

# we only just begun

## Basketball

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ATE, Coliseum, 5:45 p.m.

ne Shaft, 5 p.m.

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30 p.m.

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7 p.m.

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IN BELT TOURNAMENT,

p.m.

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ent (1st round), TBA

ent



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will probably log  
time this season  
be a big help to



Patricia Ten-  
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y will be alter-  
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enter. Both have  
in their shooting  
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ck when they are  
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ee a lot of action



**Kim Fox** — One of the most dominant forces from last year's team, Fox played a big part in those 11 wins. The 6-0 center is in her second year on the squad and was a Division II All-State pick. During last year's season she averaged 17.8 points and 14.1 rebounds per game. The Catawba native led her high school team to a perfect 23-0 record and was one of the first women to receive a scholarship to UNCC.



**Paula Bennett** — She's only a first year center, and yet in her coach's eyes, she is one of the better all around players on the team this year. She has especially good defensive skills and has shown a good court awareness. The 6-0, Williamston native, will be counted on heavily this year.



**Patricia Walker** — Good Ol' Saint Nick might be bringing around a helping hand around Christmas for the lady cagers. Star recruit Walker may be ready to play second semester and if she sees action, watch out. According to Wilkins, "Patricia will be the spark plug for us if she is ready at this time of the season near Christmas."



**Brenda Brown** — One of the big scorers from last year's team, the 5-9 senior forward popped in 10.3 points and pulled in 5.1 rebounds last season. According to Wilkins, "Brenda will definitely be the team leader this year. She has improved and has shown a great deal of enthusiasm." Brown is a transfer from UNC-Asheville.



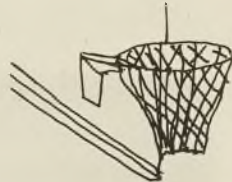
(photo by Robin Colby)

Judy talks fast during halftimes. She makes her point, though.

## Women's basketball more than a "preliminary game"

By Nancy Davis

First things first. The UNCC women's basketball team will play coliseum games at 5:45 p.m. preceding the men's game. They're in their second year of Division II play and will concentrate on being a contender in the North Carolina Association of Intercollegiate Athletics for Women (NCAIAW) State Tournament.



But there's a long season ahead for the women and they know it. With the N.C. State game behind them, the rest of the semester will include three home games and one away game. And according to Judy Wilkins, this is where it'll really count. Four of the first six games will be against conference teams.

The first home game should be a victory for the Lady 49ers as they take on Methodist. They didn't meet last year, but a home court advantage on an opening home game with an enthusiastic crowd could be exactly what the doctor ordered to heal the Wolfpack wounds.

The following Saturday matches UNCC against a strong Winston-Salem State team. Wilkins said her eyes about fell out when she received Winston-Salem State's roster. They have four girls who are 6-2. "But it's not unusual to have women playing basketball who are over six feet. We've got to get used to it," Wilkins said.

UNC-Asheville will be a hard one on the road, but the women will be able to make it up in the Mine Shaft on Dec. 9 against rival Lenoir Rhyne. Losing twice last year to the neighboring school in Hickory, UNCC almost had them in their last match-up. Instead, they tired out and Lenoir Rhyne won 65-59. Wilkins has been taking extra pains in practice to make sure that doesn't happen this year.

Part of their Christmas holidays will be spent back at UNCC, readying themselves for two away games in Virginia. On Jan. 12, they'll meet Radford and on Jan. 13 will go against Virginia Tech. Wilkins foresees a victory over

Radford, but may have a hard time with Tech.

"The second half won't be as bad," Wilkins said when looking at the second semester schedule. They'll be playing teams they've played before and will have the homecourt advantage on many key games. After two close victories over Davidson last year, the 49ers are looking for a big victory when they start off second semester by playing them in the coliseum on Jan. 8. Other teams UNCC will be trying to chalk up victories against are Mars Hill, N.C. A&T and Pembroke.

A big addition to the schedule is the Sun Belt Invitational Tournament to be held at UNCC Feb. 8-10. Conference teams such as the University of New Orleans, Georgia State, University of Alabama at Birmingham and University of South Florida will join UNCC in this premier tournament. Because of the geographic locations and expense of traveling, the women have not been able to schedule many games with teams outside of this area.

UNCC will play in the first round of the Division II NCAIAW tournament on Feb. 19. If the 49ers are seated on top, the women could be playing a preliminary game in the coliseum before the UNCC/Davidson game.

