

Lady Rams Eye CIAA Tourney

By William Pass

"We've got a good shot of taking the CIAA tournament," said Al Roseboro, coach of the Winston-Salem State University volleyball team.

So far this season the lady Rams have a record of 3-4 in the conference, and a 10-12 record overall. The team is third in the CIAA trailing only Fayetteville State University and St. Augustine's. This year's team features the talents of Carla Gleen-Senior (captain), Wanda Brown-Senior (co-captain), Sarah Mitchell-Junior, Nevayta Strother-Junior, Donna Faye Cobb-Sophomore, Cheryl Cocks-Sophomore, Carol Williams-Sophomore, Myra Cobb-Freshman, Karen Lucas-Freshman, Kim Smith-Freshman, and Bernadette Williams-Freshman.

In picking players each season, coach Roseboro looks for women athletics with "good agility, flexibility, and good vertical jump." In recruiting, Roseboro usually goes to high schools that have a reputation of keeping a good volleyball program. East Forsyth Senior High, Dudley High School, South Stokes High School, Southwest Guilford, and Lexington Senior High School are a few of the schools with good volleyball programs.

Roseboro looks for several important factors in his players. The most common traits he attempts to convey to the squad are "team effort, self confidence, and crowd participation." "To be inspired and motivated the players must know they have the backing of the fans who support

the program," Roseboro says. I hope the fans will continue to support the volleyball team."

In order to be a successful squad, the ladies are expected to work together as a unit. Knowing their specific duty on the court is very important. Roseboro says he has to concern himself with new players because usually freshmen face problems adjusting to college volleyball. He says first year players have a difficult time remembering to play in their positions. But, after gaining experience, they usually adapt very well.

The ability to overcome losses also an improvement factor in having a productive season. Roseboro says losing a game because of mistakes may be harder to overcome than losing to a team that is more organized. "Having mental lapses during a game causes players to make errors they usually do not make," he says.

Coach Roseboro will be recruiting hard next season as the squad will lose two of their top players, Carla Glenn and Wanda Brown. Roseboro feels recruiting ladies with height is not the most important qualification needed. "Having a good vertical jump is just as important to the team as height," says Roseboro.

If the lady Rams can overcome the challenges of Fayetteville State and St. Augustine in the CIAA tournament, the next step will be the district 26 games. Coach Roseboro is confident the team will be ready for the task. The lady Rams are also confident they will have a D-Y-N-O-M-I-T-E season!

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