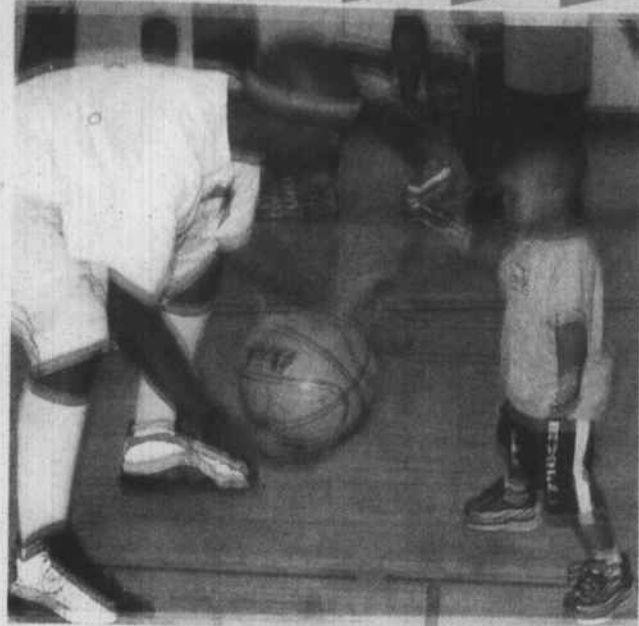




SPORTS WEEK

B SECTION

JUNE 21, 2001



Tano Davis gives instructions on playing defense to Tracy Forest during a session at Winston Lake Family YMCA's Youth Basketball Camp.

Gaines: New AD has big job ahead

BY SAM DAVIS
THE CHRONICLE

When it comes down to finding an athletic director to head the athletic program at Winston-Salem State, former coach C.E. "Bighouse" Gaines has some definite ideas.

Gaines, who ran the athletic program at WSSU for more than 40 years and captured 826 victories as a basketball coach at the school, isn't on the school's search committee. However, he believes that Chancellor Harold Martin is on the right path in terms of the qualifications that he expects prospective candidates to possess.

"I think really you need a person with fund-raising skills, marketing skills and someone who

can give the program more direction by getting more students involved in activities required by the NCAA," Gaines said. "When you focus in on the situation, you realize that there is a lot more to it than just scheduling games. You have to know what type things the NCAA is requiring and how it will affect your students."

Without question, the key is fund-raising, according to Gaines.

"I don't know a lot of people at black colleges or on the Division II level who have a lot of success raising money from corporations for their athletic programs," Gaines said. "And there aren't a lot of black businesses that can afford to donate the type

money you need to make the program run smooth."

One of the issues that really affects Division II is Title 9 and along with it comes gender equity in scholarships and allocation of funding for programs.

"Whoever they hire as the AD will have a tremendous job on their hands," Gaines said. "It is a tough job and you have to find someone who's willing to put in the kind of effort to make it work. You have a lot of ends to balance and keep the program above board."

One of the things that many outsiders don't consider when they look at the athletic director's job is finding creative ways to keep non-revenue producing sports afloat. Because the NCAA

requires each Division II program to sponsor an equal number of women's and men's sports, it sometimes causes certain programs to be placed on the back burner. At WSSU, that is what has happened to several Rams sports that were once successful, Gaines said.

"You look at sports like cross country, volleyball and tennis," Gaines said. "First of all, you don't have a lot of blacks in those sports, and it's hard to put a strong team out there without the funding you need. Really, other than St. Augustine's, the rest of the schools in the CIAA aren't serious about cross country. They send the kids from their men's and women's basketball

See Gaines on B2

Grant: I'm happy, but would listen to WSSU AD job offer



FROM THE PRESS BOX
SAM DAVIS

Tim Grant wants to get one message across during the search process for an athletic director at Winston-Salem State. Grant, a former WSSU basketball player and assistant coach, said he's very happy with his job as the assistant director of the City of Durham Parks and Recreation Department.



Tim Grant instructs kids at a camp during his days working with the Recreation Department of the city of Winston-Salem.

Grant assumed his current position in January after working in the Parks and Recreation Department of Winston-Salem for more than seven years.

"I'm very happy here in Durham, serving the citizens of this great city," he said during a telephone interview on Tuesday, June 19. "I'm not looking for a job, but it's Winston-Salem State and that's part of my life. The university has done a lot for me and naturally I'd have to be interested in hearing what they would have to say. It's my alma mater and I have a special place for it in my heart."

Grant, a 1980 graduate of WSSU, hasn't been formally contacted by anyone on the 14-member search committee, which is headed by Dr. Lee Richardson. But he said he would welcome the opportunity to discuss the opening.

"I have the utmost respect for Dr. (Harold) Martin (WSSU chancellor)," Grant said. "I've had the privilege of speaking with him several times, and it looks like he's doing a great job of getting the university headed in a positive direction. And because of that I would welcome the opportunity to

See Press Box on B2



The Barons bounced back from their lone defeat early in the second half of Twin City Little League's regular season to take the championship in the Minor League Division.

Barons take Minors title

BY SAM DAVIS
THE CHRONICLE

The Barons stumbled, but they recovered in time to capture the Minor League (9-10) regular season and post-season tournament championships in Twin City Little League.

After going through the first half of the season without a defeat and a 7-0 record, the Barons fell in their first battle with the defending champion Elite Giants.

But that wasn't enough to keep the Barons from winning the championship. The team, coached by Clem Williamson and Wesley Littlejohn, battled to set up a rematch with the Elite Giants to settle the regular season championship. There, the Barons used strong pitching, fielding and hitting to prevail in two final battles with the Elite Giants.

"The key to this team's success was the way our pitching came through for us," Williamson said. "They were very consistent all season and when other teams put the ball in play we were able to come through on defense."

Frederick Flemming was the leader on the mound for the Barons. However, he wasn't the only stopper. Stephen Carmichael and Jeremy Johnson also came through with clutch wins down the stretch as the Barons captured the championship.

The Barons continued their mastery of the league in the tournament, where they faced off against the Grays last Monday. After jumping out to a 7-1 lead, the Barons held on to take a 7-5 victory.

"We got a little overconfident once we got out to such a big lead," Williamson said. "But the most important thing is that our

kids realized what was at stake and they came through with the plays that we needed to win."

Williamson put a lot of hard work into this season and the kids really wanted to win the regular season championship and the tournament championship.

With the championship in hand, Williamson, Littlejohn and Gene Williamson will coach the Minor League All-Star Team.



Williamson



Littlejohn

RJR's Russell signs with Morehouse

BY SAM DAVIS
THE CHRONICLE

Mike Russell is used to options. For four seasons he was the starting quarterback in a Triple-Option offensive attack at R.J. Reynolds High. He spent his first two years in training on the junior varsity and the final two running the show on the varsity level.

In basketball Russell also had many options as the starting point guard for two seasons on the Demons' state 4-A championship team. Surrounded by outstanding individual talent, Russell was given the opportunity to make key decisions.

But when it came down to choosing colleges, Russell's options weren't very numerous. It seemed that not many programs were interested in a 5-9, 185-pound option quarterback. After not receiving the type offers that he was looking for, Russell was all set on enrolling at Appalachian State and walking onto the Mountaineers football team.

Just when that plan was about to unfold, Russell received a call from Sherman Simmons, defensive coordinator at Morehouse College and a Winston-Salem native. Simmons, who had requested and received a tape of Russell at RJR, offered a full scholarship. It was just what Russell had been waiting for many months.



Mike Russell was a two-year starter on Reynolds High School's back-to-back state 4-A basketball championship teams.

See Russell on B2

Cardinals defeat Tigers to set up battle for title

First-half champions sluggish in showdown

BY SAM DAVIS
THE CHRONICLE

The change in the setup of Twin City Senior League has created a new set of problems. So far, however, they are all positive.

Competition on the field seems to have gone to another level with the league being split into two separate divisions. In past years the 13-14-year-olds played with the 15-16-year-olds. This year, how-

ever, the groups are split and the result has been more competitive games.

That should pay dividends for the league when All-Star play begins next weekend. But that is taking a back seat this week while teams are making a final bid for the league championship. It looks like it will once again come down to a shootout between the Tigers and Cardinals. The two squared off on Monday to decide the second-half championship and break a deadlock for the league lead. The Tigers lost two games in the first half of

See Tigers on B2



Jomo Legins (No. 21) shown during his playing days at the University of North Carolina.

Next Level 2001 Football Camp set for its first run

BY SAM DAVIS
THE CHRONICLE

The groundwork has been firmly laid and now Jomo Legins sees his plans for a football camp to benefit young players coming together.

Less than two weeks remain before Legins' camp, The Next Level Football Camp, gets underway at the Ray Agnew Jr. Football Field at Winston Lake Park. The camp is designed to help improve the skills of players from the Pop Warner level to high school (ages 7-15).

Legins, who was named to the

All-State Team at R.J. Reynolds before earning a scholarship to the University of North Carolina, has been pleased with the way information about the camp has been disseminated through the community. Without a big advertising budget, Legins didn't know how the word would get out for the two-day camp, which will be held June 29-30. But it has gotten to a lot of youths in the community who want to better themselves in the game of football.

One of his biggest backers has been his former Pop Warner program, the Tiny Indians, which allowed him to talk with prospec-

tive campers and their parents during their recent signups in the East Winston Shopping Center.

"When I thought of the idea for the camp, the whole thing was to offer young players something that can help them take their game to the next level," Legins said. "There are a lot of little things that sometimes coaches don't emphasize that can help players gain an edge on their competition or opponent. The earlier you start working on them the more they can help you get a step ahead in the game."

Legins, who started at corner-

See Next Level on B2

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