

DOING HER BEST- Lady Falcon Basketball player and senior, Kimberly Johnson-Best, poses with 'Falcon Pride.'

Hail to a Lady Falcon

By Lisa Johnson

Last season the Lady Falcons' Basketball Team recognized nine senior players for developing their intercollegiate careers on the women's basketball team. This year Kimberly Johnson-Best is the team's only senior player.

This 5 foot 8 inch guard and forward from New Orleans, Louisiana, whose past intercollegiate athletic career was at Delgado Junior College, stepped into the Lady Falcons starting line-up last season where she averaged 12 points and 5 rebounds per game; She was also named the team's Most Valuable Newcomer.

Johnson-Best, one of the team's co-captains, has

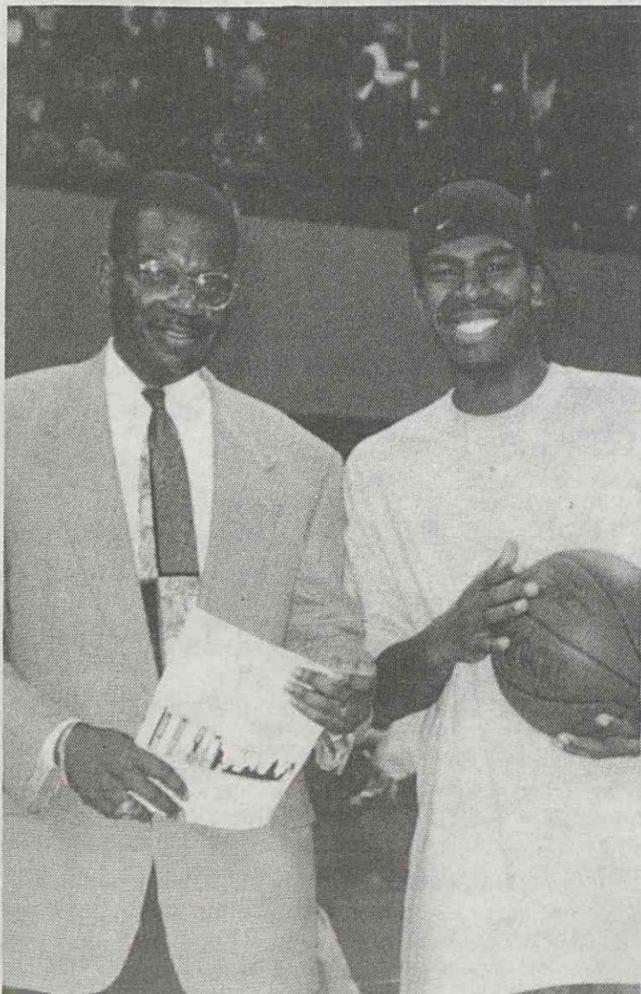
performed an average of 16 points and 8 rebounds per game as a starter for the Lady Falcons this year.

Head Coach Beverly Downing and assistant coaches, Dorothy Neal and Al Lunsford, along with Johnson-Best's teammates, salute her for her services to the college as a basketball player and model student.

"We wish her the best of luck for a blessed future as she soars to greater heights," says Coach Downing.

Married to Joseph Best, a player for the men's basketball team and senior at St. Aug, the business administration major is a veteran in the U.S. Army Reserve.

Her hobbies include playing tennis and singing.



A WINNER- Robert Wallace won the half-time three-point contest and a \$1,000 scholarship at the Homecoming game.

Pitching is season's key, says Coach White

By Maurice Clarke

After a third place finish in last year's Central Collegiate Athletic Association's (CIAA) baseball tournament, Falcon's head coach Henry White says that pitching will be the key for the team this year.

The baseball team began its 1997 season February 14, with a three-game road series against Paine College, Pfiffer College and Benedict College, National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division II schools.

"We know what we have to do," adds Coach White. "Our pitching staff will determine how far we go in the season as well as the CIAA tournament. A team is only as good as its pitching staff, and if our pitchers don't perform well, it will only hurt the team. It doesn't matter how much offense we generate, our pitchers will dictate how well we do as a team."

While Coach White is looking at his pitching staff for success, he is still mindful that leadership will have to come from a group of junior players who he expects to do well.

"Leadership will have to come from people like Vance Best, Tommy Bullard, Costello Oxendine, Derek Frye and Calvin Whitaker," All continued Coach White. "All of these guys are juniors.

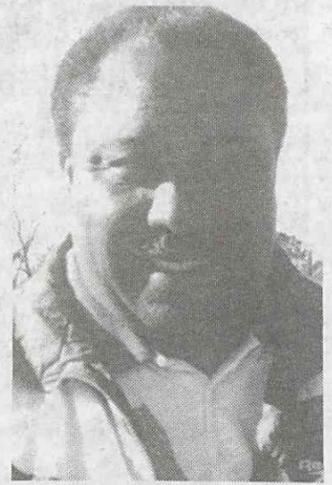
They've been there soe they know what they have to do to be a good squad. These are the guys who I hope will take an active role in pulling this team together and providing some sort of leadership out there (on the field)."

Best, who was honored by the CIAA as an All-Conference player last year, says that in order for the team to be successful this year, they have to focus more as a team.

"Last year we were young, and we made a lot of mental mistakes that eventually cost us some games and a third place finish in the tournament. If we can cut down on some of our mental mistakes, we will be hard to beat," adds Best.

The Falcons will play 12 road games before playing host to Elon College in their season home opener which is scheduled for March 13. It's a long season ahead for the Falcons, but Best is optimistic that they will represent the college to the best of their abilities.

"We know what we have to do. It's just a matter of going out there and doing it," adds Best. "My goal when I came here was to win a CIAA championship, and I know that's the goal of my teammates as well. We all know that it is not going to come easy, and I feel that



Coach Henry White

each player knows that we have to give 110 percent if we are going to be successful."

While Coach White stresses the importance of having a good pitching staff, he also notes that team leaders such as Best, Oxendine, Frye, Bullard and Whitaker will have to step forward both on and off the field. Best, who is willing to accept the challenge of being a team leader, adds that contributing leadership will have to come from persons such as Dave Cloud and Sam Moore.

Best also agreed with Coach White that pitching will play a pivotal role in how far the team goes this year.

"Your team is dictated by your pitching staff," continued Coach White, "and if our pitchers perform well, then everything else is going to fall into place.

Giscombe knows track!

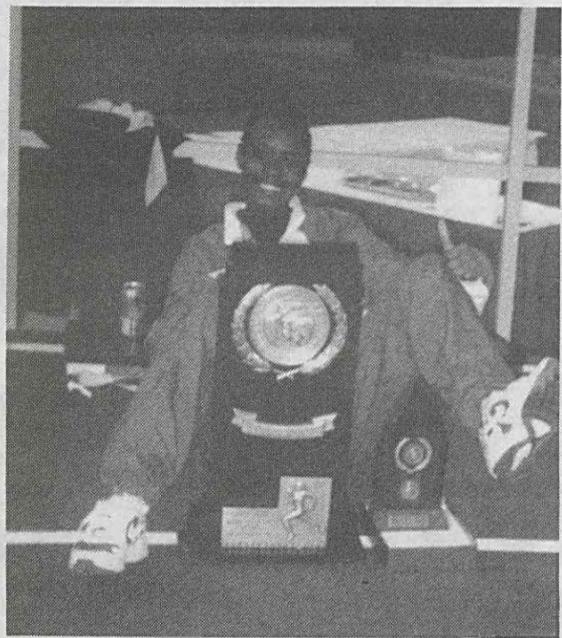
By Rukel Faulcon

As the Indoor Track Season approaches, there is a particular runner with her feet firmly on the ground.

Andrea Giscombe, the 23-year-old Jamaican athlete, has been at St. Augustine's college for two years. Giscombe's events are the: 55 hurdles, long jump, and 4x400.

At the Indoor NCAA Tournament last year, Giscombe came in second with a time of 7:86 in the 55 hurdles, 3rd in the long jump, and along with her teammates Prisca Phillips, Karen Constable, and Joy Ann Eli, she won the 4x400 event.

In Outdoor last year she ran the 4x100, won the long jump, 400 hurdles, and came in third for the 100 hurdles. With all these accomplishments under her belt, she has set even higher standards.



TRACK: Andrea Giscombe relaxes with a track trophy.

Giscombe's goals include winning the 55 hurdle, 4x400 and the 400 and 100 hurdles. With a combination of her coaches' talents and wisdom, she will meet those set goals. This education

major has a lot going for her. She is successful on the track and in the classroom.

The Dean's List student says, "I like it over here but it's too cold." Her main goal is to go back home!

Former St Aug music chairman, 86, dies

Albert Grauer, Ph.D. former head of St. Aug's music department, died in Williamsburg, Va., Feb. 9.

Dr. Grauer was 86. He served as choir director and organist on campus from

1957 through the early '70s.

Dr. Grauer received his M.A. in Music from Western Reserve University in Cleveland, and his Ph.D. from the Eastern School of Music in Rochester, NY.

He taught at St. Augustine's for 18 years and was a member of the Torch Club and the Intercollegiate Music Association.

He was a member of Bruton Parish Episcopal Church.