

Rams Upset Braves In Tourney Opener

By HARRY PICKETT

LOUISBURG — Doomed by freethrow shooting, no intensity and lack of execution, Chowan College fell to last place Southeastern Community College in the first round of Eastern Tarheel Conference Tournament basketball play last Tuesday night, 66-63.

The Braves entering the tournament as odds-on favorites after capturing the regular season crown, failed for the second straight season of taking the four-team tournament after posting unmarred 8-0 league records.

The Braves, who shot a mediocre 45 percent from the floor, compared to their opponents' 54 percent, could never get their offense moving. The Chowan team displayed its poorest passing game of the season, turning the ball over to the Rams on numerous occasions.

The offense which averaged over 85 points per game, was unable to penetrate the Ram zone, and an outside shooting game was never established. Brave head coach Jerry Smith felt that neither team played that well. He said that Southeastern just "wanted it more."

The Braves, who begin regional play tomorrow night at Rocky Mount, Va., were tied with the Whiteville school at 13-all at the 12:11 mark of the first half. Southeastern then ran off 17 points in a little over five minutes, while Chowan tacked on 6. The Rams held on to lead at the half, 34-28.

Chowan was never behind by more than eight points in the second stanza. The Braves made a move at the lead when center Randolph Bell chipped in a pair of freethrows at the 9:35 mark, Robin Hoey knocked in a 15-footer and a follow by William Bogues and a technical foul shot by the Camden sophomore, knotted the game at 49-49 with 8:38 left.

Burgers After Coke In China?

(CPS) — It didn't take long to put two and two together. Now that the Chinese are abandoning tea in favor of Coca-Cola, observers are just waiting for the Chinese debut of — (and what else goes better with Coke?) — burgers.

But the burger biggies are being demure at this point. "McDonald's has no active interest in the People's Republic of China at this time," a McDonald's spokesman told Advertising Age recently. The chain's sentiments were echoed by spokeswoman at Wendy's International and Kentucky Fried Chicken-Hublein.

Yet the industry journal surmises that fast food chains are giving serious thought to Chinese franchises, the most determined candidate being International Dairy Queen. Goaded by the success of its 125-some franchises in Japan, Dairy Queen was getting ready to break ground in Taiwan when President Carter announced the U.S.' new relationship with mainland China. Now Michael Quinn, Dairy Queen's operating manager for the Western hemisphere, is unsure that the Taiwanese franchise will proceed as planned. Quinn said, though, that Dairy Queen still plans to go into Hong Kong this spring.

After the technical foul shot, Bogues put his team ahead with a driving move to the basket with 7:59 left, leaving the score at 51-49, Chowan's way. This was Chowan's first lead since the 12:53 mark of the first half.

Both teams' trading of baskets the next seven minutes, enabled the game to be knotted four times. A layup by Bogues put the game at 63-63 with a little less than a minute to go.

After a missed Ram shot, the Braves had the ball with less than 40 seconds remaining and went into a stall. But a stolen pass by Rams' Jeff Morrissey ruined it all. Morrissey was fouled with 12 seconds remaining — knocked in the first end of the one-and-one — missed the second try, but teammate Charles Webb rebounded the missed shot and was fouled.

Webb tacked on the first end of the one-and-one, but he missed the second. Chowan rebounded and called time out. After the time out with six seconds remaining, the Braves once again got erratic and Webb plucked them again.

Webb sank the first of another one-and-one with two seconds left to clinch a three-point lead and victory.

Bogues led all scorers with 20 points, followed by teammates Hoey and Greg Dawson with 15. Webb scored 15 for Southeastern.

The Braves are now 21-6 on the season, while the Rams jumped to 7-14.

Porter Leads Lenoir Win

Sophomore guard Allen Porter is perhaps the most unheralded of all the starters on the Chowan College basketball team. But given the opportunity, the 6-foot-4 Tarboro native can be the noisiest.

He made 12 of 16 shots, scored 26 points and passed out three assists while leading the Braves to a 99-86 victory over Lenoir Community College in an Eastern Tarheel Conference meeting February 10.

Smith said that he was very much pleased to see Porter come out of a slump, which has existed since the Christmas break. But Porter wasn't the only Brave making noise on the court Saturday. Six-foot forward William Bogues contributed 18 points and 12 rebounds. Teammate Greg Dawson pumped in 12 points and snared 6 boards.

Smith said that his team wasn't as aggressive as he would have liked them to be, but added, "It was a good win."

SPORTS • SPORTS



LADY BRAVES OF 1978-1979 — This year's edition of the Lady Braves, who have been showing steady improvement as the season progresses, are (from left) Queenie Torrence, Donna Hudson, Mary Jane Parrish,

Georgia Ross, Deborah Brown, Mary Reilly, Gale Batts, Anita Durham, Laura Brailsford, Sandra Brown, Wilhelmina Wilson and Coach Roy Winslow. Photo by Paul Kelly

Overtime Lift Edges Ferrum

Lewis (Chic) Williams scored five of his game-total seven points in overtime to pace Chowan to a 89-83 home victory over Ferrum College February 12.

The Braves overwhelmed Ferrum in the first half, running up a 17-point lead and holding a 13-point margin, 53-40, at intermission.

That the Braves had all their arrows on target was clear when the first five baskets in their opening 12-2 surge were scored by five different players.

The second half began on a spectacular note when Barnes took a pass near the top of the key pivoted, took one step and dribble before unleashing an awesome stuff which brought the crowd on its feet yelling.

But that was to be the only Brave score during a brief dry spell while what appeared to be an unsurmountable lead slowly melted.

With 10 minutes left, Chowan's lead was whittled to five. Then at 7:24, the Panthers caught the Braves at 72-72 on a jumper by forward Mickey Hardy, who led all scorers with 39 points.

Ferrum missed a free throw and two shots and Chowan three shots before Hardy sank another basket to put the Panthers on top for the first time, 74-72.

At 4:40, Ferrum held its largest lead, 76-73, with one exception, all of the remaining points in regulation were scored on free throws as both teams played cautiously. At 1:27, Chowan tied Ferrum at 78-78 on Ron Williams' charity toss. He missed the go-ahead but William Bogues grabbed the rebound and Chowan froze the ball until calling a timeout with 32 seconds left.

This set the stage for clutch shooting by both teams. After play resumed, Ron Williams was fouled with 13 seconds left and sank both free throws.

Ferrum brought the ball across court and called a timeout. Then, with ten seconds left, Hardy broke free for the inbounds pass and swished a 20-footer from the side to knot the score at 80 all.

Chowan was unable to produce a score over the final six seconds and the ball was slapped from Greg Dawson's hand as he attempted a short jumper with time running out.

Chowan controlled the tip to start overtime and Lewis Williams' jumper put the Braves ahead for good, 82-80. After Ferrum scored a free throw, Chowan froze the ball for three minutes until Williams missed a driving layup with Ferrum snaring the rebound.

Hardy broke for the basket and took a long pass, but was fouled to the floor on his layup attempt.

But Ferrum's ace lost his touch. As Chowan's fans and cheerleaders "raised the roof," Hardy missed the shots that would have put Ferrum out in front. Chowan increased its lead to 87-81 on a basket by Robin Hoey and a pair of free throws by Bogues and one by Lewis Williams. After Hardy scored for the Panthers on a layup, Williams tossed in two final free throws for Chowan's 89-83 win.

Bogues led Chowan with 23 points. Allen Porter, Hoey and Ron Williams each added 14. Dawson had 12 for the night, followed by Lewis Williams' seven, William Barnes' four and Randolph Bell's single point.

Bell was unveiled by Coach Jerry Smith in an unusual role during the long freeze in the overtime — the middle man in a modified four corners maneuver.

Instead of the familiar small guard dribbling around at the the vortex, the giant Bell remained much in one place providing a ready target when any of the smaller Braves might be cornered and forced to give up the ball. Bell then calmly tossed it out to a free man and the play started all over again.

'Twas Really Allen

In the last issue of Smoke Signals, Allen Porter was erroneously identified as Ron Porter in a picture caption.

The error resulted from a Freudian slip by the caption writer who momentarily confused the Braves guard with another high-scoring, defensive ace named Porter who played for a number of NBA teams.

Braves Clinch ETC Title

By HARRY PICKETT

WILLARD — Chowan College clinched the Eastern Tarheel Conference basketball championship here February 10 with a 78-67 victory over last place Southeastern Community College of Whiteville.

The victory gives the Braves its second straight ETC championship, and only the second basketball championship in the school's history.

In clinching its second regular season title, the Braves had to hold off a talented Southeastern team, who were armed with plenty of out-side shooting artillery. After leading 48-34 at intermission, the Rams outscored Chowan 17-10 in the first 11 minutes of the second half to pull within seven, 58-51.

Coach Jerry Smith thought his team lost its composure during the 11-minute lapse. He said that the Braves' "lack of patience in the second half" almost cost them.

The Braves were able to go up by eleven with a feed from William Bogues to Allen Porter with 9:45 remaining, and then two back-to-back baskets by Bogues to send his team soaring, 64-53.

The six-foot, all-conference forward led all scorers with 29 points and snared 10 rebounds in guiding his team to the win. Bogues was able to penetrate the Ram zone and score on above-the-hoop layups to stagger the southeastern assault.

"Bogues plays hard," Smith said of his leaping sophomore from Camden. "He's a pressure player. When we have to have a big basket, who gets it? When we have to have a rebound, who gets it?"

Bogues! Bogues and all-ETC teammate Ronald Williams both concede that this Brave team is much better than last year's club which faltered after capturing the regular season title, falling prey to Lenoir Community college in the first game of ETC tournament play. "We think we can go further than we did last season," Bogues observed.

BRUCE NOTES — Chowan College's girls team edged Southeastern's Lady Rams in a game prior to the men's varsity contest. Coach Roy Winslow's team was led by Anita Durham's 11-for-11 freethrow shooting and 23 points. Wilhelmina Wilson, Laura Brailsford and Mary Reilly each netted 10. Dale Nealy was high for Southeastern, pouring in 20 points.

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Brailford, Wilson Hot In Close Mt. Olive Loss

By KATHY FISHER

A strong comeback in the last thirty seconds of play still ended in a 76-78 defeat for Chowan's women basketball team by Mt. Olive College February 14.

Mt. Olive started the game off by scoring the first two baskets. Chowan made a comeback, and after seven minutes of play led by eight points. This was to be the biggest lead the Lady Braves would have. The lead changed hands four times, but by the end of the first half, Mt. Olive led by a score of 39-34.

During the entire second half, Chowan could not obtain the lead. At one point Mt. Olive built up an eight-point spread. Chowan made one last attempt with thirty seconds to play making the final score 76-78.

Laura Brailsford led the scoring by netting 20 points. She was followed by Wilhelmina Wilson with 12 points, and Anita Durham and Mary Reilly, who each netted 10 points. Also scoring were Queenie Torrence with 9 points, Gale Batts with 7 points, Georgia Ross with 6 points, and Deborah Brown, 2 points.

Mt. Olive Falls; Slate Kept Clean

By HARRY PICKETT

Jerry Smith got his wish. Coach Smith got his wish and a whole lot more Wednesday, January 14 after his Chowan College Braves thrashed second place Mt. Olive College 122-88 here in an Eastern Tarheel Conference basketball meeting.

Smith, seeking his 20th victory and second straight unmarred ETC regular season conference championship, saw his team chalk up 82 second half points and literally blow the Duplin County school out of the Chowan gymnasium.

At the intermission, the Braves were up by only two points, 40-38, and Smith said he had his doubts because of his team's lackluster first half showing. "I told them (players) to get 59," Smith said he thought that the 59 would be enough to hold off the Trojan club.

With the triumph, the Braves pulled to 20-5 overall and 8-0 in ETC play. Mt. Olive fell to 16-7 and 5-3.

The Braves, who were cheered on by a standing-room-only crowd and Coach Jim Garrison's football squad which was stationed behind the Mt. Olive bench, shot 62 percent from the floor, one of the team's finest output of the season. "If you shoot 62 percent from the floor, you're going to win a lot of ball games," Smith declared.

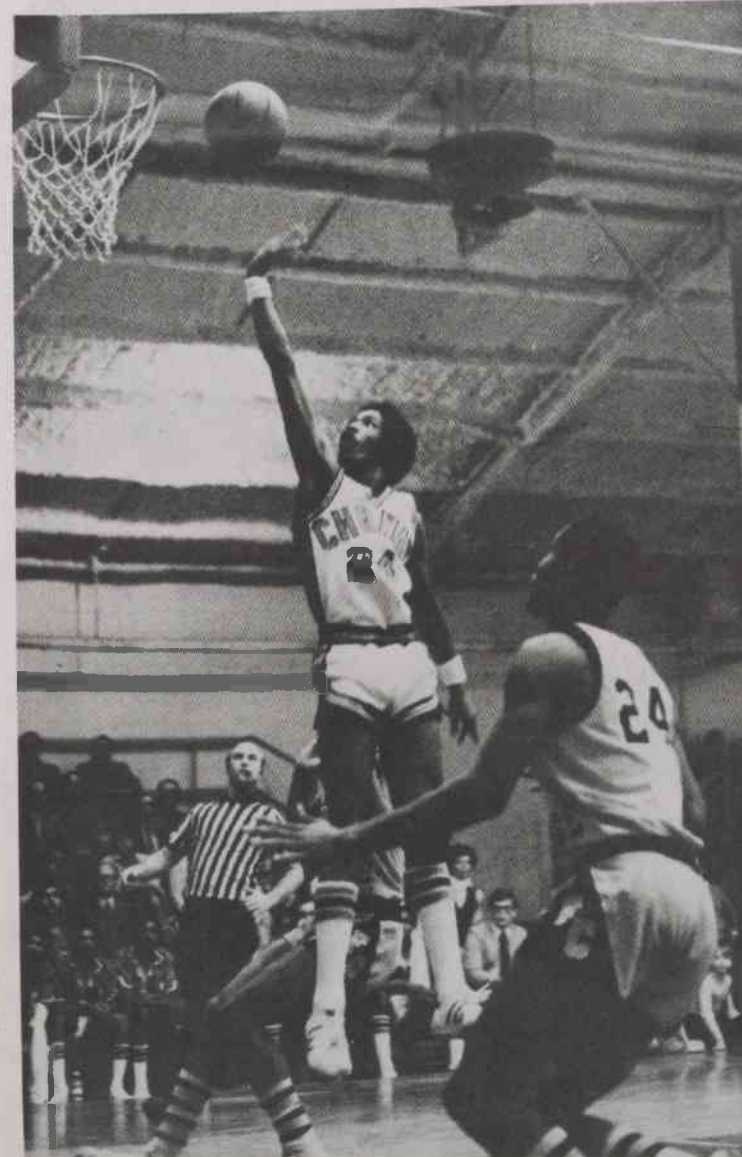
"Our zone press was as pretty as it's ever been. When we play well, there's not a ball club that can touch us," he added.

Smith's zone trap caused the Mt. Olive five a lot of grief in the second half, coupled with five straight baskets which enabled the Braves to go up by 12 at 50-38, and then up by 16, 56-40, when William Bogues, who was the game's high scorer, connected on a follow with 16:51 remaining.

The Chowan sophomores, playing their last home game of their careers, went out in grand fashion. Following Bogues' 25 points and 10 rebounds was Robin Hoey's 22 points. Greg Dawson added 19, Ronald Williams 9, Allen Porter 8, Lewis Williams 7, and despite a scoreless effort, mostly due to a sprained ankle, 6-7 center Randolph Bell contributed greatly to the victory. "I thought all the sophomores played extremely well," Smith reflected.

At the 5:51 mark, Lewis "Chic" Williams nailed a 20-footer from the left corner, running up the score to 100-70. Twenty seconds later Smith went to his bench, inserting what looked to be an edition of next year's club: freshmen Mark Murdock, Hayward Evans, Jean Williams, Brien Armstrong and Ricky Lewis. Smith said of his freshman troop, "They didn't look bad."

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Robin Hoey, a clutch performer all year, nets a soft jumper in the overtime defeat of Ferrum. Photo by Tim Walker

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