

DOROTHY BROWN
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT



Richard J. Daley Center
Room 1001
Chicago, Illinois 60602
312- 603-5030
FAX 312-603-4557
www.cookcountyclerkofcourt.org

OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 4, 2008

Press Contact:
Jalyne Strong (312) 603-5690
jrstrong@cookcountycourt.com

**THE HONORABLE DOROTHY BROWN,
THE CLERK'S OFFICE WOMEN'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE &
THE CHASE WOMEN OF COLOR EMPLOYEE NETWORKING GROUP
TEAM UP TO SALUTE OUTSTANDING WOMEN IN SPORTS**

CHICAGO (April 4, 2008) - The Honorable Dorothy Brown, Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County, the Clerk's Office Women's Advisory Committee and the Chase Women of Color Networking Group paid tribute to eleven outstanding women in sports during a 2008 Women's History Celebration held March 27 at Chase Tower Auditorium.

"Today, women participate competitively in virtually every major sport, in both amateur and professional contests. In addition, women are athletic directors, sports reporters, sports doctors, coaches and work in sports media. Women are excelling in a once dominated male arena, making it their own arena," said Clerk Brown. "We're here this evening to celebrate and salute some very distinguished women who have demonstrated excellence in their respective area of sports. They are all at the top of their game."

In March, Women's History Month, the nation is encouraged to celebrate the accomplishments and achievements of women. For the past five years, Clerk Brown and the Clerk's Office has presented a Women's History Month program to highlight and recognize the achievements made by women of Cook County in several professional and social fields.

For the "Salute to Women in Sports" event, Megan Mawicke, weekend sports anchor for CBS2-Chicago, served as the mistress of ceremonies. Reverend Willie Barrow, chairman emeritus at Rainbow-PUSH, delivered the program's invocation and benediction.

The program was opened with a pep rally led by the Chi-Town Cheerleaders, and Studio One Dance Conservatory performed two dance routines in an entertainment segment.



The Honorable Dorothy Brown (center), Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County, and Megan Mawicke (far right), CBS2 - Chicago weekend sports anchor, pose with some of the honorees of "A Salute to Women in Sports" (left to right): Arlene Rum, Coach of Roberto Clemente High School Girls Varsity Basketball; Jean Lenti Ponsetto, DePaul University Director of Athletics; Peggy Kusinski, NBC5 - Chicago Sports Reporter; Corry Irvin, Coach of the Whitney Young High School Girls Basketball Team (Class 4A State Champions); Sebrina Brewster, Chicago Bulls Senior Manager of Public and Media Relations; Toy Hamilton, the first African American female Drag Car Racer; Mary Jo Stegeman, founder of the Chicago Pioneer Girls Baseball Team (2007 Girls World Series Champions), and Sarah Parker, mother of Candace Parker, Forward, University of Tennessee Lady Vols (SEC Tournament Most Outstanding Player). Other honorees (not pictured) included: Dorothy Gators, Coach of John Marshall High School Girls Basketball Team (Class 3A State Champions) and the winningest coach in Illinois; Armintie Price, player with the WNBA Chicago Sky and 2007 WNBA Rookie of the Year; and Margaret Stender, President and CEO of the WNBA Chicago Sky.

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