

## **LOBO, REBECCA ROSE (1973– )**

“My parents never let their kids walk away from something because it was too hard,” she told *People* magazine. Lobo dreamed of playing professional basketball. A well rounded young woman, Lobo played the saxophone in the high school band, but it was her athletic abilities that brought her to the University of Connecticut where she was affectionately known as “Lobocop” for her invincibility on the court. She became Big East Conference Rookie of the Year in 1992, then became the school’s all-time leader. When she accepted the Big East Player of the Year award for 1994, Lobo said, “This is for my mother” making public the fact that her mother was fighting a battle with breast cancer. In 1996 Lobo played on the gold-medal-winning team at the Summer Olympics in Atlanta. When the Women’s National Basketball Association was created in 1997, Lobo was assigned to the New York Liberty as a forward. Traded to the Houston Comets in 2002, she retired in 2003. Through her foundation, she provides scholarship funds for African American and Latino students majoring in a health related field.