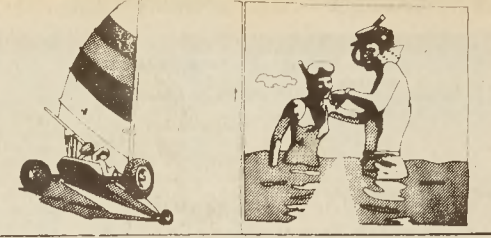




Sports



CIAA: Charlotte Bowl Flops Bring It Here

Armstrong, Jr. let me say off, I hope the CIAA South Bowl in Charlotte on November 14 will be a high success but I don't think it will live up to expectations. I request that the CIAA bring their act to the future. I've got to admit my home town is showing, but I really don't think "The D" is the finest sports town in the Carolinas. I state my opinion with the following: When it comes to sports, Durham is the

most experienced city in the Carolinas. It's the only city other than Pasadena, California to ever stage a Rose Bowl game (1942) and more recently, the Black National Championship or Pelican Bowl in 1972. It should be pointed out that both bowls were transferred to Durham on short notice and they both were successful. Second, (again with no offense to Charlotte) Durham, which sits right in the heart of ACC country, is used to big time collegiate sporting events. With three of the ACC's glamour schools (Duke, UNC and State) all within twenty minutes of downtown Durham, the city is an old hand at putting on big football games. Third, Duke's Wallace Wade Stadium (capacity 56,550 which can be expanded to 65,000) is bigger than any football field that Charlotte can offer and the historic stadium has just been renovated. It now possesses what Duke proudly claims is the best media facility in America. I know you Charlotte people will point out that you're the only true "big city" in the Carolinas and with a population in



A Little Quick Hand Movement

WBC Welterweight Champion Sugar Ray Leonard (l) shows a little quick hand movement to guest host Bill Cosby during recent showing of "The Tonight Show". While giving lessons in throwing punches, Leonard talked with Cosby about his coming championship fight on September 16 with Tommy Hearns in Las Vegas. UPI Photo

1981 NFL Forecast Is NFC Catching Up With AFC?

Larry Barber gained (1,340) and touchdowns (13). Teammate Kellen Winslow, a tight end, led the NFL with 89 total catches. Green Bay's James Lofton was the NFC's yardage leader with 1,226; Dwight Clark of San Francisco led in receptions with 82, while the Giants' Ernest Gray was tops with ten.

NFC offenses have opened up, with quarterbacks like Bartkowski, Doug Williams (Tampa), Vince Evans (Chicago), Ron Jaworski (Philly), Tom Kramer (Minn.), Pat Haden (LA), and Danny White (Dallas), the head-to-head and Super Bowl gap should begin to narrow.

Rogers. PREDICTION: 1. Los Angeles 2. Atlanta 3. San Francisco 4. New Orleans.

Baltimore. AFC WESTERN DIVISION — The pass rules this division and no one does it better than the San Diego Chargers. Add that to a steady defense and one might be talking Super. They will have to contend with defending champion Oakland, however, a team that plays only to win. The Raiders have a reborn Jim Plunkett, wide man Cliff Branch, and an opportunistic defense led by Lester Hayes and Ted Hendricks. Denver, once a proud franchise from the mile-high city, and a 1978 Super Bowl participant, has fallen on hard times. Kansas City showed promise of returning to glory last year tying the Broncos at 8-8-0. The Seattle Seahawks have enough firepower

The trend appears to have found a place in the eighties as more clubs are using the "shotgun", a passing formation used only by the Cowboys of recent, until last season. Why the NFC-AFC breakdown? Because the two are of a different breed, and there is a distinct characteristic study of diversity.

NFC EASTERN DIVISION — The Dallas Cowboys have been to the Super Bowl five times (won two), more than any other club; they have won seven of the 11 division titles since the present system was installed in 1970, and were riding on four straight until Philadelphia dethroned them last season. The Eagles have a well disciplined, balanced attack, embedded in a sea of emotion. With Wilbert Montgomery at full speed and the ever-present Harold Carmichael, Philly should have enough to repeat; despite a more serious Tony Dorsett of the Cowboys, who will be hurting in the defensive secondary. Washington brought in a new coach who is offensive-minded, and new players Joe Washington and Terry Metcalf. These newcomers will help better that 6-10 slate, and initiate a challenge. St. Louis will have Jim Hart, the NFL's leading active passer, back for at least another year; and Otis Anderson in only his third season, is already considered one of the great ones. The New York Giants will move on the Sims to Gray combination, and hope that the Harry Carson-led defense can stop the big play. PREDICTION: 1. Philly 2. Dallas 3. Washington 4. St. Louis 5. N.Y. Giants.

AFC CENTRAL DIVISION — The Cleveland Browns and Houston Oilers beat the Pittsburgh Steelers (won four of four Super Bowls) out of the playoffs last season, but the men who wear black and gold are out to avenge that. They will get their biggest resistance from the division-winning Browns, who play until the final gun. Sipe was the top-rated quarterback in the league in 1980, but Cleveland must display a stiffer pass rush. Houston lost Bum, Whiteshoes, and

the Snake is semi-retired, but they did retain Earl Campbell, the best in the NFL. Pittsburgh should have Franco Harris, Joe Greene, and John Stallworth back at full strength. The Cincinnati Bengals are better than 6-10 with a healthy Ken Anderson, and he should return to true form. PREDICTION: 1. Pittsburgh 2. Cleveland 3. Cincinnati 4. Houston. The wild card teams will probably be the Browns, the Raiders, the

The AFC has outplayed the NFC in head-to-head competition for the past nine years. The NFC had more victories in the first two years, 1970 and 1971, the AFC took 1972, and there was a 19-19-2 tie in 1973. The eleven-year regular season total favors the AFC at 247 wins, 199 losses, and six ties. An AFC has won eleven of the 15 Super Bowls, and last season was more of the same as Oakland claimed the title, and the AFC outclassed its double 33-19-0. Many reasons have been derived to explain the lopsidedness, but the more popular ones are that the NFC was too conservative, and lacked the good young quarterbacks.

AFC WESTERN DIVISION — The Los Angeles Rams had won seven consecutive division titles until the Atlanta Falcons dumped them a year ago. Atlanta could possibly field the strongest team in the league with Bartkowski, a wealth of very capable receivers, good runningbacks, and a scrappy defensive unit; but look for LA to return to the crest. The Rams' grind-it-out operation, led by the quick Wendell Tyler and bruising Cullen Bryant, an inspired defense, and experience should prevail. San Francisco started fast in '80 with quarterback Joe Montana and runningback Earl Cooper, but faltered at mid-season. New Orleans hired Houston-released Bum Phillips to guide its misfortunes. The Saints have a good signal-caller in Archie Manning, and they drafted Heisman Trophy winner George

to unseat any of the rest. Quarterback Jim Zorn and receiver Steve Largent are due. PREDICTION: 1. San Diego 2. Oakland 3. Denver 4. Kansas City 5. Seattle.

Cowboys and the Falcons. (Continued On Page 7)

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versus
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Well, according to statistics in this article, the bomb!!

rediscovered was evident in by nine National Conference and seven American Football Conference (AFC) quarterbacks throwing for 3,000 or more, with Dan Fouts of San Diego, and in Sipe of Cleveland throwing over 4,000; while for 30 touchdowns each. The AFC teams also came rapidly to more touchdowns. The NFC, eight quarterbacks matched their counterpart by having a better score than the pass; with Los Angeles, Atlanta, and San Francisco eclipsing 30. Tampa's Steve Bartkowski led the league with his 31 scoring touchdowns, while Vince Ferrigno of LA (now with Montreal, Canada) had receivers had a too. Nine NFC players and seven receivers caught 60 or more, and four each conference had over 1,000 receptions. San Francisco's phenomenal receiver John Jefferson led the entire team in both yardage

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