English E. Jones Center.

The UNCP women’s basketball team returns 12 players, including six seniors, from last season’s squad that finished 14-14 overall and with a 6-11 PBC record. Last season saw its season end in the first round of the PBC tournament to Lander.

“Tough early schedule

Haskins and the Lady Braves have a tough sched- ule for themselves, not only in PBC play, but in their non-conference schedule this season. With six teams that include two games against regional power and another at Fayetteville State, as well as a trip to play the College of Charleston, the road will not be easy.

“Building some confi- dence early is important. We’ve got a pretty competi- tive non-conference schedule, but the good thing about that is it will go a long way for the younger kids in our league,” Haskins added.

Haskins also talked about how many teams in the conference may not understand the concept of what good judges of the rest of the conference are already known.

Haskins believes that if his team can knock three or four turnovers per game off their stat sheet, the Lady Braves will be even more efficient.

“The biggest area of im- provement is making less turnovers; that’s an area that hurt us last year,” Haskins said about his team’s turnover situation.

Any game in any sport comes down to a select number of plays deemed game-changers.

“It comes down to some basic things, like free throw shooters, who get in foul trouble, injuries, it just comes down to a lot of things that play the difference between winning and losing,” Haskins said. 

UNCP needs to play to their ability every night, Haskins added, regardless of who the opponent is.

Meet the Coach

Lady Braves head coach John Haskins entered his sev- enth season at the helm of the women’s basketball pro- gram at UNCP. During his time, Haskins has guided the Lady Braves to a 48-24 overall record including the finishes at the English E. Jones Center.

With 13 wins this sea- son, Haskins has 200 total wins at UNCP over his career with the women’s and men’s basketball teams. The 2004 PBC Coach of the Year with the Lady Braves, Haskins returns six of the seven seniors that have been in this position before, the team has the opportunity to become a very competitive team this season.

Age usually relates to positive experiences. The older, wiser UNCP women’s team hopes their experience helps push them towards a positive season in the 2010-2011 season.

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Key Games

Nov. 15 - vs. Coker - first game, home game of season
Nov. 23 - at Lander - first Peach Belt Conference game
Feb. 23 - vs. Armstrong Atlantic - Senior Night

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