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Athletics

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DePaul Alumna Joins the Harlem Globetrotters

At DePaul, Brittany Hrynko (LAS ’15) left her mark as BIG EAST Player of the Year and BIG EAST Scholar Athlete of the Year in 2015.

But this top shooter, who was initially drafted by the WNBA after graduation, chose a different path for her professional career.

Hrynko recently joined the Harlem Globetrotters, taking her place among the celebrated exhibition basketball team whose roots date back to the 1920s on the South Side of Chicago.

“What made Britt special was her ability to score from deep, get to the rim and facilitate—always making her teammates better. Her flair and gusto for the game make her a natural Harlem Globetrotter.”

Britt Hrynko is one of the most impactful players in our program’s history. Her flair and gusto for the game make her a natural Harlem Globetrotter.

—Doug Bruno

At DePaul, Hrynko averaged 19.1 points per game and set the career record for assists. She is also the No. 2 all-time record holder in three-point baskets, No. 3 in steals and No. 5 in career scoring with 1,970 points.

“At DePaul, we’re really thankful for the fans who make our team what it is today,” she says. “DePaul was a great experience. I really liked being in the city; the team was just great and they made me feel like I was a part of the team even before I officially joined.”

She played with the Atlanta Dream, San Antonio Stars and Tulsa Shock in the WNBA and overseas in Israel, Slovakia and Italy. “This was such a great experience for me,” says Hrynko. “Just seeing another part of the world and how others live was really exciting.”

These days, Hrynko travels from city to city with the Globetrotters, wowing the audience with her tricks in between shots. “It’s so much fun! Everyone should come out and see us,” she says.

There’s even a historic connection between the Globetrotters and DePaul. “The Harlem Globetrotters and DePaul basketball grew up together, as DePaul Coach Ray Meyer and Abe Saperstein, who started the Globetrotters, were great friends,” says Bruno. “It is a great honor and achievement for Britt to make the Globetrotters.”
The best and the brightest of DePaul Athletics were celebrated Saturday evening, Feb. 2, at McGrath-Phillips Arena when eight individuals and one team were inducted into the DePaul Athletics Hall of Fame.

The Hall of Fame Class of 2019 includes Andre Brown (men’s basketball), Tawona Alhaleem Hicks (EDU ’97) (women’s basketball), Liz Bouck Jagielski (LAS ’04) (softball), Kris Booker Rastrelli (CSH ’98) (women’s basketball), Carey Ryan (BUS ’02) (men’s track and field), Mel Searles (EDU ’69) (men’s tennis), Lance Williams (men’s basketball), the 1986 women’s cross-country team and Kevin McCann (EDU MA ’76), recipient of the Dr. Robert Hamilton Special Service Award.

The cross-country team won the first conference title in DePaul history after outrunning the field at the North Star Conference Championship. The lively bunch of former student-athletes (Beata Kielar Benavides, Audrey Lichtenfeld Benes [EDU ’90], Lori Pascoe Camplin [BUS ’88], Kim Wilkeson Harper [BUS ’90], Shawn Kavanaugh Hellebuyck [CMN ’05], Gloria Kuiken Iverson [EDU ’91], Erin Ahern Klancnik [LAS ’89], Colleen Thomas Marlowe [CMN ’88], Patti O’Connell Puklin [CSH ’90, MEd ’00] and Anne Kuiken Popok [LAS ’91]) and Coach John Caldow (EDU ’70) enjoyed reuniting and sharing memories of their days training at the Lincoln Park Zoo and warming up inside the Lion House. They had fond memories of Assistant Coach Karl Schaeferlin (CMN ’81), who passed away in 1990.

Video acceptance speeches were shown for each of the inductees during the banquet and ceremony. Two themes that resonated throughout the night were the university’s mission of providing an excellent education to first-generation college students and the family atmosphere of the athletics program.

The Hall of Fame weekend was highlighted by the Blue Demon men’s basketball team defeating Providence on Saturday afternoon at Wintrust Arena at McCormick Square. The Class of 2019 was introduced to the crowd at halftime.

There was a Hall of Fame memorial service on Sunday morning in the St. Louise de Marillac Chapel at the Lincoln Park Student Center. Sunday afternoon, the inductees were introduced to the boisterous McGrath-Phillips Arena crowd, who watched the Blue Demons’ inspiring comeback fall just short against No. 10/9 Marquette.

Athletics Briefs

- **Power forward boosts men’s basketball program** Talented 6-foot-9-inch power forward Carte’Are Gordon has transferred to DePaul and will be eligible following the 2019 autumn quarter. Gordon averaged nine points, four rebounds and two blocks as a freshman at Saint Louis University. He was rated among the top 75 recruits in the nation coming out of high school, averaging 18 points and 8.3 rebounds per game as a senior. He joins a heralded recruiting class that features No. 22 Romeo Weems, from Michigan; top-100 prospect Markese Jacobs, from Chicago; Arkansas transfer Darius Hall and Oscar Lopez, from California.

- **National honor for Kelly Campbell** DePaul point guard Kelly Campbell has been recognized as a national semifinalist for the highly prestigious John Wooden Citizenship Cup award, one of the most cherished honors in all of sports. Her resume includes an impressive basketball portfolio, admirable academic achievements and a compelling history of community service that underscores the university’s mission. The junior from Wall, N.J., spent part of her summer vacation the last two years working at homes for at-risk children in Guatemala and the Dominican Republic, working in the fields and the kitchen while also engaging the children in basketball and other sports.