

SPORTS WEEK

B SECTION

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West takes down Reynolds in final

BY ANTHONY HILL
THE CHRONICLE

To say that the West Forsyth junior varsity basketball team was confident heading into last week's Lash/Chronicle Tournament would have been an understatement. The Titans have been dominating on the hardwood the entire season. They were also the only unbeaten team in the tournament.

One couldn't help but wonder if the Titans even thought it possible for West to lose in the tournament this year.

"I'd have to say, 'No,'" said Darion Jeralds, West guard and tournament MVP. "I had a feeling we were going to win the whole thing this year. After we came back against Parkland, I knew we were going to win the Lash and stay undefeated."

Thanks to a 59-52 victory over Reynolds in the championship game West will remain unbeaten heading into the new year. West used a stingy defense, accompanied by great ball handling and shooting to slip by the Demons in the final game of the Lash Tournament.

"I'm just real happy for the guys," West head JV coach Tommy Witt said. "We've worked so hard for this. This has been a goal of ours since last summer. I can't say how happy I am for Daniel (Stump), Matt (Koslic) and Darion (Jeralds). They've all been with me for a while."

"I would also like to mention Russell Tindell too. He didn't make the All-Tournament Team or anything, but he's a tremendous player. He

did so much for us. So did Michael Reklis. Both of those kids played well for us. They've been steady performers."

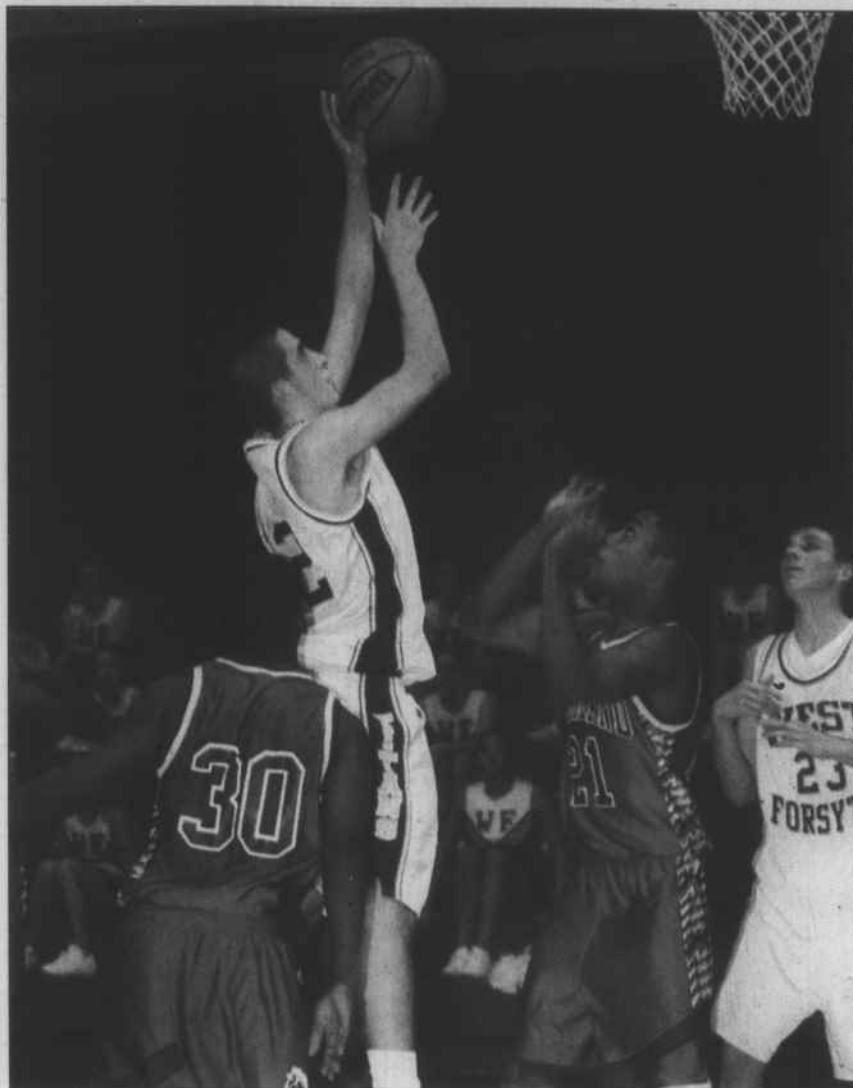
The Titans seemed to have the game all but won, heading into the final quarter of play. West was even up by as many as 15 points in the game. But the Demons did exactly what they did in the previous two games in the tournament — come back.

The Demons seemed to locate their second wind after RJR center Howard Coston flipped hard over one of the West players onto the Carver gym floor. He remained on the court, in pain, for about eight minutes. Once he was helped off the court, the Demons played some inspired ball and came to within striking distance of West. That's when Jeralds took over the game, by dribbling through the Reynolds press and making key free throws in the clutch.

"That was very important for me to put the team on my shoulders," Jeralds said. "In practice, I'm always encouraging my teammates to shoot and make plays. I wanted to show them that I can actually lead the team when things are going bad."

"We weren't executing or knocking down too many shots. So I tried to break down my man and see what I could create. I wanted to see what I could come up with."

Witt added: "Reynolds has got a great team. That was a heckuva comeback. I told the guys at halftime that it was going to be tough. They're



West Forsyth's Daniel Stump soars over Parkland players during the Lash/Chronicle Tournament. The Titans won the title with a 59-52 victory over Reynolds in the championship game.

Photo by Bruce Chapman

*Stars born,
discovered at
Lash tourney*

FROM THE HUDDLE

Anthony Hill



The 11th annual David Lash/Chronicle Tournament was as good as advertised last week. Many junior varsity basketball players were discovered, while others reinvented themselves during the tourney.

No player got his shine on quite like West Forsyth point guard Darion Jeralds. He not only led his team to a tourney championship but also was named MVP. His entire team played well in the Lash tourney. Actually a lot of squads did their things last week. I was impressed by the play of Parkland. The Mustangs really showed a lot of fight, and introduced Winston-Salem to Elliott Coleman, Torez Young, Dante Singletary and Tyshaun Scott, to name a few.

I also was impressed with the play of the Bobcats of Glenn. Gary Mahatha, E.J. Arhagba, Terrance "Puff" Crosby and Matt Patterson

See Hill on B3



Dana Cain is living out her childhood dream by playing college ball at East Carolina University.

ECU taking notice of native Dana Cain

Softball player making strides in college

BY ANTHONY HILL
THE CHRONICLE

Dana Cain has had dreams of being a college softball player since she was 5 years old. That was also the age she decided to pick up a glove, bat and softball to try her luck at the sport. From that moment on she knew what sport she would be playing for a long time.

"I did instantly fall in love with softball," Cain said. "When I was in the fifth grade I had a friend that played softball, and I only wanted to play because she did. So I went and signed up because she was on the team, and I've been playing ever since."

Cain also excelled in two other sports while attending high school at Parkland. She was a member of the Mustang basketball team, and she also lettered in volleyball her senior

year. Even though it was one of her friends who initially got her interested in softball, it was her high school coach who got her excited about the possibility of playing in college.

"She really inspired me to want to go to college and continue playing," Cain said. "She played at Elon, and she used to talk about her experiences as a college player. I really learned a lot from her."

The colleges weren't exactly beating down the Cain family door, though. She got offers from only three or four major schools after her senior season. She thought about attending Elon and UNC-Charlotte, but it was East Carolina that won her over in the end. The fact that she was familiar with the team, coaches and campus made her decision a lot easier than most student-athletes'. Cain has

See Cain on B6

Mt. Tabor captures second straight tourney title

BY ANTHONY HILL
THE CHRONICLE

The talented junior varsity ballers on the Mt. Tabor girls team have done it again.

The Spartans captured their second straight girls junior varsity holiday tournament title after a 50-34 victory over the Reynolds Demons at the Mt. Tabor gymnasium on Tuesday. The Spartans completely outplayed the Demons en route to the 16-point win. Mt. Tabor's defense may have been the most impressive part of the win.

"That was the challenge for us," said Mt. Tabor head JV coach, Dick Jamback. "The challenge for us was to play well on the defensive end. I think we did that. We totally dominated by con-

*Dick Jamback wins his first as
Spartans head coach*

testing all their shots. I wish that I had this game on tape so I could tell you exactly how many shots we contested. We didn't give them any easy baskets; maybe a few."

Both teams began the game with a nice display of defensive strategies. Neither team could find a way to score until 1:30 into the opening quarter. And both squads played fairly evenly throughout the quarter, with the Spartans clinging to a 16-11 lead.

Mt. Tabor flexed its muscles and completely outpowered the Demons in the second quarter, especially defensively. The Spartans allowed only one field goal

the entire quarter. Mt. Tabor went on to outscore Reynolds 12-7. The Demons kept the game relatively close by connecting on some timely free throws. That really didn't matter in the second half, though. The Spartans proceeded to pour on the points and stiffened their defense in the final half of play.

The exciting trio of Sarah Scruggs, Brittany Pollock and Shannon Meadows paced the Spartans. All three players constantly came through with big shots, timely steals and incredible hustle plays down the stretch for the Spartans. With the win, Jam-

back also captured his first tournament title as a head coach.

"This was my first title as the head coach," Jamback said. "Last year I was Rick Anderson's assistant. But this one was more special simply because I'm really blessed with great girls. I'm having so much fun working with them and coaching. The experience was great last year, but I'm tickled to death to see it again this year."

The tournament was sponsored by Flow Automotive.

Girl's All-Tournament Team
Shannon Meadows (Mt. Tabor): MVP

Sara Scruggs (Mt. Tabor)
Tisha Hordein (Reynolds)
Kirstie Foster (Reynolds)
Porsche Jowers (Carver)
Jasmine Glenn (Carver)

Wake women can't stop Virginia Tech

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

The Wake Forest women's basketball team almost captured the Lady Luck Classic title earlier this week.

Wake held a six-point lead at halftime over 15th-ranked and undefeated Virginia Tech, but poor free-throw shooting in the second half proved too costly as the Hokies pulled away late for a 70-59 victory in the Lady Luck Classic Title game Monday evening.

For 37 minutes, it looked as if the Demon Deacons were going to put an end to Virginia Tech's perfect women's basketball season. After falling behind in the first half and still trailing 55-54 with 2:59 left in the contest, the Hokies outscored the Deacs 16-5. Down the stretch, the Hokies made eight of nine free throws. While Virginia Tech took advantage of its free-throw shooting, Wake Forest could not do the same. The Deacs connected on just 4 of 14 from the free-throw line in the final 20 minutes and only 6 of 16 for the entire evening.

Sophomore Liz Strunk paced the Deacs with a career-high-tying 16 points, 12 of which came in the second half. Strunk went 7-for-12 from the floor, but was 2-of-7 from the charity stripe — all after halftime.

The Demon Deacons



WFU sophomore Liz Strunk led the Deacs with 16 points in the loss to Virginia Tech on Monday.

Photo by Ken Bennett/WFU

stretched the lead to as many as seven, at 34-27, with 16:25 left after a jumper by Cotelia Bond-Young. However, the Hokies began to trim the margin and took their first lead (39-38) since 14:33 of the first half with 13:57 left after a Carrie Mason layup.

Wake Forest then built the lead back to 47-41 with 10:20 left before the Hokies began to rally

again. Virginia Tech went on a 13-2 run and took a 54-49 lead with 4:45 remaining before WFU rallied for a 55-54 lead that would be the Deacons' last.

Hokie senior Ieva Kublina was named the Most Valuable Player of the tournament after her 15-point performance against WFU. Kublina notched 40 points during the two games. She also

registered three blocks against the Deacons, tying Susan Walvius' career record of 204 rejections. Kublina was seven-of-seven from the charity stripe. Erin Gibson also earned a spot on the All-Tournament Team with her third consecutive double-double. She tallied 13 points and pulled down 10 rebounds.

Dawn Chriss led the Hokies with 17 points and had eight rebounds, while Kerri Gardin had her first double-double of the year with 13 points and 13 caroms (rebounds). She also led the Hokies with four assists.

Strunk and Erin Ferrell landed spots on the All-Tournament Team. Senior Tonia Brown also tallied double figures for WFU with 12 points. Ferrell helped the Deacs race out to a pair of nine-point leads in the first half, the final coming with 2:19 left before halftime. Ferrell scored 12 of her 14 points in the first half. The forward went 6-for-8 from the field in the opening 20 minutes.

It was the Hokies' sixth consecutive title in the Lady Luck Classic and 12th consecutive tournament win.

Wake Forest fell to 7-5 on the season. Virginia Tech rose to 10-0.

Wake Forest will return to action Jan. 2 when it travels to Chapel Hill to play the Tar Heels. (Winston-Salem native Camille Little plays for the Tar Heels.) Tipoff is scheduled for 7 p.m.