

## A&T Picked To Win MEAC Crown

The North Carolina A&T State University Aggies, who won the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference regular season championship a year ago, are picked to do it again, according to a poll taken from MEAC head basketball coaches, sports information directors, and the league office. There were 16 voters and the maximum number of points a team

could receive was 192. The NCA&T Aggies, who went 21-8 last year and played Duke in the NIT, received 14 first place votes and 188 total points. Don Corbett, who was the 1980-81 MEAC Coach of the Year, returns four starters. Howard University (17-12) was second in the pre-season voting with 150 points and one first

place vote. The Bison are two-year defending champions, and because the MEAC had an automatic berth in the NCAA Division I Basketball Championships, they became the first MEAC team to play in that celebrated tournament. Coach A.B. Williamson returns four starters to his squad. Florida A&M (17-11), coached by James Giles,

was third in the voting with 138 points and one first place vote. Delaware State (8-18, Ajac Triplett) had 77 points, South Carolina State (11-15, John Jones) had 75, Bethune-Cookman (13-15), Cy McClairen had 40, and recently readmitted University of Maryland Eastern Shore (17-13, Kirkland Hall) finished with 20 points.

### Big Four

(Continued from Page 9)

say that the Big Four was just too much of a strain emotionally for games that really didn't count.

Will a semblance of the Big Four be revived in the future? It is this writer's opinion that the Big Four is dead forever. There was a super proposal recently to have a super big eight tourney

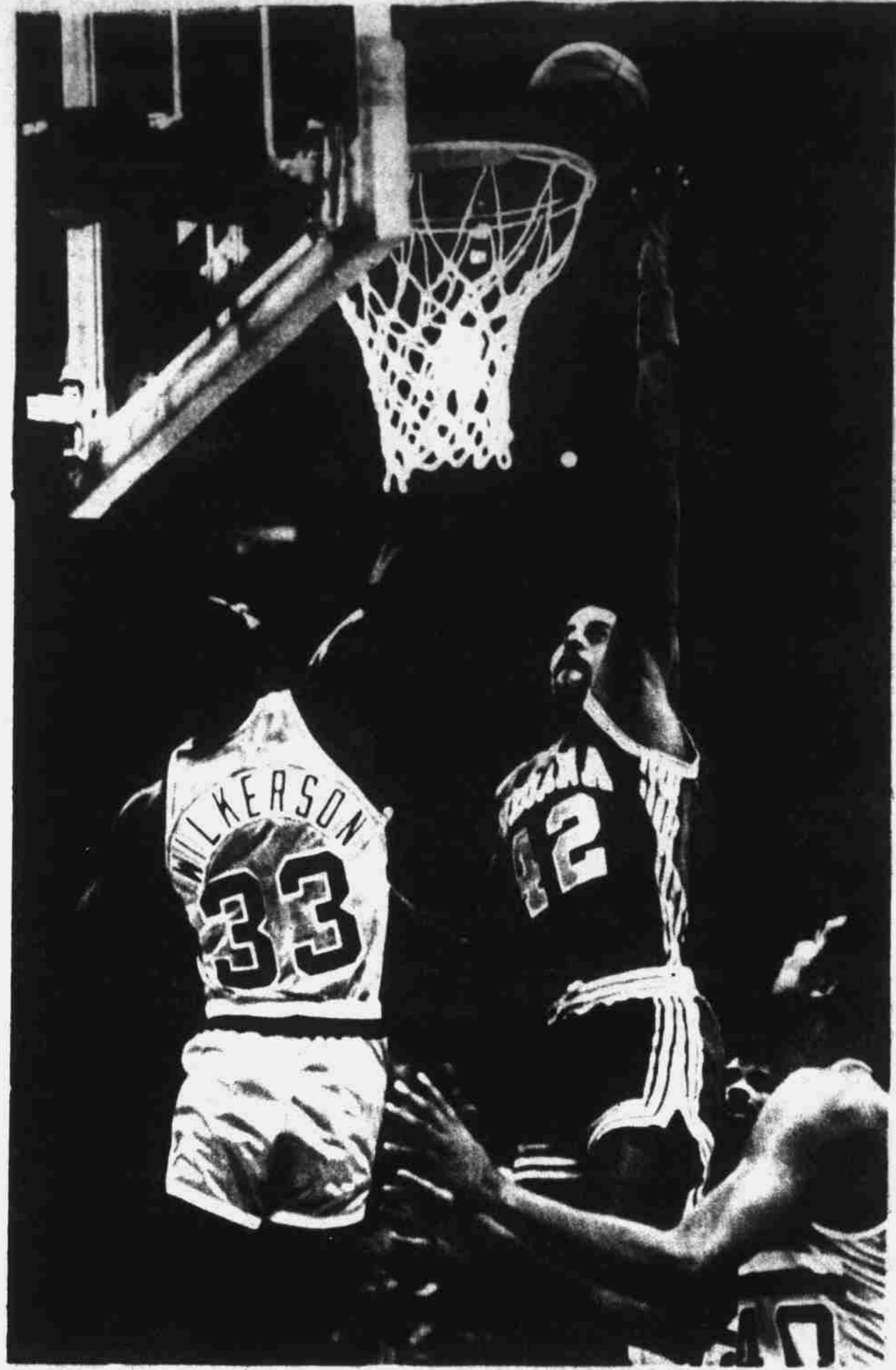
between the four North Carolina teams and four from the midwest — Louisville, Kentucky, Indiana, and Notre Dame — but alas the idea got nowhere. We all know that Kentucky would back out once it saw that Louisville was in the tournament.

I'd also like to see a North Carolina vs. California Big Four (UCLA, USC, San Francisco, Fresno State) but

we all know that UCLA would never do! So, so long, Big Four. ALWAYS playing it in It was nice while it lasted.



"Hamaca" (hammock), "hurucan" (hurricane), "maiz" (corn) and "tabaco" (tobacco) are all words that have come to us from the Taino Indians, the original inhabitants of Puerto Rico.



RICHFIELD, OHIO: Mike Bantam (42) of Indiana attempts a shot, defending is Bobby Wilkerson (33) of Cleveland in first quarter action at the Coliseum UPI Photo

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## Lady Hornets Start Season

By B. Dawson

Hillside girls basketball got underway Tuesday at Hillside gymnasium. The Lady Hornets hosted the Warriors of Eastern Wayne.

Hillside head coach Tony Ford is seeking his fourth straight winning as girls coach. The Lady Hornets finished 6-4 in the Big Six Conference last year and 15-6 overall.

Missing from last year's squad is guard Twin Quick and brilliant 6-4 center Tree Daye. Quick averaged 20.0 point and 6.0 assists per game while center Daye dominated the backboards.

Daye averaged 12 rebounds per game and maintained a 15.0 scoring average. Both Quick and Daye are now playing on Johnson C. Smith University's Women's basketball team.

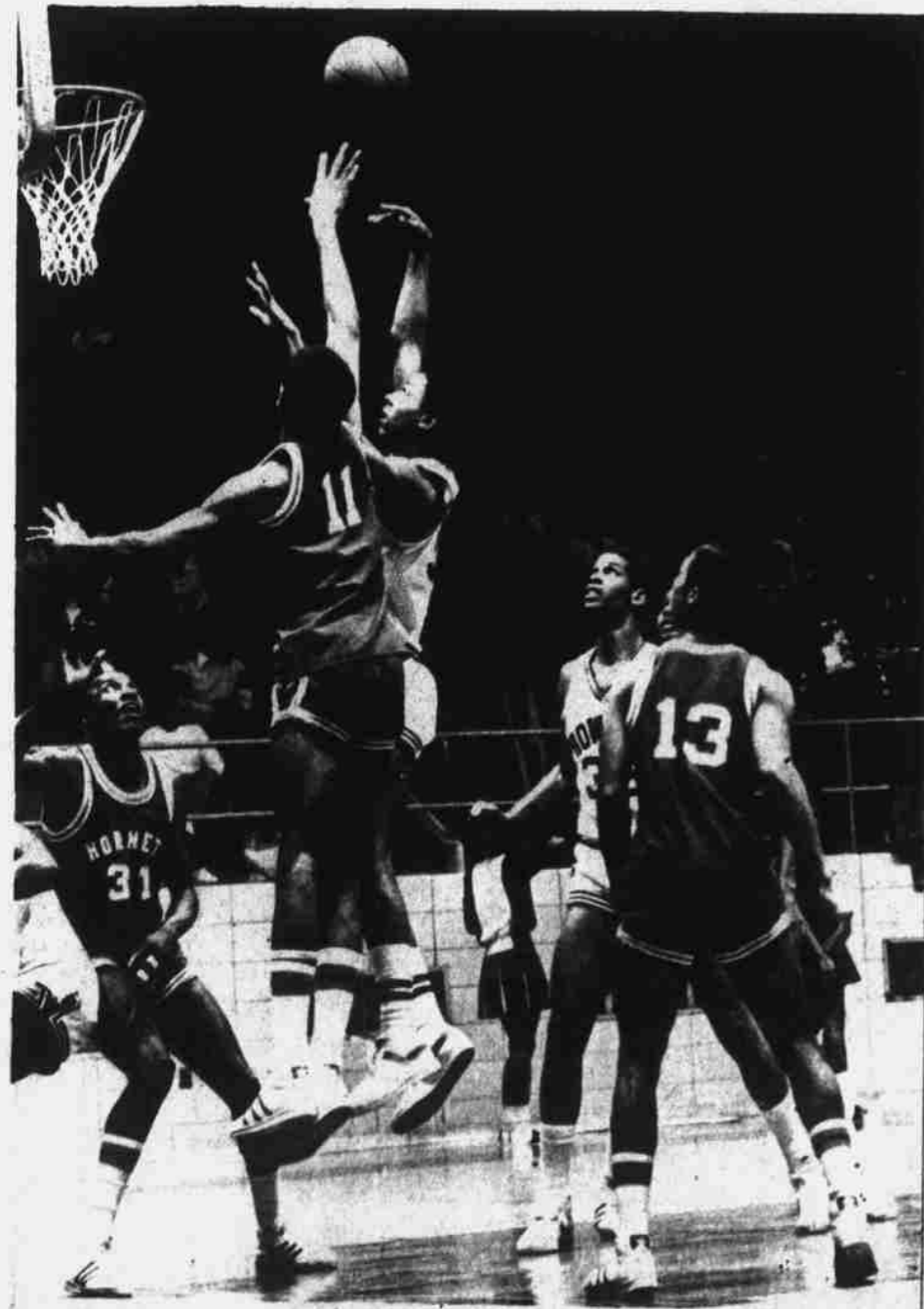
Coach Ford will rely heavily on seniors Lisa Chalmers and Yolanda Langston to fill Quick's and Daye's shoes. Chalmers and Langston are considered two of the best forwards in the Big Six Conference. Langston's biggest basketball honor last season was her selection to the Lee County All-Tournament Christmas Team. For the season, Langston averaged 8.0

points a game and 7.0 rebounds. Coach Ford describes Chalmers as being unstoppable, inside or within 3 to 5 feet from the basket.

Coach Ford will use a rolling offense, an offensive attack he invented, which worked very well with his 1979 team. It is effective against a zone or man-to-man defense. The Lady Hornets' ultimate goal will be to get the ball inside to either Chalmers or Langston.

Defensively, the Lady Hornets will use a zone press regularly to force their opponents to play Hillside's tempo.

(Continued on Page 10)



All-Conference forward James Ratliff (53) gets set to rebound. Ratliff is pre-season MEAC MVP.

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