

Norfolk grounds Falcon women in CIAA tourney

By L. Michelle Fox

The Falcon Volleyball team had its wings clipped by Norfolk State University during the semi-finals of the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association (CIAA) tournament in St. Petersburg, Va., November 1-3.

But, despite their loss there is still Falcon pride and triumph in the nest. "We had a good season finishing first in the southern division," says volleyball coach Deborah Dove.

Two weeks earlier the Falcons outsmarted Shaw University's Bears, beating them 15-8, 15-10 and 15-11.

Not that Shaw played poorly. It was simply its wretched misfortune to confront the Falcons at the top of their form and in the best of humor. This was true even of Assistant Coach Douglas Hunter, who has been nicknamed "Mr Serious."

"In the past Shaw has taken us four to five games," says Coach Dove, "and I really felt comfortable going into the tournament.

"But, as we all know if you do not stay focused and work hard the same way you did throughout the season, then you will lose the number one tournament. That is what happened. But, we will

come back stronger and better. We have a lot of talent on the team. When I compare the talent we have here to that of other schools in the CIAA, ours is untouchable."

It's the talents of Cheryl Antonio, Lisa Louis, Anastacia Sands and Torsheka Cox that did not go unrewarded this season. The CIAA honored Antonio and Louis, along with 12 others as All Conference players. Sands and Cox (who suffered a broken finger and had to sit out six games) were among six players named Rookie of the year; and Sands was also honored as All Tournament player.

But, the Falcon's victories must be attributed to its team members, Nickola Toni (power hitter and center forward), Nyoka Davis (middle), Sandra Downing (team Captain), DeCarna Clarke (setter and the team's lead cheerleader), Misty Hubbard (all around player), Diana Bain, (outside hitter) Denise George (middle hitter, filling in for Cox) and Tammy Morley (power hitter).

Still any team with Cheryl Antonio in the nest need never despair. A junior, the 5'6" Antonio is already one of the most impressive players in this

division— and she didn't even take up the sport until in the ninth grade at Hardenne High School in Jamaica.

On the volleyball court Antonio is quick, powerful and remarkably focused. She plays with so much intensity she appears as though she's always about ready to pop.

Off the court, Antonio is a more gentle spirit. "I enjoy rhythm and blues, R. Kelly and Tevin Campbell," says, Antonio, who intends to become an accountant after she graduates. "I was so surprised when they called my name. I really didn't expect it."

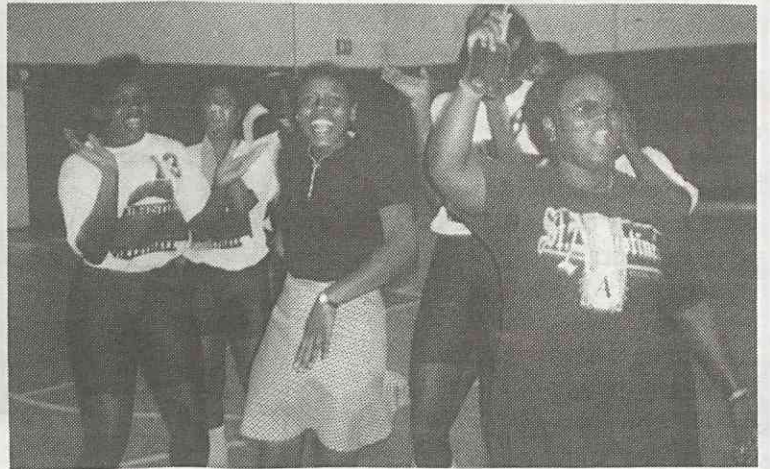
In an interview prior to the tournament, Antonio says: "I am never satisfied with what I do. I believe I can be better and there is a lot of room for improvement. I do not think I will be honored. Mind you it would be nice, but I don't believe they will honor me."

Antonio said whatever awards she has earned is because of the support she has on the court. "It is truly team work. Everyone helps me out," says the assistant team captain. "Sometimes I know I am a little hard on them. But, it is all to make us come out on top."



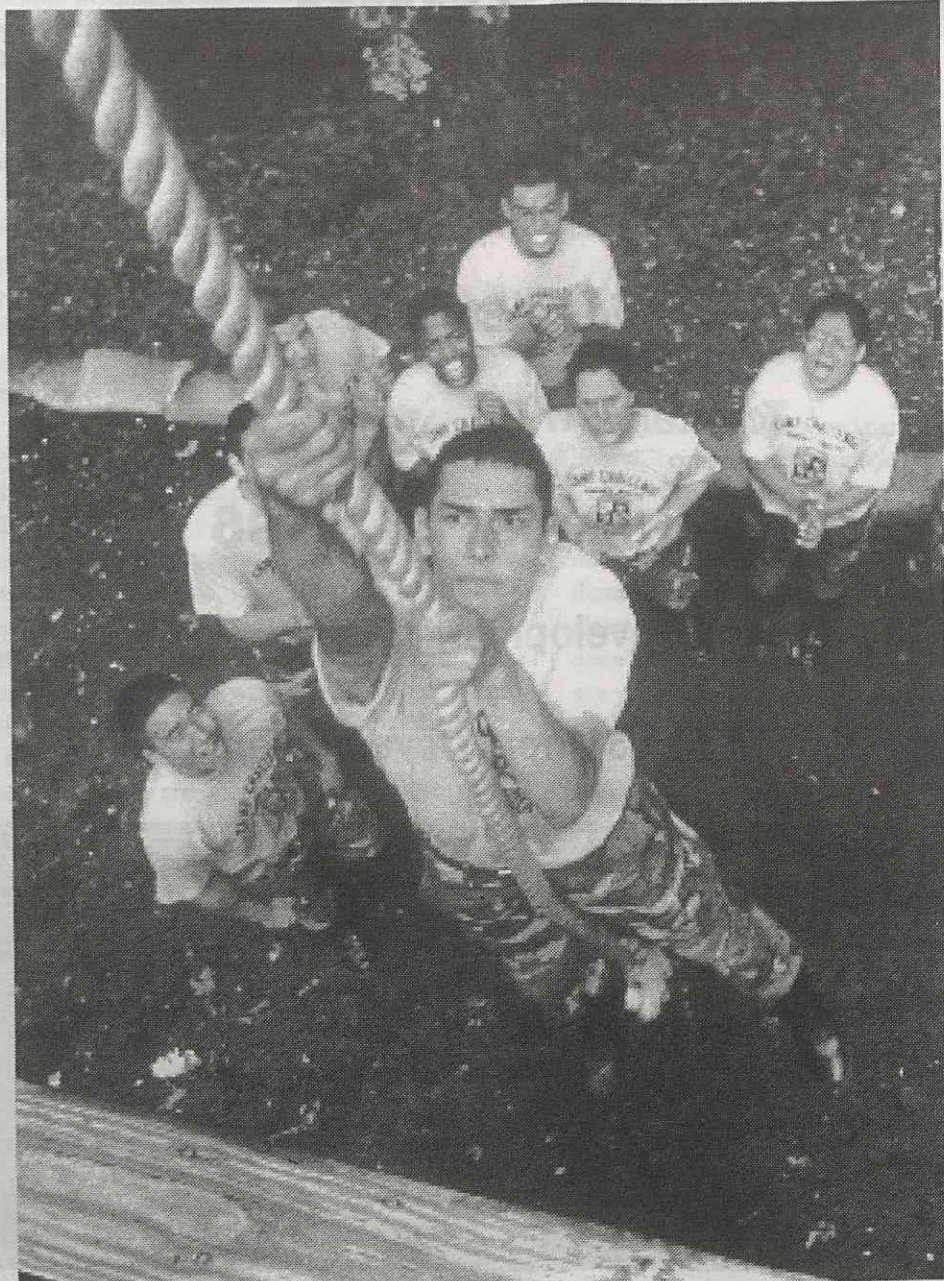
by L. Michelle Fox

THIS WAY- St. Augustine's Falcons outsmarted Shaw University's Bears in three straight games. During that game, the team along with Coach Deborah Dove posed for a few shots.



by L. Michelle Fox

Celebration- Fans ran down from the bleachers to join the volleyball team in their three-straight-game victory against Shaw U's Bears.



SUMMER SCHOOL FOR PEOPLE ON THEIR WAY TO THE TOP

If you didn't sign up for ROTC as a freshman or sophomore, you can catch up this summer by attending Army ROTC Camp Challenge, a paid six-week course in leadership.

Apply now. You



may qualify for a \$4,000 scholarship and advanced officer training when you return to campus next fall. You'll also have the self-confidence and discipline you need to succeed in college and beyond.

ARMY ROTC

THE SMARTEST COLLEGE COURSE YOU CAN TAKE

For details, visit the Tuttle Building or call 832-7385/4825