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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

PBCC Names New Athletic Director, Women's Basketball Coach

(Lake Worth, Fla. – June 17, 2008) Palm Beach Community College will welcome David Holstein as athletic director and Kristen Ruffo as the new women's basketball coach. Both will join the PBCC Athletic Department next month.

David Holstein comes to PBCC after 31 years of service at Kankakee Community College (KCC) in Illinois. He served the last 14 years as athletic director, and for 13 years was the men's head basketball coach for the Cavaliers from 1993-2006.



During his tenure as athletic director at KCC, Holstein directed six National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) sports: men's soccer, basketball, baseball and women's basketball, volleyball and softball. These six programs garnered 31 regional titles, 25 national tournament appearances and produced 50 NJCAA All-Americans and 17 Academic All-Americans.

Holstein coached men's basketball at KCC for 29 years (16 as an assistant coach.) He was named NJCAA District Coach of the Year, Illinois Basketball Coaches Association Junior College Coach of the Year three times, and Region IV NJCAA Coach of the Year four times. He guided his teams to four regional championships and four runner-up finishes during his tenure. Holstein's teams compiled a record of 286-144 under his leadership. He has coached seven All-Americans, had 23 All-Region players and placed more than 40 players at NCAA Division I and II universities.

Holstein succeeds Dr. Willie Booker, who died Aug. 7, 2007. Holstein will take over as athletic director at PBCC July 21.

Kristen Ruffo comes to PBCC from State University of New York (SUNY) at Geneseo, where her Lady Knights teams posted an 82-55 record over five seasons (2002-2007) and won the Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) Upstate Championship in the 2002-2003.

Before her tenure at SUNY Geneseo, Ruffo spent four seasons as the women's head basketball coach at Division II Lenoir-Rhyne College in Hickory, N.C. Ruffo posted a 52-56 record, going 15-12 in 2000-2001 after inheriting a team that went 3-21 before her arrival.



A 1992 graduate of the University of South Carolina at Spartanburg, Ruffo was a member of the women's basketball and softball teams. Ruffo spent one year at her alma mater as an assistant women's basketball coach, followed by a season as an assistant women's basketball coach at Barry University in Miami Shores.

Ruffo started the women's basketball program at Savannah College of Art and Design, where she compiled a 61-33 record in four seasons, with a trip to the national tournament in 1996-1997.

Ruffo succeeds Leslie Rowls, and will assume her coaching duties at PBCC on July 1.

Palm Beach Community College, Florida's first public community college, is celebrating its 75th anniversary throughout 2008. The largest institution of higher education in Palm Beach County, PBCC serves more than 45,000 students annually through its associate degrees, professional certificates, career and customized training and lifelong learning. The College offers more than 100 programs of study at locations in Lake Worth, Boca Raton, Palm Beach Gardens and Belle Glade.

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