

AIC points to opener

By DICK BAKER

Local college notes

Stacy Boisvert of Agawam has graduated, so American International College women's basketball coach Kristen Patterson is already passing out new production goals as the 2009-10 season opens Wednesday night at 5:30 against New Haven at spruced-up Butova Gymnasium.

Boisvert averaged 16.2 points last year, and converted more than half of the team's free throws for the season (195 of 386) while sinking 78 percent of her attempts. She also had 6.6 rebounds per game as AIC went 21-13.

Some of those points might come from senior Laechia Conley, who averaged 12.7 points, and sank 74 percent of her free throws last season. And with 3-point shooting Jen Moussette also having graduated, senior Kristen Bosenberg has been asked to lift her total of 3-pointers from 67 to 80 this season.

Well, Bosenberg must have felt she needed some help getting the ball, so Pocono Mountain West (Pa.) High School teammate Adriana Johnson has joined the Yellow Jackets as a new point guard, transferring in from the New Jersey Institute of Technology - a Division I school.

"We recruited her hard out of high school, but she wanted to play Division I," Patterson said. "Her brother called me last year, and said she wasn't happy there. She can push the ball up the court."

And maybe this is the North American International College Yellow Jackets as Patterson used an Ontario

connection to help land sophomore Lauren Griffith, who can play the 3 or 4 spot. Griffith, along with newcomer Josephine McLane, played last year for Division I Maryland-Eastern Shore (15-14). AIC also has returning Canadians Rhea Pascal of Pickering, Ontario, and Marie Li Sicard from Montreal, giving AIC three players from north of the border.

Returning senior Sasha Lowery (7.7 per game) and Pascal (5.1) are counted on to add more rebounds this season.

Also back is sophomore guard Michelle Lafond, of Holyoke, who got into 26 games as a freshman. Junior Brittney Davis, who sat out last season with an injury, should help at center.

The Northeast-10, which has 16 teams with the addition of Adelphi, now has an unbalanced schedule with the Yellow Jackets grouped in with Le Moyné, Saint Rose, Southern Connecticut, New Haven, Assumption, Pace and Adelphi. The standings will not be split into divisions though. Twelve of the 16 teams make the Northeast-10 playoffs. AIC is picked seventh.

Meanwhile, Boisvert is doing extremely well playing pro ball in Portugal. Her team is 3-0, and she's averaging 17.7 points and 12 rebounds.

ELMS: Freshman swimmer Tessa Dudunake of Northampton broke two school records and earned three first-place finishes for the women's swimming team in a 149-109

victory over St. Joseph College (Maine) Saturday. Dudunake set her marks in the 100-yard free style, and the 100-yard individual medley.

MOUNT HOLYOKE: Sophomore Tricia Chase of Feeding Hills was named to the 2009 Division III New England Field Hockey Coaches first team, while teammate Shara Robertson made the second squad.

WESTFIELD STATE: Kerry Aruca was named the Massachusetts State College women's cross country runner of the week after posting the top conference finish at the Division III New England Regional championships. She posted a time of 21 minutes, 58.3 seconds over the 6k course. Rachel Dionne of Feeding Hills made the conference honor roll with a time of 25:29.8.

AWAY AT SCHOOL: Senior center midfielder Emily DiNuovo of Palmer put pressure on the defense, and junior defender Brittany Staszowski of Lenox played a poised match, but Simmons College could not get past No. 6 William Smith College in the first round of the NCAA Division III women's soccer tournament Sunday. Diana DeMont of West Springfield, a sophomore at Bridgewater State, earned a place on the MASCAC women's cross country honor roll at the Division III New England Regionals with a time of 25:07.9. Wheaton College freshman Michael Richard of Chicopee, a Holyoke Catholic graduate, had the third best time for Lyons' cross country team at the Division III New England men's championship.

Dick Baker can be reached at richardbaker123@hotmail.com

