

BFHS Alumni Athletes

Alek Siegel





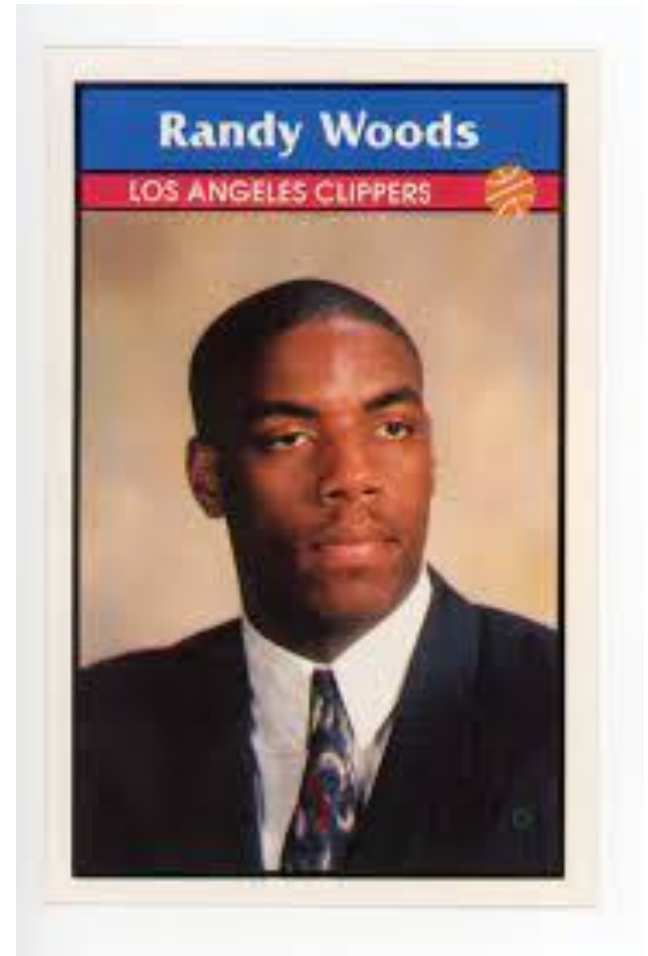
General Idea

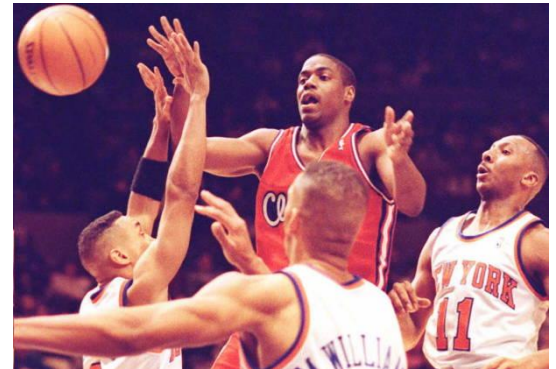
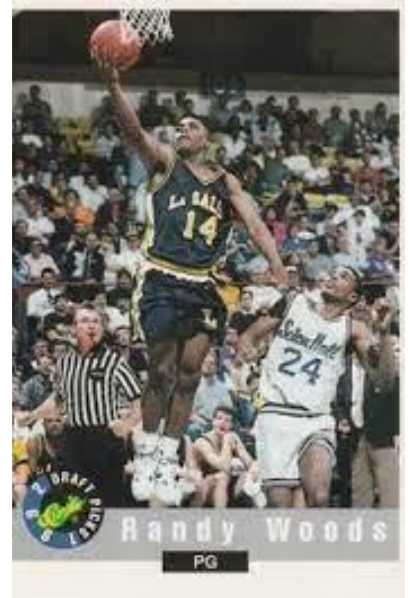
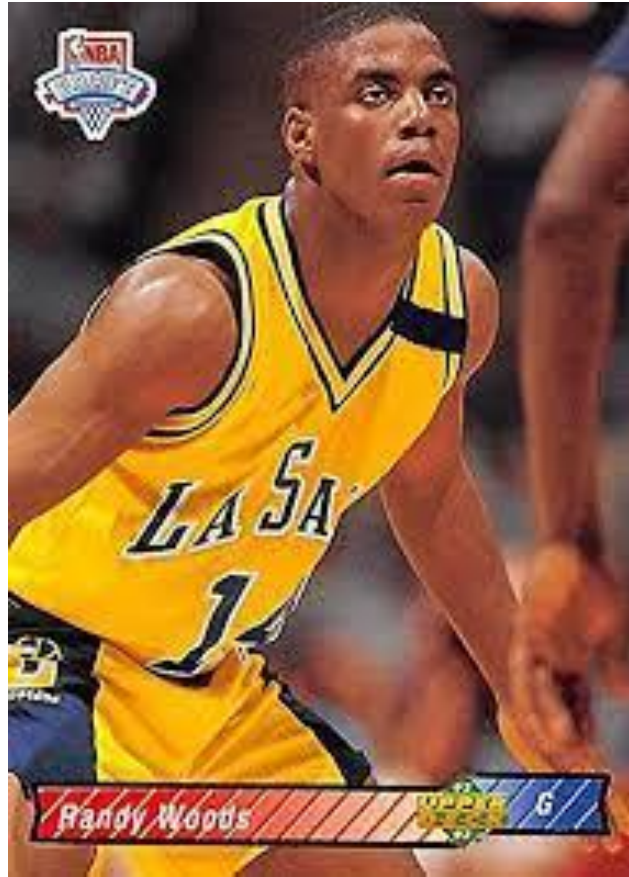
- My goal for this project was to make a passion of mine mean something by commemorating student athletes. As a student athlete myself I have always been interested in studying the history of student athletes who played professional sports. I decided to focus my project on BFHS athletes because we share a space with them and BFHS has a rich sports history that many in our community may not know about.
- For my project I created a booklet honoring four Ben Franklin High School graduates who were professional athletes. I chose Randy Woods, Fred Carter, Jerome “Pooh” Richardson, and Tyrone Simmons.



Randy Woods

Randy Woods is without a doubt one of the greatest high school basketball players in Philadelphia history. Born in Philadelphia on September 23, 1970, Randy was an absolute hoop star. In 1987 when BFHS was 13-0 in league and 22-3 overall, Woods averaged 21.4 points per game. In the 1988 season at BFHS they were 12-1 in league and 22-2 overall and Woods averaged 20.4 points. Both of these years the team made it to the quarter finals but ultimately came up short. Woods graduated Franklin in 1988 and went on to play college basketball at La Salle University. He continued his excellence. In his junior year he averaged 27 points 5 assists and 6 rebounds per game. Throughout his career at La Salle Randy Woods tallied 1811 points. He is 10th on the all time scoring list although he only played 3 seasons. In his 1992 Junior season he averaged 27.4 ppg and was the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference player of the year and the Big 5 player of the year. He is a member of the Big 5 Hall of Fame and the La Salle Hall of Fame. He was drafted 16th overall in the 1992 NBA draft and played 4 seasons for the Clippers and one season for the Nuggets.

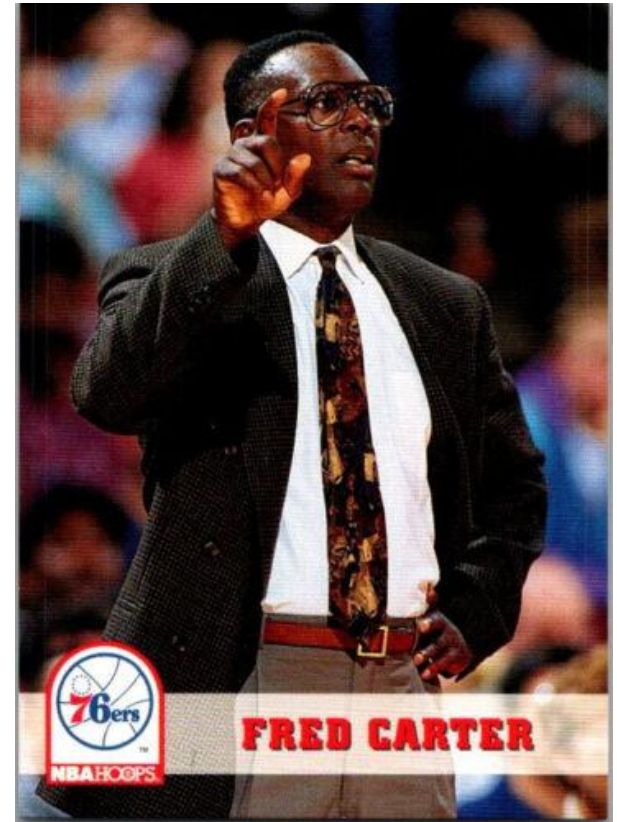






Fred Carter

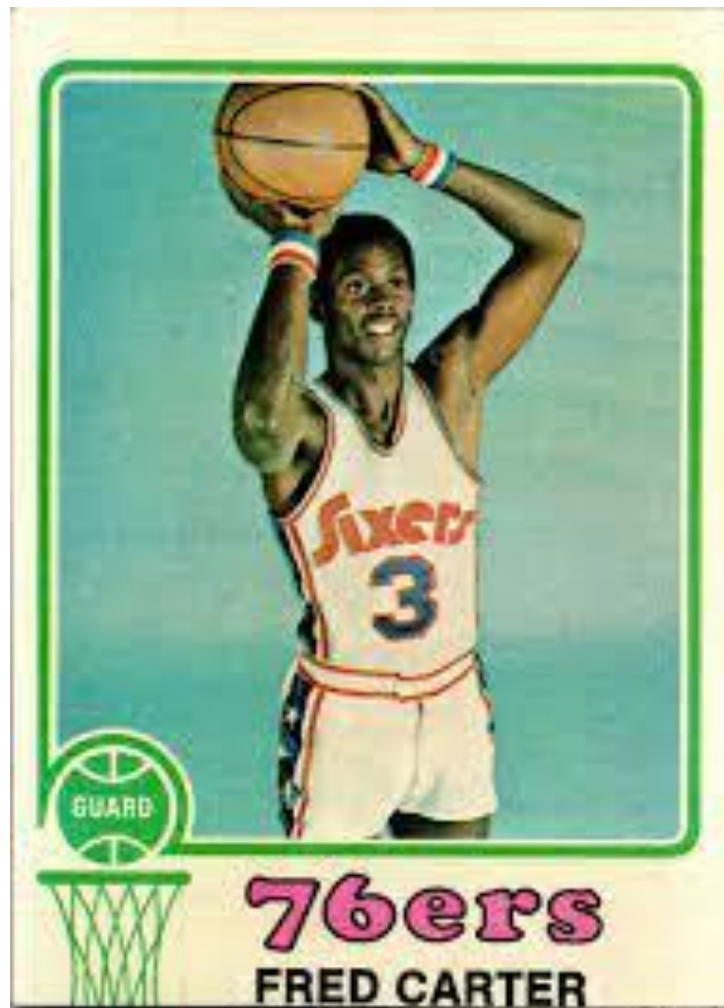
Fred Carter also known as “Mad Dog” or “Doggy” was born on February 14, 1945 in Philadelphia. Fred Carter is an interesting story because in his sophomore year of high school he dropped out before later returning to Franklin to get his degree. Carter was actually seriously considering joining the military but luckily he was a well known basketball player at the parks in Philly. In 1965 coach Jim Phelan of Mount St. Mary’s was at the park scouting two other prospects when he heard about Carter. After seeing him play, Phelan asked him to come and play at St. Mary’s. Carter played 4 seasons at St. Mary’s and averaged 21.9 points and 11 rebounds per game. He is third on the all time scoring list and in 2007 his jersey number 33 was retired. Carter was drafted in the third round of the 1969 NBA draft by the Baltimore Bullets. He played 155 games for them and averaged 7.7 ppg. Carter was traded to the 76ers at the beginning of the 1971 season. He played 409 game for the 76ers and averaged 17.1 ppg. He was traded to the Bucks in the middle of the 76-77 season and averaged 8.3 ppg and retired after this year. After retiring Carter went into coaching and actually landed the head coaching role of the 76ers from 1992 to 1994.



BALTIMORE



FRED CARTER
BULLETS' **GUARD**



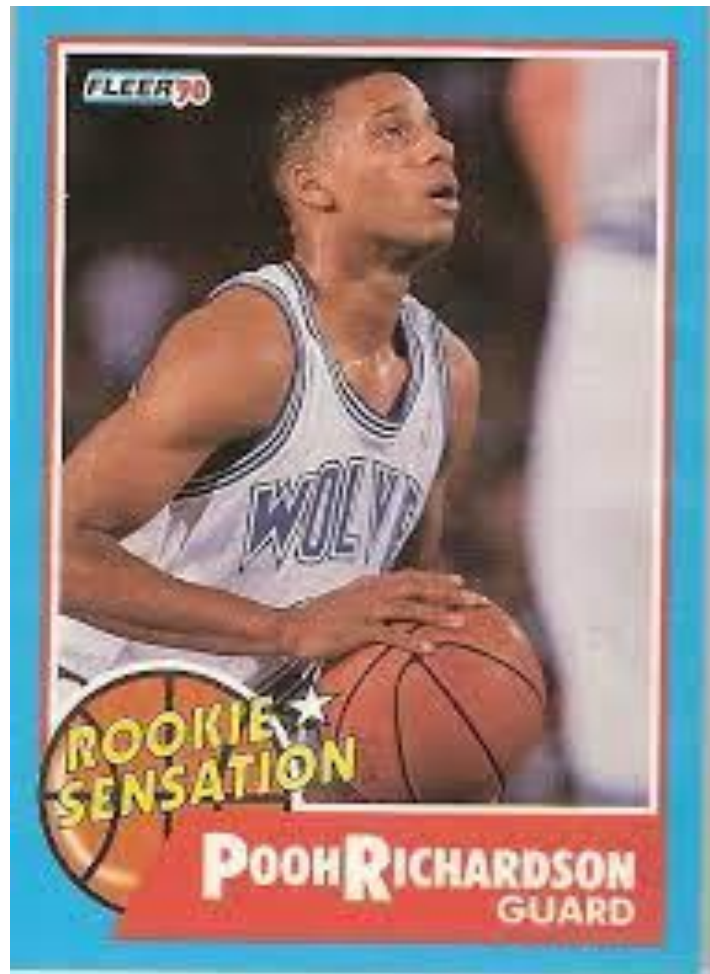
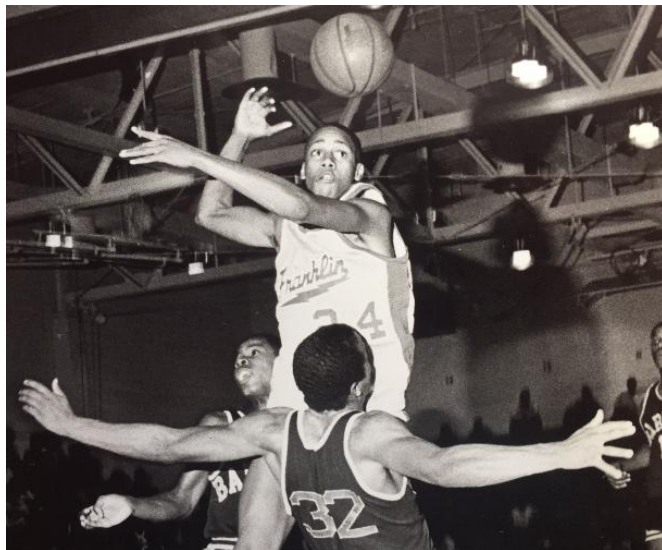
GUARD

76ers
FRED CARTER

Pooh Richardson

Jerome “Pooh” Richardson was born on May 14, 1966 in Philadelphia. Pooh Richardson grew up in Philly playing basketball. He was very well known around Philly and was a true star for the Franklin basketball team. In 1984 Pooh Richardson was the star player on the Franklin team that won the Public League. In the championship game Richardson had 17 points and hit a clutch free throw with 13 seconds left to give Franklin a 2 point lead. In 1985 Pooh Richardson was a McDonald's Player of The Year. The Philadelphia Tribune called him “a basketball legend in Philadelphia.” After Graduating from Franklin in 1985 Richardson went to play at UCLA. He started at UCLA for 4 seasons from 85-89. In his first year he was the Pac-10 freshman player of the year. The following season he was first team all Pac-10, and in his junior and senior years he was also a Pac-10 player of the year and was also the team MVP both years. Pooh Richardson still holds the UCLA records for assists (833), assists in a single season (236), and highest career three point percentage (46.4). He was inducted into the UCLA hall of fame in 2003. Richardson was selected 10th in the 1st round of the 1989 NBA draft by the Timberwolves. In his first season he was on the NBA all-rookie team. Pooh Richardson played in the NBA for 10 seasons with the Timberwolves, Pacers, and Clippers. He scored 7083 points (11.1 ppg), 1807 rebounds (2.7 rpg), and 4180 assists (6.5 apg).





Tyrone Simmons

Tyrone Moss Simmons was born in Philadelphia on July 5, 1949. He was first inspired to try fencing because he would see it in movies when he was a kid. In 1965 he heard that Franklin had a fencing team and decided to start staying after school to try and make the team. In 1965 there were 125 students who tried out for a 9 person team. The Franklin team had to wear hand me down uniforms from the University of Pennsylvania, while other schools had nice crisp white uniforms. This inspired Tyrone Simmons to become the best high school fencer he could possibly be. In 1968 the Franklin Fencing team were the public league champions. After graduating from Franklin, Simmons went on to fence at the University of Detroit. While attending the University of Detroit he won the NCAA foil championship in 71-72. Tyrone Simmons qualified for the 1972 summer Olympics and played in the team foil event. Tyrone Simmons was only the 2nd black fencer to compete on the US Olympic team. Simmons also earned gold medals in 1971 Pan American Games.





I hope that sharing the stories of Randy Woods, Fred Carter, Pooh Richardson, and Tyrone Simmons will inspire future student athletes.