



INDIANAPOLIS—Florence Griffith, of the USA, outdistances her nearest opponent, Irina Oikhnovnikova in the women's 200-meter race at the annual U.S.-U.S.S.R. Dual Track and Field Meet. The Russians won the 18th annual event, winning both the men's and women's competitions. UPI Photo

In Sports

The South Has Risen Again

By Elson Armstrong, Jr. Although it hasn't been mentioned much for the past two years, there has been a southern take over in NCAA National Championships. In the year of competition just completed, all of the major NCAA team sports titles have been captured by teams from the south.

Just look at the record: the football, basketball, baseball, track, lacrosse and golf titles were won by schools representing states of the Old Confederacy.

With the exception of UCLA, not a single non-southern team could truly scream that they were No. 1 in any wide spread NCAA sport and the signs are there that the south will get even stronger.

In football, for example, the NCAA Crown has been southern property since 1978 and even that year Alabama shared it with Southern California. In succeeding years Alabama, Georgia and Clemson have kept football's biggest prize in the land of the magnolias, soul food and mint juleps.

In collegiate basketball, every member of this year's final four (North Carolina, Georgetown, Louisville, Houston) were all southern teams. Washington, D.C. is a part of the south because it's below the Mason-Dixon Line.

In baseball, Miami of Florida just broke a long western hold on the NCAA baseball title.

In lacrosse, North Carolina has been the dominant team recently in a sport that was once

the pride of the Mid-Atlantic Region.

Houston won the golf title and yes, Texas should also be considered as a southern state. The same holds true for Oklahoma.

Why is the south emerging as the dominant region in college sports?

First of all, sports are truly a life style here. Football and basketball are a way of life beginning in the junior high schools. Sports figures are larger than life in the south and even in the secondary schools the athletes are the most popular people around.

While some areas of the country, because of the financial squeeze, are de-emphasizing sports, the south will never let this occur. Sports are a matter of civic pride.

The south is the current growth area in America. Crowds of newcomers are streaming back into the region, along with numerous industries. The south is on the move. The favorable climate and easy going pace has appeal to northerners and midwesterners who've had it with their decaying large cities or stagnant economies.

This makes today's south a fast growing region with varied cultural and sports interests. Although the University of North Carolina doesn't have a single native Tar Heel on its two time NCAA Champion lacrosse team, the sport has created interest and the athletes love the Chapel Hill campus.

One New Jersey native who plays for the UNC (Continued on Page 6)

The MEAC Wraps Up Directors Meeting

GREENSBORO — Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference Commissioner Ken Free along with the MEAC Athletic Directors, concluded a two-day meeting July 8, held at the conference's home office in Greensboro, where several important issues were finalized.

For the coming 1982 football season, the MEAC has installed a tie-breaking system for its regular season conference games. Commissioner Free said that the MEAC will administer the tie-breaker plan used by the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) for its Division I-AA, Division II and Division III football championships if a game is tied after regulation play.

With the MEAC's automatic berth in the Division I-AA football championship, Free said, "The system will better assist us in determining our conference champion."

Defending MEAC

champion South Carolina State experienced the NCAA tie-breaker last December when the Bulldogs defeated Tennessee State 26-25 in the first round of the I-AA playoffs.

The second issue was the new dates, times, and insertion of women for the 1983 MEAC Basketball Tournament. March 3, 4, and 5 are the new dates for the tournament, returning to the Greensboro Coliseum after a three-year stint in nearby Winston-Salem.

Women's basketball is the big addition to the 1983 tournament. All seven MEAC schools will participate, just as the men have since the conference's inception.

The established format will have women's quarter-final games on Thursday, March 3, at 11 a.m., 1 p.m., and 3 p.m. The men's quarter-final games will start at 5 p.m., 7 p.m., and 9 p.m. On Friday, March 4, women's semi-final games are set for 3 and 5 (Continued on Page 6)

South Carolina State Wins All-Sports Trophy

GREENSBORO — The South Carolina State Bulldogs collected 42 points and won the 1981-82 Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference All-Sports Championship for the third straight athletic season.

A MEAC school must accumulate three all-sports titles, not necessarily in succession, before it can permanently retire a MEAC trophy. S.C. State remarkably retired its third permanent trophy this year. In 1981-82, S.C. State

won MEAC championships in football, indoor track and field, wrestling, and golf. The Bulldogs finished second both in tennis and outdoor track and field, and came in third in cross country and basketball.

Their 42 points were ten better than second place Florida A&M and Howard University, Delaware State finished third with 23 points, North Carolina A&T and the University of Maryland Eastern Shore tied for fourth with 16

points each, and Bethune-Cookman ended the scoring with 11 points.

MEAC Commissioner Ken Free released the all-sports results during an MEAC Athletic Directors' meeting July 8 in Greensboro.

Dr. Willis Ham, S.C. State's Athletic Director, had these comments following the announcement: "The ultimate goal in the department of athletics at South Carolina State College is the demonstration of ex-

cellence in the total sports program. Retiring the MEAC All-Sports Trophy for the third time in a decade (1972-82) is the most visible means available for our program to display publicly that it has in fact achieved excellence in its performance. The administrative staff and players at South Carolina State are already looking forward to the first leg of the new trophy, and the opportunity to further demonstrate its commitment to excellence."