On the Sports Scene



Veteran coach
hopes nine
returnees can
help improve
last year's
record

The 1994-95 Chowan Braves are, from left seated, Bill Colantano (manager), Tyronne McCreary, Justin Morgan, Brian McAdoo, Mike Allen, Arthur Fitzhugh, Jere Croke, Sean Martin, Christ Hanburger and Jay Jones (manager). Standing, from left, are assistant coach

Manuel Sanchex, assistant coach Jay Witmer, Jonathan Washington, Carlton Modlin, Dave Harper, Brian Blue, Brandon Capps, Herman Jordan, Jimmy Holmes, assistant coach Tony Bulford and head coach Bob Burke. (Photo by Cal Bryant '73)

Braves ready for second year in Division III competition

By CAL BRYANT ('73)

Sports Editor, The Ahoskie News-Herald

Bob Burke doesn't like to wear the label of a loser.

Following a successful 13-year ride through the junior college ranks, a journey which witnessed Burke's Chowan College cagers win 300-plus games, the veteran Braves boss watched his young club limp home last season, their first in NCAA play, with a dismal 8-16 record.

So what will it take to turn those numbers around as the Braves compete in their 1994-95 campaign?

In a word—experience.

"I now feel we have the building blocks in place to construct a solid basketball tradition at the NCAA level much like we did at the JUCO level," stressed Burke.

"Last season we didn't know what was on the other side of the door as for our judging our own talent as well as that of our opposition. Now we know what we have and we know how to motivate our players. Plus we know how to develop strategies against our opposition through the use of last year's video tape.

"When you add all these factors together," continued Burke, "it means we have some advantages not afforded us last season. I think we can turn around last year's 8-16 mark."

One big advantage in the Braves camp is nine returning player including a trio of starters.

Headlining that list of returnees is 6'5" sophomore forward Herman Jordan whose 16.5 points and 9.3 rebounds per game was tops on last year's club. His 71 per cent accuracy from the field (160 of 226) ranked this Chicago native in the top five

in the nation. Jordan, who Burke calls "one of the finest players to ever wear a Chowan uniform," also holds the school's modern-day scoring record with a 46 point effort in last year's season finale.

Burke also counts upon the return of his starting backcourt — senior wing guard Mike Allen (6'1") and sophomore point guard Jere Croke (5'11"). Allen averaged 12.43 ppg last season while Croke averaged nearly 7 ppg while dishing out 68 assists.

"Last season I though our backcourt was our weakest link, but now it's one of our strongest attributes," noted Burke. "Mike is one of the better shooters to play at Chowan while Jere is our sparkplug."

Three other key pieces to the puzzle are senior swingman Arthur Fitzhugh (6'1" guard/forward)

along with sophomores Dave Harper (6'7" center) and Jimmy Holmes (6'5" forward). Fitzhugh led the team in steals (72) last season while Harper and Holmes averaged 4 points and 2 rebounds per game off the bench.

"Art was the team's most outstanding defensive player last year and I can see him winning that honor again this year," admitted Burke.

"Dave is our vocal leader who I expect will have a big year while Jimmy is a quiet, assuming type player who will be asked to guard our opposition's best player."

Two other returning guards — sophomores Sean Martin (6') and Brian McAdoo (6'3") have raised Burke's brown with their improvement over last season.

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Lady Braves to improve on '93-94 record

By CAL BRYANT ('73)

Sports Editor, The Ahoskie News-Herald
In the close-knit circle inside the Chowan
College athletic department, no one talks much
about "The Streak."

But Ann Walters isn't afraid to chat about it. If she had her way, the second-year skipper of the Lady Braves basketball program would tell "The Streak" to take a hike, mosey along, beat a retreat or make yourself scarce.

"Let me put it this way, if we don't break 'The Streak' this season, then I'm going streaking," quipped Walters in reference to a 37-game losing streak that has plagued the Lady Braves for two complete seasons and part of

another. "Not streaking as in running in the buff, but streaking as in being run out of town."

While Walters admitted — "as a coach, the pressure is on me to produce wins, not my girls" — that burden resting upon her shoulders may be eased a bit this season with the return of seven veteran players, a group which includes four young ladies who played in every game last year.

The lone upperclassman in that "Fab Four" is junior forward Judy Enteman (5'10"). She will be joined by sophomores Heather Anderson (5'11", center), Talissa Baker (5'6", guard) and "Key Key" Burge (5'3" guard).

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The 1994-95 Chowan Lady Braves

Lady Braves

confident of

better record

than last

year's long

losing streak



The Lady Braves for 1994-95 are, seated, from left, Judy Hill, Robin Adair (manager), "Key-Key" Burge, Jacqueline Lutz, Danyell Harrington, Cathleen Braxton, Cindy Bennett, Heather Cahoon (manager) and Michelle Copeland. Standing, from left, are assistant coach Tim Wilson, Kristi South, Mickey Mitchell, Judy Enteman, Heather Anderson, Talissa Baker, Cathy Taylor, head coach Ann Walters and assistant coach Marty Talent. (Photo by Cal Bryant '73)