

SPORTS

Lady Rams: Getting Ready for the Season

BY JANICE WILLIAMS
Sports Editor

With the end of basketball season, comes spring, soft ball and intramural sports. Speaking of softball, The Lady Rams Softball team is getting ready for action.

With last season's (12-12) behind them, the team is looking forward to a productive and prosperous winning season.

Bridget Speaks, Denise Taylor and Diya Wilson, the team's co-captains, are all in their second year of playing here at Winston-Salem State University. In total, these ladies have been playing softball for 10-12 years.

Through their leadership and the combined efforts of the team, they hope to do well in the North/South Roundup, March 18-20. In this Roundup, the schools in the North play against the Southern schools. These games,

however, "do not count as conference games, just as regular season games," explained Softball Coach Michael Winbush. The Lady Rams finished 3-3 in the Roundup.

Winbush has tried to improve WSSU's softball program over the last few years. "This year I was able to give some of the ladies some scholarship money, which helps with things like books," he said.

At the beginning of most sporting seasons, the players and coaches try to access the strengths and weaknesses of their teams. This also holds true for the Lady Ram Softball team.

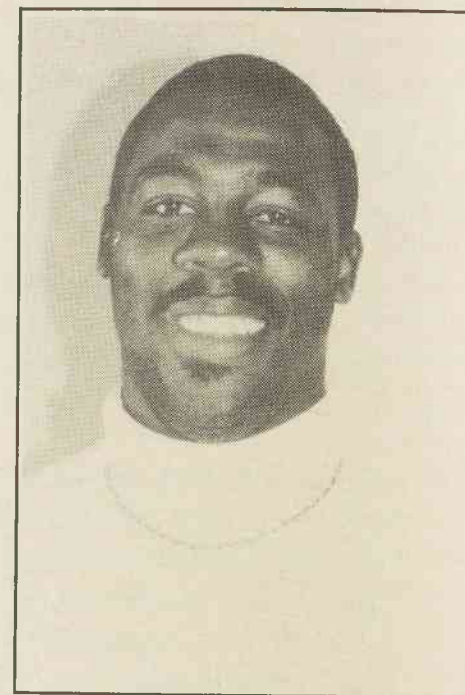
"The team has a strong defense; but we are not too sure about the offense because we haven't really practiced outside," said Speaks.

As the 15 member team practices, they are still looking for players to fill two critical positions on the team. These positions are catcher and pitcher.

Winbush explains that although Denise Taylor is performing well as catcher, the team still needs another one.

"In years to come, this will be a more improved softball program, if I can recruit more quality people, such as a pitcher and a catcher," said Winbush. The 1994 Lady Rams Softball Team is a good mixture of new and veteran players. The NCAA's eligibility rules which include: having earned at least 24 hours from spring to spring semester; a 2.0 grade point average for returning players; and a score of 700 or greater on the SAT for freshmen; helped to create a strong in and outfield for WSSU's team.

Denetra Parker, LaTisha Jones, Angela Sturdivant and Leann Gibson, strong new players to the team, all bring steadiness and knowledge of the sport and hard work to the team. Last year's MVP Bridget Speaks and Pam Johnson are players to watch for this season.



Coach Mike Winbush

Beauty

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physical work. Guilty students should have to work with the Physical Plant's Grounds Crew for a specific number of service hours. The number of hours served would depend on the severity of the "crime" committed.

I believe this would give students a better understanding

of what Grounds Crew Workers do daily to help keep this campus beautiful.

If these suggestions are taken to heart, our campus will excel in physical beauty. Don't you think it is one of the best kept campuses among the University of North Carolina institutions?



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