

## Profile: Ian Russell

By Mike Grossman

It is 12:30 on a Thursday night. Ian Russell is asleep in his room in English dormitory when he is awakened by sounds coming from outside the door.

He gets up to hear a few laughing female voices and opens the door to a cardboard sign reading "Mr Shotblocker: Ian Russell, 40. Good luck against Elon."

Apparently, these female fans were inspired to pay their respects by an article in the Greensboro News and Record on Ian being one of the leading college shotblockers in the nation.

While this six-foot, seven-inch center says he does not mind this kind of fun attention from his peers once in a while, he says he does not like the attention he sometimes gets from the press and other media.

"I don't like too much attention unless it's team-oriented," he says.

As a senior at Saint Peter's High School in New Brunswick, New Jersey, Ian says he got a lot of coverage from the press.

He averaged 11 points, 11 rebounds, and 7 blocks per game and was named to an All-State team that included Notre Dame standout guard David Rivers and Kevin Walls, a member of the 1986 national champion Louisville team.

Ian went to Oregon State University, and redshirted his freshman year of basketball, meaning that he did not play in games that season so that he could save one of his four years of eligibility.

Although he did not actually play in games, Ian practiced and traveled with the team to all away contests. He says he was constantly bothered by the press, and kids asking for autographs, and other hype.

"There were always people at the airports asking for autographs, and always newspaper writers hanging around," Ian says. "It was just a big

hassle."

Ian says he left Oregon State after his freshman year because it was too far from his family back in New Jersey. He ended up at Guilford College, where he currently is one of the nation's leading college shotblockers, with 102 blocked shots in 24 games.

Ian says he had trouble adjusting to Guilford at first, but has grown to like it.

"The friends I have made here make life tremendously easier," Ian observes. "I also like the fact that Greensboro is a growing city. It will never be like Brooklyn, but I would consider living here after school."

Is there anything Ian does not like about Guilford?

"I don't like the fact that there are so many cliques here," Ian says. "I like to try to be friends with everyone."

Ian states that he came to Guilford with hopes of doing well in both athletics and academics. He is a

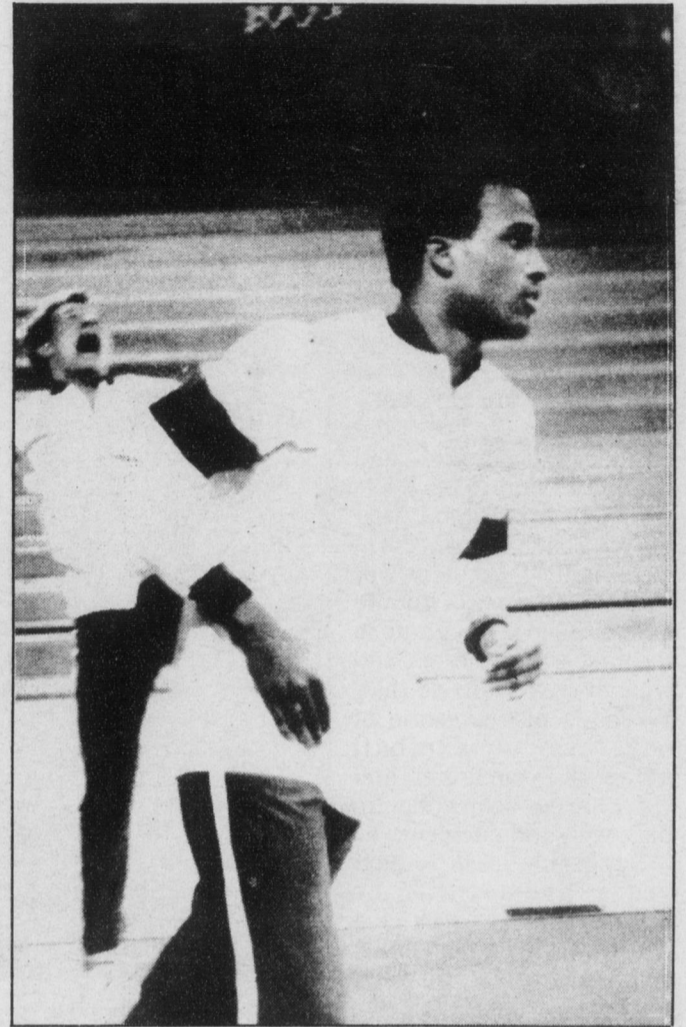
Justice and Policies Studies major with a 2.5 grade point average.

"I'm not someone who came in just to play basketball," he declares. "I want a good education also."

In his free time, Ian says he likes to be with his friends, whether it's going out to get something to eat or just talking. He is also a big fan of professional and college basketball.

Ian is Christian, and after graduation, he will do "whatever Jesus wants me to do." He says he could envision going back to Brooklyn, to give something back to the community that he grew up in.

"A lot of kids in Brooklyn grow up in broken homes, and there is a lot of temptation to make money dishonestly," he states. "I would like to go back and spread the gospel of Jesus Christ and somehow be a big-brother type figure based on my faith."



Ian Russell warming up for the Wingate game.

Photo: Fiona Clem

### Honors Cont'd

nation in singles.

Jochen Klinke, a senior tennis player and physics major from Heidelberg, West Germany, won Carolinas Conference and District 26 championships last season.

He made it to the semi-final round of the NAIA national tournament, received NAIA All-American honors, and was named District 26 Player of the Year last season.

Klinke entered the fall season ranked fourth in singles in the nation.

Peter Bourque, a senior lacrosse player who majors in Sports Management, has served as team captain for two years and is an All-American candidate this season.

He has started for the Quaker defense for three years, played all positions except for goalie, and has played virtually every minute of every game.

Jennifer Hunter, a senior tennis player who majors in sports management, earned Honorable Mention All-American

honors at the national NAIA tournament last year.

She has a career 76-21 singles record and is currently ranked number 21 in the NAIA-ITCA rankings.

Lee Porter, a junior who majors in Management, is an All-American golfer who finished seventh in the national championship and led the Quakers to a second-place finish.

This fall, he averaged 73.0 strokes for 12 competitive rounds of golf.

Kamus McNair, a senior football player who majors in Sports Management, has played in every Guilford football game since he arrived as a freshman and was a captain of this fall's team.

He was named to the NAIA All-District 26 team, and also received second team NAIA All-American honors this fall.

Donnie Redmon, a senior baseball player who majors in Physical Education, hit .398 and set a new home run record with 13 to lead the Quakers last

season. Also a quarterback and punter for our football team, Donnie turned down an offer from

the Boston Red Sox to return for his senior year at Guilford.



Jocker Klinke

Photo: Eric Buck

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