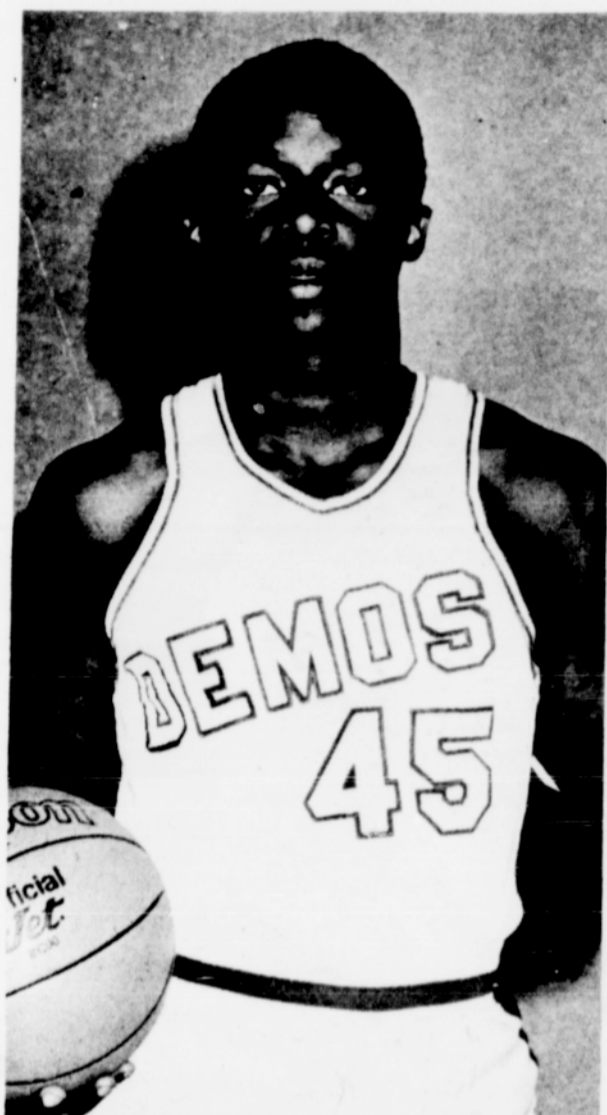


Choosing academics and athletics



Marshall Haskin, a 1981 Jefferson High School graduate, was awarded the Alfred Goss Service Cup, given each year to the senior who provides the greatest inspiration to the class, and the Hopkins Jenkins Athletic Cup, awarded to the school's top athlete. He was student body president during his junior year and vice-president his senior year. He was on the honor roll during his first two years. Marshall is a graduate of Boise Elementary School.

Ulysses Tucker, Jr.

Unlike most high school athletes chasing the dream of becoming a professional basketball player, Marshall Haskin, the All-City point guard from Jefferson High has the unrealistic dream in perspective.

Haskin, a six-foot-soon-to-be college freshman, knows that it is not always about talent on the basketball court, but about the breaks as he so frankly puts it. He firmly believes that an athlete must be prepared to deal with the job market and business community when the dreams come to an end.

Practicing what he preaches, Haskin sports the title of student body vice president and a 3.27 grade point average. He speaks proudly of his father Lennel and his late mother Emma Jean who still serves as an inspiration for him. Haskin lives with his uncle and aunt (Willie and Margaret "Grannie" Frison).

"I attribute a lot of my attitude to my father," he said. "He was my baseball coach and he really stressed hitting the books. When I was young, I use to watch all the older guys who I thought were good athletes but it turned out that they didn't have any grades. They had good basketball careers but the college and pros didn't think they were so good. If they would have had some grades, maybe they could have gone someplace. I don't want to end up like those guys."

At 17, (May 29th, birthday), Marshall is one of ten children ranging from the age of 16 through 25. Haskin talks openly about how his brothers used to rough him

up as a youngster and how they taught him some valuable lessons.

"We would play ball in the streets and they would push me into the parked cars," he smiled. "They said that if you want to be tough, you have got to learn how to take a beating. All it did was make me a better athlete and more competitive."

Haskin led the Democrats basketball team to a 16-9 season and a berth in the state playoffs while averaging 18.6 points and 7.3 assists per contest. He has scholarship offers to Williamette, Lewis and Clark, Warner Pacific, and several junior colleges in the Northwest. Although Haskin has Pacific Ten statistics, none of the schools in the conference bothered to contact. But as he says, those are the breaks.

"It will be very nice staying very close to home," he said. "I prefer to stay close because my family likes to come to the games all the time. I'm not upset about not being recruited by them but I wonder about some of the athletes they do bring in. I'm just as sharp as they are. Playing at a smaller school like I'm considering will give me a chance to play right away and then I can show my talent." Marshall also played baseball for the Democrats and batted .485 on a 12-8 team. He plans to participate in both sports while in college.

When questioned about athletes who have influenced him over the years, Haskin did not have to go to the National Basketball Association to pick his heroes. He picked a couple of local ones.

"Tony Hopson and E. Ray Leary have helped me a great deal over the years," he said. "Both of them are

good role models for me to pattern myself after and they are fine examples of how an athlete can make good after his playing days are over. But you know, both of them can still come out on the court and go off on you. They've taught me a lot about life, academics and basketball."

Hopson and Leary were members of the 1972 Jefferson High School which won the state championship. Hopson is a graduate of Williamette University and coaches girls basketball at Lincoln.

Leary is an assistant coach at Jackson High and a graduate of San Diego State. He is also an advisor at Tubman Middle School.

What do you plan to study in college?

"I'd like to study communications, engineering or business," he said. "But more than likely it will be business. I would like to be in business because kids and people in the community look up to you as an example. If I do well in sports while in college, it will serve as a foundation for establishing a good business."

Aside from being active in sports and student government, Haskin is also involved in a religious club called Young Life. He is a member of Greater Mount Calvary Church of God and Christ under the direction of Bishop H. B. Daniels.

"God has helped me to be friends with everyone," he explained, "because there are some people who really use to bug me. I use to try and hurt people who got on my nerves. I'd either try to hurt them physically or try to have them set up to be hurt. God has allowed me to move beyond that attitude and I am very thankful."

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