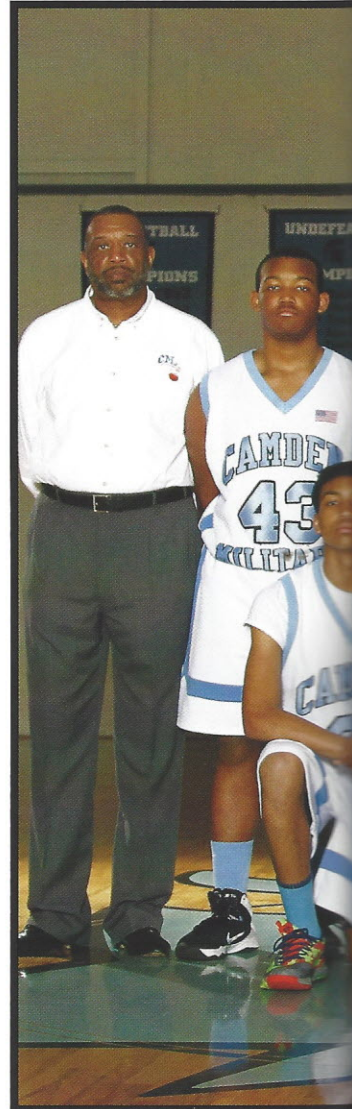
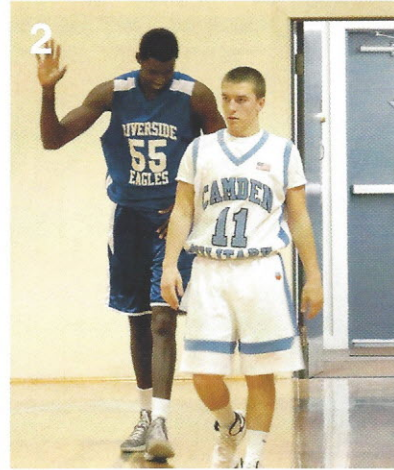


"Playing basketball this year was filled with ups and downs, but in the end it was a great learning experience. I can't begin to tell you how much of a brotherhood our locker room was, day in and day out, talking, adjusting, working every night we stepped out on to the floor, we gave all we had, and the coaches were with us through it all. Since there were only two seniors on the team this year, we hope we are going to have the experience and skills to be something special next year." Matt Zimmerman of New Port, Rhode Island

1. Darnell Battle, Orlando McCoy and Matt Fullen box out the player.



2. Jake Harper of Blythewood, South Carolina returning on defense.



utilize a Shoot

Young Spartans mature into winners.

For the second time in three years, the varsity basketball team had no returning players. What the coaches had to rely on was a core of players moving up from the junior varsity. It was very difficult to set team goals under these circumstances, so the objective became to learn to work together as a team using proper individual fundamentals. The players were also challenged by the coaches to be the best they could be in the classroom and the barracks, as well as on the court.

Despite the inexperience and being offensively challenged, the coaches noticed some strengths in the team. A 5:45 a.m. practice time "weeded out" the team and left those who had a real passion for the game and enjoyed playing together. The players had a positive attitude and were willing to learn to get better. The revised team goal became to improve throughout the season and to look like a different team when opponents played the Spartans a second time. All the players on the team had the opportunity to play quality minutes and contributed in a positive way. Seniors Jake Harper and Justin Walker, Junior Matt Zimmerman, and Sophomore Orlando McCoy worked primarily at guard. This years awards were the following: The "Gumby" Award: Ian Benton, Lilburn, Georgia. The "Let it Rain" Award: Devin Larsen, Naples, Florida. The "Windex" Award: Malike McGill, Kingstree, South Carolina. The "NBADL" Award: Matt Zimmerman, New Port, Rhode Island.

5. Junior Max Bryan defends as Matt Zimmerman looks on.

6. Ian Benton asking the cadets to make some noise.

7. Varsity Basketball- Row One: Orlando McCoy, Justin Walker, Jake Harper, Matt Zimmerman. Row Two: Coach Richard Darby, Ian Benton, Darnell Battle, Malike McGill, Devin Larsen, Matt Fullen, Coach Ron Horn.

8. Devin Larsen of Naples, Florida and Malike McGill get instructions from Coach Ron Horn.