

Technician

North Carolina State University's Student Newspaper Since 1928



The 1989-90 Basketball Special



Chris Hondros/Staff



Michael Russell/Staff

Thanks . . .

Well, it looks like this tabloid is finally done, and it's only 4:45 a.m. Monday morning. Over the last few weeks, I certainly had my doubts that we'd pull it off. But we did, even if it did cost a lot of us a lot of sleep.

A lot of people deserve credit. First of course, I would like to thank the coaches, players and staffs of the NCSU men's and women's basketball teams, for letting us invade practice, pester you with questions, etc. Without your cooperation, there would be no tab.

I would also like to thank the NCSU sports information staff, for helping us with photos, interviews and stats. Special thanks to Carter Cheves, for helping us set up the color shoots, usually at the last minute. Your check is in the mail.

Thanks to Tim Ellington and the ads staff for putting up with my pestering, and helping me have more than a 12 page tab (sorry Tom).

I guess I have to thank the photography staff now. Just kidding, Mike. We, I mean you, got the shots done, even if we took a long time getting things together. (Or took very little time getting things together, depending on how you look at it). Thanks for putting up with me, too. Hi Scott.

A big thank you to everyone on my staff, whether you worked on the tab or not. You've done a great job all year. Thanks Tom (George) and Lee, for holding the regular paper together, and thanks for the moral support, too. You still won't beat me on Pigskin Picks, though. Thanks to Fred Hartman, for going above and beyond the call of duty, as they say. Isn't it fun to sing to the Wañle House jukebox at 6 a.m.? I guess you're a real staff member now. Sorry.

Thanks to Larry & friends for typesetting, to Rob Tuttle and Calvin Hall for copyediting, and to Dave Krause and Joe Cuozzo for helping with layout. Thanks to Dwan June for help with graphics (and with the budget, too, I guess) and helping me finish it up. No peach this time. We hope.

Thanks to Bill Hinton for handling the printing and color separations. Thanks to my roommates, friends, professors, parents and the rest of the third floor for moral support, and for putting up with my complaining and my absent-mindedness. You can talk to me again now.

If I have forgotten anybody that helped in any way, I am sorry. But I'm very tired right now. Thanks.

Lisa Coston

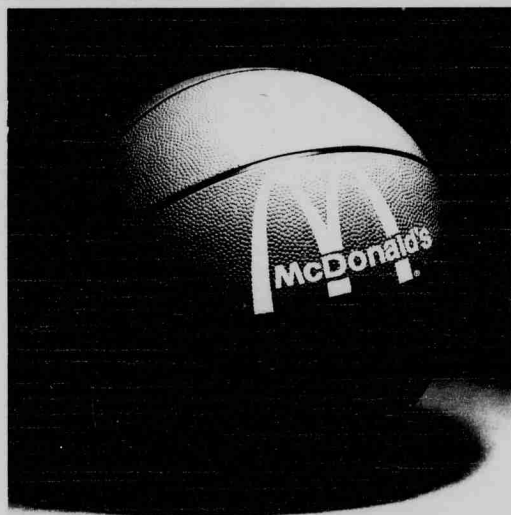
Lisa Coston, Sports Editor

On the cover: The five seniors of the 1989-90 Wolfpack men's basketball team. Photo by Michael Russell.

1989-90 Basketball Special



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The Game Plan.

ACC teams at a crossroads in 1989-90

By Lee Montgomery
Assistant Sports Editor

This should be an interesting year for the Atlantic Coast Conference. In many ways, the ACC is at a crossroads for 1989-90.

For instance, the problems at N.C. State will either be solved and the program will continue as a national power, or the problems will prove too much for coach Jim Valvano and the program will decline.

New Maryland coach Gary Williams will begin to rebuild the troubled program there.

Virginia coach Terry Holland is on the way out, leaving to be the athletic director at Davidson. Will the Cavaliers "win one for Terry?"

Duke begins without all everything Danny Ferry.

Wake Forest begins with a new coach, Dave Odom, who replaces the fired Bob Staak.

Clemson is nearing the tail end of its "five-year" plan. Will it work?

Georgia Tech loses all-American Tom Hammonds. Can Dennis Scott carry the load?

It appears only North Carolina doesn't have serious questions to answer. "What about J.R. Reid?" you say. The Tar Heels are very deep and very talented.

So what's going to happen? Who knows? That's what makes ACC basketball fun.

For those who may want a taste of the teams and talents in the ACC, Technician presents a team-by-team analysis of the ACC for 1989-90. For objectiveness' sake, we'll do it in alphabetical order.

Clemson

Coach Cliff Ellis came to Clemson five years ago with the so-called "five-year plan." In that time, Ellis hoped to bring Clemson to the top of the ACC heap.

Well, the Tigers aren't quite at North Carolina's level, but coaching the Clemson basketball team is arguably the toughest job in the conference.

But Ellis has made great improvements in the program and the Tigers should reap some of the seed he's sowed and improve their 1988-89 record of 7-7 in the ACC.

Leading the Tiger charge is the inside combination of senior Elden Campbell (6-foot-11) and junior Dale Davis (6-11). Campbell was the team's leading scorer last year, averaging 17.5 points per game. He also averaged 7.7 rebounds per contest. Campbell was a defensive force as well, blocking 87 shots.

Davis scored 13.3 points per game and grabbed 8.7 boards. He had a season-high of 21 rebounds against North Carolina. Davis shot an incredible 67 percent from the floor to lead the ACC.

The Tigers should be effective from the perimeter with Derrick Forrest, Kirkland Howling and David Young returning. Guards Marion Cash and the fiery Tim Kincaid are the leading playmakers, combining for 268 assists in 1988-89.

Duke

Don't cry for Mike Krzyzewski. Sure, he lost Danny Ferry, but Duke is still loaded.

The Blue Devils aren't going to have one dominant player, but Krzyzewski is a good enough



coach to make the most of what he has. And he has plenty.

Senior forward Robert Brickey (6-5 but plays more like 6-9 because of his intelligence and his leaping ability) has hidden

behind Ferry long enough and should be Mr. Clutch for the Devils. He averaged 11 points per game last year.

Brickey and 6-11 forward Christian "Don't call me Chris"

Laettner make a formidable tandem. Laettner, who reminds many of former Duke player Mark Alarie, came on strong late last year and should continue to blossom.

Alaa Abdelnaby (6-10) provides further depth—and height—at center.

On the outside, Duke has 6-4 Phil Henderson, who aborted a transfer to Illinois, and freshman Bob Hurley. Hurley has been rated as the best point guard coming out of high school this year and should blend right in.

Georgia Tech

Like Duke, Georgia Tech loses one great player, but has another great one coming in.

Hammonds is gone, but 6-2 freshman Kenny Anderson should help Yellow Jacket fans forget Tom. Anderson, like Duke's Hurley, was highly recruited out of high school

and will be thrust into the limelight this year.

Anderson is a scorer and has a Rodney Monroe-type demeanor. Cool, but hot.

Dennis Scott is 6-8, but don't expect him to stand around on the inside. Tech coach Bobby Cremins doesn't. But Cremins does expect Scott to light it up from the outside. Scott did that last year, making 116 3-pointers to lead the ACC. State's Monroe was second in that category, but some 31 3-point shots behind. Scott averaged 20.3 points game in 1988-89.

Tech will be a guard-oriented team this year, as Karl Brown (6-2) and Brian Oliver (6-4 and



Dave Odom



Bobby Cremins



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very good rebounder) will see lots of playing time.

Three more freshmen, Malcolm Mackey (6-10), Ivano Newbill (6-9) and Darryl Barnes (6-7), may be counted on to do much of the inside work.

Maryland

Williams returns to coach at his alma mater, but results won't be seen for a few years. Some of the immediate changes will be an up-tempo offense and a fullcourt pressing defense.

Williams has two sophomores to help set the program in motion. Jerrod Mustaf (6-10) and Walt Williams (6-8) will handle the ball a lot this year. Mustaf averaged 14.3 points and 7.8 rebounds per contest last year and may have to do a lot of scoring this season. Williams is a big man who can take the ball upcourt if needed.

Maryland has one other talented big man, 6-9 senior Tony Massenburg. He averaged 16.6 points and 7.8 rebounds per game in '88-89. Massenburg will be the man the Heat is going to when the heat is on.

Feeding the ball to the big men will be junior Teyon McCoy. McCoy had 11 assists in '87-88, but that total fell to 68 last year.

North Carolina

The Tar Heels have a chance to go all the way this year, but only if several things happen.

First, senior Scott Williams has to take charge in place of J.R. Reid. Williams, 6-10, scored 11.5 points and grabbed 7.3 boards per game last year.

Second, the Heels need production—offensively and defensively—from Pete Chilcutt (6-9), Rick Fox (6-7) and Kevin Madden (6-4).

Fox and Madden are good shooters who will carry the three-point burden this year. Chilcutt must help Williams inside.

Third, King Rice has to take charge at point guard. The 6-1 junior had 150 assists and only 72 turnovers last year. He's not Kenny Smith or Jeff Lebo, but Rice has to improve for UNC to improve.

Fourth, the Heels' freshman class will have to contribute if Dean Smith calls on them, especially 6-7 West German Henrik Rodl (as in yodel).

Smith has the unique ability to mold his players into winners. He might do it this year.

Virginia

Many of the preseason publications which do such things have picked the Cavaliers

last in the ACC. And why not? Holland is on his way out, so why should the Cav players go all out?

Since Richard Morgan has graduated, who's going to score? Those questions won't be answered until the ACC season begins.

One thing is certain—Virginia will rely on defense. Heading the defensive corps are

juniors Matt Terry Holland (6-7), John Crotty (6-1) and Kenny Turner (6-6) and sophomore Anthony Oliver.

Blundin is a banger who can play with bigger players. Crotty is an emotional point guard who had 208 assists last year with 42 steals.

Turner had arthroscopic knee surgery in October '88 and his offensive stats declined. He has recovered and may start as small forward this year. Oliver will see lots of playing time at point and off guard and will pester and muscle opponents.

Sophomore Bryant Stith should shoulder some of the scoring load in Morgan's absence. Stith averaged 15.5 points per game last year as a freshman. He shot 54.8 percent from the floor.

Freshman Terry Kirby comes from the football team as a tailback with loads of talent.

Wake Forest

The Deacons, under rookie coach Odom, could be the surprise of the conference this year.

Odom has proven frontcourt and backcourt players to work with.

Sam Ivy (6-7) is averaging 15.2 points per game for his three years at Wake and will be helped in the scoring department by Chris King (6-8) and Derrick McQueen (5-11).

King scored 14.4 points per game and grabbed 6.1 rebounds per game last year, including a high of 34 points against State.

McQueen was outstanding as a freshman last season and Odom will ask him to shoot more this year. McQueen is a thinker and a hustler who can ignite a team with his play.

Don't forget junior Robert Siler, a hard worker who needs to shoot the jumpshot more this season.

Senior David Carlyle lost his three-point touch last year and averaged only 8.8 points in '88-89 after 13.6 the previous season. With Cal Boyd graduated, Carlyle has to improve on his 37.9 percent lifetime three-point shooting.

Senior Ralph Kitley (6-10) and Phil Medlin (6-9) are two bangers Odom will count on for defense and rebounding.

Wolfpack faces one of its toughest schedules ever

By Lisa Coston
Sports Editor

It's been a tough off-season for the N.C. State men's basketball team, and things won't get any easier once the Wolfpack finally hits the court.

Coach Jim Valvano, entering his 10th year as State's head coach, calls the 1989-90 Wolfpack schedule his toughest ever.

"As we begin this year, the schedule is really the thing that sticks out in my mind," Valvano said.

In addition to the always tough ACC matchups, the Pack's schedule this season features a challenging non-conference slate of games.

Before Christmas, State will take part in the Dodge Preseason NIT Tournament, the Diet Pepsi Tournament of Champions and the ACC Big East Challenge. Then there's the ECAC Holiday Festival right after Christmas, and games against Temple, UNLV and DePaul later in the year.

"It's the best schedule we've

played since I've been at State," Valvano said. "Last year's schedule was designed for success and we had the most consistent season since I've been here."

The Pack finished last season with a 22-9 mark (including a 10-4 first place regular season finish in the conference) and advanced to the Final 16 of the NCAA's before losing to Georgetown 69-61.

All of the Pack's starters return except one—Chuck Brown, the team's leading rebounder and second-leading scorer.

"We've got a pretty good basketball team," Valvano said. "Four guys are returning. First of all, Chris (Corchiani) and Rodney (Monroe) give us an outstanding backcourt."

The junior guards, both first time all-ACC selections last year, give the Pack one of the best backcourt combinations in the country.

Corchiani led the conference in assists (8.6 average per game) and steals (2.6) last season, and also averaged 10.5 points per contest.

Monroe led the Wolfpack in scoring with a 21.4 points per game and is the conference's top returning scorer this season. He proved to be the Pack's go-to man in clutch situations, such as the double-overtime win over Iowa in the second round of the NCAA's, in which Monroe had a career-high 40 points.

"I cannot separate Corchiani-Monroe, just like I couldn't separate (Sidney) Lowe-(Derek) Whittenburg," Valvano said of his backcourt tandem. "We wanted them to play together for four years, to start together for three years and get better and better. And that's exactly what has happened."

"I wouldn't trade them for any pair in the country," he said.

But Corchiani and Monroe are not the Pack's only weapons. Seniors Brian Howard and Avie Lester give the State frontcourt more returning experience than it's had in quite some time.

See STATE, Page 7

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Valvano focuses on future

By Lee Montgomery
Assistant Sports Editor



Swayne Hol/Staff

How do you handle adversity? Would you like me to stick my head in my tail and run out of town? No, I serve this department. If I were part of the problem, I would want to be part of the solution.

Jim Valvano

Jim Valvano loves the spotlight. In the past, he's gone after it, trying to bring fame and fortune to himself and to the university.

This year, though, things may be a little different. With all the controversy surrounding the N.C. State basketball program, Valvano might not be as open as he has been in the past.

"Has it changed me?" Valvano rhetorically asked a group of sportswriters at the Wolfpack's annual basketball media day. "Yes, it has. I think you will see that it's made me more private. So, therefore, I probably won't discuss with you the ways it's changed me.

"To say that you can go through these last eight months and not be changed in some way would be foolish. So certainly, I've taken a look at me and at everything. Having said that, I want to deal with the issues at hand.

"I try to win the war I'm in," Valvano said. "I want to be victorious in the game we're in right now."

That game is going to be longer and much more difficult than any basketball contest Valvano has coached. And he knows that.

"How do you handle adversity?" Valvano asked. "Would you like me to stick my head in my tail and run out of town? No, I serve this department. If I were part of the problem, I would want to be part of the solution.

"I'm going to deal with the issues as they are right now. And we're going to solve them."

Now the question is, how? Valvano has stepped down as athletics director and will now concentrate solely on the Wolfpack basketball problem. That in itself can only help him as he begins the slow process of rebuilding.

But, again, how?

"I think we're going to do a much better job in terms of our players," Valvano said. "We're spending a whole lot more time discussing things. We've been having meetings (with the players) since the middle of the summer about, not only academics, but about rules and regulations.

"We take that big, thick book (of NCAA rules) and go over scenarios. In terms of information, we're spending more time to insure that some of the problems don't re-occur."

The most striking of all the problems regarding the basketball program is the academic situation. And the public's belief about how bad the situation was. Valvano has already started to address that issue.

"With that, we're taking some very real and serious steps to improve it," he said. "Some of the things you will be hearing (will be) from the agenda of our own university. We have instituted some rules and regulations that are more stringent than the university's.

"(One of) the situations is that if anybody winds up on Academic Warning II, even in the middle of the semester, you will be suspended at that point. And yet, that is not going to take place at the university until 1990 and starts only with that freshman class."

Valvano maintains that the Pack's admission of student-athletes has been in line with the NCAA. "I think something some people have missed is that we have not taken anybody below Prop 48

See **VALVANO**, Page 11

Wolfpack must fill void left by Brown

By Fred Hartman
Staff Writer

Each year, collegiate basketball coaches have to replace key starters, who have graduated and/or gone professional. For N.C. State men's head basketball coach Jim Valvano, this year is no exception.



Chucky Brown

In the 1989-90 campaign, the Wolfpack finds itself faced with the absence of one of the finest players and individuals ever to wear an N.C. State uniform.

Chucky Brown emerged over the past two seasons as a truly dominant and exciting key in the longstanding tradition of Wolfpack basketball. To imagine him gone seems almost taboo.

The familiar number 52

Wolfpack faithful became so attached to him has risen to higher heights. The NBA's Cleveland Cavaliers picked up Brown in the second round of the 1989 draft.

As a junior starter, Brown led the team in scoring with 16.6 points per game. Last year as a senior he averaged 16.4 points a game, led the conference in rebounds at nine per game and was named first-team all-ACC.

Who can forget the confident stride with which Brown entered the coliseum each game, always with a strong faith in his abilities and those of his teammates.

To replace Brown the basketball player, or Brown the individual, is not the key to success for the Pack this season.

"First of all it is impossible to replace Chucky Brown," said assistant basketball coach Dick Stewart. "He was terrific — terrific in all ways, shapes, sizes and forms. He was an exciting,

charismatic individual who absolutely loved to play basketball. You can't replace that."

The key this season is to replace Brown's scoring and rebounding statistics. Sophomore Tom Gugliotta figures to be the principle player in accomplishing that feat.

"We're really going to challenge Tommy this year," Valvano said. "A lot is going to depend on how fast he comes along."

Valvano explained that, in each of the past few seasons, the coaches have challenged the person they felt to be the pivotal player for the Pack's season.

"Two years ago, we put the challenge to Brian Howard," Valvano said. "We felt that we could only be as good as (Howard). He had a good year and we were a good team."

"The same was true for Avie

Lester last year. He played great ball for us and we happened to be, I thought, one of the better teams that we've had."

This could be Gugliotta's year to take the college basketball world by storm.

"I've really been working hard this summer to try and fit in with the other four (starters)," Gugliotta explained. "Chucky worked with me every day on rebounding and down-low moves under the basket. He really helped me a lot."

The responsibility of covering the spread in points and rebounds left by Brown will not fall solely on Gugliotta's shoulders. The coaches are counting on a total team effort from the starting players and from the bench.

"We want the returning starters and all the veterans to be better players this year than they were last," Stewart said. "That, in itself, is a consistency that should

happen from year to year."

The rest of the returning veterans and three highly talented freshman should see significant action off the bench and provide for some exciting play.

"A lot is going to depend on the development of the bench," Valvano said. "We're planning to play a lot of the younger guys. I'd like to give the freshmen some considerable playing time."

Forward Kevin Thompson is one of those freshman who's looking forward to taking the court for N.C. State.

"I've always wanted to play for the Wolfpack," he said. "I feel like I can come in and play hard as possible to help the team out in any way."

Assistant coach Dereck Whittenburg put the upcoming season into perspective. "Every time a player suits up at N.C. State, you know it's going to be an exciting year."

State returns four starters off of last year's Final 16 squad

Continued from Page 5

Howard, who averaged 12.5 points and 5.4 rebounds per game last year, is one of the ACC's most underrated players and has become invaluable to the Pack's attack. Lester stepped into the center spot last year, finishing with 8.4 points and 5.1 rebounds a game, while playing outstanding defense.

"Brian Howard is the player we can least afford to lose," Valvano said. "Two years ago, we challenged Brian, last year we challenged Avie, and this year it falls to Tom Gugliotta."

Gugliotta, a 6-9 sophomore forward, leads the rest of the Wolfpack veterans. Senior big men Brian D'Amico (6-11) and David Lee (6-8) will also be needed on the boards.

The Pack's trio of newcomers will also be counted on to contribute along the frontline.

Bryant Feggins, a 6-6 forward from Winston-Salem, was the North Carolina Prep Player of the Year last season, and he could make an immediate impact along with his high school teammate Kevin Thompson, a 6-9 forward. Forward Anthony Robinson (6-9) will also see playing time.

"Our two freshmen, Kevin Thompson and Bryant Feggins, will see considerable playing time," Valvano said. "Both of them have very good potential and we hope to get them playing time because we'll need them later on in the year."

Also missing from last year's squad is guard Kelsey Weems, who provided quickness for Valvano off the bench, and the Wolfpack coach must replace the

spark Weems often provided.

"Mickey Hinnant must take Kelsey's place, in terms of speed, off the bench," Valvano said. Sophomores Roland Whitley (6-0) and Jamie Knox (6-7) will join the 6-6 Hinnant in seeing more playing time in the backcourt.

Overall, Valvano sees the Pack as a team with a lot of potential. "We've got a nice blend of veterans and young players," he said. "A lot depends on how Gugliotta plays and how fast the young kids develop."

Valvano does not envision the off-court problems the Pack has faced to have a detrimental effect on his squad, and believes the adversity may actually help the team pull together.

"The kids are committed to picking up where we left off last year," Valvano said. "Last year was difficult only in what I had to deal with outside of basketball. Our approach to the game will not change."

With the Pack's NCAA hearing scheduled for early November, the tough early schedule holds another advantage.

"The schedule is a benefit — with so many big games and tournaments, it keeps the kids focused," Valvano said. "Of course, a tough schedule will only help you when you win. Losing begets losing. If you win, obviously it's better to play a tough schedule."

No matter how the NCAA investigation turns out, Valvano is ready to play. "I fully expect to be competitive this year," he said. "I have too much pride to go out there not feeling we can compete against the best."

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CORCHI

By Hunt Archbold
Staff Writer

Chris Corchiani enters his third season at N.C.State as perhaps the ACC's finest point guard. After averaging 24.3 points, 10.3 assists, 4.5 steals and 4.4 rebounds as a senior at Hialeah-Miami Lakes High School, Florida's only two-time Mr. Basketball brought his game to Raleigh.

Corchiani is the only player in ACC history to record 200-plus assist seasons as both a freshman and a sophomore. In addition, he led the league in assists (8.5 pg) and steals (2.6) last season. A scrappy, hustling, intense player, Corchiani was often the man plugged to slow down the opposition's big gun in coach Jim Valvano's "junk" defenses.

Corchiani, along with backcourt mate Rodney Monroe, has been labeled by a number of publications as the best in the country. With 501 assists, Corchiani is in reach of not only the NCAA record of 960, held by Syracuse's Sherman Douglas, but he could also become the first Division-I player to top the 1,000-assist plateau.

After being selected as Pepsi's Best of a New Generation ACC Freshman of the Year in 1988, Corchiani followed up by being selected first team all-ACC by the Associated Press, and second-team all-ACC by the Atlantic Coast Sportswriters in '89.

Often criticized for not shooting enough, Corchiani picked up his scoring average from 6.3 ppg in 1987, to 10.5 ppg last season, and scored in double figures in 14 of the Pack's last 21 games.

In an interview with Technician, Corchiani talked about the challenge of another season of Wolfpack basketball:

Technician: Going back to last year's NCAA tournament game against Georgetown, how did you feel after being whistled for traveling, when you actually had drawn Alonzo Mourning's fifth foul and had a chance to tie the

game by completing the three point play?

Corchiani: Well, at the time, I didn't realize how big a play it was because I was so into the heat of the battle. But now I've seen the difference that one play made or could have made. It's just something we're going to have to live with.

Technician: Do you still think about it?

Corchiani: No, not really. It's in the past and I'm looking to the future.

Technician: What about the future, now that you're entering your third season at State?

Corchiani: I'm a lot more comfortable. I expect good things from this team. I mean, we've had two pretty good years, but I'd like to win a couple of championships.

Technician: What about you and Rodney's label as one of "the best backcourt duos in the country"?

Corchiani: I think that's a great honor to be compared to other backcourts, or to be said to be one of the best. I got to give credit to Rodney. He's putting the ball in the hole—I'm just passing it to him.

Technician: A number of your opponents have called you hot-headed. Do you think this is justified?

Corchiani: I feel that I have two demeanors. On the court, being only six feet tall and not as talented as others, you have to be aggressive, and if you're not, you're at a disadvantage. Off the court, I have a totally different personality.

Technician: On the flip side, Georgia Tech coach Bobby Cremins called you one of the "smartest players to ever play in the ACC." Is it that on-court demeanor that brings on this wisdom?

Corchiani: That's a good honor from such a great coach, but again, with my height, you have to make up for things. I compensate by playing smart.

Technician: Is the 1,000 assist plateau important to you?

Corchiani: Right now it's not. When my career is over, it could



Mark Ruth/Staff

Wolfpack point guard Chris Corchiani (shown against UVA's John Crotty) led the ACC in assists (8.5 per game) and in steals (2.6) last year on the way to all-conference honors. The junior has 501 career assists.

be something to be proud of, but right now, the only thing I focus on is winning.

Technician: Will your scoring increase like it did last season?

Corchiani: I think so. We're

losing Chucky (Brown), so I'm going to pick up some of the slack, and that's with Coach V's insistence.

Technician: Has Coach Valvano hounded you about it?

Corchiani: Oh yeah, he think's my scoring will open up more for the offense. Most teams know that I'm going to pass before I'm going to shoot, so I've got to mix it up a bit.

Technician: Last year, you swarmed big men Dale Davis of Clemson and Tech's Tommy Hammonds, shutting them down offensively, not to mention holding Temple's all-American Mark "Shakin Bakin" Macon to a career-low six points. What's the secret to your (defensive) success?

Corchiani: My success has to be attributed to the team. I get a lot of the credit, but the whole team makes it work.

Technician: What aspect of your game do you think needs the most work?

Corchiani: My scoring. It's that simple. I need to be more of a scoring threat.

Technician: What about this year's team?

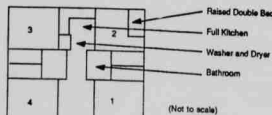
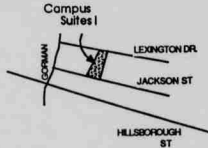
Corchiani: I'm looking for good things from this team. Certainly, losing Chucky will hurt, but any time you return four starters like we do, then you've got a strong foundation. Some guys are going to have to step forward, and if they do, then I think we will have a successful season.

Technician: One last thing. If you could have your dream situation at State, what would it be?

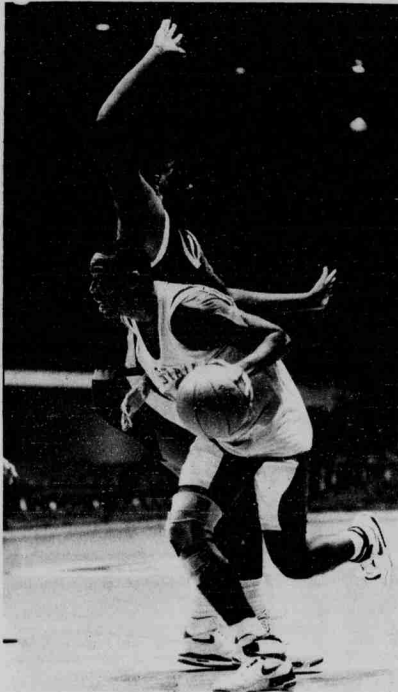
Corchiani: I'd like to beat Carolina for the ACC championship, and then beat them for the national championship.

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Michael Russell/Staff

Jamie Knox drives by freshman Kevin Thompson in an early season practice. Knox, a sophomore forward, hopes to play more this year.

Knox anticipates increasing role

By David Honea
Senior Staff Writer

Jamie Knox learned a lot during a season on the bench, but he is hoping to see a lot more playing time during his sophomore season.

Knox, a 6-7 forward from Vicksburg, Mississippi, saw limited action in 11 games last season, averaging 1.6 points and 0.6 rebounds a game.

This year, however, the loss of Chucky Brown and the loss of Kelsey Weems will force Knox into a more important backup role.

"I will probably back up Brian (Howard), or possibly Rodney (Monroe)," Knox said. "I see myself as having more playing time because of the positions I can play."

Knox said his lack of playing time, combined with the controversy surrounding the men's basketball team last year, may actually have helped him.

"Last year I probably grew both on the court and off," he

said. "I didn't get much playing time, but I know my chance will come. And I learned that, despite what everyone thinks, books are very important here."

"All that stuff that went on with the book was bad, but it brought us together as a unit, and made a tighter bond," he added.

Knox said he was pleased with the performance of last year's Wolfpack team, with a few exceptions.

"I was pretty happy with the season. We had a nice record, and finished first in the (ACC) regular season," he said. "It was very disappointing to lose in the first round of the ACC tournament, though."

So what does Knox think about the upcoming season?

"We're looking forward to getting over all this adversity and coming together as a team," he said.

"I see us, if not winning the ACC title, at least contending very heavily for it. And we definitely want to go farther in the NCAA tournament."

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Assistants enjoy variety of roles

By Fred Hartman
Staff Writer

How does the cliché go? Behind every great coach stands a great assistant? Head coach Jim Valvano is fortunate enough to have three capable and dedicated assistants behind him every step of the way.

Dick Stewart

A 21-year veteran of Division I coaching, Dick Stewart would prefer no job over being a full-time assistant at State alongside his longtime friend and colleague.

"It's a privilege to be a coach at N.C. State and it's a privilege to be an assistant under coach Valvano," Stewart said. "I can't imagine another job that I'd rather have."

The unique relationship Stewart and Valvano share dates back to the days when the two played for Rutgers. Stewart and Valvano led the team to third place in the postseason NIT.

Stewart led the team back to the NIT two years later, as a senior captain. Valvano was serving as an assistant for the Knights then.

"I've always respected and admired Jim," explained Stewart. "He's been a catalyst for myself, as well as my family. His intelligence, his brightness and his charisma have always attracted my following."

Stewart began coaching directly out of college as an assistant to Dee Rowe at the University of Connecticut. He followed with assistantships at



Dick Stewart

Penn State and the University of Oregon.

After leaving Oregon to try a taste of the head coaching life at Fordham University in New York, Stewart returned to his former position at Penn State. He remained there through the 1983 season before coming to State.

As an assistant, Stewart has many roles. Personally, he feels 21 years of coaching experience has allowed him to add a certain versatility to the position.

"Obviously I've recruited in all twenty years, that's what an assistant does," Stewart explained. "I've dealt with the public for most of those years and I've encountered a wide variety of teaching roles that one might find in a coaching position."

Would Stewart ever consider becoming a head coach again?

"Maybe if I was younger," he said. "All of my career, with the exception of one year, has been spent as an assistant. I am very comfortable in that role."

Stewart said he is comfortable not being in the public spotlight as head coaches often are. He offered a simple and concise definition for his role.

"I do anything that coach Valvano advises or recommends that I do. The role of an assistant coach is to think like a head coach, but act like an assistant. It's just a privilege to be a coach."

Derek Whittenburg

Who can forget the shot heard around the basketball world?

The scene was Albuquerque, New Mexico. The Pack was tied with the Houston Cougars in the final game of the 1983 NCAA Tournament and Derek Whittenburg threw up the final



Derek Whittenburg (left) and Stan Lewter are two of the Wolfpack's three assistants.



Michael Russell/Staff/2

shot—or was it a pass?

Shot or pass, the fact remains that the "Cardiac Pack" put themselves into collegiate basketball highlight films for eternity. The ball was grabbed and dunked by Lorenzo Charles for a dramatic 54-52 victory.

Whittenburg was instrumental in the success of "The Team of Destiny." Now he is beginning his second season as a full-time assistant and trying to help keep destiny on the Pack's side.

"My role is just to be prepared to assist coach (Valvano) in any capacity that he feels necessary," Whittenburg explained. "You can't specifically define the role of an assistant coach. We all share the responsibility of anything that needs to be done whether it is recruiting, discipline, or teaching."

While working on his business degree, Whittenburg served as

graduate assistant to Valvano during 1984-85. He accepted an assistant position at George Mason the following year under head coach Joe Harrington.

Whittenburg followed Harrington to Long Beach State the following season before coming to State prior to the 1988-89 campaign.

What does the future hold? "I foresee myself becoming a head coach some day," he began. "Well, I think that every assistant coach aspires for a head position someday, but, before one can become a good head coach he must first become a great assistant."

Whittenburg feels fortunate to be back at State.

"When you've got one of the best coaches in the league at the helm of the program you're always looking for a successful season."

Stan Lewter

Stan Lewter knows how he wants his career to develop and, likewise, he knows where that career should begin.

"I'd like to think that within the next two or three years I could get a head coaching job somewhere, maybe starting out at a small school," Lewter said.

"I'd just like to get the opportunity to implement the things that I have learned over the past five years. I don't want to wait until I'm forty-five to seek a head spot."

By starting early, Lewter explained he would still have time to fine tune his coaching skills if a head coaching spot didn't work out at first.

"I believe in myself," Lewter stated. "I'm not afraid of hard work and challenges."

Lewter's basketball career began as an all-American for Atlantic Christian college in Wilson. After a successful high school coaching career he latched on as an assistant to Charlie Harrison at East Carolina University.

"Coach Harrison taught me how to crawl," Lewter explained. "Coach Valvano and Coach Stewart are teaching me how to walk."

Lewter is in his third year as a part-time assistant for the Pack. His job as a part-time assistant is much like the other assistants.

"I'm excited to be at N.C. State and I'm excited about the upcoming season. We've got some great kids here.

"The best thing about the program here is that everyone is such a close-knit family," Lewter said.

"I'm looking forward to seeing what the next few years will hold — for myself and for N.C. State."

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Hinnant ready for senior challenge

By Hunt Archbold
Staff Writer

Mickey Hinnant enters his second and final season at State feeling far more comfortable than he did during his first season.

Hinnant, was a junior college transfer and the word is it takes JUCO transfers a full season to adjust to basketball in the ACC. Hinnant proved that word to be true.

"The biggest adjustment for me was coming off the bench," Hinnant said. "I had always been in there playing a lot and people were depending on me to come through. It gave me a lot of confidence to start."

When Hinnant was starting at Louisburg College, he earned all-American honors after averaging 25.2 points, 4.7 rebounds and 3.6 assists per game.

Yet the transition to Division I basketball was not a smooth one. In limited playing time last year, Hinnant went from being the team meal ticket to averaging 3.6 points per game. The 6-6, 185, Cary native feels though that his days of adjusting are over.

"Well, I feel like at this point that I'm as comfortable as I'm going to be. Because I haven't got much time to show people how Mickey Hinnant can play," he said.

One aspect of Hinnant's game which needed work was his outside shooting. He shot only 42 percent from the field and connected on only one of 11 three pointers last season.

"I realized my weakness. I went home this summer and worked on my jumpshot, my freethrows and my all round game," Hinnant said. "I feel confident now in my jumpshot, and I'll be taking it more this year to open up the inside."

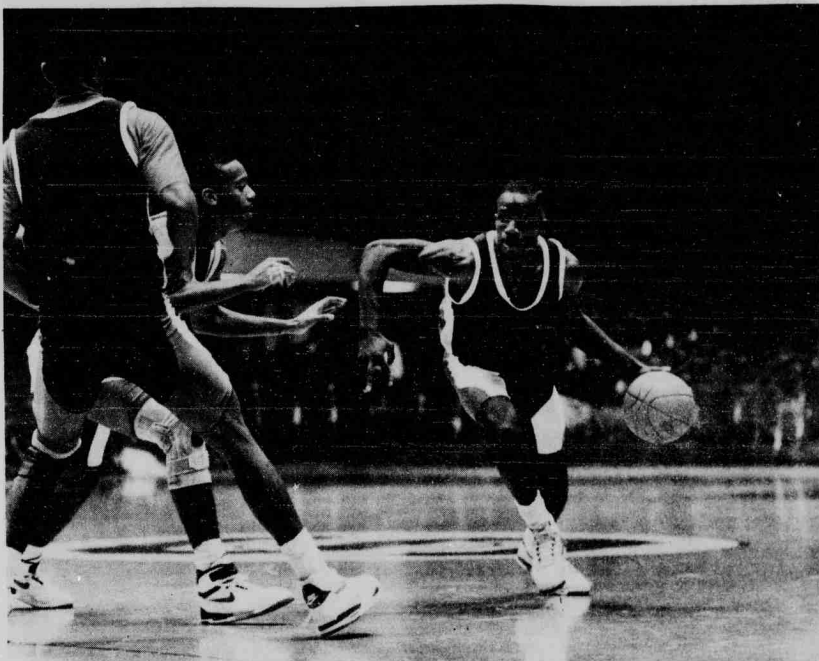
Coach Jim Valvano feels the confidence too.

"I've got confidence in Mickey's jumper," said Valvano. "I've had other JC transfers that had better second years than first. Nate McMillan and Spud (Webb) are a few. I think the same will be true of Mickey."

Hinnant did show glimpses of



Mickey Hinnant



Michael Russell/Staff

Mickey Hinnant has worked to improve his shooting and the rest of his game in preparation for his senior campaign at State.

good things to come. He has excellent quickness, and was one of only six ACC players last season to have more steals (21) than turnovers (18). He runs the floor well and knocked in a season high 10 points in a win at Georgia Tech.

Still, Hinnant knows what he can do if given the playing time to show it.

"I told my family that I can perform. Coming off the bench was new for me, but now I'm more prepared to do it," he said. "And besides, this is my last year

and I can't quit now. I'm psyched about it."

Valvano is prepared to give Hinnant the minutes to show his stuff.

"He's our quickness off the bench," Valvano said. "It's important to us for him to come in and pick up the tempo. In my estimation, Gugs (Tom Gugliotta) and Mickey Hinnant are extremely critical to our success."

After a year of adjusting, Hinnant is ready for the challenge.

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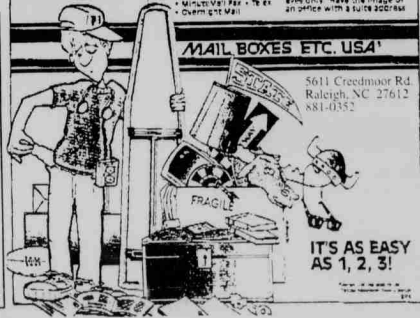
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Forward Gugliotta 'grows' into possible starting role

By Mark Cartner
Staff Writer

Just call him Gugs. "People have been calling me that for as long as I can remember, ever since I was a kid," said 6-9 N.C. State sophomore Tom Gugliotta recently.

Yes, that's right—six feet, nine inches. He's grown.

Wolfpack basketball junkies will remember that when Gugliotta first trotted out onto the court at Reynolds Coliseum a year ago he stood six feet seven inches tall. This season, however, he'll be able to look teammate Avie Lester straight in the eye.

He'll also be doing it from the opening tipoff. Look for Gugliotta to fill the void left by present Cleveland Cavalier Chucky Brown.

To say that Gugliotta has "grown" into a starting role is more than just a dumb play on words. It's a fact.

"If you had told me in high school that I would be starting for N.C. State in my sophomore year, I probably wouldn't have believed you," said a smiling Gugliotta. "It's gonna be interesting to see how the people back home react when they see me starting. They're gonna be surprised."

By now it's obvious that everyone concerned is a bit amazed at Gugliotta's rise to prominence—why?

Gugliotta hails from Huntington Station, New York, which for those less familiar with the area is Long Island. A lot of talented players come out of New York and Gugliotta was only one of many.

He played three years of varsity

basketball at Walt Whitman High School—the same school his father coached hoops at for 32 years before retiring just prior to Gugliotta's arrival.

As a prep sophomore, Gugliotta was a 6-2 point guard. As a 6-7 swingman his senior year, he posted very respectable numbers, averaging 21.5 points and 15.2 boards a game to go along with his 4.2 steals, 3.3 assists and 2.8 blocked shots. Not bad.

Along the way, Gugliotta picked up some accolades including all-Suburban New York, all-Long Island, all-league, second team all-state and "Sleeper of the Week" at five star basketball camp.

Ah, yes—basketball camp. That's where Gugliotta's fortunes took a turn south.

Despite receiving a fair amount of attention from the media in his area, he wasn't receiving much mail—from big-time college recruiters.

"A few smaller schools, like the ones my two older brothers went to, showed interest, but none of the big schools like State," Gugliotta said.

But while attending a basketball camp, Gugliotta was discovered by Wolfpack head coach Jim Valvano and the rest is history.

The discovery wasn't an accident though. It seems that Gugliotta's father and Valvano's father, the late Rocko Valvano, went way back.

"I'm not really sure how they knew each other," Gugliotta said.

But that's not important. What matters is that Frank Gugliotta, Sr. made a phone call to Valvano and suggested the State coach take a look at his son. Valvano did and unless something unforeseen occurs, Tom Gugliotta

will make his way onto the court with Chris Corchiani, Rodney Monroe, Lester and Brian Howard at tip-off time.

Gugliotta will be playing the three or four spot—the small and big forward positions. Brown, whom Gugliotta credits with "helping me a lot last year," held down the four slot for the past couple of years. That position, however, requires a player to turn his back to the basket much of the time.

"I feel much more comfortable facing the basket," Gugliotta said. "I've just been used to playing swingman in high school, but I know I've got to establish a low-post game now."

"But I think playing guard all those years is really helping me now," he added. "It taught me to handle the ball well. Better than most guys who've always played down low."

Entering his second year as a member of the Pack, Gugliotta has high expectations built on a successful freshman campaign.

"I played a lot more than I thought I would coming in," he said. "I just wanted to see how I measured up."

And measure up he did, seeing action in 21 games and averaging nearly three points and two rebounds per outing.

"It was a great year though, except for the knee injury (that sidelined him for three weeks)," Gugliotta said. "The first time I walked onto the court in front of a packed house at Reynolds it gave me a rush. I mean you just can't describe it. They're (the crowd) definitely a sixth man for us."

And what about Valvano? "He's crazy," Gugliotta



Scott Rivenbark/Staff

Sophomore forward Tom Gugliotta, now 6-9, is a leading candidate to fill the forward spot vacated by Chucky Brown.

laughed. "He's really a lot of fun to play for. He lets you play your game."

And what does Valvano think of Gugliotta?

"We like to call him our Vinny Del Negro project," the coach said.

Well—maybe. Naaa—just call him Gugs.



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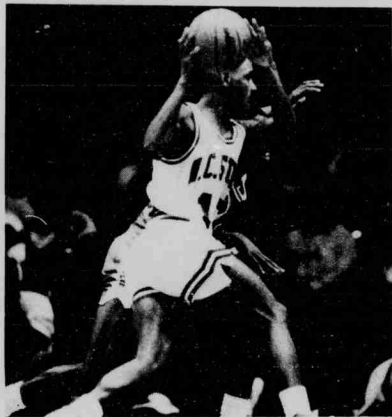
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Maryland	6-4	3-3	1-2
UNC	9-1	6-3	3-3
NCSU	5-5	2-3	2-0
Virginia	6-4	2-4	0-2
Wake Forest	4-6	0-4	0-0

NCAA Bids, 1980s

School	Bids	Most Recent
Clemson	3	1989 (1-1)
Duke	7	1989 (4-1)
Ga. Tech	5	1989 (0-1)
Maryland	7	1988 (1-1)
UNC	10	1989 (2-1)
NCSU	8	1989 (2-1)
Virginia	7	1989 (3-1)
Wake Forest	3	1984 (2-1)



Technician File Photo

Roland Whitley in action against Columbia last season.

Former manager works to develop skills through practice and patience

By Lee Montgomery
Assistant Sports Editor

Believe or not, sophomore Roland Whitley learned a lot about basketball last season while watching from the Wolfpack bench.

Unfortunately for the 6-foot guard from Goldsboro, that's about all he could do. As the first walk-on for coach Jim Valvano at N.C. State, Whitley appeared in eight games, scoring six points. But he gave his all every time he hit the floor.

After an early-season game last year, Whitley was the hero. Managers who become players make for a great story.

He sat in his locker at Reynolds Coliseum smiling, graciously answering questions from the inquiring medium.

But soon after, he was at the end of the bench, watching and cheering.

"I learned a whole lot about the game," Whitley said. "Different things about the game as far as aspects and the way the game is supposed to be played. How to be aggressive and under control. And the type of attitudes the players take when

they go into each individual game.

"Things that I wasn't even thinking about, really, when I wasn't playing basketball."

Of all the players to admire on the Wolfpack team, Whitley would be the one. After all, he's one of us.

"Basketball is a difficult sport to play," he said. "People think anybody can come out here and pick up a ball. It's just not that easy.

"You've got to really work hard and develop your skills because each person has different skills."

One skill—or rather, characteristic—Whitley has an abundance of is patience. Sitting, watching and waiting would make that necessary.

Whitley was reluctant to talk about his playing skills.

"I'm more of a critic of myself, you know what I mean," he said. "Maybe you can ask Coach V about what he thinks are my strong points.

"I see myself making progress, but how much—(Coach) V's the big fellow."

With no true point guard behind starter Chris Corchiani, Whitley could see more playing time this year. If so, expect no less than 100 percent.

It's all he knows how to give.

Lee expects to rebound in ACC

By Tom Olsen
Assistant Sports Editor

The Atlantic Coast Conference means big-time basketball and is the mythical land of basketball myths to the rest of the college ranks.

It was this reputation that brought N.C. State senior center/forward David Lee from sunny California to Raleigh.

"I couldn't live with myself if I didn't come out and see if I could play with the big boys," Lee said.

Lee, a native of Torrance, CA, transferred to State last year from El Camino College where he averaged 11.8 points and 12.7 rebounds his final season.

In both seasons with El Camino, Lee averaged more rebounds than points. During his senior year at Banning High School he set the Los Angeles city rebounding record with an average of 17 rebounds per game.

Torrance is located about 15 minutes south of Los Angeles and the change to East Coast Raleigh surprised Lee.

While LA is a city with many professional athletic teams, Lee considers Raleigh a basketball city — Wolfpack basketball that is.

"It was kind of amazing," Lee said. "I was giving out autographs."

Lee is hoping the team will be signing more autographs this season, like the kind signed after an ACC crown is won. Lee likes this team's chances of winning one, too.

"There's a lot of heart on our team," Lee said. "Our team relies on its ability and hard work."



David Lee

The Wolfpack team spirit extends off the floor as well.

"Everybody likes each other," he said. "We all hang around each other, everybody goes out sometimes."

Lee was recruited not for scoring purposes, but to fill the rebounding void that Charles Shackelford left after an early retirement from college ball.

"We already have scorers," Lee said. "Me and coach (Jim Valvano) had a talk at the beginning of the season and he's expecting a lot of rebounding."

The transition to the ACC presented new problems for Lee other than the climate.

"It was kind of tough," Lee said. "The guys are much bigger. It was hard at first. In junior college there were some tough people, but they weren't as big and didn't do as well in high school."

He added, "On the west coast the guys are much thinner, like (UNLV's David) Butler."

To compensate, Lee has worked with weights in the off season and has gained another 10 pounds.

Lee, as well as the rest of the State team, has something to prove this season.

Rumors and accusations about the basketball program as well as an early exit from the ACC tournament last year have inspired the Pack to try to reach new heights, Lee said.

"That's why we have a mission this year. We disappointed a lot of fans against Maryland."

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D'Amico earns his teammates' respect

By Fred Hartman
Staff Writer

N.C. State basketball center Brian D'Amico returns to the court this season for his senior year with the Wolfpack.

For the past two seasons, D'Amico has served as the backup center to the likes of now NBA player, Charles Shackelford, and current Wolfpack starter Avie Lester.

This season, he will challenge Lester for the starting role, while sharing back-up duties with fellow senior David Lee.

At 6-11 and 240 pounds, D'Amico brings to the court a great knowledge of the game of basketball and a strong desire to learn more.

"Fundamentally, Brian knows the game of basketball," said State assistant coach Dick Stewart. "He understands the anatomy of the game and he knows what needs to be done to win."

Because of his hard work ethic and commitment to the program, D'Amico has earned the respect of both his coaches and teammates.

"Brian is an excellent young man as far as coaching is concerned," Stewart said. "He's very receptive to the coaches and has always wanted to do the best that he possibly can. You can't ask for more than that."

Likewise, D'Amico is appreciative of the help and opportunities the coaching staff have provided him.

"The coaches have really helped me a lot, in and out of

school," D'Amico explained. "They always help as much as they can. You really can't say enough about them."

D'Amico is in his final year of eligibility, although this is only his third year of playing. He originally signed a letter of intent to play for the University of South Carolina.

Before his freshman season began, D'Amico decided to transfer to State. Since he had already signed a letter of intent to play for the Gamecocks, he was forced to sit out a year.

Why did he decide to make the change to State?

"There was a coaching change at South Carolina after I signed," explained the former Pennsylvania all-state performer. "Bill Foster was the coach that I signed under. He resigned and I just didn't feel as comfortable with the new program that was coming in."

D'Amico explained Stewart was an assistant to Foster at the time he signed. After Foster resigned, Stewart came to State and offered D'Amico a spot on the team.

Did D'Amico make the right decision?

"Oh yeah," he exclaimed. "Everybody takes care of you around here. We've got a lot of fan support and the area of the school is real nice, too."

During the off season, D'Amico has worked on improving his versatility on the court with hopes of having an outstanding senior year. The coaches are pleased with his progress and he is too.

"One of Brian's strengths has always been passing the ball exceptionally well, especially for his size," Stewart explained. "Now, he is beginning to utilize his size and strength inside to battle for position and battle for the ball."

"I'm just trying to be patient right now," D'Amico said. "I've been trying to work on my jumpshots and rebounds a little bit more. Hopefully, I can get some good playing time this year and just try to help the team in any way that I can."

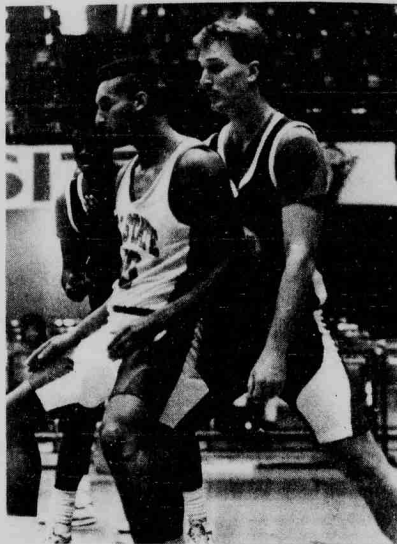
As a senior, D'Amico has been trying to pass along some of his knowledge of the game to some of the younger guys on the team.

"Well, you know I was a freshman once so I know how hard it can be to try and fit in with the rest of the team right away," D'Amico said. "If they don't understand something or they do something wrong, I might just try to help them out. If they can begin to learn the system quicker, then they can begin to start contributing more."

Expectations are high for this year's Wolfpack. D'Amico is hoping to be a key factor in fulfilling those expectations.

Stewart summed up D'Amico's outlook on the season.

"Brian is beginning to see the rewards of the long hours of commitment and patience that he has put into developing himself," Stewart said. "He has great respect for his teammates and their abilities, and likewise, he knows that they have great respect for him and his abilities."



Swayne Hall/Staff

Brian D'Amico (left) challenges Avie Lester for position in a scrimmage game.

Wolfpack Men's Basketball Schedule

Nov. 4	SMAR TYPING (Exhibition)	7:30 p.m.
Nov. 6	WAKE FOREST (Exhibition)	7:30 p.m.
Nov. 10	WAKE FOREST (Exhibition)	7:30 p.m.
Nov. 12	WAKE FOREST (Exhibition)	7:30 p.m.
Nov. 14	WAKE FOREST (Exhibition)	7:30 p.m.
Nov. 16	WAKE FOREST (Exhibition)	7:30 p.m.
Nov. 18	WAKE FOREST (Exhibition)	7:30 p.m.
Nov. 20	WAKE FOREST (Exhibition)	7:30 p.m.
Nov. 22	WAKE FOREST (Exhibition)	7:30 p.m.
Nov. 24	WAKE FOREST (Exhibition)	7:30 p.m.
Nov. 26	WAKE FOREST (Exhibition)	7:30 p.m.
Nov. 28	WAKE FOREST (Exhibition)	7:30 p.m.
Nov. 30	WAKE FOREST (Exhibition)	7:30 p.m.
Dec. 2	WAKE FOREST (Exhibition)	7:30 p.m.
Dec. 4	WAKE FOREST (Exhibition)	7:30 p.m.
Dec. 6	WAKE FOREST (Exhibition)	7:30 p.m.
Dec. 8	WAKE FOREST (Exhibition)	7:30 p.m.
Dec. 10	WAKE FOREST (Exhibition)	7:30 p.m.
Dec. 12	WAKE FOREST (Exhibition)	7:30 p.m.
Dec. 14	WAKE FOREST (Exhibition)	7:30 p.m.
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Dec. 24	WAKE FOREST (Exhibition)	7:30 p.m.
Dec. 26	WAKE FOREST (Exhibition)	7:30 p.m.
Dec. 28	WAKE FOREST (Exhibition)	7:30 p.m.
Dec. 30	WAKE FOREST (Exhibition)	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 1	WAKE FOREST (Exhibition)	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 3	WAKE FOREST (Exhibition)	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 5	WAKE FOREST (Exhibition)	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 7	WAKE FOREST (Exhibition)	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 9	WAKE FOREST (Exhibition)	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 11	WAKE FOREST (Exhibition)	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 13	WAKE FOREST (Exhibition)	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 15	WAKE FOREST (Exhibition)	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 17	WAKE FOREST (Exhibition)	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 19	WAKE FOREST (Exhibition)	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 21	WAKE FOREST (Exhibition)	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 23	WAKE FOREST (Exhibition)	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 25	WAKE FOREST (Exhibition)	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 27	WAKE FOREST (Exhibition)	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 29	WAKE FOREST (Exhibition)	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 31	WAKE FOREST (Exhibition)	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 2	WAKE FOREST (Exhibition)	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 4	WAKE FOREST (Exhibition)	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 6	WAKE FOREST (Exhibition)	7:30 p.m.
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Mar. 7	WAKE FOREST (Exhibition)	7:30 p.m.
Mar. 9	WAKE FOREST (Exhibition)	7:30 p.m.
Mar. 11	WAKE FOREST (Exhibition)	7:30 p.m.

Top Point Averages in ACC, Last five minutes of close games, 1988 season	
Rodney Monroe, NCSU	5.9
Dale Davis, Clem.	3.7
Dennis Scott, Ga. Tech.	3.7
Tom Hammonds, Ga. Tech	3.4
Bryant Stith, Virginia	3.4

Winning at Home		
(% of '89 wins at home)		
	All games	ACC games
NCSU	72.7	60.0
Clemson	68.4	85.7
Ga. Tech.	65.0	75.0
Virginia	63.6	60.0
Maryland	55.6	50.0
Wake Forest	53.8	66.7
North Carolina	51.7	50.0
Duke	50.0	54.5

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Valvano talks about solutions

Continued from Page 6

standard." Valvano said. "Every kid on the basketball team is above that standard.

"Without violating the privacies of our own players, I think our kids are doing a pretty good job right now."

Valvano has also banned all recruiting this year. That includes no evaluation of recruits, no trips for assistant coaches and no paid visits by recruits.

"If you're going to approach some solutions, some action needs to be taken," Valvano said. "Somebody had to say 'Now, what are we going to do?' If I was going to hit the road as basketball coach, I didn't think we would have been able to implement any policies and procedures to insure that those things did not happen again.

"That's a big task. The statement would be wrong to say, 'Ok here they are. And so long, I've got to go recruit. I need to replace my backcourt."

"What kind of a statement is that? We didn't have anybody in the administration to address that, so I felt it was incumbent upon me to do that since I was the one involved with everything that took place. So we felt that a non-recruiting year would let everybody know how serious we felt that it was time to address the issues."

Other violations reported by the NCAA were selling of tickets by players, selling of shoes by players and breaks given to players by local merchants or boosters. Valvano said those problems are, hopefully, solved.

On the ticket problem, Valvano said:

"We've talked with the NCAA about how others handle the problem. We think we've put in place ticket policies and procedures which we think are going to insure that that doesn't take place again."

On the shoe problem, Valvano said:

"Every kid gets one pair. You want a new pair, then you've got to hand us that pair in. If you lose it and you want to get back in the system, pay for it yourself. That's what we're doing. I can guarantee there'll never be a shoe problem."

His discussion on the business-merchant problem was longer:

"We're setting up business luncheons and breakfasts for me to go speak with chambers of commerce to explain to the business community what is right and what is wrong. It's more complicated than you think.

"I'll give you an example. Chris Corchiani and I, after he came back from Mexico (last

summer), went out to lunch in town.

I told him 'Chris, you know I can't buy your lunch.' He said 'I know that, but I can buy your lunch.' We talked about his summer, we talked about the problems and this and that.

"At the end we were waiting for the bill and it didn't come. This is in the middle (of all the controversy). We go up to the cash register and say 'Sorry, we didn't get a bill.' The guy said 'That's all right, the manager picked it up.'

"What you're all supposed to believe would happen is that a couple of players after a win somewhere, any campus in America, go in to a place, order and eat.

"They wait for the bill and it's not there. They go to the cash register and say 'Well, where's the bill?' He says 'Well, the manager has it.' The kid says (slamming his fist and standing up in semi-jest) 'Get me that manager! Give me that bill, I've got to pay that bill!'

"So you can see how that could happen.

"I had to say 'No, no. Please bring it. We have to pay it.' The importance is to let people know that you've got to talk to them."

Valvano believes no matter how bad the situation has gotten, it could've been worse.

"We've been through eight months of investigation," he said. "We shouldn't be happy about the violations. On the other hand, if you look at them and realize that, as far as recruiting violations, they're really aren't any. I think that's an extremely important statement in today's athletic world."

Valvano has been widely criticized over the past eight months. Some of it has been fair. Some of it has not. Valvano, taking from Norman Vincent Peale, has learned how to separate good criticism from bad criticism.

"If criticism is valid," Valvano said, "Then you should learn from it and it makes you better and stronger. If it's invalid, forget about it.

"Some of the criticisms are valid. We've got to learn and do better."

It seems Valvano really wants to turn things around at N.C. State. As basketball coach and former athletics director, he should take most of the blame for the violations which have surfaced. It's his program. It's his problem.

So it should be his solution.

One thing's for sure, as Valvano said, "We'll find out how good a coach I am."

Time will tell.

Hungry Like A Wolf For A Winning Season



GO PACK



UNIVERSITY DINING

Sykes' duties allow him little time to enjoy basketball games

By Brooke Barbee
Staff Writer

Richard Sykes is a man of contradiction.

Although he has the best seat (front row, midcourt) in the "House that Case built" at every home N.C. State basketball game, he rarely watches the game. Instead, he prefers to view a tape of the game later at home.



Richard Sykes

Furthermore, while Sykes is a self-proclaimed lover of Wolfpack basketball, he likes the games better when they're over. Now in his third year as State's game operations manager, Sykes is responsible for almost everything that occurs at a Pack basketball game in Reynolds Coliseum — a job that allows little time to enjoy the game in progress.

"Most of the work takes place before the day of the game," Sykes said. "Things like making sure there are officials, scoreboard operators, a PA announcer, ticket-takers and

ushers all have to be taken care of ahead of time.

"On the day of the game, I typically arrive at the coliseum three to four hours before the game to make sure that everything is set up properly," he said. "Things get easier once the game gets started. I just have to be available if any problems arise."

"Very, very seldom am I called on during the game," Sykes added. "We've been fortunate here most years in that the student population and general public are true basketball fans. "They don't come here to harass someone. They come to see a basketball game."

Although Sykes may not be known for his position as game operations manager, his claim to fame has come at the helm of the Wolfpack golf team. And because golf is a year-round sport, Sykes is grateful for his support staff.

"Game operations director is a good title because I don't do all the work. A lot of workers get the job done," Sykes said. "Each person has an important job and because if anyone doesn't get their job done correctly, it could create problems."

"Everything is prepared for the event to run like it's supposed to run. If you don't notice anything unusual when you leave the game, we did our work well."

Sykes' duties, which he acquired from senior associate athletics director Frank Weedon, also include preparation for all other NCSU sporting events.

On Nov. 18, Sykes' balancing skills will truly be tested as the Wolfpack football team takes on Virginia Tech at 1 p.m. On the same evening, the Pack basketball team will open their season with an exhibition against the Hungarian National Team at 7 p.m.

Sykes must be present at both events, making the preparation for the two games an all-day affair.

Yet, somehow, Sykes still enjoys the games.

"For someone who has always liked sports, it's nice to be around (the coliseum). As I was growing up, a game itself, either as a player or as a spectator, was an outlet for me," Sykes said. "I could forget everything for two or three hours and just have a ball. Now it's not an outlet, but I still love the games."

"I'm just happier when they're over."

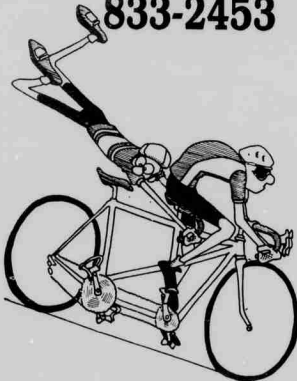
1989-90 Men's Basketball Roster

No.	Name	Pos	Hgt	Wgt.	Class
13	Chris Corchiani	G	6-1	182	Jr.
24	Brian D'Amico	C	6-11	232	Sr.
24	Bryant Figgins	F/G	6-6	190	Fr.
24	Tom Gugliotta	F	6-9	219	So.
3	Mikey Hinnant	G/F	6-6	185	Sr.
22	Brian Howard	F	6-7	209	Sr.
23	Jaime Lester	F	6-7	205	So.
25	David Lee	C/F	6-8	221	Sr.
32	Avie Lester	C	6-9	218	Sr.
21	Rodney Monroe	G	6-3	181	Jr.
33	Anthony Robinson	F	6-9	220	Fr.
42	Kevin Thompson	F	6-9	225	Fr.
15	Roland Whitley	G	6-0	164	So.

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The Glue

That Holds The

Pack Together

Last year, head coach Jim Valvano called senior Brian Howard the glue that held the Pack together. This year Howard is not expected to do the job alone. Fellow four-year senior Avie Lester expects to share the leadership duties with Howard.

By Tom Olsen
Assistant Sports Editor

It's finally basketball season. Time to put away the off-court distractions and focus on the one thing at hand—the opponent.

"I've been looking forward to playing since our last game against Georgetown," N.C. State senior Brian Howard said.

"It's a relief to finally get on the court," senior Avie Lester said.

Brian Howard and Avie Lester, the only four-year seniors on the Wolfpack team, have been through it all. From the highs of being on an ACC Championship team as freshmen in 1987 to the lows of accusations of wrongdoings and an NCAA investigation.

But the past, they say, is behind them.

"The off-court distractions made this team more focused," Lester said. "We're tired of the things going on. I believe this team is ready to play anybody."

Lester and Howard are ready to play and ready to make things happen in their final season.

"We'd like to do some great things," Lester said. "We want this to be a memorable year."

Last year was a memorable one for the Pack as well as for Lester and Howard. Despite all of the talk about Peter Golenbock's book, "Personal Fouls," the team played with a mission and finished

first in the ACC regular season race.

Once it was announced that the book was no longer being published, however, the Wolfpack seemed to lose heart. The Pack dropped several of its final games, including a first round loss in the ACC tournament to lowly Maryland. State went on to win in the first two rounds of NCAA play before bowing to Georgetown.

Howard, a Winston-Salem native, was Mister Everything for the Pack, averaging 12.5 points and 5.4 rebounds. He was also second on the team in steals and blocked shots and third in assists.

Lester, in a manner similar to that of ex-Pack center Cozell McQueen, was more of a defensive player. Lester averaged 5.1 rebounds and 8.4 points per game and was first on the team in blocked shots.

Lester even draws some of the same reactions from fans that McQueen used to draw.

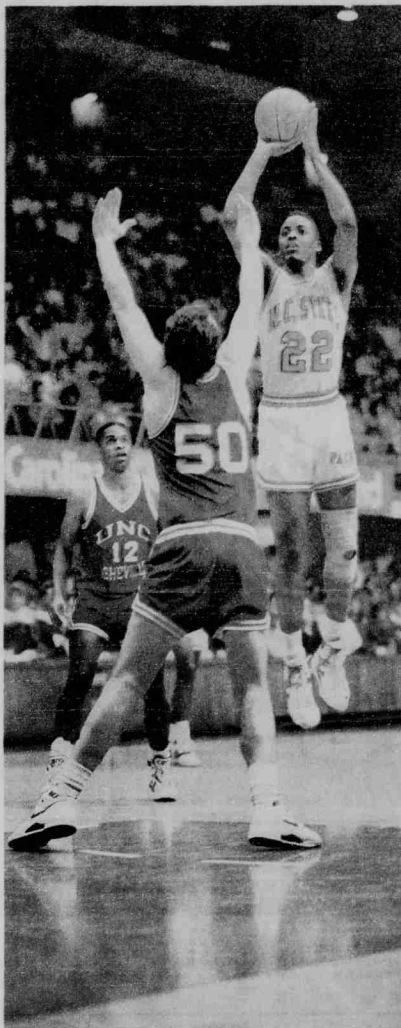
"People either like me or they hate me," Lester said. "No inbetweens."

Lester said part of the fans attitude comes from his style of play.

"I play to win," he said. "As long as we win I don't really care."

When talking about this season, the name of N.C. State has constantly appeared with the phrase "With the loss of Chucky Brown ..." Not only did the Pack lose one of their top players, but one of

See **LESTER**, Page 18



Scott Jackson/Staff

Brian Howard's NCSU Career Statistics

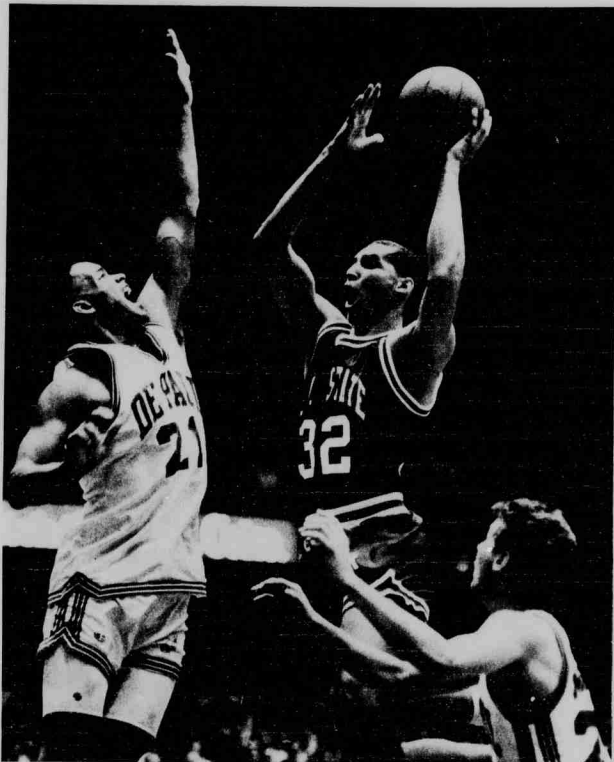
Stats

	G-S	Min	FG	FGA	PCT	3P	3PA	PCT	FT	FTA	PCT	Reb.	PF	D	A	TO	Bk	S	Pts	Avg.
1986-87	18-0	73	5-14		.357	0-0		.000	3-4		.750	9	0.5	10-0	3	4	3	313	0.7	
1987-88	32-32	783	93-189		.492	5-10		.500	53-69		.768	110	3.4	82-1	76	49	21	30	244	7.6
1988-89	31-30	976	160-306		.523	16-49		.327	53-74		.716	166	5.4	89-2	75	43	38	44	389	12.5

We have been here for four years. We looked up to seniors for three and now we can give something back to the younger players. It's up to me and Avie to provide that leadership, on and off the court.

Senior forward Brian Howard

Lester, Howard ready for senior year



Scott Rivenbark/Staff

Avie Lester shoots over the outstretched arms of a DePaul defender at Rosemont Stadium last season in Chicago. The Blue Demons edged the Pack.

Avie Lester's NCSU Career Statistics

1988-89 Stats:

G-GS	Min	FG-FGA	PCT	FT-FTA	PCT	Reb	Avg	PF-D	A	TO	Blk	S	Pts	Avg
31-31	805	107-195	.549	45-78	.577	159	5.1	90-6	25	40	39	24	259	8.4

Lester's Career Highs

Points: 22 vs. Akron, 1988
Rebounds: 12 vs. Maryland, 1989

Howard's Career Highs

Career Highs:
Points: 26 vs. Clemson, Feb. 18, 1988 (Away, NCS 88-63)
Rebounds: 12 vs. Wake Forest, March 4, 1989 (Away, NCS 110-103, 4 OTS)

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Scott Jackson/Staff

Avie Lester applies pressure defense against Akron last season. Lester is known for his aggressiveness on defense.

Continued from Page 17

their key leaders.
"We have been here four years," Howard said. "We looked up to seniors for three years and now we can give something back to the younger players. It's up to me and Avie to provide that leadership, on and off the court."

Howard said part of the duo's leadership role is to help the underclassmen realize the importance of an education.

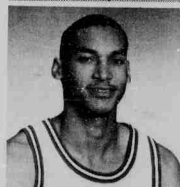
"You have a free education, so you might as well take advantage of it," Howard said.

While basketball might be the main attraction right now for the two seniors, both realize basketball won't last forever.

"You never know when the basketball is gonna stop bouncing," Howard said. "I'd like to play more ball. If not, I'm preparing myself for the day when I can't play any more."

Lester agreed and said his parents have always stressed getting an education.

"It (a degree) will end up lasting with me longer than basketball,"



People either like me or they hate me. No in between.

Avie Lester

he said.

The memories of basketball at State, good, bad or both, will also be with Lester and Howard forever.

"Every game is another game closer to my last on the court," Lester said.

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Three freshman forwards join Pack



Scott Jackson/Staff

Bryant Figgins, one of the Pack's three freshmen, was N.C. High School Player of the Year his senior season at Winston-Salem Glenn. Figgins averaged 22.7 points and 9.4 rebounds, and was a Converse honorable mention all-American.

By Lisa Coston
Sports Editor

This season's N.C. State recruiting class is small in numbers but big in potential.

Leading the Wolfpack trio of newcomers is forward Bryant Figgins of Winston-Salem Glenn High School, who was named N.C. Player of the Year by The Charlotte Observer and the Greensboro News and Record, and co-Player of the Year by the Associated Press.

The 6-6 Figgins averaged 22.7 points, 9.4 rebounds, 2.6 assists, 2.1 blocks and one steal per game as a senior. Named a Converse honorable mention all-American, the two-time Metro Conference Player of the Year led his team to a 26-2 record, the state semifinals and a one-time national ranking of 11th by USA Today.

"Bryant is a leader," State head coach Jim Valvano said. "He is a tough, leader-oriented kind of kid. He comes to play every day.

"I just loved him from the first time I saw him. He's strong and plays hard."

Figgins finished his four-year high school career with 1,697 points, an average of 16.3 points per game. He added a career rebounding average of 7.0 and shot 60 percent from the floor and 70 percent from the line.

"The other thing about Bryant that I love was that he committed earlier than anybody in the group," Valvano said. "He wanted to come to N.C. State, and those are the kind of people you win with in the long run."

Figgins is not the only new Pack player from Winston-Salem Glenn. The other half of Glenn's powerful one-two punch has also arrived at State.

Forward Kevin Thompson joins his high school teammate on the Wolfpack frontline. At 6-9, he averaged 19.6 points, 12.6 rebounds, 8.1 assists and 2.9 blocked shots per game his senior year.

Thompson shot 67 percent from the floor and 68 percent from the line on the way to making all-conference and all-state last season.

"Kevin presents us with a different coaching profile than (former State player) Cozell McQueen and Avie Lester did," Valvano said. "Whereas Cozell and Avie came to us as aggressive rebounders but not very advanced offensively, Kevin is the opposite.

"Kevin possesses a much better offensive touch, both passing and shooting the ball."

Thompson set school records at Glenn for rebounds (887) and blocked shots (203) and was all-state his junior season as well. Along with Figgins, he played on the state 19-and-under AAU championship team, the Winston Lakes YMCA.

"We need Kevin to be more aggressive on the court, to assert himself more," Valvano said. "But in terms of size, he's a big kid with a nice touch."

Rounding out the freshman class is Anthony Robinson from Havelock (N.C.) High School.

The 6-9 forward averaged 13.5 points and 11 rebounds his senior season to earn all-conference honors and lead his team to an 18-8 mark, the conference championship and the state semifinals.

Robinson was named an honorable mention all-state selection by the Greensboro News and Record and an honorable mention all-American by Street and Smith's. Prior to high school, he had never played organized basketball.

"(Robinson)'s a big kid and since we were losing so many, we've always taken a kid who we thought could develop, whether it was Gugs (Tom Gugliotta) or Vinny (Del Negro) or Lorenzo (Charles) or Avie (Lester)," Valvano said.

"We've always been fortunate to have kids like that. Tony is the sleeper so to speak of this group. Tony is going to have to be one of those kids who gets better and better and better and contributes."



Kevin Thompson



Tony Robinson

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Shooting Stars

Both Andrea Stinson and Rodney Monroe used their awesome scoring abilities to lead their teams to the NCAA Sweet 16 last year. Stinson led the conference in scoring with a 23.6 average while Monroe finished second with a 21.4 average. Both set career highs of 40 points, and both were named all-ACC. Several publications have tabbed them as pre-season all-Americans this season.

Text by Lisa Coston
Photo by Michael Russell

Andrea Stinson and Rodney Monroe stand stiffly at center court in Reynolds Coliseum, staring into the camera. "What should we do now?" Stinson asks the photographer, fidgeting.

"Well, why don't we try one with you each spinning the basketball on your finger?"

Stinson complies. Monroe's expression changes from slightly bored to sheepish.

Stinson throws a sideways glance at Monroe and grins. "Scrub."

Both players relax and dissolve into laughter.

Pressure

Andrea Stinson has had to learn to deal with a lot of pressure. Last year, as a sophomore playing her first season of collegiate basketball, she led the ACC in scoring with a 23.6 point average and scored in double figures in all of N.C. State's 31 games, leading the Pack to a NCAA Final 16 appearance.

Her career-high of 40 points against Clemson set a record for most points scored in Reynolds Coliseum by a woman and she finished with 733 points and 113 assists on the season.

Stinson admits the idea of setting records and of winning personal recognition does cross her mind, even though her goals are mostly for the Wolfpack team.

"I think about it. Breaking a record here was sort of a goal for me," she said thoughtfully. "Leading the ACC (in scoring) though—I had no idea I would do that because I knew I was coming up against people who were better than me and more experienced."

"I didn't think about that at all."

Last season, Stinson was a unanimous first team all-ACC and all-ACC Tournament selection, and this season she has been named a pre-season all-American in numerous publications. But the 5-10 guard doesn't seem fazed by the attention.

"I handle it by doing what I like to do—play basketball," she said. "If they think I'm doing it better than someone else, fine. I'm just out to be the best I can be."

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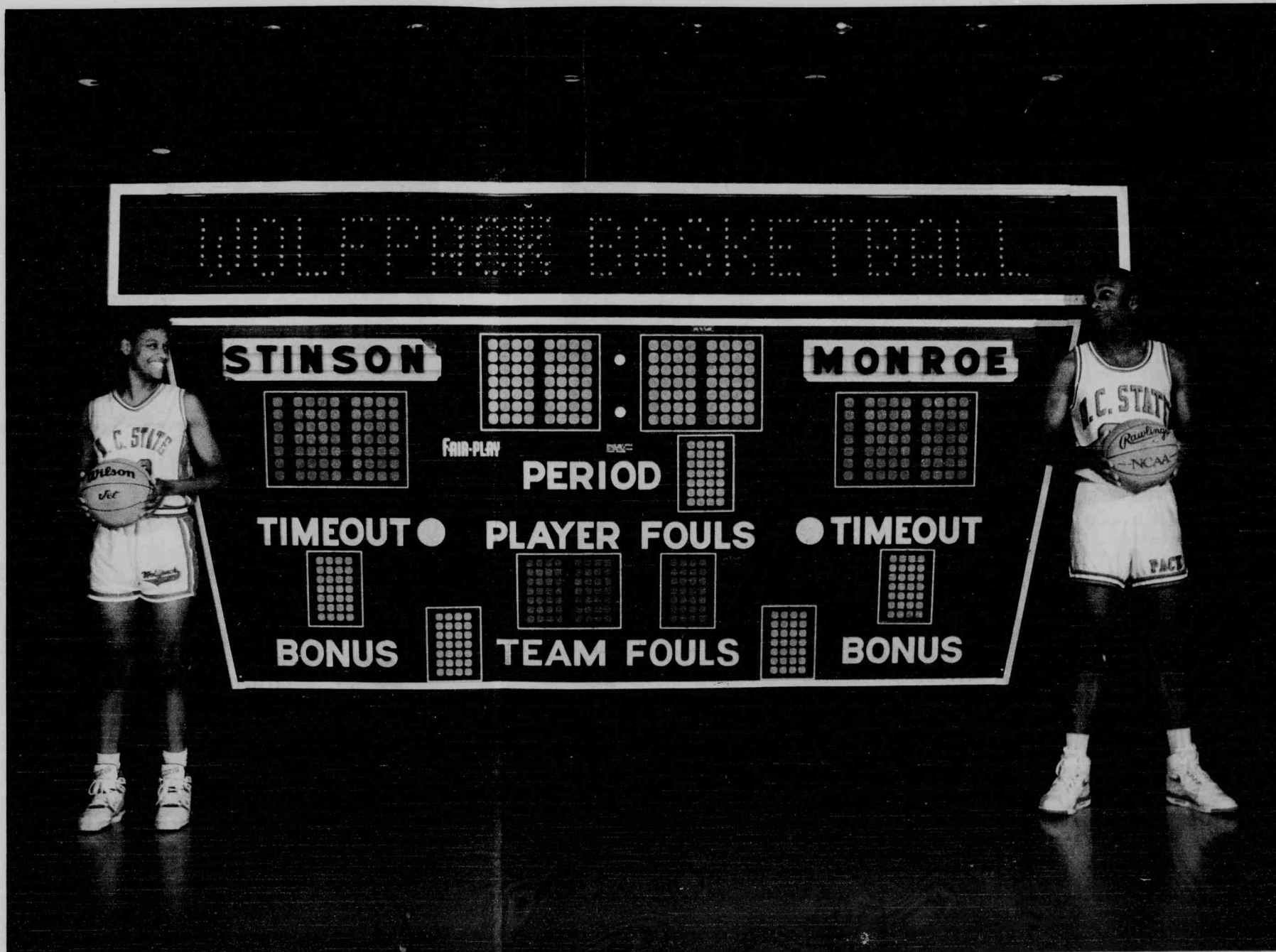
Rodney Monroe, too, is used to pressure situations.

The 6-3 junior guard from Hagerstown, Md., has earned the reputation of being the Pack's "go-to" man in clutch situations. Monroe averaged 29.3 points in State's three NCAA Tournament games and turned in an incredible performance against Iowa in the second round.

In that game, he scored a career-high 40 points, which included a jumper with four seconds left to send the game into overtime and another jumper with four seconds left to send the game into double overtime. In the second OT, Monroe scored 11 points.

He also had the last second shot which sent the Pack into the first of four OTs against Wake Forest and had 12 of State's 33 points in the extra periods.

Monroe downplays the idea that such added pressure bothers him. "It's the kind of pressure a player would like to have," he said. "I



State's shooting stars aim for title

don't worry a lot about what people say. I'd rather have team success than to have me go out and score 40 points."

Getting the soft-spoken Monroe to admit to having any personal goals is a difficult proposition.

"I haven't really had time to sit and think about [personal goals]," Monroe said.

He puts little stock in honors such as making first team all-ACC, which he achieved last season.

"Basically that's just something the media comes up with. I mean, it's nice to be recognized. But I'd rather have team success."

Success not surprising

Stinson wasn't surprised by the success of the Wolfpack Women—who finished at 24-7 and ranked 13th in the AP final poll—last year, but she is a player with loftier aspirations.

"I expected us to do as well as we did—I wanted us to do better," she said. "This year I expect for us to be even better. We have that potential, with only two people gone from last season."

The Pack is ranked in the top ten in many preseason polls, but that fact doesn't bother Stinson either.

"I don't think we feel like it's pressure. I think it's sort of a challenge. Last year we were ranked pretty high but we lived up to it to a certain extent."

This time around, Stinson wants to make it to Knoxville, to the NCAA Final Four.

"We can be both an inside and an outside team this year. It's a matter of who we're playing against," the Cornelius native said. "I think Rhonda (Mapp) and Sharon (Manning) will work well together this year. They'll be tough to stop when they get going, with Nicole (Lehmann) and I on the outside.

"Mostly we want to be a transition team."

Stinson also has a few modest goals for herself for this season. "One is to have at least five triple double games," she said.

"Another is to lead the team to win the ACC regular season and the tournament."

Stinson, in addition to her prolific scoring performance, averaged 4.5 rebounds, 3.6 assists and three steals per contest last season.

♦ ♦ ♦

Monroe has been working to improve his ball handling and his ability to create offensive opportunities in transition. With no clear back-up for Chris Corchiani at the point, he may be asked to step in and run the team at times.

Last year Monroe had 89 assists and averaged 4.8 rebounds per game as well—not bad for a player known almost exclusively as a shooter.

As for his uncanny shooting touch, Monroe downplays his ability in characteristic fashion.

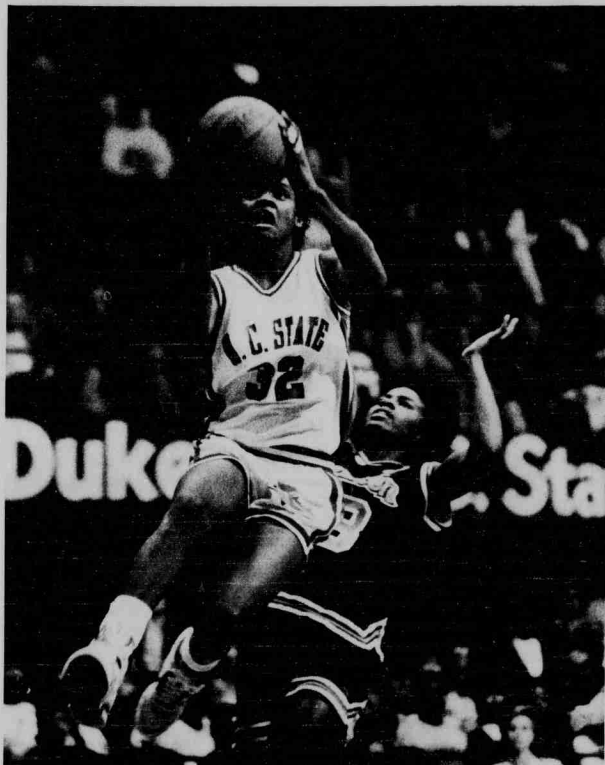
"Shooting isn't something I worked on all the way through. I didn't really work on it a lot until high school," he said. "It probably is one of the strong points of my game."

Monroe is a master of understatement. In 1988-89, he finished second in the conference in scoring with an average of 21.4, and thus became the first Wolfpack player since Kenny Carr in 1977 to break the 20-point mark for scoring average.

Monroe was also second in the league in number of three-pointers made, with an average of 2.7 per contest—on 40.1 percent shooting.

He has hit the most three-pointers of any Pack player ever (134) going into his junior season. And he shot 79.7 percent from the free throw line in '88-89.

Like Stinson, Monroe was happy with his team's performance last



Michael Russell/Staff

season, and looks for more of the same this time around. "I thought we had a great year. I'm sure a lot of people didn't think we'd make it to the Sweet 16 of the NCAAs," he said. "This year a lot of people don't expect us to do well 'cause we lost Chucky (Brown) and Kelsey (Weems)."

"I think we'll do a lot better than people think. I'd

like to see us win the ACC regular season again and do better in the tournament. And return to the NCAAs."

Room for Improvement

Stinson has also been working to improve several areas of her game, including her outside shooting and her free throw shooting. Over the summer, she played on the World Championship Qualifying Tournament Team, against a lot of international competition.

"It was a great experience," Stinson says of the time spent with the team in Brazil. "My defense and my defensive positioning have definitely picked up a lot, having to play with international players who are experienced and like professionals."

Stinson, more of a scorer as opposed to a pure shooter, shot 52.9 percent from the field and 66.1 from the line last year. Still, she set the State records for best season scoring average and most points scored in one season.

Her ability to drive to the basket last season was uncanny, especially considering that Stinson had been forced to sit out a year because of Proposition 48.

The return to organized play was fairly smooth, though, she

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"When I sat out, I still played a lot," Stinson said. "It was just a matter of adjusting from playing in the gym to organized play."

"In the gym, it's run and gun with the guys. After the first few weeks of practice, I got into the groove though."

Stinson can often be spotted playing against, and beating, "the guys" in Carmichael Gym. She actually began playing basketball, in the sixth grade, out on the playgrounds against boys.

And the basketball players Stinson mentions as her role models and favorite players are mostly male. Alonzo Mourning, Michael Jordan—to whom she is sometimes compared. And one closer to home.

"I tell Rodney Monroe I always wanted to shoot like him."

A Better Baseball Player

Monroe started playing basketball when he was five or six years old, but he was interested in all sports back then—basketball, football, baseball.

"I was a better baseball player then," Monroe smiles. "It wasn't until middle school that I started concentrating on basketball."

Ask Monroe about role models in the sport and one name quickly comes up.

"Dr. J (Julius Erving) was always one of my heroes."

By his senior year at St. Maria Goretti High School, the former baseball player was the all-time leading scorer in Maryland prep basketball history, with 3,047 points.

Touted as Jim Valvano's "backcourt of the future" along with Corchiani, Monroe wasted no time at State, playing in all 32 games as a freshman and finishing with an average of 11.1 points and with a free throw percentage of 82.4.

Like Stinson, he had the chance to better his game by playing against international competition over the summer, in Mexico with Corchiani. Monroe's assessment of the experience mirrors Stinson's.

"The players were older and more experienced. At that level, it's like the NBA—they get paid. Everyone wants to beat the U.S. and they're more aggressive," he said.

The trip to Mexico also gave Monroe a chance to get to know backcourt partner Corchiani better.

"This summer we spent a lot of time together. Off the court we got to know each other better, which will help us on the court."

More Women Role Models

Stinson admires many male basketball players, but she would love to see more female role models. Since basketball started out being played by men, the men's game still gets the lion's share of the attention from the media and from the public.

Along with the rest of the Wolfpack, Stinson is trying to change that fact this season. Stinson said the team is working hard to promote itself by handing out schedules and posters, and she herself gave a speech in one of her classes, trying to convince students to come support the Pack.

"I'm trying my best to get people to come to the games."

Giving fan support is a difficult task for women's basketball teams, because of the sport's male tradition, Stinson said.

"We have to win, we have to have exciting to watch, we have to have a winning record every year," she commented. "We have to give the crowd something to come back for."

Monroe and his team, on the other hand, are faced with the opposite problem—a little too much publicity, of the non-basketball type.

With all of the off-court controversy which has surrounded the Pack since January, concentrating on the game sometimes becomes difficult.

"Last year we handled it pretty well," Monroe said. "The best way to respond was to win games. This year it seems like every time it dies down someone brings it back up."

"We have to put it in the back of our minds and just go out and be student-athletes."

For the most part, the attention has seemingly focused on Valvano, rather than on his players, and Monroe shows little emotion when the topic is broached.

"People ask a lot of questions but they haven't really acted any differently," he said.

Success, Impact

The photo shoot is almost over. Stinson and Monroe have hectic schedules to return to, now that practice has started for the year.

Classes, basketball practice and studying leave the two little time for anything but relaxing with friends, listening to music or going to movies. Then there are the occasional interviews and photo sessions, especially this time of year and at the end of the season.

"I've been able to come in and make an impact on the team,"

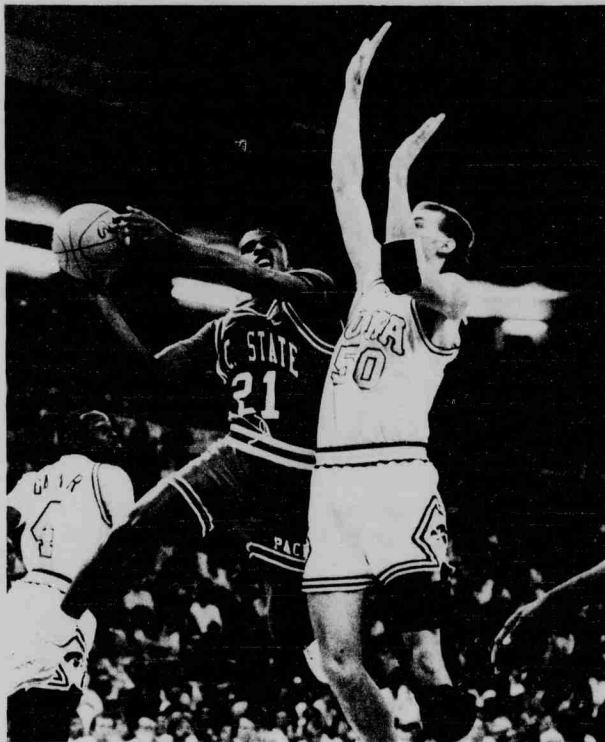
Stinson said. "I didn't expect to, but I did. And that makes me proud."

"I've accomplished a few of my goals, but I have a lot left. And I only have three years."

"In high school, you just want to play college ball," Monroe said.

"Coming in as a freshman, being the sixth man, was great. Then starting last year..."

"Before you start, you just don't have any idea how much success you'll have."



Simon Griffiths/Sports Information

Rodney Monroe hits the jumper that gave the Pack the lead for good in their second-round game against Iowa. Monroe scored a career-high 40 points in the double-overtime victory.

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'This year is going to be awesome'

Seniors Krista Kilburn (left) and Kerri Hobbs return for their final campaign as Wolfpack Women. They've won an ACC Championship and they've reached the Sweet 16 in the NCAA's. Now they are ready to reach the Final Four in Knoxville.



By Dwan June
Senior Staff Writer

It's Monday afternoon. Excitement is in the air in the back room of the N.C. State sports information office.

Senior Wolfpack basketball players Kerri Hobbs and Krista Kilburn are sitting at a table, eating bagels for lunch, a habit that Kerri now finds hard to break.

"Ever since I gave her one," Kilburn says pointing to a salt bagel, "she has to have them."

Their faces glow with excitement while they eat. Glowing as if they knew what the first question would be before it's even been asked.

"I've just got an awesome feeling about this year," Kilburn said between several bites of a bagel. "This year is going to be awesome."

Hobbs expressed the same sentiment and enthusiasm about the Pack's chances of going all the way — arguably the best chance in recent years.

"I think that as far as cohesiveness and experience goes," she said, "this is the best team I've seen."

They may be right. The Wolfpack Women are returning three starters and seven lettermen from last year's 24-7 squad that fell to Mississippi in the NCAA Sweet 16.

Being the energetic person she is, it is hard for Kilburn to hold back the

The first day of practice we said 'Wolfpack Women all the way to Knoxville.' I think the team's togetherness is real high. It's the best in years.

Krista Kilburn, senior forward

excitement she feels for 1989-90. Several times during the interview, the Fayetteville, Ga. native breaks her train of thought, opting to show her enthusiasm for the upcoming season.

"I'm so excited about this year," she says. "I'm going to take my energies and put them in a positive manner."

Kilburn is the Pack's top emotional leader on the court, but coming in a close second is Hobbs.

The Mt. Laurel, New Jersey native also finds it hard to control her emotions.

"It motivates your teammates, gets them going if they've done something positive," Hobbs said. "It helps your teammates get pumped up. It's hard for me to keep it (enthusiasm) in when something good happens."

Suddenly, the atmosphere becomes somewhat serious. The topic of expectations come up. As always, expectations are running high in the Wolfpack camp.

"The first day of practice, we said 'Wolfpack Women all the way to Knoxville,'" Krista said. "I think the team's togetherness is real high. It's the

best in years.

"Everyone is giving high-fives in practicing, we're doing things off the court together as well as on the court," she says. "(People) say that you don't have to be friends to win as a team, but it helps if you are."

It was the idea of a team concept that persuaded Hobbs to play collegiate basketball instead of running collegiate track.

"Basketball is a team concept, where track is more individual," she says. "I like the idea of team concept."

The team.

Some experts consider this year's squad to be Yow's best. Kilburn returns her 7.5 points and four rebounds per game average to the nation's seventh-ranked preseason team, while Hobbs brings her 5.9 points and 4.3 rebound average to the Pack.

Preseason all-Americans Andrea Stinson and Rhonda Mapp lead a squad that is at least three deep in every position. Throw in the one of the top recruiting classes in the country and you have all the ingredients for an ACC championship and

a Final Four berth.

Both Kilburn and Hobbs feel the Pack has found the combination of youth and experience that will take them to the Final Four.

"Our best talent is still young, but it is not a weakness," Kilburn said. "It's well-balanced."

"Because of the style we play," Hobbs said, "having four people coming in will definitely help--"

Senior leadership is always the key to Yow's program and this year is no different. Hobbs and Kilburn are up for the task.

"I'm sure I've made some mistakes that I shouldn't have," Kilburn says. "But as a senior, I can't dwell on the mistake. I have to correct it."

"If I make a mistake, I can't walk around and pout," Hobbs said. "I must know the mistake and make sure it doesn't happen again."

The senior leadership is there. The talent and the experience is intact. The team concept is a given. The bottom line still adds up to enthusiasm.

"Enthusiasm is running high," Hobbs says cracking a smile. "Our team goal is to win an ACC championship and go to the Final Four."

"Our intensity level on the team, as far as I've seen, is the highest in my four years here."

"It's just so hard to explain," Kilburn said. "This is going to be an awesome year."

Gunning for the Final Four in Reynolds

Yow, Wolfpack Women aim to lead nation in attendance

By Brooke Barbee
Staff Writer

In the 1988-89 season, the N.C. State women's basketball team continued its tradition of excellence with an outstanding season.

The Pack finished the season with a 24-7 record, topped off by a trip to the "Sweet Sixteen" of the NCAA tournament and a final national ranking of 13th in the AP poll. Some things never change.

Last winter, the women's basketball program also broke into the top 20 in yet another category: fan attendance. NCSU was 15th overall in average women's basketball attendance per game.

But unlike the accomplishments of the team—which required hard work, dedication, and skill—the latter statistic was not achieved through such perseverance by the university as a whole. Only a relatively small group of people dedicated their support to the team.

To reach 15th on the charts, State only needed 1500 supporters per game on the average. 1500. Some things need to change.

This season, the time for change has come. Through a combined effort of the athletics department, State's sports information office, the Lady Pack Backers and several other campus organizations (including the team itself), State women's basketball will be promoted this year like never before.

In fact, before the season ever tips off, the Wolfpack will be at the forefront of the nation as the women's basketball team strives to acquire the support of both the student population and the Raleigh community on a large scale.

State head coach Kay Yow, currently in her 15th season at the helm of State's program, believes many key factors have combined to make this season unlike any other.

"Each program perhaps has its moment in time when you're ready to take that next step," Yow said. "We have the potential to have one of our finest teams ever and that certainly helps us to gain visibility.

"With the tradition of our program, the enthusiasm from last season, and the fact that we have 11 of 13 players back from last year, I think everybody knows that this may be a very

good year.

"We know that we have quite an opportunity."

The Pack will capitalize on that opportunity through many directions, particularly television. On January 7 at 1 p.m., the Wolfpack Women will make history in yet another way as ESPN will broadcast their game live from Reynolds Coliseum.

The match-up will be the first ever nationally-televised, regular season NCAA women's basketball contest. Nora Lynn Finch, State associate athletics director, knows there is more importance in the game than just the outcome on the scoreboard.

"The pressure is on us to fill Reynolds Coliseum for that game," Finch said. "We are not just carrying a game. The whole reputation of N.C. State's support for women's basketball rests on the size of that audience."

The Pack will also be televised live on WKFT-Fayetteville six times during the season. All of the games will be shown on tape delay on the cable network, Home Team Sports (HTS).

The women will also be part of a new ACC television package when they play Virginia on February 24. The game will be broadcast live on HTS.

"The time has come to promote women's basketball in a way that we've never done here," Finch said. "There are a number of things that are bringing this together. This basketball program is one of national reputation.

"It's been extremely consistent, not just in terms of winning games but in terms of their academic and social reputation as well," Finch added. "Kay Yow is coming off international acclaim. She is perhaps the best known women's basketball coach in the world. And the irony is that she is not as well known in Raleigh as she is in Moscow.

"We think the major difference is television."

The Pack will also call on a volunteer, non-profit organization, the Lady Pack Backers, to assist in promotion.

The Lady Pack Backers began last year in December with a group of about 15 concerned members of the Raleigh community. The organization, now with over 300 members, has only one intent—to increase awareness and thereby increase attendance.

Linda Robuck, chairperson of the Lady Pack Backers, has high



Each program perhaps has its moment in time when you're ready to take that next step. We have the potential to have one of the finest teams ever and that certainly helps us to gain visibility.

Kay Yow

hopes for this season.

"Our goal is to get us in the top four in attendance," said Robuck, who is the mother of team member, Gerri. "We feel that if we can get people to the games, they'll come back. It's a good family atmosphere and exciting

basketball.

"It's a different type of basketball from the men's, but it's just as good."

Indeed, there can no longer be any excuses. The team is good—so good that they realistically have a shot at winning the

national championship.

The coach is a winner—not only at State, but as the gold medal coach at the 1988 Olympics. The games are of national importance, as exemplified by their national television broadcast.

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Pack shoots for NCAA Final Four



Eddie Gontram/Staff

Junior guard Andrea Stinson led the ACC in scoring last year with an average of 23.6 points per game.

By Dwan June
Senior Staff Writer

Head women's basketball coach Kay Yow wants to make it to the Final Four in stadium attendance in 1989-90.

But this may be the year that Yow and the Wolfpack Women make it to the Final Four on the court as well.

The 1989-90 version of the Wolfpack Women appears to be one of Yow's best squads, going three deep at every slot. "I think we have potential for one of our finest teams," Yow said. "We have a good blend of quality inside and perimeter players."

The Wolfpack returns three starters and seven letterwinners from last year's unit, which finished 24-7 and lost to Mississippi in the NCAA Sweet 16. The Women's Basketball News Service (WBSN) has the Pack ranked sixth in their preseason poll while Street & Smith's has the Wolfpack Women seventh in the nation.

Heading the list of returning players are junior guard Andrea Stinson, junior center Rhonda Mapp and senior Krista Kilburn.

Stinson set a State school record for most points in a season (733) and the most points scored in Reynolds Coliseum by a woman with a 40-point performance against Clemson last year. Her league-leading 23.6ppg

scoring average was also a school record.

In Mapp, Yow has the conference's most accurate shooter. The Asheville native shot 64.4 percent from the field last season and averaged 14.3 points and 8.2 rebounds per game. Mapp, who will probably man the center position, also added 53 assists, 31 steals and 20 blocked shots and made the all-ACC Tournament team.

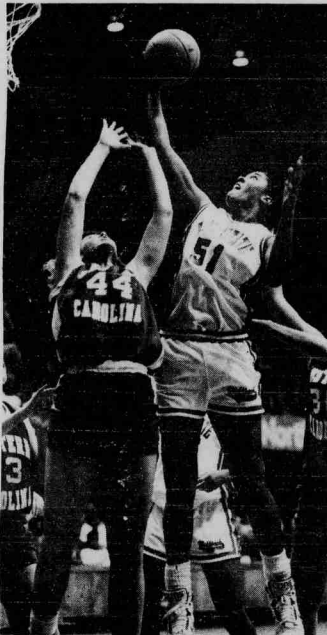
"We have two exceptionally talented players in Andrea Stinson and Rhonda Mapp," Yow said. "We have a solid, quality cast of players behind them."

Yow would like to see the Pack run a transition game and Mapp knows the key to running the transition centers around her ability to get the ball to the open person.

"I have to get the rebounds to start the transition," Mapp says, "because we basically want to run a transition game for 40 minutes."

Last year's squad was strong in talent, but weak in experience. This year's squad has ample senior leadership and Kilburn should lead the way.

Kilburn is probably the Pack's most intense competitor. The Fayetteville native averaged 7.5 points and four rebounds and can play either the power forward,

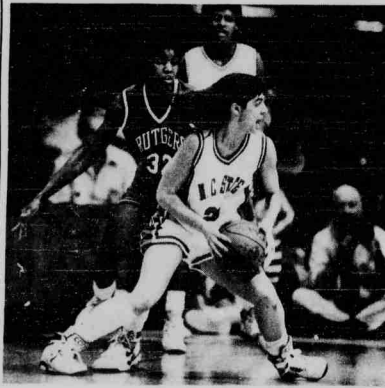


Michael Russell/Staff

Junior center Rhonda Mapp averaged 14.3 points and 8.2 rebounds per game last season.

See **WOLFPACK**, Page 27

Robuck relies on her mental abilities and dedication



Michael Russell/Staff

Guard Gerri Robuck sat out from sports her first year at State, after playing three varsity sports in high school.

By Mic Cover
Staff Writer

One of the most important traits for a Wolfpack athlete to have is sheer effort. Persistence and will can often be the sole tools to lead a team to victory.

N.C. State junior guard Gerri Robuck has these tools and plans to use them in the upcoming basketball season.

"It all goes back to effort," the accounting major said. "You set your sights on something, you've got to try your hardest."

Robuck's philosophy, if applied by her teammates, will insure a winning season.

"If one person doubts one bit, we probably won't win," she said. "But if we set our mind to it, we can beat anybody."

Robuck finds that basketball is the most effective way to show athletic determination.

"I love the game," she said. "It's a combination of everything: endurance, quickness and teamwork."

Robuck's personal success in the sport dates back to when she began to play in the sixth grade.

"My parents are very athletic," she explained. Her family was a major influence in her decision to play basketball, Robuck said.

By the time Robuck finished high school, she had played three different varsity sports. Feeling burned out, she took a year off from varsity athletics when she arrived at State.

"I don't regret the time off," Robuck said. "I'm rested now and I'm ready to go."

Robuck played in 22 games last season and started three.

As an individual player, Robuck is a leader with her determination and persistence.

"I hustle all the time and give 110 percent," she said. "I don't give up easily. I fight it to the end."

She also knows the importance of the game's mental aspects. "It's all so mental for me," she said. "I don't have all the

physical attributes," she said. Robuck relies on her mental abilities and on her dedication.

"Coach (Kay) Yow has a saying 'You play hard, play smart, play together and play with confidence,'" she said.

Playing smart is one of Robuck's goals as an athlete. For the Wolfpack team, she wants to win the ACC title and reach the NCAA Final Four.

"We've stepped the team up another level from last year," she said. "We've got a lot of unity. We can do it."

The road to the Final Four will be easier to travel if State's fans turn out to watch the Pack win.

"Come see our games," Robuck said. "We have some televised games this season. We need a lot of fans for them."

Robuck anticipates many displays of athletic talent for the Wolfpack fans this year.

"They won't see just girls out there, but basketball players. I think they'll be surprised."

Wolfpack ranked as high as sixth in preseason polls

Continued from Page 26

small forward or big guard position.

"I want to be a solid player," Kilburn said. "I need to make that 15-foot shot. I know I can hit it. The coach told me the other day that I need to take that open 15-footer."

Expect Kilburn to make her presence felt at the power forward position, popping out to take the short 15-foot jumper or to be on the receiving end of a fast break.

Junior Sharon Manning and senior Kerri Hobbs add strength to a front line that will also feature 6-5 redshirt freshmen Teri Whyte, Manning and Hobbs can hit the soft 10-footer in the lane as well post up inside.

Whyte, along with center/power forward Christa Hull, has the size and the shooting touch to serve as a key reserve this season.

Should the Pack's inside game falter, the Wolfpack Women have an outside game to keep opponents at bay. Juniors Nicole Lehmann and Gerri Robuck—along with sophomores Natalie Nester and Ashley Hancock—provide the Pack with an awesome outside attack.

Lehmann, the Pack's designated three-point shooter, hit 43.4 percent of her three-point field goal attempts (53 of 122). Robuck possesses an all-around game highlighted by her excellent defensive skills. She will probably be the Pack's sixth man.

Hancock and Nester both have excellent ball-handling skills as well as soft shooting touches. Hancock will probably see more time in the backcourt spelling Stinson, while Nester will probably enter the game to break open an opponent's stingy inside defense with her almost automatic 15-footer.

"No question, this is the most talented team I've ever had at N.C. State," Yow said. "We've got some outstanding players and for the first time in two years, we have some experience. This team really excites me with its potential."

Adding to that potential is one of the nation's top recruiting classes.

Freshmen Danyel Parker and identical twins Krissy and Jenny Kuziemski join the Pack. Parker is the leading prep scorer in N.C. history, scoring 3,225 in four years. The Clinton native could

challenge for the point guard spot.

Krissy and Jenny Kuziemski, according to Yow, have the best work habits of any players she has recruited. The Women's Basketball News Service picked Parker and Krissy Kuziemski for its first team all-American freshman team.

If there is a weakness in the Wolfpack Women, it could be at the point. The position is unproven with Lehmann and Parker battling for the starting nod. If neither prove adequate for the job, Yow may move Stinson to the point and Lehmann to shooting guard.

Still, the key to this year's success is team unity.

"I think we have the making of a very good team, yet we have to continue to improve. And we have the ability to maintain great team unity."

"This is a team that will have a nice blend between inside and outside," Yow said. "We're strong in both areas, probably more so than at any other time since I have been here. The key will be to complement one another well."

The Pack opens its season against Hungary Nov. 18 in Reynolds Coliseum at 7 p.m.

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ACC among nation's best conferences

By Dwan June
Senior Staff Writer

The balance of power in ACC women's basketball has remained unchanged throughout the years.

But the gap between the haves and the have nots has changed, making the conference more competitive inside and out.

No longer

can a Maryland or an N.C. State walk into Clemson's Littlejohn Coliseum or Wake Forest's Reynolds Gymnasium and expect to come out with a win.

As a result, the ACC has become one of the nation's premier conferences for women's basketball. Last year, the ACC placed four teams in the NCAAs, with Maryland reaching the Final Four.

Only the Southeastern Conference could boast of a better achievement, placing five teams in the tournament. Not only did SEC school Tennessee win the national championship, but they beat fellow SEC school Auburn in the finals.

Because the SEC and the ACC have emerged as the finest conferences for women's basketball, the possibility of an ACC-SEC series similar to the men's ACC-Big East Challenge has been discussed by officials in the two conferences.

Indeed, times have changed in the ACC, and there is no year more indicative of those changing times than the 1989-90 campaign. State, Maryland and Virginia are still the teams to beat. But Clemson, Wake Forest and North Carolina are steadily

improving as are Duke and Georgia Tech.

This year, however, should be the year of the Wolfpack Women. The Pack is returning three starters and seven letterwinners from last year's 24-7 squad which lost to Mississippi in the NCAA Sweet 16.

Heading the list of returnees is the conference's leading scorer, Andrea Stinson. The junior guard from Cornelius, N.C. averaged 23.6 points, dished out 113 assists and had 94 steals.

Junior center Rhonda Mapp will anchor a frontline that may be one of the nation's best. Mapp, the 6-3 center from Asheville, N.C., averaged 14.3 points and 8.2 rebounds per game. Her 64.4 field goal percentage was good enough for second in the nation.

Although the Pack lost senior point guard Debbie Bertrand and forward Sandee Smith, the Pack has a deep bench to overcome the losses. State also boasts one of the nation's top recruiting classes, garnering point guard Danyel Parker, the leading scorer in N.C. prep history, and guard/forwards Krissy and Jenny Kuziemski from New Jersey.

"Our strengths are experience, better than outstanding play at the No. 2 guard with Andrea Stinson and overall team speed and quickness," head coach Kay Yow said. "Last year's team was young and inexperienced and went 24-7. We're a year older and wiser so our expectations are high. We've got enough talent and the commitment to do some great things."

Following on the heels of the Pack will be the defending ACC champion Maryland Terrapins. Although the Terrapins lose Olympic standout Vicky Bullett and all-ACC point guard Deanna Tate from last year's Final Four

squad, head coach Chris Weller is fortunate enough to have solid depth at every position.

Returning starters Christy Winters, Subrena Rivers and Carla Holmes must make up for the loss of Maryland's top two scorers. Holmes will probably assume Tate's role at the point with Sue Panek playing the No. 2 position.

Freshman Jessie Hicks will probably man the post for Weller's Terrapins. While the Terps have depth at every position, they lack the experience needed to face what may be one of the country's toughest schedules. But Weller thinks the Terrapins can maintain their record of success.

"The challenge of the schedule will give experience to our young players and allow them to take their rightful place in the Maryland tradition," she says. "I feel confident that this schedule will allow them to meet their goal of being the best they can possibly be."

Clemson finds itself in the awkward position of having to replace the five starting seniors who led the Tigers to the Sweet 16. Although head coach Jim Davis had an excellent recruiting year, no program in the country that can withstand the loss of five seniors.

But if Davis can survive the first half of the Tigers' schedule, he may prove critics wrong. "This is not a typical rebuilding year," Davis said. "Still at the same time we will be a very young team next season with only one senior, but we hit the junior college ranks very hard in

recruiting because we needed immediate help and college experience.

"In the early part of the season, I'm not concerned with our breaking into the Top 20."

Virginia must overcome the loss of senior guard/forward Tonya Cardoza, who was ruled ineligible this season. ACC Rookie of the Year Dawn Staley, who averaged a team-leading 20.2 points per game, will quarterback an offense that will feature 5-6 Camela Franklin at forward and 6-2 forward/center Audra Smith.

The Demon Deacons may be the conference sleeper this year. Junior Jenny Mitchell leads a Deacon attack that went 16-12 last season. Mitchell averaged a team-leading 18.6 points and 8.1 rebounds.

At 6-3, Lisa Dodd will continue to man the post for the Deacons. But in order for Joe Sanchez's team to be successful, Dodd will have to improve her 7 points and 7.9 rebounds per game average.

The Yellow Jackets return four starters and four letterwinners from last year's squad, which tied the school record for most wins in a season. Second-year head coach Agnus Berenato led Georgia Tech to a 14-14 mark.

The Tech offense centered around sophomore forward Karen Lounsbury. Lounsbury hit an ACC and school record 71 three-pointers and finished fifth in the conference in scoring with a 19.3 average.

"Karen is so consistent, and naturally we will be counting on her a great deal," said Berenato. "She's a great shooter, and she really has worked hard to improve her quickness."

North Carolina and Duke should be the conference's most improved teams.

No one knows what to expect

from the Blue Devils this year. Senior Sue Harnett returns to the Duke lineup with her averages of 19.6 points and 8.2 rebounds per game.

Still, head coach Debbie Leonard must replace Jenni Kraft, who averaged 13.6 points per game, and Tracey Christopher, who grabbed 9.6 points per game.

UNC head coach Sylvia Hatchell's squad is still young, but the four returning starters have a year's experience under their belt. The Heels' strengths lie at the forward position with sophomores Dawn Bradley and LeAnn Kennedy and seniors Sheri Anderson and Marsha Matthews.

The Heels lose their top scorer and rebounder in center Merlaime Oden, who averaged 12.1 points and 8.9 rebounds per game. But the Heels should have enough depth to overcome the loss.

With State ranked as high as sixth in several preseason polls, and Virginia, Maryland and Clemson cracking the Top 20 in others, this could be the year competition within the conference hits an even higher level.

"We cannot underestimate anyone," said State senior Krista Kilburn. "We can't take it easy." Perhaps UNC's Hatchell sums it up best.

"Some of the teams lost great players, but had good recruiting years," she said. "So, the conference shouldn't lose any of the balance it's gained over the past few years. We can't go anywhere but up."



Chris Weller

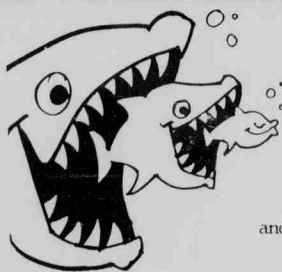


Karen Lounsbury



Sylvia Hatchell

Wolfpack Women Basketball Schedule	
Nov. 18 @ N.C. STATE	7 p.m.
Nov. 24 at Florida Southern Classic (Orlando, Fla.)	8 p.m.
Nov. 25 @ N.C. State	8 p.m.
Nov. 26 @ Wake Forest	8 p.m.
Nov. 27 @ Virginia Tech	8 p.m.
Nov. 28 @ Wake Forest	8 p.m.
Nov. 29 @ Wake Forest	8 p.m.
Nov. 30 @ Wake Forest	8 p.m.
Dec. 1 @ Wake Forest	8 p.m.
Dec. 2 @ Wake Forest	8 p.m.
Dec. 3 @ Wake Forest	8 p.m.
Dec. 4 @ Wake Forest	8 p.m.
Dec. 5 @ Wake Forest	8 p.m.
Dec. 6 @ Wake Forest	8 p.m.
Dec. 7 @ Wake Forest	8 p.m.
Dec. 8 @ Wake Forest	8 p.m.
Dec. 9 @ Wake Forest	8 p.m.
Dec. 10 @ Wake Forest	8 p.m.
Dec. 11 @ Wake Forest	8 p.m.
Dec. 12 @ Wake Forest	8 p.m.
Dec. 13 @ Wake Forest	8 p.m.
Dec. 14 @ Wake Forest	8 p.m.
Dec. 15 @ Wake Forest	8 p.m.
Dec. 16 @ Wake Forest	8 p.m.
Dec. 17 @ Wake Forest	8 p.m.
Dec. 18 @ Wake Forest	8 p.m.
Dec. 19 @ Wake Forest	8 p.m.
Dec. 20 @ Wake Forest	8 p.m.
Dec. 21 @ Wake Forest	8 p.m.
Dec. 22 @ Wake Forest	8 p.m.
Dec. 23 @ Wake Forest	8 p.m.
Dec. 24 @ Wake Forest	8 p.m.
Dec. 25 @ Wake Forest	8 p.m.
Dec. 26 @ Wake Forest	8 p.m.
Dec. 27 @ Wake Forest	8 p.m.
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Dec. 29 @ Wake Forest	8 p.m.
Dec. 30 @ Wake Forest	8 p.m.
Dec. 31 @ Wake Forest	8 p.m.



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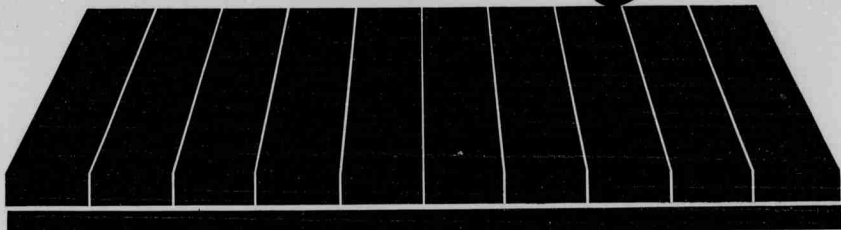
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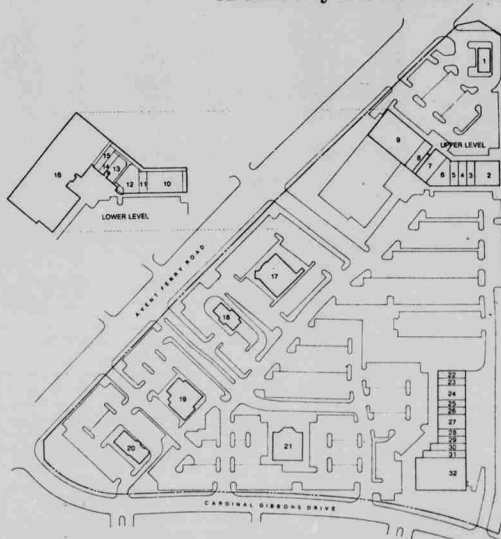
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Mapp reaches for new heights

By Dwan June
Senior Staff Writer

Junior center Rhonda Mapp may well be the key to the Wolfpack Women's success this season.

The 6-3 Asheville native will probably hold the center position, where she averaged 14.3 points and 8.2 rebounds per game. Mapp's 64.4 percent field goal

percentage was good enough for second in the country and she also added 53 assists, 31 steals and 20 blocked shots to her impressive array of stats.

And, according to Mapp, those stats can only get better.

"I weigh a lot less this year," Mapp said. "I feel that I can run the court a lot better this year."

And that means good news for the Wolfpack Women. In order for the Pack to have a successful year, the Wolfpack Women must execute their transition game.

Mapp will be the centerpiece of that plan.

"Rebounds start transition," Mapp said. "As long as we have rebounds, we are going to be in transition."

"You have to get the rebounds out to the point people. Even if they hit, we can still get the ball out quickly."

Mapp has been tabbed a preseason all-

ACC and all-America candidate by several publications. Although the predictions are nice, Mapp says, they are not going to change the way she approaches the game.

"I look at myself as being Rhonda Mapp, preseason all-ACC or not," she says. "I just have to worry about being me."

Teammates have said Mapp is playing at the top of her game right now. But Mapp has some reservations about that assessment.

"The peak of my game will be to get to the Olympics, to win the ACC Championship and to get to the NCAAs—that's when I have reached the peak of my game."

"I have to be more consistent on defense this year. Offensively, my game will come, but defensively I have to be more consistent."

"I want to be a leader like Krista (Kilburn) and Kerri (Hobbs). I want the team to come to me and talk if they have any problems."

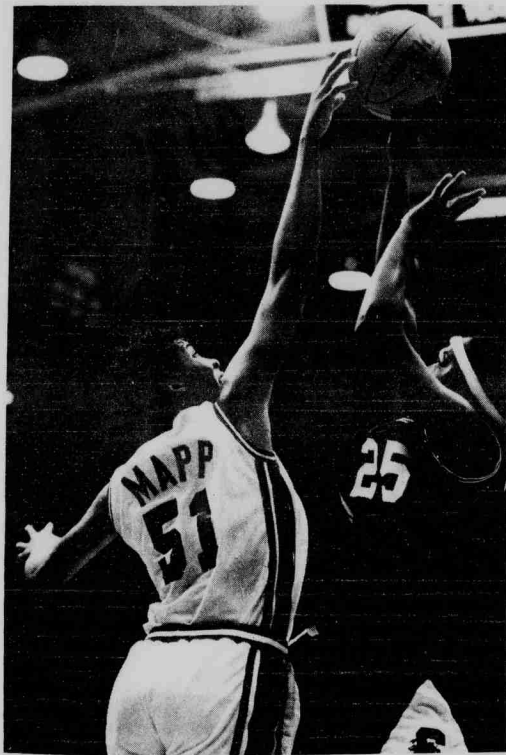
With the Pack returning three starters and seven other lettermen from last year's 24-7 squad which lost to Mississippi in the NCAA Sweet 16, many experts have tagged the Pack as possible Final Four participants in Knoxville, TN.

Mapp said the potential and the intensity are there.

"Everyone is so hyped about this year," Mapp said. "We feel very confident about this season. Our only goal is to do well this year and come together as a team."



Rhonda Mapp



Eddie Gontam/Staff

Rhonda Mapp's 64.4 percent field goal shooting was second in the nation last year.

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Whyte to return to action after year on sidelines

By Bill Overton
Staff Writer

A couple of years ago, the Wolfpack Women recruited a tall, slender center from Sanford,

Florida, just outside of Orlando. The coaches knew she had talent, but thought she might need a year to improve her skills and strength. Last season, Teri Whyte was redshirted, but she never lost focus on the future.

One year later, Whyte is back. She's gained considerable strength and is starting to mold into the kind of player State head coach Kay Yow wants.

"I've gotten much stronger," Whyte said. "I worked on my shot, although that was not my main objective. I worked on my quickness in order to play better defense."

It is this kind of hard work that could make Whyte a major force in the post area for the Pack. Whyte had good quickness before she came to State and the redshirt season can only enhance that. She is very unselfish, as her defense-oriented goals attest.

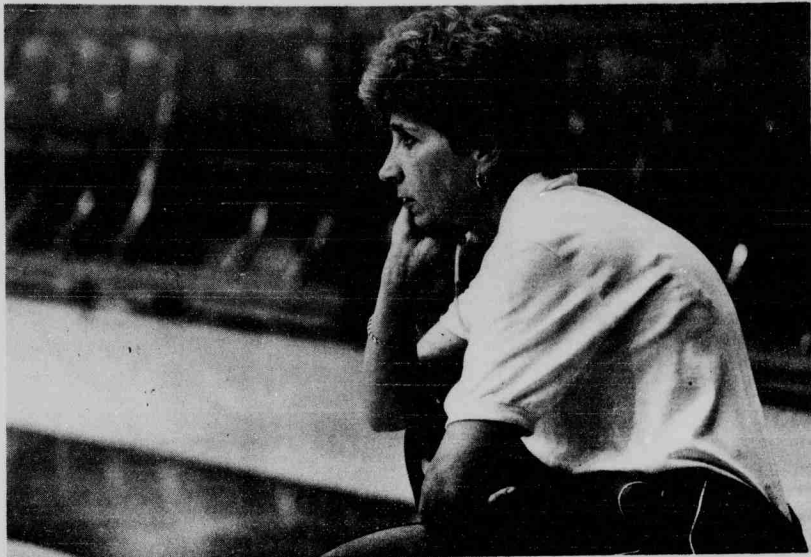
"I'm not really as interested in the scoring part," Whyte said. "We have people to do that. I love to play defense and I want to average a lot of rebounds."

The last time Whyte played competitive basketball was in high school, where she starred at



Teri Whyte

See **WHYTE**, Page 35



Swayne Hall/Staff

Yow continues striving for national title

By Tom Olsen
Assistant Sports Editor

Kay Yow has reached many levels of success on the mountain of life in the last few years, but still she strives to climb higher.

"I will never reach the top of my mountain," the head coach of the N.C. State women's basketball team said. "For if one did reach the top of any mountain, the only way to go from there is down. I prefer to keep climbing."

Yow came to State in 1976 and has coached the Wolfpack to an overall 315-112 record in her tenure. She has also coached

three ACC championship teams: 1980, 1985 and 1987.

Yow's achievements range from coaching the 1988 Olympic team to a gold medal in Seoul to being the fifth woman inducted into the North Carolina Sports Hall of Fame to bringing women's basketball to television in an ESPN package this season.

What could she have left to accomplish?

"For me, there's so much left to do," the North Carolina native said. "Our team at North Carolina State has never played in a Final Four or won a national championship. I would love to

... if one did reach the top of any mountain, the only way to go from there is down. I prefer to keep climbing.

Kay Yow

have these things occur and more than once."

Perhaps the next plateau for Yow and the State basketball program is the upcoming season. "I'm really looking for the

1989-90 season to be a season in which, perhaps, we can take another big step with our women's basketball program," Yow said. "I think we have the potential for one of our finest teams."

Yow cited the blend of inside and outside players, as well as of experience and youth, as some of the biggest pluses for the program.

But being number one on the court isn't all Yow wants. She wants to be number one in attendance, too.

"We are on the verge of some outstanding peripheral activities," she said. "This is the year in

which we hope to take a great step forward in terms of the television package, radio package and promotion and marketing of single games as well as the season."

Yow first began this part of her climb after her return from the Olympic games.

"I was excited with what women can do in the game of basketball as well as in all sports," she said.

Last year, the Lady Pack Backers were formed to help

See **YOW**, Page 32

Street & Smith's Top 20

1. Louisiana Tech
2. Tennessee
3. Stanford
4. Georgia
5. Texas
6. Auburn
7. N.C. State
8. Long Beach State
9. Mississippi
10. Purdue
11. UNLV
12. Iowa
13. Virginia
14. Stephen F. Austin
15. Louisiana State
16. Old Dominion
17. Tennessee Tech
18. Maryland
19. Washington
20. St. Joseph's

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1. Stanford
2. Tennessee
3. Louisiana Tech
4. Georgia
5. Long Beach State
6. N.C. State
7. Auburn
8. Purdue
9. Texas
10. UNLV
11. Stephen F. Austin
12. Clemson
13. Western Kentucky
14. Louisiana State
15. St. Joseph's
16. Tennessee Tech
17. Iowa
18. Mississippi
19. Oregon
20. Virginia

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Yow working hard to increase fan support at home games

Continued from Page 31

increase attendance and to help establish greater visibility for the team.

This year Yow hopes to build upon that base for support.

"We obviously need the help of many business people in the community with their financial backing to help make this a reality," Yow said. "If we receive this kind of backing, we can begin to develop a model program right here in Raleigh, North Carolina at North Carolina State University and that really excites me."

Another key step in Yow's climb is gaining student support.

"A student group called PRESSA has agreed to assist me and the team in developing a plan to hopefully involve much larger numbers of students to attend our games," Yow said.

"Last year we were ranked 15th by the NCAA in attendance. With greater involvement from the community, particularly increased student fan support, we have the opportunity to be in the top four in the country (in attendance), if not number one."

To help inspire support, Yow and the team chose a theme to represent them and their attitude this season.

"We have chosen as our theme this year 'Packed With Pride,'" Yow said. "I would like to see the arena packed a little more with a lot of pride."

Yow intends to continue her climb this season, reaching higher.

"I believe we're on the verge of something big happening," Yow said. "We're ready to move to another level of women's basketball at North Carolina State."

Number three not so unlucky for Lehmann, State's junior point guard

By Sharon Chaney
Staff Writer

To the superstitious, bad luck appears in sets of three's.

To Nicole Lehmann, of the N.C. State women's basketball team, the number three is a hard-earned fact of life.

Recognized for her gifted three-point shot ability, the 5-5 back up point guard finished last season sinking 53 out of 122 three pointers.

It was these added points which helped lead the Lady Pack to a 24-7 record, and to an elite spot among the nation's top 16 women's basketball programs during the 1988-89 season.

With the 1989-90 season quickly approaching, Lehmann is anticipating a championship year. According to Lehmann, the women's basketball program has the potential, and the ability, to realistically achieve a national championship status.

"We are a very dedicated team. We possess strength, quickness and more importantly, unity," Lehmann said. "Nothing is out of reach if you work hard as a team to get there."

The Wolfpack will be entering the season ranked as high as sixth in the nation in many preseason polls.

Although ratings can create premature confidence within a team, Lehmann does not foresee this happening to the Pack.

"As a team, we don't rely on ratings," Lehmann said. "We are going out to win, regardless of the opponent, or the ranking which may be at stake."



Swayne Hall/Staff

Junior point guard Nicole Lehmann is the Pack's designated shooter, connecting on 53 of 122 three-pointers last year.

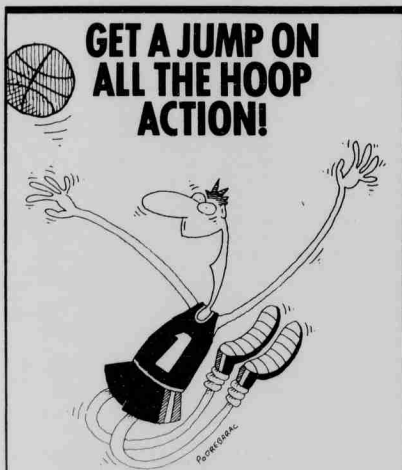
Adding responsibility to pressure, Lehmann, a junior, acquires a leadership role this season. Being the oldest, and possibly the most experienced, point guard on the team, she assumes the position of team leader.

Leadership, it appears, runs thick in the Lehmann family. Lehmann's father, George Lehmann, played nine years of professional basketball, during which he broke many A.B.A.

three-point shot records. Currently, he travels across the country lecturing on shooting fundamentals.

Lehmann's greatest influence and role model though, is her brother, Todd Lehmann, a senior point guard at Drexel.

Lehmann, Lehmann and Lehmann. Another set of threes. Nicole Lehmann, on the contrary, is by no means unlucky.



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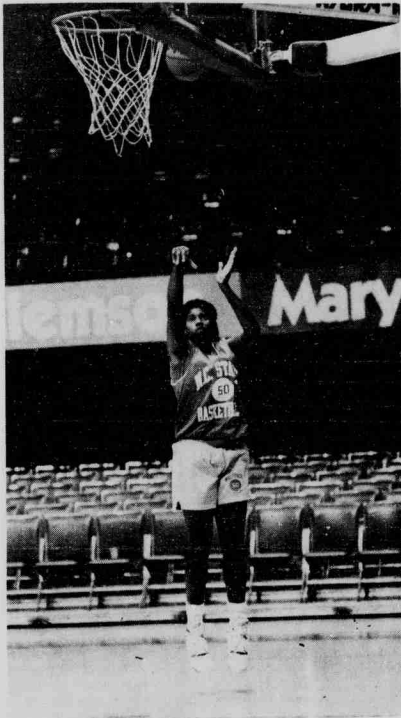
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1989-90 Wolfpack Women's Basketball Roster

No.	Name	Hgt	Pos	Class
15	Ashley Hancock	6-1	G/F	So.
25	Kerri Hobbs	6-0	F	Sr.
45	Christa Hull	6-2	F/C	So.
22	Krista Kilburn	5-10	F	Sr.
41	Jenny Kuziemski	5-10	F	Fr.
14	Krissy Kuziemski	5-10	F	Fr.
12	Nicole Lehmann	5-5	G	Jr.
50	Sharon Manning	6-3	F/C	Jr.
23	Natalie Nester	6-0	F	So.
10	Danyel Parker	5-6	G	Fr.
20	Gerri Robuck	5-8	G	Jr.
32	Andrea Stinson	5-10	G/F	Jr.
52	Teri Whyte	6-5	C	Fr.



Saju Joy/Staff

Junior center/forward Sharon Manning had career highs of 17 points and 16 rebounds in the ACC Tournament.

Manning plays within system

By Sharon Chaney
Staff Writer

It's all in the system.
The system?

Play hard, play smart, play together and play with confidence.

And according to Sharon Manning, of the N.C. State women's basketball team, it is this system which will hopefully, and realistically, lead the Wolfpack women to a championship season.

Manning, a 6-3 junior, will be leading the State front court this season in the center/forward position.

Recognized for her strong inside playing ability, Manning was runner-up for ACC Rookie of the Year during the 1987-88 season. Last year, she averaged 9.3 points and 5.2 rebounds per game. In the finals of the ACC Tournament against Maryland, Manning had career highs of 17 points and 16 rebounds.

With the Pack entering the

1989-90 season ranked as high as sixth in the nation in many preseason polls, Manning is expected to produce all-conference performances.

Despite the pressure to succeed on the shoulders of the Wolfpack team, Manning is confident of herself and of her teammates. "I'm going to give 110 percent of myself, and do what the team needs me to do," Manning said. "We're a talented team — we can only beat ourselves."

The Pack practices up to three hours a day, and Manning attributes much of the team's dedication to succeed to head coach Kay Yow.

"We've learned so much under coach Yow," Manning said. "She is a very respectable coach, everyone loves her, and best of all... she doesn't yell."

Sharon Manning, the N.C. State women's basketball team and head coach Kay Yow?

Yes, a system.

A system of potential, dedication and certain success.

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Three Parade high school all-Americans join Pack

By Tim Zettel
Staff Writer

The future of N.C. State's women's basketball team continues to look bright with the arrival of freshmen Danyel Parker, Jenny Kuziemi and Krissy Kuziemi.



Danyel Parker

All three freshmen were given high school all-American recognition by Parade Magazine. Parker was a second-team all-American, while Jenny Kuziemi was a fourth-team and Krissy Kuziemi was a third-team all-American.

Parker, a 5-6 guard from Clinton, is the all-time leading scorer in North Carolina women's basketball history. She scored 3,225 points in her career, including a scoring average of over 30 points per game each of her four years in high school.

Parker was everyone's player of the year after leading Clinton High to a 27-0 record and a state 2-A title as a senior. She won all of these credentials, she remains modest.

"I never really considered myself the star of the team

before, that's what other people said," Parker said.

Parker wants to fit in with the Wolfpack team and to help them reach the highest possible goal attainable. She is not interested in individual honors and wants only to work together with the team.

Head coach Kay Yow has high praise for Parker.

"Potentially, Danyel can be a great collegiate player. She has the tools and the desire to take her game to an extremely high level," Yow said. "Parker has super versatility. She's a player with an abundance of raw talent."

"She has excellent quickness and she's a proven scorer, two things a coach likes to see."

Parker said she chose State because she has always wanted to be an engineer and State has a great engineering school.

Jenny and Krissy Kuziemi are identical twins from South Amboy, New Jersey. They are very similar in both their playing styles and opposing teams often find it difficult to tell the difference between the two on the court.

To complicate matters for the opposition, their uniform numbers are 14 and 41.

Jenny averaged 19.3 points, 10.2 rebounds, 4.2 assists and 4.4 steals her senior year at Hoffman High. She also shot 53 percent from the field and 80 percent from the line.

Jenny said she and her sister are

used to being compared with each other because of the many similarities between them. She adds the two have always practiced together and tried to help each other with their individual games.



Jenny Kuziemi

Naismith High School Players of the Year in New Jersey after their senior years.

Krissy was a two-time New Jersey prep player of the year. As a senior point guard she averaged 22.3 points, 10.1 rebounds, 7.8 assists and 4.6 steals. She shot 58 percent from the field and 72 percent from the line. Krissy also scored a school record 2,072 points in her career.

During their four years at Hoffman, the Kuziemis led the team to a 121-6 overall record and four state championships. Both are enrolled in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences at State.

Both Jenny and Krissy want to help the Wolfpack reach their goal of an ACC championship and a trip to the NCAA Final Four. They are looking forward



Scott Jackson/Staff

Krissy Kuziemi handles the ball against Ashley Hancock. Kuziemi was a two-time New Jersey prep player of the year.

to traveling with the Wolfpack and are pleased with the unity of the team.

"Jenny and Krissy have tremendous work habits, probably the best of any prep players I've ever recruited," Yow said. "They have what we call 'heart-power.' They play hard and they play to win."

"Their dedication to the game is

very evident in the way they practice and the way they play. The Kuziemis have all the intangibles you look for when you recruit high school players. They will make a strong contribution to our program in all areas," Yow added.

The 5-10 Kuziemis will play both the guard and forward positions for State.

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Best FT %	86.4 vs. Ga. Tech (1st)
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Nester looks for the assist

By Carlton Cook
Staff Writer

Natalie Nester, a sophomore forward on N.C. State's women's basketball team, does not crave the limelight. Instead, she believes that teamwork is the key to a successful basketball team.

"A pass is better than a shot," says this Mt. Airy native, who is majoring in marketing with a minor in fashion merchandising.

Playing in just under half of the team's matches last year was quite an adjustment for Nester, who was the leader of her high school team and the best on the court.

At N.C. State, she notes that the talent is distributed more equally among the players, but she has found that playing a supporting role on the Wolfpack squad is more rewarding than her previous star status.

Nester would like to see more playing time this year in the forward position, filling up the lane and going to the inside. She hopes this season that she will be able to prove herself in both assists and in field goals.

Even though she is no longer the star of the court, Nester enjoys working with head coach Kay Yow and has endless praise for women's basketball under Yow.

Nester touts her coach as "respected, admired, and just super." She describes Yow's program as "high-class" and says the coach sees her players as students first and as athletes second.

"She'd suspend us if our grades went down," Nester said.

Perhaps this is one reason the Personal Fouls scandal that has rocked this university has had such an impact on her. Earlier this year, Nester and a teammate were accused by a reporter trying to get their reaction to the "tell-all" book by Peter Golenbock.

"It really makes me mad," Nester said. "Everybody's watching us a lot more closely now."

Nester insists, though, that the Wolfpack women are ready to go this year, despite the loss of Rhonda Mapp, a junior who has been suspended by Yow for the first semester.

Nester believes Mapp will be able to "show her stuff" this year — despite not receiving enough recognition in the past — and will make all-ACC first team.

"The team is real young,"



Eddie Gontram/Staff

Sophomore forward Natalie Nester sings the national anthem at the Wolfpack Women's home games.

Nester admits, but added that she expects great leadership from seniors Kerri Hobbs and Krista Kilburn.

She cites both women as terrific role models, but characterizes Kilburn as her hero, calling her an "aggressive player who gives 110 percent — the kind of player I want to be."

Natalie Nester, who hopes to pursue a modeling career in the

summers between school and after she graduates from State, is more than a basketball player and marketing student, though.

She is also a talented vocalist who sings the national anthem at women's basketball games and who has been invited to sing for the men's team, an invitation she has declined so far.

"If I sang for them, I'd have to practice for a week," she insists.

Whyte ready to prove she belongs

Continued from Page 30

Lake Mary High School. She averaged over 17 points and six blocked shots per game. Whyte was a member of an AAU team, helping lead them to the Florida State Championship four years. A year off might lead one to believe that Whyte is rusty, but she's ready to face the challenge.

"I practiced everyday," Whyte said. "The only thing I didn't do was play in a game."

Whyte is a speech communications major who would like to work in advertising. Whyte takes obstacles with a smile, but knows managing her time is difficult.

"First semester is much easier than the second semester," Whyte said. "During the second semester, we have practices, games and class to attend. It can get frustrating and tiring."

While Whyte has yet to play a

minute of college ball, she is well aware of her teammates. The team is like a family when it hits the court and when it leaves the court.

"On the court, we try to encourage each other — positive reinforcement," Whyte said. "Off the court, we're good friends."

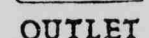
Now it's time for Whyte to show she belongs with Wolfpack basketball. With the loss of Rhonda Mapp for the first seven games of the season, Whyte may be able to make an immediate impact in the paint.

The 6-5 Whyte is a little nervous about the season, but extremely eager to approach the first tipped ball. She anticipates good things to come.

"I want to prove that I deserve to belong on this team," Whyte said. "I'm ready to contribute."

Teri Whyte waited her turn and now she's finally getting to play the game she loves.

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Sophomore Hancock tries to pick up where she left off last season



Saju Joy/Staff

Ashley Hancock (15) has worked hard to improve her game.

Hull feels like a freshman in '89

By Fred Hartman
Staff Writer

Sophomore Christa Hull returns to the Wolfpack women's lineup this year for what she considers to be her freshman season.

Hull saw very little playing time last season after coming off of knee surgery. The injury is healing nicely and she is ready to get back into the flow and excitement of the game.

"Since I really didn't get to play very much last season because of my injury, I feel like this year should be my freshman season," said Hull.



Christa Hull

unstopable force when she wants to," stated Hull. "She will kill you on the boards. That's how I would like to be known as, a strong rebounder."

"I worked out in the weight room a lot during the offseason to strengthen my knee. It's doing just fine now and I am looking forward to getting back on the court."

At 6-2, Hull could be a key reserve at either the forward or center positions for the Pack. Her main goals are to strengthen her game and get back into the flow of head coach Kay Yow's system.

"I feel like I'm starting behind everyone else," said Hull. "My main concern right now is to get used to playing coach Yow's system. I think that as I learn more and get some playing experience, my confidence should begin to increase."

Hull possesses a nice shooting touch, but prefers to concentrate on the development of her rebounding. She models her style of play behind that of teammate Rhonda Mapp.

"(Rhonda) can be such an

By Joe Johnson
Staff Writer

In the upcoming season, Springfield, Va. native Ashley Hancock hopes to pick up where she left off last year.

Hancock, who can play point guard, shooting guard, or small forward, contributed many quality minutes in 24 games last season.

"I worked very hard during the off-season to improve my game," Hancock said. "My confidence is also better because I know what Coach [Kay] Yow wants me to do."

"It is an honor to play for coach Yow because she has taught me so much about the game,"

Hancock commented. "She's helped to take my game to a higher level."

On the court, Hancock hopes to get more playing time, but that will be tough as the Wolfpack returns most of last year's squad that made it to the Sweet Sixteen. "Our team is better this year and everyone will be shooting for us," Hancock said.

Looking back over last season, Hancock told the two games that stand out most in her mind are the Stanford game and the Virginia game.

"In the Stanford game we played our best — we never let down," Hancock said. "And in the Virginia game we hit 100 points."

Off the court, Hancock is leaning toward a degree in business management which she hopes to put to use as either a sales representative for an athletic equipment company or as the owner of a health spa.

In her free time, Hancock enjoys going out with her teammates.

"They are my best friends off the court as well as on the court," Hancock said. "During the off-season I also like water-skiing."

Hancock is looking forward to the beginning of play. "Overall, I am looking to have a good season," Hancock said. "I am seeing the court better, which is one of the improvements that I made over the off-season."

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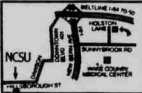
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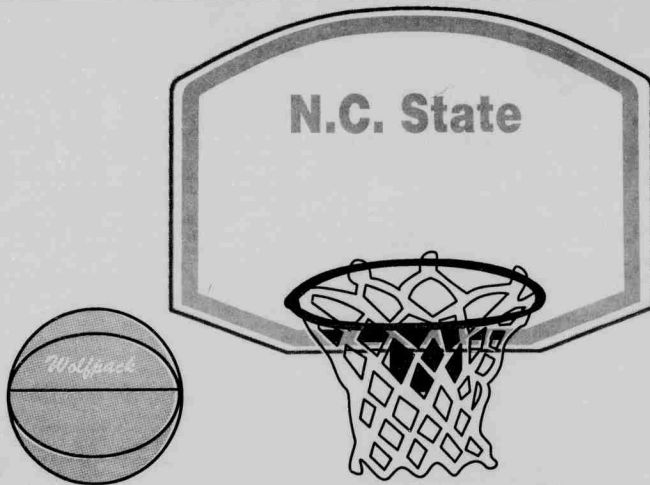
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Swayne Hall/Staff

First-year assistant coach Que Tucker, in her office with State players Jenny Kuziemi, Andrea Stinson and Krissy Kuziemi.

Tucker brings enthusiasm to her assistant position

By Carlton Cook
Staff Writer

Que Tucker, N.C. State's new assistant basketball coach, joins the Pack with much enthusiasm, but with realistic goals.

Tucker replaces Beth Burns, who left last year for San Diego State to become their head women's coach. Tucker is taking over as academic liaison between coach Kay Yow and the university in addition to her coaching duties on the court.

Although she admits it is overwhelming to come from Reidsville Senior High School to a university of 28,000 with a nationally-recognized basketball program, Tucker said she is excited about the opportunity. She added she enjoys working with Yow on a day-to-day basis.

Tucker believes the team is in good physical shape (there are no injuries as of yet) and she is confident about the Pack's chances, despite its tough schedule.

She feels the team looks "pretty balanced" and feels the Pack's bench will be quite strong. Although point guard Debbie Bertrand graduated last year, Tucker feels the Pack is in good shape at that spot.

"Nicole Lehmann gives experience at the point guard position and freshman Danyel Parker gives depth," Tucker said.

Nevertheless, she is counting on seniors Krista Kilburn and Kerri Hobbs to provide needed leadership this year on the court.

Tucker tries to keep things in the proper perspective.

"There are never any give-ens," Tucker said. "Once you hit that

floor, it's a dog fight."

With a schedule which includes the ever-challenging ACC teams as well as Old Dominion, Maine, Providence and Georgia, it is easy to see why Tucker refuses to take anything for granted.

Tucker is guarding against being swept away in the passion of Division I basketball, especially in a conference like the ACC. She is planning to take one step at a time and "let things fall into place."

After accomplishing a solid record during regular season play, Tucker hopes it the Pack will be ready to shine during post-season play, such as the ACC tournament in Fayetteville and the NCAA Final Four in Knoxville, Tennessee.

Though the Wolfpack Women have the ability to have an outstanding season this year, support from the student body is still lacking.

The State-Maryland game set for January 6, 1990 (during Christmas break), will be televised nationwide on ESPN, it is not at all certain the State students will attend the game and support the team in its long-awaited opportunity for national TV coverage.

Tucker says Yow has been talking to several student groups outlining initiatives to encourage student enthusiasm for men's basketball to spill over into the women's program.

"When they see the women's game is exciting basketball with all-American athletes they will be pleasantly surprised," Tucker said. "They will be turned on to women's basketball and will beat a path to our door."

Freeman now handles recruiting for the Pack

By Carlton Cook
Staff Writer

Karen Freeman, assistant coach for the Wolfpack women's basketball team, is rapidly gaining experience in coaching women's basketball on the collegiate level.

After serving as a graduate assistant for a year at Eastern Kentucky University, Freeman became the assistant women's basketball coach and head trainer at the University of Wisconsin at Green Bay.

She then joined the Wolfpack and is beginning her fourth year as an assistant coach to Kay Yow. Not surprisingly, Freeman feels extremely comfortable with the program, the staff and especially the players.

"She calls this year's team "the hardest working group of girls since I've been here."

Still, the team must make a few adjustments, as a result of the loss of two of their starters to graduation and one of their assistant coaches, Beth Burns, to a head coaching position at San Diego State.

The loss of Burns has brought a new face to the Wolfpack squad, assistant coach Que Tucker. Freeman says Tucker complements the program well and was the first choice as Burns' replacement from the start.

To Freeman, the "intangibles" are what makes the coaching



Karen Freeman

staff work well together. Having "the same values, goals, aspirations and expectations of the players," is more important than possessing similar technical skills.

Burns' absence also resulted in a transfer of duties, with Tucker taking over the academic side of the program and Freeman taking the recruiting responsibilities for the Pack. But both remain close to the players.

As one would expect, some parents of potential recruits do mention the Personal Fouls controversy in their interviews with Freeman.

"Maybe it has made it [recruiting] a little more difficult, but it's nothing we can't overcome," Freeman said.

Although the team will miss last year's senior point guard Debbie Bertram and her experience, Freeman believes

this year's seniors, Krista Kilburn and Kerri Hobbs, can handle their leadership roles.

The team still has several of its top scorers from last year and Freeman believes their experience will add to their talents and to the team as a whole.

She also notes Wolfpack team members are unselfish on the court, enhancing their team unity.

On the court, Freeman seems most impressed with the level of enthusiasm and desire in the Pack's play.

"It's really fun to see them work," she beams. Freeman says that although going to the Final Eight or Final Four is a tough goal, it is not an unrealistic one.

Freeman admits the road to the Final Four will not be an easy one and she realizes even with the time spent in preparation, "it's a gamble."

Still, she believes her players are willing to pay the price. Freeman says a student athlete's "time commitment is unbelievable," and there is little to no time for activities outside of "hitting the books and working hard."

Yet, Freeman thinks the willingness to make the necessary sacrifices freely is the mark of a good team and she is happy to see the high level of commitment in this year's Wolfpack.



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'Fans' Guide' a wealth of information

Bill James first published his "Bill James' Baseball Abstract" for mass market in 1982 and immediately changed the way many fans view the game of baseball.

Using new statistical formulas — some of them rather exotic and esoteric, many of them very innovative, and some of them, admittedly, a bit far fetched — James helped shed new light on what the more traditional baseball statistics tried, and often failed, to tell us about players and teams. In the process, James made many baseball fans more knowledgeable about the game.

Five years ago, Ron Morris and Barry Jacobs, both highly respected local sports writers, put their heads together to produce a project inspired by "The Baseball Abstract."

Morris and Jacobs, enthused by the concept James pioneered, believed that what worked for baseball could work for Atlantic Coast Conference basketball.

They were right. The fruits of their effort, and it was obviously quite an effort, became the "Fans' Guide," published in book form in 1985, did not threaten the best-seller lists, but it did well enough financially to ensure continuation of the project for another year.

Morris left the firm after 1985, but fortunately, Jacobs was up to the task of producing the "Fans' Guide" on his own. The 1986 "Fans' Guide" also was published in book form, but since the 1986-1987 season, the "Fans' Guide" has been published as a magazine, which was a stroke of great fortune.

In that format, the "Fans' Guide" has grown in style and substance to easily become the most important preseason basketball magazine to hit the newsstands each year.

The previous statement was a mouthful. In recent years, the preseason magazine market in basketball has featured some real heavyweights, a trend spawned by the entry into the market by "The Sporting News" and "Dick Vitale's Basketball Yearbook."

Say what you want about Vitale, he at least puts his name on a pretty good magazine, one

Bruce Winkworth Sports Columnist

that, coupled with "The Sporting News" yearbook, forced "Street & Smith's" to upgrade their stodgy, antiquated product and really improve the status of preseason magazines.

The "Fans' Guide" is not in competition with the national magazines like "The Sporting News," but it should do far better locally. After all, the "Fan's Guide" is strictly local, all ACC stuff, and that's what fans around here want anyway.

The "Fans' Guide" has all the information you could possibly want about ACC basketball (other than who's going to win the games) and some information you probably don't want. But whatever, the "Fans' Guide" is a heck of a way to get ready for basketball season.

Some tidbits from the 1990 "Fans' Guide to ACC Basketball":

• At 6-2, Jim Valvano has the second-best record among active ACC coaches in overtime games on the road. The best record? That belongs to, surprise, Clemson's Cliff Ellis at 7-0.

• While everyone at N.C. State seems to have some kind of gag reflex at the sight of Lenny Wirtz, the Wolfpack has fared well in games Wirtz has officiated. State is 27-8 when Wirtz is calling the action, including 18-7 in conference games. While it ought not matter, State fans should know that Dean Smith hates Lenny Wirtz.

On the other hand, Paul Housman can come in and out of Reynolds Coliseum in relative anonymity, despite the fact that the Wolfpack is 18-21 in games Housman officiates, 10-15 in ACC games. When Housman officiates North Carolina games, the Tar Heels are 39-8, including 23-6 in the conference.

• Wake Forest's Bones McKinney, South Carolina's Bob Steven and Duke's Vic Bubas are the only ACC coaches to post career winning records against Dean Smith. McKinney was 8-2 against Smith from 1962-1965,

Stevens was 2-1 in 1962, and Bubas was 12-8 from 1962-69.

The seven ACC coaches, other than Smith, who were active last season had a cumulative lifetime record against Smith of 29-98 — a pitiful .228 winning percentage.

Ex-State coach Norman Sloan has more wins against Smith than any other ACC coach, while Lefty Driesell has more losses. Sloan was 14-26 against Smith

while Driesell was 10-29.

• According to the NBA's formula to determine the best ballhandler in the league — assists plus (steals times two) minus turnovers — Wolfpack guard Chris Corchiani was easily the ACC's best ballhandler last year with a rating of 32.8, outdistancing runner-up Quin Snyder's total of 26.6.

Jacobs went one step further than the NBA and divided this

total by minutes played (Jacobs does this for all stats, producing the most telling stats about the ACC) and Corchiani led the league by a wider margin with a .323 total. Snyder came in second at .243.

That's just a minuscule sample. We haven't even begun to turn the pages in this year's "Fans' Guide" and we're already out of space. There's tons more, almost more than you can comprehend.

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More from Barry Jacobs' Fan's Guide

All-Overlooked

Dale Davis, Clemson
Christian Laettner, Duke
Brian Oliver, Ga. Tech
Dennis Scott, Ga. Tech
Jerrold Mustaf, Maryland
Kevin Madden, UNC
Rodney Monroe, NCSU
Chris Corchiani, NCSU
Bryant Stith, Virginia
Chris King, Wake Forest

Likely Rookie of the Year
Kenny Anderson, Ga. Tech

Best Defensive Players

Derrick Forrest, Clemson
Teyon McCoy, Maryland
Pete Chilcutt, UNC
Matt Blundin, Virginia
Phil Medline, Wake Forest

Best Offensive Players

Derrick Forrest, Clemson
Robert Brickey, Duke
Brian Oliver, Ga. Tech
Teyon McCoy, Maryland
Chris Corchiani, NCSU
Matt Blundin, Virginia

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