

CIAA gives out female honors

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

The Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association recently announced its 2008 CIAA Female Scholar Athletes of the Year. Each honoree was formally recognized at the CIAA Coach of the Year Luncheon, on Tuesday at the Durham Marriott at the Civic Center.

Kim Moore, a volleyball and tennis player at Shaw University, along with Elizabeth City star senior baller Celeste Trahan, were the recipients of the CIAA honor.

Moore is a senior, International Relations major with a near perfect GPA of 3.99. She made the 2008 All-CIAA and All-Tournament Women's Tennis teams; won the 2008 Chester Davis Sportsmanship Award and Shaw's 2008 Female Athlete of the Year Award.

Academically, Moore was named to the 2007-08 President's List; won 2008 CIAA All-Academic Honors; won the 2008 Shaw Volleyball and Women's Tennis Award of Academic Excellence, the 2008 President's Award of Academic

Excellence and the 2007-08 Athletic Academic All-star Award.

Celeste Trahan graduated Cum Laude (3.3 GPA) with a BA in Education from ECSU. As a senior, Celeste was named as the 2008 CIAA Women's Basketball Player and Defensive Player of the Year, the 2008 Daktronics Division II National Player of the Year; was the first woman in NCAA Division II basketball history to record 2,000 points and 1,500 rebounds in a career and was named as an All-American six times during her collegiate career. Ms. Trahan was also named as the 2008 Division II Bulletin Player of the Year; the 2008 South Atlantic Region Player of the Year and was selected as the 2008 ECSU Female Athlete of the Year.

Celeste's jersey was formally retired in 2008. She is the first-ever female student-athlete to receive such an honor at Elizabeth City State.

The CIAA Scholar Athlete of the Year is an honor awarded to the top athlete in the conference that has excelled both athletically and academically.



Moore



ESCU photo
ESCU's Celeste Trahan goes up strong.

Grambling tabs Duckett as head coach of hoops

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

Rick Duckett is the new head men's basketball coach at Grambling State University. Director of Athletics Troy Mathieu announced on today.

The hiring is pending approval of the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System.

"Coach Duckett is a proven tactician who has worked with some of the best coaches in the business," Mathieu said. "He has a unique ability to motivate and connect with student-athletes and will bring tremendous enthusiasm to our men's basketball program. Under his leadership, Grambling fans can look forward to seeing an aggressive defensive team that plays an up-tempo style of offense that will be fun to watch. We are fortunate to have him join the staff at Grambling State."

A native of Winston-Salem, Duckett brings a wealth of experience to Grambling State after serving as an assistant in one of the toughest basketball conferences in the nation in addition to serving as a successful head coach at one of the highest profile leagues on the NCAA Division II level.

In eight years as a collegiate head coach, Duckett compiled an impressive 150-75 mark at Fayetteville and Winston-Salem State Universities. While at Winston-Salem from 1998 to 2001, Duckett posted a 74-18 ledger that included three NCAA Division II Tournament Appearances, three 20-win seasons, two CIAA Tournament Championships and two CIAA Tournament Coaches Awards. With the opportunity to acquire valuable knowledge about the game of basketball from legendary Basketball of Hall Famer and former Winston-Salem head coach Clarence "Big House" Gaines, Duckett finished his tenure at WSSU with the top winning percentage (80 percent)

in school history.

Duckett began his coaching career working as an undergraduate assistant at North Carolina where he was on the staff of Basketball Hall of Famer Dean Smith and also worked with current UNC head coach Roy Williams as the duo coached the school's junior varsity team during the 1979-80 season.

Upon his graduation from UNC, Duckett spent two years as an assistant at Harvard (1980-82) and moved to the high school ranks for one season as an assistant at R.J. Reynolds High School. He returned to the collegiate ranks in 1983 and spent one season each at Jacksonville University, South Carolina and Central Florida before settling down at Wichita State University in 1986.

While at Wichita State, Duckett played an integral role in the Shockers' success on the court as he helped lead the team to two NCAA Tournament appearances and a berth in the NIT during a six-year run from 1986 to 1992. He returned to R.J. Reynolds as an assistant coach after his stint at Wichita for one season before accepting the job as head coach at Fayetteville State in 1993.

After a five-year stint at Fayetteville State, Duckett made his mark at Winston-Salem State for three years before returning to the SEC as an assistant coach at the University of South Carolina in 2001. As an assistant at South Carolina for six years where he was known as the team's "defensive coordinator", Duckett helped guide the Gamecocks to back-to-back NIT Championships (2005, 2006) and one NCAA Tournament appearance (2004). In addition to his coaching duties, Duckett was also responsible for recruiting, player development, scouting and team academics. During the summer, Duckett also served as the Director of South Carolina's Offensive Skills Camp.



Duckett

High Point's Lady Stars win Point Tourney

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

The High Point Lady Stars 9U girls squad continues to tune up for their national tournament with strong performances in other AAU tournaments.

This past weekend, the High Point Lady Stars 9 Girls Division, featuring Winston-Salem's Tierra Wilson, Makayla Wolfe, Sylena Johnson, Kristen Saunders and Briana Carter, played in the Battle In The Point tournament. The tournament took place in High Point, May 17-18.

The Lady Stars started out with Lake Norman Magic on Saturday and defeated them 42-12. Later on Saturday evening they played the Tennessee Shooters and won 39-14. The



Photo by Tim Wilson

Lady Star guard Jazlin Taylor takes off.

Lady Stars came back on Sunday and played the Winston-Salem Stealers, defeating them 43-15. That win

advanced the the Lady Stars to play in the championship game on Sunday evening. They played the

Greensboro Lady Gators, defeating them 47-28. The victory gave the Lady Stars first place honors of The Battle In The Point 9U Division championship game.

The team is coached by Aaron Grier, Tim Wilson and Scott Anders.

Team representatives are hoping to receive donations to help the squad pay for the YBOA Nationals, which will take place July 12-19 in Polk County, Fla. The team is accepting monetary donations or sponsors. Information can be mailed to High Point Stars Basketball, attention Aaron Grier. The address is P.O. Box 2742, High Point, N.C., 27261. The teams website is www.eteamz.com/highpointstarsbasketball.

Photo by Tom Houghtaling

W-S Prep's Josh Hogg hands off to C.J. Brinson during a relay race over the weekend.



W-S Prep

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Speas said. "The team in question finished fifth. The judge closest to the action cleared. They denied the team the first time they protested, and then honored them almost an hour later. So, I'm getting the team ready for the 200 and they just tell me that my team was disqualified. I didn't know what event they were even talking about."

"So, I run to fill out the proper papers to appeal," Speas continued. "That's what they told me to do. Then they said I couldn't appeal when I got back. I took that issue up with anyone that I could find. But nothing happened. I was just fighting for my girls. They really were hurt. It would've been a tragedy if that would've cost us a state championship. That was a very controversial call."

Winston-Salem Prep received valuable points when Darden, Bennett and Butler stormed to a second, third and fourth place finish in the 200-meter dash. The Prep title is seemingly more impressive considering the team doesn't have a track. The hurdlers went the whole season without practicing an entire race, clearing eight hurdles. Prep only has two hurdles, and the runners practice in a basketball gym. Not a track.

"We used some of that as motivation," Speas said. "We don't have our own track.

Carver was nice enough to let us come over there some time. I want to thank them. But we went the whole year without some of the luxuries other schools enjoy. But we still did it. That's a testament to the hard work we've put in over here."

"I knew this was possible," Speas continued. "I was very confident this could happen. Coach Speas does research, and I knew what we had here. I saw some good pieces like Ariel Darden (who's a senior) and David Lindsay. Guys like T.J. McEachin, C.J. Brinson Josh

Hogg and Demetrius Robinson also did a very good job. I wish Demetrius was going to be with us for another year."

Can Prep repeat next year? "You always want to repeat," concluded Speas. "But we're going back to the drawing board. We now have a weight room. So we're going to lift weights. We're going to keep moving in the right direction. Even the guys are talking about doing good things. I believe we can definitely contend for another title."

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