

# Quotes of the Week

"This is the series everybody wanted. I don't know if we wanted it." — San Antonio's Tim Duncan, on facing the Los Angeles Lakers in the Western Conference finals.

"Things could have been worse if Desi Relaford didn't have his good stuff." — Mets manager Bobby Valentine after using shortstop Desi Relaford to pitch the ninth inning of a 15-3 loss to San Diego. Relaford got three straight outs after the Padres raked five Mets pitchers for 17 hits in the first eight innings.

"You are at bat in the bottom of the ninth with two strikes against you. You are a proven winner on the field. Now you must prove you are a winner off the field." — Circuit Judge Florence Foster, who sentenced Darryl Strawberry to return to drug rehab instead of prison.

"It's one of the neatest things I've ever seen happen, when you think of the way he was thought of five years ago and the way this franchise was perceived, and what he's done to put us where we are and the change in him. He's not only the best player on the team, he's become a great teammate. I'm like a proud father watching him develop and the way he plays and to recognize the heart he has." — 76ers coach Larry Brown on Allen Iverson winning the NBA's Most Valuable Player award.

"I think the student taught the teacher a lot about life, and I'm

grateful for that. I'm really grateful for the opportunity to coach Allen, and I never thought I'd say that." — 76ers coach Larry Brown about NBA MVP Allen Iverson.

"I don't know how many pucks we had to throw on the net. I think across the board, the guys wouldn't be denied." — St. Louis coach Joel Quenneville on the Blues, who took 60 shots in their 4-3, double-overtime victory over Colorado in Game 3 of the Western Conference finals.

"Three-ninety-nine, 400 and you walk away with two losses. It should be a little more joyous." — Cubs manager Don Baylor on Sammy Sosa, who hit his 400th career home run in the Cubs' 6-2 loss to Houston.

"To me, (the basket) looked like an ocean." — Allen Iverson, who scored 52 points in Philadelphia's 121-88 win over Toronto.

"I used to look up to all of them. To be in their company is really something. You see the history and the tradition and what it means to America. I'm proud to be just a small part of that. You never know when you start in this game what direction your career will go in." — Dave Winfield, who walked through the Baseball Hall of Fame for the first time after being elected to it four months ago.

The Associated Press

# Basketball

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be the coach, though. He knows his stuff."

Muscattell, who said he would be more than content to keep his job as an assistant, met with Moos Monday to make a final decision about whether to submit an application.

"By not reapplying for the job, you are essentially saying you're not sure of yourself or you're deeming yourself not qualified," Muscattell said. "But I am ready, willing and able to handle the situation."

Asked if the new head coach should retain Muscattell, Williams said, "If they're smart, they would. He recruited such a great class this year. I think he has a good chance of keeping his job. I would be disappointed if he didn't."

Last week, Moos interviewed three candidates for the vacancy. Bev Smith, the former Oregon

standout and current Canadian national coach, was in town Wednesday and expressed her desire for the job.

"I know I can be my best here," Smith said of taking over the program, which has an annual budget of \$1.3 million. "This is a perfect fit for me."



ELLIOTT

State's Cheryl Burnett.

"They are all very strong candidates," Moos said Monday. "They were very impressed with Eugene and the University campus and particularly the resources we've made available for women's basketball."

"I was extremely impressed

with Bev Smith," Williams said. "I wasn't as impressed with [Burnett]. She reminded me of someone we used to have."

Moos said he would like to decide on the new coach by June 1. He added that he would have to review all the applications after the 5 p.m. deadline Monday to determine whether any other interviews are necessary.

Burnett led Southwest Missouri State to the 2001 Final Four while coaching the NCAA all-time scoring leader, Jackie Stiles, who is now a member of the WNBA's Portland Fire. In 13 seasons, Burnett has amassed a 274-117 record (a .700 winning percentage) with the Lady Bears.

"We did not talk specifics," Burnett told The Associated Press of her interview with Moos. "Any time an opportunity is afforded [of] that kind of opportunity, I would be silly as a business person not to at least educate myself about it."

# Williams

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of Vanderbilt, Carisse Moody of North Carolina State, Jenny Roulrier of Colorado, Ayana Walker of Louisiana Tech and Shereka Wright of Purdue.

There is still one final spot available on the American team, and among those competing for that position are Stanford's Lindsey Yamasaki, Washington's Loree Payne and Wisconsin's Tamara Moore.

The U.S.A. coach and current Virginia women's basketball head coach Debbie Ryan is excited about the amount of talent her team will possess this summer.

"We've got a very athletic team," Ryan said. "We won't be the biggest team, but we'll be very athletic, and we will be a team that can slash well. We've got some good shooters on this team that can spread the floor a little bit for our size inside. We do have some size inside, so hopefully we can spread the floor and get the ball to them."

This summer will be an important time for Williams to clear out some of the cobwebs built up from not playing last year and help get her back to her all-Pac-10 form of her first two years.

"It's tremendous credit to Shaquala and her work ethic that seven and a half months off of ACL surgery, she was able to go out and compete against some of the best players in the nation," Oregon interim head coach Dan Muscattell said. "It's a great moment for Oregon women's basketball."

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