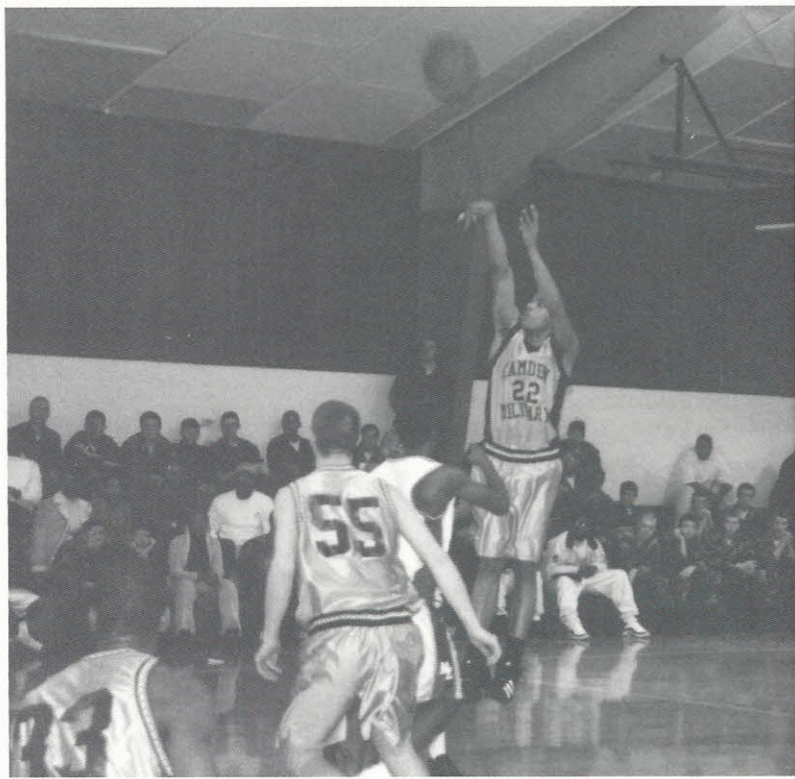


Varsity Basketball

Even before it began, the spectacular 2003 Spartan basketball season was off to a good start with McDonalds All-American Larry Blair accepting a full scholarship from Liberty University. "I knew the team would be one of the deepest, most athletic, and potentially one of the best that I had ever coached," said Coach Priester. The only private school entered, the Spartans won the first annual Christmas Tournament at North Central, scoring over 100 points in all games. They continued their rampage in becoming champions of the Christian Shores Tournament in Oscala, Florida, in early January. The team is peaking toward the end of the season and should play their best ball in the final games. "They have established a rhythm, a chemistry, not having to think, just reacting, playing with a lot of freedom," observed Coach Priester. In addition to Larry Blair, five other players on this talented team will be playing college basketball next year: Shawn Kimble, Deon Briscoe, Rico Stewart, Maurice Stewart, Vance Caraway, and Akeem McMullen (basketball or football). Co-captains Blair, McMullen, and Caraway have provided outstanding leadership. More importantly, the Spartans have been successful off the court as well, showing up consistently on the Honors and Deans Lists the entire year.



Point guard George Estes launches a long distance jump shot.

Forward Charles Harrington pulls up short to get off a shot before the defense has time to set up.



Larry Blair demonstrates his powerful inside game with a backboard rattling dunk



Shooting guard Benny Clark guides the ball over the rim.



Maurice Stewart, shooting guard, fires a jumper from the corner.



Forward Woody McMullen fights his way inside for a jump shot close to the basket.



Vance Caraway, point guard, executes a perfect finger roll to get the score.



Center Xavier Littleberry catches the alley oop and rams the ball home.