

SWOOSH

THE OFFICIAL SPARKS MAGAZINE

4th Edition

THE BUZZER BEATER

Odyssey Sims is bouncing back after an early-season injury, and she's bringing fire to the court.

FEATURE

page 5



Where have the Sparks been in the community lately?

page 10



Get to know your favorite Sparks players

page 11



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THE BUZZER BEATER

Odyssey Sims is back
after an early-season
injury.

page 5

COMMUNITY CORNER

Just as the team's
momentum continues,
so does our work in the
community! Check out the
latest impact we have made.

page 10

GET TO KNOW YOUR SPARKS

See what your favorite
Sparks players are
passionate about in the
community.

page 11

also

IN THIS ISSUE

4 Arena Map

6 Sparks Roster

7 Visiting Teams Rosters

UPCOMING GAMES

Thursday, July 13
7:30pm vs Connecticut

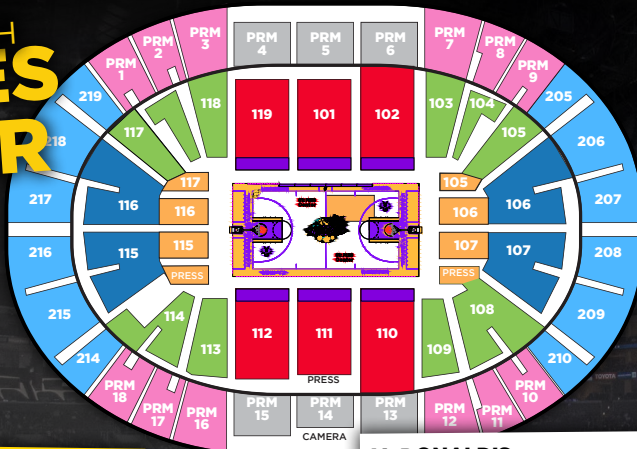
Monday, July 17
7:30pm vs Indiana

Thursday, July 20
12:30pm vs Chicago

Marquee Partner



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Figueras Entrance
Canned beer, Goose Island, Golden Road, Shocktop, Limearita
On Draft: Stella and Bud Light

DTLA

Across from Section 116
Ballast Point, Golden Road, Goose Island, Firestone, Kona, Lagunitas, Stone

FIGUEROA BAR

Across from Section 101
Cocktails, Bud Light, Goose Island, Stella, Wine

We encourage an enjoyable and safe atmosphere at STAPLES Center, so please drink responsibly.

MCDONALD'S

Across from Section 114
Chicken nuggets, hamburgers, salads, french fries

BLAZE PIZZA

Across from Section 109
Pizza, salad, desserts, beverages

WETZEL'S PRETZELS

Next to Section 103
Gourmet pretzels, snacks, beverages

and
CONCESSION STANDS!



THE BUZZER BEATER

by Maria Boyle

ODYSSEY SIMS



LEGACY. REDEFINED.

#WeAreSTRONG #WeAreWOMEN
8.27.17

presented by



In 2015 and 2016, we broke records and barriers by impacting the community through sport and setting a new franchise record for the first STAPLES Center sell-out in Sparks Franchise history. This was all made possible by our team of Ambassadors. These women and men were our voices to make a difference.

We are proud to have diverse Ambassadors that represent all things L.A. As we prepare for the 2017 #WeAreWomen game on 8.27.17, we challenge you to lead with the Sparks and become an Ambassador.

**Become a 2017 #WeAreWomen Ambassador by contacting
Melissa Lopez at
mlopez@la-sparks.com or call 323.431.3101.**

Marquee Partner



An all-around fierce energy on the court, Odyssey Sims has had a slow start to the 2017 season. Her teammates found themselves helping her off the court in their game against the Mystics, only two games into the season. The guard struggled with a left ankle injury and was put on day-to-day status as she slowly recovered.

Sims left Dallas in February, as part of a trade deal with the Sparks. She was acquired along with the eleventh overall pick in the draft, while Los Angeles handed over the fourth and twenty-third selections.

"This is a great opportunity for me. I'm in a better situation, and I'm just really excited to be here... to actually be playing for L.A.," said Sims about the trade.

Sims found herself as the second overall pick in the 2014 WNBA draft, picked up by the Dallas Wings (then Tulsa Shock). She played every game throughout her rookie season, averaging 16.7 PPG, 4.2 APG, and 2.8 RPG. In 2015, she averaged 16 PPG, and throughout this offseason in Turkey, averaged over 21 PPG.

Odyssey brings a lot to the table as a player. She is a great defender and fierce competitor that can score attacking the basket, shooting from the outside, or dishing out assists to her teammates.

- EVP/General Manager Penny Toler

Although her injury had set her back for the first few games, Sims has proven to be a firecracker her last few appearances. Watching her on the court is nothing short of jaw-dropping, as her energy and intensity are explosive. She can steal, pass, shoot, and defend, and Los Angeles is certainly taking advantage of having her back at full health. There's no doubt she'll be a strong competitor this season.

LOS ANGELES SPARKS

ROSTER



ALANA BEARD

Position: G-F
Height: 5-11
Age: 34 (5/14/82)
Duke



ESSENCE CARSON

Position: F-G
Height: 6-0
Age: 30 (7/28/86)
Rutgers



MAIMOUNA DIARRA

Position: C
Height: 6-6
Age: 26 (1/30/91)



CHELSEA GRAY

Position: G
Height: 5-11
Age: 24 (10/8/92)
Duke



IFY IBEKWE

Position: F
Height: 6-2
Age: 28 (10/5/89)
Arizona



TIFFANY JACKSON-JONES

Position: F
Height: 6-3
Age: 32 (4/26/85)
Texas



JANTEL LAVENDER

Position: C
Height: 6-4
Age: 28 (11/12/88)
Ohio State



NNEKA OGWUMIKE

Position: F
Height: 6-2
Age: 26 (7/2/90)
Stanford



CANDACE PARKER

Position: F-C
Height: 6-4
Age: 31 (4/19/86)
Tennessee



ODYSSEY SIMS

Position: G
Height: 5-8
Age: 24 (7/13/92)
Baylor



SYDNEY WIESE

Position: C
Height: 6-0
Age: 21 (6/16/95)
Oregon State



RIQUANA WILLIAMS

Position: G
Height: 5-7
Age: 26 (5/28/90)
Miami

Head Coach - Brian Agler (College - Wittenberg)
Assistant Coach - Tonya Edwards (College - Tennessee)
Assistant Coach - Bobbie Kelsey (College - Stanford)
Athletic Trainer - Courtney Watson (College - California)
Strength-and-Conditioning Coaching - Kelly Dormandy (College - Springfield)



WASHINGTON MYSTICS

NUM	PLAYER	POS	HEIGHT	FROM
9	Natasha Cloud	G	6-0	St. Joseph's
11	Elena Delle Donne	F-G	6-5	Delaware
21	Tianna Hawkins	F	6-3	Maryland
4	Taylor Hill	G	5-9	Ohio State
12	Ivory Latta	G	5-6	North Carolina
14	Tierra Ruffin-Pratt	G	5-10	North Carolina
25	Jennie Simms	G	6-0	Old Dominion
31	Asia Taylor	F	6-1	Louisville
34	Krystal Thomas	C	6-5	Duke
20	Kristi Toliver	G	5-7	Maryland
32	Shatori Walker-Kimbrough	G	5-11	Maryland

Head Coach
Mike Thibault

Assistant Coaches
Marianne Stanley
Eric Thibault

Athletic Trainer
Emily Fortunato

GAME MATCHUP by Sara Ach

Washington and LA meet for the second time this year in a matchup that has a good chance to come back around in the playoffs. The two teams previously met in Staples Center for the second game of the season. The Sparks came out on top 99-89. It proved to be a special night, with veteran Kristi Toliver returning to Staples Center for the first time in a visiting team's jersey, and receiving her championship ring from the 2016 season.

Leading the Sparks are Candace Parker, Nneka Ogumike, and Chelsea Gray, averaging 20.3, 16.8, and 15.8 points per game respectively. After a rocky start, the Sparks have seemed to find a rhythm. As they gel more each day, one can only think that they are making it back to championship form.

LIMITED EDITION

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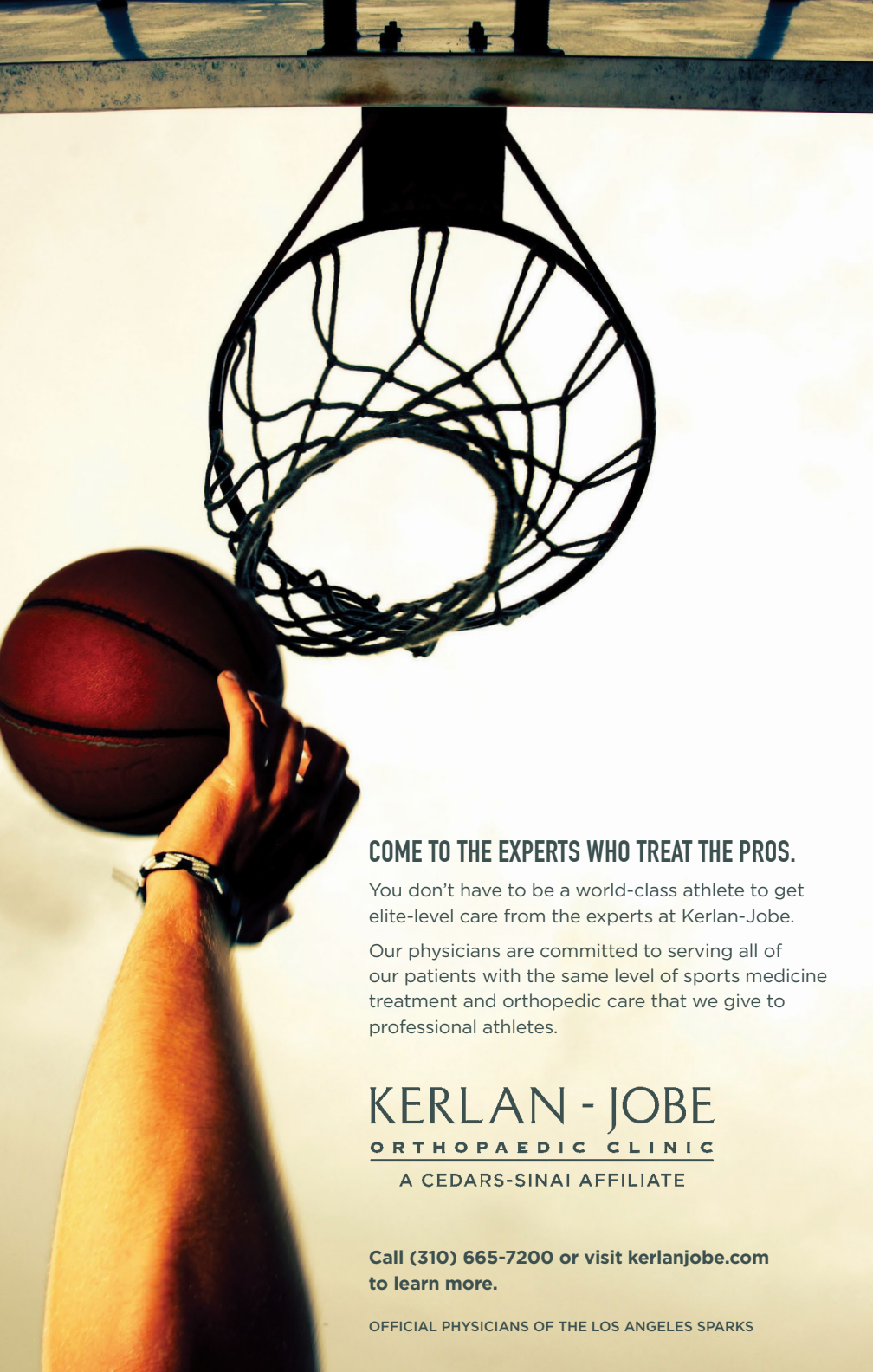
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COMMUNITY CORNER

by Andrea Moiseve

What do you want your legacy to be?

On the court, we're ALL-STARS, MVPs, and 3x CHAMPIONS who work hard for every win. Off the court, we're COMMUNITY WARRIORS who work hard for everyone.

The Los Angeles Sparks organization takes great pride in the positive impact that our players and front office have had in the community over the last 20 years. From our annual game ticket and merchandise donation programs to our on-the-ground impact and events focused on: Health & Wellness, Education, Military & Veterans' Affairs, Youth Sports, Financial Literacy, and Women & Girls Community platforms --- #WeAreWomen. #WeAreStrong. #SparkTheCommunity.

Join with us at
www.sparks.wnba.com/community/



The summer season is heating up!

- The Sparks hosted 27 nonprofit organizations at the Spark The Community outreach convening that took place just prior to the game on June 13th. Leaders from all over Los Angeles shared their nonprofit missions and visions with us over drinks and hors d'oeuvres. Thank you for coming! We look forward to working with all of you to better the community around us.
- Our President & COO, Christine Simmons, continues to pound the pavement on behalf of the community. Over the last month, Christine has championed Youth Sports, Health & Wellness, Education, Military and Veterans Affairs, and Women & Girls empowerment by way of multiple speaking and advocacy engagements. A dazzling highlight: empowering 750+ girls scouts and their families during the Gold Award Ceremony at the Pasadena Civic Auditorium on June 3rd.
- The Los Angeles Sparks, in partnership with Metro LA, LATTIC, SoCal Edison, SoCalGas, Salvation Army HAVEN, American Red Cross, Veterans Awareness Project, Before The Transition, and Veterans Advocacy Group (VAGA), hosted a Veterans Summer Slam Weekend Friday, June 16th-18th. It was a Spark-tacular weekend filled with resume writing & interview breakout sessions, and a resource and employment fair attended by over 1000 people. Events culminated with our service game night celebration honoring our active military

and veterans communities. Thank you again for your bravery and for your dedicated service to our country!

The #WeAreGirls empowerment workshop series kicked off on Saturday, June 17th with the Drawing Bold Boundaries workshop. What an uplifting and inclusive day filled with upstander-building group activities, special guest personal narratives from the LGBTQ community, and positive social media and personal branding tips and techniques. Thank you to our special guest speakers: Mia Yamamoto WLALA/APAWLA, Judy Chiasson LAUSD, the PFLAG community, and Kimberly Jones IFBB Pro/CSCS. Stay tuned for more info on our July 30th workshop where we'll be delving deeper into the wondrous worlds of S.T.E.M., Robotics, and Financial Planning! #girlpower

For more information on how to take part in our community programs contact Andrea Moiseve at amoiseve@la-sparks.com



GET TO KNOW YOUR SPARKS

with Nneka, Tiffany, and Chelsea

Which of our Five Community Pillars most interest you?

Nneka: Health and wellness, education, youth sports, and women and girls-based community programs

Tiffany: Health and wellness, education, youth sports, and women and girls-based community programs

Chelsea: Youth sports and women and girls-based community programs

Which community platforms are you most passionate about?

Nneka: Cooking, nutrition, gardening, music, mentorship, college preparedness, and entrepreneurship

Tiffany: Physical activity, all sports, and all activities centered around women

Chelsea: Youth basketball and soccer, mentorship, and helping the homeless

Which charities are you currently involved in?

Nneka: Shooting Touch and my own personal foundation (currently in the works)

Tiffany: Breast Health Awareness

Chelsea: Have-A-Sol and Safe-Place for Youth

I have thrown and put together events helping the homeless. Warm-A-Sole was giving blankets and covers, plus shoes, for the homeless.

Chelsea Gray about assisting the homeless. Her passion drives her to offer donations, do appearances, and plan events to provide homeless with critical items they need.



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Interested in checking out more games?

Contact our front office for any questions you have or information you may need!
1-844-GO-SPARKS or TICKETS@LA-SPARKS.COM

2017 SPARKS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, MAY 13	2PM	SEATTLE STORM
FRIDAY, MAY 19	7:30PM	WASHINGTON MYSTICS
TUESDAY, JUNE 6	7:30PM	CHICAGO SKY
TUESDAY, JUNE 13	7PM	DALLAS WINGS
THURSDAY, JUNE 15	7:30PM	SAN ANTONIO STARS
SUNDAY, JUNE 18	2PM	PHOENIX MERCURY
SUNDAY, JULY 2	2PM	WASHINGTON MYSTICS
THURSDAY, JULY 13	7:30PM	CONNECTICUT SUN
MONDAY, JULY 17	7:30PM	INDIANA FEVER
THURSDAY, JULY 20	12:30PM	CHICAGO SKY
TUESDAY, JULY 25	7:30PM	SEATTLE STORM
SUNDAY, JULY 30	2PM	DALLAS WINGS
FRIDAY, AUGUST 4	7:30PM	NEW YORK LIBERTY
FRIDAY, AUGUST 18	5:30PM	CHICAGO SKY
TUESDAY, AUGUST 22	7:30PM	SAN ANTONIO STARS
SUNDAY, AUGUST 27	4PM	MINNESOTA LYNX
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1	7:30PM	ATLANTA DREAM
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3	1PM	CONNECTICUT SUN

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