

'Canes mourn death of Stokes, Rodkey appointed to carry on

Rosa Stokes, Georgia Southwestern's head women's basketball coach, died Aug. 7 while hospitalized in the Atlanta area. Stokes, 38, was a patient at Kennestone Hospital. She was buried in Alexandria, Tenn., Aug. 11.

"We are all deeply saddened by the passing of Coach Stokes," said GSW President Michael L. Hanes, Ph.D.

"Coach Stokes was a respected member of our GSW community. She was admired by her student-athletes, her competitors and by her colleagues. Our sympathy goes out to her family. We stand with them in this time of loss."

"We're grief stricken," said Jon Hay, assistant athletic director and athletic trainer. "When I think of Coach Stokes, I think of integrity and professionalism. Her players could approach her with any nature of problems from on or off the court, and she would listen. She was so compassionate."

"She had a presence about her," added Michelle Haywood, assistant athletic director, head volleyball coach and sports information director. "She was so well thought of by everyone, especially her players and other coaches in the conference. Her relationships were based on mutual respect."

Stokes came to the Hurricanes after a five-year run with Long Beach State University in which the last two were as the associate head coach. Previously, she served two years with the University of Tennessee-Chattanooga as assistant coach. Stokes' record at GSW was 26-35 overall, 14-18 in the GACC. In 2001-2002 she was 11-19 overall, 5-9 in the GACC; in 2002-2003 she was 15-16 overall, 9-9 in the GACC.

Georgia Southwestern has named Jennifer Rodkey, a former assistant coach for the GSW program, as the interim Lady Hurricanes head coach for the 2003-2004 season.

"We're excited that Jennifer Rodkey is coming back," said Athletic Director Randolph Barksdale. "I think she's ready to be a head coach. It will be an easy tran-



Rosa Stokes

sition because she coached some of the girls here before."

Rodkey, 28, first came to GSW as a graduate assistant under Coach Kip Drown in 1999 and helped bring Lady Cane Basketball to their highest National Rating (12). In two seasons she helped

produce a 45-20 record with 2 consecutive NAIA National Tournament Bids and a Sweet Sixteen Appearance in 2000. Rodkey then went with Coach Kip Drown to Grand Canyon University, an NCAA Division II program in Phoenix, Az.

Originally from Austintown, Ohio, Rodkey attended Bethany College in West Virginia where she earned a degree in English education. She was a four-year varsity starter there in basketball, and was team captain and Most Valuable Player her senior year (1996) along with being a four time All-Conference player. Rodkey also coached middle school basketball in Kannapolis, North Carolina (1997-1999).

Editor's Note: A memorial scholarship for the GSW women's basketball program has been formed to honor former head coach Rosa Stokes. If you would like to make a donation, contact the Athletic Office at (229) 931-2222.



'CANES ROUNDUP

- Hurricane athletic trainer and assistant athletic director Jon Hay has been inducted into the Hughston Society. "This is extremely meaningful to me since this honor is usually reserved for the physicians that either did their fellowship directly with Dr. Hughston or with the Hughston Clinic physicians," Hay said. The purpose of the charitable Hughston Society includes advancing the fields of orthopaedic surgery and sports medicine through collaborative group clinical research. "For a Certified Athletic Trainer to be inducted is truly an honor," Hay said.
- The Men's Tennis team finished their 2003 season with a GACC Championship, Region 13 Championship and #3 at the NAIA National Tournament
- Tennis Coach Brennon Sewell was named the GACC and Region 13 Coach of the Year
- All-American Athletes include: Todd Hiscox, Tennis; Gustavo Rezende, Tennis; Romain Sauze, Tennis; and John Stezenko, Baseball
- The 2003 Women's Tennis Team was named an All-American Scholar Team
- All-American Scholar Athletes include: Shelley Dominy, Tennis; Kimberly Guthas, Tennis; and Christie Ward, Softball



'Canes host international sports camp

Football? – (left to right) Juan Pablo Wunder of Chile, Pep Ponset of Spain and John Abello of Colombia practice on the new soccer fields July 17. The international students were three of the 123 young men and women from 14 countries who spent July 15-21 at the special GSW sports camp to hone their soccer, golf, tennis and basketball skills. The athletes ranged in age from 16 to 26 and came from nations in Latin America and Europe. The International Athletic Showcase Program is sponsored by the International Doorway to Education and Athletics (IDEA) organization.

Hurricane Hall of Fame inducts new members

The Hurricane Hall of Fame inducted three new members at their annual luncheon Oct. 4. They included:

Basketball—Eric Taylor, ('95, '97). His accomplishments include scoring 614 points during his senior year and being career leading scorer for the team in 1994. He scored 40 points in the NAIA national tournament game.

Team Physician—Dr. Fred Flandry. A Tulane University School of Medicine graduate, he has served as team physician since 1986.

Basketball—Shelli Wall, ('97). Her accomplishments include being the second all-time leading scorer in GSW women's basketball history with 1,840 points.

HOMECOMING
February 20-21, 2004

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday, February 20, 2004

- Registration*
- Baseball game vs. North Georgia*
- President's Donor*
- Recognition Reception*
- Pep Rally*

Saturday, February 21, 2004

- Registration*
- Alumni Board Meeting*
- Silent Auction*
- Homecoming Luncheon*
- Baseball game vs. North Georgia*
- Tailgate Party*
- Basketball games*



We hope you'll make plans to attend Homecoming 2004 to visit old friends, make new ones, and find out the latest news from your alma mater! Watch for your registration form in the mail! Call (229) 931-2028 for more information, or go online: www.gsw.edu/alumni.

PRESIDENTIAL PICTURE—Former U.S. President Jimmy Carter and his wife, Rosalynn, receive a copy of their new portrait from Georgia Southwestern State University President Michael L. Hanes, Ph.D., during a campus reception Tuesday, Sept. 30. GSW honored the former first couple for their continuing support of the University. In January the Carters, both alumni of GSW, announced a \$370,000 gift in Nobel Peace Prize winnings to the campus-based Rosalynn Carter Institute for Human Development. The portrait will hang in GSW's James Earl Carter Library, named in honor of President Carter's father. "We are grateful for President Carter's world leadership and his service to others through his ongoing work at the Carter Center," Hanes said. "We are also grateful that Mrs. Carter has honored Georgia Southwestern with her ongoing involvement and support for the Rosalynn Carter Institute on our campus."



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