9-1-2010

Carson proves you can go home again

Vince Moore

Furman University

Follow this and additional works at: https://scholarexchange.furman.edu/furman-magazine

Recommended Citation
Available at: https://scholarexchange.furman.edu/furman-magazine/vol35/iss2/21

This Article is made available online by Journals, part of the Furman University Scholar Exchange (FUSE). It has been accepted for inclusion in Furman Magazine by an authorized FUSE administrator. For terms of use, please refer to the FUSE Institutional Repository Guidelines. For more information, please contact scholarexchange@furman.edu.
Carson proves you can go home again

WHEN JACKIE SMITH CARSON was introduced at a press conference this spring as the new women’s basketball coach at Furman, it took all of two minutes to realize that patience and a long-suffering temperament might not rate high on Carson’s list of virtues.

After remarks about how nice it was to be back on campus and see familiar faces, Carson got down to business. “I’m going to show you how it’s supposed to be,” she said, mentioning toward a group of Lady Paladin players who were sitting near the back of the room. “We’re going to get things going in the right direction.”

For those who remember the resolute intensity Carson displayed on the court during her stellar career at Furman, it’s no surprise that she would cut to the heart of the matter. And who could argue that she doesn’t know how it’s supposed to be done?

When she played from 1996 to 2000, Furman was in a force in the Southern Conference, winning 44 league games and taking the regular season conference championship in 1997 and the tournament in 2000.

The 6-1 Carson had much to do with that success. She was twice team all-conference her sophomore, junior and senior seasons. She was the conference Player of the Year her sophomore and junior years, was team captain her final two seasons, and was named Furman’s Edna Harmon Female Athlete of the Year in 1999. She finished her career as the second leading scorer and rebounder in school history. For good measure, the health and exercise science major made the conference Academic Honor Roll three times.

She was elected to the university’s Athletic Hall of Fame in 2008, became the only Furman women’s soccer player to appear on the cover of Sports Illustrated when he joined World Cup teammates Landon Donovan and Tim Howard on the front of the June 7 issue.

The other state school’s representative on the team was Clemons (defender Opuchi Oyewo and midfielder Stuart Holden) and South Carolina (goalkeeper Brad Guzan).

Carson was a force in the Southern Conference, winning 44 league games and taking the regular season conference championship in 1997 and the tournament in 2000.

The 6-1 Carson had much to do with that success. She was twice team all-conference her sophomore, junior and senior seasons. She was the conference Player of the Year her sophomore and junior years, was team captain her final two seasons, and was named Furman’s Edna Harmon Female Athlete of the Year in 1999. She finished her career as the second leading scorer and rebounder in school history. For good measure, the health and exercise science major made the conference Academic Honor Roll three times.

She was elected to the university’s Athletic Hall of Fame in 2008, became the only Furman women’s soccer player to appear on the cover of Sports Illustrated when he joined World Cup teammates Landon Donovan and Tim Howard on the front of the June 7 issue.

The other state school’s representative on the team was Clemons (defender Opuchi Oyewo and midfielder Stuart Holden) and South Carolina (goalkeeper Brad Guzan).

Carson was a force in the Southern Conference, winning 44 league games and taking the regular season conference championship in 1997 and the tournament in 2000.

The 6-1 Carson had much to do with that success. She was twice team all-conference her sophomore, junior and senior seasons. She was the conference Player of the Year her sophomore and junior years, was team captain her final two seasons, and was named Furman’s Edna Harmon Female Athlete of the Year in 1999. She finished her career as the second leading scorer and rebounder in school history. For good measure, the health and exercise science major made the conference Academic Honor Roll three times.

She was elected to the university’s Athletic Hall of Fame in 2008, became the only Furman women’s soccer player to appear on the cover of Sports Illustrated when he joined World Cup teammates Landon Donovan and Tim Howard on the front of the June 7 issue.

The other state school’s representative on the team was Clemons (defender Opuchi Oyewo and midfielder Stuart Holden) and South Carolina (goalkeeper Brad Guzan).