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CHANITA OLDS NAMED PBCC'S NEW HEAD WOMEN'S BASKETBALL COACH

(Lake Worth, Fla. — June 11, 2003) Chanita Olds has been named the new head coach for the women's basketball team at Palm Beach Community College.

Olds comes to PBCC from Episcopal High School, a private college preparatory school in Jacksonville, where she served as the varsity girls basketball coach for two years. She will begin July 1. She replaces Toni Smiley, who is resigning at the end of this month after leading the Panthers for five years.

"Coach Olds is the most energetic, self-motivated young lady I've seen in a long time, and she'll be a very good addition to PBCC and the athletics department," said Hamid Faquire, PBCC's director of student activities and athletics. "She is a disciplinarian and very education oriented."

With four players returning next season, Olds said her first priority is to recruit new players and get to know those who are returning. "I'm very excited. It's a challenge and that's what I like. PBCC has always been a powerhouse in this conference. What I want to do is get the program back like it was in the last two years. We have to have a new attitude for this season and just focus on success for this year."

Olds has a diverse coaching background, having coached on both the high school and college levels. Prior to becoming head coach at Episcopal High School, she served from 2000-2001 as head women's basketball coach at Flagler College. Previously, she served in assistant coaching roles at Florida A&M University, Springhill College and Saint Leo University.

Olds also played forward for two years at Santa Fe Community College from 1994-1996, and went on to play at Saint Leo University. She has a bachelor's degree in sport management from St. Leo University and a master's degree in sport science from the United States Sports Academy in Mobile, Ala.

Editor's note: For a high-resolution photo of Coach Chanita Olds go to www.pbcc.edu/crm/releasepics/chanitaolds.jpg

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