

A LEGACY THAT TIME CAN'T TOUCH



January 16-17, 2026

Tradition Never Graduates



1996, 2003, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2009, 2011,
2014, 2018, 2020, & 2025

11 ODAC Titles

13 NCAA Appearances

3 Sweet Sixteens

2 Elite Eights

1 Final Four

1 National Championship
Appearance

History of RMC Women's Basketball

- 1975-76** First organized team, Billy Wood coaches while working in Admissions
- 1976-77** Club-level team, no JV opponents to play, team played opposing varsity programs, first program win at Virginia Wesleyan, first home win vs. Liberty
- 1977-78** First Varsity Team, first winning season, first win over Richmond, other notable wins: Liberty Baptist, and Christopher Newport, finishing this first year with an 11-6 record
- 1978-79** Linda Sheppe becomes head coach
- 1979-80** Linda Lerch becomes head coach, team reclassified to Division III. Team played in first playoff game
- 1981** Cindy Crabill becomes first 1,000 point scorer in program history, finished as state runner up in Division III in the AIAW. Postseason, Linda Lerch departs postseason for a coaching position at Cornell University, Billy Wood returns as head coach for 1981-82 season
- 1982** Carroll LaHaye transitions from assistant coach to head coach while also coaching women's soccer, women's lacrosse and teaching in the physical education department
- 1983** First Season as Division II
- 1990** First season in NCAA DIII, first ODAC win
- 1996** First ODAC Championship, ODAC Regular Season Champions, First NCAA Tournament Appearance, First Sweet 16, first 20-win season
- 1998** ODAC Regular Season Champions, NCAA Tournament Appearance
- 1999** ODAC Regular Season Champions, NCAA Tournament Appearance
- 2003** ODAC Tournament Champions, NCAA 2nd Round
- 2005** ODAC Regular Season Champions (20-0), ODAC Tournament Champions, First Elite 8, First Final Four, First NCAA Championship Game, Megan Silva wins Jostens Trophy and National Player of the Year
- 2006** ODAC Regular Season Champions, ODAC Tournament Champions, NCAA Sweet 16, NCAA Elite 8
- 2007** ODAC Regular Season Champions, ODAC Tournament Champions, NCAA Sweet 16
- 2009** ODAC Regular Season Champions, ODAC Tournament Champions, NCAA Appearance
- 2011** ODAC Regular Season Champions, ODAC Tournament Champions, NCAA 2nd Round
- 2012** Carroll LaHaye notches 500th career win, 82-70 over Roanoke
- 2014** ODAC Tournament Champions, NCAA Appearance
- 2018** ODAC Tournament Champions, NCAA 2nd Round
- 2018** Carroll LaHaye records 600th career win, 71-59 over Lynchburg as just the 59th coach in NCAA history across all divisions to reach the milestone
- 2020** ODAC Tournament Champions, NCAA 2nd Round
- 2020** Carroll LaHaye retires as all-time ODAC wins leader (647)
- 2020** Lindsey Burke hired as 5th head coach in program history, records first win, Jan. 23, 2021, 77-64, vs. Ferrum College
- 2022** ODAC Regular Season Co-Champions, first time in 11 seasons
- 2025** ODAC Regular Season Champions (16-0), ODAC Tournament Champions, NCAA Sweet 16, sets program win streak record with 28 consecutive wins

RMC Athletics Hall of Fame Inductees

1999 Sharon Miller '85
2000 Nancy Sebek-Love '85
2001 Dr. Kelly Keffler Domson '89
2002 Karen Eye Benson '87
2005 Pam Conk Cooper '82
2009 Jenn Kohler Del Rossi '96
2018 Megan Silva Schultz '06
2019 Aimee Beightol Levy '99
2021 Carroll LaHaye
2021 2004-05 RMC Women's Basketball Team
2022 Molly Ariail '10
2025 Billy Wood '71
2025 Amanda Hiltunen Scott '09

Coach of the Year

1994,1996,1999,2005 Carroll LaHaye
2024, 2025 Lindsey Burke-Eberhart

ODAC Player of the Year

1996 Jenn Kohler '96
2004,2005,2006 Megan Silva '06
2008,2009,2010 Molly Ariail '10
2018, 2020 Kelly Williams '20

All-Conference

First Team (All-ODAC)

Keisha Bell 1990
Pam Conk. 1991,1992
Jenn Kohler 1994, 1995, 1996
Aimee Beightol 1996,1999
Renee Zando 1999
Megan Silva 2003, 2004,
2005, 2006
Emily Crider 2004
Lindsay Riesbeck 2007,
2008, 2009
Molly Ariail 2008, 2009, 2010
Amanda Hiltunen 2009
Maggie Roy 2011
Taylor Wieczorek 2012
Taylor Huber 2014
Katie Anderson 2015, 2016
Kelly Williams 2017, 2018,
2020
Becca Arrington 2021
Catherine Kagey 2022, 2023,
2025
Jane Elkins 2024
McKenzie Matheny 2025

Third Team (All-ODAC)

Sarah Parsons 2012
Amber Lee 2017
Charlotte Woods 2018, 2020
Cheridan Hatfield 2022
Juliana Park 2025

Second Team (All-ODAC)

Pam Conk 1990
Bekkie Siebel 1991
Katy Parrish 1993, 1994, 1995
Jenn Kohler 1993
Susan Doyle 1997
Allison Beightol 1998, 1999
Jamie Tanner 1998
Leslie Buhrman 1998
Renee' Zando 2000
Meredith Roberts 2002
Salem Shaffer 2005
Michelle Orton 2005, 2006
Molly Ariail 2007
Amanda Hiltunen 2008
Maggie Roy 2010
Taylor Wieczorek 2011
Maggie Roy 2012
Katie Anderson 2013
Sarah Parsons 2013, 2014
Hannah Livermon 2015, 2016
Michal Ross 2019, 2020
Becca Anthony 2022
Juliana Park 2024

All-Piedmont Conference

Cindy Crabill 1978, 1981

American Women's Sports Federation All-Americans

1985 Holly Cope (4th Team), Sharon Miller
(Honorable Mention)
1986 Karen Eye, Honorable Mention
1987 Karen Eye, 2nd Team
1988 Beth Dunkenberger, 3rd Team
1989 Keisha Bell (2nd Team) Pam Conk (2nd Team)
1990 Keisha Bell (1st Team) Pam Conk (2nd Team),
Carroll LaHaye
1991 Pam Conk (2nd Team), Bekkie Siebel (Freshman Team)
1992 Pam Conk (1st Team), Mary Beth Puccinelli (3rd Team)
1993 Alicia Dejo (Special Mention), Jenn Kohler (Freshman
Team), Katy Parrish (Freshman Team)

KODAK/WBCA All-Americans

1987 Karen Eye (Honorable Mention)
1990 Keisha Bell (All-District V)
1996 Jenn Kohler (All-District V)
2004 Megan Silva (Honorable Mention)
2005 Megan Silva (1st Team)
2006 Megan Silva (1st Team)
2009 Molly Ariail (Honorable Mention), Amanda Hiltunen
(Honorable Mention)
2010 Molly Ariail (1st Team)
2014 Katie Anderson (Honorable Mention)
2015 Katie Anderson (Honorable Mention)
2018 Kelly Williams (1st Team)
2025 Catherine Kagey (Honorable Mention), McKenzie
Matheny (Honorable Mention)

ODAC Rookie of the Year

1993 Jenn Kohler
1996 Aimee Beightol
1998 Jamie Tanner
2001 Sarah Crider
2003 Megan Silva
2007 Molly Ariail
2013 Katie Anderson
2017 Kelly Williams
2024 Sam Smith

Compton/DeNagy Winners

The Susan Locke de Nagy Award is presented to the top senior female student-athlete. The award is in recognition of outstanding athletic accomplishments, academic achievements, leadership and sportsmanship. The George P. Compton Award was first presented in 1968. The de Nagy Award was first presented in 1994. From 1980 through 1993, women as well as men received the Compton Award.

1981 Cindy Crabill	1990 Dorothy Kress
1984 Carol Thomson	1996 Jenn Kohler
1985 Sharon Miller	1999 Aimee Beightol
1986 Holly Cope	2005 Emily Crider
1987 Karen Eye	2006 Megan Silva
1988 Beth Dunkenberger	2009 Amanda Hiltunen
1989 Kelly Keffler	2010 Molly Ariail
1989 Melodie Fearnow	2020 Kelly Williams

1970s



1975-76



FIRST ROW: Jan Carter, Susan Joseph, Allison McCabe, Nancy Simpkins, Mary Meredith, Meng Jones

SECOND ROW: Billy Wood (Head Coach), Lisa Goglia (Manager), Helen Valdejuli, Virginia Petterson, Susan DeNagy, Debbie Woolard, Sara Hall, Margie Marinus, Mary Hoyle, Russell Bourne (Asst. Coach), Jeff Davis (Asst. Coach)

NOT PICTURED: Maria Schroeder and Kim Person

1976-77



KNEELING: Nancy Simpkins, Allison McCabe

SECOND ROW: Susan Joseph, J. Cohen, Mary Meredith, S. Pellington

THIRD ROW: Russell Bourne (Asst. Coach), Margie Marinus, Susan DeNagy, Becky Spigle, Helen Valledeljuli, E. Goglia (mgr.), Billy Wood (Head Coach), Jim Jump (Asst. Coach)

1977-78



KNEELING: Shelley Gilliam, Sue Joseph, Kim Jones

SECOND ROW: Jim Jump (Asst Coach), Unidentified, Margie Marinus, Susan DeNagy, Cindy Crabill, Becky Spigle, Allison McCabe (Asst. Coach), Billy Wood (Head Coach)

THIRD ROW: Amy Thomas, Pat Spaven, Nita Burchett, Mary Meredith

1978-79



TEAM PHOTO MISSING

Becky Spigle, Kim Jones, Shelley Gilliam, Cindy Crabill, Pat Spaven, Amy Thomas, Amy Bram, Judy Glenn, Karen Tinsley

MANAGERS: Karen Currier, Lynne Willis

ASSISTANT COACH: Allison McCabe

HEAD COACH: Linda Sheppe

1979-80



KNEELING: Lynn Willis (Manager), Kathy Englehart, Shelley Gilliam, Kim Jones, Pat Spaven

SECOND ROW: Allison O'Brien (Asst Coach), Judy Glenn, Diane Hersey, Cindy Crabill, Becky Spigle, Ginger Noce, Karen Currier (Manager) Linda Lerch (Head Coach)

Lady Jackets Play Ball

The R-MC Lady Jackets are undefeated in their first 4 games of the season. The Lady Jackets open the season with a 44-43 win over Reynolds Metals, and followed that with a close win in overtime over the Henrico County All-Stars (55-54). In the third game, the Lady Jackets convincingly defeated Hatcher Memorial Church 57-33.

In the first game, the tenacious defense of Reynolds' guards forced the Jackets to emphasize their inside game. The post players, Debbie Wollard and Sara Hall, met the challenge and scored 16 and 10 points respectively. The success of the inside play was enhanced by the ball handling and passing ability of the backcourt players: Allison McCabe, Nancy Simpkins, Susan Joseph, and Susan de Nagy. Also, it should be noted that the Lady Jackets success was due in part to a good overall team defensive efforts, and particularly the defensive play of Nancy Simpkins.

Against the Henrico County All-Stars, the Jackets found themselves behind by 6 with only 32 seconds remaining in the game. After a Lady Jacket time

out, the Henrico team was faced with a tight man to man press. The Jackets capitalized on a steal. The All-Stars were fouled quickly and failed to connect the first end of a 1 and 1.

A Jacket rebound and a long pass to Sara Hall brought Macon to within two. The final Jacket time-out was called, and the press once again proved successful as Susan Joseph forced a turnover. The shot by Hall fell short but was quickly put back at the buzzer by Wollard to put the game into overtime. Margie Marinus and Jan Carter led the Lady Jackets to their second victory with clutch shooting in the waning seconds.

Last Thursday the Lady Jackets extended their winning streak to three, as they demonstrated good ball control and a tremendous team effort in defeating Hatcher Memorial. Sara Hall led all scorers with 20 points, increasing her scoring average to 16.6 points per game.

Following Hall was Allison McCabe with 11, giving her an average of 7.6 points per game. Also in double figures was Debbie Wollard with 10, rounding her scoring average to 16.0.

It is the feeling of Coaches Davis, Bourne and Wood that the key to the Lady Jackets' success lies in their enthusiasm and dedication to the game.



Sara Hall comes down with rebound for undefeated Lady Jackets.

PHOTO BY TOM AYERS

January 28, 1976, RMC Newspaper

New Era In Sports

A new era in sports has arrived here at Randolph-Macon - girls' basketball. The team will play a schedule that includes William & Mary, V.C.U. and Mary Washington. Bill Wood, Russell Bourne and Jeff Davis are coaching this year's squad. Wood brings 4 years of coaching experience in high school to his team.

Thursday. "They're all good girls who are dedicated and work hard," says Bourne.

The Tri-captains for this year are Nancy Simpkins, Allison McCabe and Debbie Wollard.

Girls Basketball Roster

Jan Carter
Lisa "E" Goglia
Sara Hall
Mary Hoyle
Mong Jones
Mary Meredith
Allison McCabe
Susan DeNagy
Virginia Peterson
Nancy Simpkins
Debbie Wollard
Margie Marinus
Susan Joseph
Kim Person
Maria Schroeder
Helen Valdejuli

The new team had its beginning at a soccer game, oddly enough. "We were watching the game," say Russell Bourne, "and we were approached by some girls who were interested and they asked us if we would coach. So, I guess we volunteered." They then received the approval for the team through proper channels and they were off.

The girls have been working since the last week in November, 5 nights a week, Sunday through

ps Rolling

February 18, 1976, RMC Newspaper

DR. H. M. SCHOENES

Optometrist

- Eye Examination
- Contact Lenses
- Optical Services

796-8593 306 England Street

January 21, 1977, RMC Newspaper



Mary Meredith sets to take shot behind Susan DeNagy's pick. The Lady Jackets, despite a tough intercollegiate schedule, have been successful in meeting the challenge of their opponents.

PHOTO BY MIKE HARRIS

December 8, 1977, RMC Newspaper



Susan De Nagy fires over Amy Thomas as the women's basketball team practices in the Alumni Gym. The women are 3-0, owning wins over Mary Washington, Virginia Wesleyan and Liberty Baptist.

STAFF PHOTO BY BRUCE DUNCAN

Lady Jackets Face Tough Competition

BY HENRY SHARBER

This year the Randolph-Macon women's basketball team will complete their second season of competition. Last year they were a club team playing high school, church, and community-league teams. This year they have faced a full intercollegiate schedule. Despite the current 2-4 record, Coach Billy Wood feels the team has achieved great success in that they "worked for the challenge." "Winning," said Coach Wood, "was not the most important thing this year. The most important thing was the experience and knowledge gained in playing other college teams."

Coach Wood mentioned several players who "have contributed a great deal to the team." Among them were freshman Becky Spigle who, the coach said, "scores more points and gets more rebounds than anybody else." Others were senior Allison McCabe, and freshman Stacey Pellington. Two members were noted as exceptional, Nancy Simpkins and Margie Marinus.

Coach Wood said that it is important that the program of women's basketball has been organized and that the school has recognized the team. He added, that, "The Lady Jac-

kets," will have hope for better seasons in the future, because the team is now able to recruit.

The coach summed up this interview by saying, "I hope this athletic experience will benefit the girls, and will give them favorable memories of Randolph-Macon."

The Great Re

The Yellow Jacket in con of Ashland is sponsoring away. Win any \$6.99 alb Gramophone.

Simply fill out the entry I box at the front desk of many times as you like Thursday, Jan. 27 at noon, at dinner on the same day



Name: _____
Box No: _____
Three bands you would Macon: _____

Lady Jackets Go to Court



Photo by Tom Ayers
Lady Jackets jump against the Patrick Henry girls.

by Allison McCabe
Girls Intramural Basketball got off to a slow start this year but has finally evolved into an established organization centering around ten interested women. These include Lynn Byrne, Jan Carter, Sara Hall, Mary Hoyle, Allison McCabe, Anne McCollum, Virginia Petterson, Nancy Simpkins, and Debbie Woodard.

For the month of January these girls have been busy scrimmaging and working on various skills and drills under the coaching of Gordon Cooley and Steve Sutton. This past Thursday the Lady Jackets met Patrick Henry High School in a scrimmage. The Jackets did not do as well as they

hoped; Patrick Henry won 40 - 29 But, the Jackets have only been working together as a team for two weeks, whereas Patrick Henry girls have been working together since August. (not that we're trying to make any excuses!)

Coming up this week the Lady Jackets meet the Faculty Wives on Wednesday, January 29. We are not promising a first rate basketball game like you are all used to seeing in Crenshaw Gym, but it will be worth seeing the competition. So come on out and see Randolph-Macon Women (both young and old) play basketball, Wednesday at 8:00 p.m.

January 29, 1975, RMC Newspaper

January 21, 1977, RMC Newspaper

R-MC Women Stop Liberty

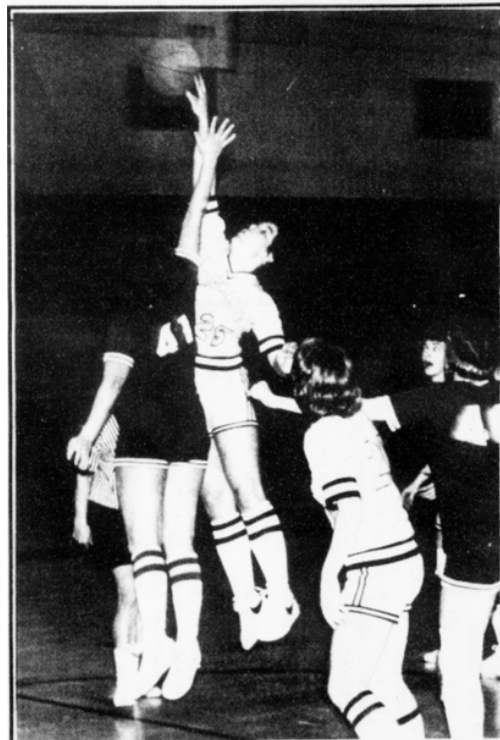
Randolph-Macon College's women's basketball team held off determined Liberty Baptist 67-63 last night in Ashland, despite 24 points from the Flames' Helen Gomes.

Liberty Baptist drew even at 51, but R-MC jumped back on top for good behind Becky Spigle (19 points) and Cindy Crabill (16).

Liberty Baptist — Booker 0, Linton 8, Criss 8, Cooper 11, Melton 2, Simonds 0, H. Gomes 24, R. Gomes 8, Blank 2, Solawn 0, Toatls. 31 1-4 63.

R-MC — Jones 11, Gilliam 8, Crabill 16, Spaven 7, Spigle 19, Burchett 2, Marinus 4, DeNagy 0, Thomas 0. Totals: 26 15-22 67.

Halftime: R-MC 33, Liberty Baptist 31.



Becky Spigle and Pat (Putt) Spaven in action against William and Mary in the women's last game.

Girls' Basketball Soars To 6-1 Record

BY MIKE COMEAU
The Randolph-Macon women's basketball team raised its record to 6-1 with a victory over Christopher Newport on the night of Jan. 11. The Lady Jackets defeated the Captains by a score of 52-46 as freshman center Cindy Crabill scored 26 points.

Under the direction of 29-year-old head coach Billy Wood assistant director of admissions at R-MC, the Lady Jackets are playing an 18 game schedule and are members of the Piedmont Conference of the Virginia Federation of Intercollegiate Sports for Women (VFISW).

"A winning season would be a good year," Wood said. "If we make the VFISW play-offs, it would be like winning the national championship to us." R-MC is

currently 2-1 in the conference, but must still play such powers as Virginia State, William & Mary and Hampton Institute. The Lady Jackets play a 10-game conference schedule. The top four teams make the play-offs.

"We try not to treat them any differently than we treat the men," R-MC Athletic Director Hugh Stephens said. "They have new uniforms this year and their budget has been

tripled in the last year." Even so, Wood, and his assistants Jim Jump, an R-MC admissions counselor, and 1977 graduate Allison McCabe are all volunteers and they work without compensation.

"We put a lot of ourselves into it," Wood said. "We are not just doing this for the hell of it. I feel a dedication to the women of R-MC and the

women in the program." The program started in 1975 when several Randolph-Macon women approached Wood at a soccer game, knowing of his high school coaching experience, and asked him to help them form an R-MC women's basketball team. "They spent the first

[Continued on page 11]



Player Of The Week

Crabill Leads Women

BY GARY CRAIG

The men's varsity basketball team has its superstar and it has its sensational freshmen. The girls' team has its own, but all in one player. That superstar freshman is Cindy Crabill.

Crabill's statistics demonstrate just how impressive her year has been. After the opening ten games of the season, Crabill was the leading rebounder in the Piedmont Conference of the Virginia Federation of Intercollegiate Sports for Women (VFISW) with a 14.4 rebounds per game average. At that time, she was also sixth in scoring with a 15.5 average.

Yet Crabill is an unselfish player. Of her consistent double-figure scoring, she says, "But scoring isn't the only part of the game."

Crabill was also the leading scorer on her team at Strasburg High School. "The pace is much different in college ball," Crabill said. "In high school I was out for blood."

Crabill sees the game of girls' basketball growing in popularity, but says, "There is the thing about the guys' game being more important than the girls', which I don't think is fair." Certainly there are plenty of guys who would give their right arm for Crabill's statistics.

Crabill is pleased with the season the team has had so far. "We've really done well," she said. "Four of five starters are freshmen and we've all improved a lot since the start of the year. Also, intercollegiate we play teams that offer women's scholarships." R-MC does not offer scholarships for women's sports.

The coach of the girls' team, whom Crabill calls "a great coach," is Billy Wood. Wood agrees with the fact that the schedule is very tough. "We deserve more credit than our 10-4 record gives us," Wood said. Cindy could be the key to more girls considering R-MC for athletics. We've got three more good years left with Cindy."

Crabill proved her worth in last Saturday's game against William and Mary, described by assistant coach Jim Jump as "the second best girls' team in Virginia, following nationally-ranked Old Dominion University."

The girls were behind 35-20 at the half, but Crabill came out in the second half prepared to play basketball.

The Jackets narrowed the lead to 11, but William and Mary won 75-59. Crabill finished the game with 13 points and an amazing 19 rebounds. She upped her rebound average to 14.5 per game. Her scoring average is now an equally impressive 13.5 points per game.



Nita Burchett highsteeps to the hoop. The women now own a 6-1 record.

STAFF PHOTO BY BRACE DUNCAN

Girls Soar To 6-1

[Continued from page 8]
year learning how to shoot lay-ups," Wood said.

During that first season the women played a few community groups and church teams and won every time out. Last year, the team played on a junior varsity level against other colleges and ended up with an 8-8 mark.

Now, a third of the way through their first varsity season, the Lady Jackets have only been beaten once. That loss was suffered at the hands of the 1976-77 Virginia small college women's basketball championship team, the Bridgewater College Eagles.

Nevertheless, Athletic Director Stephens said, "6-1 sounds pretty good to me."

We have done enough to win, all our wins have been close," said assistant coach Jim Jump. "We need to work for consistency." One reason for the lack of consistency could be the fact that half of the 12 person squad is made up of freshmen. "The freshmen are all key players," Jump said.

Cindy Crabill has led the squad with a 15 point average-per-game along with an average of 18 rebounds per game. "Guard Shirley Gilliam has been our most consistent player," Wood said. The women play with a 30-second shot clock.

"The program is a lot more professional than it was last year," said sophomore forward Becky Spigle. "There is no messing around." Spigle added, "We have not been playing up to our potential, but it is a definite improvement over last year."

"It seems like the school is getting behind us," junior center Sue de Nagy said. De Nagy said the team has some

key games coming up, including road games against Westhampton College and Hampton Institute.

What about the future of women's basketball at Randolph-Macon? "I think it is something that will grow with interest," said Stephens. "We are making real good progress."

"We recruit much in the same way the men's program does," Wood said. "We have worked very hard within a limited time span, sending questionnaires to over 200 schools."

Wood said he looks for alumni to refer good prospects to him and he said he recruited several players last year on the basis of alumni recommendations.

The women will receive awards for participation, just like the men, and it appears now that the women's program has arrived at Randolph-Macon.

Confidence C

[Continued from page 11]

He has the personality and ability to make him a success. But he has yet."

O'Brien says that after he's basketball coaching. "I'm not totally sure," O'Brien said.

O'Brien knows another thing. "Going to the finals was like a great to be a part of it. But this identity."

And we'll see if this year identity—and a bit of confidence."

Jackets Find C

[Continued from page 11]

"We have to play with intelligence," O'Brien said. "We have to control the

R-MC Women Top Shenandoah

WINCHESTER — Becky Spigle saved six of her 16 points for the second overtime as Randolph-Macon's women's basketball team edged Shenandoah 68-58 yesterday.

Pat Spaven scored four of her eight points in the second overtime to help the Yellow Jackets stay unbeaten for five outings. Shelley Gilliam led the winners with 22 points.

Susan Eberly scored 18 points for Shenandoah (2-1).

R-MC (68) — Gilliam 22, Crabill 14, Spaven 8, Burchett 6, Spigle 16, Marinus 0, DeNagy 2, Thomas 0.

SHENANDOAH (58) — Clouse 2, Phedus 4, Eller 2, Eberly 18, Godale 8, Seuder 2, Strouther 8, Golightly 14.

Women's Basketball

Lady Jackets Start Slow Expect Big Wins

BY BRAD BARBIN

The girls basketball team, though off to a slow start, promises to be an exciting team throughout the remainder of the season. Playing five games in the last six nights, the lady Jackets are looking forward to a well deserved rest.

In their last game, the Lady Jackets fought back boldly before losing to VCU by seven points.

The Lady Jackets are led by co-captains Becky Spigle and Cindy Crabill. Spigle leads the team in scoring, whereas Crabill is the leading rebound-

er.

Freshman Karen Tinsley and Ann Bram are expected to contribute heavily to the Jacket offense. Laura Hull, Kerry Guttenburg, and Judy Glen are all freshman who could battle for first team positions.

In pinpointing some of the weaknesses of the Lady Jacket basketball team, one problem that stands out is scheduling. The Lady Jackets have not played a school that has less than 6000 students.

Consequently, these larger teams tend to out class R-MC because of their ability to offer athletic scholarships. Another problem the Lady Jackets face

is the inability to field experienced players. This results in a team dominated by freshmen and sophomores.

When asked to comment on the seasonal outlook, Crabill said that she expects to win the upcoming Shenandoah and Liberty Baptist games. She also commented that "the team is especially anxious to vindicate last year's controversial George Mason game."

Another game to watch will be the season finale against arch-rival Mary Washington College. Hopefully the Ladies will be able to avenge their early losses at the expense of similarly populated colleges.

December 7, 1978, RMC Newspaper

Women Coaches 'Quit'

By Mike Comeau

Assistant Director of Admissions Billy Wood and Admissions Counselor Jim Jump announced they were not going to return for the 1978-79 season as coaches for the women's basketball team at a team meeting following the last game of the season on Feb. 22.

At the tear-filled meeting following the season-ending loss to George Mason University (57-55), head coach Wood and assistant coach Jump announced their decision, and sophomore forward Becky Spigle said, "They were upset about it."

The Lady Jackets ended their first full varsity season this year with an 11-6 record, with four of the defeats coming at the hands of the top four women's teams in Virginia.

Wood and Jump had served as volunteer coaches without compensation for the past three years. "I don't have a bad feeling towards the College about the decision," Wood said.

Some of the team members do, however, have bad feelings toward the college over the "agreement" that

ended Wood's coaching career.

"I think Cox (R-MC's Director of Admissions) pressure had a lot to do with it," Spigle said. "We are not fond of Cox. He said they were never there to do work and President White got in on it."

"Wood said his boss had said something about it to him a few times," freshman guard Pat Spaven said. "I think Billy decided on his own."

Wood's boss, Randolph-Macon Admissions Director C. Edwin Cox, Jr.'s reaction to Wood's and Jump's decision was, "I have no reaction one way or another." Before answering any Yellow Jacket questions, Cox admitted, "I'm going to be very guarded in what I say. I've always encouraged people in admissions to become involved and participate in the activities of the college."

Cox said the position of women's basketball coach should be held by a full-time person and the current situation has "shortchanged" the women's program.

"As of now, we are looking for a part-time person," R-MC Athletic Director Hugh Stephens said. Step-

hens said the Athletic Department requested the addition of a full-time person to the women's program staff, but the Board of Trustees cut the budget.

Stephens, President White and Wood had a meeting the day before the final game of the season and the decision was made at this meeting. Stephens said he advised his former pitching ace on the decision. "We talked about it together for a long time," he said.

The college probably felt they would be better off having a full-time person for basketball," Wood said. "I have no sour grapes. The decision made was probably the best decision."

Wood cited the long days he put in during the four month schedule with him arriving at Admissions at 8:45a.m. and leaving the Gym at 8:00 p.m. as a contributing factor in his decision.

"I don't think coaching basketball and being assistant director of admissions caused interference. I think I was able to perform good jobs in both areas," Wood said. "Neither program suffered."



Becky Spigle shoots under pressure against Virginia Wesleyan College.

January 8, 1978, Richmond Times Dispatch

March 9, 1978, RMC Newspaper

Lady Jackets

BY BILL MADISON

In early season basketball action the Lady Jackets have split their first four games.

Opening their season on the road the R-MC women's basketball team lost to Virginia Wesleyan by a score of 78-61. Leading the scoring for R-MC in a losing cause was Becky Spigle with 17 points. Also contributing heavily for R-MC was Ginger Noce with 14 points and 15 rebounds.

In their second game the women returned home to face a powerful William and Mary Team. Despite a fine effort by Ginger Noce (27 points) and Cindy Crabill (12 points) the Lady Jackets dropped their home opener 69-44.

After two losses the R-MC women won their first contest over Averett by a score of 70-

49. The victory was a total team effort which was led by Becky Spigle with 16 points and Cindy Crabill with 12 points and 13 rebounds.

Coming off their win at Averett the R-MC squad traveled to Liberty Baptist where they had a chance to even their record. They did just that as they won their second consecutive game 67-59. Again leading the way for R-MC were Becky Spigle (19 points, 8 rebounds) and Cindy Crabill (17 points, 13 rebounds).

In upcoming games the Lady Jackets face the University of Richmond on December 5th, Emory and Henry on December 7th, and Clinch Valley on December 8th. All of these games are away. The next home game for the R-MC women is not until January 10th.



Becky Spigle looks toward the hoop in action against W&M.

PHOTO BY DAN KLOOSTER



Lady Jackets Need Fans, Practice, and Division III

BY JESSICA CLARKE

Although the women's basketball team currently posts a 2-10 record, these statistics belie the actual caliber and talent of the team.

As with the women's tennis team, a major factor behind the losses is that the team plays schools that are much larger, including some which offer scholarships to players. These schools include U.Va., William and Mary, Westhampton, and Hampton Institute.

Coach Linda Sheppe comments, "We are totally outclassed by our opponents. We're a very small team...and don't have much of a bench to pull from. Before Christmas, we played 5 games in 6 days against schools with scholarship players."

The team is now in Division II, but Sheppe hopes they will be moved to Division III next year. This change would give the team a better chance since their opponents would be of similar caliber.

Sheppe cites the main weaknesses of the team as lack of communication on the floor and inadequate knowledge of the basic rules and skills of the game.

"The entire team hasn't mastered the basics of basketball," the coach says. "We play man to man

(defense) and neglect the offense." She adds that the players often pass the ball instead of taking shots when they have a good opportunity.

Sheppe notes that the height of the team is an asset when the players use it advantageously.

"The Va. State game was a mental victory for everybody," Sheppe remarks. "They played the best they had the whole season. They communicated and were not afraid to shoot."

The team is plagued by

injuries, according to Sheppe. Cindy Crabill, a co-captain, has bad ankles, and Karen Tinsley, the tallest player on the team, has had an injured knee for most of the season. Coach Sheppe says "there aren't enough people on the bench to give the injured people a rest."

The team is a fairly young one with only 1 junior and 1 senior and 3 starters returning from last year. Their victories were over Liberty Baptist and Shenandoah. They played in the V.C.U. Tournament in

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December and lost both of their games. Their season concludes at the end of February.

The members of team are co-captains Cindy Crabill and Becky Spigle, Karen Tinsley, Amy Bram, Judy Glenn, Kim Jones, Pat Spaven, Susan DeNagio, Kathy Englehart, and Shelly Gilliam.

Sheppe admits that she would like to see more fan support. "It help the team

have support. It gives them an extra spark," she notes.

"When we play teams of our own caliber and recruit good athletes, we'll draw the crowds. The program is still in the building stages."

Sheppe does have praise for the team. "Everyone has improved since the beginning of the season. They always attempt to do anything I ask them to do. I enjoy working



1980s



FIRST ROW: Pat Spaven, Shelley Gilliam, Kim Jones, Doreen Warihay, Denise Ianora, Sue DuLong

SECOND ROW: Linda Lerch (Head Coach), Karen Currier (Manager), Carol Thomson, Leigh Colenda, Cindy Crabill, Diane Hersey, Ginger Noce, Cathy Naughton, Lynn Willis (Manager), Carroll LaHaye (Asst. Coach)



1980-81

LEFT TO RIGHT: Billy Wood (Head Coach), Carol Thomson, Cindy Woolfrey, Sharon Miller, Diane Hersey, Nancy Sebeck, Doreen Warihay, Carroll LaHaye (Asst. Coach), Cori Dahman (Manager)



1981-82

KNEELING: Carol Thomson, Cindy Woolfrey, Sharon Miller

SECOND ROW: Carroll LaHaye (Head Coach), Paige Selvey, Holly Cope, Emby Weatherholtz, Kim Dunn, Colleen Lynch, Karen Joyner, Leigh Colenda, Kathy Tumulty, Pam Stewart, Brenda Rahn (Asst. Coach)



1982-83

FIRST ROW: Holly Cope, Carol Thomson, Paige Selvey, Marcia Russo

SECOND ROW: Carroll LaHaye (Head Coach), Kathy Tumulty, Cindy Woolfrey, Karen Eye, Colleen Lynch, Kim Dunn, Sharon Miller, Emby Weatherholtz, Deanna Simons (Manager), Brenda Rahn (Asst. Coach)



1983-84

TEAM PHOTO MISSING

Holly Cope, Beth Dunkenberg, Bev Carroll
Marcia Russo, Kim Dunn, Cindy Woolfrey, Kim Hall, Karen Eye,
Sharon Miller, Emby Weatherholtz, Tracy DiFulgo, Muriel Willetts

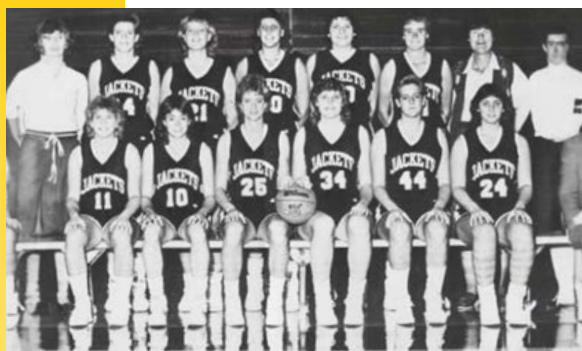
ASSISTANT COACH: Brenda Rahn

HEAD COACH: Carroll LaHaye



1984-85

1985-86



FIRST ROW: Melodie Fearnow, Holly Cope, Kim Dunn, Karen Eye, Lynn Eoppolo, Marcia Russo

SECOND ROW: Carroll LaHaye (Head Coach), Beth Dunkenberger, Bev Carroll, Emby Weatherholtz, Tracy DiFulgo, Kim Hall, Brenda Rahn (Asst. Coach), Sarah Garvey (Manager)

1986-87



FIRST ROW: Marcie Byrne, Sydnor Pugh, Melodie Fearnow, Wendy Tiller, Anne Byrne

SECOND ROW: Wes Mabe (Asst, Coach), Carroll LaHaye (Head Coach), Beverly Carroll, Lynn Eoppolo, Karen Eye, Keisha Bell, Beth Dunkenberger, Kelly Keffler, Sarah Garvey (Manager), Burman Clark (Asst Coach)

1987-88



FIRST ROW: Sarah Garvey, Wendy Tiller, Mel Fearnow, Jen Perry, Dorothy Kress, Carroll LaHaye (Head Coach)

SECOND ROW: Keisha Bell, Beth Dunkenberger, Bev Carroll, Lynn Eoppolo, Wendy Eller, Kelly Keffler, Burman Clark (Asst. Coach)

1988-89



FIRST ROW: Sarah Garvey (Mgr.), Lynn Eoppolo, Keisha Bell, Sara Foreman, Carroll LaHaye (Head Coach)

SECOND ROW: Pam Conk, Kelly Keffler, Jenifer Perry, Wendy Tiller

THIRD ROW: Lissa Williams, Dorothy Kress, Melodie Fearnow, Meredith Yarbrough, Shelby Middleton

1989-90



FIRST ROW: Lissa Williams, Dorothy Kress, Alicia Dejo, Heather Levesque, Amy East, Jennifer Villa, Suzanne Mott (Asst. Coach)

SECOND ROW: Carroll LaHaye (Head Coach), Meredith Yarbrough, Wendy Tiller, Keisha Bell, Jenifer Perry, Pam Conk, Bonnie Langton, Suzanne Miles (Asst. Coach)

Lady Jackets Host Three Contests

By Theresa Adams
The R-MC Lady Yellow Jackets returned to play three hotly contested home basketball games within the first week of colloquy. Although playing afternoon games reduced the number of spectators, it did little to dampen the enthusiasm of the woman's basketball team.

Thursday, January 10, the Lady Jackets took on Messiah College. The Jackets trailed by 14 points at half-time, but managed to rally in the last few minutes of the game to

fortunately, they were out-scored 8-4 in overtime play, resulting in a final score of Messiah 83, R-MC 79.

One highlight of the game was the setting of a new school record for most points scored in a woman's basketball game. Becky Spigle scored 31 points before fouling out in the second half to break the previous record of 27 points, set earlier in the season by Ginger Noyce.

Two days later, the Lady Jackets hosted the Ferrum College Panthers. It was a close first half, with neither

three point advantage. The Lady Jackets took immediate command of the game in the second half, gaining and retaining the lead, finishing with a comfortable 63-53 win. Cindy Crabill led the scoring in this game, earning 17 points. Becky Spigle contributed another 14 points and accounted for 14 rebounds.

In their final home game during colloquy, the Lady Jackets fell to the Eagles of Bridgewater College, 63-57. Once again R-MC managed to come back from a significant score disadvantage at the half (16-20) to furnish a challenge



A R-MC's Cindy Crabill looks for a play.

Lady Jackets Finish 10-9

By Theresa Adams

The Lady Yellow Jackets finished their regular season with a record of 10 wins and nine losses. Within their conference, Division III, they posted six wins and five losses. This placed them in a tie for fourth place with Roanoke College.

Since the return from colloquy break, the Lady Jackets have won three of their final five games, defeating Lynchburg College, Roanoke College, and Hollins College. They fell to Christopher Newport College and George Mason University.

Becky Spigle, the only senior on the team, rounded out her four years at Ran-

dolph-Macon by setting two new school records in her final game of regular season play. In the game against Hollins College, in which R-MC won 106-46, Becky set a new school record for points scored in a single game. She amassed 33 points, breaking her own previous record of 31 points, set earlier this season.

Becky also finished the season with a new record of total points, accumulating 849 points across her four years of varsity play.

The Lady Jackets travelled to the Division III State Tournament, at Emory and Henry College, on February 27. They were fifth seed in this

tournament, pitting them against Roanoke College. Unfortunately, the Lady Jackets could not repeat their recent defeat of this school (a 66-58 win on February 22). R-MC fell to Roanoke College 75-68, and then to Virginia Wesleyan and thus were eliminated in the first round of tournament play.

Coach Linda Lerch feels that the Lady Yellow Jackets have come a long way this season. The single greatest asset the girls have acquired, in the coach's opinion, is a greater confidence in themselves. This has done a lot to improve their game and has enabled the Lady Jackets to furnish a suitable challenge to any team.

Women's Basketball - Dept and Youth

BY THERESA ADAMS

This year, the R-MC women's basketball team possesses the strength and capability to pose a definite threat to any of their Division III opponents.

Adding six freshmen to seven returning upperclassmen "will provide depth and strength to the squad," according to Coach Linda Lerch.

Lerch anticipates that the freshmen players, most notably Carol Thompson and Cathy Naughton, will "add a competitive spark to R-MC's women's basketball team."

Senior Cindy Crabill and sophomore Ginger Noyce are probably the two strongest players on the team this year. Crabill, a center, averaged 14.6 points per game last year and pulled down an average of 14 rebounds each game. Noyce, a forward, scored an average of 14.5 points per game, sinking a very respectable 44% of her attempted shots.

Most of the last year's squad will be returning to the R-MC line-up this year.

Shelley Gilliam, an outstanding outside shooter, will be returning for her fourth season as a starter for the squad. Seniors Kim Jones and Pat Spaven will be competing for a starting berth at the point guard position. Lerch anticipates that junior Judy Glenn will help provide depth on the inside, and that sophomore Diane Hersey, with her "great defensive ability," will be a strong asset to the Lady Yellow Jackets.



Elizabeth Atwood battle for the ball in recent action against UR.

The women's basketball team will play a 20-game season this year. Their first game will be a home contest against Randolph-Macon Women's College on November 18. The season will continue through the end of February. A highlight of this year's season will be a trip to New York during colloquy break, to play games against Widener College, Swarthmore College, and Ramapo College.

Women's Basketball 5-6: Striving For Consistency

BY THERESA ADAMS

The Randolph-Macon women's basketball team has played four games since the start of colloquy, bringing their record to 5-6.

Earlier in the season, the Lady Yellow Jackets played in the Messiah College Women's Invitational Basketball Tournament, in Grantham, Pennsylvania. R-MC lost to Elizabethtown College in the first round, but defeated Messiah College the following day to earn third place honors. Sophomore Ginger Noyce was named to the All-Tournament team.

Shortly after their return from Christmas break, on January 5, R-MC traveled to Ferrum College. They lost the basketball game 80-74, but Coach Linda Lerch was satisfied with R-MC's playing. Ferrum had an excellent offensive game that R-MC could not stop, shooting 68 per cent from the floor (they connected on 30 of 44 shots in that game).

Cindy Crabill led the Yellow Jackets in scoring in the Ferrum game, earning 22 points. Lerch was impressed by the outside shooting of the team, particularly that which Shelley Gilliam and Ginger Noyce exhibited during that contest. Diane Hersey contributed a strong defensive

effort in the game, and when she fouled out, "no one could step into her shoes" on defense, according to Lerch.

On January 10th, R-MC fell to Roanoke College 63-51.

After obtaining a 19-4 lead early in the game, R-MC could not maintain their strong style of play. According to Lerch, "we never played our offensive game," and Roanoke was able to grab and expand their lead in the second half. Once again, Cindy Crabill led in scoring, garnering 12 points. Cathy Naughton added another 11 points. Crabill also contributed strongly to defense, pulling down 13 rebounds in the course of the game.



From two angles Ginger Noyce demonstrates jump shot.

Although the game against Bridgewater College, on January 13 was often close, R-MC "could never get an edge on Bridgewater," says Lerch. The Lady Yellow Jackets were usually within six points of Bridgewater, until the latter portion of the second half, when Bridgewater pulled ahead for a 70-61 win. Ginger Noyce has an excellent shooting game, sinking 50 per cent of her attempted shots, earning 13 points. Cathy Naughton also scored 13 points in that game.

Bridgewater was an important game in that it helped build R-MC's confidence, and on January 17, R-MC broke out of their three-game losing

slump, defeating Emory and Henry College.

In their first home game since the start of colloquy R-MC downed the Lady Wasps from Emory and Henry 57-52. In the words of Lerch: "It was a great win for us. It could have been the turning point in the season." She went on to explain that the confidence gained in this win should spark the team to continue striving in the season.

Diane Hersey did an excellent job on defense in the Emory and Henry game, tightly guarding their best player and limiting scores. Cindy Crabill was the high scorer for R-MC with 20

points. Ginger Noyce (16 points) supplied crucial points for R-MC on turnovers and Shelley Gilliam played one of "the most consistent games I have seen her play in two years," according to Lerch.

Lerch's main concern with the team this year is building consistency of play. As she put it, "through all these games, our team needs to be more consistent. We either play extremely well or extremely poorly. We need to find a happy medium." She contends that R-MC's players have the capability to play well, and that all they need to do is learn to maintain a good level of play at all times.



Women prove to be competitive

by Theresa Adams

Staff writer

Having completed half of their 1981-82 season, the Randolph-Macon women's basketball team has demonstrated that they are a competitive group.

During the first semester, the six players on the squad travelled to Grantham, Pennsylvania to participate in the Messiah College Invitational Basketball Tournament. They narrowly defeated Gettysburg College (58-56) in the first round and then coasted by Messiah College 53-46 in the finals. Junior Diane Hersey won a

spot on the all-tournament team, and freshman Sharon Miller was named the tournament's Most Valuable Player.

The R-MC women's basketball team hosted an invitational tournament on December 11 and 12. In this, the Lady Jackets lost to York College 52-56, but went on to defeat Gallaudet College 69-57.

Returning from their 3½ week Christmas lay-off, R-MC downed Virginia Wesleyan College 56-47 on January 9. Coach Billy Wood feels that this game showed the extent of the desire and

conditioning of Macon's players. He said that the Lady Jackets "came from behind to win," which shows an ability to play when the pressure is on. Diane Hersey and Sharon Miller paced the scoring in this game with each netting 16 points. Carol Thomson contributed another 13 points.

In their first conference game, R-MC fell to Bridgewater College 51-60 on January 12. Although Bridgewater has traditionally been a strong team in the conference, it was R-MC's poor playing that lost the

game. The Lady Jackets played what Wood termed a "flat" game, weak both offensively and defensively. The women just did not play a typical game, and it cost them.

On January 16, R-MC took on a Division II team, the University of Richmond, and were able to hold the Spiders to a 56-41 win. Wood says that the Lady Jackets "goal was to play a tight zone and force [U of R] to beat us from the outside." For the first 15 minutes, the women held U of R at bay, but then the Spiders began to pull away, gaining a 28-21 lead at half-

time that they held onto all of the second half. Diane Hersey had a strong game, earning 11 points and pulling down 12 rebounds. Sharon Miller led all scorers with 18 points.

Wood feels that the six players on R-MC's squad "deserve a great deal of credit for being competitive in every game." For this young squad, the adaptation to intercollegiate play has come about fairly quickly. This desire and conditioning should be useful in the upcoming conference games.



Runnerup in state

The Randolph-Macon College women's basketball team finished as state runnerup in Division III of the AIAW this season. Team members were kneeling from left Kim Jones and Cindy Crabill, standing from left Doreen Warburton, Cathy Naughton, Pat Spaven, Diane Hersey, Leigh Galsenda, Coach Linda Lerch, Ginger Noyce, Carol Thomson, Shelley Gilliam, Denise Latores and manager Lynn Willis. Not pictured are Sue Dulong, assistant coach, Carroll LaLaye and manager Karen Cutler.





Women's Basketball Ranks Fourth In State

By Teresa Adams
The Randolph-Macon College women's basketball team played its strongest season to date this year, finishing with an even 12-12 record and ranking fourth in the Division III state conference.

Along the way, the Lady Yellow Jackets obtained a winning conference record, earning victories over six Division III teams and only receiving four defeats. They only had narrow losses at the hands of Division II teams like University of Richmond (67-55 on Jan. 26) and Longwood College (65-60 on Feb. 26). They also performed well against nationally ranked

Division III teams, Widener College (a 71-55 loss on Jan. 31) and Ramapo College (a 70-67 loss on Feb. 3).

During the 1980-81 season, several players on the team earned recognition. Senior Cindy Crabill was one of the strongest assets on the team. She was the first woman at R-MC to score over 1,000 career points, topping that mark in the Feb. 26 game against Longwood College. She ranked second in the division in scoring, earning an average of 15 points per game and shooting an outstanding 52 percent from the floor. Her defense was notable as well. Crabill was ranked fourth in the state in rebounding. She

was recently named to the Division III All-State team, the first R-MC player to be honored.

Crabill has had strong assistance from many of her teammates this season. Sophomore Ginger Noco also averaged 15 points in each game and accounted for an average of seven rebounds in each game. Sophomore Diane Hersey also proved to be a strong offensive player, exhibiting skill and ability in all her games. She averaged 11.3 points and 6.5 rebounds in each game.

Seniors Shelley Gilem and Pat Spaven added depth to the R-MC lineup with the ball handling ability.



Thousand pointer Cindy Crabill was recently named to the Division III All State team.

After an exceptional season, the Lady Yellow Jackets qualified for the Division III state tournament for the second year in a row.

In the first round, played March 5, R-MC was matched up against fifth-ranked Christopher Newport College. According to coach Linda Lerch, R-MC did a good job shutting down CNC's top scorers. Shelley Gilem did an excellent job on CNC's high scorer, limiting her to only three points in the game.

Although the Lady Jackets were down 22-24 at halftime, they came on strong in the second half "crashing the boards" and ending regulation play with a 43-43 tie, says Lerch. "Ginger Noco kept us in the game, scoring 23 points in regulation time, grabbing 16 rebounds and making five steals."

In the overtime period, CNC appeared to get "very frustrated" in the coach's opinion. They put R-MC on the foul line five times. The Lady Yellow Jackets were able to connect on seven of nine foul shots to clinch a 54-48 victory.

R-MC was pitted against Clinch Valley College in the semifinals. Although the Lady Jackets were up by six points (32-26) at the halftime mark, CVC made a strong comeback, eating away at R-MC's lead. In the last five minutes of the game, R-MC let a 10 point lead divide away by missing out on some important offensive rebounds, until CVC had gotten a one-point, 57-56 advantage. Then, Cindy Crabill connected on one of two foul shots to tie the score. Ginger Noco pulled out the 59-57 victory with her two successful foul shots.

Overall, the CVC game was an excellent team effort.

Crabill and Noco worked together effectively to shut down CVC's best player, keeping her out of the main action in the final 10 minutes of the game. Crabill was R-MC's high rebounder in the game, with 10. Offensively, four of the Lady Yellow Jackets scored in double figures: Cathy Naughton and Diane Hersey each had 12 points, while Noco added another 14, and Crabill earned 15.

Advancing to its first finals match since its formation as a varsity team, R-MC was to face second-seeded Roanoke College. It was a very tight game, with the lead going back and forth during the first half. Although the Lady Jackets were down 35-31 at halftime, they came back to tie the score within the first minute of the second half. Once again, the lead alternated between the two teams.

With 10:20 left to play, and Roanoke up by four points, Ginger Noco rebounded her first shot and connected on the second with only five seconds to play. R-MC denied Roanoke's inbound pass, but fouled on the play. Roanoke's Tina Phillips connected on both of her one-on-one shots. Noco received a long pass and managed to sink a final basket before the buzzer sounded, but it still left

R-MC with a 66-64 defeat.

Senior Shelley Gilem and freshman Cathy Naughton proved to be vital defensive players for R-MC in this game. They effectively broke up Roanoke's strongest asset -- the fast break. Roanoke was never able to score off of this play.

Ginger Noco and Diane Hersey also turned in strong games, earning 24 points and 18 points respectively. In addition, Noco garnered 12 rebounds and Hersey had nine defensive rebounds.

Lerch feels that Noco "played an outstanding three games, both scoring and playing defense. She did everything on the court." Noco's strong tournament play earned her a spot on the All-Tournament team.

Coach Lerch has a well-justified pride in her women's basketball team. She feels that with a 5-13 record just two years ago, to advance to the finals in the state tournament is a big step forward for the women's basketball program at R-MC. This was the first year the R-MC women's team was able to bring home a trophy. Lerch feels that "having such a good tournament has boosted our confidence and we can look forward to being even better next year."

Women's basketball

by Teresa Adams
Staff writer

The 1981 Randolph-Macon women's basketball team will find that its greatest challenge lies in developing the stamina to play whole games without substitutes.

The team currently consists of six players, which does not leave much for foul problems during games, or for injuries. But Coach Billy Wood remains optimistic. He says that he would "rather have six players who want to play than 12 players who don't."

Wood maintains that the Macon women can still be a threat in Division III, even with their player shortage. Last year, R-MC placed second in the state, so they will have a hard standard to meet this year. Unfortunately, the Lady Jackets lost four of last year's starters to graduation and transfers. Only one starter, junior Diane Hersey, returned this year. Sophomores Doreen Warihay and Carol Thomson will provide some experience, but they did not see much playing time last year. Freshmen Cindy Woolfrey, Nancy Sebeck and Sharon Miller round out the squad.

Wood hopes to build "player maturity" this season. The women will have to learn to "eliminate mistakes and take advantage of the opposition's weaknesses," he says. The Lady Jackets have the enthusiasm and desire, he continues, and will come to play well together as a team.

Women's Basketball

Lady Jackets End Season in to have 12 at State Tourney



Ginger Noco, freshman forward on the team.

The 1979-80 season was one of great strides for Randolph-Macon's women's basketball program. Coach Linda Lerch's Lady Jackets finished with a 10-11 season's record, but, more importantly, qualified for post-season tournament play for the first time in school history and held the foundation for greater success in the next several years.

After its 11-3 season in 1979-80, the program benefited this year from two moves made by the College's administration in the off-season. Foremost among these was

in scoring with a 17-0 record, by clinching a school record 33 points against Hollins. Junior Crabill was a consistent double figure scorer, averaging over 14 points a game, and also was the team's top rebounder (tied among all Division III players) with 13 a game. Noco, a freshman from Roanoke, made an immediate impression by scoring a then-school record 27 in her second interconference game, and after a mid-season injury, finished with a 13.9 average.

Coach Lerch alternated four players at the guard spots all season. Junior Shelley Gilem and Pat Spaven were the starters, while 5'7" Junior Kim Jones provided a spark off the bench all season. Freshman Diane Hersey came on strong at the end of the season, sitting seven of 11 shots from the field in the final regular season game.

The Lady Jackets opened the season with losses to Virginia Wesleyan, which finished the season as the top-rated Division III team in the state, and Division II William & Mary. Lerch's squad then posted back-to-back road wins over Averett (76-64) and Liberty (64-57).

Following back-to-back losses to Henry & Henry and Clinch Valley, the squad broke for exams and will be looking for a win Saturday in the final game of the season.

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Lady Jackets retain sting with no subs

By Tom Haudricourt
Times-Dispatch Staff Writer

When Randolph-Macon College women's basketball coach Billy Wood looks down his bench during games, that's exactly what he sees. The bench.

Wood and assistant Carroll LaHaye have been as lonely as the Maytag repairman on the bench the past few weeks, because R-MC is down to a bench of empty chairs for substitutes.

The Lady Jackets' entire squad has numbered just five players the past few weeks because of an ankle injury to Nancy Sebeck, a freshman wing from Ellicott City, Md., the hometown of R-MC men's star Bryan Vaca. She is expected to return in the next few days, boosting the player total to six -- and giving Wood and LaHaye some company during games.

"At least we haven't had to worry about what substitute to put in," said Wood, who coaches the R-MC women when he's not helping his brother run an Ashland convenience store. "Carroll and I do a lot of talking to each other on the bench just to keep from going crazy. We're still having a good time. Of course, if we were losing it might be frustrating."

That's the catch. If the Lady Jackets have been hampered by the dwindling numbers, they haven't shown it. They boosted their record to 13-6 with a 66-50 victory at Eastern Mennonite Friday night and have been playing their best ball of the season in recent weeks (5-6 since being down to five players).

As a matter of fact, R-MC has proven its ability with fewer than five players. Cindy Woolfrey, a freshman post player from



Staff illustration by Martin Rhodes

Lady Jackets qualify for tournament

by Teresa Adams
Staff writer

The Randolph-Macon women's basketball team finished their regular season with a 14-10 record. They claimed second place in the state with a 6-2 record in Division III.

On February 17, Christopher Newport College put an end to R-MC's six-game winning streak when they defeated the Lady Jackets 60-43. Although R-MC finally had all six players back in uniform, they could not contain the aggressive CNC team. Diane Hersey led R-MC with 10 points and 14 rebounds. Carol Thomson and Sharon Miller each contributed 10 points as well.

February

Hopeli games a season in women's tournament March 5 Randolph finals, R against E March 2

Although these scores would not indicate a strong finish for the Lady Jackets, they do not tell the whole story. Playing Division II teams is very demanding, and R-MC found that they lacked the height and speed to endure against teams like George Mason, which was ranked third in Division II in the state. The game against Longwood was a close contest. With just one minute left to play, the Lady Jackets were down by only four points. Unfortunately, Cindy Woolfrey committed her fifth foul with only 20 seconds left to play. Doreen Warihay fouled out fifteen seconds later. Since Diane Hersey had fouled out earlier, this left R-MC playing with only three on the squad. The resultant foul shots and player disadvantage allowed Longwood to increase their edge.

Then the Lady Jackets entered the most difficult part of their season: they finished their season by playing three Division II teams. On February 18, they fell to William and Mary 66-45. After that, they had a brief respite, earning an easy 74-39 victory over Hollins College on February 20. But the Jackets came back to receive a 76-39 drubbing from George Mason on February 23 and a 64-56 loss to Longwood College on

Lady Jackets: small numbers, big results

by Teresa Adams
Staff writer

The Randolph-Macon women's basketball team, with six players on the roster, is surprising a lot of people. The Lady Jackets are currently riding high after winning three important conference games. They downed Roanoke College (last year's state champions) 65-57 on January 28. They followed this with a 71-50 trouncing of Ferrum College on January 30; they capped this with a 57-55 decision over Lynchburg College on February 1.

And all of this with a squad that is currently down to a mere five players. Nancy Sebeck suffered ligament damage in the Ferrum game, and will be giving only moral support to the team for the next three weeks. That leaves junior Diane Hersey, sophomores Carol Thomson and Doreen Warihay and freshmen Cindy Woolfrey and Sharon Miller to carry the ball game.

The size of Macon's squad is definitely turning a few heads. According to assistant coach Carroll LaHaye, "many people chuckle when they see that we only have five of six players; they have that look [that a victory will be easy]." But as the game progresses and we set the tempo, the other coaches "soon stop laughing."

To Coach Billy Wood, having five players means

that those five women have to play "a little tougher and a little harder." He did not feel that a six-player squad was a handicap, but admits to a few worries now that Macon's team is down to five women. "We can't foul and we can't make too many mistakes," he says. But he feels that the Macon women are mentally and physically tough and able to handle the situation.

Junior Diane Hersey is equally optimistic about her team. The team's only returning letter winner, she says, "we were discouraged at first, but we rose to the occasion. Most of the time the whole team gives 120%—what else can you do?" She admits that this is more demanding physically, but the women have more than demonstrated that they are equal to the situation.

An example of this endurance would be the Lynchburg game, where the list of factors against R-MC would have daunted any squad. Sebeck was on the bench, Carol Thomson had been fighting a cold for a week, and Doreen Warihay was nursing a knee injury in the Roanoke College game. But the Lady Jackets were able to control the game and frustrate the Hornets.

Another factor in this year's team is its youth: three freshmen, two sophomores, and a junior comprise the squad. Hersey says she was a "little pessimistic at first about the freshmen adapting

to the calibre of college ball," but she maintains that the players have all "blended" into a team, and they all "play like veterans now." LaHaye concurs with this assessment. She feels that youth has "not affected the team as much as we expected." It is a little harder to maintain motivation, but she is sure that her team has enough to respond to that.

Wood sees youth as no major obstacle. Certainly "young people make mistakes, sometimes costly ones," but R-MC's enthusiasm balances that out. He acknowledges lack of height and only average speed as two of the most pressing problems for the squad. These are the two problems they must compensate for this season.

So far, the lack of excessive speed has not been a detrimental factor. The Lady Jackets have managed to control the tempo in most of their games, not allowing opponents to wear them out on the court.

As for size, the R-MC women play big. In the last three games, the Lady Jackets have out-rebounded their opponents each time. Cindy Woolfrey has been leading R-MC's rebounders, consistently beating out taller opponents under the basket.

Injuries present the greatest hazard to the team.

When losing one player can mean playing at a numerical disadvantage, a certain amount of grit has to be maintained. With no substitutes available, Nancy Sebeck played the final 15 minutes of the Ferrum game with an injured ankle. She still managed to score, ending the game with 10 points. Sharon Miller limped through the final minutes of the Lynchburg game after sustaining a thigh injury.

Although the women have a streak going now, things were not always so good. After returning from Christmas break, the women saw a 5-2 record turn into a 7-6 one. Hard losses to schools like Clinch Valley (Jan. 23), and Mary Washington (Jan. 25), were bitter blows to the team's morale. Wood feels that the women were not up for those games. He explains that it is surprising to see what a lack of motivation can do to a person and what a lack of motivation in one person can do to the whole team.

Hersey agrees that there was a definite attitude problem associated with

these games. The girls were "lackadaisical," and "getting out of shape; practice wasn't as intense." That, coupled with a break in coach-player communication, led to friction on the squad. The players were justifiably concerned and took time to readjust their attitudes. And it paid off. According to Hersey, there was a complete attitude switch. Everyone communicates as a team now, which is reflected on the court. LaHaye credits a lot of this attitude to desire: "The girls got it into their minds that they didn't want to be losers."

The women are convinced, the coaches are convinced, and now the fans are becoming convinced that the Lady Jackets can take on larger squads and win. Wood likes this trend. He says that "what we need more than anything else is student, faculty, and community support." All are invited to see the ladies play at home on Feb. 6 at 3:00 p.m. against Lahman College and on Feb. 18 at 7:00 against William & Mary.



Women's b-ball has won six straight

by Teresa Adams
Staff writer

The Randolph-Macon women's basketball team is steaming along, winning their sixth straight game to boost their season record to 13-6.

After raising their division record to 4-2 by defeating Roanoke College, Lynchburg College and Ferrum College in rapid succession, the women deserved to coast a while. On February 2, R-

MC's five players (Nancy Sebeck was still in a cast after suffering ligament damage) traveled to Shenandoah College. The Lady Jackets dispatched Shenandoah 55-40. Sharon Miller and Diane Hersey paced the scoring with 16 points apiece.

Once they had shown all interested parties that they could be a strong winner with just five players, R-MC then went on to demonstrate

that they could do it with four. Cindy Woolfrey contracted an infection, limiting her playing ability in the February 6 confrontation with Lehman College. Since a game cannot be played with only four players, Woolfrey suited up and played a part of the game. Even with just four players, R-MC rolled by Lehman 66-32. Sharon Miller and Carol Thomson proved to be scoring assets, earning 22

points and 21 points, respectively. Defensively, Miller had 13 rebounds and Diane Hersey had 12, allowing the Lady Jackets to control and dominate the game.

On February 12, R-MC, back up to five healthy players, rolled over Eastern Mennonite College 66-50. This raised their division record to 5-2, making Macon a strong contender in the state tournament, coming up

on March 5 and 6. Sharon Miller and Carol Thomson shared high-scoring honors in this match, garnering 22 points and 21 points. Diane Hersey and Miller provided defensive strength, pulling down 13 rebounds each.

The women will finish their regular season with a home game against Hollins College on February 20 at 2:00. The quarterfinals for the state tournament will be played March 2.



photo by Amy Bram

Carol Thomson drives the lane for two.



March 4, 1982, RMC Newspaper

Sharon's fans will be shouting tomorrow at 6:30 p.m. when R-MC faces Ferrum in the NAIA semi-finals.

Women finish 3rd in state

by Shannon Byrd
Staff writer

On March 2, the women's basketball team (seeded 2nd) played Emory and Henry (7th seed) in the quarterfinals of the VAAW Division III state tournament. Playing before a home crowd, the Lady Jackets won the game 57-45 with Sharon Miller scoring 18 points, Carol Thomson scoring 16, and Cindy Woolfrey pulling down 7 rebounds. Coach LaHaye says that the girls played very well and slowed E & H's fast-break down. "It was an important game for us since

the semifinal and final contests were to be hosted by R-MC," she said.

The following Friday night, R-MC played Ferrum (seeded 3rd) and came away with a 62-57 loss. Carol Thomson scored 20 points and Diane Hersey had 9 rebounds. The girls played an excellent second half, bringing the score within 3 points, following a 14 point deficit. LaHaye feels that the girls were somewhat nervous and they could not capitalize on Ferrum's mistakes. She says that Ferrum has had better tournament experience and

just came out playing strongly.

On Saturday, the girls played Lynchburg (4th seed) and won 66-44. Williams had 21 points and Hersey grabbed 11 rebounds. With the pressure off, the girls relaxed and played a good game. Carol Thomson was named to the All-Tournament team and R-MC placed 3rd in the state.

What does Coach LaHaye see for next year? She states that there is a possibility of R-MC going Division II, which would mean more scholarships. They are in the process

of recruiting Division II-type ballplayers. She says that the returning players will form a good nucleus.

Players honored

Sharon Miller and Diane Hersey were named to the VAAW Division III All-State Team. Twelve players from nine schools were chosen by all the coaches based on season play, statistics, and general ability. Sharon led the team with 17.4 points per game while Diane had 10 points per game. Diane was the leading rebounder with an average of 10.6 per game.



Lady Jackets stand at 1-2

by Shannon Byrd
Sports editor

The women's basketball team opened their season versus Liberty Baptist College at the Lady Flames Tip-off Tournament Nov. 19. It was the first game for both schools, and LBC came out on top, 84-73. Emby Weatherholtz was the high scorer with 19 points, including 13 for 14 from the line. Kathy Tumulty had 16 points. Women's basketball Coach LaHaye thinks that a team record for foul-shooting percentage was set during this game, since the team was 27 for 31 from the line, or 87%. She

was very pleased with the amount of effort that each player gave and several times there were only freshmen on the court.

The next day, the Lady Jackets played Christopher Newport College and beat them 64-51. Kim Dunn had 15 points and 21 rebounds. Pam Stewart had 12 points and Kathy Tumulty had 7 assists. LaHaye was very happy to see that her players came out aggressive and corrected mistakes made in the previous game. Both she and assistant coach Rahn were pleased once again with the effort that was

put out.

However, at the Jackets first home game on Nov. 23, CNC came back to beat R-MC 58-43. Carol Thomson had 11 points and Emby Weatherholtz had 8 points. "CNC didn't come to be beaten twice," said LaHaye, "and the team just wasn't psyched enough to play. Our shooting percentage was only 27%, and you can't win ballgames with that low a percentage. Hopefully, we'll get the rough edges smoothed out before our next game." The next home game will be the R-MC Women's Invitational on Dec. 10-11.

Lady Jackets ranked third

Shannon Byrd
Staff writer

The Lady Jackets gained impressive victories over Longwood and Liberty Baptist College to improve their conference record to two-and-two. They are currently ranked third in the state, trailing Radford and Hampton Institute.

The Longwood game saw a heavily prepared R-MC squad that set out to exploit the Lady Lancers' weaknesses. Playing man-to-man defense, the Jackets virtually shut down Longwood's offense and prevented a late Lancer comeback attempt.

Leading the entire game, R-MC won 58-53.

Two nights later came the rematch with Liberty Baptist. It was revenge night and the Jackets were fired up.

Sharon Miller had 16 points, three assists and 14 rebounds. Kathy Tumulty and Carol Thomson were also effective in the 67-56 win.

Saturday's game was against Division I George Mason University, who defeated the Jackets 89-77.

The outcome of the next two games will determine any postseason play for the Lady Jackets.



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May, 1981

Women Capture Second in State

The women's basketball team rounded out the 1980-81 season with a strong finish by advancing to the finals of the state AIAW Division III tournament in March. The Lady Jackets narrowly missed defeating Radford College and had to settle for the runner-up trophy, but there was little complaining about the best season since the team was established.

With an overall record of 12-12, the women's basketball team made strong showings throughout the season against such Division II teams as the University of Richmond and Longwood College. In Division III competition, their record was 6-4.

Captain Cindy Crabill, a senior, compiled an impressive record to complete her career. The first woman at Randolph-Macon to score over 1,000 career points, she was ranked second in the division in scoring with an average of 15 points per game and a 52 per cent shooting average.

An important asset on defense as well, Crabill was ranked fourth in the state for rebounding and was named to the Division III All-State team, the first R-MC player to be so honored.

Other notable contributors to the successful season were sophomore Ginger Noss, who averaged 15 points and seven rebounds per game; sophomore Diane Hersey, who averaged 11.2 points and 6.5 rebounds each game; and seniors Shelley Gilliam and Pat Spivak, who both displayed strong ball-handling throughout the season.

BULLETIN OF RANDOLPH-MACON COLLEGE 19



The 1980-81 women's team with trophy: (standing L to R) Kim Dunn and Cindy Crabill, (seated L to R) Sharon Miller, Kathy Tumulty, Pat Spivak, Diane Hersey, Leigh Coleman, Coach Linda Lerch, Ginger Noss, Carol Thomson, Shelley Gilliam, Ginger Noss, and manager Lynn Webb. Not pictured are Sue Dillong, assistant coach Carroll Lafferty, and manager Karen Carter.

A Memorable Season High Hopes Dashed in First Playoff Round

By Gary Craig

Randolph-Macon's basketball squad visited the Mount St. Mary's gymnasium in Emmitsburg, Md., several times during the past season, and while there, experienced quite a range of emotional highs and lows.

The Mount's gym was the scene for what will be one of the most remembered victories in R-MC basketball history. The Jackets had beaten the Mounties earlier in the season at Cranston, 53-47. Mount St. Mary's had entered that contest undefeated and ranked number two in the nation.

When the Jackets traveled north for their away contest with the Mounties, the setting was even more

dramatic. The Mounties had not lost since their defeat at the Jackets' hands and were now ranked number one. And, of course, they wanted revenge for the one loss on their record.

They didn't get it. Instead, the Jackets again bumped them off, this time by a 62-40 score in a single-over-time contest. The game ended when senior Paul Gartian intercepted a Mount's pass, dribbled nearly the length of the court, and dunked the ball for the final margin. The buzzer sounded immediately after Gartian's game-winning heave and the Jackets had proved that they were not to be taken for granted.

quite able to overcome their lack of scoring from the perimeter. In the consolation game, the Jackets again dropped another heartbreaker, this one to Chesapeake State by a score of 76-67. The Jackets led in the game the entire first half and the first part of the second half before a strong inside Chesapeake State line-up came to life. With 1:28 remaining, the Jackets trailed 65-63; in the time remaining, however, their opposition converted nine of 11 free throws to open up the margin. Gartian led the Jackets with 22 points while Nelson added 20. Nelson was named to the All-Tournament team for his strong

Lady Jackets split with Lynchburg, V.C.U.

by Shannon Byrd
Staff writer

On Tuesday, Jan. 18, the Lady Jackets triumphed over Lynchburg College, 76-69 despite a sluggish start. At the end of the first half the score was 33-30 in the Jackets' favor. Lynchburg's senior center Betty Jackson was doing considerable damage on the inside, so Coach Carroll LaHaye put Cindy Woolfrey on her.

"Cindy is our best defensive player, and she did a good job on Betty." During halftime, LaHaye decided to let Jackson

have her game and to shut everyone else down.

In the second half the women climbed to a 12-17 point lead until Pam Stewart reinjured her knee. Lynchburg began to cut the lead down. "Pam's injury deflated us somewhat but we held on to win," said LaHaye.

Colleen Lynch had 14 points, and 10 rebounds; Sharon Miller had 13 points, and Carol Thomson had 12 points and five assists. "We shot 51.4 percent in field goals, which is our best so far this season,"

commented Assistant Coach Brenda Rahn.

Thursday saw the Lady Jackets lose a tough game to VCU 71-70. "The girls played very, very well. It was a total team effort. We finally showed some consistency in our play and we played hard," said Coach LaHaye.

Kim Dunn came off the bench to grab 15 rebounds and shoot 57 percent in field goals. Carol Thomson had 27 points and Kathy Tumulty and 16 points, five steals, and three assists.

February 24, 1983, RMC Newspaper



photo by James Pierce

Sophomore Cindy Woolfrey has proved to be a major factor in the outcome of the Lady Jackets' games this year.



Freshman Paige Selvey has been a key factor in the Lady Jackets season from the outset and is expected to continue to turn in superior performances. photo by James Pierce



Lady Jackets rapidly building winning traditions

by Shannon Byrd
Staff writer

The Lady Jackets first season as a Division II team turned out better than expected. They finished third in the state with a 10-12 record. The team finished stronger than Longwood, Liberty Baptist, and William and Mary.

"Not making it to the state tournament was disappointing but they did it on power rankings, not season or conference record and Liberty

Baptist beat us by .011 points," said Coach LaHaye.

Carol Thomson finished the season with an average of 12.5 points per game while Colleen Lynch had 8.5 points per game. Kim Dunn was second in the state in rebounds with 8.8 per game. In assists, Paige Selvey finished fourth in the state with three per game.

"The girls showed remarkable improvement throughout the season and at the end were playing like a total team. We had no dominating players which meant we didn't have to

rely on certain people — everyone contributed.

All in all," she continued, "it was a respectable maiden season with eight freshmen, a new coach, going Division II, and playing established teams. We're looking forward to next year to continue building a winning tradition."

The Women's lacrosse team is a team to keep an eye on this year after coming off a fifth place national finish last year. Most of the players from that

championship team are returning.

On offense, Nancy Sebeck, who scored 53 goals last year including several at the nationals; Betsy Brannan, who made All-Championship Team at nationals; and Lori Nelson, the third leading scorer last year will return.

On defense, Sharon Holmes, Sue Dulong, who is playing a new position, and Carol Thomson, whose basketball knowledge helps on defense will return. Kathy Tumulty will start in the cage.

"She has no experience but in one week has improved tremendously," said Coach LaHaye. Freshmen Celine Dally and Lori Snead bring experience to the team.

"There are 21 girls on the team so there will be no J.V. team. Hopefully, everyone will get as much playing time as possible. We joined the ODAC conference so the girls are aiming for the ODAC championship. It makes my job much easier and more fun because they are already motivated."



Cohesive, Experienced Lady Jackets Aim High

By Will Schermerhorn

The Lady Jackets basketball team had had a tough one, but Coach Carroll LaHaye was positive in her outlook on this year's team. Although Virginia Union University stung the Lady Jackets 58-49, LaHaye said, "We definitely have more potential and more weapons." She added wryly, "But our weapons aren't shooting straight."

The 1984 team is more experienced, and that experience is producing a stronger cohesiveness than ever before, she said. Despite the greater

togetherness, the team "hasn't gelled together" as much as LaHaye expects them to.

On the plus side of the team's profile, LaHaye said that they have good depth, more reliable shooters, and are playing more as a team. They are not getting into foul trouble and LaHaye says the defense is looking good.

However, low shooting percentages and difficulty capturing rebounds are a liability for the present. According to LaHaye, most opponents on the average are stronger, faster, and taller than the Lady Jackets. "We're holding our own, but we haven't

gotten over the hump."

"We've played some real good teams," said LaHaye, "and we've been tested to the limit. We don't have the competitive edge we need. We've worked extremely hard on that, but we're beginning to get there. If we can get the players to believe they can play..." She trailed off.

"We're not physical enough. We have a nice, wonderful, ladylike team," she said, and added that oftentimes when other teams try to draw a physical foul against her players, they cannot believe that the other team would do such a thing.

Maintaining a disciplined attack and defense is another problem that the Lady Jackets are experiencing. LaHaye said that the structured defense and offense patterns set up early in the game degenerate to "random" set-ups at times.

"We wanted to give the upperclassmen a little more freedom to let them use their own creativity. They deviate from the game plan, like tonight, and get in a hole. Then it's hard to work your way out of it."

The top five players for this year are junior Holly Cope at point guard, senior Cindy

Woodrey, the "mainstay" on defense at second guard, wing player Sharon Miller, the second of the two seniors on the team, sophomore center Karen Eye, who is the tallest player at 6'2" and the leading rebounder, and junior Emby Weatherholtz, whose greatest strength is in faking and drawing fouls.

	RMC	Opp
shooting	28.6%	45.7%
Free throws	68.9%	70.6%
points per game	71	74.6
rebounds	41.7	48
fouls (total)	114	129
turnovers (total)	135	144



Hoops are the name of the game

By Liz Latchford

During the first week after returning from Christmas break, the women's basketball team played three games and won only one.

The only victory came over Bridgewater College, beating the Lady Eagles 72-39.

The Lady Jackets participated in a weekend tournament, the snowflake Classic in Shipensburg, Pennsylvania. Losing both games, the women's record fell to 4-7.

In a recent interview, Coach Carroll LaHaye attributed six of the seven losses to the team's shooting percentage.

"We've been very competitive, but haven't been able to put the ball in the hoop."

Continued Coach LaHaye, "We are consistent by losing because of our low shooting percentage."

LaHaye stated that at the tournament two weekends ago, "we were as good as any team there, but we didn't show what we were capable of being."

According to LaHaye, "We had more opportunities than our

opponents, but" continued the coach, "they capitalized on their possessions and we didn't."

Of the seven games the Lady Jackets have lost, only one has been a total blowout. James Madison was responsible for blowing R-MC away, 101-65.

"They (Madison) were far superior," added LaHaye.

Coach LaHaye stated that the one thing the players must realize is that every shot counts and that every shot is as important as the last one.

"Sometimes a shot missed early in the game can come back to haunt you in the end."

When asked why she felt the team was shooting at such a low percentage, LaHaye attributed it to a lack of concentration.

The "give me shots," shots taken right underneath the basket, are continuously missed because of pressure and lack of concentration explained LaHaye.

The coach continued by saying that the team is missing opportunities to score after making the offensive rebound off an outside shot.

LaHaye expresses frustration

because not only are the less experienced freshmen and sophomore players missing their shots, but so are the veteran junior and senior team members.

One aspect of the team's game LaHaye is quick to praise is their defense.

"Our defense is superb," LaHaye explained that the players are able, defensively, to get the ball, but once they have the opportunity to score, it is often blown away with a missed shot.

Because of the team-wide shooting problem, a shooting program has been devised.

It will be, according to LaHaye, an individualized program where each player will receive shooting instruction according to her position and where the majority of her shots come from.

Players will be required to find time during the week, and outside of practice, to go to the gym and shoot a specific amount of shots, typical of one's position.

During regular practices more emphasis will be placed on shooting rather than on drill work.

Wood, Miller Nominated for Awards

By Liz Latchford

Rod Wood and Sharon Miller, members of the men's and women's basketball teams, have been nominated by Randolph-Macon College for various athletic awards.

Wood has been nominated for the F.P. Naismith-Hall of Fame Award, an award given to the best senior player in the nation who is under six feet tall.

Wood's character, leadership, loyalty, and all-around basketball ability are the qualities that brought him this nomination.

Sharon Miller has been nominated for the Academic All-American award.

Miller holds a 3.6 grade point average while finishing her senior year, and belongs to two academic fraternities: Beta Beta Beta and Chi Beta Phi.

Aside from belonging to two academic fraternities of science, she was also granted the Watts Scholarship in biology, given by the college.

If the Academic All-American award is given to Sharon, she will be notified in March. According to Sports Information Director Keith Ogilvie, even if Sharon does not receive the award she should at least be given honorable mention or placement on one of the first two All-American teams.

Rod Wood will find out if his nomination brings him an award in April.



Rod Wood



Sharon Miller

Dunn, Carroll Pace Lady Jackets Past Radford

By Kristen Stottlemeyer

The Lady Jackets of Randolph-Macon College scored an impressive 72-48 win over the visiting Lady Highlanders of Radford University on Thursday, February 14th.

Earlier in the season the Yellow Jackets lost in overtime to Radford, but this time it was the Jacket's turn for a win. Led by junior center Kim Dunn with 14 points and freshman forward Beverly Carroll with 13, the Jackets were able to halt the Highlander's scoring threat while riling up the points.

The first half of the game was tight with each team switching the lead several times. At the end of the half the Lady Jackets found themselves on top by one, leading 38-37.

The second half saw Macon gain and then lose a 14 point lead. The Highlander attack was led by Barbara Gunter and Robin Watkins. Kim Dunn put the Yellow Jackets ahead to stay with a layup and two successful foul shots in the last minutes of the game.

Other noteworthy performers for Randolph-Macon were Holly Cope with 12 points, Karen Eye with 11, and Sharon Miller with 10 points.



Freshman Ben Dunkerberger dribbles past a Lady Highlander of Radford University. The Lady Jackets won 72-48.



Val Taylor

R-MC Athletes Nominated

By Liz Latchford

Athletes in men's and women's basketball, baseball, and men's soccer have been nominated for various athletic awards.

Sharon Miller, a member of the Lady Jackets basketball team, has been named Academic All-American for District 3. She has been placed on the All-American team and her name goes on a ballot for the National Academic All-American. Selections are made by Sports Information directors around the United States.

Jesse Hellyer and Rod Wood have been nominated for the National Association of Basketball Coaches All-District award.

During the 1984-85 season, Hellyer has climbed to Number 6 on the All-Time Yellow Jacket Scoring List, has started in 110 consecutive games, has become the highest career scorer that has played for Head Coach Hal Nunnally, and as of January 28th, leads the nation in field goal percentage for Division II. The list of team and individual honors for Hellyer prior to this season is immense.

Rod Wood was recently nominated for the F.P. Naismith Hall of Fame Award. During the present season Wood leads the team in career minutes played and assists. He has compiled 575 assists during his career; this mark secures him as R-MC's Number 2 All-Time Assists Leader. Wood is also within 40 points of becoming R-MC's 22nd member of the Thousand Point Club.

R-MC baseball team's Jack Walker has been nominated for Academic All-American.

Walker is a computer science major and mathematics minor and holds a grade point average of 3.20. He has been a Dean's List and President's List student, is a member of the Judicial Council, is a member of ODK, and has been a ranking officer in Kappa Alpha fraternity.

For the last two years Walker has made All-Conference. He is team captain and is a praised baseball player for his excellent base running and defensive playing.

Paul Waltsak, a senior member of the Men's Soccer team, has been nominated for the At-Large Academic All-America Team.

Waltsak, who holds a 3.18 grade point average and is a Business/Economics major, is a member of the Dean's List, is an elected member of the Omicron Delta Kappa, and is a nominee for ODK's Man of the Year.

While playing for the Yellow Jackets soccer team, Waltsak was a captain for two years, was Defensive M.V.P. of the 1982 Virginia Tech Tournament, was a 3-time All-State Conference selection in 1981, 1983, and 1984; he played in the State All-Star Game in 1981, 1983, and 1984, made Second Team All-State (Virginia) in 1984, and Second Team All-Mid Atlantic Region in 1984.

Among his many campus activities, Waltsak is a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity, a member of the R-MC/Ashland Township Liasion Committee, and the Student Liasion to the Parents Advisory Council.

Waltsak belongs to the Business/Economics Club, the Varsity Club and Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

All student athletes that have been nominated will be notified in April of their impending awards.

The Lady Jackets

By Teresa Adams '82

This year, the R-MC women's basketball team possesses the strength and skill to pose a definite threat to any of their Division III opponents.

Adding six freshmen to the seven returning upperclassmen has increased the depth and strength of the squad," according to Coach Linda Lerch.

Lerch anticipates that the freshmen players, most notably Carol Thompson and Cathy Naughton, will "add a competitive spark to R-MC's women's basketball team."

Senior Cindy Crabill and sophomore Ginger Noce are probably the two strongest players on the team. Crabill, a center, averaged 14.6 points per game last year and pulled down an average of 14.5 rebounds each game. Noce, a forward, scored an average of 14.5 points per game, sinking a very respectable 44 per cent of her attempted shots.

Most of last year's squad will be returning to the R-MC lineup this year. Shelley Gilliam, an outstanding outside shooter, will be returning for her fourth season as a starter for a starting berth at the point guard position. Lerch anticipates that junior Judy Glens will help provide depth on the inside, and that sophomore Diane Hersey, with her "great defensive ability," will be a strong asset to the Lady Yellow Jackets.

The women's basketball team will play a 20-game season this year. Their first game will be a home contest against Randolph-Macon Women's College on November 18. The season will continue through late February.

A highlight of this year's season will be a trip to New York during colloquy break, to play games against Widener College, More College, and

November 1980, RMC Bulletin

Lady Eagles Soar Past Yellow Jackets

By Liz Latchford

The Lady Jackets basketball team traveled to Washington D.C. last week to face the Lady Eagles of American University.

A.U.'s quickness, tight defense, and control of the boards caused the Lady Jackets to take an 80-66 loss back with them to Ashland.

The Lady Eagles out-rebounded R-MC 44-21, providing for frequent fast breaks and numerous opportunities for scoring by the opponent.

In the first half the score remained close. The Jackets engaged in a fast paced passing game, trying to be patient in taking their shots.

Sharon Miller added 19 points, many of them coming from the outside. Freshman Tracy Difiglio popped in two points deep from the outside, but later saw little time on the court after spraining an ankle.

The Lady Jackets were down only by five at the half, with the score 35-30.

The second half began with A.U. exploding on the boards as they quickly collected five more points. The Lady Eagles continued with a tight defense,

causing R-MC to shoot for the hoop from the outside.

Emby Weatherholtz was instrumental in gaining points, drawing two fouls and adding three points in four minutes.

Senior Cindy Woolfrey had a superb night adding 7 points, 6 assists, and 4 steals.

Holly Cope brought the team within three with 15:46 remaining with a spin-around-the-rim shot, but the Yellow Jackets were stung from then on.

The turning point seemed to come when starting center Karen Eye sat down with 4 fouls. Without Karen's end-to-end court play the team seemed to lose a bit of confidence.

Beth Dunkenberg played a significant role, picking up Holly Cope's position while Cope got a necessary rest. Beth was able to maintain the same court presence as Holly and added three points and two assists during her short period of play.

Emby Weatherholtz finished with 10 points and 2 steals; Holly Cope ended with 10 points, 3 assists.

Kim Dunn contributed 6 points and 3 assists while Sharon Miller topped the night with 23 points.

February 12, 1985, RMC Newspaper

Strong Season Puts Lady Jackets on Map

by Tucker Smith

For seniors Kim Dunn, Holly Cope, and Emby Weatherholtz, the 1985-86 women's basketball season was a good one. First, they saw their team's record bettered from the 9-14 mark of last year to an even 13-13. They have also helped to put the Lady Jackets program on the basketball map. "We are now, finally, well-known around the coast including Maryland, Pennsylvania, and Virginia," comments head coach Carol LaHaye. Hopefully, this public success will help to bring more talent into Crenshaw Gym.

Coach LaHaye stresses the fact that their 13-13 record is no indication of the teams true potential. "I felt there were 4 or 5 games that could have gone either way." The Lady Jackets played one of the strongest schedules this year playing six division I teams, twelve division II teams, and three division III

teams. "The teams we played had more talent and it forced us to play stronger," comments LaHaye. The coach also feels the Snowflake Classic and the University of Richmond victories were the highlights of the season.

As for her graduating seniors, Coach LaHaye is as proud as ever. "Holly Cope has been a career leader in assists, points, and steals, and I can't say enough about her. The same goes for Kim Dunn and Emby (Weatherholtz). Kim has been a tremendous force on the boards and Emby has been a four-year starter who will always provide consistency."

As proud as Coach LaHaye is of her seniors, she is equally proud of next year's squad. "We have an excellent returning nucleus. Recruiting is going well and I am very positive when I look toward next year."

Women's Basketball Faces Toughest Season Ever

by Christie Jackle

The members of R-MC's Women's Basketball team have set some high goals for themselves as the 1985-86 season gets underway. Coach Carroll LaHaye recognizes the present season to contain one of the "toughest schedules ever played" by our women's team. This winter, the basketball team will play 28 games. Of these 28, only three will be against Division III schools. Six games will rival Division I teams, and the remaining nineteen will be against Division II teams.

This challenging schedule was Coach LaHaye's choice. She believes that one of the most expedient means of improving R-MC's Women's Basketball program is to challenge her players to face consistently tough, if not tougher, competition. How do Coach LaHaye's players feel about the stiff competition facing them? "I think they feel good about the season and are confident," says LaHaye.

The team's confidence is not unwarranted. These women have dedicated themselves to a strict pre-season regimen. Says LaHaye, "This team has really taken care of themselves..." including an intense weight-lifting program, supervised by Assistant Coach Brenda Rahn.

Coach LaHaye has good reason for her own confidence in the team. Only two starters were lost with 1985's graduation, and the remaining players are all strong. Also, two talented freshmen have added depth to the team. Melodie Fearnow, a freshman from Mechanicsville, plays back-up to senior guard Holly Cope. Her performance in the recent CP Dean Tournament hosted by R-MC allowed Fearnow to show her talents. "Melo-

die looked good, very good," says LaHaye. Another freshman, Lynn Eoppolo, from Wilmington, DE, was a top recruit for the 1985-86 squad. Her performance as a sub for center Karen Eye in the play of the CP Dean Tournament earned her a spot on the All-Tournament team.

The CP Dean Tournament was played the weekend of November 22nd and 23rd and opened the season with a few surprises. Our basketball team lost to Va. Union University and to Mt. St. Mary's College. The game against the "Mount" was perhaps their greatest disappointment. R-MC lost 88-71, but according to Coach LaHaye, the score does not reflect the tightness of the score throughout the majority of the game.

R-MC also upset a "weaker than expected" Navy team, 70-52. Overall, LaHaye "was very pleased with our play." A highlight of the tournament, besides Fearnow's and Eoppolo's performances, was that of Holly Cope. Described as "very consistent" and "definitely a floor leader," by her coach, Cope added 19 points, 16 assists, and 7 steals to the tournament weekend.

Of her team's strengths, Coach LaHaye adds, "one of the things we have going for us this year is our bench depth." With such a high level of competency throughout her team, LaHaye feels no qualms about using all of her players. Naturally, "some players are more skilled than others, but when these skilled players need a break, the back-up girls are quite adequate. I have absolutely no hesitancy to go into the bench." With such strong individual players, the 1985-86 season should show some healthy competition, both among players and against some tough opposition.

December 10, 1985, RMC Newspaper



Women's Basketball Looks Forward to Successful Season

by Harper West

This year, the Lady Yellow Jackets basketball squad is heading into the season looking to blend together as a successful team. Fortunately with the help of seven returning players and four newcomers, the team should be able to achieve their goal.

Due to a lack of height, says Coach LaHaye, the team will have rely on their quickness to run the ball in "fast yet controlled manner." With the pre-season training, the squad has built up their endurance and compatibility and therefore, will be able to compete in this way with taller players. The team will not allow lack of height to get in the way of expected victories. Again, thanks to long yet successful summer and pre-season practices, the Lady Jackets got to know each other better, which is important for a team because they know how to communicate with each other.

In her seniors and upperclassmen, Coach LaHaye feels she has "versatile athletes as well as leaders." Although not outstanding team leader, the seniors and upperclassmen should provide experience learned by the newcomers in practices and scrimmages, Coach LaHaye feels they are going through a big adjustment and even they will not "be able to contribute right away," they should be able to contribute later in the season.

On Thursday November 12, the Lady Jackets had their first scrimmage with a team from Richmond known as the Blue Angels. From the scrimmage, Coach LaHaye hopes to learn what needs to be worked on and what improvements need to be made. Next week, R-MC opens their season on their home court with the Tip-off Tournament sponsored by the Yellow Jacket Club. The team has been placed fifth in their league but they are very hopeful for a successful season.

November 19, 1987, RMC Newspaper



WOMEN'S BASKETBALL RESULTS 1987-88

R-MC		OPP
86	Davis & Elkins	94
76	Shippensburg	75
74	Navy	92

Leading Scorers	Rebounding
Beth Dunkenberg: 19	Lynn Eoppolo: 8
Keisha Bell: 16	Beth Dunkenberg: 11
Wendy Tiller: 28	Mel Fearnow: 10

December 4, 1987, RMC Newspaper



Lady Jackets Lose Game But Buzz About Yarbrough

by Tucker Smith

Despite the addition of a new player, Meredith Yarbrough, the problems for the Randolph-Macon women's basketball team continue. Evidence of their worries could be found in their recent 60-58 loss to Virginia Wesleyan on January 5.

Virginia Wesleyan dominated the first half by shooting 40% from the floor and by scoring 31 points as compared to the Lady Jackets 30% and 21 points. Poor ballhandling and difficulty from the foul line (3 for 10) contributed to the early deficit.

The second half however proved to be a different story. Sparked by Yarbrough's presence, a product of Robinson Secondary School in Fairfax, Virginia, and the shooting of Wendy Tiller, the Lady Jackets were able to cut the deficit to three points. Their luck ran out, however, as turnovers and poor shooting plagued the rest of the game. Meanwhile, Virginia Wesleyan hit 37% from the floor.

Tiller led all scorers with 21 points including 6 assists and 5 steals. Bev Carroll added 14 points while connected on 6 of 9 shots. Both Dunkenberg and Keisha Bell added 8 and 7 points respectively.

As a good ballhandler and shooter, Yarbrough will add a much needed dimension to the team. In the 16 minutes she played, she scored 6 points, pulled down 3 rebounds, and had 1 assist and 1 steal.



January 15, 1988, RMC Newspaper

Rocky Season for Lady Jackets

by Tucker Smith

A long season is the best way to describe the Randolph-Macon women's basketball team's year. Playing in the best Division II conference in the country that includes three Top Twenty teams, the Lady Jackets find it hard to compete. Yet, they are never ones to complain.

Standing with a 4-14 record, 0-6 in the conference, they are always in the hunt at their conference, they are always in the hunt at their conference. Take for example, their game against Longwood College on Tuesday night. Down by 10 at halftime, they battled back behind the shooting of Bev Carroll and Wendy Tiller. Carroll finished with 28 points while shooting 8 of 12 from the floor and 12 of 12 from the foul line. Tiller finished with 18 points and grabbed 9 rebounds. Yet, Longwood once again spoiled the parade and pulled out a 85-77 victory.

On Thursday, though, the result was quite different. Playing Bridgewater, a Division III team with a 12-8 record, the Lady Jackets proved their talent. Bev Carroll once again led her team by hitting 11 of 18 from the floor enroute to scoring 23 points. She also grabbed 7 rebounds and had 3 steals.

With regulation ending in a tie, the Jackets proved the difference between Division II and Division III. Beth Dunkenberg proved the way and finished with 19 points and grabbed 13 rebounds. Tiller added 11 points and 2 assists and 2 steals. OT wasn't even close as R-MC rolled to an 83-74 victory.

Unfortunately, on Saturday, Mt. St. Mary's proved the difference between the Jackets and the rest of the Mason-Dixon Conference. Despite the play of Dunkenberg (20 points and 10 rebounds) the Mount went on to win 65-52.

February 18, 1988, RMC Newspaper



Women's Basketball Playing Tough Ball

Randolph-Macon College Women's Basketball team, 0-3, is led by the scoring of Keisha Bell who has scored 59 points in the team's first three games. Wendy Tiller is second in team scoring with 45 points. The Jackets next game will be away on December 2 against the University of Pittsburgh.

R-MC had trouble in their first two games during their tip-off tournament on November 19 and 20. They lost to Concord

College 98-78 and 78-77 to Atlantic Christian. Bell had 24 and 20 points in these games. Yet the Jackets are being out scored this season by an average of 66 to 82.3 average points.

After losing to Concord, the Jackets despite being down by 15, were able to come back and nearly defeat Atlantic Christian. The game was close in the final minutes and it looked as though the Jackets might be able to even their record. Yet instead of trying

a three point shot which would have tied the game, they ended the game with two points and they lost by one point. Both Bell and Tiller made the all-tournament team. The Jackets played one game during Thanksgiving break at the U.S. Naval Academy losing this game 71-43.

The Jackets next home game will be against Thomas College on January 5 in the Crenshaw Gymnasium at 7:00pm.

By Tucker Smith

Well, it was only a matter of time. The Randolph-Macon women's basketball team won back to back home games last week against Virginia Union and Virginia State. The victories improved their overall record to 6-14 as they are trying to finish the season with respect.

Against Union on Monday, February 16, the Lady Jackets controlled the tempo of the game from the beginning. Behind the shooting of Beth Dunkenberg and Wendy Tiller, they jumped out to a 33-25 halftime lead. But the second half proved to be the determining factor.

Through strong board work and virtually no fouling, the Lady Jackets went on to take VUU 72-63. By outrebounding their opponents 53 to 43, the Lady Jackets would not allow them the second chance at a bucket that has plagued their games all year. Also, with a total of only 9 fouls to Union's 19, VUU was eliminated from the foul line and in the end, from the game. Tiller led four Macon scorers in double figures with 17. Dunkenberg finished with 14 points and 14 boards. Keisha Bell and

with 14 points and 14 boards. Keisha Bell and Melodie Fearnow contributed 13 and 11 respectively.

On Wednesday, their good luck continued as they came out strong in the second half and beat Virginia State 82-78. In the first half, State used the three point shot and good foul shooting to take a 44-42 halftime lead. But the Lady Jackets were not ones to sit back and take another loss.

Lead by an impressive defensive performance by Kelly Keffler who grabbed 9 defensive boards, 11 in all, the Jackets controlled the game and the scoring. 14 points from the foul line and Fearnow's two three pointers proved too much for State to overcome. Once again leading the scorers was Tiller with 18. Fearnow poured in 17, Dunkenberg had 16, and Bell and Carroll finished with 12 each.

Keffler, the multi-sport, multi-talented player from Chantilly, Virginia seemed to be the difference in the game. Besides her play on the boards, she had 4 points, 4 assists, 1 block, and 2 steals while playing 34:35 minutes in all.



Photo: Beth Dunkenberg

December 1, 1988, RMC Newspaper

In last week's action, the Lady Jackets beat Mary Washington 83-45 and Liberty 90-83. Tiller and Carroll led the scorers with 20 and 24 respectively. The building of confidence has helped create a more positive attitude toward the program and we can only wait and see what will happen on Thursday.

January 12, 1989, RMC Newspaper

Congratulations to Dr. Mike Wessells and Coach Carroll Lahaye for their victory in yet another intramural tournament, the badminton tournament.

The next women's basketball home game will be on January 19 against Bridgewater. The recent attendance has been somewhat low, i.e. 30 fans, and your support would be greatly appreciated. There are no tailgates or kegs but the last couple of games have been down to the wire and the hard work should be supported.



March 3, 1988, RMC Newspaper

R-MC Defeats Thomas



Keisha Bell, Junior

Keisha Bell's 30 points and 11 rebounds enabled Randolph-Macon College to earn a comeback victory last Thursday over visiting Thomas College of Maine, 75-70.

Despite never really gaining control of the game, Head Coach Carroll Lahaye felt that it was a "good way to start off the New Year. It is definitely a confidence booster because the teams we face in the future are comparable to Thomas."

R-MC was down during most of the first half but they picked up the pace with 1:54 left after Mel Fearnow hit a three pointer to make the score 33-23 in favor of Thomas. Before the final minutes, R-MC had remained close due only to Bell's ability to hit the jump shot with a fair amount of consistency when she was fed the ball inside the lane.

The defense of R-MC enabled them to be down by three, 33-30, to close the first half. R-MC also shut down Thomas' leading scorer, Pauline Theriault, who is the leading scorer in the country. Theriault (21 points) ran into foul trouble early in the game and therefore was forced to sit out much of the first half.

In the first half of their season, R-MC had played well in the first half only to play poorly in the second half. The opposite occurred in the Thomas game as R-MC came out strongly in the second half.

R-MC took the lead at 10:33 in the second half as Bell scored on a jump shot to make the score 51-50. On their next possession, Fearnow hit a three pointer to increase the lead to four.

The lead changed hands several times before R-MC took the lead, 65-64, with two minutes remaining in the game. Twice Bell was able to pass outside to Wendy Tiller (14 pts.) who made both shots to keep the lead for R-MC.

In the final seconds, Thomas was unable to score on an easy lay-up and both Fearnow and Tiller were two of two at the free throw line in the last 15 seconds to win the game.

Although having hadn't played in a month, R-MC was in good condition if not perfect technically. They were able to shut down Theriault fairly well and this hurt Thomas' offense.

Jackets Battle Roanoke

Yarbrough Hits Key Free Throws

by Carrick Mollenkamp

With four seconds left in regulation, Meredith Yarbrough confidently sank two free throws sending Randolph-Macon into overtime against Roanoke last Sunday. Five minutes later, R-MC was the winner 81-73.

R-MC(35-9) had dominated the first half and led at half time 30-21. But in the second half, Roanoke(29-2) came back by pressuring R-MC to turn over the ball. Roanoke was able to capitalize on the turnovers.

"We lost some of our confidence in the second half," said Coach Carroll Lahaye. "They changed our game plan by forcing us to go to a zone defense. I don't like the zone defense but we had to eliminate the fouls."

Several R-MC players had run into trouble including Lynn Eoppolo, Wendy Tiller, and Pam Conk. Both Eoppolo and Tiller would foul out.

Roanoke led with 1:33 left in the game 56-55. R-MC had several chances to tie the game but Pam Conk missed a free throw and Yarbrough was called for charging while driving to the basket.

With 21 seconds remaining in the game, Conk was fouled again and this time she came through as she brought R-MC to within one 57-56.

Down 59-61, Yarbrough stood at the line needing to make both shots to send R-MC into overtime. Both shots managed to hit the rim and the backboard before falling, but she made both and regulation ended with the teams tied 61-61.

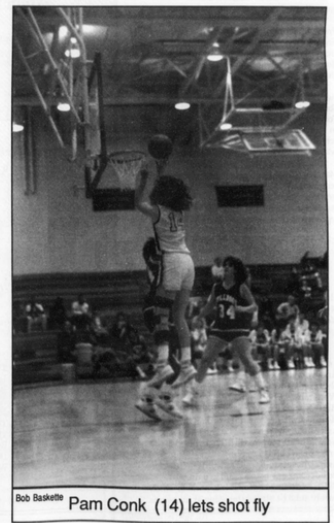
R-MC came out in overtime very strongly as they took the lead at the start and never lost it. Shelby Middleton hit several key jump shots to increase the lead. Kelly Keffler and Mel Fearnow also made baskets to lead R-MC to the win.

"Mel Fearnow was a tremendous leader on the floor today," commented Lahaye. "Her leadership and poise were definitely apparent."

"Our substitutes really did the job today. They accepted a lot of responsibility and they played with confidence. Hopefully this type of game will pay off in the future."

R-MC has also been forced to play without their leading scorer and rebounder Keisha Bell who was checked this past Monday for meniscusitis. The results should be known by the end of this week.

R-MC faces Marymount this Saturday at 7:00.



Pam Conk (14) lets shot fly

Women Win to End Season

by Carrick Mollenkamp

The Randolph-Macon women's basketball team defeated Mary Washington 76-59 thereby ending their season at 12-14.

"It was a fine way to end the season," said Coach Carroll Lahaye. "I was really pleased. We really played well the first 35 minutes but we were a little sloppy toward the end. By then we had a nice lead."

Wendy Tiller led all scorers with 24 points. Keisha Bell had 17 points and Lynn Eoppolo scored 14. Kelly Keffler and Mel Fearnow chipped in with seven points, six assists; and seven points, one assist respectively.

"Our goal was to win 50% of our games," stated Lahaye. "We came close but lost a couple (including two losses to Marymount) which would have put us above .500. Still I am not disappointed."

Lynn Eoppolo, Kelly Keffler, and Mel Fearnow ended their college career in the victory over Mary Washington.

"All three players have worked hard over the last four years. They will leave a great void which will have to be filled. They contributed to the program and fulfilled their responsibilities."

Fearnow finished the season as R-MC's 2nd leading scorer, averaging 10.5 points a game. She leads the team in three-point field goals (41) and assists (77). She was named to the GTE Academic All-America team for College Division District III.

Keffler, a standout R-MC soccer player as well, finished the year averaging 4.7 points a game. She also was a consistent defense player for the Jackets.

Eoppolo, who sputtered in the beginning of the season offensively, raised her average to 10.1 (ppg) as well as winning 9.5 rebounds a game.

R-MC will join Division III and the Old Dominion Athletic Conference (ODAC) next season. The Jackets should increase their winning percentage as they dominated most of the Division III opponents they faced this season.

R-MC defeated Roanoke 81-73 and Roanoke won the ODAC championships, defeating Bridgewater 85-72, in Salem Saturday night. R-MC also defeated Bridgewater twice this season.

The Jackets will be led by the leading scorer this season Keisha Bell. Bell is averaging 19 (ppg) and 11.7 rebounds a game. Bell will also be joining Fearnow on the Academic All-America team.

"We are excited going into next season," said Lahaye. "We are working hard to recruit players especially at the post position. We will also have an excellent nucleus returning."



1990s



1990-91



FIRST ROW: Alicia Dejo, Amy East, Jen Villa, Dorothy Kress

SECOND ROW: Carroll LaHaye (Head Coach), Jen Perry, Mary Beth Puccinelli, Bekkie Siebel, Sheryl Stanley, Pam Conk, Angela Brown (Manager)

1991-92



FIRST ROW: Jen Villa, Stacey Lippert, Alicia Dejo, Emily Davis, Amy East

SECOND ROW: Carroll LaHaye (Head Coach), Mary Beth Puccinelli, Sheryl Stanley, Melanie Durinzi, Pam Conk, Daniel Caffrey (Asst. Coach), Mel Fearnow (Asst. Coach)

1992-93



KNEELING: Alicia Dejo, Jennifer Villa, Amy East

SECOND ROW: Daniel Caffrey (Asst. Coach), Marcie Aylor, Mary Beth Puccinelli, Katy Parrish, Sandy Crispin, Liz Crafton, Carroll LaHaye (Head Coach)

THIRD ROW: Zandar Smith, Jenn Kohler, Stacey Lippert, Emma Eastwood, Blanche Kuebler

1993-94



FIRST ROW: Stacey Lippert, Katy Parrish, Mary Beth Puccinelli, Blanche Kuebler, Mary Biglan, Marcie Aylor (Mgr.)

SECOND ROW: Jennifer Boxley, Liz Crafton, Jenn Kohler

THIRD ROW: Daniel Caffrey (Asst. Coach), Annette Cahill, Sandy Crispin, Zandar Smith, Stephanie Kress, Julie Szymanski, Carroll LaHaye (Head Coach)

1994-95



FIRST ROW: Mary Holland (Asst. Coach), Becky Bealer, Stacey Lippert, Susan Doyle, Sarah Wasko, Jenn Kohler, Ashley Whitehurst, Mary Biglan, Liz Crafton

SECOND ROW: Sandy Crispin, Annette Cahill, Leslie Buhrman, Carroll LaHaye (Head Coach), Stephanie Kress, Zandar Smith, Katy Parrish, Marcie Aylor (Mgr.)

FIRST ROW: Ashley Whitehurst, Aimee Beightol, Allison Beightol, Mary Biglan, Susan Doyle, Jenn Kohler, Liz Crafton, Tika Lewis

SECOND ROW: Carroll LaHaye (Head Coach), Marcie Aylor (Mgr.), Stephanie Kress, Zandar Smith, Leslie Buhrman, Katy Parrish, Sandy Crispin, Mary Holland (Asst. Coach)



1995-96

FIRST ROW: Aimee Beightol, Amy Nelson, Susan Doyle, Kathy Bowley, Beth Richard, Allison Beightol, Becky Thatcher (Mgr.)

SECOND ROW: Kelly Mahlum (Asst. Coach), Heather Mitchell, Jess Mook, Renee Zando, Bren Elliot, Leslie Buhrman, Tika Lewis, Carroll LaHaye (Head Coach)



1996-97

FIRST ROW: Melissa Kristofak, Allison Beightol, Beth Richard, Aimee Beightol, Lindsey Carney, Richard Lilly (Mgr.)

SECOND ROW: Carroll LaHaye (Head Coach), Amy Nelson, Jamie Tanner, Catherine Ham, Kelly Mahlum (Assistant Coach)

THIRD ROW: Leslie Buhrman, Bren Elliot, Renee Zando, Heather Mitchell



1997-98

FIRST ROW: Kelly Mahlum (Asst Coach), Adrian Hughes (Mgr.), Aimee Beightol, Megan Mariani, Beth Richard, Meredith Roberts, Lindsey Carney, Lindsay Thomas, Allison Beightol, Carroll LaHaye (Head Coach)

SECOND ROW: Catherine Ham, Regina Brown, Jamie Tanner, Tracy Sutphin, Allison Blakely, Renee Zando, Bren Elliot



1998-99

FIRST ROW: Aimee Beightol (Asst. Coach), Margaret Gray, Allison King, Lindsay Carroll, Megan Mariani, Lindsay Thomas, Beth Richard, Meredith Roberts

SECOND ROW: Lyndsey D'Arcangelo (Manager), Renee Zando, Allison Blakely, Bren Elliot, Cristin Ethridge, Michelle Cantlin, Jamie Tanner, Carroll LaHaye (Head Coach)



1999-2000

Lady Jackets at 3-1, 2-0 in ODAC

by Jennifer Villa
Staff Writer

After last season's 0-8 beginning and the emergence of a starting line-up composed of two freshmen, two sophomores, and one junior, the future of the Lady Yellow Jackets might seem dim. However, the rather "green" hoopsters have forgotten the past and lifted their team to a 3-1 record, 2-0 in ODAC play. The only loss came to Alvernia (Pa.) in the Yellow Jacket Tip-Off Tournament's championship game (68-58). Freshman starters Bekkie Siebel and Beth Puccinelli carried the Jackets to a strong beginning, proving themselves as immediate contenders at the college level by receiving honors as members of the All-Tournament team. Siebel's performance was good enough to make her the ODAC player of the week on November 19. The following week, after a tense 63-61 home win over Eastern Mennonite, Jennifer Villa followed her Freshman comrade, being also named ODAC player of the week after scoring a career-high 18 points.

Lady Jackets led by Conk, Siebel

by Jennifer Villa
Staff Writer

Returning from nearly a month lay-off during Christmas break, the Lady Yellow Jackets have been thrust into the bulk of their conference schedule.

Once 5-0 and actively competing for top ODAC honors, the Jackets have since dropped three heartbreaking losses to Roanoke, Bridgewater, and Lynchburg whom they defeated 85-82 earlier in the season.

Despite these obstacles, the Lady Jackets have attained the rank of #8 in the South Region and optimistically look to regain their fierce competitiveness against their future ODAC opponents.

The team is led by outstanding Junior forward Pam Conk, one of the ODAC's leading scorers and a selection as both ODAC Player of the Week and National Division III Women's Offensive Player of the Week, which earned her a spot in the Sports Section of USA Today.

Freshmen Bekkie Siebel has continued her early successes for the Jackets, ranking third nationally in rebounding for Division III, first in ODAC rebounding and also tied with Conk as one of the Conference's leading scorers with a 17.4 points per game average.

The Jackets would like to cordially thank the student body, faculty, and anyone with lots of R-MC spirit to support them in future home contests.

Lady Jackets finish successful rebuilding season

by Ward Thomas
Staff Writer

Despite a spirited comeback, the women's basketball team lost its final regular season game to Columbia Union on Monday night. At the end of a closely competitive season, the Yellow Jackets were 11-13 overall, 10-8 in ODAC play, and finished as the Fifth seed in the ODAC Tournament. Wednesday night, in a first round game at #4 Virginia Wesleyan, the Jackets fought hard and came up just short, in a narrow 65-62 defeat.

In an interview with Coach Carroll LaHaye, she outlined the team's goals for this past season. After a struggling 8-18 record last year, an important objective this season was to improve the team's overall win-loss statistic. ODAC games, crucial to post-season play, were focused on and executed vigorously and successfully by the Jackets, who defeated the current number 3 and 4 teams in the ODAC tournament during the season. The team's #5 ranking positioned them on the verge of their worthy aim: to make it to the ODAC Final Four.

The coach went on to say that she felt every team member has been a contributor in this critical rebuilding season. A young squad, the Yellow Jackets boast two freshmen starters. Mary Beth Puccinelli, a forward, has provided strong points and rebounds per game averages. Coach LaHaye called freshman center Bekkie Siebel a "sensation" with a formidable average points per game, and an average rebounds per game of 14.4, giving her status as the #3 rebounder in NCAA Division III, and the #1 rebounder in ODAC. Pam Conk, a junior forward, offered strong statistics and holds the position of #11 in NCAA Division III free throw percentage, and #1 in ODAC. Sophomore guards Alicia Dejo and Jennifer Villa furnished solid statistics in shooting, assists, and defensive prowess. Also, a strong bench has been of great advantage to the Yellow Jackets this season, as Amy East, Sheryl Stanley, and Dorothy Kress, the team's leader and only senior, have delivered significant support.

After the heartbreaking loss to Virginia Wesleyan Wednesday night, the Yellow Jackets were forced out of the ODAC Tournament. However, Coach LaHaye's rebuilding season has been a dramatically successful one, and she takes great pride in commending her players' efforts. Looking toward next year, a maturing and improving Randolph-Macon team will return to the floor to face the consistently vibrant competition of the Old Dominion Athletic Conference.

Optimistic finish for Yellow Jackets

"Keisha will be missed, but we have an excellent nucleus of players returning..."

by Jeff Persell

The Randolph-Macon Women's basketball season came to an end with a hard-fought 79-66 loss to Virginia Wesleyan in the second round of the ODAC Tournament on Feb. 21. Virginia Wesleyan's 50% field goal shooting proved to be too much for R-MC to overcome.

After a slow start to the season, the Lady Yellow Jackets showed signs of improvement, winning six of their last 12 regular season games. A difficult out-of-conference schedule coupled with youth and inexperience hurt the team early as they lost 12 of their first 14 games.

"Our confidence level rose as the season went on which is typical of a young team. We were playing well at the end of the season," said Coach Carol LaHaye.

The improvement of the team was also due to the emergence of freshman Alicia Dejo at point guard. Injured the first ten games of the season, Dejo was a regular starter the second half of the season.

Senior Keisha Bell ended her career in fine

fashion, leading the team for the second straight year in both scoring and rebounding. A consistent inside force, Bell was a first team All-ODAC selection.

"Keisha deserves a lot of



Keisha Bell

credit. She had an outstanding four years at Macon and will be hard to replace," said LaHaye.

Sophomore Pam Conk was second on the team in both scoring and rebounding and garnered a second team All-ODAC selection for her efforts. Junior Meredith Yarbrough was also a team leader, finishing second in the conference in assists.

"Keisha will be missed, but we have an excellent nucleus of players returning next year... Our priority is to get some post players in the next recruiting class," said LaHaye.

Women's basketball season is over

By Susan Zitzer
Staff Writer '92

The Lady Yellow Jackets lost its final regular season game to Guilford College last Wednesday night by a score of 62-39. Junior guard, Jen Villa, led the team with 13 points and 10 rebounds. After a highly competitive season, the team finished with an overall record of 10-16 and 7-9 in the ODAC Conference.

On Friday, February 21, the Yellow Jackets captured a breathtaking win in the final seconds of the game against Bridgewater College on the road. With the game tied and only six seconds remaining on the clock, junior guard Jen Villa dribbled down the court and made a quick sharp pass to Mary Beth Puccinelli who sank a three-point shot at the buzzer.

Puccinelli led the team with 23 points and 21 rebounds. Senior Pam Conk earned 14 points, while Alicia Dejo scored 11 points. Jen Villa and Sheryl Stanley contributed 3 points and 1 point respectively. The final score was 52-49.

The next day the Yellow Jackets faced Eastern Mennonite College and defeated them by a score of 80-70. Senior Pam Conk led the team with 22 points and 9 rebounds. Freshman Sheryl Stanley also pulled

the team with 19 points and 9 rebounds. Jen Villa contributed 12 points and 6 rebounds, while Mary Beth Puccinelli added 11 points and 6 rebounds. Alicia Dejo earned 10 points and 3 rebounds. Also contributing were freshman Emily Davis with 5 points and Stacey Lippert with 1 point and 2 rebounds. Villa, Puccinelli, Conk, Dejo, and Lippert combined for a total of 8 assists.

"I think this year we overcame a lot of problems and injuries and held together. We had a great bunch of girls and were still able to have fun even if our record wasn't all that we had hoped for," Mary Beth Puccinelli said.

Senior Pam Conk has been recently named first-team all-ODAC at the end of her basketball career here at Randolph-Macon. Conk came back stronger than ever after being sidelined.

"I think in the last two regular season games, we proved many critics wrong. It showed that we had overcome the adversity like injuries and the lack of players which we had faced all season," Jen Villa said.

Coach LaHaye and the returning players are already looking ahead to another successful season next year.



Women's Basketball

Women split opening series

By Heather McIntyre
Sports Editor

This past weekend, Gallaudet University, Shenandoah University, Lynchburg College and host Randolph-Macon College opened their 1991 women's basketball seasons.

The doubleheader began Saturday evening with a meeting between Gallaudet and R-MC in Crenshaw gymnasium.

Senior Pam Conk led the lady jackets to victory with 33 total points. The final score was R-MC over Gallaudet 74-55.

Shenandoah and Lynchburg were next to meet. Shenandoah was leading in the first half by two points, but Lynchburg quickly took the lead in the second half. Lynchburg won the game 78-72.

On Sunday, Lynchburg went against Gallaudet at 1 p.m. Lynchburg led the game in both the first and second halves. The final score was 74-62.

R-MC then met Shenandoah for the final game of the tournament at 3 p.m.

The lady jackets were off to a

sluggish start but they still gave Shenandoah a good fight. Conk, the teams only senior, led the team once again with 29 total points.

Junior Alicia Dejo was a strong offensive player. As the second highest scorer of the game, she ended up with 19 total points. Dejo hit four out of her eight attempts from the three point range.

"We could have been stronger in the first half," Sheryl Stanley, a sophomore said. "That would have made the difference."

Even with their strength in the second half, R-MC was defeated by Shenandoah 75-71.

Both Conk and Stanley were named to the All-Tournament Team at the end of the tournament.

**Hoop it
up with
R-MC
basketball**

Women's Basketball heads towards ODACS

by Susan Zitzer '92
Staff Writer

The Randolph-Macon Women's Basketball team remains tough as the end of the season approaches. The team has won two of its last four games, earning a spot in the ODAC tournament.

On February 8, the Lady Yellow Jackets defeated Eastern Mennonite College by a score of 79-77. "It was in this game that we clinched a spot in the ODACs," junior guard Alicia Dejo said.

Returning from a knee injury that kept her out for seven games, senior Pam Conk broke her own school record

Catholic University on February 15. Despite losing, the Lady Yellow Jackets put forth a great effort. Conk earned 20 points and Villa contributed 16 points. Puccinelli led the team with 13 rebounds with Stanley not far behind with 11. The final score was 70-58.

The Lady Yellow Jackets have placed third in their division as the season winds down. They will face Washington Bible College for their last home game on Tuesday, Feb. 18. They will then be on the road for their last two games against Bridgewater College and Eastern Mennonite College on February 21 and 22.

scoring 37 points in the game against Eastern Mennonite College. She surpassed her previous record of 35 points with a game winning field goal in the last few seconds of play.

Scoring also in the game were Marybeth Puccinelli with 15 points, Jennifer Villa with 13, Alicia Dejo with 9, Sheryl Stanley with 4, and Stacey Lippert with one. Leading rebounders were Puccinelli and Stanley with 19 and 11 respectively. Currently, junior guard Amy East is sidelined with a stress fracture. There are hopes she will be able to play soon.

On Wed. February 11, The Lady Yellow Jackets defeated Mary Baldwin College by a score of 64-48. Puccinelli led the team on both ends of the court with 18 points and 13 rebounds. Conk earned 17 points and Villa contributed 12. Stanley scored 8 points while Dejo added four. Lippert and Emily Davis also added three and two points respectively.

After a tough loss to Lynchburg, the team faced

"It has been a tough season with only eight players and some injuries because I really think our starting five matches up with any other in the ODAC. Other schools just have such an advantage because they can put in fresh people constantly," Villa said.

Women's Tennis

DATE	OPPONENT
SITE	TIME
March	*Virginia
11	Wesleyan
12	Norfolk
12	Longwood
13	ASHLAND
13	2:00
13	*Hollins
16	ASHLAND
18	3:00
*Lynchburg	
ASHLAND	
18	3:00
Baldwin	
ASHLAND	
	3:00

*ODAC Matches

The future is now for Yellow Jackets

R-MC women ready to turn corner

BY MIKE HYLAND
TIMES-DISPATCH STAFF WRITER

The Randolph-Macon College women's basketball team, struggling along near the break-even point this winter, has a built-in alibi for defeat and a reason for optimism. Five of their top seven scorers are freshmen.

But "next year" is almost a profane expression to one of the Jackets' top first-year performers — center Katy Parrish.

BASKETBALL She said the freshmen are on a mission that goes beyond the usual reasons for winning.

"We're not thinking about next year. We want to win this year for the seniors," said Parrish, a Gloucester Point native. "None of them has ever been to Salem."

Salem's Civic Center is the annual site of the Old Dominion Athletic Conference tournament's semifinals and finals (Feb. 26 and 27).

But a few favorable things have to happen for coach Carroll LaHaye's team to get that far. For starters, they have to make the tournament field. That shouldn't be too difficult — eight of 10 teams in the ODAC are invited.

Macon is 10-5 in the league (12-9 overall) and in fifth place. But the big goal is to finish fourth place or higher because quarterfinal games (Feb. 24) will be played in home gyms of the higher-seeded teams.

R-MC defeated Guilford 68-54 on Saturday as Parrish scored 20 points. Roanoke leads the conference with a 13-3 mark, while Virginia Wesleyan is second at 12-4.

R-MC, which beat the Maroons 67-66 on Jan. 12, played at Roanoke last night in a rematch. The Jackets play host to conference foes Bridgewater on Friday at 7 p.m. and Eastern Mennonite on Saturday at 6 p.m.

"I can feel for the seniors," Parrish said following a Feb. 9 victory over Lynchburg. "I remember how disappointed I was my senior year at Gloucester High when we didn't make regionals in postseason. We'd made it to states as sophomores."

"Desire will be the difference when we play the big teams. Who wants it more? They play physical. I've had my share of abrasions. But we've played all the good teams in the league close."

Parrish, a powerful 5-9 player, doesn't exactly play passively. She had 18 points (four above her average), a season-high 15 rebounds and three steals in the 72-59 win over Lynchburg at R-MC.

Nine of her rebounds came in the first half when R-MC took control of the game. And when Parrish rested early in the second half, 5-11 freshman Alexandria Smith continued the strong inside play.

Parrish, the team's rebound leader with 8.5 per game, has to be one of the few centers around who leads her team in steals. She's got 52 and is also tops in blocks with 12. Her high-point game was 23 in a win against Bridgewater.

Much of Parrish's success in the lane has come through the help of her older brother Russell. And her good hands figure since she'll play for the R-MC tennis team (she was an all-district performer in high school). She also played softball at Gloucester.

There is also a frankness to her comments off the court. On her shaky 548 free throw shooting — "I was once a good foul shooter, but somehow I've lost it this year."

On her sudden rise to prominence in Ashland: "I had a 16-point game early, but it wasn't till about the fifth game that I started playing instinctively. I don't think much about what I'm doing out there."

Women's Basketball

Woman's Basketball team shows improvement

By Susan Zitzer
Staff Writer

Returning from nearly a month's break at Christmas, the Randolph-Macon women's basketball team has entered into the prime of their ODAC Conference schedule.

The team has earned a record of 4-8 after a big win against Randolph-Macon Women's College on Saturday, January 18 at home.

Alicia Dejo and Marybeth Puccinelli led the team with six points each. Jen Villa was not far behind with five points. Amy East and Emily Davis contributed with two points and one point respectively. Marybeth Puccinelli also led the defense with 17 rebounds.

The Lady Jackets remain strong despite the recent injuries of senior forward Pam Conk and freshman guard Stacey Lippert. The team

is currently playing with only six players. "It has been tough without Pam but she should be back by Friday," Alicia Dejo said.

After a few tough losses, the Lady Yellow Jackets remain optimistic. "With all of the injuries and tough breaks we've had I think the team is doing very well," Maura Fitzgerald, the team's manager, said.

"I think we are a team that has a lot of potential and unfortunately we have been out manned by teams who have 10 or more players, but we are not ready to give up," Jen Villa said.

The Lady Yellow Jackets are traveling to Mary Baldwin College on Wednesday, January 22, Roanoke College on Friday, January 24, and Hollins on Saturday, January 25.



The women's basketball team has shown improvement

Women's basketball hopes to recover from losses

Chris Mowry '94
Staff writer

Despite strong performances by freshmen, the Women's Basketball team opened its season with two losses.

The team lost to Gallaudet University 84-78 and to Meredith College 71-90 during the 1992 Tip-Off Tournament held Nov. 20.

Shenandoah University also participated in the tournament.

Despite the loss, R-MC freshman Jen Kohler was named to the All-Tournament team.

Although the team defeated Mary Washington College in a scrimmage, the Jackets were unable to stop its first regular season opponent, Gallaudet. Leading scorers for R-MC were Kohler with 25 points, freshman Katy Parrish with 16 and freshman Sandy Crispin with 14.

The next afternoon, the Jackets faced Meredith College. This contest proved

to be even more difficult for the team to handle. R-MC shot a modest 38.3 percent, while Meredith College shot an even 55 percent.

Leading scorers were Kohler with 21 points and senior Alicia Dejo with 11. Crispin and freshman Zandar Smith both

scored 10 points.

Starting the season 0-2 does not seem promising, but senior Jen Villa said, "I am confident that we will do well this season. The freshmen are very talented and they will carry the team to many victories."

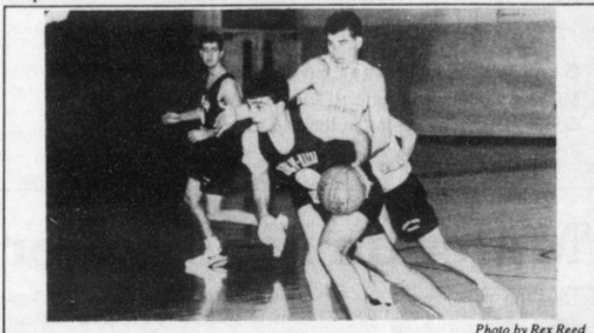


Photo by Rex Reed

The men's basketball team warms up during practice.

February 27, 1993, Richmond Times Dispatch

January 24, 1992, RMC Newspaper

December 4, 1992, RMC Newspaper

December 8, 1995, RMC Newspaper

In their next game the Yellow Jackets defeated Eastern Mennonite. They started out with a 15 point lead but lost it letting Eastern Mennonite back into the game. Macon was ahead at the half 39-30 and never looked back winning 80-67. For their last game before exams they travelled to Randolph-Macon Women's College, which is a much improved team. As the Weekly goes to press, results of that game were unavailable. This is their last

Kohler was named ODAC Player of the Week posting 50 points, nine rebounds, eight assists and 13 steals in the three road

Coach LaHaye is very proud of this year's team. She emphasizes a strong work ethic, working together.

Field goal shooting: R-MC 28-59 (48%), EMU 28-66 (42%). Free throw shooting: R-MC 20-30 (67%), EMU 11-21 (52%). 3-

December 1, 1995, RMC Newspaper

A talented freshman class has brought speed and power to the team. One of them, Aimee Beightolt, was named the Most Valuable Player of the Ramada Invitational Tip-Off Classic which was held on November 17 and 18. She recorded 31 points, seven rebounds, eight assists and eight steals in her first two collegiate basketball games. Her sister, Allison Beightolt, has also added speed to the team and has made a major contribution to the team's success. Another freshman, Tika Lewis, is a very versatile player who will also make a difference this season.

"Tika is a 5-9 forward who is very powerful and strong," said head coach

"I am very proud of the accomplishments the seniors have made in their four years here, and it's time we put it all together," said LaHaye.

Other key players include sophomores Leslie Buhman and Ashley Whitehurst and junior Susan Doyle. Doyle has really stepped up her level of play.

The rest of this week will be a challenge with away games at Guilford and Eastern Mennonite.

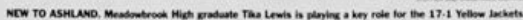
"All the ODAC schools had good recruiting years, so it will be interesting to see the matchups," said La Haye.

Hard work and determination should keep their talented team on track to accomplish their goals this season.

	ODAC	Overall
Team	W L Pct.	W L Pct.
E. Mennonite	1 0 1.000	3 0 1.000
Guilford	1 0 1.000	3 0 1.000
R-MC	0 0 .000	2 0 1.000
R-M Woman's	0 0 .000	2 0 1.000
Roanoke	0 0 .000	2 1 .667
Va. Wesleyan	0 0 .000	2 1 .667
Wash. & Lee	0 0 .000	1 1 .500
Emory & Henry	0 0 .000	0 2 .000
Hollins	0 0 .000	0 2 .000
Bridgewater	0 1 1.000	1 2 .333
Lynchburg	0 1 1.000	0 1 .000

Tomorrow: at Eastern Mennonite in Harrisonburg, Va.
Wednesday: at Randolph-Macon Woman's in Lynchburg, Va.

NONA's New Year's Splash
Girls 10 and under
100 M. Free (PSC) 1:13.69, 90 Free (Sw)
(PSC) 29.45, 100 Back (Johnson) 1:55.21
50 Breast (Gale) (NVA) 38.92, 100 Fly (Johnson)
(NVA) 1:34.04, 200 M. Tatum (PSC) 2:45.17
100 Free (Johnson) (NVA) 1:07.49, 50 Back
(Johnson) (NVA) 35.56, 100 Breast (Gale) (NVA)
1:24.86, 50 Fly (Smith) (NVA) 35.15, 200 Free
(Tatum) (PSC) 2:23.24



"Adjusting to the post isn't that big a deal since I played everywhere in high school the last two years and made before that," Lewis said.

Laffey says she's not averse to

602-B

"When we were freshmen, Coach asked us what we'd most like to do. I suggested a trip to the Bahamas," Crispin said. "But that was too expensive, and Coach wound up getting

At 5-10, Buhrman is averaging 6.4 points and 4 rebounds a game. Now

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602-B E

Jackets won't be needed

R-MC women set for California trip

BY MIKE HYLAND
TIMES-DESPATCH STAFF WRITER

It looks as if the Randolph-Macon College women's basketball team has put that '94-95 horror-show finish behind them.

To say they're making amends for blowing a 20-point lead against Emory and Henry in the first round of the ODAC tournament is an understatement.

The Yellow Jackets are off, running and apparently not looking back with a 6-0 start. There's a California trip coming up, and they may not need wings to go west.

The Jackets of coach Carroll LaHaye have knocked off North Carolina Wesleyan, Salisbury (Md.) State, Virginia Wesleyan, Guilford, Eastern Mennonite and Randolph-Macon Woman's College.

Next up is Chapman (Calif.) College on Jan. 1, and then another California school, Claremont-Mudd-Scripps, the following night in Southern California.

Not just hoops

And there will be side trips to Disneyland and the MGM movie studios, said Monacan High graduate Sandy Crispin, a senior and standout on the Jackets' 19-7 team of a year ago.

Crispin, who sprained an ankle in a preseason scrimmage against Mary Washington and has seen limited duty, is one of the reasons behind the California trip.

"When we were freshmen, Coach asked us what we'd most like to do. I suggested a trip to the Bahamas," Crispin said. "But that was too expensive, and Coach wound up getting a good rate for California."

Still, it's costing about \$14,000 to fly the whole gang, plus coaching aide Mary Holland, out there Saturday. So the team turned into salespersons.

"We've sold T-shirts. We've sold popcorn and 50-50 tickets," Crispin said. "We had players' chairs made — with their names on them — and sold them to their families."

Back to the real world

The Jackets will have to get over jet lag in a hurry when they return. They play Roanoke, the defending Old Dominion Athletic Conference champion, on Jan. 6.

"We'll give them a run for their money this season," said Crispin, a small forward who hopes to be full speed in California.

The Jackets are flying high with a lot of new faces. Point guard Stacy Lippert graduated and forward-center Stephanie Kress and reserve Annette Cahill transferred.

With guard Mary Biglan out with an injury — one of several the club has had to overcome — a three-guard setup consists of first-year twins Aimee and Allison Beightol and veteran Jenn Kohler.

Each was a key performer on the soccer field last fall for a R-MC team that went through the regular season and ODAC playoffs unbeaten. And they're still running.

Kohler's averaging 16 points, Aimee 15.8, Allison 9.2.

'Run and gun'

"We're run and gun," said sophomore forward Leslie Buhman, a J.R. Tucker High graduate who has won a starting job. "The twins are tigers, very aggressive."

And the Jackets are doing it with limited height. Veteran Zander Smith, a fine rebounder (10.8 a game), is 5-11. Senior workhorse Katy Parrish, a soccer goalie, is 5-9 and averages 8 points.

At 5-10, Buhman is averaging 6.4 points and 4 rebounds a game. Newcomer Tika Lewis, a 5-8 Meadowbrook High product, is averaging 7.5 points with a high of 19.

"Tika's very powerful physically and has helped us," said Buhman, who is playing despite a slight tear in her knee.

"I think I'm more aggressive on offense. Last year I was kind of intimidated and pulled back on shots. And I'm playing hard on defense — fronting people."

Aimee Beightol and Kohler have had several 20-point games.

"Aimee really picks up our intensity with her drives. She's a spark," Buhman said.

Buhman, whose primary role is rebounding and defense, is pleased with the Jackets' team effort.

"We're more aware out there on defense," she said. "We're helping each other out."

Women's basketball 13-0; #23 in nation

By Jen Johns '97
Sports Editor

With an overall record of 13-0, the Randolph-Macon women's basketball team has gotten off to the best start in the program's history. They are also on a 20-game home-court winning streak.

R-MC's most recent contest was against the Virginia Wesleyan "Blue Marlins" who were coming off a five game winning streak. But the Lady Yellow Jackets got themselves prepared to play against the Blue Marlins who were emotionally high and very determined to give R-MC their first loss.

The Yellow Jackets were "enthusiastic,

motivated and had the desire that no one was going to beat them," said Coach Carroll LaHaye. They defeated Va. Wesleyan, 96-67.

Over Christmas vacation the Yellow Jackets went to California to play Chapman University and Claremont-Mudd-Scripps. They were both non-conference games which were very competitive.

"The team was very relaxed and extremely focused," said LaHaye about the Yellow Jackets.

Randolph-Macon defeated Chapman 86-76 behind a 23 point scoring effort from Jenn Kohler. They just got by Claremont-Mudd-Scripps by the score of 60-59.

The Lady Yellow Jackets have a lot of

depth this year.

"The five seniors, Zandar Smith, Liz Crafton, Jenn Kohler, Sandy Crispin and Katy Parrish have really stepped forward and decided that it's time for them to put it all together. Their attitude has filtered down to the underclassmen," said LaHaye.

Kohler, Smith, and freshman Aimee Beightol are all in double figures. Kohler and Beightol lead the Yellow Jacket scoring attack through twelve games. Kohler leads the team with a 16.5 scoring average per contest while Beightol is averaging 15.5 points per game. Smith is the team's leading rebounder with 9.7 rebounds per game.

With a 13-0 overall record, the Lady

Yellow Jackets are ranked second in the region and 21st in the nation.

"It means a lot to be undefeated but there are still a lot of games left on our schedule. Our goal is to win the ODAC (Old Dominion Athletic Conference)," said LaHaye.

Captain Jenn Kohler also commented on the team's success. "The reason we are undefeated is because we work well together on and off the floor, and hopefully we can keep it up."

R-MC hosts Bridgewater College Thursday, January 18, Washington and Lee University on Saturday, January 20, and rival Roanoke College on Sunday, January 21 at 2:00.

Women stumble, pick selves up and win

By Jennifer Johns '97
Sports Editor

One loss won't get the Lady Yellow Jackets down.

Sunday, January 21, Roanoke defeated Randolph-Macon on their own court 84-73, but the talented Yellow Jackets have the resilience and determination to bounce back.

Roanoke has dominated the conference by winning the ODAC (Old Dominion Athletic Conference) championship six years in a row.

"We had many opportunities on the free throw line as well as layups but we just didn't connect," said Coach LaHaye.

Freshman Aimee Beightol also commented on the game, "Roanoke was a tough loss for us on our home court, but we have had a few days to rest and to think about what we need to do to get back on track. I've always been told that 'you're only as good as your last game,' so I think we now realize there is a lot of

room for improvement on this team and that we just need to keep positive and work together, and we will be fine."

Before the Roanoke game, R-MC defeated Bridgewater 65-57 which was one of their toughest games this season.

"They held us below our average points," said LaHaye.

Randolph-Macon also posted a win against Washington and Lee by the score of 78-53. It was the team's Back to the Hive Day, and the team had a great turn out of former players.

Katy Parrish was the ODAC player of the week. Katy was instrumental in R-MC's three ODAC wins over Virginia Wesleyan, Bridgewater and Washington and Lee. Parrish scored 51 points, grabbed 27 rebounds and shot 221-of-37 from the field. In the 78-53 win over W&L, Parrish was 10-of-11 from the field for 23 points and grabbed eight rebounds.

On the 25th, the ladies demolished Washington & Lee again. Results for the game against Lynchburg on the 30th were not available at press time.

December 27, 1995, Richmond Times Dispatch

February 1, 1996, RMC Newspaper



Moreland First East fans hold up a sign cheering the Jackets on against Shenandoah. The hall won the Residence Hall Association's spirit contest, winning gift certificates.



Katy Parrish scoops the ball away from a Millsaps guard as Aimee Beightol, Jenn Kohler and Zandar Smith look on.



Yellow Jackets and Majors box out for the rebound. Sandy Crispin, Tika Lewis and Leslie Buhman are involved here.

March 8, 1996, RMC Newspaper

CHAMPIONSHIP BOUND

Women's basketball
destined for greatness

By Jason Eichelberger '98
Staff writer

The Randolph-Macon women's basketball team has been near perfect this season. As they prepare to enter the first round of the NCAA National Championships, the women had amassed a record of 26 wins against only 1 loss, achieved a #1 ranking in the South Region and swept right through the Old Dominion Athletic Conference season and tournament.

This season was the first 20-victory season ever for the Women's basketball team. They finished the regular season with an overall record of 23-1, and an ODAC record of 19-1. Their only loss came at home to the second-seeded Roanoke College Maroons, on January 21, by the score of 84-73.

Besides this minor setback, the Yellow Jackets have rolled right on through the season, dominating opponents by a total score of 1926 to 1481. Randolph-Macon led the ODAC in five statistical categories that included scoring offense (80.3 points per game), scoring defense (61.7 points per game), point margin (+18.6), field goal percentage (43.8 percent), and defensive field goal percentage (37.8 percent).

At home in Crenshaw Gymnasium, the team's record was 11-1 overall and 9-1 in the ODAC. On the road, the jackets were a perfect 12-0 overall and were 10-0 in the

ODAC. One of the highlights of the season came on January 6, when the women defeated Hollins College at home by the score of 114-53.

In this game, the Lady Yellow Jackets shot an unbelievable 69.4% from the field. At the time, this was a NCAA Division III best for the year. Unfortunately, it was later broken. Also, the 114 points that the women racked up was a school record for most points ever in a game.

Leading the way during this record setting drive was the senior class. This senior class came into the 1992-93 season as freshmen with goals of turning the R-MC women's basketball program around. Needless to say, they have done that and much more. We will be saying goodbye to five very wonderful and talented people at the end of this season.

Jenn Kohler, Sandy Crispin, Zandar Smith, Liz Crafton and Katy Parrish have done more for this program than I could have ever asked for," said Coach Carroll LaHaye of her seniors. "I am very thankful to have had the opportunity to coach them as players, and to know them as individuals. They will be greatly missed."

Each of the seniors has contributed something to the team in her own way, whether it was on the floor or off.

Please turn to LADIES on page 10

R-MC wins NCAA opener by 17

By Shawn Pickrell '97
Editor-in-Chief

Randolph-Macon women's basketball team struck midnight for Shenandoah University's Cinderella season Wednesday.

Shenandoah University's women's basketball team traveled down to Ashland to take on our powerful Yellow Jackets in the first NCAA women's basketball tournament game in both programs' history.

The Yellow Jackets did not falter. The jackets took a 47-30 halftime lead and parlayed it into a 91-74 victory, ending the Hornets' season.

Shenandoah entered the tournament with a losing record, present only because of their miracle walk through the Dixie Conference tournament, defeating Ferrum, Averett and Christopher Newport on route to the title. Their twelve player team had only one junior, and all the other players were freshmen and sophomores.

"Their team's really young," senior guard Jenn Kohler said. "Our goal was to let them get flustered handling the ball."

Randolph-Macon was 26-1, fresh off winning their title in the Old Dominion Athletic Conference. They were ranked number one in the NCAA Division III

Please turn to WIN on page 10

Yellow Jackets plan to play by numbers

Team doesn't want repeat of last year

BY PAUL WOODY
TIMES-DISPATCH STAFF WRITER

When the Randolph-Macon women's basketball team takes the floor tonight against the Austin College Lady Kangaroos, the Yellow Jackets will try to accomplish three things.

They want to play better in the NCAA tournament than they did last year. They want to

DIV. III WOMEN

AUSTIN

AT R-MC

TODAY: First round, 7

pm

same Lady p.m.

And they want to start the final leg of the basketball careers of the Beightol twins, Aimee and Allison, in style.

"We're a little more experienced than we were last year," said Randolph-Macon coach Carroll LaHaye. "We had one senior, and Aimee and Allison were our only juniors."

"We've had an outstanding season. We've worked well together as a team, and we've been more motivated and willing to work harder for what we want."

What the Yellow Jackets (23-4) want is a victory in the NCAA tournament. Playing at home last year — after receiving a first-round bye — against a team that had to travel all the way from Sherman, Texas, seemed an ideal scenario for the Yellow Jackets' success. But that was not the case, as the Yellow Jackets fell 64-52.

"Last year was a bit overwhelming for us," LaHaye said. "This year, we need to come out knowing there are going to be more people in the stands, and it's a big game, and we're going to take care of business."

"We will be hungry. We want revenge, and we want our seniors to experience more games."

The opportunity to do that will be enhanced if Aimee Beightol is at full strength. She suffered an ankle injury at the end of regulation in the Old Dominion Athletic Conference championship game last week against Bridgewater. Her effectiveness was limited after that. Randolph-Macon lost in overtime.

"She seems to be OK," LaHaye said. "We've been treating it, and our trainer was not concerned. He looked at it, taped her and said, 'You're good to go.'"

"She will play on it. This is too big a game for her to sit out. She's too much of a competitor."

The Beightol twins form a formidable guard combination.

"They're very quick, work well together and have a good concept of the game," LaHaye said. "Our program would not be where it is today if not for Aimee and Allison."

But LaHaye knows that it will take more than a strong effort from her guards to handle Austin (19-6). Austin was consistently ranked No. 2 in the South Region, until suffering two losses in its past four games. The Lady Kangaroos come in No. 5 in the region. Randolph-Macon is No. 4.

Austin is led by 5-11 senior forward Natasha Rodgers (13.5 points, 8.6 rebounds a game) and 5-8 senior guard Marissa Hesse (20.7 points, 3.8 rebounds, 2.8 assists). Hesse had 17 points last year against the Yellow Jackets.

"They're a very aggressive, physical team," LaHaye said. "We need our post and inside players, Renee Zando, Meredith Roberts, Bren Elliott and Catherine Ham, to have strong games. Their rebounding and post defense will be so critical to our success."

"We will be hungry. We want revenge, and we want our seniors to experience more games."

WOMEN continued from page 1

rebounding. In the middle, senior center Zandar Smith, who is leading the team in rebounding, has been a major force. In addition to averaging 9.2 rpg, Smith is first on the team in blocked shots, turning away 26 of them. She was named to the All-Conference team this year and said of the reward, "It was kind of a surprise." Also, Smith was named to the Ramada Inn Tip-Off All-Tournament Team.

At forward, Katy Parrish has been a 1000 point scorer, been an All-Conference selection three times and has been a Freshman All-American. She has done just about everything you can do in athletics. This year she was named ODAC Player of the Week on January 21. Her averages include 10.0 ppg, 5.4 rpg, and a 42% field goal percentage. In addition to basketball, she was the starting goalie on the soccer team, and is quite a good tennis player as well.

Liz Crafton rounds out this talented senior class. Liz has been a hard worker all four years here. In her sophomore year, she was in the top 10 on the team in scoring and was sixth on the team in assists. This year, Liz finished the regular season possessing the best free throw percentage on the team at 77%. She also shot 34% from the field this year.

As you can see, with a team stacked like this, it is no surprise why the lady Yellow Jackets were, as Dan Patrick would say, "en fuego." However, it doesn't stop here. To complement such a great senior class, the lady Yellow Jackets also have an awesome group of underclassmen. The team will be returning seven very potent threats. These underclassmen can expect to see a lot of action next year with the absence of the seniors.

Both Mary Biglan and Susan Doyle, the only juniors on the team, will be looking to continue the winning tradition at Randolph-Macon. Biglan is point guard who shot 33% from the floor while averaging about 4.0 ppg. Her drives to the basket and passing ability made her a valuable asset. Susan Doyle shot 42% from the

floor and average about 5.0 ppg. She got to start in a couple of contests due to injury to starters, where she showed real promise.

The other two sophomore players, Ashley Whitehurst and Leslie Buhrman, will be looking for a lot of action as well. Whitehurst is a good outside shooter with deadly range from behind the arc. She is also a good shot from the free throw line where she shot around 75% on the year. Buhrman is a good post player with strong moves inside. Leslie shot 45% from the floor and averaged close to 5.0 rpg on the year.

While these four pose to be awesome threat and possible starting line-up for opposing teams, we must add in the very talented freshman class. Aimee Beightol, Allison Beightol, and Tika Lewis have brought nothing but success with them in their first year here at Randolph-Macon.

Aimee Beightol had an immediate impact on the team as she was quickly named as a starter to the line-up. Aimee was the ODAC's Freshman of the Year, and has helped the Yellow Jackets in all areas. She averaged 14.5 ppg, 4.1 apg and 3.5 spg. Aimee is a welcomed addition to the team and we are glad that R-MC does not have to play against her.

"It feels unbelievable to be a major contributor in my first year on a team that is 26-1, ODAC Champions and in the NCAA National playoffs," said Beightol of her freshman year. "Not only did we reach the goals that we set, but we have gone out and proven ourselves to other teams."

Along with Aimee, the Yellow Jackets were very fortunate to get her sister Allison. Together, the two of them have been an effective one-two punch. Although Allison doesn't get to start, when she comes off the bench, her quickness and intelligence provide a spark for the jackets. Beightol said, "My goal in coming to Macon was to be a contributor to the team and to be of help in anyway possible."

The third part of this year's freshman class was local

product, Tika Lewis. Tika went to Meadowbrook High School in Richmond, VA where she ran the show. This year Tika shot 55% from the floor while averaging close to 5.0 rpg.

As the girls ended the regular season and headed for the ODAC Tournament, they had to overcome the bad omens of years past. Despite Macon's success in recent years, they have gotten beyond the first round in the ODAC Tournament only once before. In 1993-94, the Yellow Jackets made it all the way to the championship game where they lost to Roanoke.

This year, the team was determined to change things. In the first round, they had to play the Randolph-Macon Women's College Wildcats. The jackets won the game by a score of 79-52 behind 18 points by Aimee Beightol and 10 rebounds by Zandar Smith. Thus, the women took care of one pressure point. However, the next step would not be as easy.

In the 1994-95 season, the Yellow Jackets entered the tournament as the #2 seed and were playing the #7 seeded Emory & Henry Waps. Unfortunately, the Waps won the game and ended the season pre-maturely for the women.

This year, it was time to take out revenge. Led by Aimee Beightol's 27 points, 9 rebounds, 7 steals and 6 assists, R-MC won the game 76-66. With the game tied at 66 with less than a minute to play, Aimee made two key steals that led to a lay-up for her and two free throws for Jenn Kohler. Thus, the second burden was then removed from the team's collective backs.

Finally, it all came down to the two best teams in the ODAC, Randolph-Macon and Roanoke. They were the two top seeds in the conference and are bitter arch rivals. The girls went into the game confident thanks to their victory against Roanoke 86-79 on Roanoke's home floor, on February 11. That win evened things up and the championship game would determine who took it all. R-MC started out on a 7-0 run, but it was a lead that wouldn't hold long. Roanoke came back and the rest of the

game was a real fight.

In the end, clutch defensive stops along with near perfect free throw shooting iced the game for Macon as they went on to win 84-73. This win gave the women their first ODAC Championship. In a season that was defined by victories and record-breaking, this was a perfect ending to a conference season that seemed to be ruled by destiny.

Coach LaHaye said of her team, "It has been real rewarding and a real joy to have known these girls as a coach, but most importantly, as a human being." The team sat down on December 7 to establish goals for the upcoming season. LaHaye said that the girls had accomplished every goal that they had set out to do, except going undefeated. However, she said, "I am not disappointed and the team should not be either."

When asked to give one trait that would best describe this year's team, Coach LaHaye stressed one major concept that has kept the team together and kept them going. "Unity and togetherness," said Coach LaHaye. "Everytime the girls stepped onto the court, they gave 100% at all times. I am very proud. They have worked hard and deserve everything that they have received."

The next test for this incredible team will be the NCAA

National playoffs. On Wednesday, the girls started out at home in the first round against a young Shenandoah team, who made into the tournament by winning their Dixie Conference tournament, 58-55, over Christopher Newport. Coach LaHaye said of Shenandoah, "Their 13-14 record is very deceptive. They play with a lot of adrenaline and with a lot of heart."

As the girls begin their quest down and hard road in search for a National Championship, we would like to wish them good and we hope that all their dreams are for they are a team who is truly great.

March 3, 1996, Richmond Times Dispatch

R-MC women: double duty in NCAA

BY ADAM FOLDENAUER
TIMES-DISPATCH STAFF WRITER

Randolph-Macon women's basketball coach Carroll LaHaye isn't worried about her players folding under the pressure of the NCAA Division III tournament. For several Yellow Jackets, it's their second visit to the NCAA this year.

Jenn Kohler, Katy Parrish and twins Aimee and Allison Beightol all played on R-MC's 1995 Old Dominion Athletic Conference championship soccer team that went 19-1-2 and advanced to the NCAA tournament. Their tournament experience on grass is valuable on the hardwood.

R-MC, 27-1 and the South Region's No. 1 seed, plays host to fourth-seeded Millsaps in the tourna-

ment's second round today at 3 p.m.

"The fact that [Kohler, Parrish and the Beightol twins] are very competitive, the fact that they've been in this situation already once this year is an advantage," LaHaye said.

The soccer team advanced to the NCAA Division III regional final before falling 1-0 to Methodist on Nov. 5.

Kohler, a senior, is a two-time, first-team All-American in soccer, and freshman Aimee earned regional honors.

The two are just as talented in a gymnasium. Aimee runs the point guard position and averages 15 points and 4.1 assists. Kohler's average of 15.4 points leads the team.

Parrish, who played goalie on the soccer team, is among the Yellow Jackets' all-time leading scorers. The senior forward has tallied 1,351 career points.

The Yellow Jackets advanced to today's game by turning away Shenandoah of the Dixie Conference

91-74 in the first round for their 12th consecutive win. The tournament has upped the team's level of intensity, LaHaye said.

"I'm very pleased right now with how focused we are and how excited we are," she said. "We're excited that we're hosting and that we're to this point in the season."

Millsaps (23-3) defeated Hendrix 65-57 in its first-round game. Clara Webb is the Majors' main threat; she puts in 16.4 points per game and shoots 45 percent from 3-point range. Millsaps outrebounds its opponents by nearly six per game.

"They are very similar to ourselves. They like to run the ball. They play defense well and just play well together as a team," LaHaye said.

LaHaye was named ODAC coach of the year for her job this season. R-MC put together its first 20-win season, captured its first ODAC title and received its first bid to the NCAA tournament.

Said LaHaye, "We've reached all of the team goals we set. . . . But we aren't ready to quit yet."



MARCH 4, 1996

SWEET SIXTEEN!

Jacket women take a higher step in NCAA playoffs

By JAY PACE

Herald Staff Writer

The Millsaps College women's basketball team ran into the Randolph-Macon Road Runner Saturday afternoon at Crenshaw Gymnasium in Ashland.

Except this one didn't go "meep-meep" as she darted and dashed her way like some persistent pest bent on driving a certain coyote crazy.

R-MC freshman guard Aimee Beightol irritated the Majors from Mississippi with quick hands, a nose for the basket and a sense of where the ball would be at times made it seem she was in two places at once.

She may have even done that in the Yellow Jackets' impressive 99-66 victory over the Majors in the second round of the NCAA Division III national tournament.

The recipe

Her quarterbacking leadership, senior Jenn Kohler's offensive power from outside and typical R-MC intensity, especially in its pressure defense, were the ingredients in the Jackets' 28th win in 29 games.

And because of their number one regional seeding, R-MC will host the sectional playoffs with four teams vying for a shot at the Final Four of Division III women's basketball this Friday and Saturday on the friendly home floor of Crenshaw.

Beightol scored 14 points, but her real value to the Jacket success was



Aimee Beightol is looking to dish off another assist against Millsaps. The freshman guard had eight in R-MC's impressive win in the second round of the NCAA Division III national tournament. (Duane Berger photo.)

BY THE NUMBERS

• Jackets place five in double figures: Jenn Kohler, 24; Katy Parrish, 18; Zandar Smith and Aimee Beightol, 14 each; Sandy Crispin, 10.

• R-MC dished out 22 assists, 8 from Aimee Beightol and 4 from Allison Beightol.

• Millsaps committed 34 turnovers. R-MC had 22 steals, led by Kohler with 7 and Aimee Beightol with 6.

• Kohler hit 6 of 12 three pointers.



Zandar Smith challenges two Millsaps players for one of her seven rebounds. The senior R-MC center also scored 14 points. (Duane Berger photo.)

evidenced by three other numbers. The 5-3 enforcer from Roanoke handed out eight assists, made six steals, and in handling the ball on dozens of occasions.

In her 26 minutes of playing time, she never made a turnover.

"We just could not stop number 3 (Beightol) and number 5 (Kohler)," said Millsaps coach Cindy Malmon. "Whatever we did on them didn't work."

Giving it up

The Majors suffered 34 turnovers, 18 in the first half when R-MC used two quick-as-a-wink spurts to run to a 52-36 advantage. Kohler scored 16 of her game-high 24 points in the first half, including a three pointer to enter the break in an upbeat manner for the Jackets.

Millsaps never got closer than 14 after that.

R-MC's strategy offensively was to play to its strength - Kohler primarily - and keep the Millsaps defense spread.

The spread was all Beightol needed to play her game of quick penetration. Time and again she would attack with a vengeance and make something good happen, usually drawing attention away from a wide-open Kohler (6 of 12 from

three-point distance) or dishing off underneath to Katy Parrish (18 points) or Zandar Smith (14).

"We want to run as much as we can," Beightol said afterwards. "We set a lot of screens and use a lot of motion."

None more effective than her perpetual variety.

Familiarity

R-MC coach Carroll LaHaye has seen it before.

"We're pretty intense and play that way," she said. "We have approached every game the same way. We want the other team to have to play up to our best to beat us."

As if Beightol's flashy larcenies, speed and quickness weren't enough, the Jackets benefited from a textbook defensive effort from their scoring leader Kohler.

She shackled Millsaps leading scorer Carla Webb, the Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference's player of the year. Webb, a junior, hit only one field goal in seven tries, scored six points - ten below her season's average - and was frustrated by both Kohler and taunting R-

Press see R-MC, p. 5

THE NEXT ROUND

R-MC plays Bethel College of Minnesota on Friday night.

Other sectional pairing in Ashland is Marymount College (Va.) against St. Thomas University of Minnesota.

Games Friday at 6:30 and 8:30 p.m.

Sectional final is at 7 p.m., Saturday, in Ashland.

Winner goes to the NCAA Final Four to play for national championship.

Crispin has exceeded R-MC's expectations

BY TRACI L. ALLEN

TIMES-DISPATCH STAFF WRITER

Some accredit the success of Randolph-Macon's women's basketball team to the play of Old Dominion Athletic Conference Player-of-the-Year Jenn Kohler.

Others say it's because of the addition of Aimee Beightol, the ODAC Freshman-of-the-Year.

Then others say it's because of the outstanding coaching job done by Carroll LaHaye that earned her ODAC Coach-of-the-Year.

But LaHaye disagrees.

She gives a great deal of the credit to senior co-captain Sandy Crispin. "I have to honestly say Sandy's effort is just as important as the players who have received all the awards," she said. "She's a major part of our success."

Crispin, a 5-9 forward, is one of four senior starters that will lead the ODAC champion Yellow Jackets into tonight's NCAA Division III South Region semifinals at Crenshaw Gymnasium, in Ashland.

DIVISION III WOMEN

TODAY: Randolph-Macon vs. Bethel, 6:30 p.m.; Marymount vs. St. Thomas, 8:30 p.m.; Crenshaw Gym, Ashland.

Randolph-Macon (28-1) will face Bethel College of Minnesota (21-5) at 6:30 p.m. followed by Marymount (27-2) challenging St. Thomas of Minnesota (25-2) at 8:30 p.m.

Earning a bid to the NCAA tournament has been a goal of the Yellow Jackets since Crispin and six other freshmen enrolled in 1992. That year, R-MC finished 14-11.

The program has improved since finishing 19-7 and then 19-6 before this year's 28-1 success. This season marks the Yellow Jackets first-ever appearance in the NCAA tournament.

"I knew that potential was there for [the freshmen] to turn this program around, but they have definitely exceeded my expectations," LaHaye said.

So has Crispin.

A two-year player for Monacan after moving to Richmond from Pittsburgh, Crispin is averaging 7.9 points and 5.4 rebounds this season. Her rebounding total ranks second on the team and her 66 assists ranks third. In her career at R-MC, she's scored 903 points and grabbed 630 rebounds. "Sandy is an outstanding role model who leads by example," LaHaye said. "She just goes out there and does what needs to be done."

"If she gets the accolades fine. If not, so be it. As long as it benefits the team."

Women's Basketball Looks to Recapture Past Success
Jackets Are Among the Youngest, but Strongest in ODAC

Kristen Leske '01
Staff Writer

This year's R-MC women's basketball team is looking to recapture the success it had in the 1995-96 season when they walked away with the ODAC championship and their first NCAA Division III tournament bid. They finished the year with a record of 28-2, their best in R-MC history.

Last year, after losing five starters and having ODAC "Freshman-of-the-Year" Aimee Beightol go down due to a knee injury, the Yellow Jackets fought hard and challenged many opponents, but ended up 15-10 overall, not what they had expected.

This year's team however,

against Christopher Newport University and Marymount University and have competed in two tournaments and their first conference game since then.

In their first tournament held at Randolph-Macon, the team lost in the first round by a close margin to Alvernia College, 61-58. Bren Elliot and Allison Beightol scored team highs with 12 points each but could not hold off a strong Alvernia team.

In the second game of the tournament against Methodist, R-MC fought hard and came away with their first win of the season. Everyone scored in the 89-62 effort with sophomore Renee Zando leading the way with a game high 22 points. Junior Allison Beightol also dished out seven assists and

ers scoring well over double figures, R-MC lost the battle and the tournament championship.

The team was well represented, however, with Bren Elliot and Aimee Beightol being named to the All-Tournament team. With her accomplishments at the tournament, Beightol was also named the ODAC player of the week averaging 13.7 points, 4.3 rebounds, 7.0 assists, 2.3 steals.

The 1997-'98 team does not suffer from a lack of experience or quality play, quite obviously. Leslie Burhman leads the team as their only senior. She played and started in all 25 games last season, averaging 9.4 points while leading in rebounds with 8.1 per game. This year, Leslie continues her leadership on the court and

team this year are sophomores Beth Richard, Amy Nelson and Heather Mitchell. Richard and Nelson help as shooting guards and averaged 7.1 and 5.7 points respectively last season. Recovering from a knee injury, Heather Mitchell also returns strong this year.

Freshmen recruits Jamie Tanner, Lindsey Carney, Melissa Kristofak and Catherine Ham have been welcome additions to this year's team. They provide depth to the Yellow Jacket squad and are "go-to" players.

Jamie Tanner has earned a starting position and is second in scoring, averaging 13.2 points per game. She is 15th in scoring in the ODAC, helping the team to hold first place in field goal per-



R-MC's Jenn Kohler gets hacked from behind by Millsaps' Mary Helen Walsh. Kohler turned in a 24-point performance Saturday and held Millsaps leading scorer to ten points under her average. (Duane Berger photo.)

R-MC

Continued from p. 4

MC students. Kohler went Beightol one better in the steal department with seven.

Millsaps stayed even for the first seven minutes before R-MC's Tika Lewis came off the bench to spark a two-minute run.

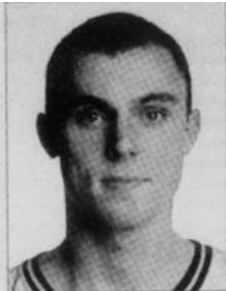
With the Majors on top 17-16 at 12:58 in the first half, Lewis hit from the baseline, made a steal and scored on a break-away and followed her own miss for another field goal in a span of 80 seconds. That added to Leslie Burhman's hit gave R-MC a seven-point bulge.

Five minutes later and like lightning, R-MC turned in a 22-second streak that featured Sandy Crispin scoring on a jumper, Beightol converting one of her steals and Smith netting a follow-up after a theft by Kohler. The sequence gave R-MC its first double figure lead at 41-30 with 4:54 left in the half.

The margin just kept getting wider after that.

If Beightol demonstrated a sign of freshman inexperience, it was in committing five fouls and having to sit out for 14 minutes.

But then, even the real Road Runner takes a breather from time to time.



LaHaye Named District Coach of the Year

Randolph-Macon women's basketball coach Carroll LaHaye was named NCAA Division III District Coach-of-the-Year by the Women's Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA). LaHaye was one of eight coaches nationwide to be awarded with the honor. As a district winner, LaHaye is a finalist for the WBCA Division III Coach of the Year award, to be presented at the IKON/WBCA Coach of the Year Banquet, March 25, in Kansas City, Missouri.

LaHaye led the Randolph-Macon Yellow Jackets women's basketball team to a 21-6 overall record this past season. R-MC also earned a trip to the NCAA Division III championship tournament

for the second time in the last three years and claimed the Old Dominion Athletic Conference's regular season championship as well.

LaHaye completes her 16th year at the helm of the Randolph-Macon program and has led her team to a 102-31 record over the last five seasons.

It marks the second time that LaHaye has earned the District Coach of the Year honor by the WBCA. LaHaye also earned the honor after 1995-96 season after leading her team to a 28-2 overall record.

* Releases courtesy of the Sports Information Department.

Kohler handled tall task

R-MC star leaves mark in 2 sports

BY MIKE MYLAND
Times-Dispatch Staff Writer

When Dan Caffrey recruited Pennsylvania's Jeff Kohler four years ago for the Randolph-Macon College women's basketball team, he told her she'd have to add offensive firepower to her defensive defense.

Kohler followed instructions. Three straight appearances on the all-Old Dominion Athletic Conference team, crossing off as the ODAC player of the year and Kodak Division III District All-American honors in '95-96.

The voting on the A-A team will take place this week. But Kohler's already been named that star's one of 40 finalists from whom the 10-person squad will be picked.

The other 30 will be given honorable mention certificates. Kohler could well be the first R-MC athlete to make All-American in two sports the same school year. She was a first-team Division III All-American in soccer last fall.

Defense had been her basketball game at Glenmore-Downtown High outside Philadelphia. That's where Caffrey, then an R-MC aide, and head soccer coach Jeff Burns discovered her.

"We were state titles my junior and senior years and Tim Sabar and Tim Nicholson (both Division I college standouts) did most of the scoring," Kohler said.

But the glory, as we know, is in scoring. Not that she didn't want to "shoot in," said Kohler, a shooting guard, who had a season-high 30 points in the ODAC tournament final against Roanoke.

Kohler led the team in scoring (13.0), free throw percentage (75.8) and 3-point percentage (58.5 percent, 70 for 202). She was second on the team in steals and assists to freshman Aimee Beightol.

Carroll LaHaye's Jackets finished 28-2, losing once to Roanoke in the regular season and a final time in the Division III South-West sectional



FOLLOWING THE BOUNCING BALL, R-MC's Jeff Kohler doesn't lose her focus despite being surrounded by two Bethel defenders. Kohler scored 15 points in what turned out to be the final game of her college career, a 90-77 loss in the NCAA Division III tournament in Ashland on Friday.

semifinal round to Bethel of Minnesota, 93-77, on Friday in Ashland. It was the greatest season in women's basketball history at R-MC, which had never been to the NCAA tournament.

"A great way to wind up my first years here," Kohler said. "I'm totally elated. But I was stronger this year. I wasn't happy with my junior year and worked hard in fall of season."

Unhappy or not, Kohler was a first-team all-ODAC selection as a senior. She was also first team in a sophomore and second team as freshman.

And then the little matter of being first team A-A in soccer the last two years. Kohler, a biology major who hopes to do postgraduate work in physical therapy, still found ways to make

plenty of defensive noise on the court. "I think the most fun this year was steals and just pressing defense," she said. "I think I'm pretty quick, but Aimee Beightol is quicker. We pressed well, and we ran."

"I know we could go far in soccer (second round of the NCAA tournament), but I never thought we'd do this well in basketball. We had to prefer to be in the trust sense of the word."

"Our coaches (LaHaye and aide Mary Holland) were intense, and that's what you have to be to do well."

Beightol was an all-ODAC first team selection and the ODAC's freshman of the year. Leading rebounder Zandra Smith was an honorable mention on the all-

ODAC team. The other starters were guard-forward Sandy Crispin, a co-captain, from Mountain and center Katy Parrish from Gloucester Point.

"Katy had been struggling, and I was glad to see her go out strong (17 points against Bethel)," said Kohler, who scored 15 points on the night.

"I just don't think we were ready for the atmosphere of that Bethel game. The place was packed. We never play before that kind of a crowd, although I'd seen it in two Pennsylvania state finals."

"We had a good crowd for the second round NCAA game, but nothing like that. I think we felt the pressure. We shot 29 percent the first half."

The Jackets, who'd come out on fire in beating Shenandoah and MU-

sons in the first two rounds, fell behind 44-22 at intermission. Bethel, which shot 59 percent for the game, was nearly as effective the next night and lost to St. Thomas (Minn.) in the quarterfinals.

"We outplayed them in the second half, forcing the lead to 10 at one point," said Kohler, a co-captain. "We're normally a second-half team, but our first halves are never that bad."

Besides Kohler, the Jackets lost Crispin, Smith, Parrish and Liz Crofton to graduation. Aimee and sister Allison Beightol return, along with Susan Doyle, Tina Lewis, Leslie Burkman, Mary Ragan and Ashley Whitehurst.

"They're losing some leaders, but I think they've got a good shot to be good next year," Kohler said.

February 24, 1999, Richmond Times Dispatch

New knee helps Beightol cap career

Aimee eager to capture ODAC title in hometown

BY FRED JETER
Times-Dispatch Staff Writer

Aimee Beightol has changed roles from MP to MVP — that's missing person to most valuable player — for Randolph-Macon College's women's basketball team.

After being sidelined most of the past two winters with knee miseries, the 5-5 senior from Cave Spring has become a key reason the Yellow Jackets are 21-3. The team's 19-game winning streak was broken in a 72-56 loss to Bridgewater on Thursday.

"I'm a little surprised at how strong it [knee] is, really," said Beightol, who is joined in the R-MC backcourt by her twin sister, Allison. "I don't even think about the knee anymore ... I couldn't be happier."

Everyone is grinning around Ashland, largely because of Beightol's inspirational comeback following two surgeries — the first in '97 for a ruptured ACL, the second last year for a torn meniscus.

After a standout freshman campaign, in 1995-96 — a year in which R-MC posted a 28-2 record — Beightol saw no action in 1996-97. Last season, she played in eight games.

Any court rust would be hard to detect. Tagging Beightol with possible MVP honors is hardly a stretch.

Wearing a thin, elastic sleeve on her right knee, Beightol ranks with the Old Dominion Athletic Conference leaders in scoring (14.7), assists (4.3), steals (3.4), field goal percentage (47.7) and free-throw accuracy (77.5).

"And the statistics don't tell it all," said R-

MC coach Carroll LaHaye. "She means so much to us in motivation ... coming back from the tragedy like she has."

"This is the last season for Aimee and Allison, and they seem to want to make the most of it."

LaHaye has nominated both Beightols and top player Renee Zando for the all-ODAC team. The top vote-getter will be named ODAC player of the year.

"Those three have carried us, offensively and defensively," LaHaye said.

Aimee Beightol would prefer to deflect the attention from her remarkable comeback to the team's record and likelihood of returning to the NCAA Division III playoffs.

R-MC roared to the final 16 in her freshman year. Minus her star qualities, the Jackets failed to reach postseason play the past two seasons.

"I'm proud, just to be nominated [for all-conference]," she said. "We'll see what happens. I'm just so happy to be on a team where five different players can score and rebound ... and do about anything."

"We don't have just one outstanding player." Beightol is one of the best athletes to ever lace up sneakers at the school.

In addition to her basketball exploits, she was a four-year standout in soccer. This past fall, she was named ODAC player of the year as a soccer defensive specialist.

Her knee troubles were confined to the basketball season. She first damaged the knee during a preseason scrimmage at Mary Washington College before her sophomore season. She returned for her junior soccer campaign, but the

knee flared up early on in basketball.

A biology major and all-academic performer, Beightol plans to attend graduate school, where she might concentrate on physical therapy. She has no doubt been influenced by her own rehab sessions.

Also, she is considering becoming involved as a graduate assistant coach.

While injured the past two years, Beightol sat on the bench with the team and observed the game, much as a coach would.

"I tried to sit as close to the coaches as I could," she said. "A few times, they even asked me my opinion."

LaHaye would love to see Beightol join the coaching ranks.

"She has a wonderful concept of the game," LaHaye said. "She sees what is happening, and she is able to figure out solutions."

Beightol's speed and anticipation make her a pest to opponents. On attack, she says she is best suited to penetrating with the dribble. Allison receives higher marks in marksmanship.

Next for the Jackets is the ODAC tournament at Salem Civic Center, and possibly a bid to the NCAA tournament.

"The ODAC will be tough, but we think we're capable of going beyond that," Beightol said. The ODAC champion automatically qualifies for the NCAA tournament. The ODAC tournament will feel almost like a home game to the Beightols.

"I love playing at Civic Center," Aimee said. "It's where we played a lot of high school games. It's like a home away from home for Allison and I."

Salem Civic Center is a short distance from Cave Spring.

"My family, as well as a lot of friends and people from high school get a chance to see us play there," Beightol said.



March 13, 1996, Richmond Times Dispatch



SOLU. - CONTRIBUTOR, Randolph-Macon College senior Zandar Smith averaged 11.1 points and 9.7 rebounds for the 28-2 Yellow Jackets.

R-MC's Smith played 20-20

BY MIKE HYLAND
TIMES-DISPATCH STAFF WRITER

Alexandra "Zandar" Smith from Randolph-Macon College's finest women's basketball team, may be the only player around who got better when her vision got worse.

BASKETBALL

"It's true. Last year a lot of my shots went off the rim. I wore contacts, and I hated them," said Smith, the leading rebounder on a R-MC team that finished 28-2 and reached the third round of the NCAA Division III tournament.

"So I just clucked them this year and played without anything," she said. "I mean I could see OK. I don't shoot from that far out anyway."

"I have long arms so I can usually out-rebound someone my height," said Smith. "I'm a rebounder, and I took myself at the start of the season that hitting the boards was my main job."

"Sometimes, of course, you get the feeling and you score a fair amount of points," Smith had a 24-point game against Virginia Wesleyan, but Jenn Kohler and Aimee Beightol were the team's top point producers.

Smith, who's adept at stickbacks, had 14 points and seven rebounds in a win over Millaps in the second round of NCAA tournament. The Jackets were eliminated by Bethel (Minn.) in the third round.

"I spent the summer at a relative's in California and hit the surf a lot," she said. "I surfed on the big board and surfed along the sand on the skin board. I wasn't training for basketball. It's just that I love to ski — water or snow."

"When we went out to California Christmas time for a tournament, I took my skin board. And I skied some up at Wintergreen during the season."

That trip to California (actually in early January) provided her with one of the vivid moments of the year. The Jackets were by one over Claremont-Moodle-Scripps after falling behind 24-3.

At the end when we were up by one, a Claremont girl went in for a layup clear," she said. "I was behind her, and all I could have done was foul her. She hits the layup, we lose. But it rolled off, and I'll never forget that sight."

Smith, who was a 19-10 runner for 1.1 miles in a cross-country runner at Laughey High, plans to travel a while after graduation before settling down.

Her mother (Mary) is from Germany, and she's traveled a good bit in Europe. Her father, Walter, played college hoops at Hamilton (N.Y.) College.

"I love the game, and I'll always play it," she said.

Women's Basketball: 20+ Win Season; Lose in Second Round of NCAA

Kristen Leake '01
Staff Writer
Jason Eichelberger '98
Sports Editor

With over 300 people there rooting on their Yellow Jackets, the Women's Basketball team dug deep inside their hearts to pull a huge upset over Bridgewater College by the score of 84-68 on Thursday, February 12.

Bridgewater, ranked number one in the NCAA Division III South Region and in the Old Dominion Athletic Conference at the time, walked into R-MC's Crenshaw Gymnasium unbeaten. However, they walked out with their first loss of the season, dropping them to 16-1 in the ODAC.

From the opening tip-off, R-MC, ranked fourth in the South Region and second in the conference, dominated the game. Never letting the Eagles get ahead in the 40 minutes of play, Macon kept a 20-point margin most of the contest. When Bridgewater starter Amanda Kyger went down due to an arm injury, the Jackets led the game 44-28 as they bounced joyfully into the locker room after the first half.

In the second half, both teams put in 40 points and ended up with a 46% team shooting percentage, but Bridgewater's effort was not enough. R-MC outscored the Eagles 48-30, which accounted for many easy layups off the boards.

Sophomore Renee Zando controlled the basketball game, hooping it up for 38 points and tearing down 18 rebounds, both career highs. Her 18 field goals tied the current R-MC record for field goals in a game. She was also 100% from the free throw line and blocked a shot right out of the gym. Freshmen Jamie Tanner and Lindsey Carney chipped in with 14 and 13 points respectively and senior Leslie Buhrman was right behind with 11 points and 10 rebounds.

After coming off such an impressive win against BC, the Jackets traveled down to Lynchburg College for their next ODAC contest on Valentine's Day. Though R-MC creamed the Hornets 40-20 in the first half, LC truned the game around and outscored them in the second half 42-31. Although winning by a slim margin, the Jackets still took it away with a final score of 71-62.

Tanner lit it up the night netting 24 points, pulling down four rebounds, dishing out five assists, pick-

ing Hornets' pockets four times and still having time to add a blocked shot. Tanner only missed two shots the entire game, shooting 7-9 from the floor, 4-4 out-

Women's Basketball
Continued on Page 7



Second Team All-ODAC, Leslie Buhrman #50

Beightol honored for sportsmanship

BY VIC DORR JR.
TIMES-DISPATCH STAFF WRITER

Randolph-Macon women's basketball player Allison Beightol has been selected by the NCAA as one of two recipients of the organization's new award for conspicuous and unselfish sportsmanship.

Beightol, a senior guard from Roanoke, was nominated by her coach, Carroll LaHaye, for her behavior in the Yellow Jackets' regular-season road game against archrival Roanoke College.

The game was emotional and fiercely competitive, not only because it was Senior Day at Roanoke, but also because possession of first place in the Old Dominion Athletic Conference was at stake.

During the contest, Beightol called a timeout that halted a Yellow Jackets' fast break so that an injured Roanoke player could receive prompt medical attention.

"It was an incredibly classy thing

to do," LaHaye said. "She said, 'It's hard to get too excited about two points when you can see that somebody is hurt and needs help. I'd like to think that [a Yellow Jackets opponent] would do the same thing for one of us.'"

With seconds remaining in the game, which the Yellow Jackets won 70-59, Roanoke's coach sent a player who was injured and could do little more than stand on the floor. This was done to permit the player, a senior, to collect a memory and a line in the box score.

Beightol gathered her teammates around her and reminded them not to jostle the injured woman.

Beightol, second team all-ODAC in basketball and first team in soccer, could not be reached for comment.

LaHaye said, "This is wonderful. I'm so happy and so excited for Allison."

The male winner was Jarrett Egan, a javelin thrower from Rice.



Women's Basketball Starts Season with 4-3 Record

Lyndsey D'Arcangelo '00
Staff Writer

With the college basketball season underway, the Randolph-Macon Women's team has an over all record of 4-3.

Coached by Carroll LaHaye and assisted by former Yellow Jacket Aimee Beightol, the team is relatively young. However, packed full with versatile players who can perform well in numerous positions, the team is able to depend on its deep bench of young talent.

Returning players from last year's NCAA tournament run, help give this year's team experience and determination. The team led by seniors Bren Elliot, Renee Zando and Beth Richard, hope to use that determination in order to get them back to the tournament again this year.

On Sunday, December 5th, the team traveled to Roanoke College where they opened up conference play. Although the Yellow Jackets put forth a valiant effort, they could not pull out the win. Roanoke played an intense defensive game and capitalized on their turnovers.

Randolph-Macon made an incredible run in the second half, coming

back from a 24 for point deficit to 4 point game. However, by compiling a total of 18 steals, Roanoke was able to hold off the run and pull out a win. Senior Renee Zando had a stellar performance in which she shot 50% from the field and totaled 25 points and 15 rebounds.

On Tuesday, December 7th, the Yellow Jackets hosted another inner conference game against Lynchburg College. Randolph-Macon came out shooting in the first half and shot roughly 50% for the entire game. The team showed its deep and dependable bench by having all players score at least two or more points during the game. Freshman Michelle Cantlin gave an outstanding all around performance with a total of 12 points, 3 assists and 2 steals. Sophomore Allison Blakely also put in a strong performance with a total of 18 points and 6 rebounds.

Randolph-Macon now leads the over all series with Lynchburg 22-5 and has won the last 16 consecutive meetings.

The Yellow-Jackets will play next at home on Thursday, December 9th, against Bridgewater.

Lady Jackets Claim ODAC Title Women Move on to NCAA Tournament

Catherine Bode '99
Staff Writer

The Randolph-Macon women's basketball team has claimed the title of regular season Old Dominion Athletic Conference champions once again! The Yellow Jackets ended their season with an outstanding 22-3 overall record, 20-1 in the ODAC. This is the third time in four years that the Jackets are the ODAC regular season champions, giving them the top seed in the tournament. They currently stand third in the south NCAA Division III region.

The Yellow Jackets' winning streak consisted of nineteen consecutive victories. This included wins over Mary Washington College (87-58), Lynchburg College (93-73), and Roanoke College (70-59). Coach LaHaye commented how this team made her job much easier for, "these players are highly motivated. They want to work, and they want to win."

The Jackets experience a slight disappointment with their loss to Bridgewater College last Thursday, for this was their only defeat in the ODAC. LaHaye noted how the Jackets were a bit out of sync that night, while Bridgewater played very well. She believed her team was, "playing afraid

to lose." However, despite this defeat, the Yellow Jackets ended the season with flying colors, crushing Eastern Mennonite 92-56. Jamie Tanner knocked down six three-pointers, and contributed a total of twenty points to this victory. Meredith Roberts added 13, while Aimee Beightol handed out 10 assists. It is quite safe to say that Eastern Mennonite never knew what hit them.

The next step for the Jackets is the ODAC tournament, taking place at the Salem Civic Center. Yesterday, the top-seeded Jackets faced RMC-W, the fourth seeded team. A modest Coach LaHaye commented how the tournament will be challenging, for a lot of the teams have improved throughout the year. She claimed, for example, that the fifth, sixth, and seventh ranked teams consist mainly of freshmen, who have the ability to step up at any moment. She has no doubt, however, that her team will be ready.

Today is the second round of the tournament, and Randolph-Macon will move on to challenge the winner of the Virginia Wesleyan-Washington and Lee contest. The championship game will take place at two o'clock on Saturday, and LaHaye has no doubt that the Jackets will be there, for she states, "This team is focused. They are on a mission, and they want to succeed. I don't think they'll be denied."



Following Loss, Yellow Jacket Await Tournament Seeding

Grant Colvin '01
Staff Writer

Salem, VA—Trailing by a point at halftime, the Yellow Jackets eventually succumbed to Hampden-Sydney 73-61 in the Finals of the ODAC Tournament. The loss left the team at 22-5 and awaiting a berth in the Division III NCAA Tournament. In the semi-final win over Virginia Wesleyan, Joe Goldin led the team with 17, and in the final, Goldin scored a team-high 16. However,

Matt Meehan and Jonathan Talley named to the 1999 ODAC Tournament Team. Hampden-Sydney's TJ Grimes scored 21 in the final, garnering MVP honors and a spot All Tournament team as well. Ram Macon finds out on Sunday if the get a number three or four seed NCAA tournament—an event which would give them the right to a first-round tournament game on c March 4. A five or six seed mean the team would have to Good Luck—keep the fingers crossed against speculation.

Talent and Chemistry Guide Women's Hoopsters

LaHaye Pushing Harder; Setting High Team Goals

Keith McMillan '98
Staff Writer
Jason Eichelberger '98
Sports Editor

The Randolph-Macon Women's basketball team is off to an 8-2 start this season, its best since 1995-96, when the team finished 28-2, won the Old Dominion Athletic Conference title and hosted the NCAA South Regional tournament.

This year, following a season-opening loss to nationally ranked Alvernia College 61-58, the Yellow Jackets have won eight of nine, including six conference victories and seven wins by 17 points or more. They've reeled off five straight since a two-point defeat at the hands of Gallaudet University 82-80 in the championship of the Gallaudet Invitational way back on November 30.

The secret to their success? "Talent and chemistry," according to head coach Carroll LaHaye, going to head coach Carroll LaHaye. Getting the team back to the 1995-96 level of play has not been an easy task for coach Carroll LaHaye. Talent is part of the equation.

The team began the regular season last year with none of their starters and only two top reserves from the championship squad. Consequently, the seven freshmen received plenty of time to develop on the court, helping the team to finish 15-10. LaHaye and assistant coach Kelly Mahlum brought in four more freshmen this year to improve on the team's weaker areas. They have paid dividends already. Two have started games and are averaging more than 20 minutes a contest.

Chemistry is the other main factor. "It's kind of like a big happy family," said freshman Jamie Tanner, who led the team in scoring in four straight games with 22, 20, 19 and 18 points. Tanner also leads the team in scoring with 15 points per game.

It's one of the closest teams I've ever been on," LaHaye agrees. "The players get along on

and off the court. They bring those friendships [when they come to play]. I can't take credit for that."

LaHaye can take credit however, for reshaping the team's attitude and setting their goals high. The veteran players can see a difference in her coaching style this season. "Last year it was laid back," said sophomore Beth Richard. "But, she sees our potential this year, so she pushes us more. We can lose, and they [LaHaye and Mahlum] will still yell because they know we can do better."

Their goals are set no lower than the ODAC championship they were picked to earn in the preseason coaches' poll and the automatic NCAA tournament bid that came along with it.

To reach those goals, the Jackets will have to improve in some areas. "We're still a long ways away," LaHaye said, "but we're moving forward. We're meeting our goals one game at a time."

Because offense hasn't been a problem, the team often focuses on defense. There's an old adage which says defense wins championships. The team is completely sold on that.

In their first 10 games, Macon has held seven of their opponents to 62 points or less. On January 6, the women held Hollins College to just 28 points and on December 4, they held EMU to just 48 points.

"Defense is critical," said Richard. "You can win a game with one point if you play perfect defense." While that is not likely to happen, the players strive for defensive perfection.

"Our defense...has pulled us out of a lot of close games and allowed us to run away with some others." The Jackets have won games by 40, 38, 34, 28 and 27 points. The women have netted 86 or more points five teams this season, scoring in the 90's three times.

LaHaye said she sets a de-

fensive goal for each team they play. "We've done very well with that." They've achieved their goal every time, but twice.

Like any team, the Jackets have had to cope with the unexpected. Aimee Beightol, once picked as a preseason All-America by Dick Vitale's basketball magazine, missed all the 1996-97 season with an anterior cruciate ligament tear in her right knee. She has missed the last three games after she underwent surgery to repair a lateral meniscus tear, also in her right knee on December 12. While the original diagnosis was that she would miss the rest of this season, LaHaye is optimistic that she will be back. "They're shooting to get me back the week of [January] 25th," Beightol said.

The Jackets are a different team with Beightol on the floor. "She's a huge asset to the team," Richard said. LaHaye said she provides leadership, something she thinks her current squad may be lacking.

"I do need [it] day in and day out," she said. "Some people will step up some of the time," said LaHaye, but no one does it consistently.

"Because we're so young, everyone steps up at different times," Tanner explained.

For opponents, the scary thing is, the Jackets can only get better. They have all of the weapons: height, quickness, shooting and depth. "The more we play together, the better we'll get," said Tanner. The Jackets already have five double figure scorers in Tanner, Renee Zando, Aimee Beightol, Bren Elliot and Leslie Buhrman. Allison Beightol is right on the edge averaging 9.7 points per contest. Seven players play 17 minutes a contest, and their depth has allowed them to play ten women in seven games or more.

Most recently, the Jackets have won back-to-back home wins against Guilford College, 90-85 on January 9 and Emory

and Henry College, 90-56 on January 10.

The team traveled to Washington & Lee last night and hosts Roanoke College, traditionally one of the Jackets toughest opponents, on tomorrow at 2 p.m. Tomorrow is also Back-to-the-Hive in which coach LaHaye annually honors her former players with a special presentation at half-time.

As of games through January 11, the women are ranked first in the ODAC in offense with 81.6 points per game and third in defense by allowing only 61.1 points per game. They are also second in margin of victory, winning by an average of 20.3 points per contest and first in field goal percentage by making 45.8 percent of their shots.

In individual performances Renee Zando is leading the conference with a 63.3 field goal percentage. Allison Beightol is second in assists with 4.6 dishes per game and Jamie Tanner is third in 3-point percentage, knocking down 35.6 percent of her attempts at the tripecta. Also, the team's lone senior, Leslie Buhrman is third in steals, picking her opponents pockets with an average of 2.9 thefts per game.

Sophomore center Renee Zando has been selected as this week's NCAA Division III women's basketball player-of-the-week according to *Columbus Multimedia*. Zando, a 6-1 center who hails from Yorktown, Virginia, totaled 50 points, 25 points rebounds, five blocked shots, four steals and one assist in leading the Yellow Jackets to three wins last week. Over the three-game stretch, Zando shot 72.4 percent (21-of-29) from the floor and 61.5 percent from the free throw line (8-of-13).

In addition to her national honor, Renee was selected as this week's Old Dominion Athletic Conference player-of-the-week.

December 12, 1998, RMC Newspaper

Can anybody stop them? After defeating Hollins College this past Sunday, the women's basketball team claimed its sixteenth consecutive victory to break the old record of fifteen, produced during the 1995-1996 season. Furthermore, over these last sixteen games, only three opponents have managed to score more than sixty-three points against this basketball powerhouse.

After the win over Hollins on February 7, the Yellow Jackets hold a regular season record of 17-2. They stand undefeated in the sixteen ODAC games. Randolph-Macon ranks third in the South NCAA Division III region, and appears poised to earn a birth into the post-season tournament.

The Jackets have found their stiffest conference competition to be Bridgewater and Roanoke. They conquered Bridgewater (58-53) after a 14-2 run in the last two and a half minutes of the game. Aimee Beightol commented, "It was definitely a team effort! No one player really stood out...we just pulled it together as a team." Two days later the Jackets defeated Roanoke (75-69), and Allison Beightol found herself named player of the week in the ODAC.

During January-term break, freshman guard Meredith Roberts stepped up, contributing fifteen points, and leading four double scorers for Macon in the first game against Hollins

on January 30. Junior forward Bren Elliot and sophomore forward Jamie Tanner each added twelve, while freshman guard Allison Blakely tossed in ten.

The Jackets continued their streak by defeating Virginia Wesleyan (76-63), Emory and Henry (67-47), and Hollins (93-27). Junior center Renee Zando, and senior guards Allison and Aimee Beightol continued to be key offensive contributors in these contests. The Jackets' intense defense, strong offense, and aggressive rebounding have allowed them to put together their string of victories. As of February 9, Randolph-Macon College ranked second in the ODAC for points allowed (aver.: 59.0), second for points scored (aver.: 79.6), and third for rebounding (margin: 4.5).

On February 16, the Yellow Jackets will travel to Salem, Virginia to go head to head against Roanoke College, the second ranked team in the ODAC. Roanoke's only conference loss has been to the Jackets. Randolph-Macon will be ready, for they have already risen to the occasion to be the best they can be! The Jackets will then face Bridgewater College at home on Thursday at 7:00. I hope to see many wild and crazy fans seated in the bleachers in Crenshaw Gymnasium, watching the Randolph-Macon Yellow Jackets, the number one seeded team in the ODAC!

Women's Basketball Predicted to Finish 1st in the ODAC

Beightol Twins and Jamie Tanner Return to Lead the Jackets

December 11, 1998, RMC Newspaper

Catherine Bode '99
Staff Writer

The 1997-98 ODAC regular season champions return carrying with them a set of high expectations, and six freshmen.

The women's basketball program currently stands at its most successful period in history. The Yellow Jackets have been pre-season ranked 16th in the nation by *Division Three News* and 20th by *Columbus Multimedia Group*. They have also been picked to finish first in the ODAC.

The eight returning players this season feel no pressure by these rankings, but instead see them as a source of motivation.

A key factor in the team's success will be for both the Beightol twins, Seniors Aimee and Allison, to stay healthy. As the only seniors, their talent and leadership ability are crucial to the team.

one end of the court, and then force them to really have to hustle back in order to be in time to defend the Jackets.

Coach Carroll LaHaye adds, "This team is a pleasure to work with because they all want to win and compete. They get along so well both on and off the court. The teamwork and comradery are already there, therefore we can focus on the offense and the defense, and then put it all together."

The 1998-99 season for the Jackets consists of twenty ODAC contests. They will also play four non-conference matchups.

In their first tournament, the Jackets faced three of these non-conference teams. On Friday, November 20 the team traveled to Arlington, Virginia to participate in the Pizza Hut Tip Off Classic, hosted by Marymount College. Randolph-Macon was seeded number one.

They defeated Centre College 79-50 in the first game. Every single person contributed, and Coach LaHaye commented on the depth that the freshmen players added to the team.

Saturday, the Jackets advanced to the semi-finals to take on Marymount College. This game kept everyone on the edge of their seats until the last minute, when the Jackets were defeated 79-78.

LaHaye said, "It was definitely a good game. We just allowed the other team too many second opportunities."

The Jackets faced King's College on Sunday. Unfortunately, this was one of those days where nothing seemed to go right for the Jackets. Losing 83-63, the team realized it just was not their day. Even the best teams



have off days though, and the players proceeded to bounce right back with determination at practice on Monday. These girls do not like to lose. They chose to not look back, but rather to look forward to the successful season that lies ahead.

Allison Beightol agrees with LaHaye's comment about how everyone gets along so well together both on and off the court.

"We are lucky because we have a very strong team bond!" expressed Allison.

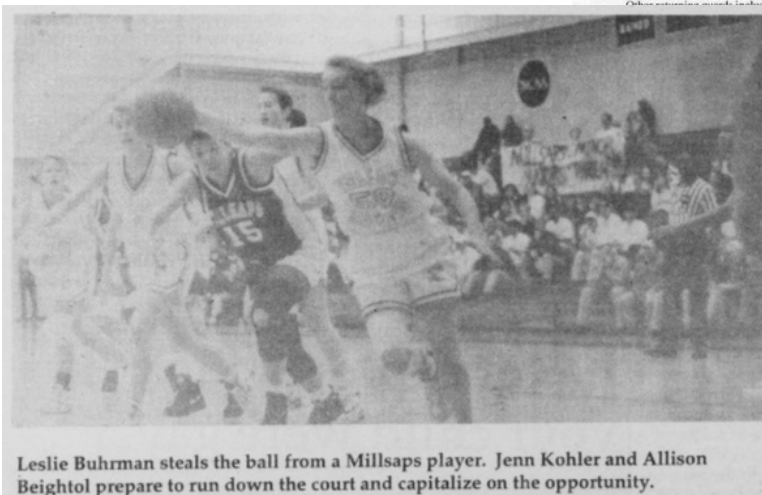
Perhaps this is the secret to their success?

Junior Beth Richards stated, "The tournament showed us we have a lot to work on. I know we are going to be a really good team though. Everyone is there because they want to play, and because they want to win. The fact that we are ranked just motivates us more. We do not feel pressured, because we have nothing to lose. It will only push us to be the best!"

What more could any coach ask for in a team?

Women's Basketball Schedule

December 11	R-MC at Randolph-Macon Women's College
January 5	R-MC at Eastern Mennonite Univ.
January 8	R-MC vs GUILFORD COLLEGE
January 9	R-MC vs EMORY & HENRY COLLEGE
January 13	R-MC vs R-MC WOMAN'S COLLEGE



Leslie Buhrman steals the ball from a Millsaps player. Jenn Kohler and Allison Beightol prepare to run down the court and capitalize on the opportunity.

2000s



FIRST ROW: Megan Mariani, Rachel Kifer, Allison Blakely, Cristin Ethridge, Sarah Crider, Lindsay Thomas, Kate Daniell (Manager)

SECOND ROW: Carroll LaHaye (Head Coach), Shannon Wighington, Erin Blakely, Meredith Roberts, Allison King, Margaret Gray, Lindsay Carroll, Aimee Beightol (Asst. Coach)



2000-01

FIRST ROW: Emily Crider, Cristin Ethridge, Allison King, Megan Mariani, Meredith Roberts, Lindsay Thomas, Tiffany Fitzgerald, Lindsay Carroll, Sarah Crider, Shannon Wighington

SECOND ROW: Carroll LaHaye (Head Coach), Michelle Walker (Asst. Coach)



2001-02

FIRST ROW: Tiffany Fitzgerald, Jennie Carter, Allison King, Lindsay Carroll, Megan Silva, Megan Senske

SECOND ROW: Amanda Morris, Michelle Orton, Shannon Wighington, Sarah Crider, Cristin Ethridge, Emily Crider



2002-03

KNEELING: Jennie Carter, Kristen Morgan, Megan Silva

SECOND ROW: Carroll LaHaye (Head Coach), Ashlee Henshaw, Shannon Wighington, Emily Crider, Michelle Orton, Amanda Morris, Megan Senske, Ana Litton (Asst. Coach)



2003-04

FIRST ROW: Carroll LaHaye (Head Coach), Megan Silva, Jennie Carter, Salem Shaffer, Nicole Childress, Kristen Morgan, Allison Beightol (Asst. Coach), Ana Litton (Asst. Coach)

SECOND ROW: Maggie Harman, Sarah Crider, Emily Crider, Michelle Orton, Jannesa Morusma, Megan Senske

NOT PICTURED: Marta Merkel, Jay Starke (Asst. Coach), Daniel Cochran (Manager), Amy Thompson (Manager)



2004-05

2005-06



LEFT TO RIGHT: Carroll LaHaye (Head Coach), Jay Starke (Asst. Coach), Megan Siva, Amanda Hiltunen, Marta Merkel, Maggie Harman, Megan Senske, Kristin Thompson, Michelle Orton, Colleen Orton, Jannesa Morusma, Lindsay Riesbeck, Salem Shaffer, Rachel Parker, Lauren Singer, Kristen Morgan, Ana Litton (Asst. Coach), Allison Beightol (Asst. Coach)

2006-07



LEFT TO RIGHT: Carroll LaHaye (Head Coach), Jay Starke (Asst. Coach), Maryanne Dalla Valle, Amanda Hiltunen, Jess Shifflett, Rachel Parker, Marta Merkel, Molly Ariail, Lindsay Riesbeck, Renee Stein, Salem Shaffer, Nicole Childress, Lauren Singer, Kristen Morgan, Matt Lyons (Mgr.), Kirsten Richter (Asst. Coach)

2007-08



FIRST ROW: Renee Stein, Lindsay Riesbeck, Marta Merkel, Jess Shifflett, Nicole Childress, Jenn O'Briant, Stephanie Grune, Katie Williams

SECOND ROW: Kirsten Richter (Asst. Coach), Carroll LaHaye (Head Coach), Amanda Hiltunen, Molly Ariail, Rachel Parker, Jay Starke (Asst. Coach), Matt Lyons (Mgr.)

2008-09



FIRST ROW: Renee Stein, Maggie Roy, Jennifer O'Briant, Rachel Parker, Amanda Hiltunen, Katie Williams, Molly Brown

SECOND ROW: Kirsten Richter (Asst. Coach), Jay Starke (Asst. Coach), Lindsay Riesbeck, Jillian Asay, Molly Ariail, Taylor Wiczorek, Stephanie Grune, Carroll LaHaye (Head Coach)

2009-10



FIRST ROW: Ashley Jones, Maggie Roy, Renee Stein, Jennifer O'Briant, Katie Williams, Madison Dulaney, Jordan Cantrell

SECOND ROW: Carroll LaHaye (Head Coach), Kirsten Richter (Asst. Coach), Taylor Wiczorek, Jillian Asay, Molly Ariail, Stephanie Grune, Molly Brown, Jay Starke (Asst. Coach)

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL NOTES

SIMPLY STERLING: Freshman guard **Megan Silva** seems worth her weight in gold to the Randolph-Macon women's basketball program.

Silva, a 2002 first-team All-Metro selection from Hermitage, is averaging 11.5 points, 5.8 assists and 3 steals through six games. She leads the Yellow Jackets in each category.

"The transition from high school to the college level has been rather easy for her," R-MC coach **Carroll LaHaye** said. "She sees and understands the game so well and makes very good decisions with the ball."

LaHaye said Silva's value is perhaps best illustrated by another statistic: 38.2 minutes per game. "We need to have her on the floor."

R-MC's coach attended more than a few Hermitage games during Silva's prep career. "You couldn't help but key in on her — that's how impressive she was. I'd sit there and I'd think, 'Oh, man. What a great addition she'd be.' But to be honest, I figured we had no chance. She was so skilled. I figured she'd be getting offers from all over the place."

Working in R-MC's favor, apparently, was Silva's desire to stay close to home while attending college.

"Whatever the reason," LaHaye said, "believe me: We couldn't be more delighted."

Silva, 5-6, contributed 13 points and 11 assists to last Saturday's victory over Eastern Mennonite.

November 17, 2000, RMC Newspaper



photo from R-MC homepage
Junior guard Megan Mariani is one of the few upperclassmen on the women's basketball team.



Youthful Lady Jackets Face Season of Highs and Lows

Andrew Price '04
Staff Writer

When you are a team without any seniors, it is expected that your season will feature highs and lows. This is exactly what has happened to this year's women's basketball team.

They started off the season with a 60-58 win over Methodist before losing four in a row. They then followed that up with an 87-60 thrashing of Eastern Mennonite. After that the team dropped three in a row to Roanoke, Guilford, and Emory & Henry.

However, the Jackets turned things around once again with four consecutive victories against Hollins, Randolph-Macon Women's College, Lynchburg, and avenging an earlier defeat to Guilford.

During that four game stretch

each game had a different star.

Against Hollins, Allison King scored twenty-four points.

Against R-MWC, the team featured five players in double figures in the 70-39 win, including Meredith Roberts, Sarah Crider, Lindsay Carroll, Allison King, and Cristin Etheridge.

Crider lead the team with thirteen against Guilford and Roberts and Etheridge both scored fifteen against Guilford.

That a different person leads in scoring on a different night shouldn't come to a surprise to anyone because the Lady Jackets are a balanced team featuring three players averaging double figures in points (Roberts, King, and Crider) and with nine players averaging at least twelve minutes of playing time a contest.

Despite their 6-8 record, the team is playing outstanding defense allowing opponents to shoot 39% from the floor and less than 29% from three-point land.

They also cause opponents to turn the ball over twenty-four times a game.

The defense was noted against Emory & Henry when they held the Wasps to just sixteen first half points or holding Randolph-Macon Women's College to just thirty-seven points total.

However, they are having difficulty holding on to the ball averaging over twenty turnovers a game.

The team continues their seven game home stand throughout the rest of January with games tomorrow against Hollins and January 31 against Eastern Mennonite. They then hit the road to take on Lynchburg, R-MWC, & Silva

—FROM PAGE F1

lineup.

Silva said her teammates' "willingness to accept me helped a lot; it made things a lot easier." Two other factors may have helped more. The first Silva, a 5-6 dynamo, is a handful for any opponent. The skill and savvy that made her an all-Colonial District, all-Central Region and All-Metro first-team choice as a prep senior are no less conspicuous in the ODAC than they were at Hermitage. "From the beginning," Silva said, "[R-MC's] coaches gave me the feeling that they respected my decision-making and trusted me with the ball."

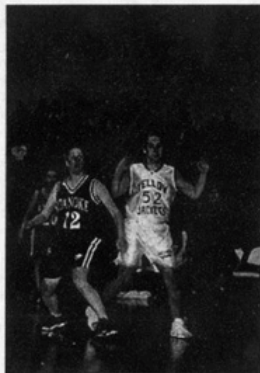
The second: Beneath her humble exterior beats the heart of a fierce competitor. "She leads by effort and example. There is nothing fake about her," Yellow Jackets coach Carroll LaHaye said. "She practices and plays with an attitude that says, 'I hate to lose.'"

Not long ago, LaHaye said, Randolph-Macon permitted a winnable game to slip away and Silva "made it very clear to everyone that she was very disappointed. She takes every defeat personally. Her approach, basically, was, 'This is not acceptable.'"

The heat of intercollegiate competition causes more than a few freshmen to wilt. Not Silva. She seems to thrive on tension: 13 points and 11 assists in a three-point win against Eastern Mennonite, 15 points and seven assists in a one-point win over Bridgewater, 20 points and 12 assists in a three-point win over Guilford.

"Probably there's less stress in a blowout," she said. "But I'm a competitive person, and I really enjoy games that are close all the way down to the wire. That's why I enjoy the ODAC so much. Day in and day out, you never know who's going to win."

*Contact Vic Don Jr. at (804) 645-6442 or vdon@timesdispatch.com



CRISTIN ETHERIDGE/ODAC
Randolph-Macon freshman point guard Megan Silva enjoys the close competition she finds in the ODAC.

Silva file

■ **Born:** Aug. 18, 1984
■ **Vitals:** 5-6, freshman point guard on Randolph-Macon's women's basketball team
■ **Career highlights:** Earned all-Colonial District, all-Central Region and All-Metro first-team distinction while playing at Hermitage High School as a prep senior ... was recognized as the Colonial District's player of the year ... led the Panthers in scoring in each of her last two seasons (16.5 ppg in 2002, 14.9 in 2001) ... leads R-MC in scoring (15.3 ppg) and leads the ODAC in assists (14.4)

ODAC women's tournament

TOMORROW
■ No. 8 Tri-Rex (7-13, 10-15) vs. No. 1 Guilford (16-1, 19-6), 12:30 p.m.
■ No. 5 Randolph-Macon (12-7, 16-9) vs. No. 4 Lynchburg (14-6, 16-9), 2:30
■ No. 7 Bridgewater (9-11, 10-15) vs. No. 2 Emory & Henry

and scored 199 as a freshman ... produced the first triple-double in R-MC women's history in a January game against Bridgewater: 23 points, 11 assists, 10 steals ... two-time ODAC player of the week
■ **Quotable:** "It's the best of both worlds. Living on campus gives me the feeling of being away from home and on my own, but if I forget something or need a good meal, I know I can go home any time I want." ... Silva, on the proximity of R-MC's campus to her family's dwelling in Glen Allen.

(By Rick O'Connell)

115-0, 17-0), 6
■ No. 4 Roanoke (12-8, 15-9) vs. No. 3 Eastern Mennonite (14-6, 15-6), 8
FRIDAY
■ Southeastern, 1 and 3 p.m.
SATURDAY
■ Final, 2 p.m.

Silva Takes ODAC By Storm

Megan Silva has had her share of the spotlight, and she's only a freshman

Dave Colangelo '06
Sports Writer

Who is Megan Silva? If you don't know, try asking the Roanoke College women's basketball team, who surrendered a combined 40 points to the freshman point guard in their final two meetings this season.

Or, you could try Meredith College, who Silva shredded for 28 points 5 assists and 7 steals... in an NCAA tournament game.

In fact, you could probably ask any ODAC team who she is, because she scored in double figures against all of them at least once this season, often twice.

Megan and her teammates have caused quite a stir on campus this year, as they overcame a slow start to win the ODAC championship and advance in the NCAA women's basketball tournament.

Along the way she quickly transformed from a contributing freshman into a team leader.

Although she led the team in points, assists, and steals, Megan's heart, hustle, and big-game performances were a large part of the Yellow Jacket's success this year.

She became a big name around the ODAC, and was recognized as a First-Team all-ODAC selection and was named ODAC Freshman of the Year.

To get a talent like Megan, Coach Carroll LaHaye only need to look as far as her own backyard. Silva comes to R-MC from Hermitage High School in Glen Allen, VA.

Her senior year there she was district Player of the Year, 1st team all-region and 2nd team all-state. She was also her team MVP.

Aside from R-MC she had several other offers to play basketball including

University of Richmond, Virginia Wesleyan, and Christopher Newport.

In the end, the business/econ major chose Randolph-Macon because of the good feeling she got from Coach LaHaye and her visit to the R-MC campus.

When asked about her favorite moment of the season, Megan didn't have to think very long or hard. "Definitely cutting down the nets after winning the ODAC tournament," she answered.

And, although the ODAC championship and the NCAA tournament were exciting accomplishments, Megan has even higher goals for the rest of her career here.

"I want to go to the final four," she says in a very serious tone. "I think we have the right people here to do it." Judging by the team's success this year, it's hard to argue against her.

December 19, 2002, Richmond Times Dispatch

April 4, 2003, RMC Newspaper

page 40 | CELEBRATING 50 YEARS 1976–2026 | 2000s

Trying to Get There Again



Women's Basketball Season Preview

by Andrew Price '04
Editor-in-Chief

The Randolph-Macon women's basketball team remembers their NCAA tournament game at home against Meredith last year.

They remember the 1,100 fans that came to Crenshaw Gymnasium that acted like Hampden-Sydney was in town.

They remember being down 12 with less than seven minutes to go. They remember coming back and winning 77-74 and the ensuing on-court post-game celebration.

They want to relive it again this year and take it one step further.

"Our goal is not to have to travel in the NCAA, but to host," head coach Carol LaHaye, in her 22nd year at R-MC, said.

Getting that far last year could have been considered a surprise after a 0-5 start.

Last year, the team went to Salem for the ODAC tournament as the sixth seed, and needed to win the tournament to get an invitation to the NCAA's.

This year, the team is picked to be the pre-season favorites in the ODAC and is also ranked #13 in the country by DNews.com.

"They way that we lost to Hardin-Simmons last year [2nd round NCAA loss 104-80] really left a poor taste in our mouths

and we've been very focused in the post and pre season. We're prepared this year to step it up and do better," LaHaye said.

Last year's ODAC Freshman of the Year and first-team all-conference selection Megan Silva will be back.

Silva, who led the Yellow Jackets in points (15.3 per game), assists (5.8 per game), steals (4.1 per game), will be asked to do a lot of the same this year, but may have a tougher time doing it.

"Sophomore year is never the same. This year will be a true test of what kind of athlete she is and how she handles it. It's going to be more of a challenge," LaHaye said of her sophomore point guard.

Silva says she'll feel the pressure more when the real season begins.

"I think more of it will come when the season starts. I will feel the pressure. I'll come to play like I know I can, we'll be fine. Even if I have a bad game, it doesn't matter because everyone around me is so talented," Silva said.

One of those talented teammates is junior forward Emily Crider who was second on the team in points (11.2), rebounds (5.1) and led the team in blocks (2.5).

Also returning down low at center is Michelle Orton. Orton was third on the team in points (9.6) and lead the team in rebound-

ing (5.4).

With the 6-2 Crider and 6-3 Orton, the Yellow Jackets have a size advantage over most of the competitors in the ODAC.

Also looking to contribute in the post this year will be senior Shannon Wighington and sophomores Amanda Morris.

Coach LaHaye will heavily rely on Kristen Morgan and LaHaye adds this year in giving the

Junior Jennie C of minutes at guard a best outside shooter. The team will I their senior leaders Sarah has had to be diagnosed with Choro

"Losing Sarah physical loss for us, senior and she gets underclassmen. Lori quite a blow," LaHaye

But the main thing the Jackets will be not hype get the best of "The preparation. We're still running Coach told us people we've just got to do the basics," Emily Crider said.



RAILED 'EM IN SALEM. The men beat Hampden-Sydney 48-47, and the women beat Roanoke 80-68 in the ODAC Finals, putting both teams into the NCAA Finals. The women slid by Meredith College 77-74 and will travel to Abilene, Texas. The men play tomorrow night at home as well. Above, clockwise: Our own Emily Crider, Jared Mills, and Lindsay Carroll. Jamal Brunt, bottom, wins our "Most Bad@\$ Action Shot Ever" award. Photography by Jim Loesel, independent photographer. More on page 8.

Double Threat

The R-MC men's and the women's basketball teams become the 2002-2003 ODAC Champions. HOO-AH...and the ladies...



Andrew "Stubby" Price
Staff Writer



tournament.

The men received a first round bye but will play the winner of Mary Washington and Albemarle on Saturday night at 7 p.m. at Crenshaw Gymnasium.

If the men make it past that point, they will be faced in a bracket that could potentially have them facing Hampden-Sydney, currently fourth in the country, and Washington, who was number one in the country until the Yellow Jackets surprised them last week.

"If we are as good as people think we are, we will have to find a way to win through. Let's find a way and beat them if we are for real," said Rhoades.

The women's team had the shoe on the other foot.

Despite winning six games in a now preceding the ODAC tournament, they

needed to run the table this past weekend in Salem to receive an invitation to the NCAA's. And that is exactly what they did.

Entering the tournament as the fifth seed, the women defeated the fourth-seeded Lynchburg 85-73 in the first round, first-seeded Guilford in the semifinals 84-73, and sixth-ranked Roanoke in the championship game 80-68.

The women had defeated Roanoke 73-60 on Senior Day, but knew their work would still be cut out for them.

"We went into the game confident knowing we could beat this team because we had just done it but on the other hand we also knew what happened last Saturday was not automatically going to happen again without hard work," said ODAC Freshman of the Year and tournament MVP Megan Silva.

It was a true team effort all weekend long, as one would find three to five Jackets every game scoring in double digits.

Silva, Honorable Mention all-ODAC sophomore Emily Crider, and freshman Michelle Orton all received all-tournament team honors.

By winning the ODAC tournament, it put a positive note on a season that started off slowly. The Jackets lost their first five games.

"It gives us tremendous satisfaction how we have all worked out. It's like a score from 'Hoosiers' when they say 'let's do it for all the little schools' - this one is for both the people that did believe in us or didn't believe in us," said head women's basketball coach Carol LaHaye, who is in her twenty-first season with the school.

Both teams received word on Sunday night where their first NCAA destination would be. The women won a first round game against Meredith College, 77-74, and will travel to Abilene, Texas to take on undefeated Hardin-Simmons University.

But to LaHaye getting that first game at home is crucial.

"There is no question about it, there is nothing like being home - we call it 'the comforts of Crenshaw,'" said LaHaye.

With both the men and women winning the ODAC tournament, Randolph-Macon has become the second college in the ODAC to accomplish that feat. Roanoke has swept the titles six times, most recently in 2000.

Senior Spotlight: Shannon Wighington

by Megan Senses '06
Staff Writer



"Shannon [Wighington] brings energy, competitiveness and leadership to this young unit," says head women's basketball coach Carol LaHaye about her only senior and captain of the Yellow Jacket squad.

Wighington has lent her experience and knowledge of the game to her teammates through the rough parts of their season being an inspiration and a rock with which they add look upon for stability.

The Yellow Jackets started out their pre-season work-outs with two seniors on the team, Wighington and Sarah Crider. Best friends since freshman year, they were excited to be starting their senior year at Randolph-Macon and even more excited to starting basketball season again after such successful run last year.

But after a week of official practices, tragedy struck the duo and their team. Crider learned the news that she had chronic fatigue syndrome and decided to take a year off from school, and from basketball, in order to fully recover.

Wighington lost her best friend and fellow basketball leader during a crucial part of a season, when the team was just starting to bond on the court and become one team. She added and a little distraught at the tough challenge that would ensue for her as the only senior, she has grown into her leadership role naturally.

If she could describe herself in one word, Wighington would use the word "dedicated." "I'll do anything for anyone on the team and I'll do anything to help our team become successful," says Wighington.

versity by 40 points, in which she was 4-4 from the floor and had 9 rebounds.

With such a small team, each member of the team is extremely close with one another and can rarely be seen without another team mate at their side, such as in Estes where the sit and talk for hours or shopping in Antietam in which the girls own some stock.

Wighington is at the heart of the team both on and off the court. In social situations, she is the first to make a joke and cause the rest of the team to start rolling on the floor.

Although she is very serious about the game of basketball, her interview for this article also shows a definitive sense of humor in some of her answers. When asked how she gets ready for a game, Wighington responded, "Well I start off by doing 50 push-ups so my arm look good in my uniform and then I read a list of the top 50 reasons why I'm the greatest ever. She also has high aspirations for herself in the future. She sees herself in ten years "on the beach somewhere in the Caribbean sipping on some daiquiris."

March 7, 2003, RMC Newspaper

USE THIS TOMORROW NIGHT:
"WE ARE THE JACKETS
-THE MIGHTY MIGHTY JACKETS-
EVERYWHERE WE GO,
PEOPLE WANT TO KNOW
WHO WE ARE
SO WE TELL THEM:
WE ARE THE JACKETS
-THE MIGHTY MIGHTY JACKETS..."



February 20, 2004, RMC Newspaper

R-MC downs Mary Washington in NCAA 2nd Round Game

by Danny Jones '06
Staff Writer

For a moment in the first half of Randolph-Macon College's 89-76 victory over Mary Washington College on Saturday, March 5, it looked as if Mary Washington would be able to pull off the upset over the top seeded Jackets.

Then Macon's junior guard Megan Silva stepped up.

With the Eagles down one at 26-25 about midway through the first half, Silva scored 8 straight points for the Yellow Jackets to give Macon the lead back and the top seeded Jackets never looked back, eliminating Mary Washington College.

Once again, Silva led the way, scoring 25 points and racking up 5 assists for the Yellow Jackets. However, none of her points or assists were as important as her one stretch in the middle of the first half.

"I've said many times, as Megan goes, so goes our team," Randolph-Macon coach Carroll LaHaye said. "And that was a classic example to

night. She tends to hyperventilate sometimes in very intense games. But when she settled down, so did our team."

Macon jumped out to a 10-2 lead early, only for the Eagles to come back and tie the score at 12. The Eagles actually led at one point, 23-22, keeping things close until Silva's spurt halfway through the first half. The Yellow Jackets expanded their lead to 44-37 at the half despite getting out rebounded 27-15.

Getting rebounded by such a wide margin made coach LaHaye "embarrassed, really embarrassed," and she focused her halftime talk on this fact, challenging junior Michelle Orton to make up this difference.

The second half became a scrap fest, as Macon began to even the rebounding thanks to Orton (11 rebounds; 8 in the second half). Clutch shooting by Sophomores Salem Shaffer (18 points) and Kristen Morgan (14 points), and the team's ability to convert their free throws down the stretch enabled the Yellow Jackets to hold on

for the win.

Sophomore forward Debbie Bruen led the way for the Eagles with 20 points. The Eagles came into the match up with a 23-6 record, a vast improvement from the 12-13 record posted last season. Freshman guard Amanda Bates chipped in 13 points and 8 rebounds in the losing effort.

But none were able to match Silva. The junior ODAC player of the year guard made all of her free throws down the stretch and used her penetration skills to open up opportunities for her teammates.

"I'm surrounded by great teammates," Silva said, "and I have confidence that if I get the ball to them, they'll knock down their shots. We came into the game with a lot of confidence in our ability and executed beautifully. The crowd support and their involvement created a great atmosphere for us to play in. I think that when we walked into the gym to that support it really pumped us up for the game, and I think the way we played showed how much we fed off the crowd."



The Randolph-Macon Women's Basketball team lost in the NCAA D III National Championship Game to Millikin 70-50, but not before defeating Scranton 70-65 in the "Final Four" to advance to have a shot at the National Championship. Pictured clockwise from the left is the three Yellow Jacket Seniors, Sarah Crider, Ginny Carter, and Emily Crider holding the National Championship runner-up trophy. The entire women's basketball program poses with the photo and All-American junior Megan Silva drives to the hole during the "Final Four" game against Scranton. Photos by John Irby

Final Four

continued from page one

well, is where Royals Head Coach Mike Strong was able to get a sneak preview at the Yellow Jackets.

"I was watching (R-MC's) game with Messiah as I figured, we would face Messiah further on down the line, but as I watched the first half I realized Randolph-Macon is an amazing team this year," Strong said.

Strong was impressed with how much Randolph-Macon has improved since their meeting during the 2003-04



sophomore Marta Merkel defends a shot taken by a George Fox Player in a Yellow Jackets victory. Photo by John Irby



FINAL FOUR

continued from page three

ward Emily Crider, from Ephrata, PA, scored her 1,000th career point. Then, a month later, Junior guard Megan Silva scored her 1,500th career point in a win against Hollins. Several individuals also garnered post-season awards. In the ODAC conference, Silva was named Player of the Year and Scholar-Athlete of the Year while coach Carroll LaHaye was named Coach of the Year.

Silva made the first team all-conference squad while junior Michelle Orton and sophomore Salem Shaffer were both named to the second team. In the NCAA tournament, Silva was named the Regional's Most Outstanding Player and was joined on the all-tournament team by Shaffer.

The excitement surrounding the team this year was something that hadn't been seen at Randolph-Macon for many years. The way they won, by simply mowing over teams with machine-like efficiency, was almost as impressive as how often they won. The women captured the true essence of the word "team," as every player understood her role and acted accordingly. For a school that doesn't receive a great deal of national recognition, the

team put Randolph in the spotlight and to say they were affili-

Yellow Jackets one win from title

Silva scores 23 points as Randolph-Macon survives Trinity in OT

BY VIC DORR JR.
TIMES-DISPATCH STAFF WRITER

A great deal of brilliance and a little bit of luck carried the Randolph-Macon women's basketball team to what may have been the most memorable — and significant — victory in program history.

Junior point guard Megan Silva scored 23 points, many of them inconceivably creative, and sophomore guard Kristen Morgan contributed a backbreaking three-point play with 28 seconds remaining as the fifth-ranked Yellow Jackets defeated ninth-ranked Trinity 82-79 in overtime last night in the Sweet

16 of the NCAA Division III tournament.

Randolph-Macon (28-1) will go where it has never gone before. The Yellow Jackets, winners of 21 in a row, will face George Fox in tonight's sectional final in Crenshaw Gym. At stake is a berth in next week's Division III Final Four at Virginia Wesleyan.

Silva, a former All-Metro performer at Hermitage High School, seemed weary but euphoric in the aftermath of a contest that included not only her magic but also a 33-point effort from Trinity post player Tara Rolde and a 23-point outburst from Tigers guard Amy Howe. She laughed and shook her head when asked to share her impressions of the evening. "Amazing," she said. "Indescribable. What an incredible atmosphere."

A boisterous, near-capacity crowd watched Trinity (25-5) recover from a 57-48 deficit with just over eight minutes remaining. The Tigers closed to 69-68 on Rolde's basket with 41 seconds remaining and, following a Yellow Jackets turnover, began searching for the game-winning points.

Howe, a 79 percent free throw shooter, was fouled with 11.4 seconds remaining. She made only 1 of 2, thereby sending the game into overtime.

The Yellow Jackets made the most of their reprieve. They scored on eight of their 11 possessions in overtime. Trinity guard Jenna Smith, fouled twice within eight seconds near the 3:00 mark, opened the door for the Yellow Jackets by sinking only one of her four foul shots. Thereafter, R-MC was unstoppable. Emily Crider's jumper from the right baseline and Silva's jumper from the right elbow nudged the Yellow Jackets into a 77-74 advantage.

Rolde scored from deep in the paint at :56.2. Then Morgan reported for work. With the shot clock racing toward zero and the crowd shrieking desperately, Morgan drove the right baseline and pulled up for an 8-footer after drawing contact from Smith. The shot dropped softly into the net. So did her subsequent free throw. Bedlam followed.

The Yellow Jackets won by shooting 51.4 percent in the sec-

ond half and 57.1 percent in overtime. Their offensive precision enabled them to overcome a significant first-half rebounding deficit: 20-12 overall, 12-2 beneath the offensive glass. Post player Michelle Orton scored 13 points for the Yellow Jackets. Crider and backup post player Jannessa Morusua added 12 apiece.

"This was probably the best game we've played all year," said Yellow Jackets coach Carroll LaHaye. "I don't know if it gets a whole lot better than this."

• Contact Vic Dorr Jr. at (804) 649-6442 or vicdorr@timesdispatch.com

Trinity (25-5): Rolde 16, Rolde 33, Smith 5, Howe 22, Andrews 7, Dawson 8, Martin 1, King 6, Lippert 1, Wimmer 6, Nannon 6, Scholte 6, Tataro 12 13-28 FT, 3-point goals: Howe 2.

Randolph-Macon (28-1): E. Crider 12, Orton 13, Morgan 2, Silva 23, Shaffer 15, Somers 8, Morusua 6, Crider 3, Morusua 12, Tataro 35 8-17 FT, 3-point goals: Shaffer 2, Morusua 5, Crider.

Halftime: Randolph-Macon 38-29

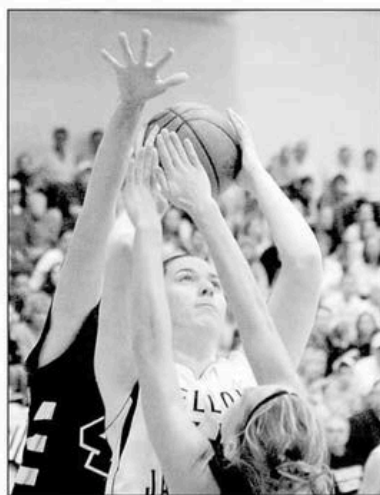
Replays: 69-69

At 1:20

George Fox (22-5): Powers 8, Thomas 3, Leth 25, Clark 23, Bellary 7, Taylor 8, Boyer 8, Campbell 4, Tataro 24 15-21 FT, 3-point goals: Leth 5, Clark 5, Campbell.

St. Benedict (24-0): Hekman 16, Johnson 21, Kemp 14, Delval 5, Norcross 5, Zwick 4, Scholte 2, Krich 1, Beyer 6, Tataro 25 9-11 FT, 3-point goals: Johnson 5, Hekman, Kemp, Delval, Norcross, Zwick.

Halftime: St. Benedict 49-34



Randolph-Macon's Michelle Orton prepares to shoot as she's pressed by Trinity defenders. Orton scored 13 points.

Beats Scranton, Loses to Millikin; Finished NCAA Runner-Up

by Dave Colangelo '06
Staff Writer

The women's basketball team's storybook season came to an end last week as the Yellow Jackets lost to Millikin University 70-50 in the NCAA Division III National Championship Game. The Jackets struggled shooting the ball, as they hit just over 25% of their shots on their way to scoring a season low in total points. Junior Megan Silva paced the Jackets with 11 points and senior Emily Crider had 10 points and 7 rebounds. The game was only the second losing effort for the team this season as they finished 30-2 overall and 23-0 in ODAC league play.

Earlier this season when Coach Carroll LaHaye was asked if this squad was her best ever, she said that they still had a lot to prove. In the weeks following, her team went out and did just that. They won three games in three days to take the conference tournament and the automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament.

After a first round bye, the team disposed the University of Mary Washington 89-76 in the second round to advance to the "Sweet 16." Randolph-Macon hosted the next two rounds, where the Jackets needed overtime to take care of Trinity, and then ran away from George Fox in the Elite 8 to win the NCAA Regional finals.

Waiting for the Jackets in the Final Four was #1 ranked University of Scranton, a clear favorite to win the title. In their most balanced effort all season, five players scored in double figures as R-MC took the back-and-forth game 70-65 for the right to play for the school's first ever national championship. After winning 22 straight games and beating several teams that were supposedly "better," the Yellow Jackets seemingly ran out of gas against Millikin. For the team's three seniors, their quest for a title may have come up just short, but they can take solace in knowing that they extended their careers for as long as they possibly could have.

The team's historic run to the finals was marked by several individual achievements as well. On Nov. 30, head coach Carroll LaHaye won her 200th career ODAC game in a win against Lynchburg. On Jan. 30, in a game against Emory and Henry, Senior for-

please see Final Four page ten



December 9, 2005, RMC Newspaper

photo by John Irby

Junior Salem Shaffer dribbles around a screen set by senior Michelle Orion against Christopher Newport. The team received their championship rings from last season in a ceremony before the game.

Born to be a Yellow Jacket

by Megan Senske '06
Copy Editor/Senior Writer

Not many Randolph-Macon students can say that they've been destined to be a Yellow Jacket their whole lives, but for senior Megan Silva, that appears to be the case.

The basketball standout first showed her blood ran yellow and black when she was fourteen-months old and she dressed up as a yellow jacket in front of her parents. Since then, it's appeared as if Silva has been ordained for greatness at Macon.

Although recruited by other schools, including Division I and II programs, Silva chose Randolph-Macon because it seemed to be the perfect fit for her.

"Well, when I came on my visit here I got that gut instinct that you get," Silva said. "I didn't get that feeling anywhere else."

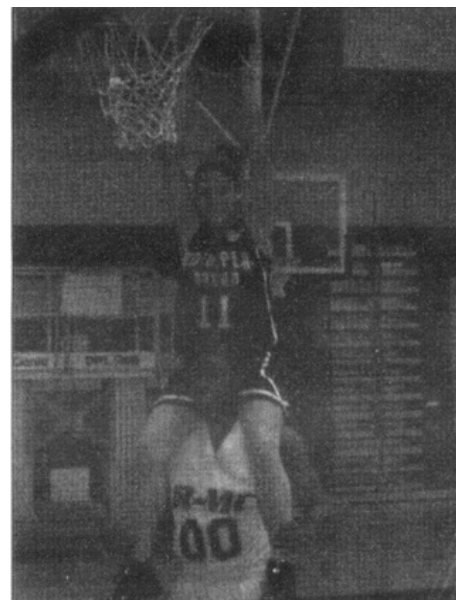
house in Glen Allen.

When no one picks up the phone at the Silva residence, the answering machine picks up and quips "You've reached the Silva residence, we're not available to take your call because we're out back shooting baskets. Leave a message." Although this may seem like an exaggeration, Silva explains that it isn't really.

"We have a basketball hoop outside our back yard and I remember when I was a kid, I used to be out there for literally three hours just shooting," Silva said. "The answering message was normally right, outside was a pretty logical place for us to be."

Silva attributes her competitive nature on the court as being born on that driveway basketball court while playing against her father.

"We used to play one on one together all the time and that is evidently where she got her



Justin Wansley lends Megan Silva a helping hand allowing her to dunk. Both of these preseason first-team All-Americans are known for lending a hand to their teammates.

photo taken by Ryan Castle '06



Gearing up for Another Run

With four returning starters from their national champion runner-up team, women's basketball tips off as the number two preseason ranked team in the nation

By Dave Colangelo '06
Co-Sports Editor

The Randolph-Macon College women's basketball team begins their defense of the Old Dominion Athletic Conference championship tonight with the opening round of the R-MC Tip-Off Classic. The Jackets will square off against Christopher at 6:00 pm in Crenshaw Gymnasium.

2006 edition of R-MC women's basketball looks very different from last season's record-setting group. The coaching staff was able to carry that success over to a successful recruiting season, bringing in four capable newcomers and two experienced transfers.

What's scary is that this year's squad is actually better in terms of talent than last year's team. They have four seniors who

ers, with do-everything guards Kristen Morgan and Salem Shaffer and forward Maria Merkel. Morgan and Shaffer were both full-time starters on last year's team and will likely occupy similar roles this time around.

Morgan, listed at 5'7", is an intense player and a good ball handler, exemplified by her team-leading 1.89 assists-to-turnovers ratio last year. She was 36%

Colleen Orion is teammate Michelle Orion's taller sister. Colleen is listed at 6'3" on the roster whereas Michelle is listed at 6'3". Colleen's arrival adds depth to the frontcourt and will help fill the void left by forward Emily Crider, who graduated last spring.

To replace last year's three seniors, the coaching staff brought in a talented four-player recruiting class of Lauren Singer,

SPORTS



Check out senior spotlights on basketball players Michelle Orton and Rob Harris.

Senior Transfer Looked on to Help Bring a National Championship to The Yellow Jackets

by Megan Senske '06
Senior Writer/Staff Editor

Transferring schools is never easy. Leaving behind good friends, teammates and your favorite professors is hard. But for Kristin Thompson, a senior transfer to the Randolph-Macon College women's basketball team, she already feels at home in lemon and black.

Thompson just moved 15 miles north, from Virginia Commonwealth University to Randolph-Macon College and although the schools are extremely different, at least she only had to change one school color, from the black and gold of VCU to the black and lemon of Randolph-Macon.

The similarities between the two schools end at their similar color scheme, though.

"Walking to class there are a lot of homeless people and beggars," Thompson said. "It's not really the type of environment you want to spend your schooling in."

But Thompson spent three years there, playing basketball for the VCU Rams. Unhappy with a new coach being brought in her freshman year and the way the new coach approached the Division I game, Thompson spent the last year and decided to transfer to a school that better suited her for her senior year.

Although she originally decided that she wasn't going to play basketball at her new school, her heart told her otherwise.

"(Kristin) said she had already decided that

she wasn't going to play basketball at her new school but she said that she really missed it already," Randolph-Macon head women's basketball coach Carroll LaHaye said.

"Kristin and her parents came to our home game against Emory and Henry last year and she just saw how much fun we were having and she just wanted to know if she could have one more year like that," LaHaye said.

Thompson successfully transferred to Randolph-Macon but the biggest transition would be to fit in with such a highly successful women's basketball program who returned the core nucleus of their national finalist team.

"We were really anxious about obtaining a senior transfer because it was something that had never happened to us before," LaHaye said.

"Having a senior transfer in for just one year, you know, what do you do with that person, how good is she, when does she fit in? We weren't totally sold on the fact that could she fit in, would she fit."

Not only were the coaches concerned about a senior Division I transfer, but the players were as well.

"I was very hesitant to actually watching her come here to play because I expected her to be confident," sophomore Maggie Harman said.

But worrying about Thompson transferring wasn't needed.

"I think at first it was hard for Kristin. It's always hard to adjust to a new school but our

team is so welcoming and close, she has adjusted nicely off the court," junior Maria Merrell said.



Thompson thought that the transition to the team might be awkward, since she put herself in such a tough spot but says that the team accepted her with open arms.

Not only was the basketball a better fit for Thompson, but the school was as well.

"I like the school a lot better because the classes are so much smaller at Randolph-Macon than they were at VCU," said Thompson.

Thompson will be looking to play a key role in the Yellow Jackets quest for a national championship this year.

"She's an amazing basketball player that plays with an aggressiveness and tenacity that we need," junior Salem Shaffer said.

"Kristin is a very powerful force on the inside and knows how to find the open spot on the court by constantly moving and slashing. She has good inside moves and is a very unselfish player," said senior Megan Silva.

"I think she is definitely a positive addition to an already talented team."

This newly acquired addition already feels like she belongs to Randolph-Macon College.

"I guess I could say I'm a true Randolph-Macon student now because I did jump in the fountain," said Thompson.

"I feel like I went through the rite of passage, like many people have and I can truly say now my heart belongs to Randolph-Macon."



photo by John Irby
R-MC junior guard Kristin Morgan dribbles past an Emory and Henry defender.

Randolph-Macon pounds Guilford 82-45

FROM STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

The Randolph-Macon women's college basketball team rebounded from its first conference loss of the season to Bridgewater by trouncing Guilford 82-45 yesterday.

WOMEN

Megan Silva (Hermitage High School) led the Yellow Jackets over the Quakers with 17 points, and Michelle Orton pitched in 14.

Jennifer King (13 points, 6 rebounds) led three Guilford scorers in double figures.

Guilford (2-3 ODAC, 3-9) — King 13, Bumgarner 16, Graham 5, Ellis 12, Koeltter 5, Spina 0, Hackett 0. Totals: 15 11-18 45. 3-point goals: King 3, Bumgarner.

Randolph-Macon (6-1, 7-2) — Morgan 6, Silva 17, Shaffer 6, Senske 8, Orton 14, Harman 4, Riesbeck 6, Hiltunen 6, Thompson 4, Singer 0, Morusma 9, Orton 2. Totals: 37 7-9 82. 3-point goals: Silva.

In other games:

■ **WASHINGTON AND LEE 78, HOLLINS 53:** Washington and Lee (3-4 ODAC, 4-6) put 12 players in the scoring column 44 led by Jessica Hunsinger with 18 44 as it defeated Hollins (0-7, 0-10) in Lexington. Hollins 44 LeighAnn Woodley led all scorers with 21 points.

■ **WINTHROP 67, LONGWOOD 58:** Ashley Carey (18 points) led four Winthrop players in double figures as the Eagles (5-7) beat Longwood (4-11) in Rock Hill, S.C. Longwood 44 Ashley Mason led all scorers with 23 points.

■ **BOWIE ST. 57, VIRGINIA ST. 44:** Virginia State fell victim to cold shooting 44 14 of 58 on field goals 44 and lost to Bowie State at Bowie, Md. VSU (0-1 CIAA, 1-11) had no player in double figures while Bowie State (2-1, 6-6) was led by Allyson Swales with 20 points and Krystal Earle with 18.

■ **MD.-EASTERN SHORE 68, HAMPSHIRE 57:** Eastern Shore (2-3 ODAC, 2-7) defeated Hampshire (0-7, 0-10) in Salisbury. Eastern Shore 68 led by Ashley Carey with 18 points and Hampshire 57 led by Krystal Earle with 18 points.

■ **BRIDGEWATER 82, R-MWC 52:** Amy Childs scored 16 points and added seven rebounds to lead Bridgewater (4-1 ODAC, 6-4) to a win over Randolph-Macon Woman 44 College (2-3, 3-5) in Bridgewater.

■ **EAST. MENNONITE 67, LYNCHBURG 49:** Lynchburg committed 21 turnovers in a loss to Eastern Mennonite in Harrisonburg. Amanda Renalds led the Lady Royals (3-3 ODAC, 7-4) with 13 points, while the Hornets (2-4, 3-7) were paced by Caroline Wesley 44 double-double of 22 points and 12 rebounds.

■ **CHOWAN 75, CHRIS. NEWPORT 66:** Christina Addison had a season-high 33 points for Chowan (9-5) as the Lady Braves beat Christopher Newport (6-5) in the championship game.

points) led four Maryland-Eastern Shore (1-1 MEAC, 3-7) players in double figures in a victory at Hampton (1-2, 1-11).

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Tournament in Buena Vista. Nikki Rowland 44 19 points and five rebounds paced the Lady Captains, and Candace Bryant added 18 points and seven rebounds.

■ **NEW JERSEY CITY 68, SHENANDOAH 62:** Latrese McNair had 19 points and 12 steals for New Jersey City (5-5) as the Gothic Knights advanced to the championship game of the Washington & Jefferson Presidents Classic tournament with a victory over Shenandoah (2-6). Stephanie Herrold led the Hornets with 16 points.

■ **RADFORD 79, IPFW 77:** Corrie Fertitta hit a 19-foot buzzer beater in overtime to cap a 13-point comeback victory for Radford (6-6) over Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne (2-11) in Fort Wayne, Ind. Radford 44 Shavon Earp scored a team-high 20 points, with one of her baskets tying the score to send the game into overtime.

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Senior Spotlight: Megan Senske

by Dave Colangelo '06
Co-Sports Editor

For as long as she can remember, R-MC senior Megan Senske has been playing basketball. Starting in the fourth grade and for years after, she was always been involved with various AAU basketball teams.

And while her career as a forward on the R-MC women's basketball team has had its ups and downs, her love for the game has never wavered.

Senske came to Randolph-Macon four years ago from North Hunterdon High School in Annandale, NJ. In high school she played softball and ran track and cross country in addition to playing basketball.

The R-MC coaching staff was able to secure her services despite numerous other opportunities to play basketball, including Catholic, Washington and Lee, and Salisbury. She made her presence felt immediately as a freshman, appearing in all 30 of the team's games and averaging 2.3 rebounds per game.

As a sophomore she stepped into the role as a full time starter and brought her scoring up to 7 points a game to go along with 5.4 rebounds.



program will be strong long after she leaves.

Following graduation she hopes to work for a publishing company or to write for a magazine.

Her success on the basketball court pales in comparison to her ability in the classroom. Senske is a student in the R-MC hon-

Women's Basketball Reclaims Top ODAC Spot

by Dave Colangelo '06
Co-Sports Editor

The R-MC women's basketball team notched its 20th win Saturday night, defeating Eastern Mennonite University 88-66. It was their 14th win in a row and it brought their record to 20-2 overall, 17-1 in ODAC play. Senior guard Megan Silva led all scorers with 32 points, and junior guard Salem Shaffer had a hot shooting night, going 8-11 from the field for 18 points. Seniors Michelle Orton and Kristin Thompson grabbed 7 rebounds apiece.

The Yellow Jackets have just two regular season games remaining; back-to-back road contests against Randolph-Macon Women's College tomorrow and Hollins University Sunday. From there, it's on to the conference tournament.

ahead of Hollins, who is last and has yet to win an ODAC game this season.

The Yellow Jackets are looking to a possible rematch with Bridgewater in the conference tournament. They'd be looking to avenge a mid-season 81-83 overtime loss.

Aside from Bridgewater, Coach LaHaye points to Virginia Wesleyan and Emory and Henry as two of the more dangerous teams to face during the postseason. Virginia Wesleyan recently defeated Bridgewater, 42-35, and Emory and Henry is a dangerous 3-point shooting team.

Being invited to the NCAA Division III tournament as an at-large bid (having not won your conference tournament) is very difficult. Unlike the NCAA Division I format, where con-

friends and family in attendance. Also on that night, Megan Silva moved into 1st place all-time in the ODAC for career assists.

The next day the Yellow Jackets traveled to Pomona, NJ, where they beat Richard Stockton College of New Jersey 63-56. Silva led all scorers with 27 points, while Orton chipped in 16 points and 3 rebounds. R-MC led by as many as 11 points in the second half before Stockton rallied to tie the game with just over 2 minutes left to play. But Silva would go on to score R-MC's final 6 points, including a pair of free-throws at the end to seal the win.

Division I format, where you can have 4, 5, or even 6 teams in the tournament, it is rare for a 1 or 2 teams from the same III conference to get bids. 38 conferences that qualify natic berths for their conference. Those are considered There are about 4 spaces re-Pool B teams, which are in institutions or schools inferences don't qualify for automatic bids. The remaining 22 slots are for Pool C, which are filled by other teams from the automatic qualifier conferences.

The team isn't looking past anything, however, starting with this weekend's games. Coach LaHaye said she believes her starters are playing consistent basketball, which no doubt has contributed to the team's 14 game win streak. Following the Hollins game Sunday, the Yellow Jackets will have a few days to prepare for the ODAC tournament which begins Thursday in Salem, VA.

RMC WOMEN'S BASKETBALL | page 47

Records, Hood fall in opener

Silva sets ODAC scoring, assists marks as R-MC rolls to win

BY VICKI DOWD JR.
Times-Herald Staff Writer

Old Dominion Athletic Conference women's scoring record? No problem. ODAC career assists record? Small potatoes. Tryle double? A mere trifle.

The only number Megan Silva cared about were the numbers glowing on Randolph-Macon's 83-57 victory over Hood College in the first round of the ODAC championship game.

Silva, the Yellow Jackets' senior guard, tripled minutes as well as a clutch tip-in, pushing her team to a 22-point victory in last night's NCAA Division II tournament opener.

She produced a 22-point, 14-rebound, 11-assist triple-double, almost certainly the first in Randolph-Macon women's basketball history. She became the most prolific scorer in ODAC women's history (2,277 points). And she also became the most prolific assist leader (605).

"I didn't come in thinking about records or numbers," said Silva, a former Herndon High School star. "I just want to win. That's all. Whatever it takes, that's what I'll do. I just want to win. That's all. Whatever it takes, that's what I'll do. I just want to win. That's all. Whatever it takes, that's what I'll do."

Silva, as in so often the case, was the captain that pulled the Yellow Jackets' offensive. Hood, undermanned and underdog, had won its last game by a 10-point margin. That's all. Whatever it takes, that's what I'll do. I just want to win. That's all. Whatever it takes, that's what I'll do.

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Bridgewater, Mary Washington advance

FROM STAFF WRITERS

NEWBURGH, N.Y. — Shannon Fowler made back-to-back 34-point efforts in the final 14 minutes to lead Bridgewater to a 74-61 victory over Rutgers in the first round of the ODAC championship game.

Rutgers led 69-40 with 2:27 left in overtime. But a 3-pointer by Fowler, who finished with 28 points, followed by Fowler's 3-point shot, led to a 74-61 victory for the Eagles.

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SPORTS COLUMN

R-MC seizes the moment at ODAC

Eminem's rap hit, "Lose Yourself," which was written for the semi-autobiographical movie 8 Mile, sums it up best in the first verse.

"Look, if you had one shot, or one opportunity to seize everything you ever wanted — One moment, would you capture it or just let it slip?"

The answer is a resounding "Yes" for both the Randolph-Macon College basketball teams.

Having played high school basketball and covered high school and college basketball on and off for the past 25 years, I have seen a great deal of basketball, especially over the past 10 years.

In all different types and forms. Up tempo, fast-paced, perimeter style, methodical to almost slow-down style. From private school to Group A, to Group AAA, to NCAA Division III to NCAA Division I.

In the sport of basketball one thing always rings true, good basketball is good basketball. No matter if it is played at Madison Square Garden or on a small gymnasium on a high school campus.

Without even thinking about it, the Yellow Jackets' back-to-back weekend performances at the Salem Civic Center were reminiscent of one of this year's Academy Award-nominated movies: *Heaven & Hell*.

Clearly, they hustled and sweat with the flow, one resulted in a heartbreaking loss in an overtime final. The other an emphatic back-to-back tournament title.

But the past two weekends I have made the 360 miles round-trip to Salem to watch the ODAC Men's and Women's Basketball Tournament.

As for the men's because of the threat of snow and shutouts at our weekly paper, I was unable to attend the Monday championship game between Virginia Wesleyan and Randolph-Macon.

However, I was there the night before for the semifinal matchup between Randolph-Macon and Hampden-Sydney.

It was the third game between the two (sixth in two years), and was the second straight year the male looked up in the semifinals.

The game had a little bit of everything but most of all superb basketball.

The Yellow Jackets broke out to a double-digit lead in the first half but the Tigers cut it to three at the half.

In the second half, the Tigers, riding the phenomenal 3-point shooting of Drew Prohaska and David Green, roared back and took an eight-point lead. The Yellow Jackets looked on the verge of being eliminated but a pair of seniors — Justin Wansley and Patrick Gill — just wouldn't let it happen.

Gill took over the point guard duties and hit two clutch baskets while Wansley got back to the dominant force he was when the game started and hit three straight shots. In the end, the Yellow Jackets pushed the game to the limit.

It had a chance to go the length of the floor in 2.4 seconds. They set up a full-court pass play which went away and the ball was tossed out of bounds. Thus, giving R-MC the ball under its own basket with the same 2.4 seconds on the clock, the ball was inbounded to Adam Kovic, who was a bit wide on his late-game shot.

But Kovic made amends in 11 seconds.

Photo: Skip Rowland, courtesy of Randolph-Macon College women's basketball coach Carol LaFay.

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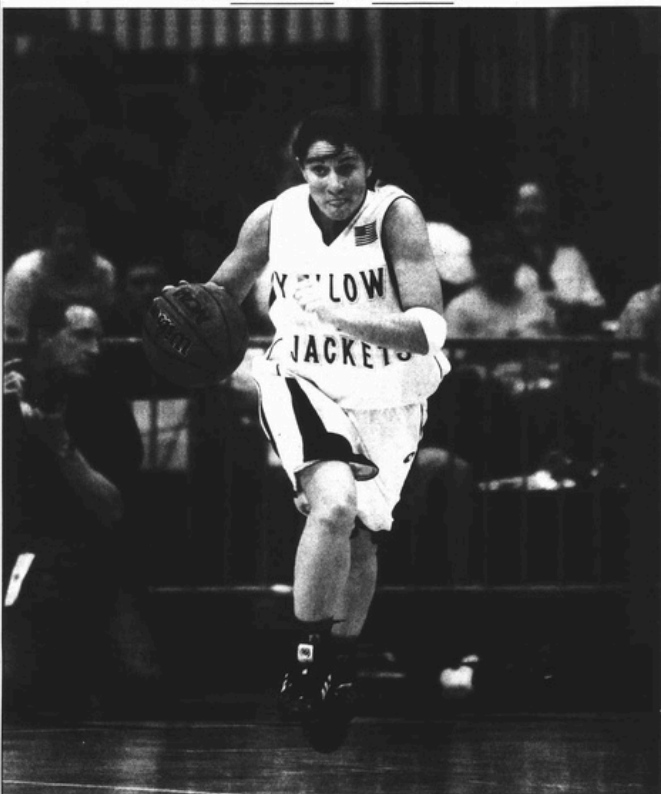
Photo: Skip Rowland, courtesy of Randolph-Macon College women's basketball coach Carol LaFay.

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Photo: Skip Rowland, courtesy of Randolph-Macon College women's basketball coach Carol LaFay.

MEGAN SILVA



Randolph-Macon College guard Megan Silva pushes the ball up court in the ODAC championship game. (Skip Rowland photo)

THE SILVA FILE

No. 11 Megan Silva
Position: 5-7 guard
Hometown: from Richmond
Major: Economics and Business
Parents: Al and Catherine Silva
Date of birth: Aug. 13, 1984
High School: Hermitage High
Four-Year Statistics and Honors (prior to the ODAC tournament): Dean's List (all semesters) 2002-Present; Honors Program 2005-Present; Business and Advertising Manager for Yellow Jacket Newspaper 2004-2005; Society for Leadership and Success 2005-Present; Phi Beta Kappa 2005-Present; Randolph-Macon College Varsity Basketball 2002-Present; Captain (2004-2005, 2005-2006); Old Dominion Athletic Conference (ODAC) Freshman of the Year 2002-2003; ODAC Player of the Year 2003-2004, 2004-2005; ODAC First Team All-Conference 2002-2003, 2003-2004, 2004-2005, 2005-06; ODAC Scholar-Athlete of the Year 2004-2005; ODAC Tournament MVP 2002-2003, 2004-2005, 2005-06; ODAC All-Tournament Team 2002-2003, 2003-2004, 2004-2005, 2005-06; ODAC All-American 2004-2005; Kodak 1st Team All-American 2004-2005; Kodak 1st Team All-American 2004-2005; CURRENT CAREER TOTALS AFTER ODAC TOURNAMENT: 2,277 points; 675 assists; 432 steals;

Women's Basketball Looks Towards Rebuilding

by Tyler Sansom '07
Sports Editor

When you lose four seniors, all of whom played significant minutes and one that was an all-American and the division III player of the year, you've got some work to do.

This is no new fact to the women's basketball team as it looks forward to the upcoming 2006-2007 season but this year's team will dawn a new style that has yet to be seen in the last four years of the women's hoops program.

Head Coach Carroll LaHaye noted that "we have gone from one of the tallest teams in the ODAC to the shortest." With height being a significant thing in the world of basketball, the women will have to rely on other talents to defend their ODAC title from last year and earn another berth in the NCAA tournament.

The team will look to senior captains Kristen Morgan and Salem Shaffer for leadership and guidance according to Coach LaHaye.

Morgan will be counted on for her defensive prowess as

Coach LaHaye noted that Kristen is "by far the best defensive player in the conference and is known for her ability to take players out of their comfort zone when handling the ball." As for Shaffer, Coach LaHaye noted that she has been moved to a different position due to this squad's lack of overall height but will be a strong contender in the post spot.

Other key returning players include junior guard Marta Merkel who returns from an ACL injury and she will share significant scoring responsibilities along side sophomore Amanda Hiltunen.

Of the incoming crop of players, Coach LaHaye singled out a few in particular that included post player Molly Atrial, forward Renee Stein who can play all over the court and Maryanne Dalla Valle at guard who can handle the ball as well as shoot for the Jackets.

Along with other guards on the team University of Mary Washington transfer Jess Shifflett will be counted on to help replace all-American point guard Megan Silva as she will bring much needed experience to the guard position. Also helping with the lack of height at the post positions

will be sophomore Lindsay Riesbeck and junior Nicole Childress.

Coach LaHaye concluded her thoughts about the upcoming season mentioning this team will be young but that team mentality would be "we to attack teams at both ends court and capitalize on any strengths we have."

As far as key conference match-ups through out the season Coach LaHaye stated that "ODAC games will be many because not many teams lost many players as we did. The ODAC game will be a challenge for us because the ODAC becomes so competitive."

The team opens up its season at home on November 17 and is hosting the All Lines Insurance Tip-Off Classic that includes Averett University, Methodist College, and Catholic University. R-MC tips off against Averett first at 6:00 p.m. followed by Methodist versus Catholic at 8:00 p.m.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL NOTES

CHANGING OF THE GUARD: If Randolph-Macon's 2006-07 women's basketball team was an automobile, Carroll LaHaye would already have removed and discarded the rear view mirror. That is because LaHaye, the Yellow Jackets' coach, has no desire to look backward as she steers her club into the new season.

Not that she won't be tempted. The graduation of two-time All-American and 2006 national Division III player of the year **Megan Silva** has deprived the Yellow Jackets of the finest and most dynamic competitor in school and Old Dominion Athletic Conference history. Gone, too, are two other seniors, solid players both, who helped carry the Yellow Jackets to 98 victories, three ODAC championships and an NCAA runner-up finish in the past four seasons.

"I'm going to miss [Silva]," LaHaye said. "So will her teammates. So will anyone who ever had the privilege and the joy of watching her play. But if you're asking if I'm sitting here crying in my beer, my answer is 'No.' I don't need to do that or want to do that because the fact of the matter is, it's time to move on. As much as we might wish otherwise, we don't have them any more. It's like that line from Hoosiers: 'This is our team.'"

Granted, LaHaye said, "it would be very easy to come crawling into the office and say, 'Oh, my gosh — what are we going to do without those guys?' It would be very easy to get caught up in the success we've had over the past few years." It would be easy, that is, with a collection of players other than the one she now has.

"This team is young and very enthusiastic and very motivated. When I'm around them and I see their enthusiasm, I'm not the least bit worried. Now — will we be as successful as we've been in the past? Who knows? But I can tell you this: They

want to win and they want to prove to everyone that they're capable of competing."

In addition to the losses she expected — Silva, senior post player **Michelle Orton** and senior wing player **Megan Senske** — LaHaye is adjusting to the departures of three other players: junior posts **Colleen Orton** and **Jannessa Morusma** and junior guard **Maggie Harman**. Reasons personal and/or medical and/or financial have prompted those women to withdraw from school. Senior wing player **Marta Merkel** has recovered from a knee injury and is expected to be at or near full speed when practice starts on Oct. 17.

ROAD TO RECOVERY: Liberty insiders say sophomore forward **Megan Frazee** has bounced back nicely after losing more than half of her freshman season to a knee injury. She is said to be strong, fluid and comfortable. Frazee, 6-3, was averaging 18.5 points and 9.8 rebounds when she was hurt in January. Her triplet sisters, **Molly** and **Mariah**, contributed a combined 11.6 points and 7.0 rebounds to the Flames' 25-6 season.

Megan Frazee's return to active duty has created an odd and perhaps unique personnel wrinkle at Liberty: The Flames' 14-woman roster hasn't changed in the past year. No seniors graduated. No freshmen joined the program.

POLL POSITION: Old Dominion, the winner of 15 consecutive Colonial Athletic Association tournament titles, occupies the No. 18 position in Street & Smith's preseason Top 25 — a reflection, no doubt, of the return to health of 6-4 post player **Tamara Ransburg** (knee) and 6-2 forward **Tiffany Green** (fractured foot).



RM-C coach Carroll LaHaye is ready to move on after the loss of All-American Megan Silva.

Neither logged a minute of playing time in 2005-06. Virginia is ranked 20th in the Street & Smith's poll. The Cavaliers will play host to the Lady Monarchs on Nov. 12 in the first regular-season women's game in U.Va.'s new John Paul Jones Arena.

ALL IN THE FAMILY: Former Virginia Commonwealth University player and assistant coach **Meredith Sisson Hall** has been promoted to the position of co-head coach at the University of Louisiana-Lafayette. Hall, who is married to Ragin' Cajuns head coach **J. Kelley Hall**, served as Louisiana-Lafayette's volunteer assistant coach from 2003-06.

David Walker, the school's interim athletic director, told the Lafayette Daily Advertiser: "Our women's basketball program has made tremendous strides in the past four years, and together they're going to keep us headed in the right direction."

Louisiana-Lafayette posted an 18-10 record in 2006.

— Vic Darr Jr.

Women's Basketball

The women's basketball team is off to a strong start for the 2006-2007, having gone 2-0 prior to Thanksgiving break while hosting the All-Lines Insurance Tip-Off Classic. The tournament featured Methodist College, Catholic University, and Averett College in addition to R-MC with the women posting win's against Averett and Methodist.

In a 88-55 win over Averett, freshmen Molly Atrial made her debut as a Yellow Jacket scoring 16 points and grabbing 12 rebounds for a double-double. Other big contributors for R-MC was sophomore

R-MC Women's Basketball Heading to NYU for NCAA Division III Sectionals

ASHLAND, VA - On the heels of a 74-59 victory over William Paterson on Saturday night, the Randolph-Macon College women's basketball team learned Sunday afternoon that it will be heading to New York University for the Sectional Round of the 2007 NCAA Division III Women's Basketball Tournament.

The Yellow Jackets will square off with Kean University from New Jersey on Friday night. The winner will play either NYU or Simpson on Saturday for the right to go to the Final Four.

Game times and ticket information will be determined by close of the business day on Monday after the participating teams take part in a conference call with the NCAA.

The Randolph-Macon College Athletic Department is considering bus transportation for parents and fans on a cost per-person basis if enough interest is shown. If interested, please contact Sheila Roccia in the R-MC Athletic Department at 752-7223.

LaHaye Wins 400th Game of Career

by Tyler Sansom '07
Sports Editor

In a recent 66-33 drubbing of Randolph-Macon Women's College, head women's basketball Coach Carroll LaHaye made history as she tallied her 400th career win.

LaHaye joined an elite club with the victory over the Wildcats as she became the 21st coach in NCAA Division III Basketball History to reach the 400 win plateau.

In her 25th season on the sidelines for the women's basketball team, LaHaye now boasts an overall record of 400-256 which equates to a very impressive .610 winning percentage. LaHaye's teams have dominated competition during her tenure in conference play as well as she has compiled an ODAC record of 253 wins and 90 losses.

Other recent highlights include two consecutive ODAC titles over the last two seasons and her tutelage of arguably the most successful R-MC basketball team ever during the 2004-2005 season. That year saw her squad reach the NCAA Division III national championship game and the team earned the national runner-up spot while compiling an astounding record of 30-2 overall and a spotless 20-0 mark in ODAC play. For her teams success the 2004-2005 squad LaHaye was named ODAC Coach of the Year. LaHaye's teams have qualified for the NCAA tournament the last four consecutive seasons and are the number one seed going into this weeks ODAC tournament in Salem.



Coach Carroll LaHaye

Jackets currently fashion a 26-4 overall record and are in the midst of a winning streak. This is the third consecutive Sweet 16 appearance for LaHaye who has now collected 84 wins over that three-year span. LaHaye led the championship of the New Jersey Athletic Conference to a second consecutive title by knocking off Westminster (Pa.) and Messiah to advance to second place. The Yellow Jackets are the co-champion of the University Athletic Association (UAA) and Gwynedd-Mercy over the weekend and currently stand atop the list of the Iowa Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (IIAC) Championship and upended Wheaton (Ill.) on Saturday to win the Sweet 16. The Storm is currently 23-6 on the season.

Womens' Basketball wins ODAC's; Next Stop: NCAA Tourname

March 8, 2007, RMC Newspaper



The R-MC Women's basketball team, coaches and staff with their ODAC trophy.



Senior Marta Merkel

Morgan's play on point for Randolph-Macon

With unenviable task of replacing Silva, she excels as team's leader

BY VIC DORR JR.
TIMES-DISPATCH STAFF WRITER

Kristen Morgan's feet appear altogether normal. But they fit nicely — figuratively speaking — into the biggest shoes that any Randolph-Macon women's basketball player has ever been asked to fill.

Morgan, a senior guard from Brigantine, N.J., was asked during the offseason to move into the point position that former

WOMEN ODAC TOURNAMENT

TODAY: Randolph-Macon vs. Lynchburg, 1 p.m.

WHERE: Salem Civic Center

standout Megan Silva occupied so well for so long. Suffice it to say that she has succeeded impressively, if not brilliantly. Morgan's Yellow Jackets, expected to sag visibly in the aftermath of Silva's graduation, will carry a 21-4 record and the No. 1 seed into today's ODAC Tournament quarterfinals in Salem.

"It's a very sweet feeling, to be honest about it," Morgan said. "Pretty much everybody looked at us before the season and said, 'There's no way.'"

"I guess I can understand. When you lose a player like Megan and you lose someone like Michelle [Orton, a post player],



RANDOLPH-MACON

Kristen Morgan averages 6.1 points, but coach Carroll LaHaye said Morgan's one of the best vocal leaders she's had.

you have to expect that people are going to doubt you. But I can tell you this: I never doubted us. I knew what we were capable of. I knew we'd be right there" — at or near the top of the ODAC — "again this year. Other people might be surprised. I'm honestly not."

Morgan's offensive contributions — 6.1 points per game, roughly a fourth of what Silva delivered a year ago — suggest that Yellow Jackets coach Carroll LaHaye replaced a diamond with a piece of polished glass. LaHaye insists otherwise.

There is more than one way to perform efficiently at the point position, LaHaye said. One is to stuff the statistics sheet. The

other is to grab your team by the collar and say, "Follow me." Silva chose the former. Morgan, who would rather distribute and defend than score, has chosen the latter.

"She's the glue that holds our team together — I don't think there's any doubt about it," LaHaye said. "She's a vocal leader — one of the best I've ever had. That's her personality. She's a Jersey girl and she's proud of it. She's confident and she's assertive and she pours her whole heart and soul into the game."

Morgan's assessment of her role: "Be vocal; bring energy and intensity and enthusiasm; play with heart and hustle and pass that attitude along to the younger girls."

Then she laughed. In many respects, she said, this is her dream assignment.

"I've never been what you'd call a quiet person. I've never been one to keep my opinions to myself when I think something needs to be said."

Nor is she content to merely talk the talk. Morgan, a 41.3-percent shooter from behind the 3-point arc, is perfectly willing to squeeze the trigger when dared to do so. She made 4 of 6 3-point attempts in a January game at Lynchburg, in the process transforming an 11-point first-half deficit into a 62-44 victory.

Though she is thriving in the sunshine, Morgan said she was never uncomfortable when playing in Silva's shadow.

"Any success I'm having now," she said, "I'm having because I had the honor and privilege of playing with and practicing against Megan for three years."

Jackets get a lift from seasoned guards

Consistent production from one veteran guard and consistent inspiration from another have helped carry Randolph-Macon's women's basketball team to a 5-0 start and a No. 14 ranking in NCAA Division III.

Amanda Hiltunen, a 5-6 junior from Hermitage High, leads the Yellow Jackets in points per game (14.8) and field goal percentage (.578). All of which qualifies as business as usual for Hiltunen, who finished second in the ODAC in field-goal percentage last year (.516) while contributing 10.9 points per game to R-MC's 26-5 season.

Hiltunen "is a talented player to begin with, and on top of that, she worked very, very hard during the offseason," Yellow Jackets coach Carroll LaHaye said. "She spent a lot of time — I mean, a lot of time — in the gym. She came back this fall as a faster, stronger, quicker player."

LaHaye said Hiltunen's field-goal percentage, remarkable for a shooting guard, primarily is a function of "disciplined shot selection." There are times when we literally have to beg her to shoot."

LaHaye said Hiltunen has "a very good eye — not only for what's a good shot and what isn't, but also for when is the appropriate time to take a shot."

Marta Merkel, a 5-9 senior, might be the Yellow Jackets' emotional leader. Merkel suffered a torn anterior cruciate ligament in September — the second such injury she has sustained since transferring from Fairleigh Dickinson to R-MC after the 2003-04 season. LaHaye said Merkel has chosen to roll the dice and play her final season on a damaged knee.

LaHaye said: "She told us, 'Don't take it easy on me. I'm going to go out there every day and play as hard as I can. I'm going to treat every practice and every game like it might be my last one.'"

Merkel is averaging 5.2 points and 26.4 minutes.

December 13, 2007, Richmond Times Dispatch

February 23, 2007, Richmond Times Dispatch

R-MC seizes tourney title

Hiltunen's late surge lifts Yellow Jackets to win over Eagles

BY PAUL WOODY
Times-Dispatch Staff Writer

SALEM — Carol LaHaye had some advice for Amanda Hiltunen: Shoot the ball.

"I was in her face earlier in the game because I thought she had passed up some open shots, shots that are easy for her," said LaHaye, the coach of the Randolph-Macon women's basketball team.

With 5½ minutes left in the ODAC tournament championship game, Hiltunen took the advice of her coach. The senior guard from Hermitage High School scored 12 points in the final minutes yesterday to lead R-MC to a 69-65 victory over Bridgewater.

That gave the Yellow Jackets the league's automatic berth in

**RANDOLPH-MACON 69,
BRIDGEWATER 65**
ODAC women's final

the Division III tournament, which starts Friday.

R-MC has won three of the past four and five of the past seven ODAC tournaments.

"I hadn't been making my shots in the first half, and I made my mind up to help us one way or another," Hiltunen said.

Her timing could not have been better. Randolph-Macon (23-5) led by nine at halftime, but Bridgewater (17-11) erased that lead in the first three minutes of the second half. Thereafter, it was back and forth.

Hiltunen enabled the Yellow Jackets to get the breathing room they needed. She began by making a jump shot, dropped in two 3-pointers from the left corner and made four consecutive free throws.

And a tight game turned into a 67-56 advantage with 1:08 left.

"It was a game of runs, and it was a matter of who would make the last one," Bridgewater senior post player Jennifer Saunders said. "Unfortunately for us, it was their time."

"When you see Amanda Hiltunen with an open shot, you just think, 'Oh no.' She is an amazing shooter."

Hiltunen made 3 of 8 shots in the first half. In the second-half run, she made all three of her shots, including two 3-point attempts.

"We've seen her do that every game," R-MC center Molly Ariail said. "She's got a good head on her shoulders."

Ariail earned an assist on one of Hiltunen's 3-pointers and set up the other with a steal.

Bridgewater hoped to steal the championship this year as it did last year, when it entered the event as the No. 6 seed. This year, the Eagles were seeded fourth. Randolph-Macon was the No. 2 seed.

Saunders, from Monacan High School, saw her college career end yesterday.

At Bridgewater, she has played through knee problems, elbow problems and a broken nose.

"A lot of pain," she said, laughing, as she summed up her career. "But No. 1, a lot of love. I'm going to miss every single one of these girls. We play for each other."

Saunders, an education major, will graduate in May. She is doing her student teaching, with fifth-graders, now.

"I'm friends with half the girls on the Randolph-Macon team," Saunders said. "I wish them a lot of luck in the tournament."

• Contact Paul Woody at (804) 649-6444 or pwoody@timesdispatch.com

BRIDGEWATER (17-11) — Saunders 5, Henderson 5, Barnett 2, Lambert 14, Burkholder 20, Criss 4, Bossert 2, Logan 7, Roach 0, Booker 6. Totals 23 17-26 65. 3-point goals: Saunders, Burkholder.

RANDOLPH-MACON (23-5) — Riesbeck 13, Williams 1, Ariail 11, Hiltunen 19, Stein 7, Brown 0, Asay 2, O'Brian 8, Wiczorek 0, Roy 8, Parker 0, Grune 0. Totals 19 24-29 69. 3-point goals: Hiltunen 3, O'Brian 2, Roy 2. Halftime: Randolph-Macon 33-24.

R-MC women given road test in playoffs

Yellow Jackets will face Thomas More in Pennsylvania trip

BY VIC DORR JR.
Times-Dispatch Staff Writer

Randolph-Macon women's basketball coach Carroll LaHaye would prefer to be playing this weekend in the cozy confines of Crenshaw Gym. Failing that, LaHaye said, central Pennsylvania is an altogether acceptable alternative.

LaHaye's Yellow Jackets, winners of the ODAC tournament for the third time in four years, received their NCAA Division III tournament itinerary yesterday. R-MC (23-5) will face 11th-ranked Thomas More (26-2) on Friday on the campus of Messiah College in Grantham, Pa.

The Yellow Jackets, LaHaye said, "didn't anticipate this at all. We were hoping to host. We frankly thought we had a good chance" once they secured their ODAC championship — and the automatic invitation that accompanies it — with Sunday's 69-65 victory over Bridgewater.

"But the fact that we're traveling to Messiah — we're going to embrace it and try to make the best of it."

She hopes the region returns the hug. Grantham is roughly a half-hour from post player Molly Ariail's home in York. Ariail, a 6-2 junior, earned player-of-the-

Div. III tournaments

Friday's first-round games

MEN

- Virginia Wesleyan (17-12) at Widener (22-5), 8 p.m.
- Averett (20-8) at Centre (23-4), TBA

WOMEN

- Randolph-Macon (23-5) vs. Thomas More (26-2), 5:30 p.m. at Grantham, Pa.
- Christopher Newport (22-5) at York, Pa. (25-2), 7 p.m.
- Mary Washington (23-5) vs. Stevens (22-5), 6 p.m. at New York
- Marymount (20-6) vs. Kean (21-7), 6 p.m. at Rochester, N.Y.

year distinction at the conclusion of the ODAC's regular season and MVP honors after last weekend's tournament in Salem.

When the Yellow Jackets visited Carlisle, Pa., for a late-January date with Dickinson, LaHaye said, "We must have had more than a hundred Molly Ariail fans cheering for us. Maybe they'll come back" this weekend.

If R-MC wins its first-round game, it likely will face Messiah, the subregional host, in Saturday's second round.

Thomas More, the winner of the past three Presidents' Athletic Conference tournaments, is a seasoned club that has started the same lineup in each of its 28 games. Few Division III clubs possess a post player who can match Ariail's size and strength. The Saints appear to be one of

the few. Nicole Dickman, a sturdy 6-0 sophomore, will carry averages of 14.6 points and 7.3 rebounds into Friday's contest.

LaHaye said she is "very proud" of her club, which lost four of six while groping for an identity at the end of the first semester but has since won 19 of 20.

"The way they've bounced back has been very special to watch," LaHaye said. "A lot of the credit, I think, has to go to [senior guard Amanda Hiltunen and senior forward Lindsay Riesbeck]. They've led this team wonderfully. They're winners. They know what it takes."

Three other state schools saw their names posted on the 63-team women's bracket: USA South champion Christopher Newport (22-5), CAC champion Mary Washington (23-5) and CAC at-large qualifier Marymount (20-6). Each must travel to its Friday opener. Christopher Newport plays at No. 8 York (25-2). Mary Washington faces Stevens (22-5) at New York University and Marymount meets Kean (21-7) at the University of Rochester.

Two state schools earned entry into the men's field. ODAC champion Virginia Wesleyan (17-12) will play at Widener (22-5) on Friday. USA South champ Averett (20-8) will travel to Danville, Ky., for a Friday date with No. 16 Centre (23-4).

• Contact Vic Dorr Jr. at (804) 649-6442 or vdorr@timesdispatch.com.



2010s



2010-11



FIRST ROW: Christina Phelps, Madison Dulaney, Katie Williams, Jenn O'Briant, Maggie Roy, Molly Brown, Jordan Cantrell

SECOND ROW: Carroll LaHaye (Head Coach), CK Calhoun (Asst. Coach), Jillian Asay, Lindsey Sharman, Taylor Wieczorek, Paige Mills, Jay Starke (Asst. Coach)

2011-12



FIRST ROW: Sarah Parsons, Molly Brown, Jillian Asay, Carroll LaHaye (Head Coach), Taylor Wieczorek, Maggie Roy, Madison Dulaney

SECOND ROW: Jay Starke (Asst. Coach), Kellie Cortina, Paige Mills, Lindsey Sharman, Caroline Young, Christina Phelps, CK Calhoun (Asst. Coach)

2012-13



LEFT TO RIGHT: Jay Starke (Asst. Coach), Carroll LaHaye (Head Coach), Sarah Parsons, Kellie Cortina, Nicole Freeman, Katie Anderson, Caroline Young, Lauren Vugteveen, Lindsey Sharman, Paige Mills, Christina Phelps, Hannah Livermon, Madison Dulaney, Khajae Hester, Ana Litton (Asst. Coach)

2013-14



FIRST ROW: Hannah Livermon, Kellie Cortina, Sarah Parsons, Khajae Hester, Marisha Berry, Taylor Intermill, Taylor Huber

SECOND ROW: Carroll LaHaye (Head Coach), Abbey Warren (Mgr.), Samm Prugh, Caroline Young, Katie Anderson, Lauren Vugteveen, Lindsey Sharman, Paige Mills, Andi Prugh, Stephanie Staples, Hannah Sommers (Mgr.), Jay Starke (Asst. Coach)

2014-15



FIRST ROW: Hannah Livermon, Khajae Hester, Marisha Berry, Sarah Parsons, Taylor Intermill, Kareema Conteh, Stephanie Staples

SECOND ROW: Carroll LaHaye (Head Coach), Samm Prugh, Caroline Young, Katie Anderson, Lauren Vugteveen, Amber Lee, Teal Reynolds, Andi Prugh, Ashley Reed (Asst. Coach)

FIRST ROW: Taylor Intermill, Kelsey Wisner, Khajae Hester, Hannah Livermon, Jayla Wade

SECOND ROW: Jay Starke (Asst. Coach), Carroll LaHaye (Head Coach), Deja Dennis, Lauren Vugteveen, Katie Anderson, Leara Shumate, Teal Reynolds, Ashley Reed (Asst. Coach), Dwight Watson (Asst. Coach)



2015-16

FIRST ROW: Ariona Johnson, Leara Shumate, Amber Lee, Charlotte Woods, Teal Reynolds, Michal Ross, Kelly Williams

SECOND ROW: Jay Starke (Asst. Coach), Carroll LaHaye (Head Coach), Erica Adkins, Kelsey Wisner, Marisha Berry, Kareema Conteh, Deja Dennis, Jayla Wade, Taylor Intermill, Hannah Houser, Ashley Reed (Asst. Coach), Dwight Watson (Asst. Coach)



2016-17

FIRST ROW: Elise Knobloch, Kelsey Wisner, Teal Reynolds, Jayla Wade, Hannah Houser

SECOND ROW: Carroll LaHaye (Head Coach), Becca Arrington, Leara Shumate, Kelly Williams, Charlotte Woods, Hannah Livermon (Asst. Coach), Dwight Watson (Asst. Coach)



2017-18

FIRST ROW: Janelle DeGuzman, Cheridan Hatfield, Elise Knobloch, Jayla Wade, Kelsey Wisner, Lauren Lewis, Kylee Maiolo

SECOND ROW: Carroll LaHaye (Head Coach), Becca Arrington, Michal Ross, Charlotte Woods, Kelly Williams, Aimee DeBell, Jada Fox, Peyton Humphreys, Hannah Livermon (Asst. Coach), Dwight Watson (Asst. Coach)



2018-19

FIRST ROW: Devan Conrad, Becca Arrington, Haley Pasqualone, Cheridan Hatfield, Elise Knobloch, Janelle DeGuzman

SECOND ROW: Carroll LaHaye (Head Coach), Dwight Watson (Asst. Coach), Peyton Humphreys, Charlotte Woods, Kelly Williams, Kennedy Cornick, Aimee DeBell, Michal Ross, Hannah Livermon (Asst. Coach)



2019-20

Ariail keeps ODAC honor

Jackets' star is top player for third straight season

BY VIC DORR JR.
Times-Dispatch Staff Writer

Randolph-Macon women's basketball coach Carroll LaHaye didn't search long before finding the proper word to describe Yellow Jackets post player Molly Ariail.

"The word she chose was 'phenomenal.' Others apparently share that opinion.

Ariail, a 6-2 senior from York, Pa., last night captured her third consecutive ODAC player-of-the-year award. She was selected in voting conducted among the league's coaches. Ariail finished the Yellow Jackets' regular season as the league's top scorer (19.4 ppg) and rebounder (11.4 rpg). In addition, she

led the Yellow Jackets in steals (49) and blocks (27).

"She's just such a dominating presence in the paint," LaHaye said. "She's strong and smooth and she has some innate skills — fakes, power moves, things like that — that make her almost unstoppable."

Ariail, who was the ODAC rookie of the year as a freshman, was honored at last night's pre-tournament awards banquet in Salem. LaHaye said the recognition was appropriate for many reasons — not all of them basketball-related.

"She's a wonderful leader and a wonderful friend to every one of her teammates," LaHaye said. "They look to her for everything, on and off the court."

Ariail is one of only two three-time players of the year in ODAC women's basketball history. Former Yellow Jack-



Molly Ariail finished the regular season as the ODAC's top scorer and rebounder.

ets standout Megan Silva is the other.

Regular-season champion Roanoke (19-1, 22-2) placed three players on the six-member all-ODAC first team. Maroons coach Susan Dunagan was coach of the year. Hollins guard Jasmine Greene was rookie of the year.

Two local players were cited. R-MC guard Maggie Roy (Mills Godwin) was named to the second team. Lynchburg forward Tamara Sneed (Henrico) received honorable mention.

FIRST TEAM

Molly Ariail, Randolph-Macon; Breana Robinson, Washington and Lee; Jordan Burkholder, Bridgewater; Jordan Gholson, Roanoke; Caitlyn Long, Roanoke; Jaleesa Osborne, Roanoke

SECOND TEAM

Meg Ingram, Washington and Lee; Tonia Jones, Virginia Wesleyan; Melissa Lewis, Eastern Mennonite; Katie Reznitzer, Randolph; Maggie Roy, Randolph-Macon; Ann Seater, Guilford

HONORABLE MENTION

Maggie Davis, Virginia Wesleyan; Sarah Petty, Emory and Henry; Tamara Phillips, Hollins; Tamara Sneed, Lynchburg; Brittany Snyder, Eastern Mennonite; Alexa Williams, Guilford.

O'Briant's heave saves R-MC

Her 3 forces OT; Yellow Jackets win 7th tourney crown

From staff reports

Lucky No. 7, indeed.

Senior guard Jennifer O'Briant lifted Randolph-Macon's women off the hook when defeat and disappointment seemed inevitable, and the revived Yellow Jackets went on capture their seventh ODAC tournament crown with Sunday's 77-68 overtime conquest of Roanoke at the Salem Civic Center.

O'Briant, a former standout at Manchester High School, sank a running 3-pointer as time expired in regulation to tie the game at 63. R-MC was a different team once permitted to exhale. It scored the first 10 points of the extra period.

RANDOLPH-MACON 77
ROANOKE 68 (OT)
ODAC women's final

"We were all shaking and stunned [when O'Briant's shot hit its target], and I'd imagine Roanoke was, too," R-MC coach Carroll LaHaye said. "I was so excited, I thought we'd won the game. I mean, you make a shot like that, you're supposed to win, right? I kept telling our kids when they came to the bench, 'There's a reason for this. There has to be a reason for this.'"

Molly Brown scored 22 points, and Taylor Wiecezorek added 16 points and nine rebounds for R-MC, which earned its fourth ODAC title in the past six years. Mills Godwin alumna Maggie Roy scored 12 points, and O'Briant contributed 10 for the top-seeded Yellow Jackets.

Jordan Gholson led third-seeded Roanoke with 21 points and 14 rebounds. Gholson sank a pair of free throws with :05 left in regulation to give the Maroons a 63-60 lead.

Neither club led by more than three points during the first half. Thereafter, wild momentum swings occurred. R-MC trailed by six at 16:52, led by seven at 10:58 and seemed in deep trouble when Gholson's jumper nudged the Maroons into a 61-60 lead with 18 seconds remaining.

R-MC will receive the ODAC's automatic bid to the NCAA Division III tournament.

ROANOKE (19-8) — Hankins 0, Gwyn 0, Delehunt 4, Porter 11, Gholson 21, Davidson 4, Bays 11, Lucas 6, Webb 3, Holland 0, Moats 6. Totals 25 15 20 68.

RANDOLPH-MACON (22-6) — Brown 22, Asay 0, O'Briant 10, Wiecezorek 16, Roy 12, Cantrell 2, Williams 2, Sharrman 3. Totals 27 17 23 77.

3-point goals: RO: Porter, Gholson, Webb, R-MC: Brown 2, O'Briant 2, Roy, Cantrell. Halftime: Roanoke 31-30. End of regulation: 63-63.

February 28, 2011, Richmond Times Dispatch

Beyond a number

R-MC coach: Relationships matter more than victories

BY VIC DORR JR.
Richmond Times-Dispatch

When hired before the 1982-83 season, Carroll LaHaye expected her tenure as the women's basketball coach at Randolph-Macon College to be brief.

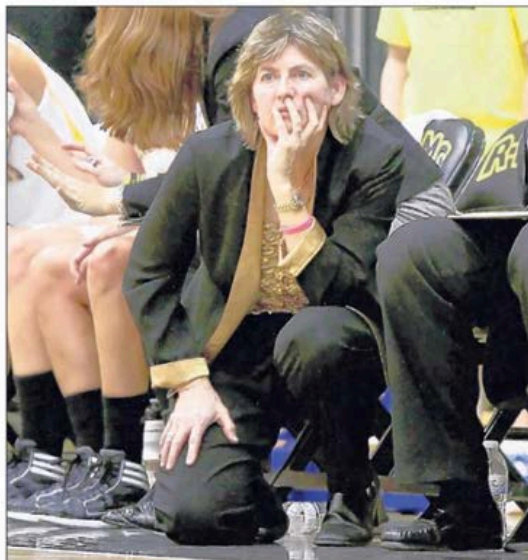
"I thought I'd be here for a few years and then I'd go home to Maine," LaHaye said. "That was my goal, to return to Maine and coach there. And I'll be honest. For a while, I looked. But on so many levels, it just seemed like none of those jobs could offer what Randolph-Macon was offering."

And so she stayed. "A few years" became five. Then 15. Then 30. As time passed, success accumulated. So much so that LaHaye stands today on the threshold of one of her profession's more unusual accomplishments: 500 victories at one school.

LaHaye, whose 498-287 record includes seven ODAC tournament championships, said the 500 milestone, while nice, is little more than a number. An uncommonly large number, yes, but a number nonetheless. The reward she most cherishes, she said, is far less tangible.

"I've been blessed that so many truly outstanding young women have chosen to be part of our program," said LaHaye, 56. "The opportunity to get to know my players, the opportunity to form relationships with them and their parents and their families, to me that's so much more important than any score or any number of victories or anything else I might have accomplished."

Five hundred victories, she said, is an achievement that should — and will — be shared with many individuals, including players, assistant coaches,



Carroll LaHaye has 498 wins since being named coach at R-MC for the 1982-83 season.

R-MC administrators who made a bold commitment to women's athletics in the early 1990s, and her late mother, Marilyn.

Yes, her mother. LaHaye collected only 85 victories in her first eight seasons in Ashland, largely because Randolph-Macon's men's and women's basketball teams competed until 1989-90 as members of NCAA Division II. R-MC's fledgling women's program, unlike the school's powerful men's team, struggled against Division II opposition.

"There were so many times

In a League of Their Own

Randolph-Macon's Carroll LaHaye trails only Roanoke's Susan Dunagan on the list of winningest women's basketball coaches in ODAC history. A look at the ODAC's five most successful women's coaches:

Coach	School (length of stay)	Record (percentage)
Susan Dunagan	Roanoke (31st season)	582-231 (.716)*
Carroll LaHaye	Randolph-Macon (30th season)	498-287 (.634)*
Laura Macp	Bridgewater (25 seasons)	484-282 (.632)##
Joy Schaggs	Emory & Henry (28 seasons)	394-319 (.546)
Jean Wall	Bridgewater (16th season)	301-188 (.615)*

* Active

The ODAC first offered women's basketball in 1982-83. Macp began coaching at Bridgewater in 1961-62. If viewed separately, Macp's ODAC-era record (598-83 in 14 seasons) still would place her among the league's top five winners.

February 27, 2011, RMC Athletics



Women's Basketball | 2/27/2011 12:00:00 AM
Randolph-Macon Claims Seventh ODAC Championship with 77-68 Victory over Roanoke

March 4, 2011, RMC Athletics



Women's Basketball | 3/4/2011 12:00:00 AM
Wiecezorek's 27 Points Sends R-MC to 80-69 Win over Bridgewater State in NCAA First Round



Fort Lauderdale Trip, 2013

Enjoying the game, again

Huber rediscovers her passion for hoops at R-MC

BY VIC DORR JR.
Richmond Times-Dispatch

Taylor Huber is once again enjoying herself while playing basketball. And so, once again, are the Randolph-Macon Yellow Jackets.

Huber, a former first-team All-Metro performer at Patrick Henry High School, transferred to R-MC in the summer after spending two seasons at Division I Utah Valley University. Her impact has been immediate and seismic. Huber, a 5-foot-8 junior forward, is averaging 24 points and 2.3 assists for the Yellow Jackets (6-0), who already have matched their victory total from 2012-13.

Huber said her skill set hasn't changed since a 2012-13 season in which she averaged 5.7 points and 12 minutes. Her mindset, on the other hand, has changed dramatically.

"Playing Division I was my dream," she said. "I had to try and I'm glad I did. I don't have any regrets. I loved Utah. Being there was a wonderful experience. But from a basketball point of view, Randolph-Macon is just a much better fit for me."

Some players thrive in the regimented existence of Division I competition. Huber does not count herself among them.

"It's hard to explain how great it feels just to be out



Frank Stralus
Randolph-Macon's Taylor Huber, a junior forward who starred at Patrick Henry High School, leads the ODAC in scoring at 24 points a game.

RANDOLPH-MACON AT BRIDGEWATER

Women

Tuesday: 7 p.m.

there having fun again," she said. "When you're playing Division I, it's like a job, almost. It takes almost all of your time. It's all you do. It's all you think about. I'm so happy to be playing just to be enjoying the game again."

She is not suggesting, she said, the Yellow Jackets' approach to competition and preparation is casual.

"But there's not nearly as much pressure. It's still serious, don't get me wrong. But at the same time, it's still a game. It's still fun. I love playing basketball here. I love everything about it."

Yellow Jackets coach Carroll LaHaye was delighted but not entirely surprised when circumstance placed so formidable a talent on her doorstep. LaHaye said R-MC recruited Huber "very, very hard" during the player's standout career at nearby Patrick Henry. LaHaye understood the

risks. The cultural appeal of Utah is strong for a high school senior from a Mormon background. Moreover, LaHaye said, there was family precedent for Huber's decision to look west. Her mother, Travis Ann, played softball at Brigham Young.

But even so, Huber never entirely severed the ties she and LaHaye developed during the recruiting process. When Huber informed LaHaye of her decision to attend Utah Valley, she asked if R-MC would still be interested should things not work out in Utah.

"I said, 'Taylor, the door will always be open,'" LaHaye said.

Huber leads the ODAC in scoring. She has piled up 20 or more points in five of the Yellow Jackets' six games. But she is not her club's only weapon. Sarah Parsons, a junior guard from J.R. Tucker, is averaging 20 points. Kellie Anderson, a sophomore forward from Patrick Henry, is averaging 17.2. R-MC reached the 90-point plateau only once in 27 games last year. It has already done so on five occasions this year.

Said Huber: "That's one of my favorite things about this team: It's so hard for other teams to know how to guard us. For us, there's never any (individual) pressure. We just go out and play. There's never a feeling that any one person has to score all of our points."

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Women's Basketball | 3/2/2014 12:00:00 AM

Anderson Tallies 21 to Help R-MC Win Eighth ODAC Title

December 1, 2013, Richmond Times Dispatch

March 2, 2014, RMC Athletics

R-MC's LaHaye gets 500th victory



Carroll LaHaye thanks the crowd after winning her 500th game Friday night.

Yellow Jackets defeat rival Roanoke to give coach milestone win

BY VIC DORR JR.
Richmond Times-Dispatch

The waiting game has ended for Randolph-Macon women's basketball coach Carroll LaHaye.

LaHaye's second attempt to capture her 500th career victory ended in sweet satisfaction Friday night when her Yellow Jackets pulled away in the second half to defeat Roanoke 82-70 in Crenshaw Gym.

LaHaye, 500-289, is the second-winningest coach in ODAC women's basketball history. Fittingly, the ODAC's winningest coach, Roanoke's Susan Dunagan, was on the opposing bench.

"I didn't think it would be this emotional," LaHaye said. "I didn't think I'd be this emotional. I guess I shocked myself a little bit. But so many people from my past were here to share this tonight, so many players from as far back as the 1990s."

People from her present were there, too. Randolph-Macon president Robert Lind-

gren presented LaHaye with the game ball during an impromptu postgame ceremony at center court. A family of four sat high in the bleachers behind the R-MC bench. Each wore a white shirt with a large black-and-yellow symbol fastened to the front. When the group was properly aligned, the symbols delivered this message: 500.

"It means a lot, it really does," LaHaye said. "It's a big accomplishment, I know that. But all of the people who were here

R-MC, Page C4

January 17, 2012, Richmond Times Dispatch

Congratulations to
Randolph-Macon College
Head Women's Basketball Coach

Carroll LaHaye
For Reaching a Historic
500-Win Milestone

THE 15TH WINNINGEST COACH IN
DIVISION III WOMEN'S BASKETBALL HISTORY!



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R-MC squads in postseason

Men, women join
four other state
teams in D-III play

BY JORDAN BONDURANT
Richmond Times-Dispatch

Six schools will represent Virginia in the NCAA Division III men's and women's basketball tournaments, which begin Thursday.

Randolph-Macon's men earned an at-large bid and will host first- and second-round games. The Yellow Jackets play DeSales University on Friday at 7:30 p.m.

"It's nice mainly because you don't have to travel," R-MC coach Nathan Davis said. "The kids get to go to class as they usually would and stay in their comfort zone. So it's nothing out of the ordinary."

Randolph-Macon advanced to the Sweet 16 in 2013, where the Yellow Jackets fell 93-76 to eventual national champion Amherst College.

This week, however, Davis hopes to have a better outcome in the NCAA tournament than R-MC did in the ODAC tournament.

"We certainly have things we need to do better," Davis said. "We want to stay fresh and crisp."

Capital Athletic Conference champion Mary Washington will make the 40-minute drive from Fredericksburg for its first-

DIVISION III PLAYOFFS GLANCE

MEN'S FIRST ROUND

Thursday
At Danville, Ky.
LaGrange at Centre
At Providence, R.I.
York (N.Y.) at Rhode Island College
Friday
At Ashland
DeSales at Randolph-Macon
Mary Washington vs. Springfield
At Virginia Beach
Johns Hopkins at Virginia Wesleyan
Alvernia at Wesley
At Williamstown, Mass.
Middlebury at Williams
Babson vs. Gordon
At Plattsburgh, N.Y.
MIT at Pittsburgh
Eastern Connecticut State vs. Husson
At Brockport, N.Y.
Montville State at Brockport State
Scranton vs. Hobart
At Purchase, N.Y.
Hartwick at Purchase
WPI vs. Albertus Magnus
At Radnor, Pa.
Bridgewater State (Mass.) at Cabrini
Richard Stockton vs. Rowdies
At Wooster, Ohio
Geneese vs. Dickinson
At Holland, Mich.
Penn St. Behrend at Hope
Whitman (Id.) vs. Rose-Hulman
At Stevens Point, Wis.
Marion (W.V.) at Wis-Stevens Point
St. Olaf vs. Central (Iowa)
At Whitewater, Wis.
Northwestern St. Paul
at Wisconsin-Whitewater
St. Thomas (Minn.) vs. Augustana (Ill.)
At Bloomington, Ill.
Webster at Illinois Wesleyan
St. Norbert vs. Ohio Wesleyan
At St. Louis
Winington Ohio at Washington (Mo.)
Wittenberg vs. Calvin
At Richardson, Texas
Chapman at Texas Dallas
Trinity (Conn.) vs. Whitworth

WOMEN'S FIRST ROUND

Friday
At Madison, N.J.
Randolph-Macon vs. Messiah
Wells at FDU-Florham
At Ferrum
Christopher Newport vs. E. Mennonite
Capital at Ferrum
At Montclair, N.J.
Regis at Montclair State
Cabrini vs. Moravian
At Scranton, Pa.
Vassar vs. Williams
Bridgewater, Mass. at Scranton
Lebanon Valley vs. Baldwin Wallace
La Roche at York (Pa.)
At Medford, Mass.
NYU vs. New England
St. Joseph's (Maine) at Tufts
At Brunswick, Maine
Potsdam vs. Roger Williams
Castleton at Bowdoin
At Ithaca, N.Y.
Haverford vs. Rhode Island College
Sage at Ithaca
At Oneonta, N.Y.
Springfield vs. Amherst
Bancroft at Hartwick
At Oshkosh, Wis.
Washington (Mo.) vs.
Northwestern (Minn.)
St. Mary's (Minn.) at Wis-Oshkosh
At St. Paul, Minn.
Wis-Whitewater vs. Concordia (Moor.)
Loras at St. Thomas (Minn.)
At Kenosha, Wis.
Wis-Lutheran vs. Hope
St. Norbert at Carthage
At Greencastle, Ind.
Ohio Northern vs. Transylvania
Claremont Mudd at DePaul
At Memphis, Tenn.
Stacyler vs. Maryville (Tenn.)
Spalding at Rhodes
At Crestview Hills, Ky.
John Carroll vs. Texas Lutheran
Salmon at Thomas More
At Walla Walla, Wash.
George Fox vs. Whitworth
Chapman at Whitman

leigh Dickinson University-Florham in New Jersey to play Messiah on Friday. The winner will play FDU-Florham or Wells on Saturday.

"It will be a challenge to meet such a storied program like Messiah," Randolph-Macon coach Carroll LaHaye said. "But it's a wonderful opportunity. They're excited and nervous."

R-MC has bounced back this season to win 23 games following a 2-21 year in 2012-13, the worst in LaHaye's 32 years at the helm.

"It's been a real concerted effort to make a difference," LaHaye said. "When we met with each player individually prior to this season, each player took last season to heart. They saw that last season was an embarrassment to our program. I give a lot of credit to each one of them for making it work and turning things around."

Ferrum hosts first- and second-round games after winning the USA South Athletic Conference title. Christopher Newport and Eastern Mennonite both earned at-large bids from the CAC and ODAC, respectively, and will square off in the early game at Ferrum. The Panthers take on Capital in the nightcap. The winners of those two games meet Saturday at Ferrum.

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2011 Back to the Hive



March 4, 2014, Richmond Times Dispatch

R-MC's LaHaye wins 600th

BY ADAM CULLER
Richmond Times-Dispatch



Coach **Carroll LaHaye** told her players and assistants at Randolph-Macon that no "hullabaloo" would be allowed if she chalked up her 600th career win.

the remarkable young women that I've had the opportunity and been blessed to coach," LaHaye said.

"All the assistant coaches that have put up with me and my temper tantrums, my idiosyncrasies, my desire and off-the-wall thoughts and all of that.

"I would have to give absolutely as much credit to my assistant coaches and every single player that has put up with me and exceeded my expectations, really."

While a 700th career win seems a long way off, especially for a coach who has already put in 36 years in her role, LaHaye said she hopes to continue as long as she "can continue to impress upon the women that I get to work with that they need to excel every single second that they possibly can."

"If they can do that on the basketball court and in practice situations and carry that over into their life, then they're going to be happy the rest of their lives."

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No. 500, her group came through on its try at No. 600 — defeating Lynchburg on Saturday to give LaHaye the distinction of becoming the 59th coach in NCAA women's basketball history to reach 600 wins.

In a moment of solitude on the bus ride back to Ashland, LaHaye reflected on the achievement, one she was able to share with family members who were in attendance in Lynchburg. Rather than focus on what the achievement meant personally, LaHaye said her first thought was of how well her team had played in the 71-59 victory — telling the whole story of a coach who openly acknowledges that her success lies within that of her players and peers.

"It's not even some of the credit, it should be all of the credit — to

Six-hundred miles of a NASCAR race or maybe even the distance of the odd event at a track meet — before this season, these were the things that came to mind for Carroll LaHaye, Randolph-Macon women's basketball coach, when she thought about 600 of anything in sports.

Needing only 13 wins entering the season to achieve 600 in her career, LaHaye kept the idea of the accomplishment stored away in the back of her and her players' minds by design, hoping to quell the commotion that would surround such an achievement.

"I made it very clear to anybody that was around me at the start of this season to not make a big deal out of it," LaHaye said of her impending 600th win, remembering how the "hullabaloo" after her 500th win affected the Yellow Jackets in 2012.

The request was granted, and unencumbered by the pressure that plagued the team in the quest to win



Big three are key for Jackets

BY JORDAN BONDURANT
Richmond Times-Dispatch

Randolph-Macon College's women's basketball team has turned 180 degrees since last season.

The Yellow Jackets went 6-21 last season, producing the worst winning percentage of coach Carroll LaHaye's now 32-year career at R-MC.

This season the Yellow Jackets are 23-5 and won the Old Dominion Athletic Conference championship for the eighth time. Now, LaHaye and her players find themselves in New Jersey for today's first-round game against Messiah College in the NCAA Division III tournament.

"Messiah is a great program," LaHaye said. "We'll have our work cut out for us. But we're feeling pretty good."

Today's game, set for 5 p.m. at Fairleigh Dickinson University-Florham, marks R-MC's 10th appearance in the NCAA tournament. The Yellow Jackets last went in 2011 and made it to the second round.

LaHaye hopes they can repeat some of that success and make a run to next weekend's sectional round.

"Execution is the primary reason we will move on," LaHaye said. "Messiah will be no different. They've got some NCAA tournament experience. I hope we can get over the nerves and give them a good game."

R-MC's game relies on heavy production from juniors Taylor Huber (Patrick Henry) and Sarah Parsons (J.R. Tucker) and sophomore Katie Anderson (Patrick Henry). Huber leads the team in scoring with 21.4 points per game, Anderson is the leading rebounder at 9.7, and Parsons averages 17.8 points and 2.2 assists.

Messiah relies on Chelsea Danel, Gillian Glackin and Taylor Miller to provide much of its scoring and rebounding.

"I have a lot of confidence in this team, and they have a lot of confidence in themselves," LaHaye said. "If we execute and do what we're capable of doing, we can certainly keep playing."



Women's Basketball | 2/25/2018 12:00:00 AM

Randolph-Macon Wins ODAC Championship With 72-68 Win Over E&H

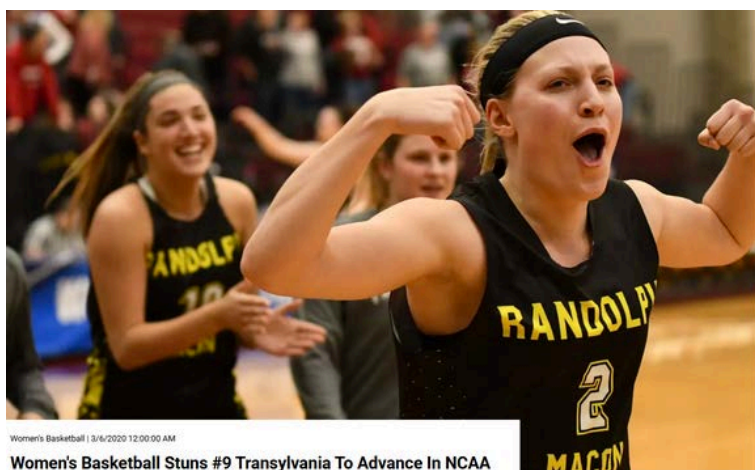
March 7, 2014, Richmond Times Dispatch

February 25, 2018, RMC Athletics



Women's Basketball | 3/1/2020 12:00:00 AM

R-MC Women's Basketball Wins 10th ODAC Title



Women's Basketball | 3/6/2020 12:00:00 AM

Women's Basketball Stuns #9 Transylvania To Advance In NCAA Tourney

LEXINGTON, Ky. — Randolph-Macon Women's Basketball upset the ninth-ranked team in the nation Friday night, advancing through the First Round of the NCAA Tournament and setting up a rematch with a familiar foe and another ranked opponent tomorrow night. R-MC earned the win on the home floor and hosts, the Transylvania Pioneers. Four Yellow Jackets were in double-figures on the night as the Yellow Jackets trailed very few minutes in the contest.

The Basics

Score: Randolph-Macon 78, #9 Transylvania 68

Location/Venue: Lexington, Ky./Beck Center

Records: Randolph-Macon (19-9), Transylvania (25-3)

How It Happened

- In what would be foreshadowing for her night, junior **Becca Arrington** (Amelia, Va. / Amelia Academy) made the first shot of the game. It would end up being the first of ten field goals for her as she surpassed her career high. Throughout the first period though, both teams struggled to get their offenses going, though R-MC had a significantly better quarter, shooting 43% from the field on 16 shots. Transy managed just three field goals, shooting 16.7% as R-MC's defense stifled the Pioneers. R-MC had the 15-9 lead after the first frame.
- Early in the second, Transylvania pulled with three at 16-19, but R-MC pushed ahead for five straight points. Transylvania again mounted a comeback, pulling within one before a layup by sophomore **Aimee DeBell** (Studley, Va. / Saint Gertrude) gave R-MC some breathing room at 26-23. Transylvania never could get closer than two and R-MC headed into halftime with the 34-27 lead.
- An 8-0 run out of halftime gave Transylvania its first lead of the game with 7:53 to go in the third period. R-MC used a timeout to reset its strategy and came out of the conversation with a three-pointer by Arrington to return the lead to the Yellow Jackets. After a tight battle to 41-41, R-MC scored a 5-2 run, which helped keep R-MC ahead by enough that Transylvania didn't climb back in front for the rest of the period. R-MC had the 49-48 lead heading into the fourth quarter.
- Where the first quarter was marked mainly by defensive play, the offenses came alive in the fourth period. Senior **Michal Ross** (Glen Allen, Va. / Glen Allen) scored four in a row and Arrington added three more over the first two minutes of the frame, giving R-MC a 56-50 lead. Transy tallied a three on the next possession to cut the Yellow Jackets lead to three and got as close as two at 61-63 around the 5:00 mark, a 9-2 run helped put the game out of reach as Arrington tallied four points and Ross and senior **Kelly Williams** each had two in the sequence. Arrington had the last four points and tallied 11 for the period as the Yellow Jackets won 78-68.

Inside The Numbers

- Arrington blew past her old career-high of 19, tallying 24 points in tonight's game. She also had seven rebounds, second-most on the team as well as an assist and three steals.
- Ross grabbed 17 points and forced three steals as well as three assists.
- Williams had her 21st double-double of the year with 12 points and 15 rebounds.
- Sophomore **Cheridan Hatfield** (Fishersville, Va. / Wilson Memorial) scored 11 and added a pair of assists and six rebounds.
- Sophomore **Aimee DeBell** (Studley, Va. / Saint Gertrude) grabbed eight points and four rebounds in a solid night off the bench.
- The Yellow Jackets shot 47% from the floor and 70% from the floor.

R-MC defeats Valley Forge

Jackets' 25-4 run in second quarter gives them victory

BY ADAM CULLER
Richmond Times-Dispatch

Jayla Wade scored all 12 of her points in the second quarter to spark a 25-4 run to end the first half, and Randolph-Macon's women's basketball team advanced past Valley Forge in the Ashland Regional of the Division III NCAA tournament Friday with a 67-56 win at Crenshaw Gymnasium.

After a shaky start that saw Valley Forge distance play with a 5-0 lead from the opening tip, the Yellow Jackets eased in with a Kelsey Wisner 3-pointer that drew back iron and dropped in — a sign of things to come later in the half for Macon.

Charlotte Woods gave Randolph-Macon its first lead of the contest at 12-11, and the Yellow Jackets traded leads five times with the Patriots, who built a 20-16 lead with 7:50 to play in the second quarter.

From that point in the half, it was all Randolph-Macon as Wade spurred the 25-4 run in 12 points, including a banked-in 3-pointer that sent a rowdy crowd at Crenshaw Gym into exaltation. The Yellow Jackets drilled four 3-pointers during the run.



Valley Forge forward Jhanel Brown (right) gets one of her 14 blocks at the expense of Randolph-Macon guard Becca Arrington, but the Yellow Jackets stung the Patriots.



RANDOLPH-MACON 67, VALLEY FORGE 56
Division III women first round
Saturday: Christopher Newport at R-MC, 7 p.m.

Wade led a rare departure from R-MC's regular reliance on Kelly Williams with her 12 points, and the Yellow Jackets had four players in double figures with Woods adding 13 points and Wisner 11.

The Yellow Jackets were content to trade baskets

last word, as she made a short while getting fouled by Brown and made the free throw with 6:28 to play to quell the Valley Forge comeback attempt and seal the win.

Williams, the leading scorer in Division III, finished with 17 points to go with 17 rebounds. Her 17 points were enough to set a single-season ODAC record for points with 715, eclipsing former R-MC guard Megan Silva's 714 in the 2005-06 season.

With the win, Randolph-Macon will advance to the second round, where it will meet Christopher Newport, which defeated Haverford 63-50 in the other Ashland Regional game.

Mikah Maloney and Kiana Kirkland scored 12 points apiece for the Captains, Anitra Thomas added 11 more, and CNU cruised past the Patriots 72-71.

The Captains (24-4) are known for their press defense and deep roster with eight players averaging between 9.7 and 6 points.

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Valley Forge	13	11	13	14	— 51
Randolph-Macon	12	29	17	8	— 67
Valley Forge (13-9):	A. Brown 15, Carter 12, Mayhew 12, E. Brown 12, Corbett 2, Fagan 5, Lunsford 8, Wiley 1, Walker 2, Tynes 13 (5-17) 56.				
Randolph-Macon (19-9):	Woods 13, Wade 12, Reynolds 5, Williams 17, Arrington 3, Green 4, Jones 10, Kinsman 8, Knudsen 5, Shumaker 2, Tynes 21 (10-16) 67.				
3-point quota: W / A. Brown, Corbin, Maloney, R-MC; M. Silva, W. J. Wade, J. Arrington.					

March 3, 2018, Richmond Times Dispatch

Jackets sweep ODAC hoops titles

Anthony, Williams are named MVPs after wins

From staff reports

SALEM — The Randolph-Macon men's and women's basketball teams swept the Old Dominion Athletic Conference tournament championships on Sunday, the men capturing their seventh title and the women their 10th.

Junior Buzz Anthony led the fifth-ranked and top-seeded R-MC men with 23 points, seven rebounds and five assists in a 72-57 victory over No. 2 seed Virginia Wesleyan. Anthony was named the tournament's most valuable player, and the title was the first under fifth-year head coach Josh Merkel.

Earlier, another Yellow Jackets star, senior Kelly Williams, took the women's MVP honor after leading fourth-seeded R-MC to a 68-50 victory over No. 7 seed Guilford. Williams registered her 20th double-double of the season with 22 points and 15 rebounds.

In the men's final, R-MC took control of the game in the first half with a 14-0 run that gave the Yellow Jackets a 25-10 lead 5 minutes before intermission.

Joining Anthony, who averaged 19.3 points, 6.3 rebounds and 6.3 assists in three tournament games, in double figures were Terry Woods (14 points) and Miles Mallory (12). A key factor was the R-MC bench, which outscored its Virginia Wesleyan counterpart 42-2.

The Yellow Jackets also shot 57% from the field to 42.1% for Virginia Wesleyan and outrebounded the Marlins 31-21.

In the women's final, Michal Ross and Becca Arrington both added 16 points for R-MC to join Williams in double figures. Williams has scored in double figures for 24 straight games.

The Yellow Jackets shot 49.1% from the field and limited the Quakers to 38.2%. R-MC also outrebounded the Quakers 38-25.

Both R-MC teams earned automatic NCAA Division III tournament bids and will receive their assignments on Monday.

2020s



2020-21



FIRST ROW: Aimee DeBell, Kylee Maiolo, Janelle DeGuzman, Becca Arrington, Elise Knobloch, Cheridan Hatfield, Peyton Humphreys

SECOND ROW: Allison Spaschak (Asst. Coach), Carlee Hatfield (Mgr.), Haley Felton, Haley Pasqualone, Catherine Kagey, Kennedy Cornick, Olivia Murray, Morgan Hough, Devan Conrad, Kaylyn Hill (Athletic Trainer), Lindsey Burke (Head Coach)

2021-22



FIRST ROW: Morgan Hough, Cait Velez, Haley Felton, Aimee DeBell, Peyton Humphreys, Cheridan Hatfield, Becca Arrington, Allison Burdette, Marisa Ziegler, Haley Pasqualone

SECOND ROW: Allison Spaschak (Asst. Coach), Lenny Sampson (Mgr.), Devan Conrad, Olivia Murray, Paige Anderson, Emily Mott, Catherine Kagey, Juliana Park, Lilly Yowell (Mgr.), Lindsey Burke (Head Coach)

2022-23



FIRST ROW: Marisa Ziegler, Catherine Kagey, Cait Velez, Devan Conrad, Cheridan Hatfield, Haley Pasqualone, Haley Felton, Juliana Park, Aaliyah Harris

SECOND ROW: Jenika Carter (Manager), Caitlin Kriesel-Bigler (Asst. Coach), Olivia Zabko (Manager), Morgan Miller, Emion Byers, Olivia Murray, Paige Anderson, Jane Elkins, Lilly Davis, McKenzie Andrews, Lindsey Burke (Head Coach), Emma Wool (Mgr.)

2023-24



FIRST ROW: Marisa Ziegler, Sam Smith, Haley Felton, Catherine Kagey, Bella Bruce, Emily Crouthamel, Cait Velez

SECOND ROW: Jenika Carter (Manager), Deja Middleton (Asst. Coach), Morgan Miller, Rachael Anderson, Jane Elkins, Emion Byers, Juliana Park, Lilly Davis, Olivia Murray (Mgr.), Cheridan Hatfield (Asst. Coach), Lindsey Burke (Head Coach)

2024-25



FIRST ROW: Brielle Baughman, Sam Smith, Marisa Ziegler, Catherine Kagey, Cait Velez, Juliana Park, Anna Wilcox, Zofia Enriquez

SECOND ROW: Kate McCarney (Asst. Coach), Jenna Stanton (Asst. Coach), Erin Porter, Emion Byers, Morgan Miller, Emily Olsen, Rachael Anderson, McKenzie Matheny, Lilly Davis, Bella Bruce, Riley White, Lindsey Burke-Eberhart (Head Coach)

FIRST ROW: Lila Donnelly, Sam Smith, Morgan Miller, Emion Byers, Lilly Davis, McKenzie Matheny, Anna Wilcox, Madison Langdon

SECOND ROW: Yazmine Jones (Athletic Trainer), Payton Cronen (Asst. Coach), Brielle Baughman, Brooke Lynn Miller, Rachael Anderson, Alyssa Hughes, Liz Wyrick, Emily Olsen, Riley White, Erin Porter, Jenna Stanton (Asst. Coach), Lindsey Burke-Eberhart (Head Coach)



2025-26

February 22, 2022, RMC Athletics

83



G

59




Women's Basketball | 2/19/2022 12:00:00 AM

Women's Hoops Claims Share of Regular Season ODAC Title


February 26, 2022, RMC Athletics

67



L

51



Women's Basketball | 2/26/2022 12:00:00 AM

DeBell's Career Night Puts Women's Hoops In Title Game

Women's Hoops: RMC rolls past Hollins, extends win streak to 11

Robert Fletcher
Jan 11, 2025



Randolph-Macon forward Emion Byers goes up for a layup in the first half against Hollins at Crenshaw Gym on Jan. 11 games with the 62-48 victory.

Robby Fletcher



Randolph-Macon basketball teams both secure ODAC titles

Robert Fletcher
Feb 23, 2025



Catherine Kagey (20) drives for two in RMC's 53-48 win over Ferrum on Jan. 4. Ferrum's Aisha Martin (15) looks on. Photo by Frank Strauss

The women's team also came out an ODAC champ this weekend, defeating Ferrum on the road 56-49 led by Catherine Kagey's 21-point, 10-rebound double-double. The win marked the 21st in RM-C's long-spanning win streak and guaranteed them the top seed in the ODAC Tournament, where they'll host Randolph in the quarterfinals on Tuesday, Feb. 25.

This ODAC title is the program's first since 2011 and its ninth overall, with their win streak currently sitting at 23 games, which ties the all-time school record set during the 2004-05 season. That 2004-05 team won the ODAC Tournament soon after, then later made a NCAA Tournament run that ended with a loss in the championship game to Millikin University.

This year's Yellow Jackets tied the win streak record with a 66-50 win on senior day against Averette. Kagey, a senior, again led the way with a double-double, finishing the game with 14 points and 12 rebounds. It was her ninth double-double of the season, and the star forward is heading into the postseason averaging a double-double of 12 points and 10 boards.

Sophomore guard Sam Smith also finished the day in double figures, adding in 10 points and five assists. It wasn't the sharpest night offensively for the Yellow Jackets, who shot just 36% from the field, but their defense stifled the Cougars in an even bigger way, with their offense making 33% of its shots and being held to 50 or less for the ninth time this season.

Last season ended right at the spot the Yellow Jackets are currently in: the ODAC quarterfinals. That game was on the road at the Salem Civic Center, and featured a RM-C team in a much different position than they are right now. The Jackets are the host and the favorite now, and a win in the quarterfinals would be their first playoff win since the 2021-22 season that ended with a loss in the ODAC championship.

Randolph-Macon dethrones Washington and Lee as ODAC women's basketball champion

DAMIAN SORDELETT
The Roanoke Times

The Salem Civic Center in late February became a home-away-from-home for Catherine Kagey growing up in Roanoke. Her parents, Randolph-Macon alums David and Wendy, brought her every year to watch the ODAC tournament, and the family cheered for the Yellow Jackets on each visit.

Her father crafted fond memories at the Salem Civic Center when he was on back-to-back Randolph-Macon teams that won ODAC titles in 1990 and '91.

Catherine Kagey got a chance to hoist a tournament championship trophy Saturday evening.

Kagey continued her dominating play with another double-double Saturday evening. She posted 25 points and 10 rebounds as Randolph-Macon secured a 65-58 victory over Washington and Lee in the ODAC women's basketball tournament championship game at the Salem Civic Center.

It marked the Yellow Jackets' 11th women's tournament title and first since 2020. They secured the league's automatic bid to the NCAA Division III tournament.

"It's everything we worked for, but it speaks so much to the team and our coaching staff," said Kagey, the tournament MVP. "We put in the work all season long to get to this point. We've been talking about it for five months plus since last year. We knew we wanted to get here and capitalize on the moment, so it means everything."

Kagey and the top-seeded Yellow Jackets (27-1) extended their program-record winning streak to 26 games and denied W&L the opportunity to become the third team in ODAC history to win three straight tournament titles.

The third-seeded Generals (24-4) had won the previous two titles and were trying to join R-MC (2005-07) and Roanoke (1991-95) as the only teams to win at least three straight titles.

W&L will find out if it receives an at-large bid to the tournament during the Monday's selection show at 2:30 p.m.

"We really will continue to grind and work hard, and this year's not over yet for us," W&L coach Britney Kemp said.

W&L took a 55-54 lead when Mary Schleusner scored in transition off a steal with 3:14 remaining. Kagey made four free throws on back-to-back possessions to put the Yellow Jackets ahead for good as R-MC closed the game on an 11-3 run.

"I think they just did a good job of taking it, and I think we missed a couple when they would have been clutch," Kemp said. "At the same time, that's just how the cookie crumbles sometimes."

The Generals' lone points over



KEITH LUCAS, SIDELINE MEDIA

Randolph-Macon women's basketball coach Lindsey Burke-Eberhart waves the net after the Yellow Jackets defeated Washington and Lee for the ODAC tournament title Saturday night at the Salem Civic Center.

ODAC WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP
Randolph-Macon 65,
Washington and Lee 58

NEXT
Division III selection show
Monday, 2:30 p.m.

ODAC WOMEN'S ALL-TOURNAMENT TEAM

Catherine Kagey, R-MC
Sam Smith, R-MC
McKenzie Matheny, R-MC
Mary Schleusner, W&L
Sarah Zimmerman, W&L
Tournament MVP: Catherine Kagey, R-MC

the final three minutes came on Megan Zimmerman's 3-pointer with 30.7 seconds left that trimmed the deficit to 60-58.

"We knew they were going to go on their run eventually," Kagey said, "but it all starts on the defensive end. We were getting stops and boards and executing on offense."

Kagey was one of three players in double figures for R-MC. Sam Smith and McKenzie Matheny were named to the all-tournament team. Smith had 13 points, while Matheny finished with 12 points and eight rebounds.

Kagey and Matheny helped R-MC claim a plus-4 edge in points in the paint and 14-13 edge in second-chance points.

"All the credit to her and Matheny. They did a great job taking it to the hole," Schleusner said of Kagey and Matheny. "They're two great players, and at the end of the day they outscored us."

Schleusner, the ODAC player of the year and defensive player of the year, finished with 31 points, 22 rebounds, four assists and four blocked shots.

"Mary is Mary, right? In the first half, I thought she was phenomenal," R-MC coach Lindsey Burke-Eberhart said.

Zimmerman had eight points and three rebounds off the bench. Her sister, Sarah, had six points and three rebounds while battling foul trouble defending Kagey.

"She's very tough to defend. She's extremely athletic and very physical," Sarah Zimmerman said of defending Kagey. "Obviously a phenomenal player. It's definitely a big job."

W&L took the lead three times in the fourth quarter. All three instances were one-point advantages, and R-MC didn't wait long to respond.

That prevented the Generals from building momentum and building an advantage that could have negated the presence of Kagey and Matheny in the post.

R-MC shot 1 of 15 from 3-point range.

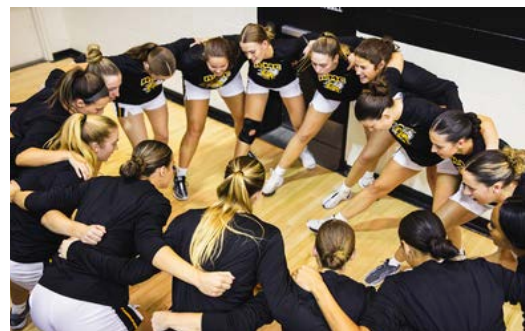
"I think we kind of found our groove a little bit. We had some players step up in big moments, which was awesome and that gave us great momentum," Sarah Zimmerman said. "I think they just stuck to their game plan and what was working for them. I mean, they were making their shots, they were playing great defense. They were just smart, and their shots fell and ours didn't sometimes. They're a good team, too."

Randolph-Macon 65, Washington and Lee 58
WASHINGTON AND LEE (24-4)
S. Zimmerman 3-7 0-0 0-6, Schleusner 13-25 4-6 31, Prechel 1-4 0-2 3, Raine 1-5 0-0 2, McGuinness 1-4 1-2 3, Kenesh 1-5 0-0 2, Shuttlewood 0-3 0-0 0, Bryant 1-5 0-0 3, M. Zimmerman 3-5 0-1 8, Totals 24-63 5-11 58.
RANDOLPH-MACON (27-1)
Matheny 5-10 2-4 12, Park 3-9 0-0 7, Smith 3-11 7-18 13, Kagey 7-18 11-14 25, Ziegler 1-8 0-0 2, Bruce 0-0 0-0 0, Miller 1-8 2-2 4, Byers 1-1 0-0 2, Totals 21-65 22-28 65.
R-MC: 15 13 18 32 58
W&L: 17 16 13 19 65
3-Point Goals—Washington and Lee 5-26 (M. Zimmerman 2-4, Prechel 1-4, Bryant 1-4, Schleusner 1-6, McGuinness 0-1, Kenesh 0-1, S. Zimmerman 0-2, Raine 0-2, Shuttlewood 0-2), Randolph-Macon 1-15 (Park 1-6, Smith 0-1, Kagey 0-1, Ziegler 0-2, Miller 0-5), Assists—Washington and Lee 10 (Schleusner 4), Randolph-Macon 11 (Ziegler 3), Fouled Out—None, Rebounds—Washington and Lee 44 (Schleusner 22), Randolph-Macon 43 (Kagey 10), Total Fouls—Washington and Lee 20, Randolph-Macon 14. A-563.

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2025 Back to the Hive: Head Coaches Carroll LaHaye (1982-2020), Billy Wood (1975-1978, 1981-82) Lindsey Burke-Eberhart (2020-present)





Puerto Rico Trip, 2024

RANDOLPH-MACON 52, PIEDMONT 31
D-III women's tournament first round (Friday)
Saturday: Elizabethtown at Randolph-Macon, late

Jackets smother impotent Lions

RMC holds its foe to just eight FGs and 21% shooting

ROBBY FLETCHER
 Special correspondent

At the heart of Randolph-Macon's historic, ODAC title-winning season is a sense of pride on the defensive end of the floor.

The Piedmont Lions (20-8), far from a slouch offensively, are the latest opponent to learn all too well about the formidable Yellow Jackets defense. The Lions shot just 21% from the field at Crenshaw Gym, falling 52-31 in the opening round of the NCAA Division III women's basketball tournament on Friday night.

Randolph-Macon (28-1), boasting the ODAC's second-best defense, has now held four teams to under 40 points this season, with its latest victim managing just eight field goals in four quarters while turning the ball over 23 times. The NCAA tournament win is RMC's first since the 2019-20 season.

Piedmont's ability to work its way into the post through a talented crop of frontcourt options has been a staple to its success this season, but it was stymied by the Yellow Jackets, who felt prepared for the interior attack thanks to practices pitting them against their own post-up threats like McKenzie Matheny, one of the top centers in the ODAC.

"We play against great post players every day in practice," senior Katherine Cagey said. "We're ready for it and prepared for it, but I'm pretty proud of our efforts in stopping them and giving them tough shots."

Forward Andelin Hill is Piedmont's leading scorer, generating 14 points per game, but she was swarmed with her back to the basket, finishing her season shooting 2-of-5 for five points and turning the ball over eight times. Nae-Nae Eades, the catalyst for the Lions' offense in their win over Belhaven for the Collegiate Conference of the South tournament title, went from a 20-point career-high to just one point at Randolph-Macon, missing the mark on all seven of her shot attempts six days after winning CCS tournament MVP.

"Allowing only eight field goals in this game was tremendous," Randolph-Macon coach Lindsey Burke-Eberhart said. "It was fueling our offense. Every time I looked up, we were just getting stop after stop."

Senior guard Marisa Ziegler led the Yellow Jackets with 11 points and three assists, while Matheny converted on five of her seven attempts from the field, all from close range, to open the tournament with 10 points and five rebounds.

The Yellow Jackets opened the contest with a 17-7 first-quarter lead after Juliana Park buried the team's only 3-pointer just before the buzzer. An 8-2 run to close the final five minutes of the first half pushed that lead to 29-14 at the break, and the Lions never managed to get the deficit back under single digits.

The Yellow Jackets played visiting Elizabethtown in a second-round game late Saturday night.

"Playing at home is such a treat, we worked hard for that all season," Park said. "I think our community really rallies around us."



March 9, 2025, Richmond Times Dispatch



Game Recap: Women's Basketball | 3/8/2025 10:55:00 PM

Fourth Period Surge Powers Women's Hoops to Third Round

March 8, 2025, RMC Athletics

March 14, 2025, RMC Athletics



#14 Women's Hoops Historical Season Concludes in Sweet 16

3/14/2025 9:29:00 PM



March 25, 2025, RMC Athletics

Women's Hoops Ranked 12th in Final D3hoops.com Poll

August 15, 2025, RMC Athletics



Four Yellow Jackets in Inaugural ODAC Hall of Fame Class

