

Release: #0703

February 14, 2007

Contact: David Eadie
Phone: 916.444.1600

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 Eric Williams (Long Beach City College, men's basketball) and Courtney Ford (Orange Coast College, women's basketball) as the COA Student Athletes of the Month for January 2007.

Courtney Ford, a 5-foot-7-freshman guard/forward from Villa Park High in Orange, is putting her sneakers in the ring for state player of the year, and her sensational performance last month has earned her January player of the month honors. Ford led Orange Coast College to a 9-0 record in the month as the Pirates lead the Orange Empire Conference with an undefeated record in league play. She averaged 18.8 points, 8.8 rebounds, 3.3 assists and 3.7 steals, including five 20-point games. In a win over Riverside, she scored 25 points and grabbed 11 rebounds in 29 minutes of play. She made 32 of 41 free throws (78 percent) and shot 42 percent from the floor. Ford has helped OCC become the highest scoring team (84.2 points average) in the state.

Eric Williams, a 6-foot-6, 215-pound sophomore forward from Long Beach Wilson High, helped Long Beach City College to a perfect 7-0 record in the month by averaging a double-double in January. Williams totaled a staggering 21.3 points and 12.6 rebounds per game, adding 30 assists and 17 blocked shots in an outstanding, all-around effort. On Jan. 19 against LA Southwest, he scored 34 points and pulled down 13 rebounds. Williams is ranked No. 2 in the state in rebounding at 12.2 boards per contest. The Vikings were on a 12-game winning streak thanks to Williams' play as of Feb. 7 as LBCC led the South Coast Conference South Division.

Honorable Mentions, January 2007

In the women's category, Ford outdistanced basketball players Kieisha Phelps (Pasadena), Chari Smith (Mt. San Antonio), and Haley Woeste (Cuesta). For the men, Williams edged out fellow basketball players Willis Gardner (Ohlone), James Silvie (Santa Ana College), and Cuesta baseball pitcher Jason Roenicke.

About the COA:

The Community College League of California Commission on Athletics (COA) is a non-profit organization per IRC Section 501 (c)(3). The COA establishes 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 visit www.coasports.org.

Student athlete biographies provided by the CCCSIA.

- COA -