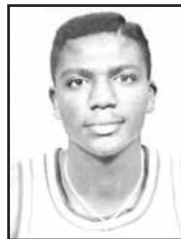


LOUISIANA ASSOCIATION OF BASKETBALL COACHES

50th Annual Awards Banquet

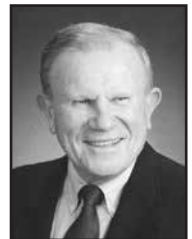
May 4, 2024
Baton Rouge Marriott
Baton Rouge, LA



Carlos Funchess



Carlos Sample



Tynes Hildebrand

*Celebrating 50 Years of Service
to Louisiana Basketball*

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PROGRAM

<i>Welcome.....</i>	<i>Coach Byron Starks Baton Rouge Community College LABC President</i>
<i>Invocation.....</i>	<i>College Coach</i>
<i>Dinner</i>	
<i>Introduction of Master of Ceremonies</i>	<i>Scott Landry LABC Executive Secretary</i>
<i>Introduction of Head Table</i>	<i>Master of Ceremonies</i>
<i>Introduction of Previous Louisiana Basketball Hall of Fame Inductees</i>	<i>Master of Ceremonies</i>
<i>Introduction of Previous Mr. Louisiana Basketball Award Winners</i>	<i>Master of Ceremonies</i>
<i>Introduction of Previous LABC Presidents.....</i>	<i>Master of Ceremonies</i>
<i>Introduction of Charter LABC Board Members.....</i>	<i>Master of Ceremonies</i>
<i>Presentation of High School Awards</i>	<i>College Coaches</i>
<i>Presentation of College Awards.....</i>	<i>College Coaches</i>
<i>Presentation of Don Landry Award</i>	<i>Master of Ceremonies</i>
<i>Presentation of Mr. Louisiana Basketball Award.....</i>	<i>Master of Ceremonies</i>
<i>Louisiana Basketball Hall of Fame Induction</i>	<i>Master of Ceremonies</i>
<i>Presentation to the LABC President</i>	<i>College Coach</i>
<i>Closing Remarks.....</i>	<i>Master of Ceremonies</i>

2024 HIGH SCHOOL AWARDS

Class C	<i>Player of the Year</i>	DeAvery Durham Gibsland-Coleman
	<i>Coach of the Year</i>	Roger Jones Gibsland-Coleman
Class B	<i>Player of the Year</i>	Jalen Brown Avoyelles Public Charter
	<i>Coach of the Year</i>	Gary Henry Negreet
Class A	<i>Player of the Year</i>	Dwight Magee Crescent City
	<i>Coach of the Year</i>	Brandon Russ Crescent City
Class AA	<i>Player of the Year</i>	Jay'Shaun Johnson Franklin
	<i>Coach of the Year</i>	Tremayne Johnson Franklin
Class AAA	<i>Player of the Year</i>	Dashawn Ceasar Iowa
	<i>Coach of the Year</i>	Alex Perkins Marksville
Class AAAA	<i>Player of the Year</i>	Daijon Leatherman Carver
	<i>Coach of the Year</i>	Charles Smith Peabody
Class AAAAA	<i>Player of the Year</i>	Allen Graves Ponchatoula
	<i>Coach of the Year</i>	Brandon White Liberty

BANQUET SPONSOR

The 50th Annual LABC Awards Banquet is sponsored by the Baton Rouge Orthopaedic Clinic, a comprehensive orthopaedic clinic with offices in Baton Rouge, Gonzales, Zachary, Walker, Brusly and Hammond.



2024 COLLEGE AWARDS

LOUISIANA JUNIOR COLLEGE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Zyquarius Cowart
Southern University at Shreveport

LOUISIANA JUNIOR COLLEGE COACH OF THE YEAR

Byron Starks
Baton Rouge Community College

LOUISIANA SMALL COLLEGE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Jamal Gibson
Southern University at New Orleans

LOUISIANA SMALL COLLEGE COACH OF THE YEAR

Dimario Jackson
Louisiana State University at Alexandria

PETE MARAVICH MEMORIAL AWARD LOUISIANA MAJOR COLLEGE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Shahada Wells
McNeese State University

TOMMY JOE EAGLES MEMORIAL AWARD LOUISIANA MAJOR COLLEGE COACH OF THE YEAR

Donté Jackson
Grambling State University

BOB PETTIT AWARD LOUISIANA PROFESSIONAL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Cam Thomas
Brooklyn Nets

2024 DON LANDRY AWARD

Tynes Hildebrand
Northwestern State University

2024 MR. LOUISIANA BASKETBALL AWARD

Carlos Sample
Scotlandville Magnet High School

2024 LOUISIANA BASKETBALL HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE

Carlos Funchess
University of Louisiana at Monroe

2024 LABC HIGH SCHOOL AWARD WINNERS

HIGH SCHOOL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CLASS C

DeAvery Durham – Gibsland-Coleman (Gibsland) – The 5-9 sophomore averaged 21 points, 4 rebounds and 3 steals in leading sixth-seeded Gibsland-Coleman to the Division V non-select state semifinals with a 16-10 record. He was named to the LHSAA Marsh Madness All-Tournament team.

CLASS B

Jalen Brown – Avoyelles Public Charter (Mansura) – The 5-9 junior averaged 21 points, 5 steals, 4 rebounds and 4 assists in leading top-seeded Avoyelles Public Charter to its second straight Division V select state championship with a 27-12 record. He was the Most Outstanding Player in the title game and was named to the LHSAA Marsh Madness All-Tournament team. He has been a two-time Class B Player of the Year.

CLASS A

Dwight Magee – Crescent City (Metairie) – The 5-9 sophomore guard averaged 29.3 points, 8.6 rebounds and 5.2 assists in leading top-seeded Crescent City to the Division IV select state championship with a 25-5 record. He was the Most Outstanding Player in the title game and was named to the LHSAA Marsh Madness All-Tournament team. He was also selected to the New Orleans *Times-Picayune* All-Metro team.

CLASS AA

JayShaun Johnson – Franklin – The 5-11 senior guard averaged 18.4 points, 7.2 assists, 6.3 steals and 4.5 rebounds in leading sixth-seeded Franklin to the Division IV non-select state championship with a 26-7 record. He was also named a fifth team MaxPreps Small Town All-American and has been a two-time first team Class 2A All-State selection. He has accepted a scholarship to play college football at Grambling State University.

CLASS AAA

Dashawn Ceasar – Iowa – The 6-3 senior guard averaged 22.1 points, 3.9 rebounds and 2.5 assists in leading top-seeded Iowa to the Division II non-select state finals with a 31-5 record. He was also the Lake Charles *American Press* All-Southwest Louisiana Large Schools Player of the Year, as well as the Most Valuable Player in the Louisiana High School All-Star Game. He has been a two-time Class 3A All-State selection. He has accepted a scholarship to play college basketball at Blinn College in Brenham, Texas.

CLASS AAAA

Daijon Leatherman – Carver (New Orleans) – The 6-9 junior averaged 18.6 points, 17.1 rebounds and 5.2 blocked shots while shooting 70% from the field in leading third-seeded Carver to the Division II select state semifinals with a 24-10 record. He was also selected to the New Orleans *Times-Picayune* All-Metro team. He has been a two-time Class 4A All-State selection.

CLASS AAAAA

Allen Graves – Ponchatoula – The 6-10 senior averaged 20.8 points, 12 rebounds, 2.8 assists and 2.4 blocked shots in leading second-seeded Ponchatoula to its second straight Division I non-select state championship with a 30-4 record. He was the Most Outstanding Player in the title game and the Most Valuable Player on the LHSAA Marsh Madness All-Tournament team. The Louisiana Sports Writers Association named him “Mr. Basketball” in Louisiana, and he was also named the Gatorade and MaxPreps Louisiana Player of the Year and the New Orleans *Times-Picayune* All-Metro Player of the Year. He was selected to participate in the Louisiana High School All-Star Game. He has been a two-time Class 5A All-State selection. He has accepted a scholarship to play college basketball at Santa Clara University.

HIGH SCHOOL COACH OF THE YEAR

CLASS C

Roger Jones – Gibsland-Coleman (Gibsland) – This year he led sixth-seeded Gibsland-Coleman to the Division V non-select state semifinals with a 16-10 record.

CLASS B

Gary Henry – Negreet – This year he led fourth-seeded Negreet to its first state tournament appearance since 1997 with a 30-4 record, after having coached his juniors and seniors since the fifth/sixth grades.

CLASS A

Brandon Russ – Crescent City (Metairie) – This year he led top-seeded Crescent City to the Division IV select state championship with a 25-5 record. He helped to rebuild the program from two wins two years ago to back-to-back state tournament appearances.

CLASS AA

Tremayne Johnson – Franklin – This year he led sixth-seeded Franklin to the Division IV non-select state championship with a 26-7 record. This was Franklin's first state title since 1958.

CLASS AAA

Alex Perkins – Marksville – This year he led sixth-seeded Marksville to the Division III non-select state championship with a 22-16 record. This was Marksville's first state tournament appearance since 2006 and its first state title in any sport.

CLASS AAAA

Charles Smith – Peabody (Alexandria) – This year he led second-seeded Peabody to the Division II select state championship with a 34-5 record. This was Smith's ninth state championship at Peabody. He is the second winningest active boys' high school basketball coach in the country with over 1,200 career wins, and this year he was elected to the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame in Springfield, Massachusetts, where he will be inducted in August. This is the sixth time that he has been named state coach of the year.

CLASS AAAAA

Brandon White – Liberty (Baton Rouge) – This year he led second-seeded Liberty to the Division I select state championship with a 32-4 record. This was the school's first state title. Liberty finished the season ranked 58th in the nation in the final MaxPreps Top 25 rankings. White was also named the Baton Rouge *Advocate* All-Metro Coach of the Year.

2024 LABC COLLEGE AWARD WINNERS

JUNIOR COLLEGE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Zyquarius Cowart – Southern-Shreveport – The sophomore guard was the Louisiana Community College Athletic Conference Co-Player of the Year. He averaged 17.4 points, 7.5 rebounds, 2.7 assists and 1.6 steals. He scored in double figures in 12 of 16 games, including eight 20+ point games, and had 3 double-double games. His single game highs were 32 points, 16 rebounds, 8 assists, 5 steals and 4 three-point field goals made. He led Southern-Shreveport to a second-place finish in the LCCAC with a 9-9 record.

JUNIOR COLLEGE COACH OF THE YEAR

Byron Starks – Baton Rouge – In his first season at Baton Rouge, he guided the Bears to the Louisiana Community College Athletic Conference championship and to the quarterfinals of the NJCAA Region 23 Tournament with a 14-13 record. This was Baton Rouge's first winning season and first conference title in seven years. Starks was named the LCCAC Coach of the Year. Baton Rouge ranked 5th in the nation in steals. This is the fifth straight year that Starks has received the Louisiana Junior College Coach of the Year award.

SMALL COLLEGE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Jamal Gibson – Southern-New Orleans – The freshman forward was a third team NAIA All-American and third team All-Louisiana selection, as well as the Gulf Coast Athletic Conference Player of the Year, Defensive Player of the Year and Freshman of the Year. He was also the NAIA National Player of the Week for Jan. 8-14. He averaged 21.0 points, 15.8 rebounds (2nd in nation and 1st in GCAC), 2.4 blocked shots (5th in nation) and 1.4 steals and had a 51.8% field goal percentage. He scored in double figures in 29 of 30 games, including five 30+ point games and fifteen 20+ point games. He had double figures in rebounds in 29 of 30 games, including five 20+ rebound games. He also had 28 double-double games. He had single game highs of 34 points, 25 rebounds, 8 blocked shots, 3 assists and 3 steals. He led Southern-New Orleans to the quarterfinals of the GCAC Tournament. Gibson is the first Southern-New Orleans player in 20 years to receive the Louisiana Small College Player of the Year award.

SMALL COLLEGE COACH OF THE YEAR

Dimario Jackson – LSU-Alexandria – In his first season at LSU-Alexandria, he directed the Generals to the Red River Athletic Conference regular season and tournament championships and to the first round of the NAIA National Tournament with a 24-7 record, which included an improvement of six wins over 2023. He was named the RRAC Coach of the Year. LSU-Alexandria led the RRAC in scoring, rebounding and rebounding margin. Jackson is the first LSU-Alexandria coach in six years to receive the Louisiana Small College Coach of the Year award.

MAJOR COLLEGE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Shahada Wells – McNeese St. – The 6-0 graduate guard was a CollegeInsider All-American and the Southland Conference Player of the Year and Newcomer of the Year, as well as a first team NABC All-District selection. He was also the Most Valuable Player of the SLC Tournament and a two-time SLC Player of the Week. He averaged 17.8 points, 4.7 assists, 4.5 rebounds and 2.97 steals (2nd in nation and 1st in SLC) and had a 38.4% three-point field goal percentage and a 2.35 assist-turnover ratio. He scored in double figures in 29 of 33 games, including three 30+ point games and twelve 20+ point games. His single game highs were 37 points, 10 rebounds, 9 assists, 6 steals, 5 three-point field goals made and 3 blocked shots. He led McNeese St. to the SLC regular season and tournament championships and to a 12th seed in the NCAA Tournament with a 30-4 record. Wells is the first McNeese St. player in 13 years to receive the Louisiana Major College Player of the Year award.

MAJOR COLLEGE COACH OF THE YEAR

Donté Jackson – Grambling St. – He led Grambling St. to the Southwestern Athletic Conference regular season and tournament championships and to a thrilling First Four victory in the NCAA Tournament with a 21-15 record. It was Grambling St.'s first-ever NCAA DI Tournament berth. Jackson was named the SWAC Coach of the Year and received CollegeInsider's Ben Jobe Award as the nation's top minority head coach. Jackson is the first Grambling St. coach to receive the Louisiana Major College Coach of the Year award.

PROFESSIONAL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Cam Thomas – Brooklyn Nets (LSU) – He averaged 22.5 points, 3.2 rebounds, 2.9 assists and 2.2 three-point field goals made and had a 36.4% three-point field goal percentage and an 85.6% free throw percentage as a guard for the Brooklyn Nets, who finished in fourth place in the NBA's Atlantic Division with a 32-50 record. He started 51 games and averaged 31.4 minutes per game. He had four 40+ point games, fifteen 30+ point games and forty-two 20+ point games. His single game highs were 45 points, 8 rebounds, 8 assists, 6 three-point field goals made and 3 steals. He is in his third year in the NBA.

2024 DON LANDRY AWARD RECIPIENT

Tynes Hildebrand – Northwestern State University – Hildebrand was one of the charter members of the LABC in 1974, serving as one of the original officers and then as the third President in 1977-78. He was an instrumental voice in growing the LABC from its founding and often served as the master of ceremonies of the LABC's annual awards banquet. He was also the head coach of the victorious North squad in the second annual LABC All-Star Game in 1977.

Hildebrand coached at Northwestern St. from 1965 to 1980, where he won 191 games and two consecutive Gulf South Conference championships and received two conference Coach of the Year awards. His 1974 team reached the second round of the NAIA Tournament. He was also an assistant coach for the 1971 U.S. Pan American Games basketball team and the 1972 U.S. Olympic basketball trials. He received the LABC's Mr. Louisiana Basketball award in 1981 and was inducted into the Louisiana Basketball Hall of Fame in 1992, the Southland Conference Hall of Honor in 1999 and the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame in 2014. He served as Northwestern St.'s Athletics Director from 1983 to 1996, and later as one of four regional officiating advisors for NCAA Division I men's basketball from 2006 to 2015.

2024 MR. LOUISIANA BASKETBALL AWARD WINNER

Carlos Sample – Scotlandville Magnet High School – At the end of the 2022-23 season, Sample stepped down as the head basketball coach at Scotlandville after 16 seasons and one of the most prolific tenures in Louisiana high school basketball history, in which he had a 482-83 record (85.3% winning percentage), had three nationally-ranked teams, won eight state championships and had six state runner-up finishes that spanned an unprecedented 14 straight state title game appearances in Louisiana's highest classification. During his 26-year high school head coaching career (which included a nine-year stint at Istrouma and one season at Livonia), he won a total of 676 games for an overall 77.3% winning percentage. At Scotlandville he produced two high school All-Americans, four Louisiana Gatorade Players of the Year and eight Class 5A state players of the year. Sample is currently serving as the athletic director at Scotlandville.

Prior to coaching, Sample starred as a two-time All-Southwestern Athletic Conference player at Southern University from 1987 to 1990, where he scored 1,399 points for a 16.3 average and handed out 472 assists for a 5.5 average. Following his senior season, he was the MVP of the 1990 LABC All-Star Game.

2024 LOUISIANA BASKETBALL HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE

Carlos Funchess – University of Louisiana at Monroe – Player – 1989-91
Funchess was the Southland Conference Co-Player of the Year in 1991 and a two-time first team All-SLC selection. He was also a first team NABC All-District and second team All-Louisiana selection in 1991. He finished his two-year career with 1,044 points for a 16.6 average and 388 rebounds for a 6.2 average, along with averages of 1.30 steals and 1.08 blocked shots. He had a 54.1% career field goal percentage and a 44.2% career three-point field goal percentage. He averaged 19.4 points, 5.8 rebounds, 1.67 steals, 1.12 blocked shots and had a 55.1% field goal percentage and 42.7% three-point field goal percentage in 1991. He averaged 13.4 points, 6.6 rebounds, 1.03 blocked shots and had a 46.8% three-point field goal percentage in 1990. He had single game highs of 34 points, 14 rebounds, 8 blocked shots and 7 assists. He helped lead UL-Monroe to two SLC regular season and tournament championships and two NCAA Tournament appearances. He was the North MVP of the LABC All-Star Game in 1991.