



Photo by John Billingsley

## Women's basketball season tips off in first scrimmage

### Lady Tornado Volleyball ends season on bittersweet note

by Amethyst Green  
Staff Writer

The Lady Tornados ended their season Tuesday night when they played Virginia Intermont. The women lost the game in 4. However, they held on and gave the fans a game worth staying for.

The scores for the games were 21/30, 30/26, 18/30, and 28/30. The leaders of the game were junior Kalli Gibson with 11 kills, freshman Brooke Seaman with 10 kills, sophomore Jami Perry with 39 set assists, and junior Brittany Holliday with 25 digs.

The volleyball team did an excellent job on their final game of the season. The girls were upset that their season had come to a close, but were happy that they were all returning next season to play.

The Lady Tornados will be getting a player back as well this coming season; Marquessa Chappell will be returning to play next year. She had to redshirt this past season due to a shoulder injury, but is looking forward to coming back.

During this season, many have learned to support the home team no matter what. Most of the team is sad to see the season end, but can hardly wait until next season. Thanks for coming out to the games in support of the Lady Tornados Volleyball this year.

## Huntin' & Killin' with Zach Back to Basics: Traditional weapons in the deer woods

By Zach Browning  
Sports Editor

Deer Season has been upon us now for the past month and a half. Most all of the leaves have fallen, making it easier to identify and hit your target. For those intrepid outdoorsmen who seek a challenge but, like myself, lack the skill necessary to hunt effectively with a bow, fear not: there is another way.

Muzzleloaders are becoming increasingly popular amongst deer hunters today. For the deer hunter seeking a challenge, he can get into traditional firearms—muzzleloaders. What differentiates the muzzleloader from the modern rifle is first of all, the way it is loaded. Picture this: a pre-measured charge of black powder is poured down the barrel, and the round is placed in. This is never an easy fit; you have to use what's called a "ball starter," and then you can use the ramrod to push the bullet snug against the powder. Directly behind the trigger on the outside is a hammer, and you pull



White tail deer with musket

Photo courtesy of Zach Browning

it back to what they call "half cock," and carefully place a small ignition cap on the "nipple."

After this exhaustive process you are ready to fire. Simply pull the hammer back to "full cock," and let her rip. There will be a lot of smoke and your shoulder might hurt, but that's how it's done. What I just described is the way in which you would fire a traditional black powder weapon. I should probably take this opportunity to tell you that sometimes they malfunction, and you should always exercise extreme caution

when loading and discharging these weapons.

Thanks to increased technology, the new generation of muzzleloaders are nearly twice as easy to load and fire, not to mention that they are hailed as more accurate than their predecessors. I can't say either way because I haven't fired a newer muzzleloader yet—

however, I hope to in the near future. (Santa are you listening?)

Muzzleloaders have their own two week season during which they are the only ones allowed in the woods; after that hunters can still use the old smoke pole during the regular rifle season. So, using traditional weapons can have its advantages. This may be something to consider during Thanksgiving Break, as the holiday marks the high point of deer season in Western North Carolina.

For those of you who plan on hunting over thanksgiving break, good luck and be safe.

(If anyone bags a decent animal, I'd be happy to run a picture in the next *Clarion*.)