


Emon McMillian

OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER FOR CIAA '99



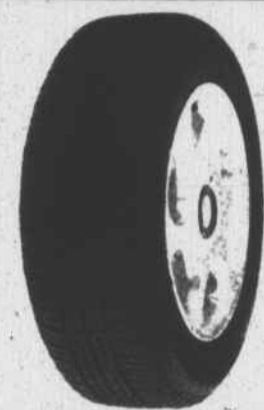
THE CHRONICLE

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### Press Box

from page B1  
 She averaged 2.2 points and 1.2 rebounds. After injuring her shoulder and having surgery, McMillian received a medical redshirt during the 1995-96 season.  
 The next season McMillian's role increased on the team. She played a key role as a reserve, averaging averaging 3.3 points and 3.9 rebounds in 17.1 minutes of play per game.  
 Under Curtis last season, earned a starting position. She led the team with a 6.7 rebounding average and was second on the team in scoring with an 8.4 average. She finished eighth in

the ACC in rebounding and scored in doubled figures 11 times. Her 69 percent free throw average was also good for eighth in the conference.  
 Although she had her best season personally, the Deacons struggled to a 4-23 record and finished last in the ACC after going winless in the conference.  
 This season the Deacons have shown vast improvement. Wake Forest already has six overall wins, including two in the ACC to get out of the conference cellar.  
 Curtis says McMillian has been an important cog in the team's improvement.  
 "She's developed more as a

leader," Curtis said. "Her role has changed over the years. There are some players who come in as leaders and they have to take on a new role to fit in on the team. Emon has had to learn to be a leader. That's something that I asked of her and she has responded. Emon leads in a lot of ways on and off the floor."  
 McMillian already has earned her undergraduate degree and is pursuing a graduate degree at Wake Forest. Curtis says McMillian's on court experiences have prepared her well for life.  
 "I think she will definitely benefit from the experiences she's had at Wake," Curtis said. "When she leaves here and goes

out into the workplace she'll be prepared for it. She's learned how things work and how to deal with the hierarchy."  
 Although McMillian said there have been a lot of low points in her career, she's enjoyed playing for the Deacons.  
 "It's been tough, but it's not over," she said. "We have a lot more games to play and I have to keep reminding myself that I can't sulk. We have to continue to learn from each game, even the bad games."  
 "For me, my career at Wake Forest has been all about learning how things work. I'm disappointing in a sense, but I've also enjoyed it."

# Lady Deacons give valiant effort, but fall to Wolfpack in ACC matchup

By SAM DAVIS  
 THE CHRONICLE  
 Charlene Curtis, Wake Forest women's basketball coach, could feel the game slipping away from her team. However, there was little she could do to prevent the gap from widening as the Lady Deacons dropped an 85-60 ACC game to North Carolina State on Sunday afternoon.  
 The Lady Deacons, who fell to 6-12 overall and 2-6 in the conference, stayed close to the Wolfpack in the first half and then made a run after intermission to get N.C. State's lead down to nine points midway through the second half. But the Wolfpack's athleticism was too much for the Deacons down the stretch.  
 Tynesha Lewis, who led the Wolfpack with 22 points, helped her team on a 10-0 run to put the game out of reach. Lewis used her speed and quickness in the open court as the Wolfpack grabbed a commanding lead and rolled to its victory.  
 "Tynesha Lewis is a good player," Curtis said. "Overall I thought their quickness causes us some problems. When they stepped up their defense and turned up the defensive intensity, we had some major problems."  
 The Wolfpack, who advanced to the Women's NCAA Final Four last season, came into the game in need of a victory. N.C. State, which lost several key players from last year, was 3-5 conference and 9-8 overall coming into the game.  
 "We were up against a good team," Curtis said. "They have lost some games against some good teams, but they're still a good team."  
 The Deacons, coming off three consecutive losses, came

out and played hard from the outset. They showed few signs of the lopsided losses that they dropped to Florida State and Clemson, 80-57 and 78-38, respectively.  
 "Defensively, we did a good job," said Curtis, whose teams held the Lady Wolfpack to only 33 points in the first half. "But then all of a sudden they got into their transition game and got their big lead."  
 For the first eight minutes of the second half the Deacons played evenly or might have gotten the better of the Wolfpack. The Deacons used a lot of energy to close the gap from 17 to nine points. But the Wolfpack went to its deep bench and turned up the pressure against Wake Forest as it scored 52 second-half points.  
 "For us, that's sort of how we are as a team," Curtis said. "We have to expend a lot of energy and our skills have to get better. They are also experienced."  
 Unlike their games against Florida State and Clemson, Curtis said her team was focused and ready to play.  
 "I thought we were prepared and gave a good effort," she said. "I thought we got something positive out of the game. In bad games there are lessons that we learn that are important."  
 Just as the Lady Deacons showed that they can compete with established programs in the ACC in some areas, they still have to catch up in others.  
 "We have some pieces of the puzzle," Curtis said. "Now we have to get the others. We're in the best conference in America, we're playing against the best players in America. Unless we can go out and recruit enough players in one year, it's going to be a process that we have to go

through.  
 "You're never happy when you are losing," Curtis added. "But we're making progress. The players are practicing so much better. They're more intense and they now have a better understanding of what they need to do for us to improve."

Curtis pointed to the play of Alisha Mosely and 6-4 pivot player LaChina Robinson as an example of the Lady Deacons progress. Robinson, a freshman, came into the game averaging 5.6 points, but had a team-high 15 points.



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