

**Prep Spotlight**

# North Rally Overcomes Andrews

By SAM DAVIS  
Staff Writer

Scottie Johnson and Gary Hairston paced a furious North Forsyth rally that carried the Vikings to a 60-58 victory last Friday over visiting High Point Andrews. The Vikings trailed until the final four minutes of the fourth quarter before snapping out of a lull and taking control of the game.

Going into the game, the Vikings boasted a 3-0 record, including an earlier win over Andrews. However, Coach Olan Shuler insisted his team was not overconfident. "We just started off slow against them," Shuler said. "We had a tough game against them the first time we played them. Andrews is a physical team; they just pushed us out of our offense tonight."

Shuler also said the Red Raiders had several advantages over the Vikings, noting, "They're probably quicker at guard than we are."

"With a young club like we have, that takes a big toll on your offensive game," Shuler added, referring to the Andrews pressure defense that forced numerous North turnovers. "At one point in the game we had three juniors on the court at the same time."

Johnson, North Forsyth's 6-5 junior center, said the Vikings felt they were outplayed in the first half, so they did some soul-searching at halftime and decided it was time to rise to the occasion.

Starting in only the second game after an early-season injury, Johnson was matched against Earl Hoke, the Red Raiders' muscular 6-4 center who dominated the boards in the first half, scoring 10 of his 18 points.

"I felt a little pressured in the first half," said Johnson. "But I knew that if I took my time and played my game, I'd be all right. He (Hoke) outplayed me in the first half."

"But, at halftime Coach told us to take our time and be patient. So, going out after halftime, I figured I had to do my part to help the team. I felt that I could play much better than I had in the first half and I wanted to prove it."

Although Johnson sank the winning shot to give North the win, hitting a short jumper in the lane with only 23 seconds left in



High scorer Gary Hairston of North, spurred by an unpopular call by an official, came alive in the fourth quarter (photo by James Parker).

the game and blocking an Andrews shot in the lane to preserve the victory, it was Hairston who brought the Vikings to life in the fourth quarter.

In the first half, Hairston had a difficult time getting his shots to drop. But he kept shooting and, in the second half, began to find the range. Hairston had 13 second-half points, including two key three-point plays. Yet, it was his defensive effort that got the Vikings fired up in the waning minutes.

Hairston, a 6-foot guard, got the crowd more involved in the game when he went up for what seemed to be a clean block of a Hoke lay-up. However, he was whistled for his fourth foul, which the sparse but vocal North supporters objected to vehemently.

Hairston responded with an electrifying one-handed lay-up over several Andrews defenders, followed by a baseline jumper over Hoke. Within the next couple of minutes, he also had two defensive rebounds to go along with a steal and a jumper from outside.

By the time Hairston fouled out with 1:06 remaining, the Vikings had overcome an eight-point deficit going into the final period and had taken a 57-55 lead. From that point, Johnson's last-minute heroics preserved the win for North.

"After halftime, we felt that we should start playing our game," Hairston said of the Vikings' attitude going into the final two quarters. "I don't think we were ready to play mentally. They gave us a hard time the first time we played them, so we knew it wouldn't be an easy win."

"Being down in the fourth quarter really made me want to play harder, especially after I picked up my fourth foul. I was trying to get the team back in the game and, after I picked up the foul, I knew I would have to do things in a hurry."

Hairston and backcourt mate William Hardy were both saddled with foul trouble throughout the game and that prevented the Vikings from running much of their offense. Without Har-

dy on the court, Shuler said, the Vikings are not the same team. "William is the glue that holds us together," said Shuler. "With him in the game we can get the type of movement on offense that will allow us to execute."

When Hardy went out of the game with his fourth foul mid-way into the third quarter, Andrews began to exert its dominance, widening its margin to as many as 11 points. But Shuler brought into the game at the start of the fourth quarter to help ignite the North Forsyth attack, and his strategy worked to perfection as Hardy played the entire period without picking up a foul.

Antonio Smith, the Vikings' 6-5 starting power forward, also played well, keeping North close in the first half by scoring eight points. Smith's 15 points in the game were second among the Vikings to Hairston's 16. Johnson chipped in with 13 points to go along with his strong inside game.

North remains unbeaten this season with a 4-0 mark.

# Virginia Union Destroys Rams

From Page B2

Saturday night. But those were the only two wins by Southern Division teams against Northern foes over the weekend.

In other action, Elizabeth City hammered Shaw 92-77 and Hampton Institute bombed Fayetteville State 84-65 as Hank Ford bested his brother Jake.

Only two Southern Division teams have won CIAA tourneys in the past 10 years. Fayetteville State claimed the title in '73 and Gaines' Rams were victorious in '77, the last Southern Division victory.

Norfolk State claimed the title in '78 and '81; Dave Robbins coached Virginia Union to back-to-back titles in '79 and '80, and Hank Ford's Hampton Institute Pirates have claimed the last two.

With limited action set during exams and Christmas break, those three teams look as if they have the best shots at the

1984 crown. Hampton is 8-1, with one league win. Union is unbeaten in six outings and Norfolk has won five without a loss.

What is the key to this Virginia domination? "Recruiting," according to Gaines. "Union has spent money on major-college transfers and their alumni have helped them get players like Oakley. Hampton is fortunate to have the money to go out and recruit and Norfolk is in an area where there are a lot of fine players. And dominance is determined by who gets the big kid that can play."

"Around here," he continued, "with four ACC schools you aren't going to get any top-flight kids to go to a Division II school. Every kid wants to play on television and their parents and coaches want the same thing."

And what will Gaines do as he goes for his first CIAA title since '77? "We

will just have to work harder on our patterns and concentrate more," he said.

The Rams will entertain St. Paul's on Dec. 16, then will not play again until Jan. 11 and 12, when they play Morehouse and Shaw, respectively.

"The break will be a hind-

rance," said Gaines. "But about all CIAA schools are in the same boat. When we get back we will have to start all over again with about five days before we play Morehouse."

The Rams are now 5-2 on the season and have yet to play a Southern Division game.

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Man And Woman Of The Year

Once again the Chronicle solicits your aid in selecting our Man and Woman of the Year. The nominees should be local residents who have made significant contributions to progress in the black community in the past calendar year.

Though we realize the holidays are a busy time of the year, we think you'll agree that the five or 10 minutes it takes to fill out this form is well worth the recognition your nominees deserve for their efforts.

The winners will be announced and profiled in our January 26 "Year In Review" special edition. Nominations may be returned by mail to P.O. Box 3154, Winston-Salem, N.C. 27102 or in person at the Chronicle offices at 516 N. Trade Street. Please print legibly and be as specific as possible in describing your nominees' accomplishments.

<p><b>-Woman of the Year</b> Nominee's Name _____ Nominee's Address _____ Occupation _____ Nominee's activities, memberships, affiliations _____ _____</p>	<p><b>Man of the Year</b> Nominee's Name _____ Nominee's Address _____ Occupation _____ Nominee's activities, memberships, affiliations _____ _____</p>
<p>Please explain briefly why you think this person deserves to be "Woman of the Year." Attach an additional sheet if necessary. _____ _____</p>	<p>Please explain briefly why you think this person deserves to be "Man of the Year." Attach an additional sheet if necessary. _____ _____</p>
<p>Your Name _____ Your Address _____ Your Phone No.: Home _____ Work _____ Your Signature _____</p>	<p>Your Name _____ Your Address _____ Your Phone No.: Home _____ Work _____ Your Signature _____</p>