

## DIVISION II REGIONALS

# Women's teams struggle in first rounds

Black college women's teams were shut-out in the Division II playoffs. Only one of the four teams advanced to the regional finals.

In the South Atlantic Regionals, Norfolk State reached the final round before bowing out. Johnson C. Smith was eliminated in the opening round by the Spartanettes. St. Augustine's was ousted in its first round game in the New England Regionals. Fort Valley State suffered the same fate in the South Regionals.

Here's a recap of the action involving those four teams.

## South Atlantic Regionals

The Spartanettes seemed ready to advance to the second round of the playoffs. But in the finals, they lost to North Dakota 63-48 on their home floor.

Norfolk (25-7) didn't shoot well (26 percent), but still stayed in contention, trailing 29-22 at the half. The second half wasn't much better — NSU shot 30 percent from the field.

North Dakota kept Norfolk out of synch by controlling the boards (49-29).

Offensively, NSU had only two players to score in double figures. Frenzley topped the offense with 14 points and eight rebounds. Jennine Tanks was next with 13 points. Hycynthia Spells finished with nine boards and seven rebounds.

Tracey Pudenz led North Dakota with 16 points and five assists. Shea Smirl added 12 points and Sheri Kleinsasser contributed 10 points and eight rebounds.

In the opening round, the Spartanettes rambled past Johnson C. Smith, 108-71. Norfolk's women siezed control early and never let go, holding a commanding 42-25 lead at the half.

The key to victory was NSU's defense and rebounding. Coach James Sweat's crew forced 31 turnovers and won the battle of glass by a 54-45 margin. In the meantime, Norfolk had six players to score in double figures. Cassandra Hall tallied a game-high 29 points and Tanks had 20. Frenzley and Spells tallied 13 points each. DeShonna Anderson and Lisa Rice scored 12 and 11 points respectively. Anderson was the team's top rebounder with 11 and Spells had 10.

Smith, on the other hand, was knocked for a loop because of cold shooting. The Lady Golden Bulls hit on just 8 of 31 in the first half.

Shani Baraka was the top scorer for JCS with 16 points and five assists. Mildred Coley had 13 points and seven rebounds, and April Whitten had 11 points and nine rebounds. Yvette Perry finished with 10 points. JCS ended the year at 22-9.

St. Augustine's ran into problems

## New England Regionals

with shooting and ball handling, which paved the way for a 96-74 loss to Stonehill College (Mass.) in the first round of the New England Regionals.

Stonehill dominated the boards with a 56-41 advantage and forced 21 SAC turnovers. At game's end, the Lady Falcons had shot 37 percent from the field.

Natasha Miller carried most of the offensive load for St. Aug's with 22 points on 10 of 12 shooting. Carolyn Brown, the CIAA's MVP, had an off-night. Brown finished with 19 points, but connected on just 7 of 20 shot attempts (30 percent).

Fort Valley State played well enough

## South Regionals

in the first half, but was overwhelmed in the second half and the result was a 96-68 loss to West Georgia in the first round of South Regionals.

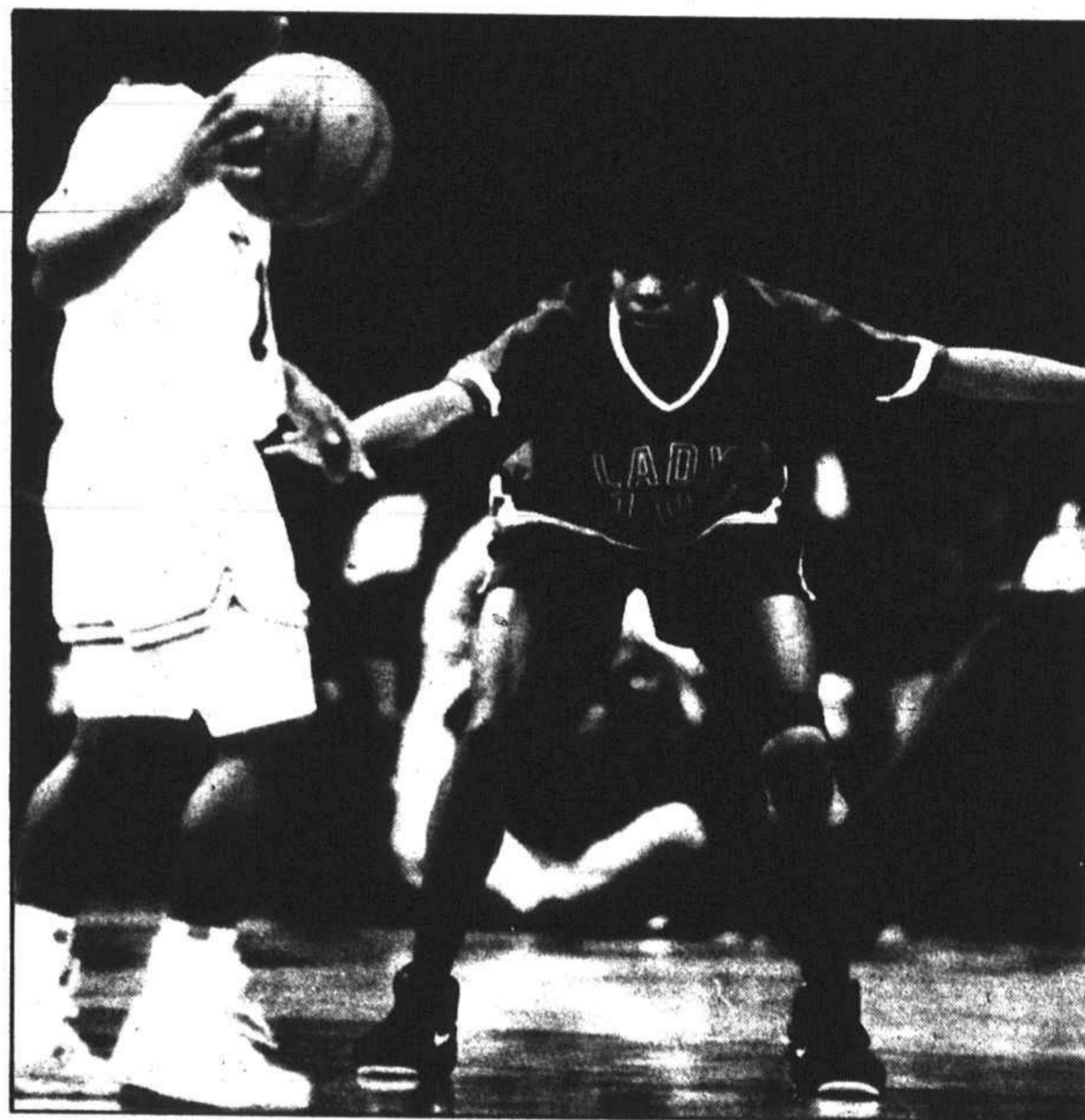
The Lady Wildcats (21-9) weren't in bad shape, trailing 33-27 in the first half. But the final 20 minutes told the story.

West Georgia blitzed Valley 63-41.

Seleria Newton led Valley's offense with 22 points. The usually productive Debbie Ray finished with 12 points and so did Dee Dee Davis. Cynthia Bridges contributed 10 points and seven rebounds.

Valley shot 36.8 percent from the field and 58.3 percent from the foul line.

— Zack Monday



Devonia Nixon and the rest of her St. Aug's mates couldn't get much of anything going against Stonehill College (Mass.). Photo by Wade Nash

# Va. Union takes care of business in finals

Virginia Union guaranteed itself a return trip to the Elite Eight by destroying all comers in the South Atlantic Regionals.

The Panthers captured the title by pasting Johnson C. Smith 87-70 in the finals, putting the game away in the second half with a 50-34 run. At halftime, Smith was in the game, trailing 37-36.

Walter Hurd turned Smith with 33 points and Derrick Johnson followed up with 14 points, nine rebounds and four blocked shots. Aaron Gosa tallied 12 points and Reggie Jones chipped in with 10 points and 11 rebounds.

The Golden Bulls wanted to make amends for losing to Union in the CIAA Tournament, but Union dashed all hopes. Mark Sherrill led JCS with 22 points. Kevin Reid played solid with 11 points

and 13 rebounds, but high-scoring guard Columbus Parker (22.3 ppg), ended up with just eight points.

In the consolation match-up, Albany State emerged as 73-30 victors over Norfolk State. Albany (20-9) found itself in a hole early on, falling behind by 38-30 at the half.

But the second half proved to be decisive and the Rams took advantage of it. Michael Bivins was the ace for Albany with 24 points, 10 rebounds and three blocked shots. Calvin Cooke and Gabriel Moss chipped in with 15 and 13 points respectively and Lorenzo Poole (11 rebounds) helped to control the boards.

Norfolk State, who finished the year at 22-10, wasn't able to get the job done in the second half, shooting 38.2 percent from the

floor over the final 20 minutes of play.

David Donerlson led the Spartans with 22 points and seven rebounds and Thomas Gibson followed up with 16 points. Larry McCloud tallied 10 points and 11 rebounds.

## Round one recap

Union advanced to the finals by dumping Albany State 79-67. Union put this game to rest by building a 43-27 lead at intermission.

Johnson was the Panthers' leading scorer with 23 points and five blocked shots. Mike Matthews tallied 18 points and Hurd added 10 points.

Cooke was Albany's top offensive threat with 18 points. Lebaron Simmons and Bivins scored 14 and 12 points respec-

tively.

Johnson C. Smith reached the regional championship game courtesy of an 82-76 victory over Norfolk State. JCS led by 18 at the half, then held off the Spartans for the remainder of the contest.

Parker torched the nets for 26 points as the Golden Bulls' offensive leader. Robert Boykins fired in 15 points and snatched 12 rebounds. Timothy Mitchell added 12 points and Sherrill finished with 10 points.

For the Spartans, Donerlson and Fred Benjamin did most of the offensive damage. Donerlson had 21 points and Benjamin totaled 19. McCloud contributed 11 points and 11 rebounds and Darrell Paul tallied 10 points.

— Rolando Simmons