



## BCAM August 2014 Monthly Report

Tom Hursey – Executive Director

**FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:** I just spent the afternoon of July 23<sup>rd</sup> at Milford HS watching the Girls Reaching Higher. I am always impressed with the way our Reaching Higher program is conducted. Almost 100 girls were educated about the recruiting process, leadership and the right way to play the game. My hat goes off to Rich Moffit, Jaden Clobes, Nate Hampton, Tricia Wieferich (MHSAA) and Amy Heydenburg for all the work that goes into conducting the boys' and girls' Reaching Higher. Also a special thanks to the many BCAM members who volunteer their time to coach during this one-day event.

Congrats to Greg Mitchell, current boys varsity at Laingsburg HS, who was recently named Head Mens' Basketball Coach at Hope College. Greg played college ball at Hope and is excited to be returning to his alma mater. BCAM thanks Greg for his time on the BCAM Board. Steve Finamore (East Lansing) will be replacing Greg as Clinic Director.

Lansing State Journal columnist ran a column over the last two months in which he chose the top 50 Michigan State basketball players. The criteria included impact and performance at MSU only. Athlete's professional careers were not considered. Here are his top 10:

- 1) Earvin "Magic" Johnson (no surprise) – 1977-79
- 2) Mateen Cleaves – 1997-2000
- 3) Scott Skiles – 1983-86
- 4) Steve Smith – 1987-91
- 5) Shawn Respert – 1990-95
- 6) Greg Kelser – 1976-79
- 7) Johnny Green – 1957-59
- 8) Mike Robinson – 1971-74
- 9) Jay Vincent – 1977-81
- 10) Morris Peterson – 1995-2000

For more information on each player go to:

<http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/apps/pbcs.dll/gallery?Avis=A3&Dato=20140713&Kategori=GW0201&Lopenr=307130065&Ref=PH>



Another great video that shows how the game should be played – Spurs Session 2: <http://youtu.be/tNZvNs6r800>



PISTONS ARE BACK. I am happy to announce that the Detroit Pistons are back as sponsors of our Scholarship Program. New coach Stan Van Gundy and owner Tom Gores have been instrumental in bringing back this relationship. In fact the Pistons are increasing their support to \$7,500 so 15 students can be awarded \$500 scholarships.

ADRENALINE (fundraiser) and HUDL (video) have also joined BCAM as sponsors. Be sure to check them out on our website. More information about these great companies will follow this fall.



**BCAM CLINIC** Sponsored by Rawlings — October 10 & 11 in Lansing. Clinic brochures will be mailed out this month to all coaches and schools. You will also be able to sign-up online at the BCAM website ([www.bcam.org](http://www.bcam.org)). You do not want to miss this weekend. We have a great line-up of speakers along with the Oakland University Men's Team practice on-court. The speakers include: Tom Izzo (MSU), Kim Barnes-Arico (UofM Women's), Chris Mack (Xavier), Sue Guevara (CMU Women's), Brian Morehouse (Hope), Steve Hettinga (Lake Superior State), Jeff Tungate (Oakland), Ken George (Forest Hills Central), Pat Donnelly (U of D Jesuit HS), Bob Taylor (Former Northwood coach).



**2014 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES:** BCAM is happy to announce this year's inductees into the BCAM Hall of Fame. **Rick Albro (Grand Rapids Northview), Gary Bennett (Grosse Pte. North), Keith Haske (Traverse City St. Francis) and Dennis Starkey (Petoskey).** This is an outstanding class of coaches. They will receive their awards at the Hall of Fame Banquet during the BCAM Clinic on Saturday, October 11. The banquet will be held at the Best Western Plus in Lansing starting at 4 PM. Your clinic fee includes admission to the banquet. "Banquet only" tickets are \$25 each and can be purchased by emailing [amy@bcam.org](mailto:amy@bcam.org).

**2014 HALL OF HONOR INDUCTEES:** Another fine group of Hall of Honor inductees will be honored this year at the Hall of Fame Banquet. They are:

1. Media - **Richard Ketcik**-Manistique
2. Officials-**Jack Rappuhn**-Owosso Area
3. Officials-**Lee Morgan**-Saginaw
4. Assistant Coach-**William Delong**-Carrollton
5. Assistant Coach-**Charles Cook**-Quincy
6. Assistant Coach-**Dennis Vantiem**-Marysville
7. Friend of Basketball-**Kathleen Schollar**-Goodrich
8. Friend of Basketball-**Sue Lounds**-St. Johns
9. Friend of Basketball-**Sharon Folkert**-East Kentwood
10. Friend of Basketball-**Dave Murray**-Cedarville



**RECENTS DEATHS:** I am sorry to announce recent deaths of two outstanding coaches and individuals. **Keisha Brown** passed away after fighting cancer for many years. She was a successful boys' high school basketball coach at Mt. Pleasant Sacred Heart and coached the Alma College women's team for 5 seasons. **Steve Hewitt**, Grand Haven boys' coach, died while jogging on July 8. Steve was highly respected in the Grand Haven area and will be missed. Both of these coaches were outstanding individuals who loved coaching and working with youth. BCAM wishes their families well in these difficult times.

#### **MHSAA-BCAM REACHING HIGHER SHOWCASE – Rich Moffit, Chairman**

The Men's Reaching Higher Showcase took place on Wednesday, July 16<sup>th</sup>, @ Milford High School. Keynote Speakers, Tim McCormick [U of Michigan, NBA Pro] & Rashad Phillips [U of Detroit, Pro], provided a powerful message pertaining to the keys to be successful at the next level. Elizabeth Heinrich [U of Michigan Compliance] provided an insight to eligibility and the various issues pertaining to college athletes. Dan Fife [Clarkston], Kobe Baker [NCAA] & Marc Comstock [Siena Heights and Adrian] spoke to the parents about eligibility and the recruiting process. Players played 3 games, completed basketball station work & attended a classroom session on "Leadership" instructed by Ira Childress. We had an outstanding group of players at the event.

A special thanks to the following coaches for working at the event: Waleed Samaha, Lance Baylis, Don Spencer, Kevin Lillibridge, Greg Boler, Cam Nichols, Dan Snover, MJ Ewald, Chuck Fabbro, Jimmy Reddy, Rocky Buscemi, Don Gauthier, Ross Gauthier, Dave Gilbert, Ramsey Nichols, Rick Zoulek, Rod Watts, Mike Lovelace, Duane Graves, Charles Williams, Andy Dold, Bob Hatten, Gary Sharpe, Dave Duncan, Jeff Anama, Ed Shaffer, and Jason Nolan. We would also like to thank the MHSAA and their staff, along with the BCAM office, for their fine effort with the Reaching Higher Showcase.

The Women's Reaching Higher Showcase took place on Wednesday, July 23<sup>rd</sup>, @ Milford High School. Featured Speaker, Tim McCormick [Michigan & NBA Pro], was outstanding and provided a powerful message. Sue Nissan [CMU],

David Ginsberg [College & HS Coach], Ira Childress [Okemos], & Marc Comstock [Siena Hts & Adrian] provided insight on how to succeed at the college level.

The elite players attended a classroom session, completed station work, and played 3 games during this great event. A special thanks to the Milford High School, MHSAA, the BCAM office and the BCAM high school coaches for making this so successful.

**TAKE A FEW MINUTES TO READ “THINGS I KNOW BECAUSE I PLAYED”:**

<http://hoopthoughts.blogspot.com/2014/06/things-i-know-because-i-played.html>



**NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL COACHES ASSOCIATION (NHSBCA):** NHSBCA Directors met at their annual meetings July 15-16th in Indianapolis to discuss common concerns of high school basketball coaches, share ideas on improving value to our individual state associations, looking at new ways of adding membership, and sharing ideas to improve state clinics. This organization continues to grow in numbers as states collaborate and learn from one another. Currently 30 states are involved. Issues under discussion that are affecting HS basketball in most states are use of shot clock, competitive balance, halves vs quarters, out of season contact, AAU/club basketball influences and many more. All BCAM members are automatically members of NHSBCA. . We hope to improve the lines of communication between the NHSBCA and BCAM members in the near future. Go to [www.nhsbca.com](http://www.nhsbca.com) for more information. *Dan Young (NHSBCA Rep)*

**Coaching Mental Toughness:** *Jay Bilas has a book out called “Toughness, Developing True Strength On and Off the Court”. I have found some interesting comments that I will share with members in the months to come:*

“When I meet criticism that is more factual in nature rather than a matter of taste, I ask myself two important questions: Is the criticism correct? And is the criticism reasonable? If the criticism is correct, I use it to get better, and I will thank anyone who brings it to my attention. If it is incorrect, I address it in a professional manner, state my arguments justifying my position, and work toward a better understanding with the other person.

If it is unreasonable, I dismiss it. Sports are emotional, and sometimes emotional ties to a team or player can make people say or do some unreasonable things. I accept that as part of the business.

I believe that, in a public job, one has to be open to criticism, and willing to accept it. When praised, I never seem to question the credentials or credibility of the person praising me. Why would I question the same of someone who criticizes me? If I can dish it out publicly, I had better be able to take it. And I can take it.”

**CHARACTER COUNTS with Michael Josephson:  
A PERSON OF CHARACTER**



Let's face it, it's not easy to become a person of character. It takes a good heart, but it also requires wisdom to know right from wrong and the discipline to do right even when it's costly, inconvenient or difficult.

Becoming a person of character is a lifelong quest to be better.

A person of character values honesty and integrity and pays whatever price is needed to be worthy of trust, earning the pride of family and friends and self-respect.

A person of character plays fair even when others don't and values no achievement unless it was attained with honor.

A person of character has strong convictions, yet avoids self-righteousness.

A person of character believes in the inherent dignity of all people and treats everyone with respect, even those whose ideas and ideologies evoke strong disagreement.

A person of character deals with criticism constructively and is self-confident enough to take good advice, admit and learn from

mistakes, feel and express genuine remorse and apologize graciously.

A person of character knows what's important, sacrifices the now for later, is in control of attitudes and actions, overcomes negative impulses and makes the best of every situation.

A person of character willingly faces fears and tackles unpleasant tasks.

A person of character is consistently and self-consciously kind and empathetic, giving generously without concern for reward.

A person of character feels and expresses gratitude freely and frequently.

A person of character is not defeated by failure or dissuaded by disappointment.

A person of character seeks true happiness in living a life of purpose and meaning, placing a higher value on significance than success.

*This is Michael Josephson reminding you that character counts.*

**Coach John Wooden** used to say to an individual player who was unhappy because he wanted more playing time, "Young man, tell yourself, 'I will be prepared and then perhaps my chance will come, because if it does come and I'm not ready, another chance may not come my way very soon again.'"

(The time to prepare isn't after you have been given the opportunity. It's long before that opportunity arises. Once the opportunity arrives, it's too late to prepare.)

*"The highest form of ignorance is when you reject something you don't know anything about."* – **Wayne Dyer**

*"Out of every one hundred men, ten shouldn't even be there, eighty are just targets, nine are the real fighters, and we are lucky to have them, for they make the battle. Ah, but the one, one is a warrior, and he will bring the others back."* – **Heraclitus**

*"A pessimist sees the difficulty in every opportunity; an optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty."* – **Winston Churchill**

*"It had long since come to my attention that people of accomplishment rarely sat back and let things happen to them. They went out and happened to things."*  
– **Leonardo da Vinci**

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