

# United Stars 12U finishes third in nation

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

The NC United Stars finished third in the 2008 12U AAU Division I National Championship tournament, which took place July 10-17 in Hampton, Va. The squad also finished third in last year's tournament.

The United Stars, as their name implies, is a team made up of some of the best young basketball players in the state. The nine-member team is based out of Charlotte, but only has three Charlotte players. Two of the teams best players were two Winston-Salem kids. Duane Davis II, a rising eighth grader at Hanes Middle School and Travis Culthbertson, a rising seventh grader at Mineral Springs, helped the squad to a 22-1 overall record in their age group. The two players also played big roles in the teams run in the national tournament.

The United Stars also had a player from Greensboro (Theo Penson), Gastonia, Forest City and Gaffney, S.C.

"The boys were disappointed with their second third place finish, but I'm



Submitted photo  
Duane Davis II and Travis Culthbertson pose with trophy.

very proud of the team," said coach Fred Sanders. "One day they will realize how special an accomplishment like this is."

The United Stars defeated the S.C. Columbia Hoyas (61-46), Tennessee J-Town Cavaliers (65-18), Massachusetts BABC (64-24) in Pool Play. Then, they took down the California Valley squad (66-57), Central Kentucky Warriors (50-43), New Orleans Panthers (55-49) and the California ARC Gorillas (64-55). The United Stars only lost came to the Texas Select squad (46-45).

Despite coming up a little short in the national tournament, the United Stars still accomplished quite a few things this year. The team won their second-straight NC state title this year. They also captured the Maryland Invitational Tournament (MIT) for the second consecutive year. The MIT is the largest tournament outside of the nationals.

The squad is coached by Fred Sanders and Josh Ingram. The coaches said that they hope to find one or two more Triad post players for the team.

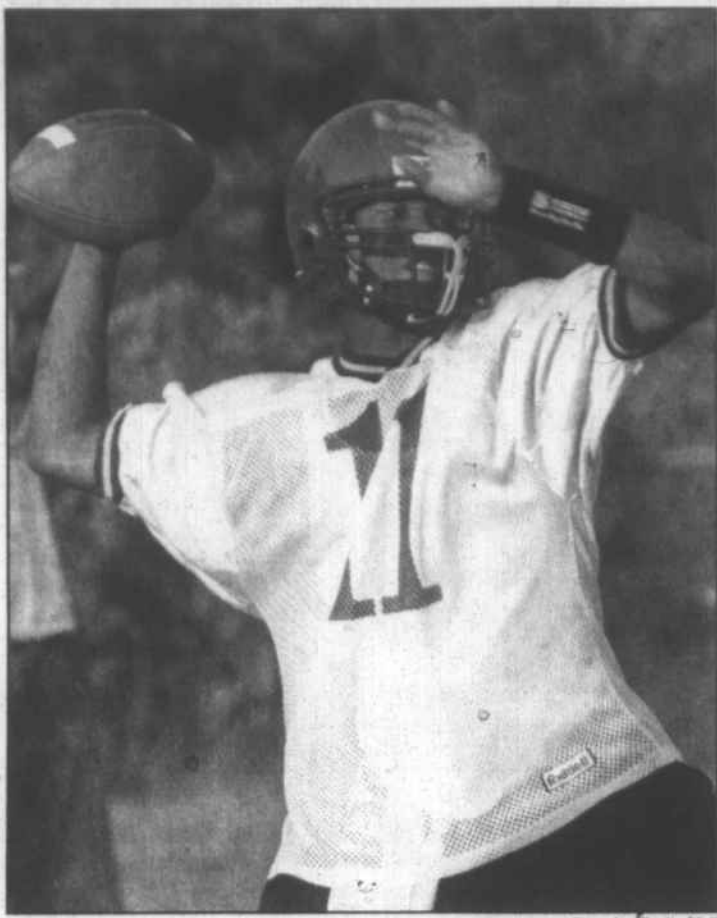


Photo by Charlie Pfaff

Carver quarterback Michael Lawrence will get a chance to throw the ball quite a bit for the Yellowjackets this season.

## Carver

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coaches are doing a wonderful job. Those guys are helping me fill those big shoes."

"It's still a lot of pressure," David continued. "... but it's good pressure. It's the type of pressure that gets me here early and leaving late. It's the pressure I've always put on myself as a competitor. I want to be the best. I have high expectations for myself and my team."

The Yellowjackets are entering the new season after a summer full of hard work. David said that nearly 60 players came in for voluntary workouts throughout the summer.

"It's still early," David said. "But we feel pretty good about the work we've put in so far. And, I'm definitely happy about our summer turnout. Right now we're just trying to continue to work to get ready for that first game."

Carver won't begin the season with an easy game either. The Yellowjackets will travel to Greensboro to face the defending 3A State Champions, Dudley on Aug. 22.

"I can't wait," said Carver defensive back David McIntyre. "This will be my first time playing Dudley. Last year I had a hurt hamstring. This year I'm healthy and ready. I think everybody is looking forward to this season. Everyone is focused. Everybody has their mind set on winning a state championship. I know I am."

David added: "I'm thinking about Dudley day and night. They are the returning state champions, and we have to travel to their place. They have a good team. We're working as hard as we can to get ready for that."

### Key Jackets

Some of the key players for Carver will be the talented defensive back Dominique Tate, quarterback Michael Lawrence, McIntyre, Walter Jones, Dequan Holder, Dasean Liles, Collin Floyd, Anthony Avery, Sanquan Evans, Kenny Uqдах, Danny Boden and Chris Douglas — among others.

"We have some great leadership this year," said David. "Of course, Dominique Tate. Maurice Hill is also a great leader. He's one of the best natural leaders I've seen in a long time. Also, Collin Floyd and Anthony Avery are doing a good job of leading by example. We're feeling pretty good about our leadership."

Several of the Yellowjackets will play both ways for Carver this season. David said that he's going to put his best 11 players on the field. Tate is one of the players that will be playing both ways. Tate, who recently committed to playing cornerback for Wake, will be playing some halfback for Carver this year.

"This is the first time I've done something like this since my junior pee wee days," said Tate. "I will be running some traps and things like that. I'm pretty excited. I wish I

## Schedule

All games begin at 7:30 p.m.

Aug. 22 @ Dudley

Aug. 29 Atkins

Sept. 5 @ West

Sept. 12 @ Reynolds

Sept. 19 North

Sept. 26 Smith

Oct. 3 Open

Oct. 10 @ S.W. Guilford

Oct. 17 Glenn

Oct. 24 @ Andrews

Oct. 31 Parkland

Nov. 7 @ Reagan

Nov. 14 First Round Playoffs

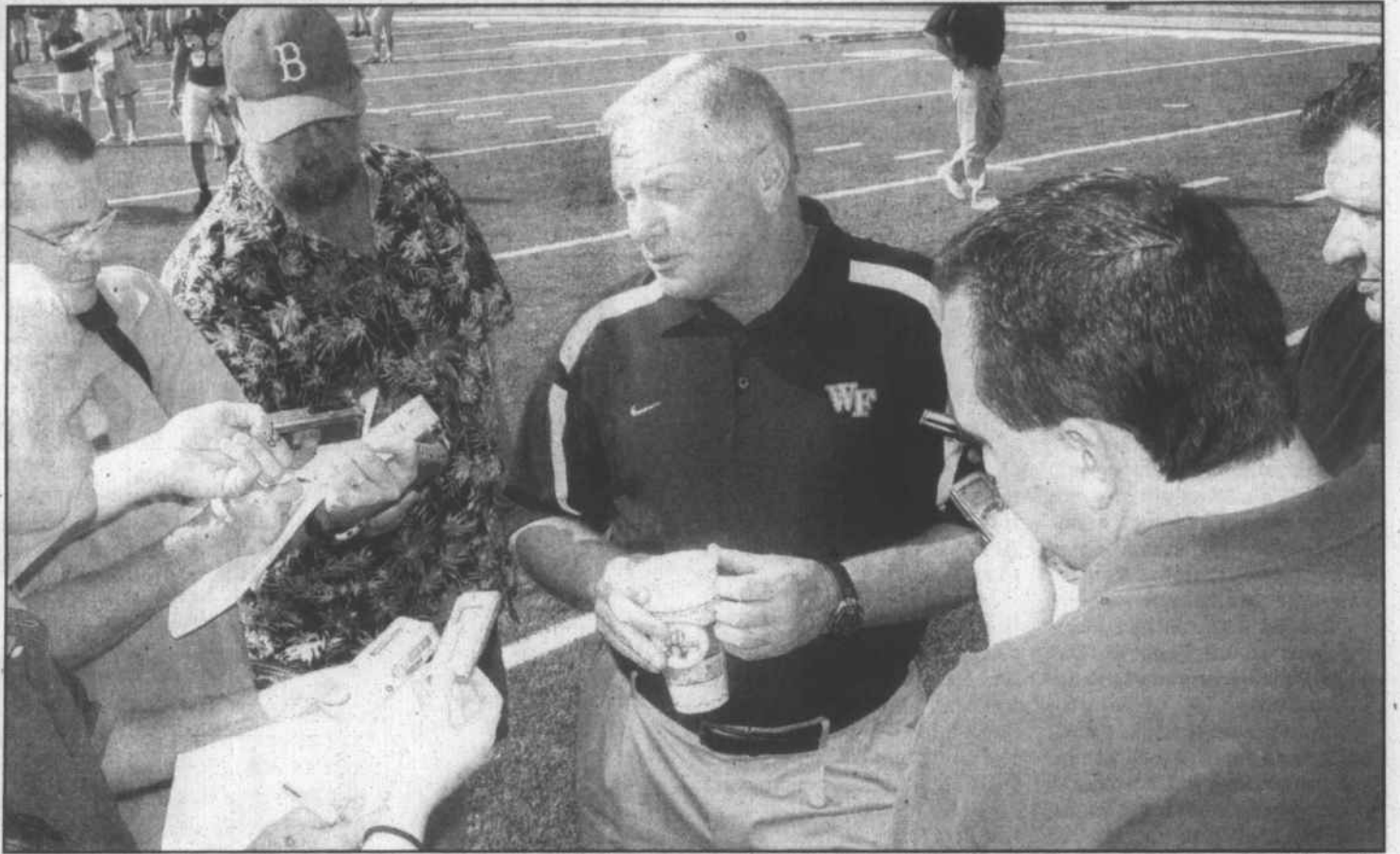


Photo by Anthony Hill

Wake coach Jim Grobe said that it's nice to be ranked early, but hopes his troops can finish the season ranked higher.

## USA Today poll ranks Wake Forest No. 23

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

For the first time in school history, Wake Forest will enter a football season ranked among the nation's top 25 teams. The Demon Deacons are ranked 23rd in the USA Today Coaches Poll which was released last Friday.

The Deacons are ranked between No. 22 Penn State and No. 24 Michigan. Georgia is ranked No. 1 in the preseason poll followed by Southern California, Ohio State, Oklahoma and Florida.

"I think it's rewarding for us in that people respect our football program," said Wake Forest head coach Jim Grobe. "But at the same time, it's a little bit scary because we have a really tough schedule. I think we can be a good football team but that certainly doesn't guarantee a good sea-

son. From our perspective, it's nice to be ranked in the preseason but it would be nice to be ranked highly at the end of the season."

This marks the earliest in a season that Wake Forest has been ranked in either of the two major polls conducted by the Associated Press (media) and USA Today (coaches). Previously, the earliest Wake had been ranked was 2003 when it was 20th in the AP poll and 21st in the USA

Today poll on Sept. 7 following wins over Boston College and 14th-ranked N.C. State. Wake then fell out of the polls following a 16-10 loss to Purdue.

Wake Forest earned one national ranking last year, at No. 21, on Oct. 28, 2007.

The Deacons' longest run in the polls occurred during the 2006 season. Wake cracked the AP poll at No. 25 on Oct. 15, 2006 and spent nine consecutive weeks in the

rankings, rising as high as No. 14 before finishing the year at No. 18. Wake Forest was ranked in final seven USA Today polls in 2006 and finished the year 17th.

The USA Today poll collects weekly ballots from 60 Football Bowl Subdivision head coaches including Grobe.

Wake Forest opens the 2008 season at Baylor on Thursday, August 28.

### NOTICE OF PRE-HEARING OPEN HOUSES, DESIGN-PUBLIC HEARING, AND ROADWAY CORRIDOR OFFICIAL MAP ACT PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE EASTERN SECTION AND EXTENSION OF THE WINSTON-SALEM NORTHERN BELTWAY

TIP Project Nos. U-2579 and U-2579A

Forsyth County

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) will hold pre-hearing open houses, a Design Public Hearing (for the Eastern Section Extension) and a Roadway Corridor Official Map Act Public Hearing (for the Eastern Section and Extension) at the following times and places:

**Tuesday, August 12, 2008: Pre-Hearing Open House - 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.**  
East Forsyth High School Old Gymnasium, 2500 West Mountain Street, Kernersville

**Thursday, August 14, 2008: Pre-Hearing Open House - 4:00pm to 6:30pm**  
East Forsyth High School Old Gymnasium, 2500 West Mountain Street, Kernersville

During the open houses indicated above, Department of Transportation representatives will be available in an informal setting to answer questions and receive comments relative to the proposed project. The opportunity to submit written comments or questions also will be provided. Interested citizens may attend at any time during the above mentioned hours on the days indicated above.

**Thursday, August 14, 2008: Formal Design Public Hearing and Roadway Corridor Official Map Act Public Hearing - 7:00pm**  
East Forsyth High School Old Gymnasium, 2500 West Mountain Street, Kernersville

The hearing will begin at 7:00 p.m. The presentation will consist of an explanation of the proposed design, right of way and relocation requirements/procedures. The public hearing will also serve as a Roadway Corridor Official Map Act Public Hearing for the Winston-Salem Northern Beltway from US 52 south to US 311 (TIP Project Nos. U-2579 and U-2579A), in accordance with North Carolina General Statute 136-44.50. Under this General Statute, building permits will be restricted within the protected corridor.

Anyone wishing to speak at the formal hearing may register to do so at the pre-hearing open houses, immediately prior to the formal hearing or by calling 866.223.0862. Speakers will be called in the order they signed up. A five-minute time limit will be imposed for speaking in order to allow a fair opportunity for all those wishing to do so. Additional spoken comments will be received after those who registered have finished their comments. Additional comments will be accepted until September 14, 2008. Written comments should be sent to Mr. Drew Joyner, P.E., Human Environment Unit Head at 1583 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1583.

TIP Project Nos. U-2579 and U-2579A propose to construct a multi-lane freeway on new location from US 311 north to US 52 east of Winston-Salem. (TIP Project U-2579A extends from US 311 to I-40 Business/US 421, a distance of about 4.4 miles, and TIP Project U-2579 extends from I-40 Business/US 421 to US 52, a distance of about 12.4 miles). The roadway will be a four-lane to six-lane wide median divided freeway with grade separations or interchanges constructed at major crossroads. The proposed roadway will require additional right of way and the purchase of homes and businesses. A Record of Decision, which designates the Preferred Alternative for the Northern Beltway, Alternative C3-West-B/Alternative 7/Alternative N2-S1 (Western Section, Eastern Section, and Eastern Section Extension, respectively), as the location for the entire Northern Beltway, has been approved by the Federal Highway Administration.

Maps showing the proposed design of the project and a copy of the approved environmental documents, the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) and the Record of Decision (ROD) are available for public review at the Winston-Salem City Hall South - Room 307 located at 100 East First Street, Winston-Salem; at the Kernersville Planning Department located at 134 East Mountain Street, Kernersville, and at the NCDOT Division Office located at 375 Silas Creek Parkway, Winston-Salem. The maps may also be viewed at [www.ncdot.org/projects/wsnb](http://www.ncdot.org/projects/wsnb).

Anyone desiring additional information may contact Mr. Drew Joyner, P.E., Human Environment Unit Head at 1583 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1583, phone (919) 715-1515, or email at [djoyner@ncdot.gov](mailto:djoyner@ncdot.gov).

NCDOT will provide auxiliary aids and services under the Americans with Disabilities Act for disabled persons who wish to participate in this workshop. Anyone requiring special services should contact Mr. Joyner at the contact information above as early as possible so that arrangements can be made.

The Chronicle July 10, 17, 24, 31, and August 7, 2008

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