

Men's Basketball Preview

Quakers open sophomore season in ODAC

Squad hopes to be on winning end of close ones this year

Kiley Holder
Staff Writer

This year will mark the second year of play in the Old Dominion Athletic Conference for the Guilford Quaker basketball team coached by Jack Jensen and assistant coach John Thompson.

Last year's team suffered through a season of close losses finishing 12-13 overall, settling for an 8-10 sixth-place record in the ODAC. Guilford lost in the first round of the conference tournament to Bridgewater College.

Eight of Guilford's 13 losses were decided by seven or fewer points. Although this was not good for last season, it renders some optimism for the 1992-93 season. The year of experience may be just what Jensen's young team needed to pull out a victory in the close games.

Jensen sees a different team than last year.

"We're better than last year, I can already tell, regardless of what our record shows at the end of the year."

"We're also taller than we were last year. Our starting forwards—freshman Adrien Pritchard (6'6") and sophomore Davey McCullough (6'8")—are three and

and finished in the top 15 in scoring (15.4/ game).

"He's a talented guard, especially offensively. He tries to help his teammates score. But I think he needs to work some more defensively," says Jensen.

At the other guard, Ricketts averaged 10.1 points per game last year, and he was Guilford's best three point threat, sinking 30 of 82.

"He's a scorer. He and Ferrell complement each other well."

Jackson will assume the center spot. He started three games last year as a freshman.

"Brian's strong suits are rebounding, playing good physical defense inside, and he is a good scorer near the basket."

Junior Chad Brown started 14 games last season (39 of 50 since he's been at Guilford).

"He's a good shooter and has excellent offensive moves with his back to the basket."

But he sprained his knee on the second day of practice and is undergoing rehabilitation. He might see limited playing time this weekend. "He practiced [Monday], but all he could do was drills."

McCullough is the tallest man on the team, but he is mainly positioned at the wing because of his good shooting skills.

"His main weakness in the past was his lack of aggressiveness, . . . but he has really improved on that in our two scrimmages."

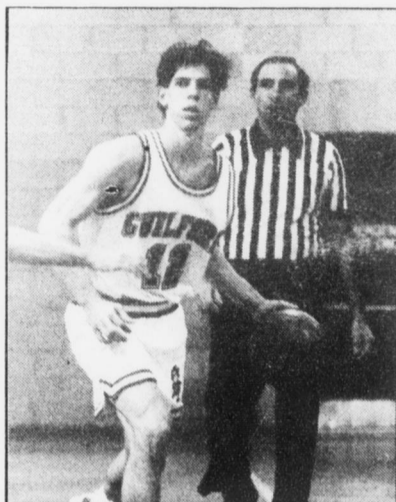
He averaged only 2.8 points per game last year but the team will rely on him for more scoring this season.

In his first year, Pritchard will get the call at forward. He had an excellent career at D.H. Conley High School. His athletic skills could be a tremendous asset for the Quakers on the boards.

"He possesses an array of offensive moves near the basket and is very athletic."

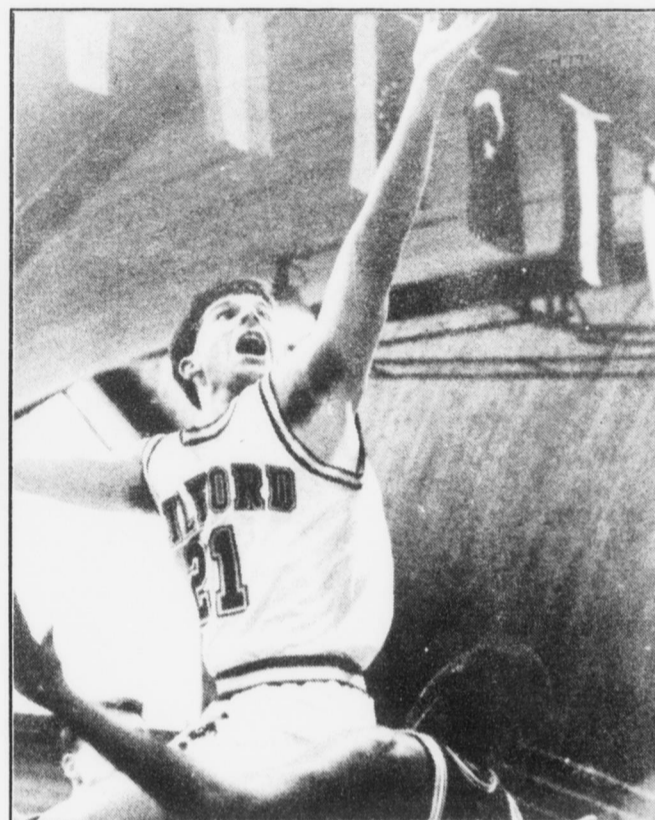
Other key players are freshman Marc Felder, sophomore Mike Roach, and sophomore Randy Scott. Felder should give the Quakers some depth inside at forward along with Scott who can play center and forward.

"Marc has a lot of speed. He's very quick. This helps him a lot on defense. His shot is improving



Photos courtesy sports information

Junior Paul Ferrell (above), one of the premier guards in the ODAC, brings the ball up the court. Sophomore guard Mike Roach (right), drives the lane over a defender.



daily."

"Scott's good in close to the basket. He's been doing a pretty good job rebounding."

Roach is a "hard-working" guard who "makes the guys around him better."

Freshmen Reggie Hicks, Sandi El Habir, and Wesley Elam round out the roster. David Winn will join the team after the first semester.

Jensen is unsure about the outlook for the season. The conference coaches predicted that Guilford would finish seventh in the ten-team conference.

"[Two weeks ago] we weren't very impressive. If you had asked me then about the outlook for the season, I would've said we would finish."

After a couple of practice games, he changed his tune somewhat: "We played pretty well against some good teams. If we play that well in the season we'll finish better than seventh. Our goal is to finish in the top four."

That will be tough to do. Emory & Henry is picked to finish first, Virginia Wesleyan second, Bridgewater third, and Roanoke fourth. Hampden-Sydney, which advanced to the national Division III quarterfinals last year and has ten lettermen returning, is picked to finish only fifth. That should say something about the conference teams with whom Guilford will be contending.

All the other teams have several players returning, including most of their starters.

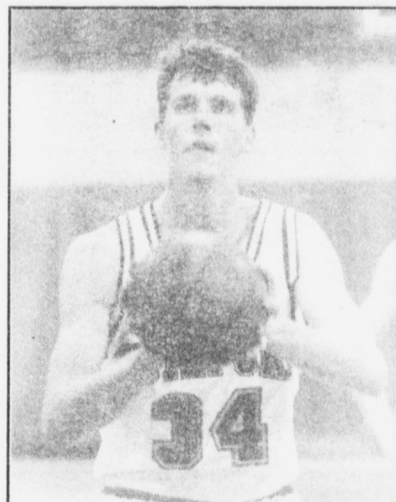
"We could finish anywhere. There's no telling right now. A lot depends on how well we do up to

Christmas."

The Quakers open their season at the Methodist Invitational in Fayetteville, North Carolina on November 20-21. Three other teams will attend the tourney: the host Monarchs, Francis Marion

College, and Salisbury State University.

The Quakers' first home game will be Tuesday, December 1, against Eastern Mennonite. See you at the field house!



Sophomore Davey McCullough's height will help the Quakers, as will his outside shooting touch.

five inches taller than our starting forwards last season."

"If we can rebound and play good defense we're going to be pretty good this year."

Others on the starting lineup include 6'6" sophomore Brian Jackson at center and junior guards Andre Ricketts and Paul Ferrell.

Ferrell was a second team All-ODAC pick last year and widely known as one of the premiere guards in the conference. He led the league in assists (5.4/ game) and free throw percentage (87.0%)

1992 Guilford College Men's Basketball Schedule

(Through winter break)

Date	Day	Opponent	Time
Nov. 20	Fri.	at Methodist Invitational	TBA
Nov. 21	Sat.	at Methodist Invitational	TBA
Nov. 24	Tues.	at N.C. Wesleyan	7 p.m.
Dec. 1	Tues.	EASTERN MENNONITE*	7:30 p.m.
Dec. 3	Thurs.	LYNCHBURG*	7:30 p.m.
Dec. 5	Sat.	at Washington & Lee*	7:30 p.m.
Dec. 8	Tues.	GREENSBORO	7:30 p.m.
Dec. 12	Sat.	at Emory & Henry*	7:30 p.m.

HOME GAMES IN CAPS

* Old Dominion Athletic Conference game

1992-93 Guilford College Men's Basketball Roster

No.	Name	Pos	Ht.	Wt.	Year	Hometown
11	Reggie Hicks	G	6-2	170	FR	Louisburg, NC
12	Paul Ferrell	G	6-2	170	JR	Chapel Hill, NC
35	Sandi El Habir	F	6-4	180	FR	Amman, Jordan
21	Mike Roach	G	5-10	170	SO	Greensboro, NC
24	Andre Ricketts	G	6-1	165	JR	Brooklyn, NY
31	Chad Brown	C	6-6	215	JR	Peterstown, WV
33	Adrien Pritchard	F	6-6	200	FR	Grimesland, NC
34	Davey McCullough	F	6-8	190	SO	Tampa, FL
15	Marc Felder	F	6-5	180	FR	Brooklyn, NY
40	Randy Scott	F	6-4	195	SO	Bronx, NY
50	Wesley Elam	G	6-2	200	FR	Durham, NC
55	Brian Jackson	C	6-6	215	SO	Brooklyn, NY

Head Coach: Jack Jensen
Assistant: John Thompson