Syracuse Player Carried a Baby

Wednesday, April 25, 2007; E02

A member of the Syracuse women's basketball team who played in 28 games during the season gave birth to a child last week, university officials confirmed yesterday.

A spokeswoman from the Syracuse athletic department confirmed that junior *Fantasia Goodwin* had a child but declined to comment further, citing Goodwin's privacy.

"Fantasia asked us not to comment," said *Sue Edson*, director of athletic communications.

Coach *Quentin Hillsman* also declined to comment for the same reason.

The Health Information Protection Act prevents colleges from giving out medical information about student-athletes.

The date of birth indicates that Goodwin played basketball for Syracuse throughout much of her pregnancy. Syracuse's season ended Feb. 26.

Goodwin missed the final game of the season, and in her last game on Feb. 24 scored 14 points in 28 minutes. She completed her first year at Syracuse after transferring from Monroe (N.Y.) Community College and averaged 12 points and 6.8 rebounds.

University athletic officials would not say whether they knew Goodwin was pregnant or whether the school has a policy preventing pregnant women from playing sports.

"The medical guidelines we use are something we cannot discuss," Edson said.

Three years ago, *Connie Neal* of Louisville kept a pregnancy secret from her coach and teammates and played into her eighth month, delivered a healthy baby, then returned to play in the postseason.

-- From News Services