

CHUCK ROLLES • Cornell (1953-56)

One of the most diminutive stars in college basketball, Rolles was also one of the most electric during his three-year career at Cornell. Standing just 5-6, he set several all-time Cornell records, including the scoring record with his 1,253 points over his three-year varsity career. More than 50 years later, that mark stands eighth on the list despite the fact that he dressed for just 74 varsity games and there was no three-point shot. Rolles still holds the Cornell record with 378 career assists. Rolles enrolled at Cornell as a highly-touted local recruit who had a pair of 60-point games at Union-Endicott HS outside of Binghamton, N.Y.



A two-time first-team All-Ivy selection, Rolles averaged 23.0 points as a senior for the highest season scoring average at Cornell, a mark that still stands. He also set a then-single-game scoring record when he registered 42 points vs. Syracuse in 1956. Rolles was second on the team in scoring in 1953-54, helping Cornell to the Eastern Intercollegiate Basketball League title and its first appearance in the NCAA Tournament.

A co-captain for the Big Red as a senior, he was a two-time United Press Small All-America team selection for players under 5-10. Rolles was in Cornell's inaugural Athletic Hall of Fame class in 1978.

After Cornell, he competed in the 1956 Olympic Trials with the collegiate all-stars along with teammates Bill Russell and K.C. Jones. Rolles was drafted by the Syracuse Nationals in 1956 in the 14th round (92nd overall pick), but never played before embarking on a successful career as a restaurateur.

