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UC Signs Big Man Marcus Sikes

CINCINNATI, Ohio — Marcus Sikes, who averaged a double-double last season at Mt. San Jacinto College in California, has signed a national letter-of-intent to continue his basketball and academic careers at the University of Cincinnati.

The 6-8, 235-pound forward becomes the sixth—and tallest—member of the Bearcat recruiting class assembled over the past three weeks by new head coach Mick Cronin.

Sikes averaged 13.1 points and 11.3 rebounds this past season while leading Mt. San Jacinto to a 24-10 record and a second place finish in the Foothills Conference. He earned first team all-league honors and was the third-leading junior college rebounder in the state of California.

"We're very excited to be able to add someone as talented as Marcus to our roster this late in the recruiting process," stated UC head coach Mick Cronin. "He's a very skilled big man. He shoots the ball extremely well and is versatile—the type of player that I like. He's a guy who can play three positions. He has the strength to play down low and the skills to play on the perimeter."

Sikes, a native of Richmond, Va., began his college basketball career at Georgia in 2003-04, averaging 2.2 points and 2.6 rebounds in 26 games as a freshman.

Sikes joins the Cincinnati incoming recruiting class of Tim Crowell, who averaged 7.5 assists at Midland College en route to first team all-league honors last season; Marvin Gentry, a 6-3 guard who was the conference's player of the year at McLennan Community College; Deonta Vaughn, a two-time first team all-state performer from Indianapolis who finished his high school career at Harmony Community School in Cincinnati; Jamual Warren, an NJCAA second team All-American at the Globe Institute of Technology; and John Williamson, a 6-6 forward who was a first team All-American selection at Cincinnati State.

Marcus Sikes

6-8 • 235 • Forward
2006-07 Eligibility: Junior
Hometown: Richmond, Va.

Playing Experience

2005-06 Mt. San Jacinto College (Calif.)
• 13.1 points, 11.3 rebounds
2003-04 University of Georgia
• 2.2 points, 2.6 rebounds; averaged 12.8 minutes in 26 games

Cincinnati 2006-07 Signees

Tim Crowell	G	6-2	Jr.	Albuquerque, N.M.
.....				Midland College
Marvin Gentry	G	6-3	Jr.	Ft. Worth, Texas
.....				McLennan CC
Marcus Sikes	F	6-8	Jr.	Richmond, Va.
.....				Mt. San Jacinto Coll.
Deonta Vaughn	G	6-1	Fr.	Indianapolis, Ind.
.....				Harmony Com. Sch.
Jamual Warren	G	6-2	Jr.	Springfield, Mass.
.....				Globe Institute
John Williamson ...	F	6-6	Jr.	Columbus, Ohio
.....				Cincinnati State

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