WSSU peaking at right time?

From Page B2

high-powered of their own gym in the spot. final moments of an 81-60 drubbing.

tion."

Not only were the Rams wholeheartedly with him. somewhat out of shape, but time became limited.

St. to once again take on St. Augustine's three nights Augustine's, which by now later as the Falcons nearly had solidified its hold on slam-dunked the Rams out the Southern Division's top

"Winston had a bad Russell was again having stretch tonight and the last problems with his knees and time we played them they his practice and playing were out of shape," Heartley said. "Don't let John Watkins, the star- Gaines' crying fool you. He ting point guard at the has one of the better teams beginning of the season, in this league and watch had lost confidence and him come tournament

"The effort was good

tonight," Gaines said after

"Don't let Gaines' crying fool you. He has one of the better teams in this league and watch him come tourney time."

-- St. Augustine's Harvey Heartley

relinquished his starting time." role to Alonzo Willis, a steadier ballhandler, but been right. Since that loss James Parker). less of a scoring threat and on Feb. 1, the Rams have much less of an imposing reeled off six wins against a defensive player as well.

to the Winston-Salem Col-

don't have," moaned better shape now and are Gaines after the 78-60 playing better together." shellacking. "They have The following night the Joe Binion to do their inside Rams shook off a sluggish defense triggers your of-Jimmy Brown outside. And teville 64-37 in the second tion baskets." they don't throw the ball half of a 94-72 win. away."

heavyweights.

when WSSU visited Raleigh in the game.

The Rams tried harder

but the Falcons again came "This team has some out on top 87-78. And glaring weaknesses," said Gaines again talked about Gaines after the defeat, his "lack-ofs" after the "Right now we are not in game, though Falcon real good physical condi- Coach Harvey Heartley wasn't about to agree

Heartley just may have WSSU's Linwood Gorham drives against Fayetteville State (photo by

"We've been working on way. single loss. And even in the a three-quarter pick-up on Trailing 19-18 with 5:58 Still, Gaines' team won loss, against North defense as a tempo-setter," left in the first half, they more consistently than it Carolina A&T in he said. "We'll have to do outscored the Bears 16-2 lost. The Rams got by both Greensboro, the Rams led that type thing against over the remainder of the Livingstone and Fayet- for much of the first half teams with a strong inside half to grab a 34-21 cushion teville-but were manhandled and played even with the attack or their big men will at intermission and never by North Carolina A&T in taller, more talented Aggies have a field day. I keep tell- looked back as they rolled to peak." their first visit of the season three quarters of the game. ing our kids that your to a 72-57 romp.

"A&T has just what we the game. "The kids are in "The last week this team is starting to peak." -- "Bighouse" Gaines

The Rams proved they continued to heed their Russell's injury had slowed At that point, the Rams could combat a strong in- coach's words in their final him in the Rams' earlier though he admits that this looked like a team that side attack as they shut off regular-season game last loss to the Bears. could handle the mediocre the Broncos' twin towers of Saturday night against teams but was an easy 6-8 William Person and 6-9 Shaw. Their loss to the knockout for the Ed James in the second Bears early in January turn- of Kevin Vaughn and Buck champion Hampton in the The Rams did little to Gaines admitted that a kept them from winning the Vaughn scored 23 points be peaking at just the right change that impression change of strategy paid off Southern Division title and and hauled in 12 rebounds time: CIAA tournament

"We improved our work and Eric Boyd and first half to outscore Fayet- fense by setting up transi- defense and got our transition game going," said The Rams apparently Gaines, who also noted that

they got revenge in a big while Mitchell had 12 points time.

(6 for 8 from the field) four assists, two blocked shots and three steals.

"We had good balance on the boards tonight," said Gaines. "This last week the team is beginning

Gaines' players share that sentiment. "We are playing our best ball of the season now," said Vaughn, "This year we feel we are going into the tourney on the upsw-

It's been six long years since Gaines brought a CIAA tourney title back to Winston-Salem. And, even year's squad is a far cry from the team that lost a But it was the inside play heartbreaker to eventual ed out to be the game that Mitchell that keyed the win. semi-finals last year, it may

Opening the doors

From Page B2

the most sacred sport in America and certainly the most

The National Football League, which enjoys a cozy relationship with what is the biggest farm system in sports, refuses to touch underclassmen, whether they are still in school or whether they have long ago succumbed to grade-point averages that were never a match for their clockings in the 40-yard dash.

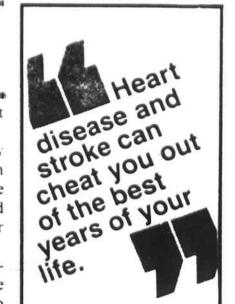
Let a Marcus Dupree or Herschel Walker suggest leaving college early, and the do-gooders scramble out of the woodwork, suggesting such is all but tantamount to trading computer secrets with the USSR.

It's a sickening farce.

On one hand, educators and coaches feed us the baloney that big-time athletes really are students, and it is their education that is foremost.

On the other hand, they tell us that an athlete should be treated just like any other student. But unlike other students, college football players can't go to work when they're ready to do so.

There is no reason why a football player as talented as Marcus Dupree, or even one who is not as blessed, should be prevented from casting his lot with the NFL or any other football league, regardless of his academic stan-



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PEPSI PREP ATHLE OF THE WEEK



THE Pepsi Cola Bottling Company of Winston-Salem is proud to salute wrestler Geno Seegers of East Forsyth...He's The Pepsi Prep Athlete of the Week. Seeger won the 198 pound wrestling championship in the Central Piedmont Conference and is one of the favorites going into sectional competition.

N honor of wrestling champion Geno Seegers, The Pepsi Cola Bottling Company of Winston-Salem will make a cash contribution to the East Forsyth Senior High School athletic program. Congratulations to Geno Seegers of East Forsyth, The Pepsi Prep Athlete of the Week.

Listen each Wednesday at 8 p.m. on WSJS for Gene Overby TALKS SPORTS where he highlights Pepsi's Prep Athlete of the Week.

Black College Briefs

Howard to play ambitious schedule

By BARRY COOPER Syndicated Columnist

WASHINGTON -- Howard University will play one of the most ambitious schedules of any team in black college baseball this spring. The Bison have announced a 51-game schedule, including a nine-game road trip through the South in mid-March. Among the teams Howard will play are Maryland, Pittsburgh, Furman, Georgia Tech, Georgia and Virginia Tech.

half.

Jackson Dies

CHARLOTTE -- Edward L. Jackson, one of the biggest names in the history of Johnson C. Smith University athletics, died recently. His funeral was held in Washington, D.C.

Jackson took over a losing J.C. Smith football team and shaped it into a powerhouse in the 1940s. Jackson won 76 percent of his games at Smith, forging a 47-14-7 record.

He also coached the Smith basketball team, putting together a 148-56 record, including a 20-5 finish during the 1940-41 season.

Still No Game

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. -- Bethune-Cookman College, still anxious to schedule a football game with archrival Florida A&M, has continued its media blitz against the Rattlers. B-CC Coach Larry Little recently accused "recruiters from a rival finstitution" of spreading rumors that B-CC's athletic department is on the verge of financial collapse, and might have to drop football.

Though Little refused to be more specific, the implications were clear that he was talking about Florida A&M. The Rattlers, calling the allegations ridiculous, declin-

ed comment. Little insisted B-CC football is here to stay.

"I've never heard of the program being in trouble," he said. "And when Dr. (Oswald) Bronson (B-CC president) hired me, he told me he made a commitment that football is here to stay."

Little's accusations did nothing to help the already

stalemated talks between the two schools. The schools did not play last year, and most indications are that an agreement will not be reached for this year, either.

B-CC continues to insist that the game be played in Tampa Stadium, where it was played for five straight years before crowds of 30,000 or more.

Florida A&M wants this year's game played in its stadium in Tallahassee, which seats 25,500.

This And That

ORLANDO, Fla. -- Other black college tidbits: Grambling football Coach Eddie Robinson says he isn't-worried about chasing the victory record set by the late Paul "Bear" Bryant.

Please see page B6 MANANANANANAN

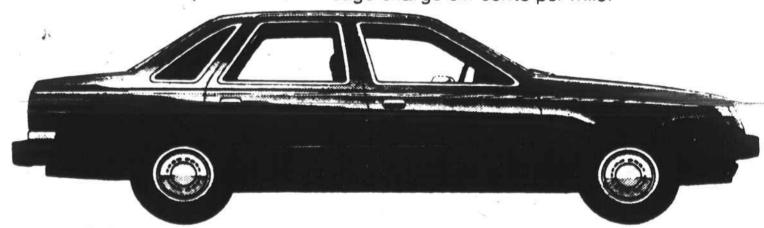


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