

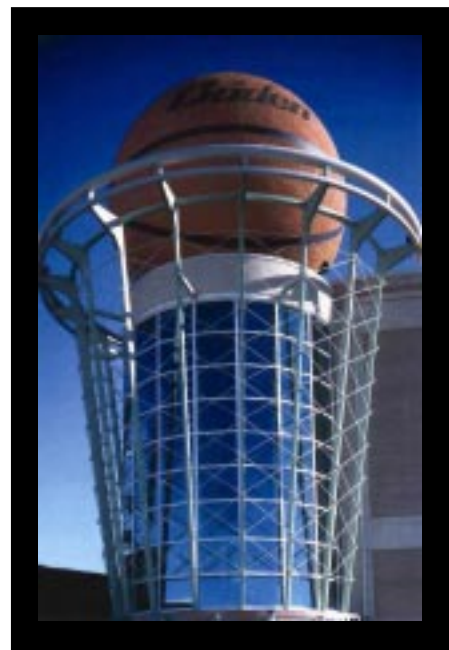
- ★ The Women's Basketball Hall of Fame is currently involved in several marketing initiatives. "Get Off Your Seat" is a campaign designed to educate people about why they should visit the Hall of Fame. So get off your seat and come to the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame.
- ★ The Hall is participating in "Culture Cash" with the Knoxville Cultural Alliance Committee. "Culture Cash" can be spent just like cash for admission or gift shop purchases at participating arts and cultural organizations in the Knoxville area.
- ★ Want to go to Indy? Stay tuned to WVLT Volunteer TV to find out how you can win tickets to the NCAA Division I Women's Final Four from the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame and WVLT Volunteer TV.

Hours of Operation

Labor Day - April 30th
 Monday - Closed
 Tuesday - Friday 11 am - 5 pm
 Saturday 10 am - 6 pm
 Sunday 1 pm - 5 pm

Closed New Year's Eve, New Year's Day, Easter, Memorial Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, and Christmas Day

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Honor the Past ★ Celebrate the Present ★ Promote the Future

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the official newsletter of the women's basketball hall of fame

Hall Announces Class of 2005 Inductees

A new year. . . a new class of inductees!

The Women's Basketball Hall of Fame has announced the selection of its seventh group of inductees—the Class of 2005. The announcement was made in conjunction with the State Farm Women's Tip-Off Classic on November 14.

The six members of the Class of 2005 are:



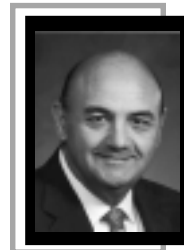
Ciampi



Litsch

★ **JOE CIAMPI** Former Auburn coach guided the Tigers to three consecutive NCAA national championship runner-up finishes and compiled a 607-213 worksheet in 27 seasons as a Division I coach, including two years at the U.S. Military Academy (Army)

★ **KELLI LITSCH** Four-time All-American at Southwestern Oklahoma State was named NAIA Player of the Year and MVP of the NAIA national tourney three times each while leading the Lady Bulldogs to a trio of national championships



Low



Tarbutton

★ **HUNTER LOW** Known affectionately as the "Father of the All-America team" for his role in the formation then management of the Kodak Women's Basketball All-America team as well as his role in the foundation of the Women's Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA)

★ **EDNA TARBUTTON** Coaching veteran set a national record for organized basketball with 218 consecutive victories at Baskin (La.) High School, registering nine state championships, including eight consecutive, and logging a 654-263-2 ledger during her 33-year career



Woodall



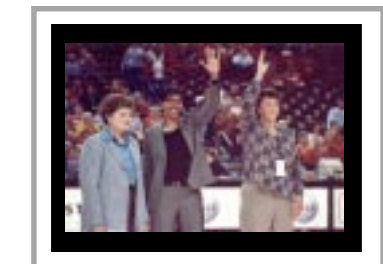
Woodard

★ **DIXIE WOODALL** A three-time AAU All-American and a 1967 Pan American Games silver medalist who went on to win a junior college national championship as a coach and notched a combined record of 390-97 in 14 years at the helm of Seminole Junior College and Oral Roberts University basketball programs

★ **LYNETTE WOODARD** University of Kansas legend scored 3,649 points to become the all-time leading scorer in Division I women's collegiate basketball en route to becoming a four-time Kodak All-American, a two-time Olympian, and the first female Harlem Globetrotter

"Our sport has so many tremendous people who have contributed to its growth, profile, and credibility," said Jody Conratt, president of the Hall of Fame's Board of Directors, which selects the inductees. "Certainly, this class of inductees has done the same. This is truly a worthy class of inductees."

The Class of 2005 will be formally enshrined during a weekend of induction festivities scheduled for Friday and Saturday, June 10-11, in Knoxville. The addition of this new class brings to 85 the number of individuals to be honored as Hall of Fame inductees



Jody Conratt, president of the Hall of Fame's Board of Directors, presented Lynette Woodard and Dixie Woodall, representing the Class of 2005, during the announcement of the new group of inductees at the State Farm Women's Tip-Off Classic.



Worth Noting

Van Chancellor (Class of 2001) was named the 2004 USA Basketball National Coach of the Year. The 2004 award marked the second time that Chancellor had earned the honor, having previously garnered the accolade two years ago after leading the USA to a gold medal in the 2002 FIBA Women's World Championship. In 2004, Chancellor guided the USA to a third consecutive Olympic gold medal. He owns a flawless 38-0 ledger in his stints as head coach of USA Basketball Women's Senior National Teams. Chancellor's Olympic squad was also tabbed as USA Basketball's Team of the Year for 2004.

When North Carolina State registered a 65-36 win over Seton Hall on December 2, **Kay Yow** (Class of 2000) became the fourth coach in NCAA Division I women's basketball history to win 600 games at the same institution. Tennessee's **Pat Summitt** (Class of 1999), Texas' **Jody Conrardt** (Class of 1999), and recently retired St. Peter's coach **Mike Granelli** are the others who have achieved that distinction.

With Rutgers' 68-46 win over Princeton on December 8, **C. Vivian Stringer** (Class of 2001) became just the fourth coach in NCAA Division I women's basketball to reach the 700-win plateau. The exclusive club includes fellow Hall of Famers **Pat Summitt** (Class of 1999), **Jody Conrardt** (Class of 1999), and **Sue Gunter** (Class of 2000). Stringer and her Rutgers basketball squad were featured in a two-hour documentary entitled *This Is a Game Ladies* which made its national TV debut on PBS on December 15.

Amy Ruley (Class of 2004) made news by reaching the 600-win plateau at North Dakota State and by being inducted into the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame in 2004. Ruley's accomplishments ranked fourth on a list of the top 10 sports stories in North Dakota as voted on by both print and broadcast members of The Associated Press.

Lynette Woodard (Class of 2005) was named Kansan of the Year by the Native Sons and Daughters of Kansas. She was also presented with a key to the city in her hometown of Wichita, Kansas, in December.

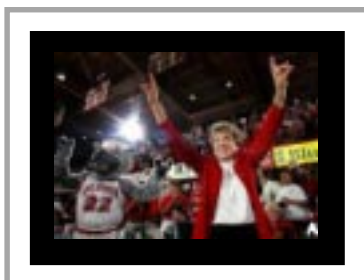
Lusia Harris Stewart (Class of 1999) will be featured in *Images in Black and White*, which will be shown on ESPN Classic on February 27. The show is part of ESPN's programming in recognition of Black History Month.

WE'RE ON TV!

Remember the part in *Hoopful of Hope* where the speaker exclaims, "And we're on TV!"? Well, the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame will be on TV—January 30 at 1:00 p.m. EST, to be exact. Each year, CBS airs a midseason women's basketball special, and part of this year's show—*Pride, Passion and Power*—was filmed right here at the Hall of Fame. The show will take a look at six of the leading candidates for this year's Wade Trophy with features on Villanova's Shelly Pennefather (1987 Wade Trophy winner and now a cloistered nun), Louisiana Tech's Erica Smith-Taylor (attempting a midseason comeback after giving birth to her first child just last month), and a fashion makeover with Ohio State coach Jim Foster. Rece Davis and Lisa Leslie provide the commentary.



Chancellor



Yow



Stringer



Producer Rich Gentile goes over the script for *Pride, Passion and Power* with Lisa Leslie and Rece Davis during filming at the Hall of Fame.



All I Want For Christmas...

Christmas may have already come and gone, but the Hall of Fame got exactly what it wanted for Christmas—some wonderful artifacts!

The Hall's Christmas presents arrived early as we got a commemorative basketball from the first Jimmy V Classic for women's basketball in November then, just a couple of weeks later, in early December, we got a couple of trophies and some photographs from the Trezevant & Cochran Lassies, who won an AAU National Championship in 1928. They are absolutely unbelievable!

Gloria Ray, president and CEO of the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame and the Hall's parent organization, the Knoxville Tourism and Sports Corporation, made the trek to Raleigh, N.C., for the 2004 Jimmy V Classic where Nick Valvano, the brother of the late Jim Valvano and CEO of the Jimmy V Foundation for Cancer Research, presented her with a basketball from the first Jimmy V Classic in 2002, signed by the players and coaches of all four teams in that year's event—Connecticut, Duke, North Carolina State, and Tennessee. Interestingly enough, three of those four teams advanced to the NCAA Final Four that year.

Bill and Ruth Sherman and Robert and Susie Sherman traveled all the way from Dallas, Texas, to bring trophies, photographs, and a notebook with newspaper clippings about the Trezevant & Cochran Lassies to the Hall of Fame. Bill Sherman's mother, Ethelyn Sherman Mistrot, was captain of the T&C team, which captured the AAU National Championship in 1928.



Susie, Robert, Ruth, and Bill Sherman came all the way from Texas to bring some trophies and photos from the 1920s for display at the Hall of Fame.

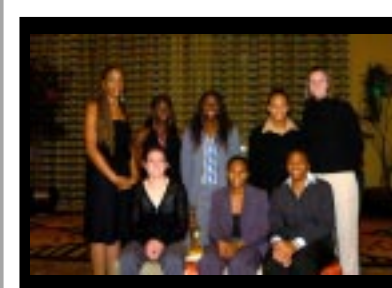


Nick Valvano presents a basketball from the first Jimmy V Classic to Gloria Ray as Carol Stiff, Director of Programming and Acquisitions at ESPN, looks on.

Wade Watch



Three former Wade Trophy winners were on hand for this year's State Farm Women's Tip-Off Classic. The trio included **Nancy Lieberman** (the only two-time winner of the Wade Trophy), **Lynette Woodard** (just announced as a 2005 WBHOF inductee), and **Susan Robinson Fruchtl** (Penn State assistant coach).



A strong field of teams for this year's Tip-Off Classic included eight players listed on the "Wade Watch" as candidates for the player of the year award. That group included (front row) Jamie Carey (Texas), Temeka Johnson (LSU), Tanisha Wright (Penn State), and (back row) Steffanie Blackmon (Baylor), Sophia Young (Baylor), Tiffany Jackson (Texas), Seimone Augustus (LSU), and Heather Schreiber (Texas).

Trading Spaces

In future issues of *Off the Backboard*, you'll notice something new in this space—a "WBCA Corner", where the Women's Basketball Coaches Association will share some information about the organization as well as news about the wonderful world of women's basketball in general.

In exchange, the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame will be providing some content for *Coaching Women's Basketball*, the WBCA's bimonthly publication. Beginning with the next issue of *CWB*, the Hall will have a "Living Legends" series, starting with a feature on one of our inaugural inductees, Lusia Harris Stewart.

Check it out!





Looking Back...Milestone Anniversaries

Like Janus, the Roman god represented with a double-faced head, each looking in opposite directions, from which the month of January derives its name, the beginning of a new year provides the perfect time to look ahead with resolutions and plans for the future as well as to look back on the past. That kind of sounds like the Hall of Fame's mission statement—Honor the Past, Celebrate the Present, Promote the Future—doesn't it?

In 2005, many significant events in women's basketball history will celebrate milestone anniversaries. Here's a look back at some landmark moments and happenings from five, ten, and even 100+ years ago:

★ **110 years ago**—In 1895, Clara Gregory Baer published the first rules for women's basketball, calling her game "Basquette". The rules were quite different from those that Senda Berenson and others were using at the time. Baer's students at Sophie Newcomb College, a branch of Tulane University, played the first public basketball game in the South at the Southern Athletic Club in New Orleans.

★ **75 years ago**—In 1930, the Sunoco Oilers won the AAU National Championship. Actually, it was the third straight championship for the Dallas group, which had previously been known as the Trezevant & Cochran Lassies in 1928 and Schepp's Aces in 1929.

★ **50 years ago**—In 1955, women's basketball was included in the Pan American Games for the first time with the USA claiming a gold medal in Mexico City.

★ **30 years ago**—In 1975, the first-ever Kodak All-America Team was named. . . Defending AIAW national champion Immaculata squared off against Maryland in the first nationally televised game for women's intercollegiate basketball. . . Immaculata head coach Cathy Rush also made her mark on the international level, guiding the USA to a gold medal at the Pan American Games in Mexico City. . . The Temple Junior College Leopardettes, coached by Fran Garmon, claimed the first National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) national championship.

★ **25 years ago**—In 1980, the first Southeastern Conference women's basketball tournament was held in Knoxville. . . The Old Dominion Lady Monarchs, with Hall of Famers Marianne Stanley as coach and Nancy Lieberman and Anne Donovan on the floor, repeated as AIAW national champions. . . The Soviet Union, with Hall of Fame coach Lidia Alexeeva and players Uljana Semjonova and Olga Soukharnova, won its second Olympic gold medal in as many tries while the USA squad, coached by Sue Gunter, also a Hall of Famer, was forced to sit at home in compliance with President Jimmy Carter's call for a boycott of the Moscow Olympics.

★ **20 years ago**—In 1985, Old Dominion won another national championship, this time an NCAA crown, in Austin, Texas. . . Lynette Woodard became the first female to play for the world famous Harlem Globetrotters. . . Senda Berenson Abbott, Bertha Frank Teague, and Margaret Wade became the first women to be inducted into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame.

★ **5 years ago**—In 2000, the USA collected a gold medal at the Olympics in Sydney, Australia, as Teresa Edwards competed in her fifth Olympics. . . The Houston Comets collected their fourth consecutive WNBA title. . . The Connecticut Huskies claimed their second NCAA championship five years to the day (April 2) that they won their first NCAA crown in 1995.



Clara Gregory Baer's game of "Basquette" bears little resemblance to the modern game of basketball (1895).



The USA squad that won the first gold medal in Pan American Games competition was captained by 2004 WBHOF inductee Lurlyne Greer Rogers (1955).



Four WBHOF inductees—Nancy Dunkle, Lusie Harris Stewart, Ann Meyers, and Marianne Stanley—were members of the first Kodak All-America Team (1975).



The USA missed its chance to compete for Olympic gold in 1980 after President Jimmy Carter called for a boycott of the Moscow Games.



Lynette Woodard became the first female Harlem Globetrotter in 1985.



The USA claimed another Olympic gold medal in Sydney, Australia in 2000.



The UConn Huskies celebrated their second NCAA crown in 2000.



Look Who's At The Hall I

You never know who you'll see—or bump into—at the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame.

That's never been more true than in the past few weeks as several basketball notables and teams have visited the Hall.

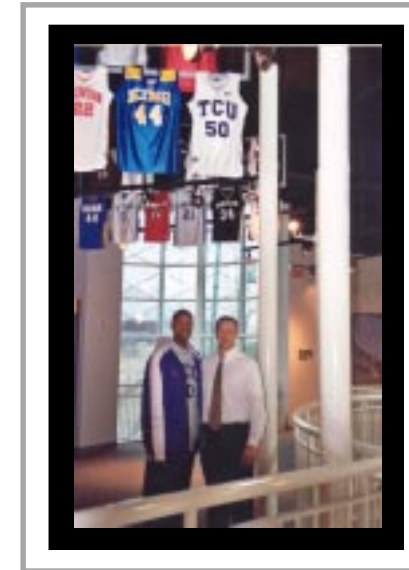
Here's a look at some of our recent guests:



The Duke Blue Devils visited the Hall of Fame just hours prior to tipoff for their December 2 game at the University of Tennessee. Team members Chante Black, Alison Bales, Jessica Foley, Wanisha Smith, Monique Currie, Wynter Whitley, and Laura Kurz found their way, appropriately enough, to the "Winners' Wall" area at the Hall, where they had a picture made in front of the Waterford crystal trophy that is presented by the Women's Basketball Coaches Association each year to the NCAA Division I national champion. Think that crystal trophy might also be a crystal ball, foretelling this year's national champion? Duke moved into the top spot in both the Associated Press and *USA TODAY/ESPN* Top 25 polls the week of January 10. Other teams who have visited the Hall of Fame this season include UNC-Asheville, George Washington, Temple, DePaul, TCU, and Arkansas.



Stanford women's basketball coach Tara VanDerveer caught up with some Cardinal fans at the Hall of Fame during her team's trip to Knoxville. VanDerveer was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2002.



TCU's Sandora Irvin and coach Jeff Mittie stand beneath Irvin's jersey on display in the Ring of Honor during their visit to the Hall of Fame. Irvin was tabbed as the WBCA's Player of the Month for December and just set an NCAA Division I record with 16 blocked shots against UAB on January 16.



Rece Davis and Lisa Leslie were at the Hall of Fame for the filming of a women's basketball special. Leslie will join Davis and Stacey Dales-Schuman in providing ESPN's studio coverage of the NCAA Women's Basketball Tournament this year.



Father and son Rick and Matt Insell had more than a passing interest in the Locker Room display at the Hall of Fame. Rick Insell's Shelbyville team is one of the eight teams currently featured in the exhibit, which includes his halftime talk with the Eaglettes' during their 2004 TSSAA State Championship game. Matt Insell also has his own place in the Hall of Fame as he guided Shelbyville Sports Shop's 15-under team to an AAU National Championship last summer, and their team photo is included in the Winners' Wall display.



Three-time Olympic gold medalist Dawn Staley chatted with a fan during her recent visit to the Hall of Fame. Coach Staley was in Knoxville with her Temple University basketball squad as they played at the University of Tennessee. Staley was just named USA Basketball's Female Athlete of the Year for 2004, and her Olympic jersey is now on display in the Hall's Player of the Year exhibit.

