Chris Hargrove
Had 21 starts last season, while finishing 11th in PBC with .475 field goal percentage in conference play. Led Braves with 30 steals and .405 three-point percentage last season.

Marcus Heath
Had 24 starts last season, while finishing sixth in PBC with 4.3 assists per game. Last season, he returned for UNCP are junior shooter George Blakeney.

George Blakeney
Started 17 games last season, averaging 21.7 minutes, 7.3 points and 5.9 rebounds per game. Finished 13th in the PBC with .94 blocks per game.

ShahmelBrackett
Started 24 games last season and was named 2009 PBC Freshman of the Year. Led Braves in scoring average with 13.5 points per game and 36 three-point field goals made.

Cody Hughes
Comes to UNCP after transferring from Indian River State, where he averaged 5.9 points and 3.8 rebounds per game while shooting 42.9 percent from the field.

Reggie Cobia
Comes to UNCP after graduating from Brunswick High School. He averaged 13 points and 12 rebounds per game while leading the team as a 15-7 five-year player.

UNCP men’s basketball coach Ben Miller begins his third season on the sidelines for the Braves in 2010-2011. Miller begins the season with a career record of 15-7 with the Black and Gold and also having his most experienced team to date at UNCP.

Meet the Coach
Nov. 5 - at West Virginia - first game of the season
Nov. 14 - vs. Johnson & Wales - first home game of the season
Nov. 23 - at Lander - first Peach Belt Conference game
Feb. 23 - vs. Armstrong Atlantic - Senior Night

Impact Newcomers
Key Returns
Vince Miller and his UNCP basketball program come into the 2010-2011 season with 10 returning players from last season’s squad, by far the fewest number of returners and 30 steals on the year.

Chris Hargrove
by Nick Phillips

There’s a saying out there: today is the first day of the rest of our lives. The word “today” is a word that sits at the center of the 2010-2011 edition of the UNCP men’s basketball team.

The Braves finished last season with a 9-15 overall record and a 5-13 mark in Peach Belt Conference play in head coach Ben Miller’s second season at the helm with UNCP.

While the past has not always been kind for the Braves, the group filled predominantly with underclassmen began to show positive signs towards the end of last season.

“We try to work on today,” Miller said of one of his team’s goals for the season.

“The best teams that I’ve been around were really able to focus on today. Last season doesn’t matter, yesterday’s practice doesn’t really matter, we have not done that game in the first part of January,” Miller continued.

Another positive going forward for the Braves is that seven of last season’s top eight scorers are returning to the court, led by senior forward Shawmel Brackett.

Brackett averaged just less than 14 points per game last season, but the team is that game in the first part of January,” Miller said.

“Last season doesn’t matter; what are we doing today?” Miller continued.

“Now you start to build a tradition in some ways, but now you start to build some of that tradition on the court as well,” he finished.

While the Braves are working towards the future of tomorrow, they also know that they cannot allow their goals unless they focus on today.

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UNC-Pine Needler head coach Ben Miller watches his team last season. Miller begins his third season with the Braves in 2010-2011.

Steve Doherty and Barry Hinson served on staffs under Roy Moncur to compile a career record of 15-7 while leading the team to a conference title.

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“Now you start to build a tradition in some ways, but now it’s time to start building some of that tradition on the court as well,” he finished.

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