Hubbard to transfer

By Brendan Stiles

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One month following a press conference held in Iowa City to discuss the addition of Anthony Hubbard to the Iowa men's basketball team, the junior college transfer made a shocking announcement Thursday, saying in a press release sent out by the UI that he would be leaving the program to seek another opportunity closer to home.

Hubbard, who is originally from Woodbridge, Va., came to Iowa from Frederick Community College in Maryland, and prior to that played at Odessa Community College in Texas. The 26-year-old got the chance to play basketball at the collegiate level after serving nearly four years in prison for his role in a robbery.

"I truly appreciate the tremendous opportunity Coach McCaffery, the basketball staff and everyone at the University of Iowa provided me. The community and the school and the people were fantastic," Hubbard said in a release sent out Thursday. "However, at this time, I plan to work with my junior college coach and family to select another school perhaps closer to home."

Hubbard signed his national letter of intent with Iowa on April 23 and was a part of a recruiting class that also featured three freshmen — Aaron White, Josh Oglesby, and Gabe Olaseni. Hubbard had been participating in the Prime Time League this summer in North Liberty. Through seven games, he averaged 23.7 points, 11.4 rebounds and 5.4 assists per game.

"Obviously, we're disappointed. We invested a substantial amount of time and energy in the recruitment of Anthony," Iowa head coach Fran McCaffery said in the same release issued by

the UI on Thursday. "The positive is that we learn today of Anthony's decision versus learning of it in August or September."