawks, Seattle Super Sonics, and the Golden State Warriors.



Shannon Barry is the adopted daughter of Rick and Pam Barry.

(There is not much information on the Internet about her)

Rick Barry sent his boys to summer basketball camps and showed them how to shoot free throws underhanded but rarely made time to teach the game to his sons. "We never sat down and worked on it together," says Jon. "We really learned the game from our grandfather." Their grandfather was Bruce Hale, at one time he was considered one of the top five basketball players in the world.

In August 1979, after 14 years of marriage to Pam, Rick walked out of the house one day and did not come back. "He had been traveling and playing basketball all those years," says Scooter, who was 13 when Rick left, "and I think he could see his career was coming to an end and suddenly realized that all the future held for him was being stuck with five kids. His freedom was the most important thing in the world to him, and by leaving, he was able to maintain it. But we paid a big price for that. My father's number one priority was his own career."

Two years later in 1981, Pam Hale Barry divorced Rick and moved on with her life. The hardest part of the divorce was that it forced the boys to choose sides—Mom or Dad, shirts or skins—and Jon, who was 12, chose his father. "When you're that age and your father is famous, you tend to feel he can do no wrong," Jon says. "When he left, it really crushed me. I thought when I went to live with him it would be a bed of

roses, but it was tough. I had to leave my family, my mom." Jon moved to Seattle to live with Rick and his second wife, also named Pam, but after two years Rick decided he wanted to pursue an acting career in Los Angeles.

Yes, Rick Barry walked away from his family again and his second wife divorced him. (There is very little information on the Internet about Barry's second wife)

"I didn't want to go Los Angeles," Jon says, "and he and my mother couldn't work it out so I could go back and live with her." So, Jon spent the next year living at the home of the vice-principal of his junior high. By the time he went back to live with his mother the following year, his relationship with his dad Rick had cooled considerably. In fact, by now, nobody in Rick Barry's family was talking to him. He had dumped on everybody!

In addition to the other responsibilities that fell to Scooter as the oldest, he had to contend with being the first of the sons to play basketball competitively. Rick went to a few games and then chose, once again, to stay away. That was the way it was for all four sons. His explanation for not attending the boy's games was, "It seemed to make them nervous, like I was a burden on them."

"To this day my father will say that's why he didn't come to games," Scooter says, "but I was anxious to have him coach me. I think saying that I would be nervous created an excuse for him not to come."

Rick warned all the boys what lay in store for them if they chose to play the game at which he had excelled. "I told Jon when he was still small that if he was going to play basketball, I was always going to be a giant shadow cast across his career," Rick says "He just looked up at me and said he wasn't worried, he was going to be better than me anyway."

But the better the boys got, the more the shadow lengthened. "It's hard when for every good thing you do, you're getting compared to your dad," Drew says. "Rick Barry is Rick Barry, and Drew Barry is a freshman at Georgia Tech, and you can't compare the two. Every time Jon was playing on TV last year, the announcers would say, 'Kind of looks like Rick in the old days,' stuff like that. It gets repetitive, and it's really irrelevant."

Just as Scooter was never able to fully overcome rumors that tied his Kansas scholarship to cronyism between his father and Larry Brown, the then Jayhawk coach, who had been Rick's teammate in the pros, Jon has had to live with an oft-

repeated anecdote of a chance meeting Rick had with Georgia Tech coach Bobby Cremins that led to Jon's being offered a scholarship—sight unseen.

Rick's first wife remarried was now Pam Connolly—and in most ways had gotten on with her life. But she has never let go of the hurt and the anger she felt when Rick walked out, leaving her alone with five children. She refuses to speak to him and as a rule won't go to the boys' games if Rick is going to be there. "They both came to my last game at Kansas," Scooter says, "and they had to sit on different sides of the arena. You can't just seat them anywhere."

In 1991, Rick Barry married Lynn Norenberg who is 15 years younger. She is also a basketball player and was the former adviser to the Women's National Basketball Association. Lynn is also considered to be the most talented player in the College of William & Mary's women's basketball program history.



Canyon Barry was born on Jan. 7, 1994 in Fort Wayne, Indiana. He is the fifth Barry son to play Division I basketball and the only one to shoot his free throws underhanded. Canyon, a 6'6" Guard, choose to attend the College of Charleston in South Carolina. He played at Charleston for three years and graduated summa cum laude with a Bachelor's of Science degree in Physics. This year (2017) he used his last year of eligibility to play for the Florida Gators.



Florida guard Canyon Barry made 39 consecutive free throws, giving him ownership of the school's record for most in a row. And he's done it with the same underhand heave that allowed his dad, Rick Barry, to retire with the highest free throw percentage in NBA history back in 1980. The shooting motion has zero regard for what looks "cool" or "normal" for anyone watching," but, hey, it works!

As far as I can tell, Rick Barry has mellowed somewhat. As of this writing, he has not walked out on his third wife (and son) yet. Rick and Lynn are attending Canyon's basketball games and they seem to be getting along fine. The family lives in Colorado Springs and Rick has taken up a new sport – fly fishing.

Rick says, "I have a new passion. I do fly-fishing and go to Alaska a bunch of times (a year) to go fishing, which is just like dying and going in heaven for me. In fact, I'm getting ready to head out for another trip shortly. My wife and I really enjoy fishing in Alaska."



Anybody that enjoys fishing can't be all bad.

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Footnote: The picture of me on the first page was taken in 1961 when the University of Utah played in the Final Four.