

East Forsyth's Chante Black sheds light on topics

East Forsyth's dominant senior basketball star, Chante Black, is just like any other high school student. She goes to classes, does homework, takes tests, dreads Mondays and answers, "Here," when her name is called out during roll call.

The difference between her and other students is obvious after she steps onto a basketball court. Chante is in a class of her own once she picks up a basketball. Few guys or girls can compete with her on the hardwood. People are even saying that she's a better player this year. She has added a perimeter attack to her game, and that spells trouble for any team facing the Eagles this season. From the looks of things, it's been nothing but trouble for opponents. No one has figured out how to beat Black and the Eagles yet in this young season.

I was curious to what Chante is expecting this year, as far as basketball. I also wanted to find out if she had any regrets about committing to play for Duke so early. She said she has no regrets, and she looks forward to not only the challenge of playing on the next level, but the challenge of winning this year, her final year of high school.

Anthony: How are you today, Chante?

Chante: (Smiles.) I'm good.

Anthony: East is looking pretty good so far. How are things going with the season, in your opinion?

Chante: It's looking very successful right now. We're 5-0 right now (as of Tuesday morning), and we're looking to go undefeated.

Anthony: This team has been together for a while now, and you all seem to know each others' game.

Chante: Yeah. **Anthony:** Did you kind of expect to start the season off and running like this?

Chante: Yeah. We try to start off strong every year, so I never look at starting a season



Chante Black embraces a life-size cutout of Kevin Garnett.



One-on-One with Anthony Hill

off weak. So we definitely thought we would be playing like this to begin the season.

Anthony: OK. What's the strongest element of this year's team?

Chante: Our focus. We look to go out and play our hardest, every game. We don't really have a single strong point yet, but that's something that we're working on.

Anthony: Do you all see yourself (East) as being the team to beat in this area this year?

See One-on-One on B8

Rec center head gets to be Wake coach for a day

BY ANTHONY HILL
THE CHRONICLE

For the 11th year, the Wake Forest women's basketball team implemented the "Coach for a Day" program.

Head women's coach Charlene Curtis and the WFU staff held their Coach for a Day program last Friday before the Deacs squared off against No. 4 Duke.

"This is an opportunity for community members and students to interact and share different experiences," Curtis said.



Art Blevins

The guest coaching program opens lines of communication that otherwise may go untapped.

The program gives community members, along with one guest, an opportunity to guide the Deacs during pregame preparations and various other parts of a women's game. Winston-Salem recreation center director Art Blevins and his daughter, Kayla, enjoyed the responsibilities last week.

Blevins was given the opportunity to review the game plan during shooting practice and attend the pregame meal before Wake played the Dukies. Blevins received a letter in October, from coach Curtis, inviting him and a guest to take part in the Coach for a Day program.

"I knew who my guest was going to be, right away: Kayla, of course," Blevins said. "She has been so excited. She's anticipated this day since the day that I told her."

He and Kayla were also present in the locker room for the pregame, halftime and postgame talks. They both also had a spot on the Deacs' bench during the entire game, and were pres-



Young Kayla Blevins sits between WFU's Eric Williams (left) and Justin Gray.

ent for the post-game media interviews. Before the game, they ate dinner with the coaches at Cactus Jack's. Then they watched the men's basketball team practice, before the Lady Deacs got set to play.

"This is a fun night for guest coaches," Curtis said. "It provides our players with a little extra support and incentive to play well."

Blevins added: "This was a wonderful day. Everyone made us feel so very special. We felt like a part of the team."

Kayla added: "They (the coaches) were all so nice. They really did make us both feel like we were a part of the team. I want to go to Wake Forest some

day."

Some of the players had a major impact on Kayla. A few of her favorite players were: Porsche Jones, Jennifer "J.J." Johnson, Tracy Alston, Tonia Brown, Bianca Brown and Erin Ferrell.

"She also got to meet some of her favorite men players," Blevins said. "Kayla met Chris Paul, Justin Gray and Eric Williams. The whole experience was wonderful. They're some first-class people at Wake Forest. I would like to thank coach Curtis and her staff for everything. I would also like to thank Wake administrative assistant Julie Branch for having everything planned to perfection."

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