

## Williford Receives 1st Rumph Award

from page 17

principal, said he felt honored to have a Parkland student win the award, which was named for a Parkland student.

"I think it's great," Brandon said. "James was an excellent kid and an outstanding player. That he had to die so early in life was tough on all of us. It's

**"But we're glad that the Chronicle thought enough of James to name the award after him."**  
-James Brandon

tough to lose a kid like that - who was so positive and had so much to offer.

"But we're glad that the Chronicle thought enough of James to name the award after him," Brandon added. "He was certainly an example of what you would want your student-athletes to exemplify."



Photo by Reginald Campbell

Shawn Williford relied on his elusiveness in the open field to create big plays for Parkland's junior varsity team. The 5-6, 150-pound freshman scored 10 of his touchdowns on kick returns.

## CIAA Must Solve Growing Pains

from page 17

ahead to accomplish them."

But unlike Norfolk State and Hampton it appears that the CIAA's leadership isn't looking to the future. Even though the CIAA knew at least two years ago of Hampton's plans it has yet to formally discuss plans to add any new institutions to its constituency.

The loss of Hampton seriously affected this year's tournament. Although it didn't make an impact on attendance, this year's tournament format had to be modified. Instead of awarding a bye to only the regular season champions of each division, the conference awarded a bye to the team with the second best divisional record.

With three byes, both the men's and women's tournament alignment was changed drastically. Unlike past seasons when each first round game pitted teams from the

Northern Division against teams from the Southern Division, this year two teams from each division met in the opening round of the tournament in both the men's and women's tournament.

In the women's tournament, two Northern Division teams met. Virginia State was forced to square off against St. Paul's in the opening round. The same thing happened in the men's tournament. Winston-Salem State of the Southern Division was forced to play Shaw, the runnerup in the Southern Division in the opening round.

Those changes in the tournament might not raise any eyebrows. But the changes in store for the tournament might change the outlook for the tournament in the future when the number of CIAA programs drops to 12.

Not to mention the prospect Norfolk State's faithful fans, who might just be the

most loyal and voiciferous in the CIAA. Who will pick up the ticket-buying slack when the Spartans move to the MEAC?

Thus far there has only been a little idle gossip on the future plans possible replacements. The only schools that have been mentioned are Clark-Atlanta, Morris Brown and Morehouse. None of the three have the type of athletic tradition that CIAA schools carry. Also none of the Atlanta-based schools have the fan appeal or drawing power that Hampton and Norfolk State brought to the table.

Just where the CIAA will look for potential members remains a mystery. The CIAA's front office has kept a tight lid on its future plans. However, the league's loyal fans deserve more. Most of them know about the CIAA's humble beginnings and they should know where it is going in the future as well.

## Winston Lake AAU Gearing Up For New Season

from page 17

coaches recruit and it puts a lot of pressure on the kids to perform well."

For the past three years the 17-and-under national championship was held in Winston-Salem and Winston Lake served as the host team. This season the championship will be played in Charlotte.

The top three teams from the state will be invited to play

in the tournament.

Although the Lakers will be a longshot, Brown said his team does have a chance of making it to the tournament.

"We really haven't finished putting the team together but I expect to have a young team," he said. "We're going to be competitive. I think we have enough talent around here even with the new teams to put some good talent on the court."

The Lakers tune up for the

state tournament by participating in the High Point Invitational Tournament on March 29, 30 and 31. The following week the team participates in an invitational tournament in Charlotte, which will feature many of the top AAU teams in the southeast. Brown said the team should then be prepared to begin pool play in the state tournament the following week in Charlotte.

## Cook Seventh Graders Finish With School's First Undefeated Record

from page 17

wanted to do well."

Another of the team's strengths was its defense. Cook finished the season with a 49.2 scoring average per game and limited its opponents to only 28.3. The team relied on its 2-3 zone as the base defense, but also threw in some 2-1-2 for good measure. Penn said the team also mixed up full-court and three-quarter pressure defense with its half-court zone packages.

"We really got after people," Penn said. "The kids liked playing defense and that helped us get into the transition game. We scored a lot of points off of steals and turnovers. We shot a lot of layups."

Depth was also one of the assets that paid dividends dur-

ing the course of the season. Penn said he inserted his "Gold Team", a unit featuring five reserves to wear down opposing teams.

Penn used six players on the "Gold Team" - Charles Sanders, Tom Maier, Matthew Brandon, Tom Berrier, Taiwan Clark and Jonathan Botha.

"These kids came in to give the first team a rest and they did a good job of putting pressure on the opponent. They scored when they could, but their main job was to cause problems with strong defense."

Marcus Herndon and Brian Bach were the top Cook reserves. Penn said the duo was good enough to start, but had to play reserve roles because of the level of play that the starters maintained

throughout the season.

The team only received one major challenge during the season and that came against Kennedy, which held a 14-point halftime lead. Cook, sparked by its defensive play, bounced back in the second half to win by three points.

"It seemed like each one of the players had something different to offer," Penn said. "They all wanted to play and they gave everything they had to make sure we won."

"I think they all had a lot of fun playing together," Penn said. "At the beginning of the season I told them 'You guys play, let the referees officiate the game and let me coach. It was just that simple. Everyone had a role to play and they played it.'"

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