

# Forward Mulholland a force in the paint

By PAUL GAETA  
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

This year the women's basketball team looks to excel by using its height and talent in the paint. Senior RaeAnna Mulholland will definitely be a strong contributor to this force inside.

The 6-1 forward, a native of Linden, has established her presence in the powerful ACC by being a consistent scorer and rebounder down low. She looks to continue her excellence inside this year so the team can improve on last year's 13-14 overall record.

After an exceptional season for a freshman during 1993-94, Mulholland's game really skyrocketed her sophomore year. When teammate senior Tracy Connor was limited in action due to an injury, much of the responsibility of playing hard in the paint went to Mulholland. However, she took this responsibility as if it were nothing.

Mulholland topped the list of almost every major offensive and defensive category that year. She led the team in points per game with 13.3, which ranked her 11th in the conference. Her team-high 34 three-point baskets and impressive 79 percent free throw percentage from the line

aided significantly in her high scoring.

Yet, putting the ball in the net was in no way her only contribution to the team. She led the team in rebounds with an average of 8.1 per game and in steals with 39. In an important game against Georgia Tech, she scored 30 points and grabbed 20 rebounds. She led the Deacons in scoring seven times and rebounding 11 times while starting every game for the team. In her next season of play, Mulholland's statistics were not quite as exceptional as the year before, but she still was a significant player for the Demon Deacons. Once again, she averaged 13.3 points while nailing six three-pointers and shooting close to 73 percent from the field. She accumulated nine steals, and with a healthier Connor helping in the paint, the two helped control the boards.

Her role this year will be quite similar to that of last, as she, along with Connor, will be expected to control the paint with her intense rebounding, scoring, and shot blocking. If her play from her previous seasons can continue, the Deacons will shut-down opponents down low and will look well on their way to improving last year's sub-500 record.



Mulholland

# Connor to enjoy final year of eligibility; finishes career as one of Deacons' best

By KAREN HILLENBRAND  
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Tracy Connor is entering her last year of eligibility as a Demon Deacon as one of the best players in Deacon history. The 6-3 center from Landis has had chronic knee and ankle injuries her entire career, yet despite this she has been an All-ACC performer and was the top scorer and rebounder for the Deacons last season.

Ever since Connor red-shirted the 1993-94 season, she has had knee problems that she has not been able to shake. She had surgery again this summer, and doctors determined that she has a rare defect in both knees.

As in the past, Connor will not be able to perform at full strength, but whatever contribution she can make to the Deacons will be valuable.

Even at below full strength, Connor is one of the best if not the best player on the team.

Last season, Connor averaged a team-leading 17.8 points and 10.2 rebounds per game. This won her first-team All-ACC honors.

Connor averaged 31.5 minutes of playing time per game last season, but Head Coach Karen Freeman said that if Connor plays 25 minutes a game this year she will be happy.

In just 68 career games, Connor is sixth on the Demon Deacon career list in

scoring, with 1,270 points, first in scoring average, at 18.7 points per game, fifth in blocked shots with 55, and first in rebounding average, pulling down 10.4 boards per game. Connor is also second on the Deacon career rebound list with 706. If she has an excellent season this year and pulls down 301 boards, she will pass Jenny Mitchell, '91, into first place on the rebound list.

Her freshman year, Connor was the ACC Freshman of the Year, as she averaged 20.6 points per game and 11.6 boards per contest. Also during that season Connor was named a freshman All-American by Basketball Times and was an ACC Rookie of the Week a record nine times.

After her red-shirt season for a stress fracture in her right foot, Connor only played in 14 games the following season. Last year she played in all but one of the Deacons' games.

After four years at the university, Connor graduated with a bachelor of science degree with a health and sport science major. She is now attending graduate school at the university.

Although this season will again not be a healthy one for Connor, her senior leadership and pure talent should help the Deacons, and even though Freeman has learned to survive without Connor, how much she will contribute will be a major key to success for the Demon Deacons.



Courtesy of Sports Information

Senior center Tracy Connor drives past a defender toward the basket in a game last year against North Carolina.

# Defensive specialist Seawright aims to stifle opposing team's weapons

By PAUL GAETA  
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

Forward Lindsay Seawright, 6-1, will be quite a significant player for the women's basketball team this year. The senior, a native of Bethesda, Md., is a dominant defensive force in the paint and this skill will be used to help shut down the good offensive talents of ACC foes.

Seawright, now a senior, has starred on the Demon Deacons squad since her sophomore year. In that 1994-95 season she earned the team's top defensive award. Seawright garnered this distinction by grabbing 6.3 rebounds per game and leading the Deacons in blocks with 22. Her defensive prowess also landed her the role of continually guarding the opponent's top scorer.

Defense, however, was not her only strong point; her offensive game began to compliment her play without the ball. She averaged 8.7 points per game while twice scoring double-

doubles in games played against Auburn and Princeton.

As a junior, Seawright saw the same consistency in her game at both ends of the floor. In helping her team achieve a record of 13-14 overall, 6-10 in the ACC, Seawright once again scored eight points per game while collecting impressive statistics in steals with 23.

Defensively, she once again controlled the paint. She finished the year with 17 blocks and helped the Deacons control the boards. Seawright did this while starting all of the Demon Deacons 27 games.

In looking to help improve her team's sub-500 record from last year, Seawright plans on aiding, once again, her defensive and offensive talents to this year's Demon Deacon team. Moreover, she looks to help this year's squad with both her experience and leadership.

One of four returning seniors, she was named a co-captain for the team, a title in which she plans to utilize this leadership. Her three prior years of varsity play will also enable her to act as mentor for the Demon Deacons' new freshmen in the paint. Seawright expects good things from this year's team.



Seawright



Courtesy of Sports Information

Seawright puts up a shot.

# Coleman looks to improve game for upcoming season

By PAUL GAETA  
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What was a sour start for Heidi Coleman, a sophomore this year on the women's basketball team, has steadily grown more and more fruitful as time in her college basketball days has passed. This year, the 5-7 guard from Edmond, Ky., looks to have her best season in a Demon Deacon uniform yet.

Coleman came into her playing days at the university with the great hype of a blue chip recruit.

She was regarded as one of the top guards in the nation entering the 1994-95 freshman class; Blue Star Index had her rated within the top 10 in the country. As a four-year member of her Metcalfe County Prep School squad, Coleman set school records left and right including top honors in rebounding, points, and assists.

In her senior year, Coleman was named to the state and regional teams and was also selected to Parade's All-American team.

Her basketball career was in cruise control and it looked as if her play in high school had made a smooth transition to the Division I ranks. In her first game she scored 17 points, grabbed six rebounds, and dished five assists. Her next game proved more of the same great play.

Then, all her previous success came to a screeching halt when she suffered a season-ending injury

to her ACL. She was red-shirted, and the dreams of an immediate impact for her Demon Deacons were dashed.

Coleman spent the remainder of her freshman year recovering from the injury in hopes for a comeback the next year. Fortunately, Coleman did play for the Deacons last year, and her injury seemed in no way to slow her down.

As a starter at guard in close to half of the Demon Deacons' games, Coleman averaged 5.7 points per game, gave out 25 assists, shot close to 40 percent from behind the three point arc, and 85 percent from the free throw line.

Yet, Coleman's on-court statistics were not her only success on the Demon Deacon court. After a year absence to start her Demon Deacon career, her presence and attitude on the court and chemistry within the team were still unknown. Her play last season proved that she has an exceptional attitude which compliments her game.

This season, however, Coleman still looks for her game to improve back to the point where she scores consistently in double-digits, such as her first games before the season-ending injury her freshman year. Her talent is there, now it has to overflow in games against the powerful ACC. If it does, the Deacons will be well on their way to a successful year, one which will show improvement from last year's sub-par record.



Coleman

## How They'll Finish in the ACC

### Predicted Final Standings for the 1996-97 Season

#### Men's

- 1.) Wake Forest
- 2.) North Carolina
- 3.) Clemson
- 4.) Duke
- 5.) Florida State
- 6.) Maryland
- 7.) Virginia
- 8.) Georgia Tech
- 9.) North Carolina State

#### Women's

- 1.) Duke
- 2.) North Carolina State
- 3.) Virginia
- 4.) Clemson
- 5.) North Carolina
- 6.) Wake Forest
- 7.) Maryland
- 8.) Georgia Tech
- 9.) Florida State