Ashbrook eliminates East in 4-A semis

By DAVID BULLA Chronicle Sports Editor

Coach Ron Jessup was accustomed to his East Forsyth baseball team rallying in the late innings.

More often than not, those rallies led to wins in Jessup's most successful season as the Eagles' coach. But a seventh-inning rally fell a run short last Tuesday night and East's season ended with a 4-3 loss to Gastonia Ashbrook in the semifinals of the NCHSAA 4-A playoffs.

The Eagles, who posted a 19-3-1 record, stranded 11 base runners, leaving the bases loaded three times.

"We had opportunities to win ...," said Jessup, in his ninth year as the East coach. "I really thought we might score in the third and fourth innings when we had the bases loaded and the middle of the order up. But

College Notebook

we didn't get the ball out of the infield."

Ashbrook advanced to the finals, being played this week, at unbeaten Southern Wayne. Ashbrook took a 20-3 record into the championship series against 25-0 Southern Wayne.

The Eagles trailed 4-1 going to the seventh inning. Chris Sparrow and Brad Craddock delivered run-scoring singles to cut the Ashbrook lead to 4-3.

But Ashbrook reliever Rich Gibson struck out Tracy DeBusk and Todd Good to seal the verdict.

"The strange thing is their pitchers struggled," Jessup said. "I felt we should have scored eight or nine runs."

Coy Christiansen worked the first six innings for East, scattering eight hits. The rising senior is one of nine players who return next season. Also back are Tim Snow, Ronnie Plemmons and Sparrow,

"We feel good about the future," the Eagle coach said. "We're not going to let this loss detract from what our accomplishments, which should carry over to

NOTES: East's Mike Meadows was named the Central Piedmont Conference Player of the Year.... With the season complete, Jessup plans to play for the Winston-Salem Pond Giants.... Whiteville High School, behind first-round draft choice Tommy Greene, was ranked in the Top 25 by USA Today this week. The 6-foot-5, 225-pound Greene had an earned run average of 0.33 while leading the Wolfpack to the 2-A finals against Randleman. Greene, drafted by the Atlanta Braves on Monday, had 238 strikeouts in 110 innings -- a phenomenal 2.16 strikeouts per inning or 15.12 per seveninning game.

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MEAC basketball to stay in Philadelphia Palestra

Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference Commissioner Ken Free has announced that the conference will play its post-season basketball tournament at Philadelphia's Palestra again next year.

Free made the announcement at the MEAC meeting two weeks ago in Daytona Beach, Fla.

The MEAC also decided to make women's tennis a conference-sanctioned sport. The conference already sponsored five other women's sports, including indoor and outdoor track, basketball, cross country and volleyball.

Division II Track

The St. Augustine's men took third and the Falcon women were fourth in the NCAA Division II outdoor track and field meet at California State Los Angeles May 25....

Abilene Christian swept to both championships, extending its hold on the men's title to four years and ending Cal Poly San Luis Obispo's three-year dominance of the women's competition.

Falcon hurdler Patricia Davis finished second in the 100-meter lows. She was sixth in the 100-meter dash.

The Hampton University men finished eighth and the Alabama A&M women finished third.

SWAC All-Sports Honors

The Prairie View A&M men and the Southern women captured the Southwestern Athletic Conference's C.D. Henry All-Sports Trophies.

Walker Honored

North Carolina Central interim Chancellor Leroy T. Walker has

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PITCHING STATISTICS

been elected chairman of the board of North Carolina Amateur Sports.

Walker, who was elected president of The Athletics Congress during the winter, also serves on the U.S. Olympic Committee's Executive Board. He was one of the founding fathers of the National Sports Festival, which will be held in the Triangle in two years.

The 1976 U.S. Olympic track coach is a member of nine sports shrines, including the National Track Hall of Fame and the North Carolina Sports Hall of Fame.

Walker was Central's track and field coach from 1945-74, and he trained 40 national title winners and 117 all-Americas.

Delaware MEAC's Best

Delaware State has captured the MEAC's T.L. Hill All-Sports

The Hornets dethroned South Carolina State, which had won the award for 11 straight years.

Delaware State totaled 40 points, edging Howard (with 37) and North Carolina A&T and S.C. State (both with 33).

The Hornets won only the cross country championship. However, they tallied most of their points on second- and thirdplace finishes. Delaware State was second in football, indoor track and wrestling, and third in basketball, outdoor track and baseball.

Cardin To Speak

BLACK COLLEGE PLAYERS IN THE MAJORS

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50

112

144

2.78

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The above averages are for black college players currently in the major les

delient: Ban-Sesten: ()-Detroit; (NV-Colcago White Set; Co-Cincinnett; KG-et City; LA-Lax Angeles: Mit-Milwautes; Mit-Montreal; Ph-Philadelphie; Pit-mush S-eartis; SD-Set Diego; SF-Set Francisco College abbreviations: A&T-Carolina R&T; CS-Central State, Ohio: PA-Ploride A&N; Hit-Movers; ISU-et State; LS-Lawren State, Alabama; Phys-Frairic Mew A&N; BA-St tino's; SU-Sections University; TS-Tennessee State; Tusic-Tusinger; YS-

Benjamin L. Cardin, speaker of Maryland's House of Delegates, speaks Thursday at the groundbreaking ceremony for Coppin State's new physical education facility.

million renovation effort, scheduled to be completed in the fall. It includes an overhaul of Coppin's existing gymnasium, plus the construction of auxiliary features.

The facility at the Baltimore

school is undergoing a \$6.1

Tenn. State Probation

The Tennessee State athletic program recently received a penalty of one year's probation from the NCAA, which called on the school to return more than \$80,052.80 in football playoff appearance money.

NCCU's Smith Dies

Maynard Lee Smith, former Patriots of the National Football linebacker on the North Carolina League.

Smith went to the Browns' minicamp to try to make the team as a free agent, but the Browns sent

NFL Signings

last two seasons.

A pair of former Albany State players, fullback James Lewis and offensive guard Willie Muckle, signed recently as free agents with the New England

him home after the physical.

Central football team, died Sun-

day at his home in Greenville,

Smith, 21, had been the Eagles'

The cause of death is pending

autopsy. However, Smith failed a

physical last month with the

Cleveland Browns of the NFL.

third-leading tackler each of the

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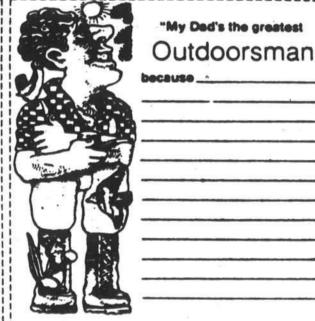
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