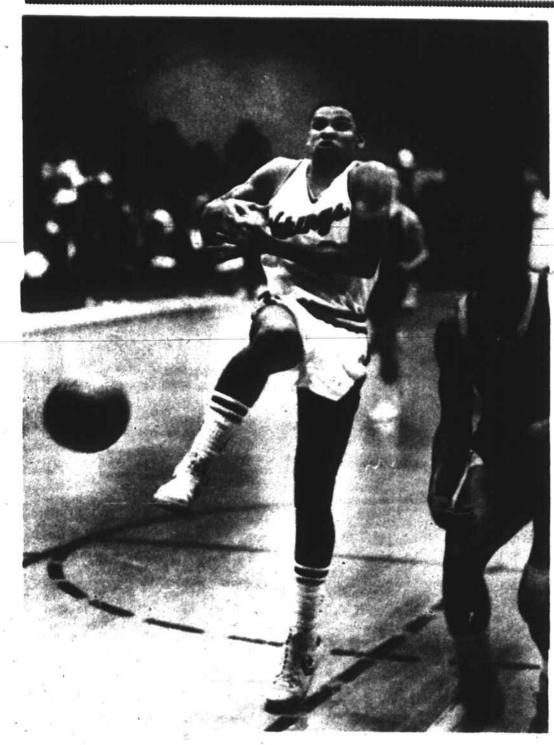
Vikings manhandle Yellow Jackets



North Forsyth's Deddrick Hatchett drives in for a layup, but Richard Daniels of Carver deflects the ball away. Hatchett and the Vikings had little trouble defeating the Yellow Jackets 81-46 (photo by James Parker).

Black College Sports

No TV, no need for Division I-AA

Playing in front of a standingroom-only crowd, North worked the ball in for frequent mediumrange jumpers that helped the Vikings hit 58 percent of their shots (31 of 53) from the field.

"Over the years, North Forsyth has shot well because we take good shots," said Shuler. "We passed the ball well tonight and for a while we completely took over their inside game."

Leading the way was Johnson, a senior who scored 23 points and

"We came out determined to play. From the opening tip to the final whistle our guys played as hard as they could play."

-- Olon Shuler

blocked seven Yellow Jacket shots. Howard, the muchballyhooed junior, tossed in 21, missing only one shot from the field in the second half.

Howard played his finest game of the season, showing the form that has made him one of the most highly-recruited local players in recent years.

Carver was paced by junior forward Ray Agnew, who had 15 second-half points, but was shackled by Johnson in the first half and could only manage a single free throw. Richard Daniels, subbing for injured starting point guard Corey Belton, scored eight points, all from the outside. Six of Daniels' points came in the first half and kept the Yellow Jackets from being blown out even earlier.

Center Fernando Horn, Carver's leading scorer, was held to only 10 points and fouled out of the game with more than five minutes left.

The Vikings cruised to the win over Carver, but Shuler said his team won't become overconfident.

"We won't get too much confidence from this game," said Shuler. "If we play with enthusiasm and effort teams are going to have to play really well to beat us. This team wants to be good and that's what I want from them."



1983 Chat

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Syndicated Columnist

Now that it has become crystal clear that black colleges in this country never again will receive big dollars from network television, perhaps it is time to re-think this idea of trying to compete in the NCAA's Division I-AA.

It was about seven years ago that the NCAA announced it was forming a new division. It would be for those schools who felt they had outgrown Division II but weren't ready to line up against the biggest schools in the country, like Notre Dame and Southern California.

About 38 schools -- including about 12 predominantly black ones -- jumped at the idea and eagerly gave up their Division II membership. However, the real lure was not the prospect of competing in the new league, but the possibility of getting rich from television receipts.

For a while, it worked. Florida A&M estimates it made nearly \$1 million over a six-year period, and other schools, like Grambling and Tennessee State, often enjoyed paydays of \$300,000 or more.

Those times are gone, though, done in by the Supreme Court decision to deregulate coffege football television rights. Now, the networks are not forced to pay attention to the smaller schools, as they had to under the previous arrangement. As a result, not a single Division I-AA team be it predominantly black or white -- has appeared on network TV this season.

The question to ask is this: If television possibilities have dried up for the I-AA schools, is there any reason to remain in the league? The answer is a resounding no.

The only thing Division I-AA has to offer now is a chance to compete for its national championship. Big deal. None of this year's playoff games will be shown by any of the major networks, and the schools which participate in the playoffs will receive money only for expenses.

The bottom line is that Division I-AA has lost its attractiveness, and virtually every school in the league must take a close look at what is happening.

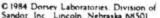
Black schools are finding this to be an acute situation. In their attempts to become competitive on the Division I level, many black college athletic departments have incurred huge deficits and have had to all but allow their other sports to die. There simply isn't enough money to go around. A move back to Division II could change all that. Not only would the schools benefit from a cut in expenses, but they would be free to recruit players who meet the most minimum admission standards. We actually could see many black colleges form stronger teams as a result.

Of course, there are other considerations. If Division I-AA is considered small-time, then Division II certainly is the pits.

But would it be that way if, say, all the black college teams dropped down? Probably not.

It may turn out that this is a moot issue, though. With the way things are going, Division I-AA may just shrivel up and die. Then the schools will be forced back home.





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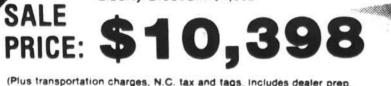


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