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PBCC SOFTBALL COACH IS INDUCTED INTO HER ALMA MATER HALL OF FAME

(Lake Worth, FL – March 20, 2003) The head coach of women's softball at Palm Beach Community College and a former head coach for women's professional softball, Linda Derk, will be inducted into the Hall of Fame at Slippery Rock University in Pennsylvania.

Derk became the head coach of the Tampa Bay FireStix in the Women's Professional Softball League in 1998 and led the team to the WPSL regular-season and postseason championships the following year. The winningest coach in FireStix history, Derk was named in 1999 as the WPSL Coach of the Year and coached in the league all-star game.

Coach Derk is in her second year as head coach for women's softball at PBCC and owns a sport consulting company, Get Game Inc., which provides instruction for youth camps and clinics and does speaking engagements. Derk and her athletes also volunteer for Habitat for Humanity and do other community service.

Derk was a starter on the 1985-86 Slippery Rock women's basketball team that won the Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference championship and competed in the NCAA regional tournament. She was the Slippery Rock team captain the following winter. She earned four varsity letters in both basketball and softball at the university.

After graduation, Derk played for the nationally recognized Allentown Patriots women's Major fastpitch softball team and was instrumental in the formation of the West Chester Wave Major team. Prior to being named as the FireStix coach, Derk served as head coach at East Stroudsburg and Indiana State universities and as an assistant at Ursinus, Drexel, Temple and the U.S. Military Academy (West Point). She also served as Administrative Officer-Operations & Support and NCAA Compliance at West Point.

Derk also served as a consultant for Tampa's 2012 Committee, which sought to bring the Olympic Games to the Tampa Bay area, and is an active member of fastpitch softball governing committees.

In addition to her undergraduate degree from Slippery Rock, Derk has a Master of Education degree in Sport Administration from Temple. For more information, call the athletics department at (561) 868-3006.

Editor's note: To download a photo of Linda Derk, go to <http://www.pbcc.edu/crm/releasepics/LindaDerk.jpg>