



Southern Conference

702 North Pine Street; Spartanburg, SC 29303 • 864-591-5100 • Fax-864-591-3448

SoCon Media Relations

Bryan McGowan, Assistant Commissioner•

Mandi Copeland, Director of Media Services (mcopeland@socon.org)•

Brian Hand, Public Affairs Assistant (bhand@socon.org)

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Contact: Brian Hand, Public Affairs Assistant (864-591-5100)

Women's Basketball Coaches Select Preseason All-League Team

Chattanooga's Katasha Brown tabbed preseason Player of the Year

SPARTANBURG, SC -- The Southern Conference announced the 2005-06 women's basketball preseason all-league team this morning. The 10-member squad is selected by the league's head coaches; coaches are not allowed to vote for their own players.

Eight schools were represented on the team, which features preseason Player of the Year Katasha Brown from Chattanooga. Brown was the 2004 Player of the Year and Most Outstanding Player at the 2004 Women's Basketball Championships, becoming only the second player in league history to record both honors in the same season. In 2005, Brown earned All-SoCon honors once again from the media and the coaches. UNC Greensboro's Kristen Boone, who was the 2004-05 Freshman of the Year, was also selected to the team. Boone was the league-leader in steals last year with 121, an average of almost 4.32 per game.

Chattanooga and UNC Greensboro were the only two schools to place multiple players on the preseason team, as Tiffani Roberson and Nicole Mattison joined Brown for the Lady Mocs and Jasmine Byrd joined Boone on the team as UNC Greensboro's representatives. Roberson, a member of the SoCon coaches All-Conference team at the end of last season, enters 2005-06 after finishing third in the league in field goal percentage (.504) in 2004-05. Mattison, a coaches All-Conference selection in 2004-05, enters the season looking to add to her assist total from last season. The guard finished with 130 assists (4.33 per game) to sit second overall in the SoCon at the conclusion of last year. Byrd was lethal from the free throw line for UNCG, hitting 81.8-percent of her free throws to finish third in the league in that department.

Furman's Tommi Paris led the SoCon in free throw percentage last year after connecting on 86.8-percent of her attempts from the line. Paris is joined on the team by another category leader, as College of Charleston's Marketta Talley, the league leader in assists last season after averaging 4.90 a game on 142 dimes, has a spot on the squad. Appalachian State's Kiki Conyers, Georgia Southern's Nicole Newton and Western Carolina's Chevon Keith round out the preseason team.

2005-06 Women's Basketball Coaches Preseason Team

Kiki Conyers, Appalachian State
Marketta Talley, College of Charleston
Katasha Brown, Chattanooga
Tiffani Roberson, Chattanooga
Nicole Mattison, Chattanooga
Tommi Paris, Furman
Nicole Newton, Georgia Southern
Jasmine Byrd, UNC Greensboro
Kristen Boone, UNC Greensboro
Chevon Keith, Western Carolina

Preseason Player of the Year: Katasha Brown, Chattanooga