



Bulldog Sports

NUMBER 1

EDITOR: RUSTY STORY

Cole and Clark: Athletes of the Month

by Rusty Story

The Athletes of the Month for February are Dee Cole and Mario Clark. They both wrestle for the Albemarle Bulldogs in this 96-97 season. These two athletes have been chosen due to the discipline, desire, and dedication they put forth everytime they set foot on the wrestling mats. Dee and Mario both provide the leadership that will set great examples for the younger wrestlers on the team this year.

Deangelos Cole is a senior captain for the 'Dogs. He also competes for the Bulldogs in the fall on the football field and in the spring on the track. Dee was a standout defensive end and selected to the All-Conference team in 1996. He wrestles in the 215 pound weight class. Cole's current record is 19-6 overall and 8-0 in the conference. Dee won the conference and qualified for the regional and state tournaments

respectively. Dee's highlight match could have very well been when he defeated the 215 pound wrestler from Piedmont in fourteen seconds and sent him to the hospital.

Mario Clark is a sophomore wrestler for the 'Dogs. Mario is a great leader for the Bulldogs. He wrestles in the 119 pound weight class for Albemarle. He wrestles in the early matches and sets the tempo for the Bulldog's later matches. Clark's highlight match came against a West Rowan defender that won the conference last season and qualified in the state tournament. Mario finished third in the 119 pound weight class in the YVC.

Congratulations to these two wrestlers on the accomplishments this season. We wish them the best of luck as they enter the conference, regional, and state tournaments.



Dee and Mario prove to be the best in February.

Home Sweet Home

by Heather Freshly

A specific question is continuously posed in basketball: Is there a home court advantage? While attending UNC Chapel Hill, Mr. Andrew, the varsity boys' basketball coach, researched the answer to this question. He spent weeks writing to sports information offices and coaches and visiting all seven ACC colleges: Chapel Hill, N.C. State, Wake Forest, Duke, Virginia, Maryland, and Clemson. Georgia Tech and Florida State were later admitted into the league.

In his research, Mr. Andrew examined the statistical figures of: (1) field goal percent, (2) free throw percent, (3) turnovers, (4) personal fouls, and (5) rebounds for every ACC game played within a ten year period. Analyses indicated that visiting teams lost more games (143 wins to 275 losses) and had a lower per game scoring average than their opponents (76.71 at home, 72.51 away). Significant differences occurred in field goal percent, turnovers, personal fouls, and rebounds. Because the position where free throws are shot is constant, no significant difference occurred in free throw percentage.

In conclusion, a home court advantage does not exist; however, an away court disadvantage does exist. In other words, home teams don't play better; visiting teams play worse.

Five Bulldogs Named to All-Piedmont Team

by Bo Andrew

Five outstanding football players here at AHS have been given the honor of being named to the All-Piedmont Team. These football players have been selected to this honor because of their individual achievements during the regular season. Jeremy Clarke and Travis Gaster have been selected to first team All-Piedmont, and Greg Nahrgang, Desmond Green, and Wesley Burris have been selected to the second team.

Jeremy, often referred to as big "J", stands at 6'5" and weighs 270 pounds. He played right tackle for the conference champion Bulldogs this season, and he lead the conference with 77 pancake blocks. Along with the honor of All-Piedmont his other individual achievements include All-Conference and All-County.

Travis Gaster was the punter for the Bulldogs this year. His 40.5 yard punting average led the state, and he was seventh in the state with six fumble recoveries. Travis's individual accomplishments this season include All-County, All-Conference, All-Piedmont, and All-State. When asked about these honors Travis said, "It is an honor receiving these awards, but the greatest honor I could ever receive is being part of the greatest football team in AHS history."

Desmond Green was a major part of the Bulldog's offense this season. He rushed for over

1500 yards, had twenty-nine touchdowns, and was named offensive player of the year in the conference. Desmond lead the conference in rushing yards and touchdowns. He was also named All-Conference, All-County, and second team All-Piedmont.

Wesley Burris lead the Bulldog's offense this year with his powerful quarterback arm. He had over 1700 yards passing, fifteen touchdown passes, and 400 yards rushing. Wesley was eighth in the state in passing yards, and he was second in the state with nine interceptions. He was named All-Conference, All-County, and second team All-Piedmont.

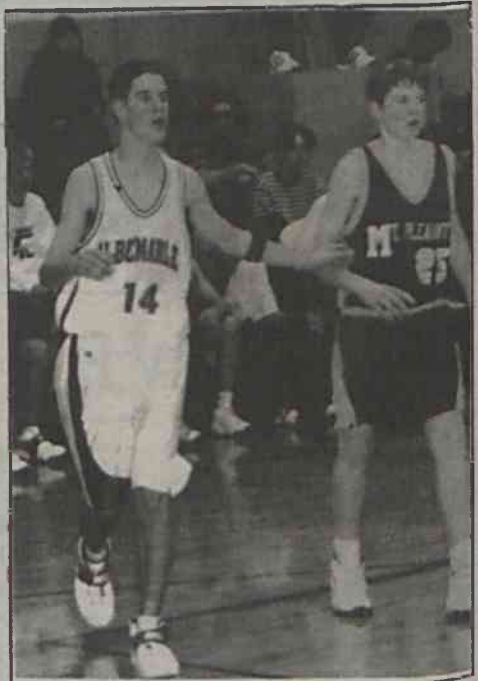
Greg Nahrgang was the leader of the Bulldog's defense this year. He was a four-year starter at middle linebacker. He had over 140 tackles, seven interceptions, and was first in the state with eight fumble recoveries. Greg lead the conference in tackles for the second year in a row. He was named to All-Conference, All-County, second team All-Piedmont, and was named defensive player of the year in the county. When asked about his individual honors he said "The individual honors that I received were a reflection of our team's tremendous success."

Thanks to these athletes for their tremendous efforts on behalf of our Bulldog football team.

J.V. Dogs On a Roll!

by Bo Andrew

The J.V. boys' basketball team is off to a sensational start this season. The team, coached by Larry Johnson, is under the sophomore leadership of Ben Lisk, Trellis Edwards, William Chambers, Vonnel Little, William Yeskie, Tex Davis, and Octavius Harold. The other members of the team are Michael Burris, Michael Lowder, Keyma Clark, Mark Parks, Maurice Watkins, Kyri Davis, and Eddie Wall. The 15-0 Bulldogs appear to be unstoppable. Sophomore Ben Lisk says "We are the best team in the conference; we could beat most varsity teams. We are going to have an undefeated season." The Bulldog's humiliate their opponents, often winning by twenty or more points. When asked about the success of his team William Chambers said, "We're the big 'Dogz; can't nobody stop us. If you can't hang with the big 'Dogs, stay on the porch!" According to William Yeskie, Ben Lisk and Eddie Wall are the two best players in the conference. When the team is down, they pick up the slack and pump the team up. Eddie Wall believes, "We are too athletic for other teams to stop us; we run over them on the fast breaks." We hope the Bulldogs continue their success.



Ben Lisk has been one of the leaders for the J.V. Bulldogs this year.

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