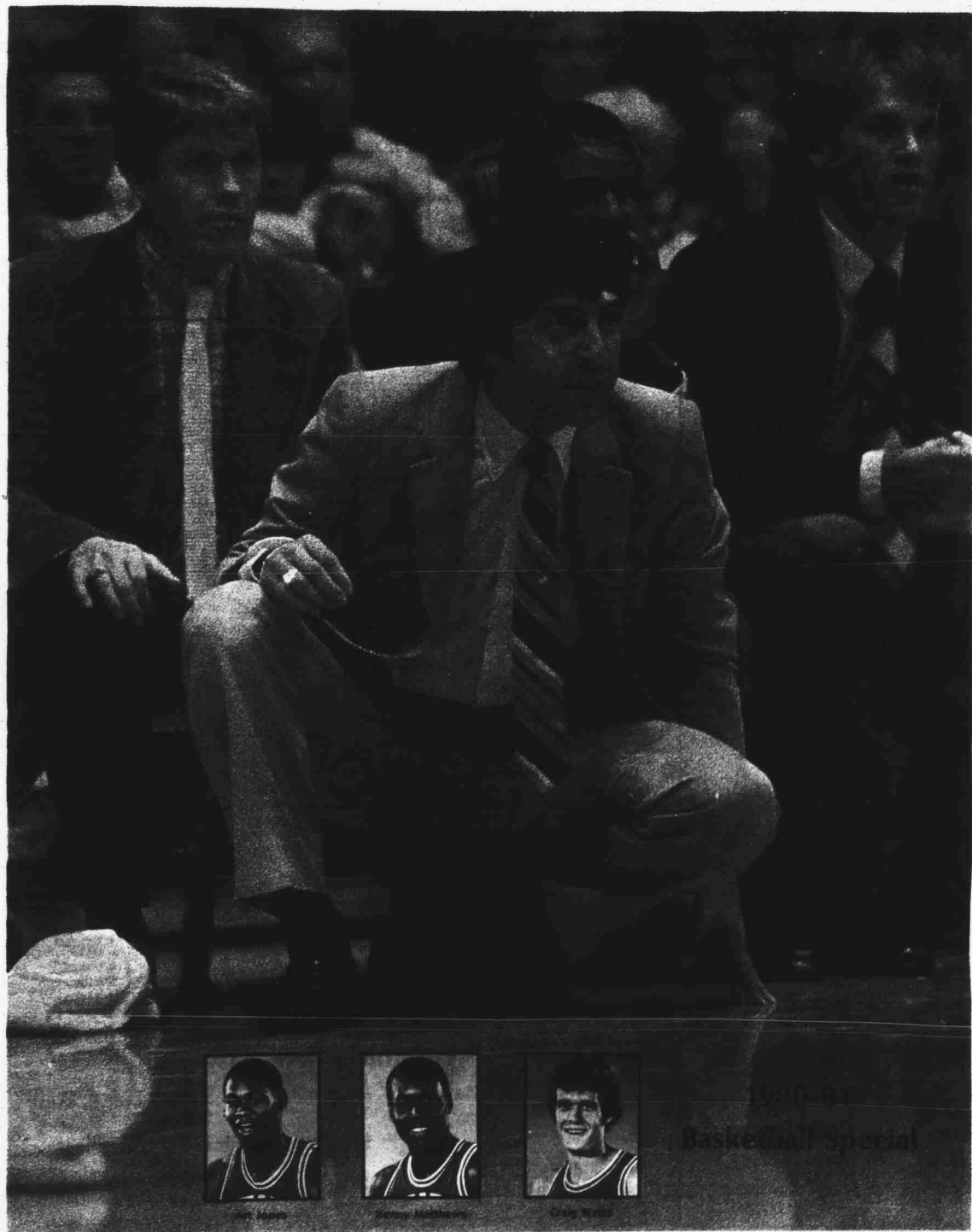


Technician



Artis Moore



Kenny Matthews



Craig Weller

1980-81
Basketball Special

1980-81

Basketball Special

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ON THE COVER: First year head coach Jim Valvano coaches his players against the Polish National Team earlier this year. The insets are Art Jones, Kenny Matthews and Craig Watts. Cover photos taken by Technician photographer Linda Bradford.

Publication of the 1980-81 Technician Basketball Special would not be possible without the help of the following people: Editor Andrea Cole; Sports Writer Terry Kelley; Photo Editor Lynn McNeill; Assistant Photo Editor Simon Griffiths; Photographer Linda Bradford; Co-Production Managers Duncan Brown and Bill White; Copy Editor Tucker Johnson; Assistant Copy Editor Cara Flesher; Ad Designers Peggy Callaway, Chris Lockwood, Angela Mohr and Donnie Robbins; Ad Manager Bill Hancock; Ad Salesmen Pete Loftin, Frank McClendon and Vernon Veglia; and Layout Artist David Sneed.

Sports Editor Stu Hall

Maryland 'King' of the hill

Giving long thought to the topic of who will finish where in the ACC, one will find it a very difficult task.

Observers feel the ACC is the best basketball conference in the country, which is questionable. What's not questionable is how confusing it is. Just look at the teams this year and try to come up with a logical order.

There is **Maryland**, which won the ACC Tournament last year and then went to the regionals of the NCAA Tournament before being knocked off by Georgetown. The key to the Terps this year is the same as last year — All-America Albert King.

King, who was ACC Player of the Year and ACC Tournament MVP last year, averaged 21.7 points a game and 6.7 rebounds a game last year and is seen as the same imposing threat this winter.

Joining King are the same running mates from a year ago — and they've only gotten better. The list includes Greg Manning, Ernest Graham, Dutch Morley and Buck Williams.

Maryland seems to be the logical choice, for all its starters have returned and it is the defending ACC champion.

The second choice is **Virginia**; not North Carolina but Virginia.

Red Auerbach's franchise, Ralph Sampson, is still in Charlottesville for what will probably be his last season. After a year in which Sampson averaged 14.9 points and snatched 381 rebounds, Boston Celtic general manager Auerbach tried to persuade Sampson to play in Boston, where he could easily have filled in for the retired Dave Cowens.

With Sampson is Mr. Clutch, Jeff Lamp. A year ago Lamp led the Cavs in scoring with a 17.4 average.

Familiar names like Lee Raker, Terry Gates and Jeff Jones will join Sampson and Lamp in the starting rotation.

Look for Maryland and Virginia to battle it out for king of the hill.

The third selection is where the picking really gets tedious. **North Carolina** won out simply because of tradition. As much as some people dislike coach Dean Smith, they have to admit that he is a winner despite the caliber of players he has. One could say that Smith's Tar Heels are the under-rated team in the ACC.

The Heels, depleted by gradu-

Between
the
Lines

PREDICTIONS

1. Maryland
2. Virginia
3. North Carolina
4. State
5. Clemson
6. Wake Forest
7. Duke
8. Georgia Tech

tion, will count heavily on James Worthy, who missed most of last season due to injury. Carolina's other headliner this season should be freshman Sam Perkins. Without a doubt Perkins may be the best freshman in the conference, Clemson's Clarke Bynum included.

Smith has a relatively young team which, if it can get through a "transition period" of getting used to not having Mike O'Koren, should have a group of winners for the next four years.

State is the No. 4 choice.

One asks why since the heart of the team, Hawkeye Whitney, is gone. Elementary, my dear Watson, elementary.

There is a new coach on the block — Jim Valvano. In short, he's a winner, a motivator that Norm Sloan wasn't. The players relate to him and he to the players.

Motivation is the key to this team, along with some much-needed strength on the boards.

Look for Kenny Matthews to break loose after spending an awful lot of time on the bench in the Sloan regime.

Also look out for Sidney Lowe. He's a definite choice for All-ACC and with a super year could easily

be mentioned in All-America talk.

Picking State No. 4 was difficult because **Clemson**, the No. 5 team, is much stronger and bigger. In head-to-head matchups the Tigers might prove stronger than State.

Death Valley: This year more than ever it will live up to its name. The Tigers have monsters down in that part of ACC country. Clemson's front line reads like this: Horace Wyatt, 6-10; Larry Nance, 6-10; and Bill Ross, 6-10. Just thinking about facing that trio gives one nightmares.

The backcourt is directed by Bynum, who can also play forward at his 6-7 height. The other starter should be Chris Dodds.

Senior Frank Johnson guides **Wake Forest** to the No. 6 position. At Wake Forest they're pushing him for All-America, which seems a little absurd since he missed all of last year and even before he was injured they weren't pushing him for All-America honors. Publicity hype.

The Deacons are a dark-horse team this season. They also have Alvis Rogers, who is good to say the least. Names that sound familiar and are returning include Guy Morgan, Will Singleton, Mike Helms and Jim Johnstone.

Mike Ginski and Bob Bender are gone and so is **Duke**.

Even having Gene Banks, Kenny Dennard and Vince Taylor can help Duke, which just doesn't have the depth it takes to compete in the ACC.

For the Blue Devils to sneak up on the ACC this season it will have to get help from Mike Tissaw, Jim Suddath, Allan Williams and Tom Emma.

Don't forget Duke has a new coach also, Mike Krzyzewski. For now we'll call him coach K for short.

Last and least is **Georgia Tech** at No. 8. Simply stated: it just doesn't have it.

The Yellow Jackets lost all their starters including their last hope Brooke Steppe, who was ruled academically ineligible.

Head coach Dwane Morrison is in for a long season and should find comic relief for losing. The Ramblin' Wreck will, like last year, throw a perfect wrench into the ACC title race which means it shouldn't be overlooked.

So there are the predicted picks, but remember that's all they are — predictions.

Technician All-ACC

★ F Albert King, Maryland

★ G Sidney Lowe, State

★ C Ralph Sampson, Virginia

★ F Gene Banks, Duke

★ G Jeff Lamp, Virginia

Valvano a chip off the old Roc

by Stu Hall
Sports Editor

It's the night of Jim Valvano's debut. It's a new start. A fresh start.

It's what he's always wanted, waited and primed for since the day he, as a little kid growing up in the ghetto of Queens, N.Y., watched his father, Rocco Valvano, coach high-school basketball.

It doesn't matter that this game is just an exhibition game against the Polish National team, because it's his debut at State.

He stands anxiously, waiting for the pre-game ceremonies to finish, swaying forward and backward, wringing his hands, blowing tiny bubbles with his gum inside his mouth. He's enjoying it, though; Rocco always asked this of his boy.

The game begins and Valvano moves up and down the bench — crouching, kneeling, shouting, directing, strolling to and from the scorers' table. Yet in this course of events he never once lets the referee "have it" like a Bobby Knight or Lefty Driscoll would. It might be embarrassing to himself or the team — avoiding personal embarrassment was Rocco's only rule.

State wins, and afterward in the locker room Valvano is proud of his boys. He can look in their eyes and they in his and say they're proud. Pride is something Valvano values within his family; and his players are a part of his family. It's a feeling that dates from when Rocco was head of a household with a rich Italian heritage.

It is his father who instilled such values in Valvano and they make him a coach who wins, a coach who enjoys coaching and a coach to whom the players can relate, which in college basketball is the bottom line — at least to Valvano.

"My dad coached 25 years of high-school basketball," said Valvano, leaning back in his office chair with his feet propped on his desk like some classy business executive, "and the experience I had was such a positive one. I remember when I was 5, 6, 7, 8 years old and my father would invite some of his players over to dinner and the relationship was a good one."

It is this relationship that Valvano had at an early age that made him dream of being a coach.

"A lot of coaches get into coaching to 'stay close to the game.' Well, the game is totally different from playing and coaching," Valvano said. "I truly enjoy the relationship with all my players. I'm so fortunate to be in this business."

"My God, it's great to be around to help them grow. When you see your players every day, eight to 12 months a year, it's hard not to build a real relationship with the players. Watching them grow is a privilege to be a part of that."

It's the third day of practice in Carmichael Gym and Valvano is at center court standing with his hands placed on his hips as his players go dashing by on full-court drills. Valvano takes time from watching them intently to walk to the sidelines where he begins a conversation with a little brown-haired girl.

She happens to be his daughter — it's not unusual to see either one of his two oldest daughters, Nichole, 11, or Jamie, 8, at practice.

To Valvano coaching is not a job. Yet it still is a very demanding task, which can take its toll on him and his family.

"Coaching is fun but I'm also trying to be a father and husband, which can be hard when you put them together," Valvano said with his deep Italian accent. "I try to involve my family in my basketball and my players with my family. Coaching is a way of life, though — seven days a week."



Staff photo by Linda Druff.

"The game is a tremendous emotional experience. You get boils on your backside, the band plays in the arena and you make your usual trip to the men's room."

— Jim Valvano

"My wife is a part of the recruiting process. When a recruit is in town we have him over for dinner. If a recruit or my players can't see diapers laying around or me cleaning the plates off the table then something is wrong."

Once again Valvano is at halfcourt, this time crouching with one knee on the floor and his arms casually resting across each other. Harold Thompson swishes a 15-footer from the corner and in a lightning-quick motion Valvano is up on his feet screaming, "Move, move, move," as his team starts its fast-break drills.

He wants his team to be the best. A national champion. He's paid his dues and he wants it all.

When James T. Valvano, at the age of 34, was appointed to the position vacated by Norm Sloan on March 27, 1980, he had already served as a college coach for 14 years.

"People are surprised when they find out I've been coaching for 14 years. In five more years I will be 40 and will have been coaching for 20 years," Valvano said as his eyes, weary from constant late hours, grew larger than life.

Fans think of Valvano as an overnight success since he led Iona to a 94-47 mark over five years, including a 52-11 mark his final two seasons there.

"I had a good background," said Valvano in a cocky, confident tone which suggested he has had a good background. "I was an assistant under Bill Foster (former Duke head coach and now at South Carolina) and DeRowe, who's up in the New England area. I was given the chance to grow as a coach."

He started as a second assistant at Rutgers, where he later became first assistant in charge of recruiting. Valvano then assumed head-coaching duties at Burknell, a Division I non-scholarship school, and then took a similar position at Johns Hopkins. After giving Johns Hopkins its first winning season in 24 years, he took over a rebuilding program at Iona for five years. After that stint he was prepared for another step up.

"I was preparing for it," Valvano said. "I always wanted to become a coach. I grew up in a time where I could get the coaching experience. Nowadays it's not the easy."

Valvano got a good start on his coaching career in his very first game in the profession. As coach of the freshman squad at Rutgers he defeated Digger Phelps, currently head coach at Notre Dame, who was at the time freshman coach at Penn. 99-97.

There is a personal feeling Valvano gets as a coach, which makes him come back more.

"Competition," Valvano said. "There's nothing like game day. You get boils on your backside, the band plays in the arena and you make your usual trip to the men's room. You work 365 days a year just for 27 nights."

As for Valvano, he's right where he wants to be. And if his father's coaching record over 25 years is any indication of what his son will achieve, then Valvano might be here quite awhile.

1979-80 Men's Basketball Statistics

Player	G	FGM-FGA	Pct.	FTM-FTA	Pct.	Reb.	Avg.	A	Stl.	S	Pts.	Avg.	High
Whitney	28	207-397	.521	107-149	.718	138	4.9	84	19	44	521	18.6	32
Austin	28	114-223	.511	21-30	.700	74	2.6	91	3	27	249	8.9	20
Matthews	28	98-223	.439	20-31	.645	92	3.3	17	1	16	218	7.7	24
Jones	28	65-119	.546	48-74	.649	103	3.6	34	5	20	178	6.4	17
Whittenburg	28	65-132	.492	41-59	.695	48	1.5	28	0	11	171	6.1	16
Iverson	28	43-97	.443	74-105	.705	53	1.9	125	2	34	169	5.7	13
Watts	27	60-91	.659	26-41	.634	107	4.0	17	13	15	146	5.4	15
Bailey	28	44-101	.436	37-55	.673	102	3.6	7	24	15	125	4.5	14
Paraych	28	43-95	.453	17-25	.680	55	2.0	20	2	18	103	3.7	19
Nevitt	19	14-22	.636	2-10	.200	34	1.8	4	8	0	30	1.6	6
Weber	7	2-6	.333	1-1	1.000	1	0.1	4	0	1	5	0.7	2
Perry	8	0-1	.000	5-7	.714	2	0.2	12	0	0	5	0.6	2
Lay	3	0-2	.000	0-0		3	1.0	0	0	0	0		
Other	8	15-32	.469	7-11	.636	28	3.5	5	0	2	37	4.6	9
STATE	28	770-1542	.499	405-598	.679	865	30.9	448	77	194	1946	69.5	107
OPP.	28	612-1332	.459	495-697	.710	539	19.0	323	61	121	1719	61.4	97

This year the city boy's going to town

by Andrea Cole
Editor

Now we have before us a full-grown man — sinewed and strong. But we had, once upon a time, a skinny boy whose high-top tennis shoes dwarfed his skinny legs.

Daydreams dwell with him and he was Julius Erving or David Thompson. Alleyoop.

Always reading. Read about talented basketball players.

Starts giving his mother fits when he's seven.

"Okay," Mama says, "you want to play basketball? Go out and play."

"So I go out and play and the very first day I twist my ankle. Stayed in a week. Next week, I go out and twist both ankles. But he wants to go out and play basketball.

Father would say, "Don't go hanging with a bad crowd. Be in early."

Just wanted to play basketball.

Come in two or three in the morning, slip into the kitchen, turn on the lights.

"That you, Kenny?"

"Just cooking something to eat, Mama."

Cooking at 2 a.m.? That boy's always in the kitchen.

So what made State forward Kenny Matthews' daydreams different from other kids? Why'd he make it big?

"You can be anything you want. Shoot from the top," his daddy told him.

He was one of those kids you read about. Picks up the basketball, bounces it on the living room rug and the next thing you know, he's All-America. Where'd this kid come from anyway?

"I'm a city boy," Matthews said.

Lived in Washington D.C. all his life. Like many young boys, he started with a playground career. Gym's closed? Pick a playground. No lights? Doesn't matter.

Suppose he knew where the rim was by heart.

"I liked to shoot at night. Didn't matter if the lights were off or on," he said.

Or any day of the week.

"We had a lot of talent in the neighborhood. I'd make a phone call, get

everybody together and play on Sunday mornings."

And there you have it — skinny kid on the block shooting and making it and taking home 80 trophies 'cause he liked to see them shine.

"When I was small I wanted to get trophies," Matthews said. "I always wanted to make my house pretty with trophies — plastic, doesn't matter. I liked to take pictures beside them 'cause they shine."

Now they call him gladiator 'cause he tapes his ankles so tightly. No time for sprained ankles. Can't waste time on sprained ankles.

High-top tennis shoes don't look so bad. Been in the weight room pumping, got muscles rippling up he didn't even know were there. Looks in the mirror — another one's popped out.

Daddy always told him, "Keep your body healthy."

And now he'd take an Academy Award for basketball, he says, if there were such a thing. No more backyard bankshots, he's playing with the big boys, baby.

"People will try you. See how strong you really are until you run over them one time," 6-4 Matthews said.

He's a senior but this year is his debut. Yes, a debut. Coach Norman Sloan is gone. Coach "V" for Valvano is here, they hope, to stay.

"He is the greatest coach that's ever been associated with this program," Matthews said. "When I shoot, I don't look at Coach V. Coach V says, 'Don't look at me. I didn't shoot it.'"

After three years under Sloan, Matthews is ready to break out and break bad. This year the city boy is going to town.

"I can show people what they missed over the years. This is my chance to do my thing."

Matthews can remember the time his high school won the national championship, finishing the season 29-0.

"That year we beat DeMatha — Hawkeye's (Whitney) team. His senior year we beat them by one point in Cole Field House," Matthews recalled. "I remember thinking 'I need to play with this guy.'"

Whitney's come and gone but Matthews is here and determined to make his last year the best. Has on ly so many games left in Reynolds Coliseum.

Wants people to know him better before he's gone he's more than a basketball player, believe it or not. He's honest-to-God flesh and blood.

"I want people to know I'm a really good guy, not just a basketball player. I can be your friend.

"I notice people stare at me. Even in class. I think, 'Why's this guy staring at me?' I look at them and they turn their heads."

Matthews is a sit-down-and-talk kind of guy. Has a conglomerate of interests — likes this and that.

And he's still a reader. Far from his childhood fantasies of alleyoops and loop de loops, he's now reading *Playboy*.

He thinks about women all day long or sex, he says. Or he might pick up a news magazine to read about the Ku Klux Klan Grand Dragon or the hostage situation.

To go to college and be well-rounded was always his goal. Live but learn.

Kenny Matthews says he's learned under coach Valvano. Matthews is ready.

He seems impatient, nervous, waiting to begin again. A torn muscle's keeping him down at the moment, maybe a week more, he says — that's all. He tore that muscle running hard for coach Valvano, giving it all he had.

For now he sits and watches his new coach and thinks. Wants to get off the bench onto that floor. Wants to see a crowd. Wants to play for the crowd.

Step over to Reynolds sometime when all is quiet, stands are empty, everybody's gone home.

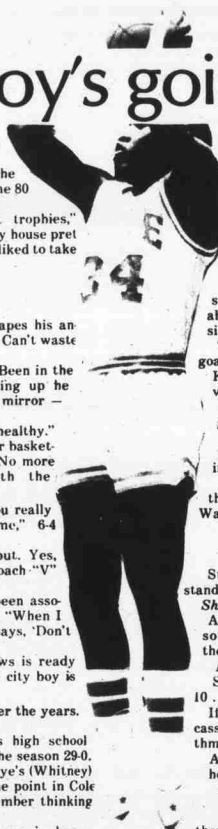
SAA. And you might, from the far corner of the gym, see someone come dribbling slowly, steadily onto the court.

Bounce. Bounce. Shuffle up to the rim ... and swoosh. Back and back 10 ... 20 and swoosh.

If you're quiet you may see this lone figure turn on a cassette — a little jazz — and begin to move to the rhythm for 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, (?) baskets in a row.

Ask Kenny Matthews about his greatest moments and he's going to tell you about how it feels to pick up the round ball and know you can play the game.

In his game of life called basketball, Kenny Matthews says he may be getting older — but he's getting better.



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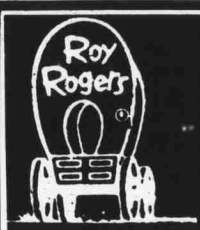
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Staff photos by Linda Brafford
Scott Parzych (above) and Harold Thompson (below) will combine their efforts off the bench.



Sharing the scoring, hitting the boards head forwards' task

by Terry Kelley
Sports Writer

When a team has lost its leading scorer, its leading rebounder and its leader in steals, one really cannot count on having such a great season the next year.

However, when all those leaders are packed into one person instead of five then a team has a good chance of making up for the loss with a balanced attack. That is just what State's forwards will try to do this year when they hit the court for the 1980-81 season.

The void that needs to be filled was left by Hawkeye Whitney, who averaged 18.6 points and 4.9 rebounds a game and had 44 steals. In comparison, the three returning players who will attempt to fill the void — Art Jones, Thurl Bailey and Scott Parzych — averaged a total of 14.6 points a game and 9.2 rebounds along with 44 steals. A new addition, freshman Harold Thompson, will also help out with the scoring and rebounding punch.

The team is out to prove it can win without Whitney and with a new coaching staff. Each of the front-line players will try to do his part to make up for the loss of Whitney with a combination of

quickness and speed like the ACC may never have seen before.

"Our forwards Art Jones and Thurl Bailey are exceptionally quick," State assistant basketball coach Ray Martin said. "I think we need a good performance from both the three and four spots in our transition game in order for us to be competitive."

The No. 3 position will be tied down by Jones, a 6-7, 183-pound senior from Hampton, Va. As a starter the past two years, Jones has a 5.6 career scoring average and has pulled down 3.5 rebounds a game. Jones is coming off what many observers believe is his best season, in which he scored at a 6.4 clip with 3.6 rebounds a game.

"Art is a good shooter and he fits into our transition game perfectly," Martin said. "Coach (Jim) Valvano is looking for his leadership and a consistent level of play during the season."

Jones is looking forward to a good year in his last season and has some goals he would like to help the team achieve.

"Well, it's my last one," Jones said. "I want to make this the best. Like all seasons you always

(See "Forwards," page 11)



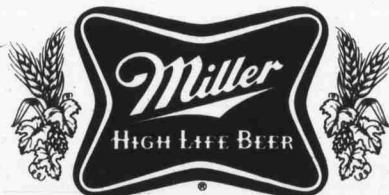
Staff photo by Lynn McNeill
Thurl Bailey (above) and Art Jones (below) must fill the void left by Hawkeye Whitney.



We've Got The Time To Back The Pack



Lite



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Watts playing numbers game, odds in his favor for future

by Stu Hall
Sports Editor

Craig Watts stands 6-11 $\frac{1}{2}$, Cinches, but the press guide lists him as an even 7-0. It's probably one of the privileges of being a senior.

He is in a long list of tall and lanky State centers — Tom Burleson, Glenn Sudhop, him and teammate Chuck Nevitt.

It seems he is a trademark of what former State head basketball coach Norm Sloan thought was the perfect center.

The fans look at these centers as awkward and disfigured, as if they are not real and have no way of making it anywhere beyond college basketball.

But like Burleson, who now plays for the Atlanta Hawks, and Sudhop, who was one of two centers drafted by the Boston Celtics, Watts is in that same mold.

If being drafted were based on just statistics, Watts would have to work awfully hard this year to improve his. Going into the season they stand at 3.9 rebounds a game and 4.4 points a game. Again, he is in the same mold; Burleson's stats are better but not overpowering and Sudhop's are far from bragging about.

"It seems fans look to statistics as a tool to measure how good you are," Watts said. "I know if I want a shot at the pros then I'm going to have to play real well this year."

For the fans who use statistics as a measurement, take into consideration his 7-0, 224-pound frame.

Also take into consideration that at Oliver Ames high school in South Easton, Mass., Watts led his teams to 22-1 records his sophomore and junior years with the only losses coming in the state finals.

Watts missed most of his senior year in high school due to injury. Before the injury Oliver Ames was 6-0 and when he returned it was 7-14.

At State the teams he's played on have compiled a 59-30 record and close to a 67-percent winning percentage. So if numbers are any indication of how good someone is then Watts is pretty good.

But there is more to Watts than numbers.

Watts didn't start out as a basketball player until he reached the seventh grade.

"I played in a church league my first year," Watts said. "I remember it because I scored something like two points all year. Then in the eighth grade I scored 27 points, then it really jumped."

The possibility of becoming a basketball player didn't smack him in the face until a couple of years later.

"You know I really didn't think about playing until about my junior year," Watts said. "I said to myself, 'Hey, I've got the



Craig Watts

potential.' So I took advantage of the situation."

That he did, but one has to wonder where he would be if the injury hadn't occurred his senior year.

"I had received letters after my junior year, so I had already left a mark," Watts said with his Massachusetts accent.

Jack McMahn, a summer-league instructor, helped Watts learn the game that he now wants to pursue as a possible career.

"He's a great guy," Watts said. "He helped a lot in the summer leagues and he had the biggest influence on me in my basketball career."

But the person Watts is indebted to is his father who let him make up his own mind.

"My father is a helluva a guy," Watts said with great respect. "Because of the way I was growing he never forced basketball on me. He let me do it."

"He put a lot of time into me. There would be times when he got off at 4 and would have loved to go home and kick his feet up, but he gave me a ride into Boston and looked out for me. He felt I had a talent so he gave me every available resource."

His father, an engineer, had an indirect bearing on his son's major, which happens to be engineering operations.

"I don't know if you could say he influenced me," Watts said. "I remember when I was a little kid that I would work on appliances and would take radios apart and play with them."

"I have a toolbox in my room and I fix most everyone's car at the College Inn."

The Engineering School's recognition is not the reason why Watts attended State.

"I wanted two things," Watts said. "I wanted a great basketball program and I wanted a happy medium between the city and rural community, much like the way I grew up."

Clemson was too rural for me, Georgia Tech in Atlanta was nice but was too big for me. South Carolina was my second choice, but I wanted to go to an ACC school because it was in a major league."

So Watts came to State and stepped right into the scheme of things, yet as a freshman Watts's body hadn't reached its full muscular development.

"I had a lot of natural strength in high school," Watts said. "Since I've come to State I've been on an extensive weight program and I'd say I have put on a weight gain of 22 pounds over three and a half years."

"My strength didn't come until my growing slowed down. I was 6-6 as a freshman (in high school), 6-9 as a sophomore, 6-11 as a junior and 6-11 and three-fourths as a senior."

Watts has played in all but two of State's games during his career and has enjoyed them all, yet there is something he still needs to accomplish.

"I'm pleased with what has happened but I still want to do more," Watts said. "It's all up to me and how much I want to do better."

"I want this year to be the best

(See "Watts," page 11)



Staff photo by Simon Griffiths

Craig Watts executes an in-your-face block on North Carolina's Mike O'Koren.

Schlitz

Go for it!



Joneses on Art's mind entering senior year

by Stu Hall
Sports Editor

"And now introducing the Wolfpack of N.C. State. At guard senior Clyde Austin. At the other guard freshman Sidney Lowe. Starting for the Wolfpack at center Craig Watts. At forward senior Hawkeye Whitney," the Reynolds Coliseum P.A. announcer says with the emphasis on Whitney.

The crowd is on its feet, clapping and chanting, drowning out everything else.

"And at the other forward junior Art Jones," the announcer finishes, but Jones won't be recognized, for the fans are still cheering for Whitney.

Jones is one of those players that when one looks at a basketball brochure he sees his name and says, "I thought he graduated."

Again Jones goes practically unnoticed.

In a time when most people are trying to keep up with the Joneses, Art Jones is trying to shake the Joneses.

In high school at Hampton High in Hampton, Va., it was a case of everyone trying to keep up with Jones.

"In high school you could say I was a big superstar," Jones said. "I used to get all the publicity in the area and then I came here and I wasn't really used to it (not receiving similar publicity)."

"It didn't really matter though, because I don't like a lot of publicity."

Whether he likes it or not, if he can shake the Joneses this season then he will receive publicity and chances are he'll succeed since this is his senior year and State has a new head coach in Jim Valvano.

"I feel like I'm coming into the season as a freshman," Jones said. "Coach V is a big part of it. He's made the game fun. He says

'the game is just a game. Play tough and enjoy it. I just wish I was going to be here three more years, because it's going to be fun.'"

Jones has to make the best of it, and although he hasn't had the stats that most college players dream of, the stats he does have prove his worth to the team.

Since he started 14 games his freshman year, Jones has averaged 5.6 points a game, his best season being the last when he averaged 6.4. In rebounding he has pulled 310 for a 3.5 career average.

"This year they'll (State) be looking for a lot more scoring and rebounding out of me," Jones said. "We have no really big man so Craig, Thurl (Bailey) and I have to handle the rebounding. That's going to be one of the keys this year — the rebounding."

Jones is State's second-leading returning scorer and, like he said, is going to be counted on heavily to help fill some of the scoring hole vacated by Whitney.

"Last year teams didn't look at me as a scoring threat," Jones said, "because Hawkeye was the one that did the scoring, but this year it's going to be different." Jones is a coach's idea of a perfect team player, and because he will be called on more to score Jones won't pepper the basket with shots every time he gets his hands on the ball.

"I'm out there looking to win," Jones said, naming his first priority. "If I go out there and don't score double figures — that's fine — just as long as we win. I just want teams to know that I can score and that I'm a threat. I'll score when I get the opportunity."

"It's not a matter of me going out the first two games and making it known that I can score, but when I have to score, I will."

Growing up in Hampton, Jones was a late bloomer to basketball, starting when he was 11 or 12.

"In the sixth or seventh grade was the first time I was really exposed to basketball," Jones said. "I started playing and my mom didn't even know about it."

Jones juggled both football and basketball in junior high. Near the end of his football season, Jones started staying after school and attending basketball practice then changing uniforms and heading off to football practice. It wasn't until after the first basketball game of the season that Jones told his mother and father he was playing basketball.

"I used to tell her to pick me up at 6:30 every night after football practice and she always thought I was over at a friend's house after school until football practice started," Jones said. "My mom and dad took it nonchalant when I told them I was playing basketball."

"My mom didn't really like the idea of me playing basketball because I used to get dizzy spells when I was a little kid, but the doctor said I could as long as I didn't overdo things."

Jones's parents didn't show much interest at first because they didn't think he was serious about playing basketball. But after a while they started attending his games.

"They didn't come for a couple of the games," Jones said, "then they both started watching me play."

He got his desire to play basketball from watching the now-defunct ABA Virginia Squires when they used to play in the Hampton Coliseum. The Squires featured such greats as Julius Erving, Charlie Scott and George Gervin.

"I admired George Gervin," Jones said. "I saw him and he reminded me of myself. He was long and skinny just like me. I


(See "Jones," page 9)

Senior Art Jones will try and shake the Joneses this season.



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by Stu Hall
Sports Editor

Changing of the Guards

The transition game.
It's a part of basketball that relies on quick off-the-boards passes from the centers and forwards and movement up court by fleet-footed guards.

If everything is timed right it can leave opponents with their mouths hanging open. If the timing is off then it could be a long night.

The transition game is what State's 1980-81 basketball edition will implement into its game plan.

"The transition game is the key to our plan this year," said point guard Sidney Lowe, who will direct the offensive scheme. "We're a running squad. We've got some guys who can turn it on."

The horses that will make State's transition game work are the guards — sophomores Lowe, Dereck Whittenburg and Phil Weber, junior Max Perry and senior Kenny Matthews.

With Lowe starting at the point, the Wolfpack's No. 2 guard will be Matthews, once he recovers from his pre-season injury.

Matthews, tri-captain with Craig Watts and Art Jones, will provide the shooting touch on the transition game.

"There's no doubt that Kenny is one of the outstanding shooters in the country," State head coach Jim Valvano said. "For us to be successful we have to have an outstanding year from him. He's an excellent player who has professional potential."

That potential has already been displayed by the 6-4, 197-pound senior from Washington, D.C. Since he arrived in 1977, Matthews has averaged 8.8 points a game, with his best year as a freshman when he averaged 10.5.

"Being a senior, the leading returning scorer and his offensive abilities make Kenny a natural for a leadership role on our ball club," Valvano said. "He means more to us than just points on the board."

Along with being State's big guard, he should add some score firepower to the small-forward position.

Although Matthews will be called on for his scoring abilities, it is the point-guard position that is the crucial position to make the transition game work.

"When we pull the rebounds off the board, we'll first look for the point guard," Watts said.

Enter Lowe. Assuming the role as point guard takes a lot of on-court savvy which as a freshman Lowe handled with the ease of a senior. But now that Clyde Austin is gone, Lowe is the starting point guard — a situation he's excited about.

"Starting: that's the exciting part of the game," said Lowe who checks in at 6-0, 194 pounds. "It's a lot easier to start the game. You feel more confident at the start."

As a freshman, Lowe made a quick name for himself as someone to watch out for in the years to come.

He dished off 125 assists on the season as a backup to Austin. Those 125 assists were the



Staff photo by Linda Brafford

Kenny Matthews plans to see action at No. 2 guard position and will be key to State's scoring.

second-best figure for a State player in a season.

"He has to be one of the great point guards in the country today," Valvano said. "He's just an outstanding passer. He has the uncanny ability to hit the right man with the right pass at the right time. He's a natural leader with his talent."

the ball up court on the transition, set the plays and then find the open man.

"The big factor of the transition game is that the ball gets to me first," Lowe said. "I'm the quarterback on the court and I have to set things up."

Lowe said he feels this squad is perfectly suited for the transition style of play.

"We've got the big men — Craig, Thurl (Bailey) and Art on the inside," Lowe said. "Then we have two thoroughbreds in Kenny and Dereck on the outside who makes us real quick. Our first five are quick and then we have the bench, which is just as quick."

According to assistant coach Marty Fletcher, with the offense State plans to run, "no guard will be able to go a full 40 minutes."

When Lowe tires, his replacement will be Perry, a 6-1, 157-pounder from Hanover, Ind.

"My role is to go in for Sidney when he needs a break," Perry said. "I'll be satisfied if I only play 10 minutes a game. There will be times when something will happen to Sid — he might get hurt or banged up. I might

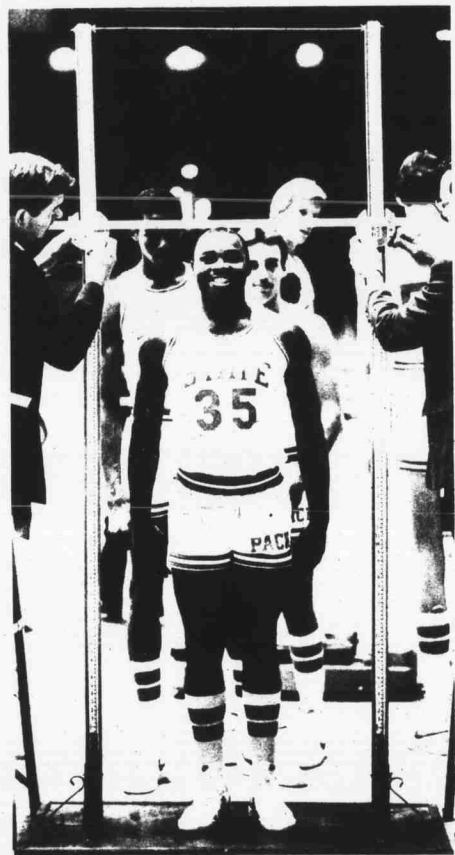
'The transition game is the key to our plan this year.'

—Sidney Lowe

But if anyone saw him last year, wait to see him show his stuff this season.

"My passing game has improved a lot," Lowe said. "There won't be a lot of pressure since I played last year as a freshman."

It will be Lowe and backup Perry who are counted on to make State's game flow. Bring



Staff photo by Linda Brafford

Point guard Sidney Lowe steps in for his royal fitting. He measured in at an even 6-0.



Dereck Whittenburg (left) gives State a hot hand off the bench, while Max Perry (below) will give Lowe a chance to rest. Phil Weber (right) gives State a versatile guard.

Staff photos by Linda Brafford



Whittenburg is the Wolfpack's third-leading returning scorer with a 6.1 average.

"I think I'm a better shooter this year," Whittenburg said. "With Kenny playing both No. 2 guard and small forward I'll probably see 20 to 25 minutes a game — which I'm happy with."

Being a high-schoolmate of Lowe at DeMatha High in Washington, Whittenburg is known as a shooter but he feels people tend to forget he can pass just as well.

"I enjoy shooting and that's what I have to do at the No. 2 position, but people think I can't pass," Whittenburg said. "I'm



not known as a passer like Sid, that's why."

Whittenburg said he thinks Valvano has developed the style of play into State's capabilities instead of State's capabilities into the style of play.

"He's knows the personnel he has to work with," Whittenburg said. "He's knows us all. He's really concerned about us on and off the court and knows everything about us which is the way a coach should be."

Also contributing to State's cause this year is Weber, a 6-1, 174 pounder. Being low on the totem pole he sees his position as a challenge which he is able to accept.

"I feel great — there's no other word for it," Weber said. "I don't know how much time I'll see but I have to just work my way in."

Like all the other players Weber thinks there is a whole new outlook on basketball at State with the acquisition of Valvano.

"Coach V has put the fun back into college ball," Weber said. "He's got us running the type of game we're capable of running, which will make us good. I think we have a good chance this year."

Jones trying to shake off the Joneses

(Continued from page 7)

always thought if he can do it then I could do it."

Gervin and the Squires, along with Jones's improving play in basketball, have hooked Jones on the game for life.

After a high-school career which saw him average 21 points a game, he was wooed by State, Clemson, Maryland, Tennessee, South Carolina and even Iona, where Valvano was the coach at the time. After narrowing the choices down to just inside the ACC, the final choice was, of course, State where he would have the opportunity to play with Whitney and Clyde Austin.

But that is all in the past and Jones has his sights set on this season and the future. He feels this year will go a long way in determining his future and is pleased to have Valvano as his mentor.

"It's something you dream of — having a coach like coach V," Jones said. "Things are a lot different than when Norm (Sloan) was here."

With Valvano coaching him, Jones thinks he is more at ease on and off the court.

"I just wasn't myself around Norm; none of us were," Jones said. "We would be here in the locker room joking around and then Norm would walk into the room. You could feel Norm's presence. We would all straighten up the minute he walked into the room."

"As a player he didn't think I was aggressive enough. But then how could I be when Hawkeye did everything?"

But similar to what the 6-7, 183-pound tri-captain is doing this year — shaking the Joneses — he did with Sloan.

Watching Jones on the basketball court during the past three seasons, one has seen a player who is quiet and reserved and always gets the job done. But again, since this is his swan-song season, Jones's attitude might be a little different.

"Some people say I never crack a smile on the court or get excited. I've never been a hyped-up player on the court, but that might have to change this year. I'm getting excited about this year. I'll have to break out," Jones said, raising his fists into the air as if he were about ready to shake the Joneses.

These 3 will be missed



Genia Beasley



Hawkeye Whitney



Clyde Austin

Watts, Nevitt stack up at center slot

by Terry Kelley
Sports Writer

When State head basketball coach Jim Valvano is asked how his centers stack up against the rest of the league, he should be able to say, "Very well." State will again have 14 feet and 5 inches' worth of centers on its roster this year in only two players.

Craig Watts and Chuck Nevitt are both beginning their fourth years at State and are faced with possibly the toughest challenge of their careers in trying to pick up the rebounding the Pack will be looking for this year.

Watts, a 7-0, 224-pound senior from South Easton, Mass., has career averages in rebounds and scoring at 3.9 and 4.4, which include a 4.0 rebounding average and a 5.4 point clip last season in his best overall year.

Watts will be looked to for a leadership role this year as well as for a good board performance in each game.

"Craig Watts, being a senior, is going to be counted on for his leadership and his experience," State assistant coach Ray Martin said. "We have a lot of confidence in our front line and our people in those positions. We feel like it's just very important for our front line people to perform well."

Watts is naturally hoping for a big year for the Wolfpack and thinks it can achieve great success working as a team.

"It's my senior year," Watts said. "I'm looking for a big year personally. We're rated down low among the other big guys. We'll come out and give it what we've got. We can play ball; we know that. We'll give it to one or two strong players and see what they do. We've got to have everybody producing."

"Coach V told us when he came in that he expected scoring at center and a lot of rebounds. We need a lot of rebounding out of the three, four and five spots. That will be the difference in a bad season and a good season. We'll take the ball to the basket and try to get a lot of fouls."

State will utilize its speed to a



Seven-foot Craig Watts (left) and 7-5 Chuck Nevitt (right) add up to give State's center position a lot

great extent this season and will work a transition game from it.

"The transition is great," Watts said. "The coach wants a quick-paced game. We're one of the fastest teams in the nation as far as leg speed. We will be running a transition game as a direct result of this. We'll try to get the ball down court while the other team has its backs turned and get the short jump shot."

"Everything has changed right down to the warmup routine. Everybody's role has changed. We will be looking desperately for scoring."



of height and will looked to for much-needed rebounding and scoring.

Watts believes the new era of Wolfpack basketball will be a good one.

"Coach V is a hell of a coach," Watts said. "We respect coach Sloan for what he has done here. The team feels the change is good. It's going to be another crazy ACC year."

Seven-foot-five center Nevitt will be called on to come in for Watts this season. Nevitt is definitely one of the tallest if not the tallest collegiate player in the nation. Nevitt only carries 207 pounds on his towering frame but managed to shoot 60

percent from the floor last season.

The junior from Marietta, Ga., can touch the rim by standing on his toes. Averaging 1.8 rebounds and 1.6 points as a sophomore Nevitt again established himself as a crowd favorite among Wolfpack fans, often drawing chants of, "We want Chuck."

Wolfpack fans all remember one of Nevitt's greatest moments at State when he slam-dunked the ball behind his back against Duke's Mike Giminski in the Wolfpack's come-from-behind victory over the Blue Devils last season.

"Chuck Nevitt has been playing real good in practice and the last couple of scrimmages," Martin said. "He has shown improvement every day in and out. If coach V feels Chuck is needed in a certain situation then he will be in. Craig, Thurl, Arty, Chuck and Scotty will be our front-line people this year."

Nevitt will be looking to get more time in the middle this year since Thurl Bailey will be playing at the No. 4 spot more this year.

"Coach V will be using the inside men for this year," Nevitt said. "He's worked with us more than before. The transition game makes it more enjoyable now that we're in shape."

"I don't know (about the starters). I don't think coach V has centered anyone out yet. It's still between Craig and I. Whoever gets it, everybody will play as much as everyone else. I don't put much in the starting role. All you need is someone to start it off."

Nevitt knows there will have to be more scoring from his position this season.

"Without the big men scoring it will be impossible for us to win," Nevitt said. "Whoever gets the ball inside, we will want the big men to score not just catch it and throw it back out. Everybody is looking real good. I think we're ready now."

Bailey will possibly be used in the center spot from time to time if the situation dictates it.

"I think it would be safe to say he's (Bailey) going to be swinging into the center position sometimes. He's a great shooter. It would be an asset to us to play him at the center and have him hit the short jump shot and bring out the opposing centers to keep them honest. He has an uncanny knack for blocking a lot of shots. He has great timing and if you put those two combinations together that's a great asset."

With Bailey at 6-10 and the other two big men towering over the 7-foot mark they should have no trouble stacking up big against the rest of the league at that position.



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Forwards must fill void left by Hawkeye Whitney

(Continued from page 5)

want the last one to be the best. I want all my dreams fulfilled. We have a new coach and he has a new philosophy of the game. It's going to be very interesting this year.

"I want to come in first outright in the ACC for the season. I want to win the Big Four. We want to win the ACC Tournament. The ultimate is the NCAA. When we went last year it was when Norm (Sloan) was leaving and it was like someone throwing water on the fire. We were a little shocked and a little disappointed he had decided to leave."

Jones will be expected to do his part in picking up the slack created by the departure of Whitney and Clyde Austin.

"I'll have to do a little bit more of everything — more rebounding, hard defense and be more of a leader with my experience," Jones said. "If things get down I'll have to come in with my experience. The last three years I've seen about every kind of situation you can have. We've got Craig (Watts) at center and Kenny (Matthews) at guard —

three seniors — so we'll have a lot of support."

Defensively, State will become more aggressive around the basket and on the boards while trying to stay out of foul trouble.

"Any team that gets into a lot of foul trouble is going to be hurting," Jones said. "That's where my experience comes in. I'll try not to get into foul trouble. You've always got to go out and play aggressive. If you go out passive you can't get into the game. This year we'll play a real good aggressive defense. We'll play our tempo of game, our style of game."

Jones's counterpart this year at the forward position, according to pre-season previews, will be Bailey.

A 6-10 sophomore from Seat Pleasant, Md., Bailey played in all 28 games last year "as a freshman and averaged 4.5 points and 3.6 rebounds a game. His most impressive statistic was his 24 rejections."

"Thurl" obviously had a good game the other night (against the Polish National team), Martin said. "He's a great shooter for his size and runs up and down the court like a thoroughbred. We expect great things from Thurl at the four spot."

Bailey believes the pre-season polls are being a little conservative on State's ranking in the conference.

"We're going to be better than people think we will," Bailey said. "We're going to be quick. Our big guys move around the floor quickly. Everybody is a scoring threat."

The new staff has been different to Bailey but the transition between Sloan's and Valvano's has gone relatively smoothly.

"It's a lot different," Bailey said. "Every coach is not the same. Each coach has his own philosophy. It was not really a tough transition. He told us about himself and we had to get to know him and he had to get to know us."

Bailey does not take much stock in the pre-season rankings and thinks there are one or two things the team can do to disprove the rankings.

"They ranked us down there low but that's really opinion," he said. "It's like Maryland is ranked number one and the only way to go for them is down. We've got something to work up to. The important thing is we're going to have to be great on defense."

"Hawkeye was our star last

year and since Hawk is gone and Clyde is gone we have to be balanced. The big men didn't get into the offense as much last year scoring. We've got the guys to get the job done."

Parzych is State's top reserve of the bench at the forward position. A year ago Parzych, a junior, averaged 3.2 points and 2.0 rebounds.

"We feel with Scotty Parzych our rotation would be Scott, Thurl, and Art," Martin said. "We feel like our depth is not what we would like it to be right now. Scott has been playing great. He'll be counted on heavily at the forward position; he'll be more of a four player."

Parzych sees the Pack playing a little different style game this season.

"We're really optimistic right now," Parzych said. "We don't have the big scorers like Hawkeye and Clyde. We're looking for a lot of everything. We're looking to see what kind of ball club we're going to have. We should be tough."

"I hope to get to play a little more this year. I hope to be coming off the bench more. If Thurl is not doing it coach V can throw me in there. We need to get some scoring from our number three and four spots."

State's only newcomer to the squad this year is Thompson who, since Whitney is gone, will see an ample amount of playing time this winter. He was the most sought after N.C. prep player last year and was one of the top 100 players in the country as far as recruits go.

"Harold's a freshman, obviously," Martin said. "We're going to bring him along slowly. He's a good shooter and goes to the boards hard. We're going to bring him along nice and easy. Harold will be a welcome addition to our team this year."

Thompson looks to be filling in for Jones this season when he is called upon to come off the bench.

"I think my role will be just coming in and playing behind Art," Thompson said. "I feel like I'm going to have a good season. I feel like we'll win and still make progress through the season. Rebounding, mainly, and playing behind Art will be my role."

Hitting the boards seems to be the main concern of the front line, along with scoring.

"We should be pretty competitive," Martin said. "Rebounding is going to be the key. If we can rebound with our opponents I really feel like we'll be in every ball game."

Watts in long list of Wolfpack bigmen

(Continued from page 6)

year — the best year academically, the best year socially. This is it, so I want it to be good."

Since this is his senior year Watts takes pride in being a tri-captain along with Kenny Matthews and Art Jones.

"It's an honor," Watts said. "We have a certain amount of leadership. It's a title and the coaches believe that since you're a senior you're ready to accept the responsibility. If not there's something wrong."

But a senior year can only last so long, and after that it's on to bigger challenges. For Watts one of those challenges would be a shot at the NBA and if not there, then a try at foreign basketball.

"It's a one-in-a-million chance at the pros," Watts said. "It's a dream in the big blue sky. If I was given the chance then I'm sure I'd give it a try."

The possibilities of playing foreign basketball are more believable for Watts, though, since his college career hasn't been filled with All America accolades.

"Playing foreign ball and playing in the NBA is like playing farm league and playing major-league baseball," Watts said. "It's a very realistic possibility."

Watts has changed — not physically but attitudinally. He has a real desire to play basketball, a desire put back into him by new head coach Jim Valvano.

"Things are different," Watts



Craig Watts is State's intimidating force inside.

said. "We're all enthused. He has changed the whole spectrum of the game. He leaves the game on a lighter attitude."

"We came here this spring ready to run suicides every day and he told us he didn't want to see us until October 15 — the first day of practice — but he told us we'd better be ready to go."

For Watts the numbers have not all been in his favor during college, yet for the future the odds are anything he wants to make them.

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Speaking of stars coming out, Lacey may shine among them

by Terry Kelley
Sports Writer

When the words all star and basketball are mentioned together, they bring to mind the names of such notables as David Thompson, Genia Beasley and Hawkeye Whitney.

However, in the past three years another name is becoming more and more prominent in the minds of Wolfpack fans when all star candidates are mentioned.

Trudi Lacey will definitely put her name in many peoples' minds after she has finished her senior year at State — that is, if three years of all-star play is not already enough to make an imprint.

"I hope this year will be the best year for Trudi," State head women's basketball coach Kay Yow said. "As a coach I like to see players improve from year to year and see their senior year be the best year, like reaching a peak. Trudi is the type of person this can happen to."

"Trudi is really concerned about any weaknesses she might have. She is really concerned about improving her total game. She has been improving on things we've discussed to help her game."

As the only starting senior on the floor, Lacey will be looked to for guidance by the team.

"We look to her for leadership in a lot of ways — leadership in scoring, leadership in defense," Yow said. "She's not the least bit concerned about taking charge. She was injured and out for five games because she dove for a ball. She is the type of player who will do that."

"Sometimes you get a little worried that she might get hurt and be out. How do you tell a player to hold up and not give it all? If it's in a person to give it all, they will give it all. I appreciate that in Trudi."

Lacey, a 5-10, 145-pound small

forward from Clifton Forge, Va., has received many accolades in her three years at State. Her career total of 1,354 points ranks third on the all-time women's list and just three short of Cristy Earnhardt.

Last season Lacey averaged 14.9 points a game and was named first-team All-America by the American Women's Sports Foundation and honorable mention All-America by the National Scouting Service for the Women's Pro Basketball League.

In 1977 she was named outstanding freshman by *Women's Basketball Report*. She also toured the Orient last year with the U.S. National Select team.

"Well, as far as being my senior year I try not to think about it," Lacey said. "That means this is the last time I'll have the opportunity to play here and for Miss Yow. We have some very talented and some very good people playing for us. We're working hard and are very optimistic about the outcome of the season."

"Actually the only goals I have for me is to every time I go out on the court to give 100 percent and be an inspiration for my teammates. I like to be the type of person and player who can be an inspiration on and off the court."

The 1980-81 edition of the Wolfpack women's team is exceptionally young and with experience the women will get better as the season progresses.

"I think right now our team might be having just a little problem adjusting to each other," Lacey said. "The thing that makes up for us is we have freshmen that really hustle. We might get beat early but when the time comes around to reach our peak we'll be ready."

With the departure of Beasley, Lacey will be looked to as the team leader but, she says, Yow

will not be trying to make up for Beasley with one player.

"I heard Miss Yow say in the clinic when Genia was here, Genia was a person in herself," Lacey said. "We're not going to try to fill Genia's shoes; we're going to try to do with the team we have now. Because Miss Yow has looked at it from that point of view, the talent we have will make us have a better year."

State won't be trying to fill Genia's shoes but Lacey is a good candidate to pick up a lot of the slack.

"We tried never to build our team around her (Beasley)," Yow said. "We will miss her from our lineup but we have to look for other means of scoring. At the same time Trudi is an outstanding player. I hope possibly she can earn an honor such as Kodak All-America. It's hard to earn that honor without the team helping. Trudi is a team player. She wants to be a part of something great — not the great."

In her three years at State, Lacey has earned many titles and one of them is being tough.

"Trudi is as tough as any player I've known," Yow said. "She has the ability to go up and get the rebound with authority. She has speed. One player here is faster and that's Angie (Armstrong) and they're close. She has good speed. We've been working on her quickness and footwork."

"She has the skills to make a great contribution to our team and therefore can become an All-America and have that kind of individual honors. In a nationally ranked program such as ours, not everyone has the potential and ability to become an outstanding player on that team. Trudi does. She's physical with power, aggressiveness and authority."

"She can make things happen and can create scoring opportunities due to her alertness,



Trudi Lacey pulls up here, but she is going all out this season.

skills and potential as a basketball player. She can go up and rebound with authority and push the ball down court with speed and fill the lanes with speed."

Lacey believes in this program and in this team and therefore expects her last campaign as a Wolfpack player to be a success.

"With people like (North) Carolina and ECU and Duke we have to play well every time we go out on the floor," Lacey said. "I think the reason I have so much confidence in our freshmen

is they just believe."

"They have confidence in me and that makes me push. There's no way they can go wrong. There's no way they won't be able to contribute. The reason I say that is I deal with those people day in and day out and they believe, as I believe, we're the best team in the country. There's no question we'll definitely be contenders."

Even as good as the statistics

(See "Star," page 16)

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Women cagers sporting a new look

by Terry Kelley
Sports Writer

The leaves are all but gone, the frost is on the pumpkin, the overcoats have come out and it's basketball season again.

State's women's basketball team will hit the floor this year sporting a new look and hoping to defend its sixth consecutive NCAAIAW crown. Although it lost to Long Beach State in the AIAW National Tournament last season, the Pack is coming off a very successful season in which it finished 28-8 and was nationally 10th ranked in the AP poll.

With the addition of five new freshmen to the squad State women's basketball team will be young but that certainly does not mean it will lack leadership or not have a sound team. By going to a perimeter game the women will use their strength, introducing a new wrinkle into the offense.

Certainly picked by many to defend their crown, the women will carry national rankings by three magazines into the opening of the season: the highest ranking by *Women's Basketball News Service* as the ninth best team in the nation, 13th by *Street and Smith* and 14th by the *Handbook of College Basketball*.

"We've got to have great leadership from our upperclassmen," State women's basketball head coach Kay Yow said. "We've geared our offense to our strength and our perimeter players. The players seem to like what we're doing. With five freshmen working out of 12 players, it's hard to tell exactly where we are. We've been scrimmaging more than in the past."

"We'll be going to our perimeter players. We'll be fast-breaking more and pressing full court more. We feel that's where our strength is and we have to go with our strength," Yow said.

Senior forward Trudi Lacey will be part of the perimeter game and will be doing some new things offensively.

"We'll be using her more inside this year," Yow said. "We'll be flashing her inside and getting the ball inside to her. If she can do that we'd be crazy not to try."

Lacey believes the team can have a good year and accomplish a lot.

"Our team this year will take on a different look," Lacey said. "I feel good about our team because we feel good about each other and believe in each other. We're real excited about our freshmen as well as Ginger (Rouse) coming back. As hard as we're working I know we're going to win some games."

Lacey believes the Wolfpack women will face a challenging schedule and there are certain teams that State will have to watch out for.

"I think as far as teams, I try not to concentrate too much on an individual," Lacey said. "Texas in the Dogwood Classic and Tennessee are tough. We're looking forward to beating them as well as South Carolina and Old

Dominion. I would like to see more people become involved in our program. We want to become the best at what we do."

With a lot of newcomers the team will be doing some things differently, but whatever the case Yow likes the team she has built for this season.

"I really like this team a lot," Yow said. "They seem to complement each other well. They hustle and put forth a great effort. They're team people; there's not a whole lot more you can ask. They are young and inexperienced overall. I'm hoping their enthusiasm and desire and 'hustle' will get us through the toughest part of our schedule."

Since some schedule changes have been made during the year, the women's schedule is very demanding.

"This is the toughest schedule we've ever had since I've been here," Yow said. "We don't have many breathers, if any, in our schedule. We're playing a lot of teams in the Top 20. We play Cheney State and Rutgers."

Some people say Rutgers might win the national championship.

"It will be a tremendous test as a young team. You have to worry about the first of the year. By the end of the season the freshmen need to be playing like sophomores. If you lose two games at the first of the season in football you can't win the national championship because you don't have a tournament. You don't have to worry about that in basketball; you can always make up and have a strong finish at the end."

The Wolfpack will be returning three starters after the departure last year of star center Genia Beasley and forward Ronnie Laughlin. State also lost lettermen June Doby and Kelia Coffey but has five incoming freshmen — Ronda Falkena, Claudia Kreicker, Tammy Laster, Mary Jane Wild and Karen Thompson — set to move in and help cover the losses.

Also returning to the Wolfpack squad after a year's layoff is junior guard Ginger Rouse. She will be a welcome ad-

dition to the Pack squad this year after missing last year with a back injury. Before having to leave the Pack lineup in November, Rouse was shooting .714 from the floor and had a three-game average of 4.3 points.

Rouse is sixth on the State all-time scoring list with 786 points going into the season. She was named Rookie of the Year at State her freshman year along with Lacey. She was also named to the All-AIAW Region II team in 1978. She will be able to help add to the team's strength as a perimeter team since she is known as one of the best perimeter shooters in the nation. "I'm really optimistic about the season," Rouse said. "We have the most raw talent we've ever had. We have five freshmen

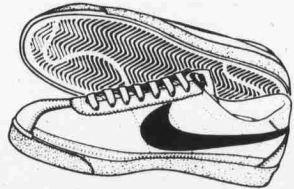
and they all came in fired up. We do have some leadership, also. We have so much potential. We are not playing anywhere close to what we can play. I think we are going to surprise some teams."

After a year's rest and recovery Rouse says she is ready to play and so far has not had any aftereffects from the injury.

"So far it hasn't given me any trouble," Rouse said. "I have not practiced as much but hopefully I'll get to play in all the games. The way they have me practicing is like I take off Wednesday; my back just won't take three days in a row. It will take me a little while; I think I can do better than

(See "Enthusiasm," page 16)

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State coach Kay Yow begins 16th, but only by accident began her 1st

by Terry Kelley
Sports Writer

Women's basketball — Kay Yow.

Kay Yow — women's basketball.

Either way it's stated, those terms seem inseparable. However, State women's basketball head coach Kay Yow could just have easily never gotten involved in the sport as a coach.

Before she started coaching in high school her only involvement in basketball had been as a player and she had no notions of becoming a coach.

"I majored in English and minored in library science at ECU," Yow said. "When I graduated from college I applied for two jobs in Guilford County. Guilford County is where I went to high school, at Gibsonville High. I had played basketball there."

"When I applied, both principals needed coaches and both had been principals when I played. I hadn't even ever thought about coaching. They wanted a woman to coach the team and travel with the team. So I took the job at Allen J. High School in High Point. At the other high school I would have had to teach 10th-grade English and I wanted to teach 12th grade."

Oh, how thankful so many people involved in women's basket-

ball can be that Guilford County didn't have a women's basketball coach at that time.

Yow begins her sixth year of coaching at State this season and in those six years few people have come even close to the records she has compiled as a coach. Overall this is Yow's 16th year in the field and her records at previous institutions are just as impressive.

As a high-school coach Yow compiled a 92-27 record. During her first four seasons as a coach at Elon College she compiled a 57-19 record — including NCAAIAW state championships — her last two seasons before joining the Wolfpack.

During her five seasons at State, Yow has posted a 124-30 record for an .805 winning percentage. But that is not the extent of her records; in addition she:

- Has posted a 217-63 overall record in three sports including volleyball and softball in addition to basketball;

- Coached the 1978 State women to a No. 3 national ranking;

- Coached the 1979 team to a No. 12 finish and the 1980 team to a No. 10 finish in the national rankings;

- Has never lost a game in NCAAIAW Division I play, posting a 46-0 mark while taking five-straight state titles;

- In her first year she coached only the second State women's basketball team to a 19-7 record and a sixth-place finish in the Women's N.I.T.

- Directed the first State women's softball team to a 24-1 record and the state title.

Yow cites two men who helped her to get started in her high school coaching days.

"Jim Swigg coached the men's and women's teams at Allen J. for 13 years," Yow said. "He always had outstanding teams. They were our arch-rivals when I was playing in high school. They consistently won and had a winning tradition. Another guy, Jim Long, went to ECU

with me, helped me a lot.

"When I got into it (coaching) I got an awful lot of help from a lot of people. They helped me learn to analyze what was happening. They helped with the fundamentals. I didn't grow up learning to coach; it wasn't a dream."

Yow decided to further her education past her bachelor's from East Carolina since she was now into coaching.

"After four years I felt a real need for courses in P.E. and coaching-methods courses," Yow said. "I went to UNC-G in the summer, but I decided to go full time to graduate school and get my master's. I got my undergraduate certificate in physical education."

"My second year in school I started coaching at Gibsonville High School. I was teaching part time at Elon College and coaching at Gibsonville. After that year was over a full-time job opened at Elon College for a professor of physical education. I applied for the job and I got the job."



Kay Yow

"I began working at the ground level with the basketball at Elon. And the last two years at Elon we won the state championships in Division I. Then in July 1975 I came to N.C. State. That's the year the women's program became a varsity sport for the first year and they decided to scholarship the program."

Basketball is a family affair for the Yow family. Yow's sister Susan played basketball at State before entering the coaching field where she is currently the women's basketball coach at East Tennessee State. Her sister Debbie coached Kentucky's women's team to a nationally 11th-ranked spot before leaving this summer.

"My youngest sister Susan was the first All-America here at N.C. State," Yow said. "My first year coaching here, she transferred and played her senior year here and was named to the Kodak All-America team for the second time. Susan was a part-time assistant coach here for two years before going to East Tennessee."

"We all played at different times and we all went to the same high school. We all wore the same number. The number was retired after Susan wore it."

It was No. 14. We have fun giving Susan a hard time over whose number it is and who retired it."

Although both of her sisters are involved in basketball Yow did not drag her sisters into the field.

"You know, I never intended it (brought them into basketball)," Yow said. "I coached them both in college and they saw how much I enjoyed it. My mother and Dad played basketball and they always enjoyed it. It was in their blood to try it."

Yow's sisters have helped her in her very successful summer basketball camps.

"I've always believed in camps," Yow said. "Camps really help people learn the fundamentals of the game of basketball. You can improve a player's game. They (her sisters) have their own camps."

"Debbie might come here for a lecture. I've gone to their camps and lectured. At times when we're looking for someone to lecture, one of us lectures. Susan has always been in our camps."

Not only is basketball a family affair with the Yow family, it is also like a family business with Yow's teams.

"I believe in doing things together," Yow said. "I believe in being a family not only with the basketball team but with all teams at State. All teams are like one big family. It's important to have that kind of closeness. You have to think of others first."

"I usually tell the players it's like tying six ropes around a horse's neck. If you pull all the ropes in a different direction the horse goes nowhere, but if you all



Kay Yow sternly sets up the play for her women.

pull in the same direction the horse can fly. We recruit the person first, the attitude and the talent second."

Although coaching just kind of fell into being for Yow, she thinks she has some players who would make good coaches. An opportunity like that was not open for women when she was in that position. She has seen programs grow and believes it is a result of keeping things in perspective.

"I have a number of players that could be outstanding coaches," Yow said. "From 1960-64 when I was at ECU, coaching wasn't open to women. You didn't have college teams and there was no reason to be headed in that direction. Now we see it as a career possibility."

"Women's programs have grown tremendously and will continue to grow. I'm challenged by it, to be a pioneer in certain ways. It's not just Y's and O's. You have to keep the individual first, the student second and the athlete third."



Kay Yow watches on as assistant coach Nora Lynn Finch motions the directions.

1980-81 Women's Basketball Schedule

Dec. 4	at Duke	24	at Maryland
5	at UNC-Chapel Hill	25	at E. Carolina
6	at Virginia	26	at Virginia
7	at Virginia Tech	27	at Virginia Tech
8	at S. Carolina	28	at Virginia Tech
9	at S. Carolina	29	at Virginia Tech
10	at S. Carolina	30	at Virginia Tech
11	at S. Carolina	31	at Virginia Tech
12	at S. Carolina		
13	at S. Carolina		
14	at S. Carolina		
15	at S. Carolina		
16	at S. Carolina		
17	at S. Carolina		
18	at S. Carolina		
19	at S. Carolina		
20	at S. Carolina		
21	at S. Carolina		
22	at S. Carolina		
23	at S. Carolina		
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25	at S. Carolina		
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27	at S. Carolina		
28	at S. Carolina		
29	at S. Carolina		
30	at S. Carolina		
31	at S. Carolina		



Mary Jane Wild



Tammy Laster



Ronda Falkena



Claudia Kreicker



Karen Thompson

Staff photos by Simon Griffiths

Yow strikes gold rush with freshmen

by Terry Kelley
Sports Writer

Each season, coaches are faced not only with the task of putting a winning team on the floor but also preparing for the next year. So the recruiting season is also on the coaches' minds. With the recruiting season at hand the coaches must decide what they need and who fits the bill.

So with every season there come a few new faces to the crowd as the coaches fill their recruiting order. Such is the case this year in women's basketball. The 1980 State women's basketball team will feature five new faces.

If head coach Kay Yow ever thought it would take five people to fill Genia Beasley's shoes when she departed, then Yow has definitely struck it rich.

Yow has five freshmen on her young team this season and her goal is not to fill the departed Beasley's role but only to make up for it in other strengths.

Among the five newcomers are

three Parade High School All-Americans. The freshmen range in height from 5-9 to 6-7 and have all the positions on the floor pretty well covered. All three of the All-Americans played in the Dial High School All-America Classic in New York in May. Now a look at the new faces in the crowd:

•Karen Thompson. She is a 6-2, 171-pound native of Pflugerville, Texas. She averaged 28 points and 15 rebounds a game as a high-school senior last year. She is one of the All-Americans and scored in double figures in the Dial Classic. As a senior she shot 65 percent from the floor and 75 percent from the free-throw line.

"She is our probable starting center," Yow said. "She has good size and I think she can play a good physical game inside. She has potential in her power game helping us on the boards inside. We've been working a lot on her quickness and speed. We want to become more of a pressing team full court."

•Ronda Falkena. A center,

Falkena stands at 6-7, 200 pounds and is a native of Warwick, N.Y. She averaged 19.5 points and 18 rebounds in her high-school career. Also an All-America selection she is the tallest woman ever to play basketball at State and was the tallest graduating senior in the nation last year.

"Ronda hasn't had the experience and background in basketball as a lot of people have," Yow said. "She has a tremendous height advantage and a great desire to become a good player. We look for her to continue to develop in every phase of her game throughout the season."

"She might be able to give us the type of person we need against the top centers in the nation. If Ronda could help us even to neutralize players like this, to stop those players we have to have comparable heights."

Falkena will be helpful to the Wolfpack women because of her size and could be very menacing to other teams' attacks.

"If she can develop her fundamental game, because of her height she can be instrumental to us," Yow said. "At that size, she can develop also at the large forward position. That would give us a very dominating lineup such as seen at Old Dominion."

•Claudia Kreicker. At 6-1, 155 pounds, Kreicker fits the mold for a power forward. She is from Warsaw, Ind., and is the third of the All-Americans. Kreicker was the captain of the Indiana All-Star team. She averaged 17 points and 9.6 rebounds a game in her last prep season.

"We said that in the starting lineup we would go with Claudia and have a short center position," Yow said. "She started the season and had shin splints, then had a dislocated finger. These two things slowed her up. In the meantime we took an additional look and we will play her at center at times this year."

With the loss of four lettermen, some of the newcomers will be expected to give help

quickly. With Thompson starting, the next likely candidate is Kreicker.

"Her basic fundamental skills are more developed than the other freshmen," Yow said. "Because of that we had expected her to give us possible immediate help. Karen and Claudia are two who will see immediate action. Those are two we'll be calling on for a lot of help. She will be in our top nine players."

"It's obvious we're going to have to go to some of them for immediate help. We're hoping she'll (Kreicker) give us nice help as the season progresses."

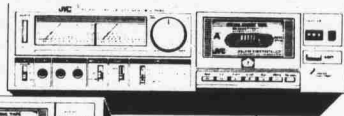
•Mary Jane Wild. She is 6-0, 150 pounds and is from St. Louis, Mo. Having averaged 15 points and 11 rebounds in her senior year, she played on the Missouri All-Star team.

"I think we're a team to look for," Wild said. "In the pre-season polls we were ranked ninth in the nation. Our season's

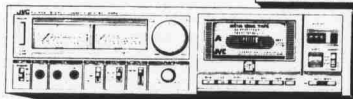
(See "Yow," page 16)

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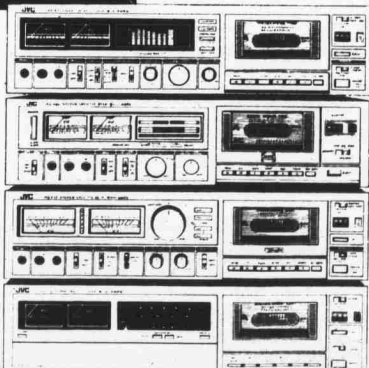
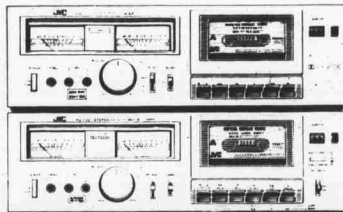


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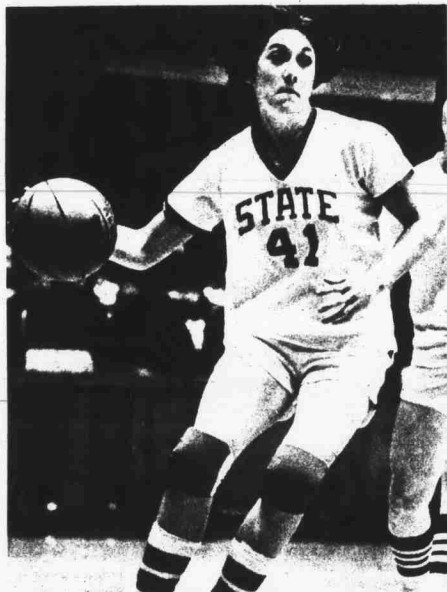
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Enthusiasm will key women's team



Connie Rogers is expected to add her usual hustle this year.

(Continued from page 13)

I am right now. I just want to get back playing for the team."

Rouse believes the team is in for a real good year but feels that in order to have that good year it must do some things right.

"Everybody is executing well," Rouse said. "We have to concentrate on really boxing out on the boards. Everybody on this team can shoot. We're going to be breaking a lot more. We'll have a lot more movement."

This team is young and will be trying, not to replace the losses from last year's lineup, but to make up for them in a different way.

Gone is a 17 points-per-game average. Gone is an 8.1 rebound-per-game average. Gone are the 30 blocks, 101 assists and 64 steals of last season. But behind all that, gone is Beasley, the all-time basketball scorer in State history.

Nevertheless, a new day has dawned and last year is passed. Here now are seniors Lacey and Beth Fielden. Here now is the return of Ginger and the continued success of junior Connie Rogers. Here now is Angie Armstrong and two other sophomores and, finally, here now is a group of five new freshmen overflowing with enthusiasm and abundant with talent.



Staff photo by Simon Griffiths

Ginger Rouse returns after missing last year with a back injury.

Yow high on freshmen; freshmen high on team

(Continued from page 15)

going to be really good. It's exciting college ball and I'm ready to go.

"I played center in high school. This year I'll play more of a forward role. In scrimmaging I have played both center and forward. In college the inside people have the same type role; to box out the center and forwards."

Wild hasn't been here long but she really likes the program that Yow has established here.

"I think it's very well rounded," she said. "It's made me aware of being an inside player

and how much strength is required in college ball. This year we're going to be playing more of our perimeter game. We're going with our strength."

Wild likes having four more freshmen come in at the same time to help relieve some of the freshman pressures and to lend support.

"We give each other support," she said. "We all live in the same suite and we all have the same feelings."

*Tammy Laster. The smallest of the five, Laster is from Weaverville. She averaged 15.3 points and 9.1 rebounds in her final campaign to earn her Western North Carolina Player

of the Year honors. She also led North Buncombe to consecutive undefeated seasons in the Ivy division of the Mountain Athletic Conference.

"We're going to have a young team," Laster said. "We're going to have a good team. I think it's great. I've learned a lot. It's been a big change (from high school) and everything. It's just a matter of me working to adjust. I think we're going to have a real good season."

"I'm looking forward to the season and getting started. There's a lot of excitement. I'm just ready to work hard and give it all I have to make the team the best it can be."

Yow expects to use both Laster and Wild more and more as the season wears on.

"Tammy and Mary Jane have all the other qualities I've talked about," Yow said. "They will be changing positions from high school. Mary Jane played center and Tammy played inside. They are having to move to a position like forward and guard — perimeter-type positions."

Yow will look to Wild for depth later in the season.

"Mary Jane at 6-1 has good speed and agility," Yow said. "She jumps well. She has those kind of qualities. If we can help her to become stronger in the fundamentals of the game, she can give us the depth we're looking for."

Laster will be playing in one of two positions for Yow.

"We want Tammy to play a number-two guard position or a number-three forward," Yow said. "The number-two guard position requires handling the ball quite a bit. In high school she did handle the ball in that way. We feel she can handle it and we're helping her every day."

Yow will be looking to this group more and more over the next four years and she feels she has selected the right personnel to fill the vacancies that will come about over those years.

"They're all really hard-working players," Yow said. "They have a great desire and determination. They have talent; it's just inexperienced. The potential is there; it's just not developed yet. We have a saying

that 'if it's to be, it's up to me.' This is true about all of our freshmen. They will get the job done."

Thompson will be the probable starter at the center position and may not be changing positions. She might not look quite as big as she did in high school but she likes the program she has chosen.

"When I played in high school, being 6-2 I was the tallest center. Now it looks like I'll be one of the smaller centers. It's a lot more aggressive game; I love to work on that. I'm going to work on that a lot more."

Kreicker is excited to be at the college level and thinks everything is going fine.

"It's really exciting," Kreicker said. "It's a lot more interesting than high school. The atmosphere around the team is great. I think it's the greatest. It's tough and challenging."

Falkena is very happy to be on the squad and is looking forward to a great season.

"I feel good about the season," Falkena said. "I know we're going to be good. I love it. It's lots of fun and lots of hard work at the same time."

This group has the qualities that coaches like to see in players.

"They're all highly coachable," Yow said. "You give them something to do and tell them what to expect and to work hard and tell them to live up to what's expected. To me attitude is more important than aptitude. They have such qualities. They're great team players."

Star will shine for 4th season

(Continued from page 12)

may sound, Lacey is never satisfied with what she has accomplished.

"Somebody once said that 'if better is even possible, then good is not enough'; that's how I feel," Lacey said. "At times I've done some things well. I don't feel I've played to my potential. I don't want to ever settle for where I am. I want to become the best I can become."

Lacey will be welcoming one of her colleagues back this year after a year of injury when Ginger Rouse joins her in the frontcourt.

"I like Ginger a lot," Lacey said. "She's truly an inspiration for me. We're on the same wavelength. I believe in her the way I believe in this team. I feel like she believes in me. She always inspires me. I'm thrilled she's back this year and I just pray she stays healthy."

This will be a different team but Lacey sees some of the same qualities in it as have been in past programs.

"This year we're going to have a different look," Lacey said. "We'll have different people out there doing the best they possibly can do. I know I'm going to benefit from having played with these people; I hope I can

say the same for them."

"When I was trying to decide to come to school, at the time I did not know much about the program and Miss Yow and Miss Finch (assistant coach Nora Lynn Finch) came. It's definitely been to my best benefit to get to know them and I can be confident in saying if somebody wants to come here they'll be happy."

Lacey is beginning her senior year at State having already made a definite contribution to the program. However, if not already, probably by the end of the year, her name will enter most minds when the words all star and basketball are mentioned together.