

Coastal Boys

From Page 6

Lorenzo Jones is facing a rebuilding year this season at the helm of the Eagles.

Two lettermen — sophomore Lee Becton and forward Lamont Harris — and no starters return off last year's 10-16 team that lost to Havelock in the conference tournament. Becton was the first freshman to play varsity basketball at West Craven and appears to be one starter, but Jones said point guard is a weakness right now.

Juniors Craig Coward and Mike Gaskins and sophomore Lamont Cox are battling for the position. Cox was the point guard for the junior varsity team while Coward and Gaskins were two of the top prospects.

Tony Jenkins, a 6-3 junior forward, will be looked to for leadership and Jermaine Chapman, a 6-3 sophomore, will also see playing time at either forward or center.

West Craven has already lost three players due to academic ineligibility and has just nine on its roster, so depth will be a problem early. Jones said he would pick up a couple of junior varsity players later in the season.

Offensively, the Eagles will run when the situation presents itself. Otherwise, a deliberate offense with a good shot selection is the key, he said.

D.H. CONLEY

Pitt County coaching legend Cobby Deans left North Pitt after 24 years, a state runnerup team in 1977 and three Coach of The Year awards in the Eastern Plains Class 2-A Conference.

Now Deans is the head boys' basketball coach at D.H. Conley High School, and the way he tells it, the defending regular-season champions of the Coastal Conference are in a rebuilding stage this year.



West Craven Eagles

"No doubt," he said. "The five seniors don't have that much game experience and we have just two part-time starters back."

Returning players off last year's 21-8 team that advanced to the sectional finals of the North Carolina High School Athletic Association playoffs are Bersnaun Thompson, a 6-3 junior forward; Paul Merritt, a 6-4 junior forward-center; and Terry Williams, a 6-3 junior swing performer. Williams and Merritt averaged approximately eight points each while Thompson saw limited time.

Juniors Martin Patrick, Anthony Artis and Martin Patrick are expected to help make

up for the loss of Phil Medlin, who boasted a 16-points-per-game scoring average and was an intimidating force in the middle. Medlin is now at Wake Forest University.

Expected to contribute after moving up from the junior varsity team are 5-4 Jason Wing, 6-3 Remarto Rogers and 6-1 Junior Farrow.

Deans, who replaced Walt Claybrook as head coach (Claybrook resigned to become athletic director), said the Vikings would run the break when possible and work for the team shots.

WEST CARTERET

Jim Keibler replaces long-time coach Billy Widgeon at the

helm of the Patriots this season. Keibler came to Morehead City from Capital Christian Academy in Maryland, where he posted a 114-72 ledger, four Tri-State league titles, one state title and Coach of the Year honors twice during his eight-year tenure there.

However, he will have to work with two starters among four lettermen returning from last year's 6-17 team that finished sixth in the conference. The lettermen: John McLean (5-11 senior guard), David Bennett (6-5 senior forward) and 6-0 senior forward Chris Bryant averaged just 19 points between them last year.

Expected to contribute this

season are senior Ashley Brooks, junior Steven Carter, who could see time at point guard after moving up from the jayvee team, and freshman William Kenon, a 6-4 center.

Coastal Slate

From Page 6

FEBRUARY

- 7 — Havelock*
- 10 — at West Craven*
- 14 — at Ayden-Grifton
- 17 — D.H. Conley*
- 21 — West Craven*
- 24 — at Washington*

WEST CRAVEN NOVEMBER

- 22 — at New Bern
- 29 — Greene Central

DECEMBER

- 2 — Jones Senior
- 6 — Pamlico
- 12 — New Bern
- 16 — at Greene Central
- 27 — Boys in Craven County Christmas Tournament
- Girls in East Duplin Christmas Tournament
- 28 — Boys in Craven County Christmas Tournament
- Girls in East Duplin Christmas Tournament
- 30 — Girls in East Duplin Christmas Tournament

JANUARY

- 3 — at Jones Senior
- 10 — Havelock*
- 14 — at West Carteret*
- 17 — at East Carteret*
- 20 — D.H. Conley*
- 27 — at Washington*
- 31 — North Lenoir*

FEBRUARY

- 3 — at Havelock*
- 7 — at Pamlico
- 10 — East Carteret*
- 14 — at D.H. Conley*
- 17 — West Carteret*
- 21 — Washington*
- 24 — at North Lenoir*

D.H. CONLEY NOVEMBER

- 29 — at Ayden-Grifton

DECEMBER

- 2 — Farmville Central
- 6 — Greene Central
- 9 — at North Pitt
- 13 — at Greene Central
- 16 — Ayden-Grifton
- 27 — D.H. Conley Girls Holiday Classic
- 28 — D.H. Conley Girls Holiday Classic
- Pitt County Boys Holiday Tournament
- 29 — D.H. Conley Girls Holiday Classic
- Pitt County Boys Holiday Tournament
- 30 — Pitt County Boys Holiday Tournament

JANUARY

- 3 — at Farmville Central
- 10 — Washington*
- 13 — North Lenoir*
- 17 — at Havelock*
- 20 — at West Craven*
- 25 — East Carteret*
- 27 — North Pitt
- 31 — at West Craven*

FEBRUARY

- 3 — at Washington*
- 7 — at North Lenoir*
- 10 — Havelock*
- 14 — West Craven*
- 17 — at East Carteret*
- 24 — West Carteret*

* — Coastal Conference game.

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D.H. Conley Valkyries

Coastal Girls

From Page 7

lost center Victoria Morris, one of the league's top rebounders with a 12.2 average last season. Hill should provide good defense, Burroughs is the team's only senior and will be looked to

for leadership, and Nolon is a good leaper, Eason added. Offensively, the Lady Rams will look to score off their transition offense to speak of. Eason also

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(See GIRLS, Page 19)