

Falcons Win Season Opener With New Coach

Joslyn Ferguson

The Varsity Girls won their first game 38-31 against Lancaster High School. On Dec. 6 the girls have their sights set on Indian Land High School at home at 6 pm.

Coming off of a 5-9 campaign for the 2015-2016 season, the Lady Falcons have some new faces, including the coaching staff, to help lead the team to victory this season.

Three seniors were added to the varsity team this year. The new additions include Chyna Crawford ('17), Kelci Adams ('20), and student body president Lili Martinez ('17).

Kate Edwards, the new head coach, brings with her a record of 58-18 over the past three seasons. She comes to Nation Ford from Parkwood High School in Monroe, NC where she coached the Lady Rebels and won Rocky River Coach of the Year three consecutive times in the Rocky River Conference Championship. Her methods have led her team to victory time and time again throughout her years of coaching.

"My coaching philosophy is com-



Practicing ball handling skills, Courtney Wells (17'), Denaundria Greene (20'), and Ellona Moulds (19') dribble down the court during a practice Nov. 23 in the gym.

prised of several items," said Coach Edwards. "I believe in doing the little things right in order to reach a consistent level of success. We are not concerned with wins or losses. I believe if we focus on doing the little things consistently like fundamentals, shooting

high percentage shots, and getting to loose balls, the winning takes care of itself. I also believe in an up-tempo style of offense which facilitates to lots of lay-up and free throw opportunities."

Fans can't wait to see more of the girls on the court floor this season with the

fast-paced play Coach Edwards prefers.

"Through my playing experience and through my previous coaching experiences I have come to believe that this style of play suits me well," said Coach Edwards. "I have had successful years using this style of play. It is fun to play this way, but also fun to coach this way."

By earning her Masters in Physical Education, Edwards has been able to achieve a lifelong dream of hers. "Coaching and teaching has always been my dream job. I believe through sport a coach can assist kids in learning many life skills that will help them once their basketball career is over."

This may be Edwards' first time working with the Lady Falcons, but she has no doubt that they will give their all at every single game. "I think the players will be motivated on their own as a team each game. They want to prove themselves as contenders every night. It is our job as coaches to make sure to prepare them in practice and focus their attention on taking care of ourselves and not necessarily worrying too much about the opponent."