

Women's basketball swishes for success

By Allison Hannon
Reporter

The women's varsity basketball team is busy competing with their usual hard work and good attitude under the guidance of Head Coach Weaver in the 98-99 season.

According to the players, being a unified team is their greatest strength. An advantage of being such a close-knit team is that they can give and take corrections without offense. "If your team is unified, on and off of the court, when a team member is doing something wrong you can tell her without her getting insulted," said sophomore Felicia Tate.

With a positive attitude like this, the team is able to eliminate the bickering that would otherwise slow down their practices and hurt their game; they can concentrate on attaining their goals for the upcoming season. "We understand the big picture so we can work on the little things in practice," said Tate.

Since their daily practices were the majority of the preparation that the team had for the Little Four Tournament the team effectively used this time in practice to fine tune their skills. "We practice like we're going to play," said sophomore Sarah Graves. "At first the practices were kind of goofy," said Tate, "but lately it's been more serious. We're concentrating on how we're going to do in our upcoming games." To accomplish their goals of having a winning record and repeating last year's appearance in the finals of the Little Four Tournament, Laura Schabinger, a junior, said, "We'll push each other in practices and in games to get there."

Whirlie divers spring to a perfect ten

By Daniel Guttentag
Reporter

Whirlie diving is back on the spring board as this year's team plunges into a new season with a back flip and a twist.

The squad is smaller than it was last year, but the camaraderie is still prevalent and the competitions are still exciting. Lindsay Kidd is one of only two freshmen on the team but she has already found her niche. "It has been easy to make friends on the team," said Kidd. "This is my first year diving but I used to take gymnastics which has been a big help. Since the beginning of the season I have improved a lot and learned lots of new dives." Right now Kidd is working on dives such as the front double flip and back twisting dives which include up to two twists.

The team began practicing in November and since then has practiced from 4:50-5:30 every Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday afternoon, with meets on Thursdays. Because there are so few divers, all of the high school divers in Guilford County (about 20) practice together under the watchful eye of Coach Rob Dixon.

"The kids are doing real well," said Dixon, who began coaching Grimsley divers last year. "It takes a long time to excel at diving but I see a lot of potential in the group I am working with. We should do well at the Conference meet, Regionals,

and States."

Excluding the Regional and State meets, the Grimsley divers compete against the same group of students they practice with. At competitions the divers do several different dives and receive scores based on overall appearance, water entry, splash, and the difficulty of the dive.

"Diving's interesting because of the variety of dives we can do," said junior Sarah Stanley who has been diving since her freshman year.

Another veteran diver, sophomore Amanda Earp said, "Diving has been a wonderful way for me to meet many new and interesting people."

Unfortunately for the Whirlie divers, all of the diving takes place at Smith—even though Grimsley has its own pool.

This is the case because the diving boards at Grimsley needed new diving stands two years ago. Between the time when

the pool was built in 1975 and the time the diving stands became unusable, the requirements for diving wells had changed. It is uncertain as to whether the Grimsley diving well passes the new restrictions.

However, even if the pool does pass the requirements it is ambiguous as to where the money to pay for the new diving stands should come from. The issue is confusing because the Grimsley pool is partially paid for by the city (which also uses the facility) and the school system (several high school swim teams utilize the pool). Basically, the money could come from Greensboro, the Guilford County School System, Grimsley

While the girls didn't reach the finals of the Little Four Tournament, they managed to gain a little more experience and some new goals to carry them through the remainder of their season. "We could have played better. Some people didn't take it seriously, said senior Monica Mullins. "If we had played to the best of our ability we could have won."

After playing in the Little Four Tournament the Lady Whirlies have re-evaluated their goals. "We need to get everyone up to the same level of playing," Tate said, "We need to make practices more like real games and less like we're just playing around." "We want to do as well as we can in the conference championships," said Head Coach Weaver, "We want to go to the state playoffs. Once we get there, with every time we win a game, we're one step closer."

Competition plays an integral part in the life of the basketball team. The teams' biggest rivals are the Smith Eagles and North Forsyth. "Smith is more athletic than we are. Both teams have more experience: We have two seniors, one who didn't play last year and two freshman who play almost every game," said Head Coach Weaver.

The one thing that may be working against them is the fact that they are a relatively young team, meaning they have few seniors and little experience. "We haven't been playing together long," said Tate, "We're really determined. We have hustle and effort but not much experience."

The team considers being a relatively young team with many newcomers to be their major weakness,

but they plan on achieving their goals with the same level of intense practice and positive outlook.



Courtney Smith pulls up for a shot after passing an opponent.

Perkins photo

Correction

In the last issue of the *High Life*, a basketball article stated that the players were given Nike warm up suits and sports coats with ties. To clarify this mis-information, both the men's and women's teams were given the option of Mrs. Teague furnishing them with one of these accessories.

Office 288-8745
Home 855-6231

David R. Sullivan, D.D.S.
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