



BILL BRETT FOR THE BOSTON GLOBE

Chris Herren (left) with director Jonathan Hock at AMC Loews Boston Common.

Not a dry eye during ‘Unguarded’

By Mark Shanahan and Meredith Goldstein | Globe Staff October 28, 2011

“Unguarded,” director **Jonathan Hock**’s documentary about former Durfee High School basketball star **Chris Herren**, is tough to watch. There were a lot of tears shed during a private screening this week attended by Herren, his family, and several friends, including NBA Hall of Famer **Chris Mullin**. (Mullin and his wife, **Liz**, were instrumental in finally getting the shooting guard into rehab.) The doc, which premieres Tuesday on ESPN, tells the compelling story of the one-time Fall River phenom whose can’t-miss hoops career was hijacked by an addiction to oxycontin and heroin. (While playing for the Celtics, Herren once stood outside the Boston Garden in his uniform, minutes before tip-off, waiting for his drug dealer.) During a Q&A after the film, Mullin, who’s known Herren for years, praised his friend for maintaining his hard-won sobriety. (Herren’s been clean for three years.) “Live your life the right way and the blessing will come,” said Mullin. On a lighter note, Mullin teased Herren about a vest he wears at one point in the film. “I haven’t seen that vest since you left my house,” said Mullin. “You steal that vest from me?” Among those at the after party at Petit Robert Central were Hock, **Danny Ainge**’s son **Austin**, **Farrelly** brothers producer **Kris Meyer**, sportcaster **Bob Halloran**, and ESPN bigshots **John Dahl**, **Deirdre Fenton**, and **Jay Jay Nesheim**.