

Students and staff come together to pray for coach



Pretty in pink. Coach Jo Jenkins was also supported by her team and community with special pink "Hoops for Jo" shirts. (pate photo)



After head basketball coach Jozette Jenkins was diagnosed with breast cancer just before Christmas, her team decided they wanted to do something special for the day she had surgery. The student body was invited to "Meet You at the Gym" the morning of her surgery to pray for Jenkins. Daughter Jordan was the only member of the team missing.

"My mother's surgery was scheduled for 10:00 am in Dallas," Jordan said. "I wanted to be there with her."

Students and staff held hands as they went around the circle, one by one having a chance to say a prayer aloud for Jenkins.

"It was like the whole school was there," senior Kendall Lee said. "I didn't expect that many, but that's what made the event even more special."

Basketball girls were not the only ones who showed up for the event.

"I prayed for Coach Jenkins," junior Logan Freeman said. "We all care a lot about her, which is why students who don't even have her in class prayed for her."

Almost the entire faculty showed up for the event, as well.

"Coach Jenkins is a great woman, so everyone was torn up," teacher Cindy Eppes said. "A lot of the students and faculty showed up to pray for her, including myself."

Coach Jenkins' family stayed with her in the hospital.

"I was glad I at least got to stay at the hospital with her for a couple of days," Jordan Jenkins said. "Life without her is unthinkable; I am beyond blessed to have her as my mother."

- by Erykah Anderson



Taking turns. Principal Tracy Gleghorn prays with a section of Lady Bison basketball players during the prayer event in the gym the morning Coach Jozette Jenkins had surgery. (menefee photo)

