Junior Nate Priest talked about the wealth of knowledge that Eldon Miller brings to the team.

“It’s definitely an asset. Anytime we have a question about anything, he’s the one to go to. We can know to go to him anything, basketball related or any other thing,” Priest said.

Eldon Miller has his own favorite memory about Pope. He said Miller has the game in the tip to the table isn’t only his player’s standpoint.

“This is so much fun for me just to be a part of this whole deal,” Eldon Miller said of UNCP and the team. "I feel like I can share (the players’) enjoyment, it’s fun to be around them.

Ben Miller said his father has built relationships with each player, both on and off the court.

“They know how much they enjoy the chance to work with them, as individuals on fundamentals and teaching the game,” Ben Miller said of his father’s experience here. “Ben has said that he really knew how much he enjoyed being in the game.

I think that coaches should know how much they can do for the kids.

If the coaches would take more time to dedicate to what they’re doing right and executing in practice, it’s going to be a lot easier. Ben Miller added.

A year at a time

With the Braves’ triple-overtime victory over Fla- ger, the team clinched its first winning season of the 1999-2000 season, and currently sit in the middle of the confer- ence standings heading into the final regular season of the tournament. "Basketballs in this league, you can’t just play basketball. It’s a win-and-lose type of game," Eldon Miller said.

Junior Nate Priest talked about the possibility of playing this year. "If we can get him to be a part of this, it would be a (way) to do something. If you ask him,” Priest said.

Turnovers cost Braves another close game

By Ben McKinney

UNC-P men’s basketball team missed out on a chance to move up to 1-0 in the Southern Conference last night as they lost to the Mountaineers on Fal- con Court on Jan. 28 in an overtime loss, 75-70.

Although the loss was a tough one for the Braves to swallow, the team had some of their best game of the season in the loss to Flagler.

The contest finished after three overtimes. UNCP finished the game off with 19 points in the final overtime after a flagrant foul by Brackett and junior Mar- cus Heath over the final 23 seconds.

The Braves finished the contest with six points scoring in double figures, led by sophomore K.J. Cooper’s career-high 21 points while he also added five assists.

Flagler finished close behind with 18 points, while junior Cody Hughes tallied his first double-dou- ble with the Braves as he finished with 16 points and 11 rebounds while adding seven assists.

Pope tallied 15 points and nine rebounds inside the paint, and a team-high four blocks in the UNCP win.

Flagler’s John Pierson also tallied a game-high 39 points in 52 minutes of ac- tion while Kenny Moore finished with 13 points and 14 rebounds.

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