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### **Metro College National Champion Women's Basketball Team Hires New Coach**

METROPOLIS, Ill. – Metro College has hired Lucinda Smart as the new women's basketball coach. The Division III women's basketball team at Metro has participated in four national tournaments and won the national title last year. The team also reached the semifinals twice.

Pedro Garcia, athletic director at Metro and former quarterback with the Chicago Bears, chaired the extensive screening and interviewing process for the coach position. Of 110 applicants, Smart was one of only five asked to interview for the job. "I am confident that Smart's leadership skills and expertise in training and strategy will lead our women's team to collect titles and improve technique," says Garcia.

Smart holds a bachelor's degree in anthropology from Loyola, Chicago, and a master's degree in physical education from College of the Hills. She spent two years as an assistant basketball coach at College of the Hills, and two years as a center on the Women's All-Star Hoopsters touring team.

Metro college is an undergraduate, co-ed, four-year college in Metropolis Illinois. The decision for a new coach follows the resignation of former head coach, Felice Shofar.