Volleyball season ends in PBC first round

By Nick Phillips
Sports Editor

The sixth-seeded UNCP volleyball team matched up against the third-seeded Armstrong Atlantic in the Peach Belt Conference opening round on Nov. 12, with the Lady Braves coming in just short of their 3-2 loss.

The Lady Braves dropped the opening set 26-24 before winning the second and third games, before dropping the fourth set. UNCP fell 25-22 before falling in the final, deciding set by a 15-11 score.

After a first set comeback went just short, the Lady Braves jumped out to a 12-7 lead in the second set before dropping it back down to 18-14 to which UNCP would hang on to win the set and match the set at one apiece through two games.

In the third set, the two teams battled to a 9-9 draw at the end of the first set before Armstrong Atlantic finished off the set with another 10-4 run to go up 2-1 in the match.

In set four, the two teams again traded points before Armstrong Atlantic took a 21-18 lead, only for UNCP to come back from behind to tie the match at 22-22 before Armstrong Atlantic took the set’s final three points and a set win to tie the match at games.

In the final set, both teams hit a subpar, with Armstrong Atlantic finishing the winning set with a .135 percentage, while UNCP hit only .118 in the third set.

The Lady Braves were also out-played defensively with Armstrong Atlantic finishing with 51 digs as a team and UNCP only digging 34 balls.

Offensively for the Lady Braves, junior Rebecca Morgan notched her team-high 11 kills, while also adding five digs and two assisted blocks on defense.

Junior Heather Bolwerk dished out 19 assists in the three sets, while sophomore Morgan Ridge also passed out eight assists of her own.

The Lady Braves finish the regular season with a 19-13 record overall and a 5-9 record inside the PBC. Armstrong Atlantic finishes 19-12 overall and 8-6 in the conference, winning 11 of their last 13 matches after the win over the Lady Braves.

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Junior Tiara Anderson tallied eight kills offensively, also finishing with eight solo blocks while assisting on two other blocks in the contest.

Junior Heather Bolwerk dished out 20 assists running the UNCP offense, and added eight digs against the three sets.

Freshman Marissa Baker led the UNCP back-line, totaling a match-high 20 digs to end her first campaign with 506 digs.

The Lady Braves finish the 2010 season with a 19-14 record and a 7-10 mark in PBC play. The team only loses two seniors from this year’s squad.

Lady Braves drop match on Senior Day

By Nick Phillips
Sports Editor

Peach Belt Conference for Arm-
strong Atlantic tallied its 19th win of the season while keeping Armstrong Atlantic’s volleyball team stuck on 19 wins with a three set victory on Nov. 5 to spoil the final home matches for two UNCP seniors.

Junior Rachel Young and Caitlin Haworth both finished their UNCP home careers on high note, with Young totalling six kills and four blocks and Haworth finishing with six digs defensively.

All three sets were competitive, with set scores of 25-21, 25-19 and 25-20 in favor of the visitors.

In the first two sets, Armstrong Atlantic finished with hitting percentages of .394 and .333 compared to the Lady Braves’. .255 and .139 percents.

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Volleyball loses to Flagler in straight sets

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Sports Editor

With an opportunity to capture win No. 20 of the season, the UNCP volleyball team dropped a 3-0 decision to Peach Belt Conference foe Flagler on Nov. 5, giving Flagler at least a share of the Peach Belt regular season title with their 23-12 record overall and 12-1 inside the conference.

Young, set to graduate in May with a degree in mass communica-
tion with a track in public relations and double minors in English and writing, was one of four members of the All-Academic team to have a cumulative GPA approaching 4.0.

There are 14 players named to the team, made up from student-athletes from around the confer-
ence. Armstrong Atlantic and USC Aiken each were represented with three honorees each.

“It is an honor to be selected to the PBC All-Academic team,” Young said of the recognition.

“It is a great way to leave my volleyball career noticed for my work in the classroom and on the court,” Young added.

Young previously made the All-Academic team as a sophomore in the 2008 season. Due to an injury that shortened her 2009 cam-
paign, she was not eligible for the award.

To be eligible for the All-Acad-
emic team, the student-athlete must play in at least half of their team’s events and either be a starter or sig-
nificant contributor off the bench. In the classroom, the student-ath-
lete must achieve a 3.30 cumulative GPA or higher on a 4.0 scale and have been at their current institu-
tion for at least one full academic year.

Senior Rachel Young tips a ball against Fayetteville State earlier this season. Young was named in her second PBC All-Academic honor by the conference.

UNCP junior Rebecca Morgan records one of her team-high nine kills against Flagler on Nov. 5 in the Lady Braves’ three set win.