

Sports

16th In NCAA Division II

Broncos Continue Romp

by Lori Little

On Jan. 12, FSU's men's basketball team defeated North Carolina Central, 81-75, to improve their record to 12-4 overall, 7-1 in the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association, and 2-0 in the CIAA's Southern Division. Darrell Armstrong paced the Broncos with 24 points.

The Broncos picked up two tournament championships during the Christmas break and climbed to 16th in the National Collegiate Athletic Association's Division II rankings. This is the first national ranking in any sport in FSU's history.

FSU's top scorers so far this season are Armstrong and Sherman Pride who have averaged 16.4 and 15.3 points per game, respectively. Leading the team in rebounds are Pride, who averages 8.9 per game, and Travis Spells with 6.6 RPG.

On Dec. 28-29, the Broncos won the Bull City Classic Championship in Durham, N.C. Spells picked up MVP honors and joined fellow Bronco Derrick Hawkins on the All-Tournament Team.

On Jan. 5, FSU downed the host team, 107-91, in the championship game of the Columbus College Classic in Columbus, GA. to claim its second title of the holiday season. Armstrong scored 45 points in the two-game tournament and was named

MVP. Pride added 18 points to the winning effort.

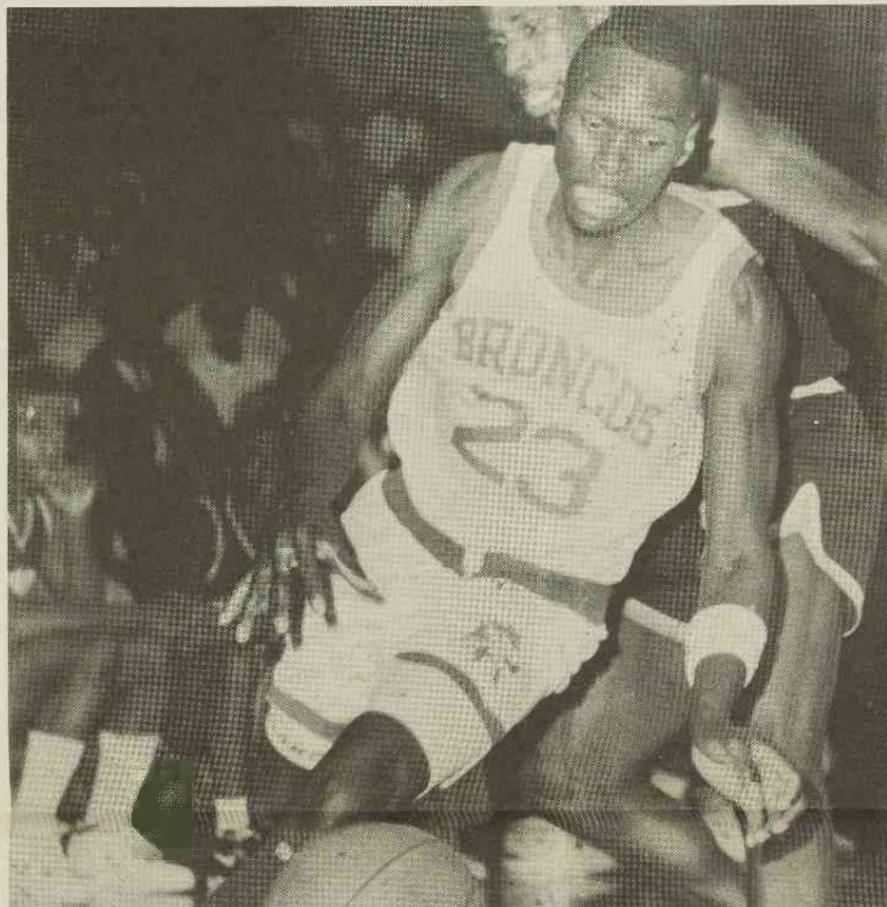
"I expected us to be playing well at this time of the year," Coach Jeff Capel said. "The success that we had earlier came as a surprise to us. (It was) not because we didn't think we had good players, but bringing in so many new players from different parts of the state, we did not know how the chemistry would be. Fortunately for us the chemistry came together a lot quicker than we expected."

According to Capel, the coaching staff is doing nothing special or different because of their success.

"As far as Coach (Mark) Cline and I are concerned, the players are 12-0 and the coaches are 0-4. The players win games, and coaches lose games. We are working on fundamentals; basically we just try to play fundamental basketball."

The Broncos have suffered two major knee injuries. Senior Byron Davis, who was hurt early in the season against Virginia State, is out for the season.

"Byron's injury was a little bit worse than we first thought," Capel said. "He could probably start doing some running about now. But he has missed a month and a half and it would take him the remainder of this year to get back into playing shape. So we have appealed to the



Darrell "Sky" Armstrong (23) scrambles for a loose ball.

(Photo: John B. Henderson)

CIAA for a medical red-shirt year for Byron. Instead of having one year of remaining play, he will have two full years to play."

The other fallen Bronco is Travis Spells, however, his knee injury is not as severe as Davis'.

Spells has missed two games, and will probably miss the St. Pauls and Livingstone contests.

Capel maintains that all of the remaining 11 games on FSU's schedule will be difficult.

"The St. Pauls game will be a very tough game," he insisted. "I saw them play Monday night (Jan. 14) and they are very good. We are playing on their campus and it is like playing in Lilley; its a very tough place to play.

"I saw Livingstone play on the 16th," Capel continued, "and they are playing very well right now. Every game from here on in will be tough because they are all Southern Division games."

Lady Broncos Search for Success

by Leslie Corpening

As of Jan. 17 the Lady Broncos had an overall record of 1-14. They are 0-10 in the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association and 0-4 in the CIAA's Southern division.

At the beginning of the season, the team consisted of 12 players. Currently, the Lady Broncos have only 7 players. Lisa Coleman and Monica Ray are lost for the season due to injury and three other players are no longer with the team.

"One thing that has hurt us this season is our execution," Coach Peggy Green said. "We have not been consistent in fundamentals."

There have been some improvements over the last few

games. "We have been able to cut down on our turnovers," Coach Green said.

"Our team needs to improve on fundamentals and be more consistent. We need more intensity!"