

LRU Women's Basketball Signs Five Players

Written by Mike Kelly
Thursday, 23 June 2011 15:38

Lenoir-Rhyne University Head Women's Basketball Coach Todd Starkey has announced the addition of five players to the 2011-12 squad.

This year's recruiting class includes Jenni Gust (Colfax, Wisc.), Kristine Rishel (Apex, N.C.), Kayla Biles (Baxter, Tenn.), Marissa Jennings (Lebanon, Tenn.) and Jazmine Charles (Lexington, N.C.).

Gust, a 5-11 guard, was named to the Wisconsin Basketball Coaches Association All-State Division 4 Girls First Team after averaging 12.3 points, five rebounds, 2.1 assists, two steals and 0.5 blocks per outing as a senior. Gust also picked up honorable mention all-state honors by the Associated Press, which doesn't take divisions into account.

Gust led Colfax High School to a 22-3 mark in 2010-11 and the team's third consecutive Dunn-St. Croix Conference Championship.

Rishel, a 6-3 center, earned first-team all-conference and third-team all-district honors while starring at Middle Creek High School. Rishel averaged 11.1 points and 8.1 rebounds as a senior and finished her career with 82 blocked shots, second-best in school history.

Biles, a 5-8 guard, averaged 23.2 points, 3.1 steals and 2.5 per game in leading Upperman High School to a 24-7 mark, a fifth-place ranking in the state Class AA Poll and a berth in the Region 4-AA semifinals in 2010-11.

Biles also earned District 8-AA Co-MVP honors and was the Herald-Citizen's All-Upper Cumberland Co-Player Of The Year. In addition, Biles was a finalist for the TSSAA Class AA Miss Basketball award.

Jennings, a 5-10 forward, averaged 14.5 points, 8.1 rebounds and 4.0 assists per game as a senior for Lebanon High School.

Jennings also earned Team MVP honors and was a First-Team All-District 9-AAA pick while being named the Lebanon High School and Wilson County Athlete Of The Year.

Charles, a 5-9 guard, played at Central Davidson High School and was the two-time All-Davidson County Player Of the Year (2010 and 2011) by The Dispatch.

As a senior, Charles averaged 22.5 points, 11.2 rebounds, 3.3 assists per game while shooting 47 percent from the field and 86 percent from the free throw line.

In addition, Charles averaged 18 points and 10 rebounds for her career and was a four-time all-county selection.

Lenoir-Rhyne returns four starters from last year's squad which finished 14-13 overall and 11-7 in the South Atlantic Conference for its fifth straight winning season. The Bears also finished third in the league standings in 2010-11 after being picked to finish seventh in the coaches preseason poll.