

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Parker and Douglas named to ESPN The Magazine Academic All-District team

LINCOLN UNIVERSITY, PA. (June 7, 2007) - Lincoln University of Pennsylvania's senior student-athletes Ashley Parker (Pleasantville, NJ/Pleasantville) and Ashley Douglas (Crisfield, MD/Crisfield) earned recognition on the prestigious ESPN The Magazine Academic All-District College Division women's track & field/cross country teams Thursday morning.

Parker was one of 10 student-athletes selected to the first team. Douglas was named to the second team. Lincoln is a member of the District 2 College Division along with Division II and III schools from Pennsylvania, Delaware, New Jersey, Maryland, and Washington, D.C. Overall, 89 women were nominated for the ESPN The Magazine Academic All-District 2 College Division team. There are eight districts nationally that select first and second teams.

Parker is the second Lincoln University student-athlete in the last two years to be named to the first team. Men's soccer player Oluwafemi Badejo was named to the first team in 2005.

"That's outstanding," Lincoln track coach Cyrus D. Jones said. "I am excited for both young women because they've worked hard on and off the track. This is a great honor for a pair of deserving and special young ladies."

Parker now becomes eligible to be selected as an ESPN The Magazine Academic All-America. She advances to the national ballot of 80 student-athletes.

A six-time track and field All-American, Parker has enjoyed a season to remember for the Lincoln University women's track team. She was selected as the Philadelphia Inquirer Academic All-Area Women's Track and Field Performer of the Year. In addition to being nominated for the NCAA Woman of the Year program, Parker has a 3.74 grade point average. Parker recently helped the Lady Lions finish fifth at the 2007 NCAA Division III Outdoor national championship meet by placing third in the 100-meter dash and fourth in the 200-meter dash. The fifth place finish was Lincoln's highest since 2001. During the indoor national championship meet, Parker was fourth in the 55-meter dash. Parker won the 200-meter dash at the Swarthmore College Twilight Meet. She also ran on the Lady Lions' 400 and 1600-meter relay teams.

Parker is a member of the school record 1600-meter relay indoor team. A Health Science major, Parker earned Player of the Week accolades from the Association of Division III Independents on April 23 after helping the 4 x 400-meter relay team win its race at the Moravian Greyhound Classic.

In addition to her success on the track, Parker was named the Lincoln University female Indoor Track and Field athlete of the year and received the team's prestigious Sportsmanship Award. The health science major also received recognition along with Douglas for having the highest GPA (3.74) on the indoor track and field team.

Meanwhile, Douglas helped the 400-meter relay team qualify for the NCAA Championship meet in 2007. During the 2006 season, Douglas earned All-America honors in the 400-meter relay after helping Lincoln finish second in the event. Douglas recently earned her degree in Health

Science and she will begin graduate school at Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia in August.

The College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA) selects Academic All-America® teams in 12 programs: football, women's volleyball, men's soccer, women's soccer, men's basketball, women's basketball, baseball, softball, men's track & field/cross country, women's track & field/cross country, men's at-large and women's at-large. A first team, second team and third team are selected in both the University (Division I and I-AA) and College (Division II, III and NAIA) Divisions. Football consists of just first and second teams. The minimum GPA for the ESPN The Magazine Academic All-America® program is 3.20. This MAY NOT be rounded up to 3.20 - thus, a student-athlete with a 3.199 GPA is not eligible.

The eligibility rule is very simple: an athlete must have completed one full academic year at the nominating institution. Thus, transfers, redshirts, JUCO matriculations, etc. must have completed one full academic year at the nominating institution to be eligible.

Founded in 1854, Lincoln University is the first historically black institution of higher education and its graduates include such luminaries as Thurgood Marshall, the first African American justice of the United States Supreme Court, and acclaimed poet and author Langston Hughes. Lincoln University is nationally regarded for producing African Americans with undergraduate degrees in the physical sciences.

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