

SPORTS WEEK

JUNE 9, 2011



Members of the team with their coaches.

Submitted Photo

Mavericks finish as state runners-up

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

The Winston-Salem Mavericks came up a bit short in their attempt to win a fourth-straight USSSA State title.

Playing in the championship series May 28 and 29, The Mavericks had just one loss - to the Kings of Chapel Hill, 51-41, in the Championship Game. On their way to becoming the state runner-up, the Mavericks beat the CBC/Phoenix of Charlotte, 57-56 in the opening game, and then the Titans of Clayton, 61-55; the Gators of Greensboro, 47-43; the Carolina Pride, 61-43; and the Charlotte Mustangs, 65-62.

The team includes players Ryan Henderson, Xavier Jackson, Mitch Cain,

Tyler Rosbor, Naeem Razzak, Keeshon Patrick, Taris Young, Devin Thomas, Dequan Cunningham, Michael Hinton, James Cain, Landon Choplin, Sid Nixon and Cameron Mack.

The Mavericks qualified for the USSSA Nationals in Greensboro and also received several invites for ProAm Tournaments across the country. The team's current record is 16 wins and 7 losses.

A 501c(3) and tax exempt organization, the Mavericks are owned by Mike Gonzalez and Willie "BB" Patrick Jr.

For more information about the team or to make a donation, contact Coach Patrick at 336-416-0907.

Carver players college-bound

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Three more Carver High School football players are college-bound. Seniors Jashon Jackson, Austin Pack and Jamil Thomas will soon suit-up for college teams.

Jackson, a 6'3, 300-pound offensive lineman, will take his huge frame to Durham to play for the North Carolina Central Eagles.

Although Jackson has only been a Yellowjacket for two years, he really made his mark as a skilled lineman who worked hard every down.

Pack, a four year varsity football player, will play at Winston-Salem State University, where he will major in the newly-formed BS in motorsports program. While at Carver, Austin has maintained a 4.0 grade point average while playing football and baseball.

Thomas, a senior outside linebacker, will be a preferred walk on with the Appalachian State Mountaineers. Thomas was the centerpiece of an experienced defensive front at Carver.

Senior running back Channon Crawford - who was named Offensive Player of the Year in the PAC-6, All-County Offensive Player of the Year, and Carver High School Offensive Player of the Year - is also among football standouts graduating from Carver this month. Crawford, who once considered quitting the football team, ended up leading the Yellowjackets in rushing averages.



Carver Photo

(Standing, from left) Jashon Jackson, Head Coach Melvin Palmer and Austin Pack with (sitting, from left) Jamil Thomas and Channon Crawford.



Penn State Photo

Coach Coquese Washington addresses the media.

VCU's Shaka Smart among BCA honorees

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

The Black Coaches & Administrators selected Virginia Commonwealth University Men's Basketball Coach Shaka Smart as the 2011 Male Coach of the Year and Coquese Washington, Women's Basketball Head Coach at Penn State, as the Female Coach of the Year.

Other BCA honorees included Dan Guerrero, UCLA's AD, as the recipient of the Myles Brand Administrator of the Year; and High School Coaches of the Year Carmen Jackson, a Track and Field Coach at Miami Northwestern Senior High Community School and Ruth Lovelace, Boys Varsity Basketball Coach at Boys and Girls High School in Brooklyn, N.Y.

"Our honorees are not just successful professionals, but they are also outstanding individuals that have demonstrated dedication to student-athletes and higher education," said David Leitao, BCA President.

VCU hired Smart to be the head coach in the spring of 2009. Smart's hire made him the 10th youngest head coach in Division I and the youngest head coach to receive the Fritz Pollard BCA Male Coach of the Year Award. In his first season, he led the Rams to a 27-10 season and a CBI Championship after VCU swept Saint Louis in the championship best of three series.

Coquese, in her fourth season coaching the Lady Lions continues to enjoy the



Smart



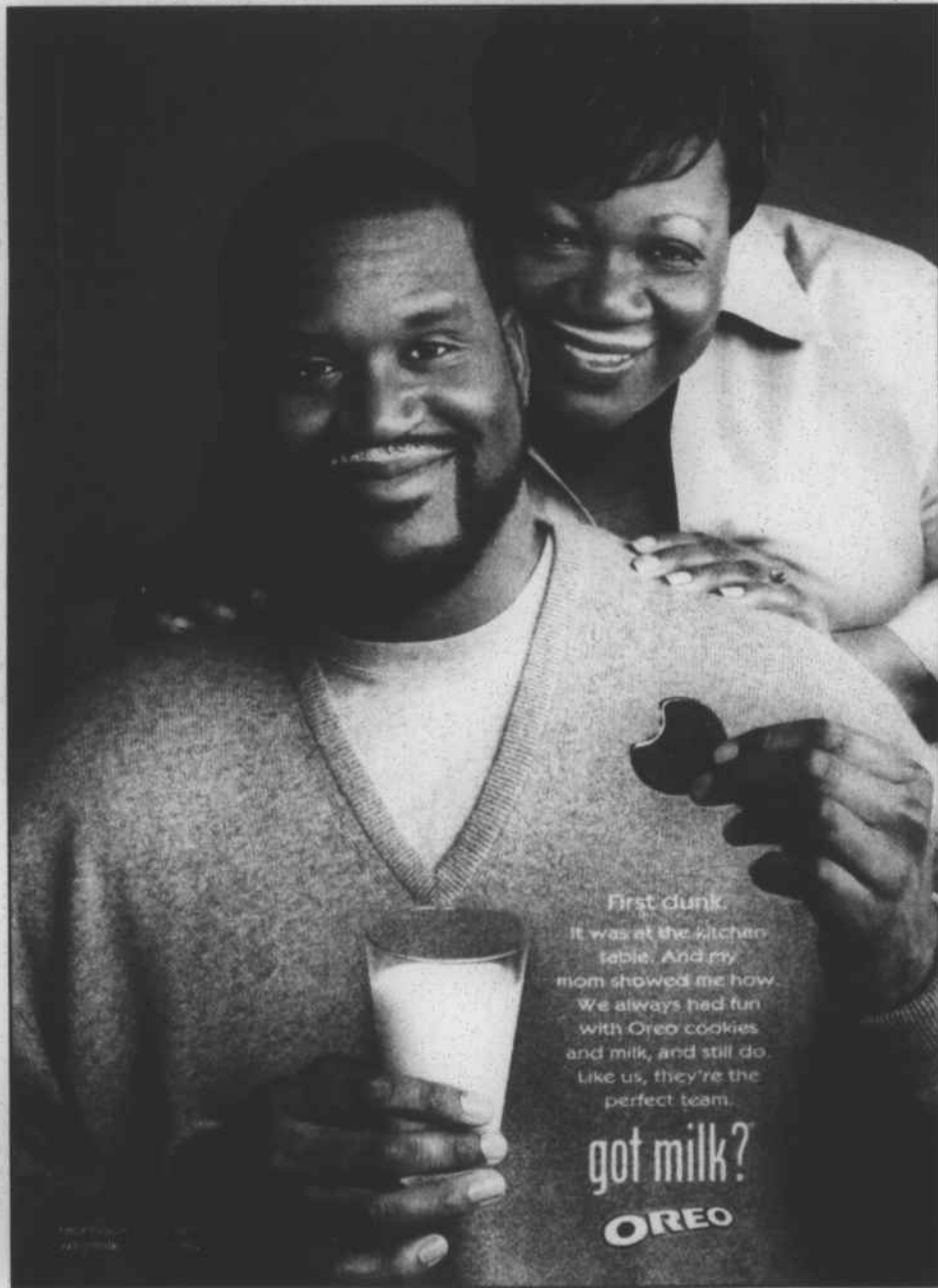
Guerrero

level of passion from fans, the community and administration as she continues to build the program. The third season saw the Lady Lions return to the postseason for the first time since 2004-2005 with a WNIT berth.

The honorees were feted during the 2011 BCA National Convention and Expo on Friday, May 27 in St. Petersburg, Fla.

The Black Coaches & Administrators, a tax-exempt non-profit organization, works to foster the growth and development of ethnic minorities at all levels of sports both nationally and internationally.

SLAM DUNK!



PRNewsFoto/Milk Processor Education Program

Basketball legend Shaquille O'Neal, who recently announced his retirement from the NBA, has teamed up with his biggest fan, mom Lucille, for the latest "Got Milk?" ad. The ad touts the classic pairing of ice cold milk and Oreo cookies. According to Ms. O'Neal, her son's very first dunk occurred when he dipped his Oreos into his milk as a child.

Inspiration Award goes to Breland

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Former UNC standout Jessica Breland, who graduated last month and is now a member the WNBA's New York Liberty, has been named the 2011 recipient of the 23rd annual Honda Inspiration Award.

This award is given each year to a female college athlete who has overcome adversity to excel in her sport.

In May 2009, after a history of ailments including asthma and severe allergies,



Breland

Breland visited a doctor for a sore throat that wouldn't seem to go away. Hours of tests led to a biopsy and ultimately a diagnosis of Hodgkin's lymphoma.

Within days, doctors installed a port in Breland's chest to administer chemotherapy treatments. Side effects ranged from severe chills and aches to hair loss, constant nausea and fatigue so debilitating that there were times she could hardly move.

Forced to redshirt the 2009-10 season, Breland gradually got her weight back up with a plan devised by the UNC team trainer and a nutritionist. She courageously returned to the court for the 2010-11 season. While it took some time for her to regain her full strength and capabilities, her game continued to improve steadily to where she averaged 19.5 points and 6.8 rebounds at the Atlantic Coast Conference tournament, helping UNC make it to the finals.

Before her illness, Breland was a standout in her first three years at UNC. As a sophomore, she was named the ACC Sixth Player of the Year. In her junior year she played in all 35 games and started 27. She averaged 14 points, 8.5 rebounds and an ACC-best 3.1 blocks to rank seventh nationally.

Two big CIAA honors for Sikes

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Saint Augustine's College's Allison Sikes was named the 2011 CIAA Woman of the Year and CIAA Female Scholar-Athlete of the Year.

Sikes accepted both trophies during the CIAA Coaches Award Program in Newport News, Va. She is the first person to win the league's inaugural Woman of the Year honor, created by the Senior Woman Administrators this season to recognize a female student-athlete for her athletic and academic achievement. Sikes is now eligible for the NCAA Woman of the Year Award, which will be named later this year.

To be eligible for the conference's woman award, a female student-athlete must have a 3.2 grade point average or higher, exhausted her college eligibility and graduated by the summer of 2011. Sikes graduated magna cum laude from Saint Augustine's College in May.

The league announced that Sikes was also the top female scholar-athlete. She is the second straight student-athlete from Saint Augustine's College to earn an individual academic award from the conference. Track standout Orolando Duffus was the 2010 CIAA Male Scholar-Athlete of the Year.



St. Aug Photo

Allison Sikes in action.