THE UNIVERSITY OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

EDUCATION FOR EMPLOYMENT, ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

10th Anniversary – The University of Trinidad and Tobago – Defining a Decade - Righting the Future

Embracing passion, achieving goals

BASKETBALL



UTT established its Academy of Sports and Leisure Studies (ASLS) in recognition of the value of fitness and health to students' achievement of academic excellence as well as its contribution to the development of sport as outlined in the National Sports Policy. The ASLS upholds the idea of a sound mind in a sound body and is dedicated to serving the University through academic, recreational and high performance sporting development.

Under the ASLS a subunit referred to as the High Performance Unit provides scholarships to prospective athletes. This unit deals specifically with student-athletes to develop their potential at the national, regional and international level, in their chosen sporting disciplines. The disciplines available are basketball, cricket, football, netball, swimming, table tennis, track and field and volleyball.

In today's feature, we highlight the successes of the High Performance Basketball Team since their inception in 2008, as they are seen as a dominant and respectable force in the basketball fraternity throughout Trinidad and Tobago.

Spearheaded by Mr. Joseph 'Lenny' Guy (Head Coach), who has over 40 years coaching experience, and with the assistance of Mr.Stefan Dillon, a past student-athlete of the scholarship programme, the team has attained several accomplishments including:

- Inter-University Basketball Champions in 2010 and 2013.
- Finished the 2012 North Zone Basketball League with a record of 6 wins and 3 losses overall.
- Placed 2nd in the Super 10 Basketball League's Knockout Phase in 2012.
- Placed 3rd overall in the Super 10 Basketball League 2008-2009 season.

Additionally, within the first year of the programme, former scholarship student, Kern George (Captain), was named captain of the Senior Men's National team which competed in the Caribbean Basketball Championships (CBC) held in the British Virgin Islands in 2009. On that occasion, the national team did relatively well, dominating their group in the preliminary round and placing fourth overall in the tournament.

In 2011, Miguel Sansavour (Power Forward/Center) was granted a sports scholarship to Williston State College in the United States. He was then drafted to Dakota State University and currently plays a pivotal role in the team's success.

The High Performance Basketball team is currently playing in the 2014 edition of the Super 10 Basketball League and is at the top of the league's overall standings. With the combination of talented players and the expertise of Coach Guy, the team continues to make significant strides in the development of the sport.



THE UNIVERSITY OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

EDUCATION FOR EMPLOYMENT, ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

BASKETBALL

Mr. Joseph 'Lenny' Guy

Head Coach-Basketball



Mr. Guy is one of the most qualified and respectable coaches in Trinidad and Tobago, with decades of experience and accomplishments. He received a Diploma in Coaching from the International Olympic Committee in Mexico in 1976 and also received his coaching license in 2009 from the International Basketball Federation (FIBA). He obtained a second Diploma from FIBA in 2010 at the senior level for coaching high performance athletes.

As Head Coach, Mr. Guy led the Men's National Basketball team to four (4) consecutive CARICOM Basketball Championships from 1986-1990. He also won twelve (12) local club championships in the first division category coaching teams such as Sun Jets, South East Port of Spain, Pro Rangers and Army.

In his active playing career, Lenny represented Trinidad and Tobago from 1967 to 1975 and captained the team from 1972 to 1975. He also won five (5) championships with Sun Jets in 1968, 1973, 1974, 1975 and with Army in 1969. Mr. Guy was a recipient of the National Humming Bird Silver Medal in 1997 and was inducted into the Trinidad and Tobago Sports Hall of Fame in 2008 for his contribution to sports.

Profiles

Patrick Scipio

21
Basketball
Bachelor in Sport Studies with Specialisation in Exercise Science and Sport Management



Patrick was introduced to basketball in 2006 when he participated in the annual Millennium Basketball Academy (MBA) summer camp ran by his current coach, Mr. Joseph Guy. Despite his inexperience and lack of familiarity with the sport, he managed to capture the camp's 'Most Valuable Player' (MVP) award on several occasions due to his natural athletic ability. Patrick continued alongside Coach Guy for further development in the sport and got several opportunities to tour the United States where he was exposed to a higher level of competition at a young age. At the secondary school level, Patrick won the scoring title of the Secondary School Basketball League in 2009 representing St. George's College. Shortly after, he was awarded a scholarship to The University of Trinidad and Tobago (UTT). Since his enrolment he has also been a part of the Junior National team in 2011 and 2013 and was named the MVP in a Mock NBA Camp held in Trinidad by the Ministry of Sport in 2013.

Kerry Celestine (Captain)

24
Basketball
Bachelor in Sport Studies with Specialisation in Exercise Science



Kerry Celestine was discovered by Vince Taylor who at the time was the coach of Scarborough Secondary School. At the age of eleven Kerry's six foot stature influenced his involvement. He began training for the Under-18 Junior National Basketball team at the age of fourteen and in 2005 he was selected to represent Trinidad and Tobago at the Caribbean Junior Basketball Championship. In that same year Kerry was the top scorer for all three divisions at the Secondary School Basketball League. At the end of 2005, Kerry was awarded the 'Best Basketball Player' by the Tobago House of Assembly. Kerry is in his final year of the programme and was recently recognised for his discipline and outstanding academic performance.



Embracing passion,
Achieving goals

EDUCATION FOR EMPLOYMENT, ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

BASKETBALL

Profiles

Jeffrey Harris



23
Bachelor of Education with Specialisation in Physical Education Basketball

Jeffrey Harris began his basketball career at Valencia High School and was named 'Top Male Sportsman of the Year' and 'Most Outstanding Male Student' in 2006. That year, Jeffrey got the opportunity to represent Trinidad and Tobago at the Centro Basket Under-16 Championships in Puerto Rico. In 2007 he was awarded 'Most Valuable Player' (MVP) at the Millennium Basketball Academy and the International School of Port-of-Spain Academy. He was awarded a scholarship to the University of Trinidad and Tobago in 2008 and is currently pursuing a Bachelors in Education. Jeffery captured another MVP award in the Ministry of Sport "Sports School" in 2012 where the team also travelled to the International Invitation Basketball Tournament in Tariba, Tachira State, Venezuela. At the tournament he led the team to their second consecutive gold medal and championship win. As a result of his exceptional ability and skill he was named the best guard and also achieved most free-throws at the tournament. Jeffrey is a former Student Guild President at the Corinth Campus.

Justin George



18
Basketball
Diploma in Software Engineering

Born in the United States, Justin moved to Trinidad and Tobago at a very young age and was initially introduced to basketball at the secondary school level. His first experience in competitive basketball was in the Secondary School Basketball League, where he represented Scarborough Secondary School for five years. In 2011 and 2012, Justin's participation helped Scarborough Secondary capture national titles consecutively in both the Under-15 and Under-17 divisions.

Andrew Charles



18
Basketball
National Engineering Technician Diploma (NETD) in Electrical/Electronic Engineering

Andrew Charles developed a passion for basketball from a tender age and began playing in the Secondary School League as early as Form Two. Andrew moved on to play in the Town League as a member of the 'Pure Players Club' and with 'The Hills'. Competing at such a high level gave him the experience that would expedite his development as a basketball player. He is now a member of the UTT's High Performance Basketball team.

Travis Telesford



21
Basketball
Bachelor in Sport Studies with Specialisation in Exercise Science

Hailing from Trincity, Travis is a proud past student of Trinity College East. He was named 'Sportsman of the Year' in 2012 and was also the captain of the team, assisting in the coaching responsibilities when needed. He plays the centre position for UTT's High Performance Basketball Team and is an astonishing 6' 7" in height, weighing 226 pounds. Travis is responsible for rebounding and shot blocking and is known for his defensive presence on the team.

Nicholas Medina



21
Basketball
Bachelor of Science in Nautical Science/Maritime Operations

Nicholas began playing basketball at the age of ten and joined the Millennium Basketball Academy (MBA) two years later in 2004. At the secondary school level, he captained the Hillview College basketball team and in 2007 he led the Under-15 team to become East Zone champions while receiving the 'Most Valuable Player' (MVP) award for that season. Nicholas led Hillview College in points per game every season during his tenure from 2006-2011. In 2009, he represented 'Rising Stars' in the Super 10 Basketball League Under-18 Division and played an important role in the team, being crowned champions that year. He also represented The Ministry of Sport's Under-23 Basketball team in the Roman Perez Tournament, Venezuela and received an award for most points in a game (33 points vs. Colombia).



Embracing passion,
Achieving goals

THE UNIVERSITY OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

EDUCATION FOR EMPLOYMENT, ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

BASKETBALL

Profiles

Kwasi Campbell



19
Basketball
Bachelor in Computer Engineering

Kwasi has been involved in basketball for the majority of his life. In the Secondary School Basketball League he was a significant addition to North Eastern College's basketball team and from 2008 – 2010 his school placed second consecutively in the East-Zone both in the Under-17 and Under-20 divisions. In 2011, they were finally crowned champions of the East-Zone and also went on to become National Champions overall in the Under-17 division.

At the club level, he played with the 'Valencia Heat' in the Super 10 Basketball League Under-19 Division and was crowned champions of the league in 2012. That same year, although his school placed third in the Under-20 Division of the School's Basketball League, he was named North Eastern College's 'Most Valuable Player'.

As a part of UTT's High Performance Basketball team, Kwasi continues to develop and show improvement as he displays a profound desire to become a better player in the sport of basketball.

Joel Hinds



21
Basketball
Diploma in Software Engineering

Joel attended Trinity College East and graduated in 2009. Throughout his academic career he played basketball for the school's team each year at the point guard position. He represented his school proudly in the Under-15, Under-17 and Under-21 divisions, where he was granted the opportunity to captain the teams for each division. He was awarded 'Most Valuable Player' for the Under-17 division in 2007. Joel became a member of the Millennium Basketball Academy (MBA) in 2002. Through the academy he had the opportunity to represent Trinidad and Tobago in various tournaments in the United States. He was also selected to train with the Under-17 Junior National team at age 15. In 2013, he represented Trinidad and Tobago in the XLIII Torneo de Baloncesto in Venezuela where the team placed second overall .

Rael Blaise



21
Basketball
National Engineering Technician Diploma (NETD) in Mechanical Engineering

At the age of twelve, Rael became fascinated with the game of basketball and decided to direct his attention and energies to learning to play the game. As time progressed his love and knowledge of basketball grew and he was able to make meaningful contributions to his team during his secondary school tenure. He intends to improve as a playerand become a better athlete at the small forward position and so help propel his team in the best way possible.

Kareem Mercury



24
Basketball
Certificate in Applied Engineering

Kareem began playing basketball at the primary school level at the age of twelve years. Kareem was extremely tall for his age and this was an attribute that influenced his participation in the sport.

Upon leaving primary school, he continued to play with the Millennium Basketball Academy (MBA), established by his current coach at the University, Mr. Joseph Guy. Kareem got the opportunity to travel the United States. on many occasions with the Academy which exposed him to a higher level of the sport.

Kareem previously attended a military camp by the name of MILAT/MYPART for three years and completed his tenure in 2012.

For further information, please contact us at:
(868) 642–8888, 223–4888 Option 3 or
visit our website at ***www.u.tt***

