

How It all started

I recollect the times when I met some of my clients:

I remember when I was in college and my roommate Guru was apart of the scholastic team for PV on the BET campus all-star challenge. They were competing against other HBU's. But tomorrow morning they fly to the studios in Washington DC. So he needs a fresh cut. I give it to him and then I saw my work on TV and I knew that millions of people were probably watching. That's when I knew I wanted to show my skills all over the country.

I remember the first time I had seen performers perform on stage with my cut. I was working in my fist shop out of Barber College. And through a mutual friend I met H-Town Grammy recording artist from Houston. They were performing on the SINBAD late night show. The guys came over late that night to fly out the next morning. So they all came over to my house to get tightened up again. They put on a good show and interview. They gave me and my family a nice shout out. The next week we(shop) all watched them perform on Saturday morning on Soul Train.

Gary Payton was the first big name NBA star I met. My cousin played for Seattle Supersonics. His name is Stephan Howard from DePaul. And he said me and the guys are gonna need cuts when we come to town. So I finished cutting everyone and Gary's last. So after I finished his cut I ask to take picture before I go. The only thing was no one was there to take it. So I figure out how to automate the camera and we stand there waiting for it to shoot.

I remember meeting Mike Bivens. They had a show in town with Brian McKnight. I get a call from someone I don't know she asked if I was available to go give Mike a cut. She says she asked around and came up with my name. So I get down there meet him at the Hotel and so I cut him and he really enjoyed his haircut so he asks if I had tickets to the concert" He made sure I was taken care of.

I get a call from Ludacris himself. He says something like I heard you were man to got to for a good cut in Houston. He's in town for the NBA all-star game. So he shows up at the shop precisely on time. He actually had just gotten off the plane and refused to go anywhere until his edge up was right. He walks right in and he sees the wall the of those who have preceded him in the chair " and says out loud Im jealous my pictures not on the wall. So I go on to explain that the only way to be on the wall of fame is to get a cut and he's in.

The first time I cut Deron Williams point guard for Utah Jazz. H's in the chair and I m talking basketball with him. He go on to say that gonna need cut for the draft next week. At the time I do not know that he is highly coveted by NBA franchises. So I ask him if he things he has a chance at getting drafted and he nonchalantly replies that he is expected to go lottery. I say oh... ok well I guess so. Next week he is drafted #3 overall. Two yrs later he's in town for the playoffs and I'm cutting a teammate of his and I find out that Deron liked his haircut so much that he tells him it was the best haircut he ever had" All I could do was say "wow that's big!"

I take the barber business seriously. Its what I do and I love doing. I enjoy seeing the smiling faces when I'm done. People get some much satisfaction and esteem when they sport a fresh cut. Someone called me the barber to the stars one day, I've been using it every since.

Houston Texans GM Rick Smith says" Nick is the best barber he's ever had."

People always ask how did you get started in being the barber to the stars? I never have the same answer. There's no formula or anything. I was just at the right place at the right time and knew the right people that knew the right people if that makes sense. It never really started out as such. My clients liked my work enough to want to refer their friends and so on. If I ever saw anyone I would always ask them for their business too. Star or not.

The Houston Texans locker has been a revolving door for many players. But I'm proud to say that I am one of the main constants in that locker room. Since the franchise was built in 2001. I have cut most of all the players to play for the Houston Texans. I have built friendships and bonds with some of the teammates. One major reality I had to get used to was the high turnover ratio of players coming and going.

So experience after another that's how I became the barber to the stars, In 2006 I trademarked the term and logo for barber to the stars. There are many more stories to tell. Let it be known that I'm not the only barber doing what I do by far, but there's only one barber to the stars trademark. I have been so blessed with the skills to make a good life and living for myself. And even Rockport shoes wants me to wear their shoe lines and tell my clients about them and to go buy them at Endzone fashions. Look for my barber to the stars interview in Against the Grain barber magazine every issue. Hit me up on www.Myspace.com/barbertothestars.