

Jennifer Hawkins  
District MVP



Shane Jones  
First Team All-District



April Tinkler  
First Team All-District



Melissa Shackelford



Ashley Abila



Mallory Bryan  
Second Team All-District



1999-2000 Basketball Team and Coaches: back - manager Beth Williams, Keli Gunn, Coach Paula Kay Lockhart, Coach Kent Josselet, Coach Danna Flatt, manager Kendra Casteel and manager Twila Massey; middle - April Tinkler, Marlayna Moore, Jennifer Hawkins, Mallory Bryan and Melissa Shackelford; front - Lindsay Graham, Ashley Abila, Shane Jones and Jodi Graham

## Team Cohesion Pays Off

The Lady Cat basketball program had a totally new look for the 1999-2000 season that included a host of first-time starters and a different head coach. This made the prospects for a winning record uncertain.

However, after the first few games, the uncertainty deminished, and it became apparent that the Lady Cats, inexperienced or not, were a team to be reckoned with.

The tradition of winning filled the team with a competitive spirit, and talent (though in some cases not fully developed) gave the team a chance to improve weekly.

"At the beginning of the year, we were so young that we just wanted to develop some team cohesion and learn to play together," Coach Kent Josselet said in a quote to the *Odessa American*.

The team accomplished this goal and went beyond all expectations by once again winning the district championship. Next, they defeated Sierra Blanca to take the bi-district title, only to come up against Garden City, a well-known foe that had knocked them out of the play-offs the previous two years, in the area round of competition.

If Garden City expected an easy victory, they were sadly mistaken. For the Lady Cats played what may have been their best game of the year. Only some key free-throws in the final quarter gave Garden City a 36-32 edge over an up and coming Wink team.



Marlayna Moore



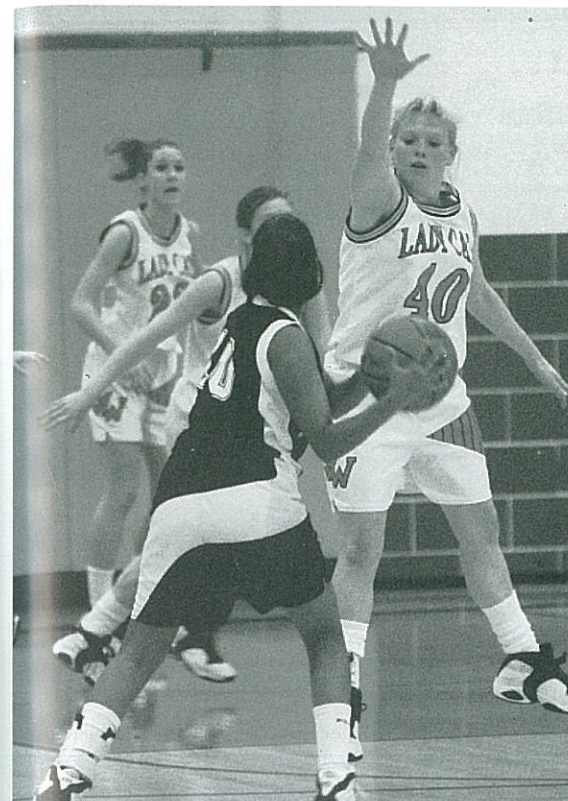
Ella Fernandes  
First Team All-District



Jodi Graham  
Honorable Mention All-District



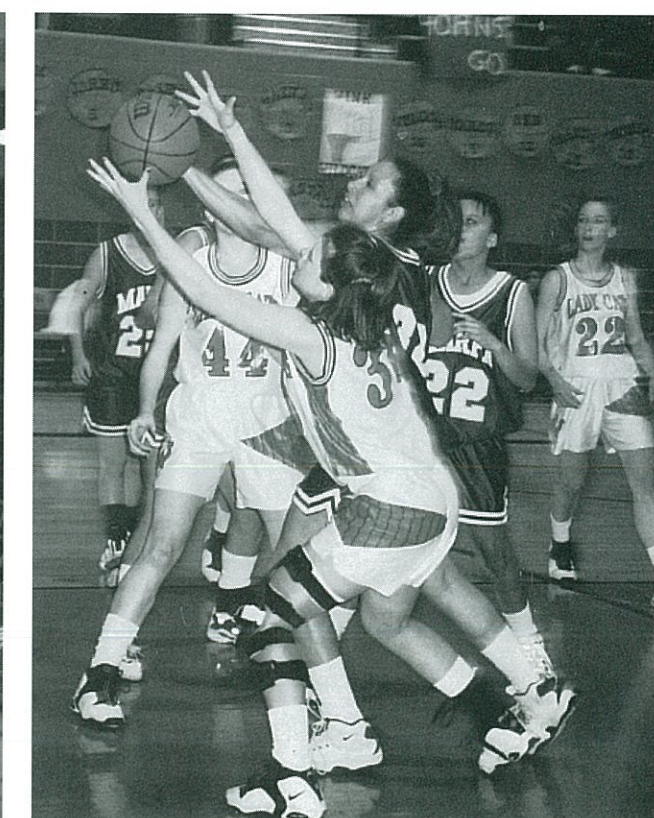
Lindsay Graham  
Honorable Mention All-District



Senior April Tinkler jumps up to block a pass during a district game with Fort Hancock. In addition to being a defensive stand-out, April also averaged 3.4 assists per game.



Lindsay Graham manages to retain possession of the ball while teammates Marlayna Moore, Melissa Shackelford and Jodi Graham move in to help reset the offense.



Jennifer Hawkins times her shot to avoid a block from the defense. Jennifer averaged 15.5 points per game, 6.6 rebounds and had a 65% freethrow completion average. These stats helped her be named District MVP.

Shane Jones never hesitated to fight for a rebound. Her aggressive style of play landed her on the First Team All-District.