

## BLUE STAR EUROPE LONDON 29<sup>th</sup>/30<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2012

The Tournament took on a different look in 2012 as following the usual Round Robin games the players were selected for 3 "All Star Games" designed to give all players the opportunity to perform at a level suited to their age and experience .

### DUKE FIRST PLACE Coach :- Steve Pearl

Maryland W 43 – 36 ; Connecticut W 55 – 45 ; Baylor W 62 – 31 ; Notre Dame W 60 – 48 ; Stanford W 58 – 46

Coach Steve Pearl demanded and got a good effort from his team who managed to win every game with a degree of comfort. With good consistency from 6' 4" Harriet Ottewill-Soulsby and regular points from Megan Lewis , Anja Fuchs-Robetin and Sigi Koizar the Duke team kept all opponents below 50 points to seal their 100% winning record. Jess Davis , Alia Wilson and Steph Duru worked hard to provide a solid defensive shield .

### MARYLAND SECOND PLACE Coach :- Daniel Szatkowski

Connecticut L 43 - 49; Baylor W56 – 47; Notre Dame W59 – 41; Duke L 36 – 43; Stanford W 50 -36

Maryland gained second place courtesy of their head to head win over Notre Dame . Coach Dan Szatkowski had a couple of influential players from Poland who were not able to stay for the All Star games but were influential in all of the games notably Julia Adamowicz ( 11.0 points per game ). Mercurial Jay-ann Bravo – Harriott and enigmatic Cheridene Green were strongest of the home players with good support from Parris Wilkinson and Brenda Kipewu .

### NOTRE DAME THIRD PLACE Coach: - Fe Keown

Maryland L 41 -59 ; Connecticut W 65 – 58 ; Duke L 48 – 60 ; Baylor W 54 -40 ; Stanford W 54 – 46

With Janice Monakana averaging 16.8 p.per game Fe Keown had plenty of offensive power but the Notre Dame defence looked a touch shaky and struggled to get rebounds until the arrival of Evelyn Adebayo for day 2. Other players to make a significant impact were Ashley Tensel with her strong drives and Sadie Russell with some effective outside shooting .

### STANFORD FOURTH PLACE Coach: - Steve Vear

Maryland L 36 – 50; Baylor W 46 – 32; Connecticut W 63 – 60 ; Notre Dame L 46 – 54 ; Duke L 46 – 58

Stanford had plenty of points from Simone Costa ( 12.0 ppg ) and busy Theresa Jackson ( 9.5 ppg) but Coach Steve Vear could not get a strong defensive effort from his team who struggled to contain the best players . M.Kostourkova scored consistently with long range shooting from Alicia Gallagher providing support .

### BAYLOR FIFTH PLACE Coach :- Doreen St. Marthe

Duke L 62 -31 ; Connecticut W 57 – 43 v; Maryland L 46 – 57 ; Notre Dame L 40 -%4 ; Stanford L 32 – 46

Baylor never had the muscle to compete effectively at this level and relied very much on previous All-Star Guard Melita Emanuel - Carr ( 11.6 ) and forward Kaitlyn Lewis ( 7.5 ) for their points . Improved Lauren Milligan provided excellent support in the forward position and the contribution of novice Emma Hallqvist should not be underestimated .

CONNECTICUT SIXTH PLACE Coach : Sterling Muschett

Notre Dame L 58 – 65 ; Stanford L 60 -63 ; Maryland W 49 -43 ; Baylor L 43 – 57 ; Duke L 45 - 55 .

Coach Muschett made light of another tough assignment from the Blue Star selectors but never ceased from asking the best from his players . Centre Chrise Lewis ( 7.6) did well making a strong contribution under both baskets and Emerald Ekpiteta ( 8.0 ) was outstanding with her aggressive play in all aspects of the game . Shequila Joseph ( 15.4) was another player in the points but the Connecticut squad could never put the brakes on the oppositions scorers .

AAU ALL STAR GAME

<u>BLUE</u>			<u>WHITE</u>		
Remi Grant	2	(1.0p.per g./3 best )	Ibiola Oyedeji	2	( 1.3 4 )
Melodie Trought	6	( 2.6 6 )	Molly Taylor	16	( 6.6 16 )
Imani Whittington	5	( 2.1 6 )	D’andri St.Marthe	7	( 2.1 7 )
Milly Stevens	0	( 2.0 5 )	Savannah Wilkinson	8	( 3.0 8 )
Camille Francis	4	( 2.3 6 )	Ije Enwerem	15	(6.0 15 )
Deborah Somoye-Unsby	0	( 0.1 1 )	Monique Esbrand	4	( 1.3 4 )
Emma Hallqvist	10	( 5.8 16 )	Jenelle Grant	8	(6.3 13)
C. Doreen St.Marthe	27		C. Sterling Muschett	62	

Not much get up and go from the Blue team in this game which featured much of the best novice talent from the South East of England . Featuring several players who have already represented England the standard was pretty good . Molly Taylor again stood out with her all round guard game and there were strong rebounding and Inside efforts from the relatively inexperienced Emma Hallqvist and Ije Enwerem . Remi Grant , Ibiola Oyedeji and D’andri St. Marthe looked solid when handling the ball and there was some decent outside shooting from Savannah Wilkinson and Jenelle Grant.

NCAA ALL STAR GAME

<u>BLUE</u>			<u>WHITE</u>		
Parris Wilkinson	8	( 5.5 9 )	Brenda Kipewu	6	( 5.3 7 )
Ugne Statkeviciute	2	( 2.1 6 )	Samantha Toole	0	( 1.8 5 )
Gabriella Nikitinaite	7	( 5.8 10)	Bogmila Petrakova	5	( 5.8 11)
Sarah Thompson	11	( 5.0 13 )	Evelyn Adebayo	7	( 6.5 7 )
Stephanie Duru	2	( 5.1 9 )	Bernadette Bailey	14	( 3.0 14)
Alicia Gallagher	5	( 4.3 9 )	Liz Falade	0	( 1.3 4 )
Jess Davis	5	( 2.0 5 )	Alia Wilson	8	( 2.8 8 )

Ellen Lewis	2	( 3.5 6 )	Maria Mendez	4	( 3.0 6 )
Rebecca Taylor	5	( 1.8 5 )	Wandy Weekes	2	( 3.1 8 )
C. Fe Keown	49		C. Steve Vear	47	

A very tight match up leading to a competitive and low scoring game . Both coaches were able to throw plenty of size into the mix and the teams had to go to the land of plenty to keep the scoreboard moving . WHITES needed an effervescent display from the previously low key Bernadette Bailey and picked up inside points from Alia Wilson, Marllene Mendez and Evelyn Adebayo . Brenda Kipewu was most effective of the perimeter players . BLUES were a more guard orientated team with Parris Wilkinson and Gabriella Nikitinaite showing good progression . Top scorer was Sarah .Thompson who made the long journey from Glasgow to play . The tough defensive stance of both teams ensured that this was a quality game with scoring opportunities hard to come by .

#### WNBA ALL STAR GAME

<u>BLUE</u>			<u>WHITE</u>		
Ashley Tensel	5	( 7.8 14 )	Theresa Jackson	2	( 9.5 14 )
Megan Lewis	3	( 8.5 19 )	Simone Costa	1	( 12.0 24 )
Jay-Ann Bravo – Harriott	8	( 8.0 12 )	Sigi Koizar	4	( 8.1 13 )
Anja Fuchs-Robetin	11	( 8.9 12 )	Sadie Russell	4	( 7.5 10 )
Emerald Ekpiteta	9	( 8.0 9 )	Shequilla Joseph	10	( 15.4 21 )
Janice Monakana	6	( 16.8 26 )	Chrisse Lewis	2	( 7.6 16 )
M Kostourkova	3	( 6.8 11 )	Cheridene Green	9	( 8.3 14 )
Harriett Ottewill-soulsby	7	( 11.3 19 )	Melita Emanuel-Carr	5	( 11.6 26 )
Kaitlyn Lewis	8	( 7.5 11 )	Lauren Milligan	4	( 4.3 10 )
C Steve Pearl	60		C. Daniel Szatkowski	41	

The main All Star game was of a very good quality . The pace of the game was very fast exposing fitness limitations in some players and open shots were very hard to come by . Both teams possessed good size and the tenacious defence meant that players had to work collaboratively to create a decent shot . WHITES struggled to create quality open shots with only those players with quality European experience able to score with any consistency . They also racked up a heavy fouls count as they struggled to subdue the BLUES offence well-orchestrated by Jay-ann Bravo-Harriott . The BLUES were able to create better openings with a good spread of points and they seemed to benefit from a superior level of teamwork . Prominent players for the Blues included Harriett Ottewill-Soulsby who continues to progress and Kaitlyn Lewis who works hard off the ball . Of the younger players Emerald Ekpiteta earned the right to be thrown in at the deep end and her willingness to battle for the team was very evident as was a prominent effort by Sadie Russell for the WHITES .