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MILLER PRESENTS BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS PROFILE

Rams' Huntley continues to confound experts

By DAVID BULLA Review Staff Writer

CAROLYN HUNTLEY IS nobody's fool, but the Winston-Salem State point guard has fooled a lot of people during her basketball career.

Take Johnson C. Smith guard Saundra McCracken for one. When WSSU hosted Smith at Winston-Salem's Memorial Coliseum Feb. 1, Huntley was credited with a basket that Mc-Cracken actually scored.

On the jump ball to begin the game, WSSU center Sharon Holloway tipped the ball to forward Donna Johnson in the Lady Rams' frontcourt. Huntley was the only other player in the frontcourt, for the rest of the players had mistaken which basket they were to attack. Huntley yelled to Johnson for the ball, but Johnson mistook her message and threw a pass toward the backcourt.

McCracken intercepted and went in for an unmolested basket -- at the goal she was supposed to defend. Huntley smiled her big smile and the official scorekeeper asked the referee who should receive credit for the basket. The official said the Lady Ram nearest the ball, who was Huntley.

Huntley has been fooling people ever since she was an underappreciated off guard at North Mecklenburg High School in Huntersville, N.C. One person who did not underrate Huntley was North Meck Coach Carroll Mizelle, even though he had another star four years ago in Lou Ann Wynn, a prep all-America in track and field.

"Coach Mizell called and said he had two college prospects down there and thought one was a real sleeper," WSSU Coach Stenson Conley said. "I made a trip down there, but the other girl had already committed to Appalachian State. I talked to Carolyn and she came up here one time, then she signed. I believe we were fortunate to get her that easily."

When Huntley was a freshman, she became only the second first-year player to start in Conley's five-year tenure at WSSU. As good a player as she was then, Conley could not have predicted how well she would play her junior season.

The point guard has led the CIAA in season. But the first week of this characteristic scoring efforts. She totaled a school-record 52 points in a Player-of-the-Year honors. 102-100 win over Lenoir-Rhyne and 36 points in a 96-85 loss to Fayetteville No. 2 guard Keenan Menefee, the halftime," Conley said. "But Rhyne win and 13 rebounds and nine she can attend night classes. Huntley to shoot the ball more.

assists in the loss to FSU. The total against Lenoir-Rhyne included an assists and steals throughout the NCAA Division II record for successful field goals (22).

Augustine's (photo by James Parker).

All of this points to all-America status and almost certain conference

The 52-point effort was needed since

scored most of her points from the wing, playing in Menefee's position

The high-scoring total was somewhat surprising, since Huntley leads the CIAA in assists and steals. Indeed, Conley did not realize his junior guard had scored so many points.

"Carolyn had 19 points at State. She also had 15 rebounds, nine CIAA's second-leading scorer, does became a little tentative early in the sesteals and five assists in the Lenoir- not play in non-conference games so cond half. I called timeout and told her

"I thought she had 36 or 38 points. When I looked down at the stat sheet after the game, I couldn't believe it."

Huntley said she was a little embarrassed when Conley asked her to shoot

"I wasn't comfortable because I thought I was gunning," she said. "I looked to the bench and asked 'Shaky' (freshman Kim Davis) and Debra (Richardson, another freshman) if I was shooting too much. They said nobody else was hot, so shoot away."

It's not the first time the 5-foot-7, 118-pound Huntley has played No. 2. She was a No. 2 guard for Mizelle and was not quite ready for the point when she entered WSSU.

"When she was a freshman, ballhandling was a bit of a chore," Conley said. "She had to look down at the ball. So I gave her a dribbling aid, a visor which prevents you from looking down. I also told her to dribble with her finger tips and never let the ball touch her palm."

Huntley played No. 2 her freshman season, when she started on Conley's best team in his five seasons as the WSSU women's coach. She endured the indignity of those dribbling aids so she could play the point, even though she still prefers the wing where she's more comfortable shooting.

Conley says Huntley has turned herself into the one of the CIAA's best female players with a strong work

"She took the dribbling aids home with her over the summer," he said. "It's obvious she didn't ignore them and it's obvious she's a 12-month-ayear player. You wouldn't make that vast improvement if you were watching soap operas."

Earlier in her life, Huntley herself didn't appreciate her basketball talent.

"When I was in junior high I had no desire to play basketball," the Davidson, N.C., native said. "I was in with the wrong crowd."

That's when she met Flora Jean Winston-Salem State's Carolyn Huntley in recent action against St. Craig, the girls basketball coach at Alexander Junior High School in Davidson.

> "I owe all I've accomplished to her," Huntley said. "She had me work on my jumper, my free throws and dribbling. She also told me to keep out of trouble."

> Although she was a National Honor Society member at North Meck and lived a stone's throw away from academically rigid Davidson College, Huntley decided to get away from home during her college years. She turned down Davidson and followed

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