

April 1, 2013



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**Top Local College Football & Basketball Athletes to be Honored at
Dinner on April 17**

Nominees Announced for Defensive and Offensive Players of the Year

Hampton Roads, VA —The Hampton Roads Sports Commission (HRSC), an affiliate of the Hampton Roads Chamber of Commerce will host a Celebration of College Athletics Awards Dinner on April 17. The dinner is held annually to recognize and celebrate the football and men's and women's basketball programs of The Apprentice School, Christopher Newport University, College of William and Mary, Hampton University, Norfolk State University, Old Dominion University, and Virginian Wesleyan College.

The awards dinner will take place on Wednesday, **April 17, 2013 at the Newport News Marriott (740 Town Center Drive) from 5:30pm – 8:30pm.** Tickets to the Dinner & VIP Cocktail Reception are \$75 per person. Dinner only tickets are \$50 per person. For individual reservations, go to www.HamptonRoadsSports.org or call 757-664-2573.

The Hampton Roads Sports Commission Player of the Year Awards, presented by Vandeventer Black LLP, will be presented to the top offensive and defensive players within the region. Each football and basketball program provided a selection committee with its nominated student-athlete for each category (see below). The selection committee, consisting of local sports experts familiar with the school athletic programs, will then select the student-athletes who will receive the Hampton Roads Sports Commission Player of the Year Awards. The top offensive and defensive players will be announced at the April 17 awards dinner.

During the dinner, **Jim Ducibella will serve as keynote speaker.** Ducibella, was born and raised in Washington, D.C. During his career Jim has worked at the Washington Star, Redskins Beat and *The Virginian-Pilot*. Considering the audience, Jim is proud to say that he provided most of the coverage of the early days of ODU football, including the hiring of some completely unknown assistant coach named Bobby Wilder.

Football Defensive Nominees:



Tequan Mayfield
Virginia Beach, VA
Apprentice School
Defensive Back



B.W. Webb
Newport News, VA
College of William & Mary
Cornerback



Jamal Giddens
Norfolk, VA
Norfolk State University
Linebacker



Evan Moog
Williamsburg, VA
Christopher Newport University
Linebacker



Lyndell Gibson
Virginia Beach, VA
Hampton University
Linebacker



Chris Burnette
Baltimore, MD
Old Dominion University
Defensive Line

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Football Offensive Nominees:



Odis Wesby
Newport News, VA
Apprentice School
Wide Receiver



Tre McBride
McDonough, GA
College of William & Mary
Wide Receiver



Xavier Boyce
Virginia Beach, VA
Norfolk State University
Wide Receiver



Paul Dukes
Norfolk, VA
Christopher Newport University
Running Back

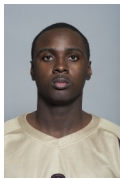


Jeremiah Schwartz
Orlando, FL
Hampton University
Running Back



Taylor Heinicke
Atlanta, GA
Old Dominion University
Quarterback

Men's Basketball Defensive Nominees:



Terrence Palmer
Hampton, VA
Apprentice School
Guard



Matt Rum
Baltimore, MD
College of William & Mary
Guard



Rob Johnson
Roswell, GA
Norfolk State University
Forward



Evan Thorpe
Richmond, VA
Christopher Newport University
Forward



Du'Vaughn Maxwell
Manhattan, NY
Hampton University
Forward

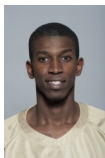


Richard Ross
Wichita Falls, TX
Old Dominion University
Forward



Chris Teasley
Newport News, VA
Virginia Wesleyan College
Guard

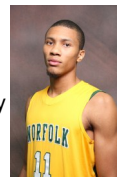
Men's Basketball Offensive Nominees:



Tevin Andrews
Pike County, GA
Apprentice School
Guard/Forward



Marcus Thornton
Upper Marlboro, MD
College of William & Mary
Guard



Pendarvis Williams
Philadelphia, PA
Norfolk State University
Guard



Chris Astorga
Suffolk, VA
Virginia Wesleyan
College
Forward



Tra Benefield
Folkston, GA
Christopher Newport University
Guard/Forward

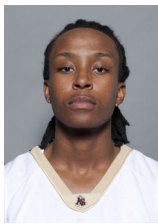


Deron Powers
Williamsburg, VA
Hampton University
Guard



Deshawn Painter
Norfolk, VA
Old Dominion University
Center

Women's Basketball Defensive Nominees:



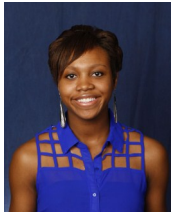
April McCoy
Virginia Beach, VA
Apprentice School
Forward



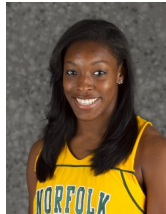
Alyssa Bennett
Hampton, VA
Hampton University
Forward



Janine Aldridge
Massapequa, NY
College of William & Mary
Guard



Tia Perry
Goldsboro, NC
Christopher Newport University
Guard



Rachel Gordon
Woodbridge, VA
Norfolk State University
Forward



Shae Kelley
Denver, CO
Old Dominion University
Forward

Women's Basketball Offensive Nominees:



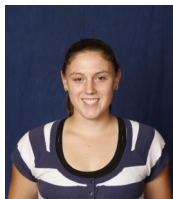
Danita Whitaker
Rocky Mount, NC
Apprentice School
Guard



Emily Correal
Venetia, PA
College of William & Mary
Forward



Recca Trice
Arlington, TX
Norfolk State University
Guard



Nicole Mitchell
Falls Church, VA
Christopher Newport University
Forward



Keiara Avant
Chesapeake, VA
Hampton University
Forward



Shae Kelley
Denver, CO
Old Dominion University
Forward

Thanks to event sponsors: Vandeventer Black LLC (Player of the Year Sponsor), Old Dominion University (Gold Sponsor), Apprentice School and City of Newport News (Silver Sponsors). For sponsorship information, please contact Gibby Eppler, Manager of Development, at geppler@hrccva.com or (757) 664-2573.

About the Hampton Roads Sports Commission (www.HamptonRoadsSports.org)

In February 1999, the Hampton Roads Sports Commission (HRSC) was formed as a private/public partnership among the municipalities of Hampton Roads and the Hampton Roads Chamber of Commerce. The Sports Commission's primary function is to attract major amateur athletic events to the area to emphasize regional collaboration. The HRSC promotes Hampton Roads while enhancing the economy and quality of life of its residents by creating and recruiting local and national amateur, military and youth sporting events, while providing unparalleled customer service. Past HRSC events include: the AAU Junior Olympic Games (1998, 2001, 2006, 2010), the National Senior Games (2003), and the Red Cross Heroes Games (2004, 2005). During the past 12 years, the HRSC has generated more than \$168 million in economic impact for the region. The Hampton Roads Sports Commission is an affiliate of the Hampton Roads Chamber of Commerce. **Follow us on Facebook (Hampton Roads Sports Commission) and Twitter (HRSC757).**

Please contact Lisa Jones at 757-664-2531 or ljones@hrccva.com if you would like to schedule an interview with a HRSC staff member or attend the Awards Dinner. High resolution photos available upon request.

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