

FSU Intramurals: It's more than an Extracurricular Activity

by DeSean Lawson
Voice Staff Writer

If you think that intramurals basketball at Fayetteville State University is just another extracurricular activity you're sadly mistaken. Students, faculty and staff members take intramural basketball at FSU very seriously.

There are 16 teams participating in intramural basketball this semester. Each team has about 10 players and some of those players are great athletes. Many of the students whom participate in intramurals are former high school all conference athletes.

Some of these high schools all conference students have big dreams and aspirations in one day being able to play collegiate ball for FSU or another university if they're fortunate to do so.

A prime example of this is Antonio Hardison, a sophomore Forensic Science major here at FSU. Mr. Hardison, who is a player on the team, Flight Team Takeover, is an aspiring young athlete who wishes to play basketball at the collegiate level. With basketball being his main goal and dream in life he is planning on transferring to a different school to hopefully achieve this goal.

He says that the reason he plays intramurals is because it gives him the chance to demonstrate his skills to everybody who

attends the games. When asked "When he plays it relaxes his mind. Some people use music as an escape from society; and that basketball is his." He loves the fast pace movement, thrill, intensity and adrenaline rush the game gives him. He calls it his "natural high."

That's why many of these students use intramural basketball to train and help prepare them for something much bigger and important in the future. Intramural basketball is a good way to have fun and train at the same time.

Intramural basketball games here at FSU is more than your average pick up game at the YMCA. Most of the games in this league are very intense, and fans get to see the great athletes that FSU has to offer on display every other night.

Students looking for some entertainment and an action packed evening come out to the Capel Arena every Monday through Thursday night from 6-9 p.m. from now until March 22. The extraordinary athletes such as Mr. Hardison and FSU other great athletes won't disappoint you when they display their unbelievable basketball skills and high flying talents.



Voice Photo by Jalynn Jones

Intramural Sports Stats

Top Scorers

Kennedy Reddick - 20
A. Payton - 20
Terrell Huntley - 18
Dequandre Alston - 16
Darrell Fisher - 14
K. Williams - 14
Larante Black - 14
Antonio Payton - 14
Lamar Davis - 12
Johnny Brooks - 12

FSU

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People's Champ Muhammad Ali turns 70

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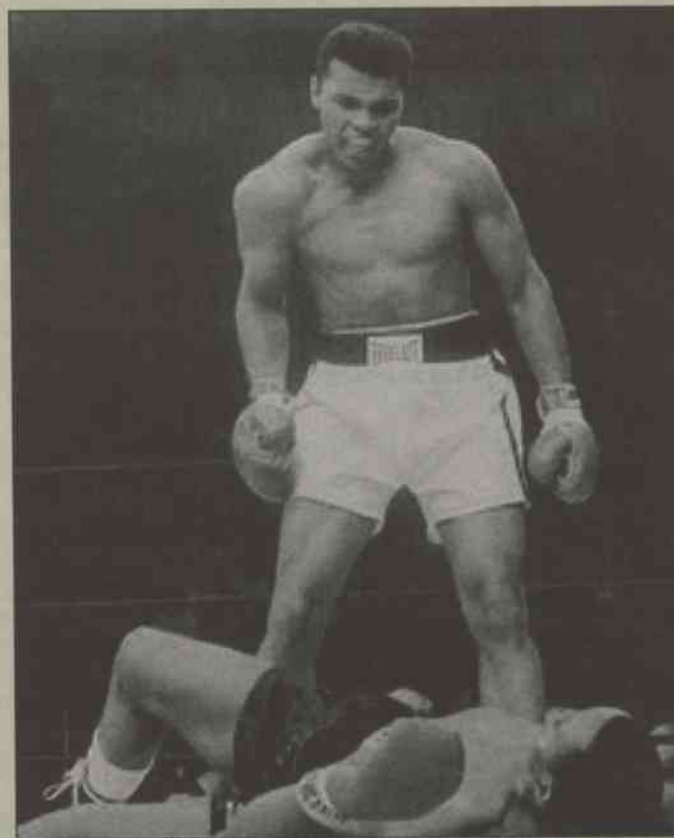
Former world heavyweight champion, philanthropist, and social activist Muhammad Ali recently celebrated his 70th birthday amongst family and friends. Ali is considered to be the greatest heavyweight champion in the history of professional boxing. He won his first "Ring" heavyweight title on Feb. 25, 1964 in the televised contest versus Sonny Liston. Ali finished his spectacular career with 56 wins (37 knockouts) and only five losses.

Ali failed his literary exam for initiation into the US Army and was later re-initiated, classified, and drafted as "able bodied" to fight in the Vietnam War. Ali was arrested and later convicted of treason for refusal to enlist. He served a five year term and was fined \$10,000. After his plea in the Court of Appeals was sustained and nullified, on June 28, 1971 the Supreme Court overturned his conviction for refusing induction by a unanimous decision in *Clay vs. United States*.

After being released from prison, Ali prepared himself for one of the most anticipated fights in American boxing versus the then-undefeated Joe Frazier. On March

8, 1971, "the Fight of the Century" featured a 15 round thriller match-up where Ali earned his first career loss by unanimous decision.

The next great fight in Ali's career was the Rumble in the Jungle event in Kinshasa, Zaire, when he faced the much younger and powerful heavyweight champion George Foreman. On Oct. 30, 1974, Ali did the unthinkable and pulled off an upset defeating George Foreman by "total knock out" in the last 2 minutes and 58 seconds of the 8th round. Seven years later towards the decline of Ali's famous career, Trevor Berbick defeated the aging and slower heavyweight champion by a unanimous decision in Ali's last professional fight on Dec. 11, 1981. Ali was 39 years old. After Ali retired he was diagnosed with Parkinson's syndrome in 1984. In the fall of 2005, The six-story, 96,750 square foot, \$80 million dollar Muhammad Ali Center opened in downtown Louisville, Kentucky. The Center exhibits some of the greatest moments in boxing history and memorabilia earned throughout Ali's boxing career.



Ali knocking out Sonny Liston first minute, first round
May, 25th 1965, Lewiston, Maine.

Courtesy of
ESPN.com