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# NEWS RELEASE

F O R I M M E D I A T E R E L E A S E

## COA Announces Student Athletes of the Month

**Sacramento, CA** . . . The Community College League of California Commission on Athletics (COA), in partnership with the California Community College Sports Information Association (CCCSIA) today named Jeanine Deno (Pasadena City College, women's basketball) and Terrence Johns (Bakersfield College, men's basketball) as the COA Student Athletes of the Month for December 2006.

**Jeanine Deno**, a 5'8" sophomore guard who prepped at Crescenta Valley High School, sat out the entire 2005-2006 season due to an injury but has come back this season to help guide the Lancers to the only undefeated record in the state and the state's No. 2 ranking. During the month of December, Deno connected on an extraordinarily high percentage of three point shots (64 percent) as she made 34 of her 53 attempts. She helped the Lancers to an 11-0 record during the month, averaging 17.5 points, 3.8 rebounds, 2.7 steals, and 2.4 assists. She was also named as the MVP of both the Lady Jag Invitational Tournament in San Jose and the Rose City Classic hosted by Pasadena.

Shooting the long shot is nothing new to Deno, who led the state in three-point shooting percentage as a freshman during the 2004-2005 season. She leads the state in long-range accuracy again this season, connecting on 54 percent of her three-point attempts.

**Terrence Johns**, a 6'3" sophomore forward from Chicago, Illinois, averaged 16.4 points per game for the Renegades during the month of December to help the team to a 10-0 record. He was named as the MVP of the Allan Hancock, College of Sequoias, and San Diego Mesa college tournaments. Bakersfield jumped from No. 9 to No. 1 in the state rankings with the perfect month, including an impressive win over previously unbeaten and top-ranked Riverside. Johns is currently the state's fifth-leading scorer at 21 points per game and is shooting 53 percent from the field, including 42 percent from three-point range.

Women's Honorable Mention, December 2006:

Deno edged out a large number of exceptional performers during the month of December, including another prolific three-point shooter in Sierra College freshman Tamar Gruwell (35-of-78) who led the Wolverines to a 9-2 record in December. Other top basketball performers for the month included Natalie Carr (Cuesta College), Aubrey Duran (Santa Ana College), Courtney Ford (Orange Coast College), Tay Hester (Mt. San Antonio College), Amber Thomas (Long Beach City College), Ja'Nae Westmoreland (San Bernardino Valley College) and Amber Williams (Bakersfield College).

Men's Honorable Mention, December 2006:

Johns edged out Long Beach City College's Deon Tresvant, the state's third-leading scorer who helped the Vikings to a 7-4 record in December and set a new LBCC school record with a 46-point performance in a victory over Fullerton. Other top performers for the month of December include Jimmy Allen (Cuesta College), Lorenzo Keeler (Mt. San Jacinto College), Darrian McKinstry (San Bernardino Valley College) and Tyre Thompson (Santa Ana College).

About the COA:

The Community College League of California Commission on Athletics (COA) is a non-profit organization per IRC Section 501 (c)(3). As authorized by the State Legislature, the Education Code provides the COA the opportunity and authority to establish the rules and regulations to administer the athletic activities of the nearly 25,000 student athletes at California's community colleges. To view the latest news, information, and updates of all 23 COA-sanctioned sports, and for COA Athlete of the Month history and nomination procedures, visit [www.coasports.org](http://www.coasports.org).

Student athlete biographies provided by the CCCSIA.

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