

## Vincent Inks Four for 2012-13

Written by Ryan Bower

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Appalachian State women's basketball head coach Darcie Vincent announced the signing of four players to National Letters of Intent on Thursday, Nov. 24.

The signing class is comprised of four high school players including two North Carolina

products and one each from Ohio and South Carolina.

"This particular group of young ladies is a diverse bunch who all have one major characteristic in common; their love for the game," said Vincent. "We are excited about the skill set of these players, but more importantly the strong basketball character they all possess."

The incoming class includes LaShawna Gatewood (Twinsburg, Ohio/Twinsburg), Bria Huffman (Clover, S.C./Clover), Khadejah Wilkerson (Greensboro, N.C./Greensboro Day School) and Farrahn Wood (Lewsville, N.C./Forsyth Country Day School).

**LaShawna Gatewood**  
**5-11 • Guard/Forward**  
**Twinsburg, Ohio**  
**Twinsburg High School**

Gatewood will join the Mountaineers after a stellar high school career that saw her help her team to a perfect 27-0 record and a state championship as a junior. She was an all-conference selection as a junior and helped Twinsburg reach the No. 11 spot in the national rankings at the end of the season. Twinsburg is currently ranked No. 5 in the Midwest to begin the 2011-12 season and is once again expected to challenge for a state championship. Gatewood has averaged 6.0 points, 8.0 rebounds and 5.0 steals during her career.

Vincent's Comments: "LaShawna was born to be a Mountaineer. Her tenacity on the defensive end

and love for the transition game makes her a perfect fit for the up-tempo Mountaineer style. She is explosive to the rim and a tremendous rebounder. She is a state champion who knows first-hand all the intangibles it takes to be successful."

**Bria Huffman**  
**5-10 • Guard/Forward**  
**Clover, S.C.**  
**Clover High School**

Huffman will come to Appalachian after an outstanding prep career that saw her average 14.5 points, 6.2 rebounds, 3.2 steals and 2.0 assists per game. She was named as an all-conference selection as a sophomore and a junior while also earning team MVP honors twice. Huffman has also been named as an all-region selection twice and earned MVP honors at last year's Myrtle Beach Shootout by the Sea after scoring 23 points in a 61-47 win over Darlington in the tournament championship.

Vincent's Comments: "Bria is a combo guard with good size who knows how to put the ball in the basket from multiple positions on the floor. She is very smooth and controlled with her movements and will be a tough match-up for our opponenets."

**Khadejah Wilkerson**  
**6-1 • Forward**  
**Greensboro, N.C.**  
**Greensboro Day School**

Wilkerson will make her way to the High Country after averaging a double-double during her time at Greensboro Day School. She earned all-state, all-conference and conference Player of the Year accolades after averaging 13.0 points and 10 rebounds per game as a sophomore. Wilkerson helped lead her team to a conference championship as a sophomore and was a member of a state championship team at Dudley High School as a freshman. She was also named as tournament MVP at two different AAU tournaments.

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Vincent's Comments: "Khadejah has the potential to be a dominant inside presence for us. Her athleticism coupled with her size and ability could make her an immediate impact player in the SoCon. She continues to work hard in the weight room gaining additional strength which will enable her to have a smooth transition into Division I basketball."

### **Farrahn Wood**

**5-8 • Guard**

**Lwesiville, N.C.**

**Forsyth Country Day School**

Wood joins the ASU family after earning all-conference honors as a sophomore while averaging 12.5 points per game. A team captain as a junior and senior, she holds the school record for three-point shots made in a single game (9). As a junior, Wood helped Forsyth Country Day to a 21-6 record and posted 15 games with 10 or more points, including back-to-back 20-plus point performances against Charlotte Latin (29) and Calvary Baptist (27).

Vincent's Comments: "Farrahn was an early commit who is very familiar with our program, coaches,

and expectation level. She is a basketball die-hard who is hungry to get into the collegiate scene. Farrahn will provide us with a consistent perimeter shooting threat. She is an intelligent player who really understands the game."

The ASU women travel to Atlanta for the Starwood Hotels Thanksgiving Classic. The Mountaineers (2-1) play Eastern Kentucky on Friday at 4 p.m.; they play Georgia State Saturday at 4 p.m.

### **NOTES: ASU vs. ECU SERIES HISTORY:**

- The Mountaineers are 1-3 all-time against Eastern Kentucky.
- Appalachian State dropped a 69-64 decision when the teams last met on Nov. 27, 2004 at the Florida State Seminole Classic.
- ASU's lone win against the Lady Colonels on March 1, 1991 when the Apps picked up an 86-72 win.
- ECU's other two wins came by scores of 76-66 and 83-65 in 1989 and 1990, respectively.
- Appalachian is 0-2 against ECU in neutral site games.

### **SCOUTING THE LADY COLONELS:**

- Eastern Kentucky is in its third season under head coach Chrissy Roberts.
- Roberts, a 1998 graduate of ECU, is 26-40 in her tenure with the Lady Colonels.
- The Lady Colonels are 1-2 on the season with a win over Western Michigan and losses to Louisville and Xavier.
- Raechele Gray paces ECU with 12.0 points per game while Carla Booth averages 10.3.
- Eastern Kentucky has shut down opponents from beyond the arc, holding opposing offenses to a .268 three-point field goal percentage.
- ECU picked up its lone win of the season with a 71-60 win over Western Michigan on Sunday.
- Gray scored 18 points in the contest and helped the Lady Colonels overcome a 34-32 halftime to snag a win on the road.
- ECU shot 43.5 percent in the second half and held WMU to 29.6 percent from the floor in the final 20 minutes.
- Eastern Kentucky outscored the Broncos 39-26 in the second half.

### **ASU vs. GSU SERIES HISTORY:**

- The Apps are 1-1 all-time against the Panthers.
- Georgia State picked up an 88-68 win when the teams last met on Dec. 21, 2002.
- ASU's lone win in the series came in an 80-66 win on Feb. 24, 1991.
- The Mountaineers are 0-1 when playing at Georgia State.

**SCOUTING THE PANTHERS:**

- Georgia State enters the weekend with an 0-2 record after dropping games at Arizona and Florida State.
- The Panthers are in their second season under head coach Sharon Baldwin-Tener.
- Baldwin-Tener, a 1991 graduate of the University of Georgia, is 12-21 in her time at GSU and 207-163 in 13 seasons as a head coach.
- Kendra Long is the Panthers' leading scorer at 18.0 points per game.
- Chan Harris ranks second for GSU with 10.0 points per game.
- Georgia State will take on Campbell at 2 p.m. on Friday before facing Appalachian on Saturday to close out the Thanksgiving Classic.

**Photo Courtesy: Darcie Vincent, by Bill Sheffield, ASU Athletics**

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