

# Kincaid coaches Rusk Eagle basketball with a passion

Cover Story

by Maxine Session

Rusk, TX. - Sports activities and events are the number one family entertainment around the United States from football and basketball to golf and soccer, providing many hours of family entertainment.

The youngest of basketball fans and participants start developing basketball skills as Little Dribblers. In 1969 Harold Phelan, Chester Bridges, Hulon Moreland, and Frank Burnett of Levelland, Texas put their idea of how to improve junior high and high school basketball into action when they founded Little Dribblers' Basketball, Incorporated.

A few years after they founded Little Dribblers, Incorporated, Tracy Kincaid was born in Troup, Texas to two good hard-working parents. His dad, Ray, was a truck driver. His mom, Carolyn, worked hard as a CNA.

Like a lot of fathers, his dad spent fun time in the yard with him and his brothers tossing around the football and the basketball. His dad played college football and once dreamed of making the NFL. He often shared this dream with his five sons, encouraging them to be active in sports.

Tracy participated in Little Dribbles basketball as a little kid. He was always a big fan of Michael Jordan and Magic Johnson.

By the time he reached eighth grade his mom was a single parent raising five boys. She worked herself ragged to give them what they needed. Tracy remembers that he got his first car only after he got a job and was able to pay for it.

His eighth grade year stands out in his mind as a really great year. He remembers how coach Frazier Nolly took time with him and showed him he cared. Coach Leland Hand did the same at Troup High School. By the time he reached tenth grade he knew he wanted to be a coach. "We were the number one ranked Troup Tigers when I played for coach Hand", Coach Kincaid

ers Tony and Marcus played football for Trinity Valley and Kelond played football for Dallas SMU.

Coach Kincaid says his parents taught him and his brothers to weigh their options and work hard at making good choices. While he lived in Iowa, he stopped in a mini-mart one day. That was one of the best days of his life. He met Theresa there. He knew right away she was his soulmate. He knows that he made the right choice when

Since that time he has coached in Tyler ISD, Mt. Pleasant ISD and Kilgore ISD High School girls varsity basketball.

Two years ago the boys basketball coaching position came open in Rusk ISD. He applied and was hired. "I love it here," he said. We've got some talented kids in this district. We are moving toward the right combinations to have a winning team, so right now that's our focus. I have had the chance to give back to a wonderful group

of athletes and use the same positive mentoring attitude with them that coach Frazier and Coach Hand gave to me and my teammates, "He added.

"Coach Kincaid is like a father to us", stated Horrace Lewis, a senior. We trust him because we know he cares about us and he has our best interest on his mind. He helps us with our school assignments and he talks to us one on one and man to man. In practice, he gets out here and plays with us as one of the guys. We know when he means business, tho'. He says listening and following directions goes from here to doing that on a job. He's a great coach!

Coach Kincaid says he likes coaching in Rusk and he hopes to be here for a long while. He says the team has shown great improvement in many

ways since he has been working with them and he hopes to see those improvements surface in the form of district and state championships soon. Coach Tracy Kincaid is just as excited about Basketball now as he was as a little dribbler. Braxton and Quincy share their dad's enthusiasm for basketball.



L to r - Back Row - Horrace Lewis, Taj Cleaver, Quinn Anthony, Jacob (J.J.) Session, Chance Cleaver, Timothy Harris, Coach Kincaid Front Row - Steven Tucker, Michale Caton, Bob McDuff, John David Beard, Demarcus Skinner- Not pictured Tarence Turner.

says. "We made it to the state tournament playoffs all three years". Much to his dad's pleasure, Trac earned a full college scholarship in basketball to attend Iowa Wesleyan University and was able to make the deans' list for academics, as well. He is pleased to say that of his parents five sons, four earned full college scholarships. His broth

chosed her to be his wife. "It's not easy being young, married, a parent and manage a career, but she keeps our home and children balanced. On top of that, she has been there for me." They have two sons Braxton and Quincy.

Tracy coached in Iowa for awhile and returned home to East Texas five years ago.