

Lady Rebel's coach Miller completes staff

The Rebel Yell

UNLV head women's basketball coach Regina Miller has announced the hiring of her staff for the 1998-99 season.

Lisa Rathbun from Cleveland State, Michael Ensley from Louisiana Tech and Staci Shulz from Western Illinois have been named assistant coaches and former Lady Rebel assistant coach Carrie Daniels will assume director of basketball operations duties.

Rathbun, who was a player at Brigham Young from 1988-92, was the recruiting coordinator as an assistant coach at Cleveland State for the past three years. She recruited honorable mention All-American classes rated by Blue Star Index Scouting Service and a top-100 player.

At UNLV, her duties will include recruiting, assisting in the scouting, coaching the post position players and acting as liaison to the academic advisor.

Prior to Cleveland State, Rathbun was the recruiting coordinator as an assistant coach at the University of Buffalo for one year. After earning All-WAC honors her senior year at BYU, she became the restricted earnings coach from 1992-94. While with the Cougars she helped lead BYU to the Western Athletic Conference title in 1993 and an NCAA Tournament berth.

"Lisa is a great addition to the staff, most notably with her recruiting experience," Miller said. "She has an outstanding reputation among her fellow colleagues and with AAU and high school coaches throughout the country. With her experience as a player in the WAC, she also brings a familiarity of the style of play in the conference."

Rathbun, received her bachelor's degree from BYU in 1993 in sociology with a minor in spanish/secondary education.

Ensley, who was an assistant coach at Louisiana Tech for the past two seasons, helped lead the Lady Techsters to a 1997 Sweet Sixteen appearance and the 1998 Final Four Championship Game. At UNLV, his responsibilities will include coordinating the scouting, recruiting, coaching the perimeter position players and acting as the liaison to the strength and conditioning coach.

Ensley, who coached the past two Sunbelt Conference MVP's in Alissa Burras and Amanda Wilson, was responsible for strength and conditioning, recruiting, floor coaching, scouting and reviewing film while at Louisiana Tech.

Prior to joining the Lady Techsters, Ensley was a head coach at the prep school and small college levels, highlighted by winning three conference titles in five years at Paul Quinn College in Dallas, Texas. He started his coaching career at his alma mater Grambling State as a baseball assistant and head softball coach.

"Michael, like myself, brings experience in the Final Four as a coach," said Miller. "The program he comes from at Louisiana Tech is second to none. The experience he gained while working with one of the pioneers in women's basketball in Leon Barmore will help us to accomplish our goal of bringing the Lady Rebel program back to national prominence and success."

Ensley, received his bachelor's degree in business administration with a marketing major in 1980 and earned his master's in sports administration in 1984 at Grambling State. He and his wife Cheyrl have two sons, John, 15, and Andrew, 6.

"Both Lisa and Michael are great recruiters and have excellent contacts throughout the nation, from California to New York and everywhere in between," Miller said.

Shulz, who spent last season as an assistant coach under Miller at Western Illinois, will assume similar responsibilities at UNLV.

Shulz was a player at Mount Marty College in Yankton, S.D., from 1991-96 and graduated from the school in 1996 with a degree in health and physical education.

Daniels, who came to UNLV in 1996 as an assistant coach, has been retained by Miller, and moved to the director of basketball operations position.

CLUBHOUSE: Cavagnaro's comments were directed at those just starting their lives

graduating. That year is here, there are no excuses.

Horton needs to produce results. But, hey, as our athletic department has shown lately, they don't care about winning.

Right, Mr. Cavagnaro, what is winning?

Or better yet, what is losing?

Is winning catching a touchdown pass against USC or is winning calling the player who dropped the pass a bad name?

You tell me.

Mr. Cavagnaro and I use the term loosely, are these athletes are human?

They do have feelings. They are just kids trying to get an education. They are just trying to start their lives.

We are not in South anymore?

At one point in the history of this country all people were a minority. The white race (which I am) wasn't just placed here. Remember, America they land of free opportunity for all.

Obviously this opportunity isn't too appreciated on campus.

To all the athletes these comments were directed at, keep your head up, because in the long you are the better person.

About new women's basketball coach Regina Miller. Give her a chance. Give her a chance.

If you truly support UNLV athletes, than let the coach do what she was brought in here to do.

Trust me, turning around that program couldn't be done by Jesus Christ himself overnight.

Wasn't it just a few year ago when the public was crying the same thing about Bill Bayno.

They were saying, Bill Bayno who?

Now Bayno has the Rebels close to being a national power again. At least he runs the team honestly and with his heart. If everyone on this campus put the heart into their jobs like Bayno and his staff, then there would be a lot more WAC champions.

To my loyal reader (ok readers), thanks for all of the support and constant complaints.

Much love.

In conclusion, I'd like to thank my staff for their work. That holds especially true for Gruzen and his loyal hard work. He will be missed when he goes over to the opinion section next year.

Also, our photo man, Erik Thompson was a special edition to this

paper. He never turned down any work and I really appreciate that.

BREWER'S TEAM OF THE YEAR

The following is a list of UNLV athletes that made the biggest impression on me this year.

1. TYRELL JAMERSON — This guy is the hardest worker in all of UNLV athletics. We the Rebels looked like the had thrown in the towel this year, he remained positive. I still remember him telling me after a home game that they'd win the WAC and make the tournament. At the time I laughed, heck I still do today.

2. KAREN WEBSTER — Next to DKR, probably the most educated person on campus. I wish I had her time management skills. The junior guard on the basketball team has been through four coaches now in her four years. And yet, no complaints. She is a true leader.

3. JULIE CRANDALL — Crandall went to the College World Series on her freshman season. After that, the Rebels have gone down hill. Each year it gets worse, but Crandall remains the team's most solid player.

You fill in the rest, because on every team on campus there were several players capable of making a great impression on you.

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