

Miss Basketball Jasmine Hines is Miss Versatile

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Jasmine Hines was still at the Central Lake gym Saturday afternoon when coach Al Becker stopped by her house.

Becker called Hines at the gym and asked her to come home.

"I asked if I had to come home right now, and he said: 'Yes, right now,' " Hines said. "I came home, and I was confused like I was in trouble or something."

Or something.

Hines wasn't in trouble, she was Miss Basketball.

Hines is the 30th recipient of the Miss Basketball Award, presented annually to the state's top senior by the Basketball Coaches Association of Michigan in conjunction with the Free Press.

The state's all-time leading scorer for boys and girls and the girls' leading rebounder, Hines ran away with the voting, done by BCAM members. She received 2,080 points. Nicole Elmblad of St. Ignace was second with 1,473 points, followed by Rebecca Mills of Midland Dow (1,240), Asia Boyd of Detroit Renaissance (743) and Inkster's Crystal Bradford (737).

Hines received 319 first-place votes to 135 for Elmblad.

What did BCAM members see in Hines they didn't see in the other candidates? Everything.

Hines, 6-feet-3, has signed to play at Michigan State and has led Central Lake to 25 consecutive victories entering today's Class D quarterfinal against Portland St. Patrick at Benzie Central.

She is averaging 29 points and 15.2 rebounds this season. Over four seasons, she has

2,989 points and 1,667 rebounds as Central Lake has compiled an 89-9 record.

"It's just awesome," she said Monday in accepting the award. "It's an honor, obviously, because there are a lot of great athletes, and to be chosen out of all of them means a lot. And to be grouped with all of the other ones who have been Miss Basketball is really cool."

Brenna Banktson of Frankfort was Miss Basketball four seasons ago, and it was the first time Hines became aware of the award.

"We went down to the Breslin and watched the state finals," she said. "Everyone was saying she was Miss Basketball. I said, what's that? When they told me, I thought: 'Oh, that's so cool.' Ever since then I wanted to be it."

In addition to be a three-time all-stater in basketball, Hines also earned all-state honors in volleyball and track and has a 4.0 grade-point average.

"I just knew there was something special about that kid from the time she was born," said her mother, Jill. "She taught herself to tie her shoes when she was 2 1/2. Any sport she touched, she excelled. She loves challenges. She learns quick.

"I had her IQ tested in school because she was off the board. We just knew there was something -- sure enough, she was gifted."

Her gifts blossomed on the basketball court, where she combined hard work and talent to become the top scorer to ever play high school basketball in Michigan, male or female.

"She has excelled for the last four years and has made herself so much better," coach Al Becker said. "She's just put so much time and effort on the floor. She's been consistent for the last four years coming out and averaging 30 a night and almost 20 rebounds. You've got to work hard to accomplish something like that every night.

"She's put the effort in, and she just works her tail off every day."

The 29 previous winners

2010: Klarissa Bell, East Lansing (MSU)

2009: Jenny Ryan, Saginaw Nouvel (U-M)

2008: Kellie Watson, Ionia (Notre Dame/GVSU)
 2006: Brenna Banktson, Frankfort (WMU)
 2005: Allyssa DeHaan, Grandville (MSU)
 2004: Tiffanie Shives, Lansing Christian (MSU/Gonzaga)
 2003: Krista Clement, St. Ignace (U-M)
 2002: Danielle Kamm, Saginaw Nouvel (Marquette)
 2001: Liz Shimek, Maple City Glen Lake (MSU)
 2000: Tabitha Pool, Ann Arbor Huron (U-M)
 1999: Vicki Krapohl, Mt. Pleasant (Duke)
 1998: Kristen Koetsier, Grandville (WMU)
 1997: Aiysha Smith, Redford Bishop Borgess (St. Johns/LSU)
 1996: Deana Nolan, Flint Northern (Georgia)
 1995: Maxann Reese, Redford Bishop Borgess (MSU)
 1994: Kim Knuth, St. Joseph (Toledo)
 1993: Sally Sedlar, Manistee (Toledo/CMU)
 1992: Erinn Reed, Saginaw (Iowa/Kansas)
 1991: Lisa Negri, Flint Powers (OSU)
 1990: Markita Aldridge, Detroit King (UNC-Charlotte)
 1989: Peggy Evans, Country Day (Tennessee/OSU)
 1988: Jennifer Shasky, Birmingham Marian (George Washington)
 1987: Dena Head, Plymouth Salem (Tennessee)
 1986: Deadra Charles, Detroit DePorres (Tennessee)
 1985: Franthea Price, River Rouge (Iowa)
 1984: Emily Wagner, Livonia Ladywood (Stanford)
 1983: Michele Kruty, Manistee (Dayton)
 1982: Sue Tucker, Okemos (MSU)
 1981: Julie Polakowski, Leland (MSU)

How they finished

The voting for the 30th Miss Basketball Award, given by the Basketball Coaches Association of Michigan, in conjunction with the Free Press. Points are awarded on a 5-3-1 basis. Only BCAM members are permitted to vote for the award.

PLAYER	SCHOOL	PTS
Jasmine Hines	Central Lake	2,080
Nicole Elmblad	St. Ignace	1,473
Rebecca Mills	Midland Dow	1,240
Asia Boyd	Renaissance	743
Crystal Bradford	Inkster	737