



PHOTO/CURTIS WILSON

IT'S ALL OVER: North Mecklenburg High forward Jamie Skeen, a Wake Forest signee, reacts to the Vikings' 45-43 loss to Raleigh Wakefield in the N.C. 4A boys' basketball title game in Raleigh. Wakefield's Scott Brooks hit the winning basket with 8.1 seconds left, and North missed a couple of opportunities to tie. The Vikings finished the season 23-7 and Skeen finished his final high school game with 20 points and nine rebounds.



PHOTO/CALVIN FERGUSON

Charlotte 49ers senior Sakellie Daniels has been a constant force. A two-time team MVP, Daniels will lead Charlotte into the women's National Invitational Tournament.

From beginning, Daniels has been impact player for 49ers

By Eric Bozeman
FOR THE CHARLOTTE POST

Sakellie Daniels came a long way from Raeford, N.C., to become one of the most prolific players in Charlotte's women's basketball program.

The 5-7 senior guard leads the 49ers (20-8) with 14.9 points per game and 5.6 rebounds per game, but the journey to becoming the most productive 49er has been littered with milestones.

As a freshman in 2002-03, Daniels set a record for steals with 67, breaking the mark set by Monica League. Daniels is 14th on the list of 1,000 point scorers at Charlotte, and she was Most Valuable Player the last two seasons.

Coming to Charlotte was the best thing that could happen to her basketball career, and her development as an individual.

"It was a lifetime experience for four years," Daniels said. "I broke a lot of records, and it was a good experience I enjoyed it. I've grown a lot as a person with social skills."

First-year head coach Amanda Butler said Daniels has given as much to the 49er program as she has received.

"The impact that Sakellie has had here has been so overwhelming," Butler said. "As an individual on our team, and for the program, the impact will be felt even when she's graduated and gone."

Butler said she is certain Daniels has more

competitive years of playing basketball ahead of her, and playing in a WNBA town doesn't hurt.

"She'll definitely play at the next level, I think it's just a question of where," Butler said. "I know she'll have overseas opportunities, and we've been doing a few things to make sure the folks in the WNBA are paying attention to what she's been doing."

The 49ers stumbled in the first round of the Atlantic-10 tournament, but Charlotte made the National Invitational Tournament.

"Postseason is one of the best times as a college player to show off and get those people's attention more," Butler said. "From an exposure stand point the people that are just right down the road are in our gym a lot. We have a great relationship with the folks over at the Sting."

Daniels believes that she has a good shot at playing pro basketball, and she believes the experience of playing college basketball can be a positive one for any young woman.

"In four years you develop relationships with each of the girls, some of them may be a little more detailed than the other ones, but you develop a lot of good relationships," Daniels said. "It adds a new dimension to your life, and if I have an opportunity to play pro basketball, playing here will have helped me out."

Sign up for endurance race

SPECIAL TO THE POST

Registration is open for the fifth annual 24 Hours of Booty. The event will take place on July 28 - 29.

The 24 Hours of Booty is the one and only 24-hour road cycling charity event in the country. This unique and fun event is fully supported on a traffic-free, gently rolling loop - the "Booty Loop" - situated in the beautiful Myers Park neighborhood. Once a year the Booty Loop is closed to traffic to host cyclists from around the country as they ride in honor and support of the cancer community.

The goal of the 24 Hours of Booty is to provide an extraordinary event that is safe, fun, and challenging, while bringing cancer awareness

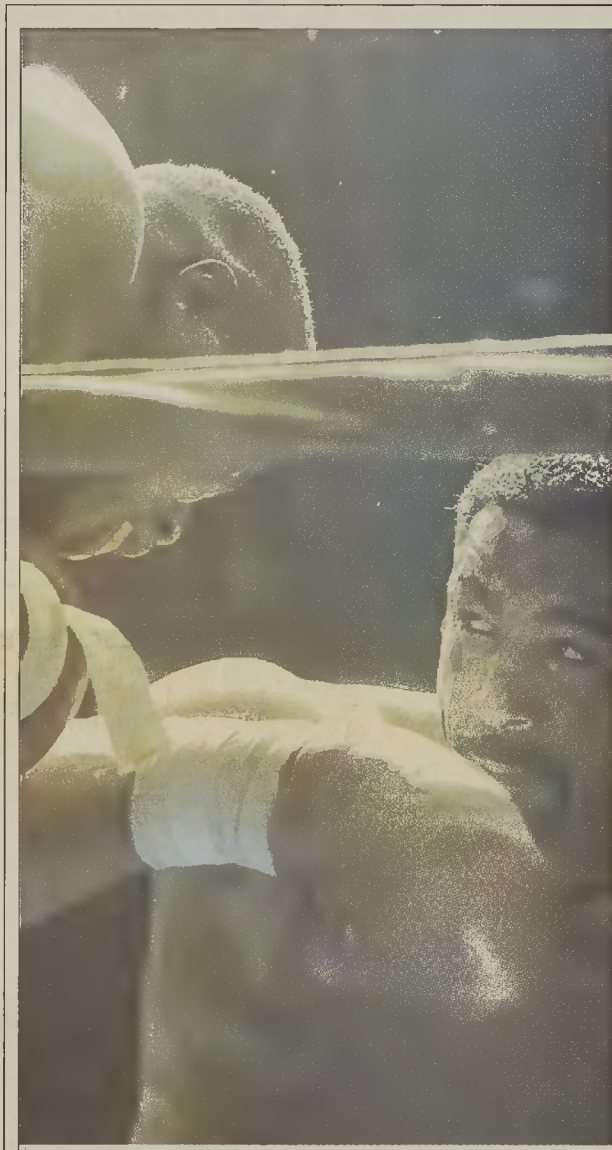
to the community and raising funds for noteworthy cancer charities. The event is an inspirational and important event for the cancer community. The ride is about hope, challenge, remembrance, and celebration. The event unites people who are passionate about cancer survivorship, knowledge, progress, and support.

The 24 Hours of Booty is an exceptional event for cyclists of all levels. Participants can ride as little or much as they want, in teams or solo. Riders can cover 3 miles to 300 miles. Because the course is situated on a 3 mile loop, cyclists are never far from the finish line. The event features round-the-clock police support, fully catered meals and

beverages, free camping, free bike support, great fundraising awards, and many free products and samples. The fun and energizing atmosphere is also perfect for spectators and event volunteers.

Thanks to tremendous support of the 24 Hours of Booty sponsors, registration fees are amazingly low for an event of this length and level of support. Registration fees are \$50 for individuals and \$35 for team members, plus a \$50 tax-deductible minimum fundraising requirement. Registrants will be given awesome online fundraising tools, including a personal easy-to-customize web page.

To register or for more information, please visit www.24hoursofbooty.com



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