Hoops ‘legend’ Polk dead at 22

Athletic, academic communities shocked to learn of Polk’s death

By Seth Mazzy
Arizona Daily Wildcat

The unexpected death of UA women’s basketball player Shawntinice Polk has sent shockwaves of despair and sorrow throughout the UA community.

“She’s the best. I think along with Hasaan (Adams) and a couple other of our guys, there’s probably nobody in Tucson that’s better known nor better liked than Polkey,” said Jim Rosborough, associate head coach of the men’s basketball team. “It’s just a tragedy for her family, her basketball team, the community and the university.”

Phyllis Likins, president of the UA, addressed the media yesterday afternoon. Likins said he developed a friendship for her family, her basketball team, the UA community.

Senior center collapses in McKale after blood clot travels to lungs

By Danielle Rideau
Arizona Daily Wildcat

Arizona women’s basketball center Shawntinice Polk died yesterday morning from an apparent blood clot in her lungs. The 22-year-old basketball player, affectionately known as “Polkey” by her request, collapsed unexpectedly in McKale Center and was taken to University Medical Center where she was pronounced dead, officials said in a press conference.

Members of the women’s basketball team were told last night that an autopsy showed Polk developed a blood clot in the back of her knee, which led to her eventual collapse. Though Polk was in McKale Center when she collapsed, she was not there to practice or workout.

Polk, a family studies and human development senior, was around other people at the time of her collapse, although whether they were teammates or other athletes could not be released.

The deaths of student-athletes as possible as Polk’s...