

TBC Coaches Pick Warriors

North Edgemonte, which finished third in the Class 1-A Tobacco Belt Conference last season with a 6-6 record, was the choice to edge out Bath for league title this season, according to a Washington Daily News poll of the league's eight football coaches.

The Warriors finished with 53 points and received five first-place votes in the poll while the Pirates finished with 52 points and three first-place votes.

Jamesville, which edged its way into the TBC's fourth playoff spot last year, is a solid choice of the coaches to finish third this season. The Bullets garnered 41 points.

TBC defending regular-season co-champions Chocowinity and Columbia finished with 35 and 34 points, respectively, for fourth- and fifth-place finishes in this year's poll.

Belhaven finished sixth in the balloting with 31 points, followed by Creswell in seventh with 19 points and Mattamuskeet eighth with 15 points.

Last season, Chocowinity lost

its first-round playoff game to Gates County. This season, new head coach Brian Paschal hopes to guide the Indians farther.

Columbia, which fell to Murphy in the Class 1-A state championship game last season, had 16 players show up for the first day of practice and currently has 14 players on the roster.

Tobacco Belt Conference Coaches' Poll Predicted Finish

Team	Pts.
North Edgemonte	53
Bath	52
Jamesville	41
Chocowinity	35
Columbia	34
Belhaven	31
Creswell	19
Mattamuskeet	15

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Tobacco Belt Conference

Team	Conf.			All			PF	PA
	W	L	T	W	L	T		
Chocowinity	6	1	0	3	0	0	347	198
Columbia	6	1	0	12	3	0	445	152
N. Edgemonte	5	2	0	6	6	0	231	252
Jamesville	4	3	0	5	6	0	160	220
Bath	4	3	0	6	3	0	223	158
Belhaven	2	5	0	2	8	0	76	268
Creswell	1	6	0	1	9	0	62	284
Mattamuskeet	0	7	0	10	0	0	58	341

Hertford Is NEAC's Choice

Ahoskie High School finished second in the Northeastern Conference race last season in the Cougars' last year of existence as a football team.

This year, Hertford County, the result of consolidation of Ahoskie and Murfreesboro High Schools, was tabbed by the NEAC coaches to capture the league crown in its first and only year as a Class 2-A school. The Bears, as the team is now called, will join the Class 3-A ranks next season as a member of the Tar-Roanoke Conference.

Hertford County was a near-unanimous choice after receiving all but one first-place vote in a Washington Daily News poll of the Northeastern Conference coaches. Seven points were awarded for first place, six for second, five for third, four for fourth, three for fifth, two for sixth and one for seventh.

The Bears accumulated 42 points to 35 for Plymouth, which was picked second. The Vikings finished 5-5 and did not make the

playoffs last year.

Edenton, last year's NEAC champion, is the choice for third place, according to the poll. The Aces garnered the other first-place vote and finished with 34 total points.

Northeastern Conference Coaches' Poll Predicted Finish

Team	Pts.
Hertford County	42
Plymouth	35
Edenton	34
Williamston	25
Northampton East	22
Roanoke Rapids	21
Roanoke	12

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Northeastern Conference

Team	Conf.			All			PF	PA
	W	L	T	W	L	T		
Edenton	6	0	1	1	0	0	343	81
Ahoskie	5	1	0	2	0	0	329	114
Williamston	4	2	0	7	4	0	238	131
Plymouth	3	3	0	5	5	0	187	165
Roan. Rapids	2	4	0	3	7	0	106	295
NH-East	1	5	0	4	8	0	148	209
Roanoke	0	6	0	3	7	0	145	235

Coastal Coaches Tab Rams

Last season, the Havelock football team rolled to a 10-1 record while West Carteret ended its season with a 1-9 mark. According to a Washington Daily News poll of the seven coaches in the Class 3-A Coastal Conference, those two positions will not change this season.

The Rams were a near-unanimous pick to once again capture the league's championship.

In contrast, the Patriots were unanimously picked to finish seventh in the poll. But Coach Ed Hiatt said he hopes his team will improve over last season.

Havelock garnered six first-place votes while D.H. Conley received the other vote. Conley was picked as the conference's runner-up team this season.

The Rams finished with 42 points, six better than the Vikings, which finished with 36 points.

Washington and West Craven each finished with 29 points and ended up in a tie for third place. The Pam Pack and Eagles were followed by East Carteret with 23 points, North Lenoir with 18 points and West Carteret with 12 points.

The Pam Pack garnered one

second-place vote, three third-place votes and two fourth-place votes in the poll, while West Craven finished with two seconds, two thirds, a fourth and a fifth-place vote.

The Coastal Conference is awarded three spots in the North Carolina High School Athletic Association Class 3-A playoffs.

Coastal Conference Coaches' Poll Predicted Finish

Team	Pts.
Havelock	42
D.H. Conley	36
Washington	29
West Craven	29
East Carteret	23
North Lenoir	18
West Carteret	12

Seven points were awarded for first place, six for second, five for third, four for fourth, three for fifth, two for sixth and one for seventh.

1987

Coastal Conference

Team	Conf.			All			PF	PA
	W	L	T	W	L	T		
Havelock	6	0	1	1	0	0	305	101
West Craven	4	2	0	7	4	1	200	136
D.H. Conley	4	2	0	7	4	0	196	146
E. Carteret	3	3	0	6	4	0	179	139
Washington	3	3	0	5	5	0	178	182
N. Lenoir	1	5	0	2	8	0	85	220
W. Carteret	0	6	0	1	9	0	66	318



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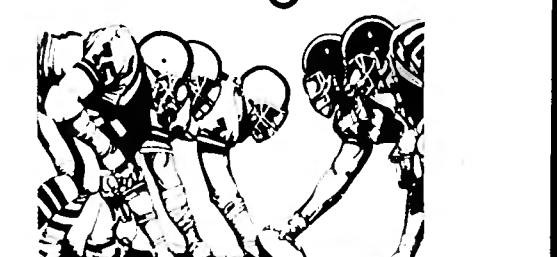
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