

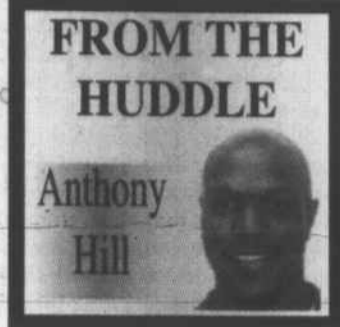
# SPORTS WEEK

SECTION B

Also Religion, Obituaries, Classifieds

MARCH 27, 2008

## Bell: Film left out pioneers



Before I get started I need to make something clear. Last week, a reader (who is obviously unfamiliar with my column) left me a message about my recollection of "Black Magic," stating that I didn't mention enough people in my column. He wanted me to mention Willard Coker.

This is my column, and I don't have to mention anything or anyone that I don't want to. I wasn't trying to mention everyone in the

documentary. I was simply stating how much I enjoyed it. Most people understood that. Not this guy. It's not a story. Information in my column isn't the same as a story. I am shocked to read when adults don't know the difference between a story and an opinionated column. I had some good feedback too. But this guy simply made me want tell him a few things. Come, correct brother. Moving on.

I recently discussed "Black Magic," with one of my friends — Harold Bell. He knows enough about sports to come up with several documentaries for every sport. He was the radio pioneer that told me how Earl Lloyd was the first black to play in the NBA, and how legendary coach Red Auerbach helped the former CIAA great get into the hall of fame. He's also told me countless stories about the many athletes he's interviewed throughout the years. He emailed more of his thoughts and opinions last week. I was going to talk about some of the information. Instead, I decided to simply to include some of it within my column. Read some of the information that Bell sent me last week.

Bell's writing begins here: ESPN's airing of "Black Magic," chronicling the rich history of black basketball in America was a buzzer beating jump shot to win and a controversial foul call at the end the

See Hill on B2



A&T's C.J. Beatty already has five home runs this season.

Photo by Charles Watkins

## Sophomore season is main focus for Beatty

BY CHUCK CURTI  
SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

As a youngster, C.J. Beatty fell in love with chess. It was offered as an extracurricular activity at his elementary school, and Beatty took to it immediately, eventually becoming the chess club president at Glenn High School.

Anytime there was a chess board lying around, Beatty went looking for a game. It seemed to suit him perfectly: The way to win was to outwit the opponent. If he could decipher the next move before it happened, Beatty figured he could win.

These days, he takes the same approach to hitting a baseball. Figure out what pitch is coming before it gets to the plate, and he wins. Early in the 2008 season, Beatty, a sophomore outfielder at North Carolina A&T, has earned more than his share of checkmates against opposing pitchers. Through the Aggies' first 17 games, he hit .433 (26 for 60) with five home runs and 17 RBIs.

He's well on his way to eclipsing the impressive numbers he put up last year as a true freshman (.313, 10 HR, 38 RBI). But while

Beatty got by on sheer talent in 2007, he's learned to become a more intelligent hitter this season.

"He's probably a better overall hitter (this year)," said Aggies head coach Keith Shumate. "He'll still take his cuts and still strike out some, but you'll see him handle off-speed pitches and take the ball the other way. His approach in RBI situations is more geared toward the situation. With a runner on third, he won't just go up there and try to pull, pull, pull. He understands it's more important to get the runner in."



Shumate

Beatty added: "I realized that you have to slow the game down. I make sure that I get into hitting position early enough so I can recognize the pitch earlier. Last year, I was just jumping fastballs and taking off-speed stuff because I couldn't see it."

Beatty's raw talent has never been an issue. He was a four-time all-conference player at Glenn, where he set a school record for home runs in a season with 10 as a senior. He also shares the school's career home run record. In the summer between his senior year of high school and freshman year at A&T, he played in the Carolina-Virginia

See Beatty on B5

## Coach Wilkes leaves Carver

BY ANTHONY HILL  
THE CHRONICLE

Coach Keith Wilkes has contemplated moving on to a new challenge in the coaching world for a number of years.

Last week, he made his move official when he told Carver administrators and coaches that he was leaving at the end of the year to coach Shiloh High, which is located in Georgia. Wilkes said announcing that he's leaving Carver was one of the toughest decisions he's had to make in his life.

"This was definitely one of the biggest and hardest decisions I've ever had to make," Wilkes said. "The relationships I've established here at Carver through the years are priceless. This has been a family atmosphere. Everybody always came together here, especially the kids. There was no I in team. I'm going to miss all of the coaches too. I'm definitely going to miss the kids I've established relationships with during the 20-something years I've been coaching."

Wilkes seriously became interested in the opening at Shiloh after attending a coaching clinic in Georgia a little over a month ago. Wilkes was talking with one of the coaches at the clinic about some of the things he's done in coaching. Before he knew it, the coach was taking him to meet Shiloh administrators about the opening at their school.

"That's kind of how it happened," Wilkes said. "I was just talking with a guy about who I was, and some of the things I've been able to

do with my program in North Carolina. I ended up talking with the athletics director and principal while I was down there for the clinic. They really became interested."

Carver principal Carol Montague added: "I really didn't know what to think when he first told me that he might be leaving. Keith always says that he might be leaving. He told me he talked with a principal, and they were thinking about offering him a job. I didn't know it was official until I talked with the principal down there. But Keith still wasn't sure if he was going to take the job. And, yesterday (Monday) he brought his letter of resignation. We lost a great coach that really cares about kids. It's going to be hard to fill his shoes. He's taken this program to another level."

Wilkes' story began over 20 years ago, when he was hired as an assistant football coach and teacher at Carver. In 1992, the story got even better after Wilkes replaced Jim Bovender as the Carver head football coach. More than 130 wins, two state championships, a couple coach of the year awards and several playoff wins later, Wilkes decided it was time to start a new legacy, in a new state. He's compiled a record of 139-62-1. The one tie was to Mt. Tabor. Wilkes guided his Yellowjackets to state titles in 1998 and 2002.

Wilkes said there's more to him leaving than simply wanting to start a new path. His mother also lives in Georgia. He wants more than anything to be able to be there for her



Montague



Coach Keith Wilkes has roamed the Carver sidelines for more than 20 years.

See Wilkes on B2

Former West Forsyth star Chris Paul will be among seven new candidates to be inducted into the high school hall of fame. Here, Paul elevates past former Reynolds star Reynshawn Terry.



## Paul, Jones among new inductees

Mt. Tabor's Martha Land will also join 2008 class

BY ANTHONY HILL  
THE CHRONICLE

Winston-Salem Sportsmen Club president Robert Wynn is excited about the latest group of former high school athletes, coaches and administrators to be inducted into the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County High School Hall of Fame.

Wynn, who admits to being excited before each ceremony, said this is probably the youngest collective group of hall of fame inductees. Among the latest class of inductees are six former high school athletes and one administrator. Mt. Tabor principal Martha Land is the lone administrator set to be inducted. The student-athletes are Jimmy Caldwell (Mt. Tabor), Paul Cloud (Parkland), Chris Paul (West Forsyth), Lashun Peoples (Carver), LaQuanda Barksdale Quick (West Forsyth) and Porsche Jones (Carver).

The latest class was announced by Winston-Salem Sportsmen Club members earlier this week.

The banquet and induction ceremony is scheduled for May 9, at 7 p.m. at the Benton Convention Center.

"I'm very excited about this latest class of hall of famers," said Wynn. "We have one administrator and six student-athletes. Each student athlete came about at different times. They were the best at their sports during the time they played. Martha Land is the principal at Mt. Tabor, who's a tremendous lady. She's made a commitment to mix academics and athlet-



Wynn

ics. During her tenure, Mt. Tabor has won several state championships and has been named one of the top high schools to attend in America (by U.S. News and World Report)."

Land began a career in education that spans nearly 37 years. She has served as teacher, assistant principal and principal in the W-S/Forsyth County Schools System. In 1992, she assumed the principal ship of Mt. Tabor High School. Under Land's leadership, the Spartans have won 12 state titles, 35 regional championships, two runner-up 4-A football titles, 10 Wachovia Cups and three state Wachovia Cups. According to Mt. Tabor athletic director Steve Hayes, Land believes in the three A's (academics, arts and athletics.)

Jimmy Caldwell II, who's the son of Indianapolis Colts assistant head coach Jim Caldwell, was a three-sport

See Inductees on B5