

BCAM Monthly Report

MARCH BCAM CALENDAR:

**4- Miss Basketball
ballots EMAILED
to "eligible"
voting members**

**9- Boy's BCAM's
BEST and All-Star
Nom. Forms Due**

**11- Miss
Basketball voting
ends**

**11- Mr Basketball
ballots EMAILED
to "eligible"
voting members**

**13-Girl's BCAM's
BEST and All-Star
Nom. Forms Due**

**18- Mr Basketball
voting ends**

**23-Girl's Coach of
Year ballots
EMAILED to
active coaches**

**30- Girl's Coach
of Year voting
ends**

**30- Boy's Coach
of Year ballots
EMAILED to
active coaches**



Basketball Coaches

Association of Michigan

From the Executive Director's Desk:

This is a busy time of the year for basketball coaches and basketball associations. As BCAM continues to stay up with the computer age, communication becomes faster and hopefully more efficient. This month we are asking the varsity coaches to make sure they fill out the proper forms for nominating their players for all the BCAM awards. Go to the BCAM Website and click on FORMS to see the list of nomination forms. Download and print the forms you need and make sure you note the deadlines.

This year's membership is down about 100 members but we are still one of the largest associations in the country with just under 3600 members. Hopefully next year we will be able to offer a "better deal" to coaches and we can increase membership.

The Hospitality Room during the boys' finals on Saturday, March 28 will be available to members and one guest. Extra guests will be charged \$3 with a maximum of 2 guests. BCAM members can pick up a PASSOUT TAG at the table located in the arena hallway near the ticket office. Save yourself the hassle of leaving the arena between games. Televisions will be set up to show NCAA tournament games. Bring your membership card.

Hoop Fest will be a great addition to the boys' finals weekend. It will be located in Jenison Fieldhouse. Read more about it on the BCAM website.

The top 100 boys and 100 girls underclass hoopers have been selected to take part in the inaugural Reaching Higher Showcase sponsored by the MHSAA and BCAM. Read more about it on the BCAM website.

I want to wish all the teams the best of luck in the state tournament. This is an exciting time for players, coaches and fans. Please do your part in making this experience a positive one for all involved.

PRESIDENT-ELECT RESULTS:

Our first effort to use online voting was a success. Many more coaches responded than in the past. We hope that more members will take part in voting since it is so easy.

President-Elect for 2009-10 is:

Mark Bray (Henry Ford II HS – Sterling Hts.) – 192 votes.
Lou Dawkins (Saginaw HS) – 185 votes.
Joe McDevitt (Armada HS) – 158 votes.

I want to thank Lou and Joe for putting their name on the ballot.

Hoorah For Gary Williams (Univ. of Maryland)

Coach Williams chooses to ignore big-time AAU coaches. Click here for an interesting perspective on recruiting.

http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/02/12/AR2009021202299_2.html?hpid=topnews&sid=ST2009021102913&s_pos%22%20\o%20%22http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/02/12/AR2009021202299_2.html?hpid=topnews&sid=ST2009021

CHARACTER COUNTS – Check this out:

I am writing from the Josephson Institute of Ethics to ask your support for a major research project we've undertaken at the Josephson Institute regarding ethics and values in sports. I hope you are familiar with the work of the nonprofit Josephson Institute of Ethics and its two major school-based character development programs: CHARACTER COUNTS! and Pursuing Victory With Honor.

We are long time partners of the National Association of Basketball Coaches, many state interscholastic associations and the USOC (in fact prior to the Beijing Olympics we participated in a special training of all U.S. athletes designed to prepare them to represent our country in a manner that reflected the highest ideals of sportsmanship). You can check us out at

<http://josephsoninstitute.org/sports/index.html>

BAY CITY WESTERN BALL PLAYERS REACH OUT TO KIDS:

Chris Watz, BC Western boys basketball coach, has started a special program to emphasize the importance of education along with athletics. Read about his program by clicking on

http://www.mlive.com/news/bay-city/index.ssf/2009/03/lessons_off_the_court_bay_city.html

12 SIMPLE YET SIGNIFICANT DAILY TO-DO'S FOR LEADERS

Jeff Janssen, Janssen Sports Leadership Center

<http://www.championshipcoachesnetwork.com>

- 1. Compliment a teammate today.**
- 2. Challenge a teammate today.**
- 3. Support a teammate today.**
- 4. Be the hardest worker at practice today.**
- 5. Be a spark of energy and enthusiasm today.**
- 6. Model mental toughness today.**
- 7. Connect with a teammate today.**
- 8. Constructively confront negativity, pessimism, and laziness today.**
- 9. Build and bond your team today.**
- 10. Check in with your coach today.**
- 11. Remind your team how today's work leads to tomorrow's dreams.**
- 12. Represent yourself and team with class and pride today.**

Great leaders willingly invest the time and effort to engage in these 12 leadership actions on a daily basis. In applying these principles, leaders build strong relationships, keep their team on track, and enhance their credibility.

Encourage your emerging leaders to take advantage of at least 7-9 of these actions on daily basis. Your veteran leaders should be looking to capitalize on 10 to all 12 of these opportunities.

And as a coach, I encourage you to go back and look at all 12 again as well. The 12 leadership behaviors are things that you could and should be doing on a daily basis too. Be sure that you too take advantage of these 12 tiny pushes of leadership that will ultimately make a huge impact on your team.

SPORT, SPORTSMANSHIP COMFORTS GRIEVING

PLAYER: TIM DAHLBERG

The coach never considered any other option.

It didn't matter that his DeKalb, Ill., High School basketball team had ridden a bus 2 1/2 hours to get to Milwaukee, then waited another hour past game time to play. Didn't matter that the game was close or that this was a chance to beat a big-city team. Something else was on Dave Rohlman's mind when he asked for a volunteer to shoot two free throws awarded his team on a technical foul in the second quarter. His senior captain raised his hand, ready to go to the line as he had many times before. Only this time was different.

"You realize you're going to miss them, don't you?" Rohlman said.

Darius McNeal nodded his head. He understood what had to be done. It was a Saturday night in February, and the Barbs were playing a non-conference game on the road against Milwaukee Madison. It was the third meeting between the two schools, who were developing a friendly rivalry that spanned two states.

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BCAM exists to
represent and
serve basketball
coaches for the
betterment of our
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The teams planned to get together after the game and share pizzas and soda. But the game itself almost never took place. Hours earlier, the mother of Milwaukee Madison senior captain Johntell Franklin died at a local hospital. Carlitha Franklin had been in remission after a five-year fight with cervical cancer, but she began to hemorrhage that morning while Johntell was taking his college ACT exam. Her son and several of his teammates were at the hospital late that afternoon when the decision was made to turn off the life-support system. Carlitha Franklin was 39.

"She was young, and they were real close," said Milwaukee coach Aaron Womack Jr., who was at the hospital. "He was very distraught, and it happened so suddenly he didn't have time to grieve."

Womack was going to cancel the game, but Franklin told him he wanted the team to play. And play they did, even though the game started late and Milwaukee Madison dressed only eight players.

Early in the second quarter, Womack saw someone out of the corner of his eye. It was Franklin, who came there directly from the hospital to root his teammates on.

The Knights had possession, so Womack called a timeout. His players went over and hugged their grieving teammate. Fans came out of the stands to do the same.

"We got back to playing the game, and I asked if he wanted to come and sit on the bench," Womack said during a telephone interview.

"No," Franklin replied. "I want to play." There was just one problem. Because Franklin wasn't on the pre-game roster, putting him in meant drawing a technical foul that would give DeKalb two free throws.

Though it was a tight game, Womack was willing to give up the two points. It was more important to help his senior guard and co-captain deal with his grief by playing. Over on the other bench, though, Rohlman wasn't so willing to take them. He told the referees to forget the technical and just let Franklin play.

"The refs told them, no, that's the rule. You have to take them," Womack said.

McNeal went to the free-throw line, dribbled the ball a couple of times and looked at the rim. His first attempt went about 2 feet, bouncing a couple of times as it rolled toward the end line. The second barely left his hand.

The Milwaukee players stood and turned toward the DeKalb bench and started applauding the gesture of sportsmanship. Soon, so did everybody in the stands.

"I did it for the guy who lost his mom," McNeal told the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel. "It was the right thing to do."

Franklin would go on to score 10 points, and Milwaukee Madison broke open the game in the second half to win, 62-47. Afterward, the teams went out for pizza, two players from each team sharing each pie.

Yes, DeKalb would go home with a loss. But it was a trip the team never will forget.

"This is something our kids will hold for a lifetime," Rohlman said. "They may not remember our record 20 years from now, but they'll remember what happened in that gym that night."

Tim Dahlberg is a Las Vegas-based national sports columnist for The Associated Press.

Don't forget to support the BCAM Sponsors:

Meijer, Rawlings, Noah Basketball, Detroit Shock, Detroit Pistons, DC Sports, Gatorade