

Oak Hill’s leading girls basketball scorer named to Grant County Hall of Fame

By Sean Douglas

It’s no secret that Grant County is a hotbed for boys and girls basketball talent. This year, one of the very best to ever touch the hardwood will achieve Grant County immortality. After a brilliant career at Oak Hill and Purdue, Courtney (Moses) Delks will be inducted in the Grant County Sports Hall of Fame, joining her former head coach, Todd Law, and 10 other individuals and teams as a member of the 12th class in the Hall’s history.

Delks graduated from Oak Hill as the all-time leading scorer with 1,956 career points, and, in all, holds 27 school records. She led the Golden Eagles to back-to-back state championship appearances in 2009 and 2010 and capped off her high school career winning the prestigious Miss Basketball award. Delks then went on to Purdue, starting all four years. During her time with the Boilermakers, Purdue won back-to-back Big Ten Tournament championships and appeared in the annual NCAA Tournament all four years. Delks averaged 12.7 points, 2.9 rebounds, 2.2 assists, and 1.2 steals per contest, shooting 43.6 percent from the field and 39.5 percent from beyond the arc. She graduated from Purdue as the program’s all-time leader in made three-point field goals with 223. “I’ve seen a lot of really good basketball players come and go through the years,” President of the Grant County Sports Hall of Fame Andy McCord said. “For my money, if I were to pick the best girls’ basketball player that I’ve ever seen in high school, it would be Courtney. She had this ability to take over a game at any moment, and



Courtney (Moses) Delks battles for position while a member of the Oak Hill Golden Eagles girls basketball team.

she worked her tail off. Whatever she lacked in size, she made up for in hustle and aggression. “She was not afraid to take a shot. She was not afraid to drive to the hoop. She was not afraid to play defense with four fouls. Courtney was one of those girls that comes along every so often that you look at and say, ‘That’s a special player.’ And she was.” After graduating with a degree in human services, Delks returned to Grant County, spending one season as an assistant coach for the IWU Wildcats women’s basketball team under Head Coach Steve Brooks. In 2015, she, together with her husband, Jordan, founded C-Mo’s Training Academy, where they work with boys and girls from elementary to high school to help improve their game. Along with conducting workouts, Delks works with players in the areas of ball handling, post moves, one-on-one play, mid-range shooting, shooting off the dribble, three-point shooting, and so much more. “To see her and her husband doing the things that they are doing – instructing both girls and boys in proper shooting technique and the fundamentals of the

game – is great,” McCord said. “It does my heart good to see her doing that.” There have been a plethora of remarkable female basketball players in Grant County, from Trina Keys to Ra’Shaya Kyle to Taylor Westgate. But from 2006-2010, Delks quickly proved to be one of the top female basketball players to ever play basketball in the area. While she only stands at 5-6, she played the game of basketball with grit, heart, and a drive that set her apart from many of her peers, leaving in its wake a legacy that will not soon be forgotten. “Courtney’s work ethic was what impressed me so much,” McCord said. “I’ve seen a lot of girls basketball players that have the God-given ability and talent, but maybe didn’t have that work ethic. She was undersized, but man, she was a special player. Her work ethic not only set her apart in this county, but across the state period.” Due to current COVID-19 restrictions, the 12th annual Hall of Fame induction banquet, scheduled for April 26, has been postponed. A makeup date will be announced at a later date.

IWU

Moments later, however, Mahurin gave the Wildcats the lead for good. The Cougars continued to push, but IWU always had an answer. “One thing that stood out was anytime that they took a lead or had it tied, we ended up scoring on the very next possession,” Marlin said. “They definitely made their runs, but I think their biggest lead of the game was one or two. For our team to constantly respond was pretty special.” With 6.8 seconds to play, Mawhoor was fouled going up for a rebound and hit a free throw to put the Wildcats up 68-66. “The [realization] didn’t come until there was one second left,” Mahurin said. “That game was so close. They were always so good, and they could hit so many big shots. But they missed a shot that would have put them in the lead by one late in the game.” Saint Francis looked to tie the game, but Peters came with the rebound and was fouled with 0.9 seconds to play. He nailed his second free throw to put the Wildcats up 69-66, securing their second national championship in three seasons. Peters finished the game



with a game-high 20 points, including five-of-seven from three-point range. Mahurin added 18 points and four rebounds, while Marlin capped his IWU career with 10 points. “The first time we played them, we got beat by 20. The second time we played them, we got beat by 17. The third time we played them, we lost by one, and the fourth time we played them, we beat them by three,” Tonagel said. “That was just the story of that time. We got better from start to finish, once again, because we bought into the IAmThird philosophy. It was way bigger than basketball for us, and that moved us along the trajectory of growth.” “It was a pretty surreal feeling,” Marlin added. “There aren’t too many guys who finish their college career with a win, but honestly in looking back at

that run...just being able to create more memories with those guys was special.” In a three-year period, IWU ascended from a team on the rise to a top small college program. As for the 2015-2016 Wildcats, they hope that their legacy is one of tradition, success, and most importantly, the IAmThird lifestyle. “The saying under the lockers is, ‘You were handed a heritage. You leave a legacy,’” Peters said. “We were handed down great basketball to us. The guys that played before us built that foundation for us and allowed us to get to that point. I can’t say enough good things about them. They set the stage for us. “I hope that the bonds that we built and the friendships that we made and continue to carry on are what really stick with people.”

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IHSAA

ana, school sponsored summer activities may resume on July 1, 2020. Rule 15-3.4 of the IHSAA by-laws provides that a moratorium week shall be observed on the Monday through Sunday which includes July 4th. July 1, 2020 would nor-

mally fall during the prescribed moratorium week. In light of the amount of time students have been restricted from school and contact with their teammates and coaches, the Association is hereby waiving Rule 15-3.4 for the year

2020. Therefore; contact with students under the provisions of Rule 15-3 may occur beginning on Wednesday, July 1, 2020 and continue through Saturday of Week 4 of the IHSAA calendar which is Aug. 1, 2020.

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