

SPORTS WEEK

SECTION B

Also Religion, Obituaries, Classifieds

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Tabor focused on having a good season

Spartans to host Glenn in scrimmage on Friday

BY ANTHONY HILL
THE CHRONICLE

The following story is the third of a series on some of the high school football teams in Forsyth County. Fans will get a look at what's going on with their favorite team this summer.



Photos by Charlie Pfaff
Mt. Tabor head coach Laymarr Marshall gives instructions.

The Mt. Tabor Spartans usually begin the season with lofty expectations. After concluding last season with a painful loss in the 4A state championship tilt, most of the players seem focused on returning to the big game this year.

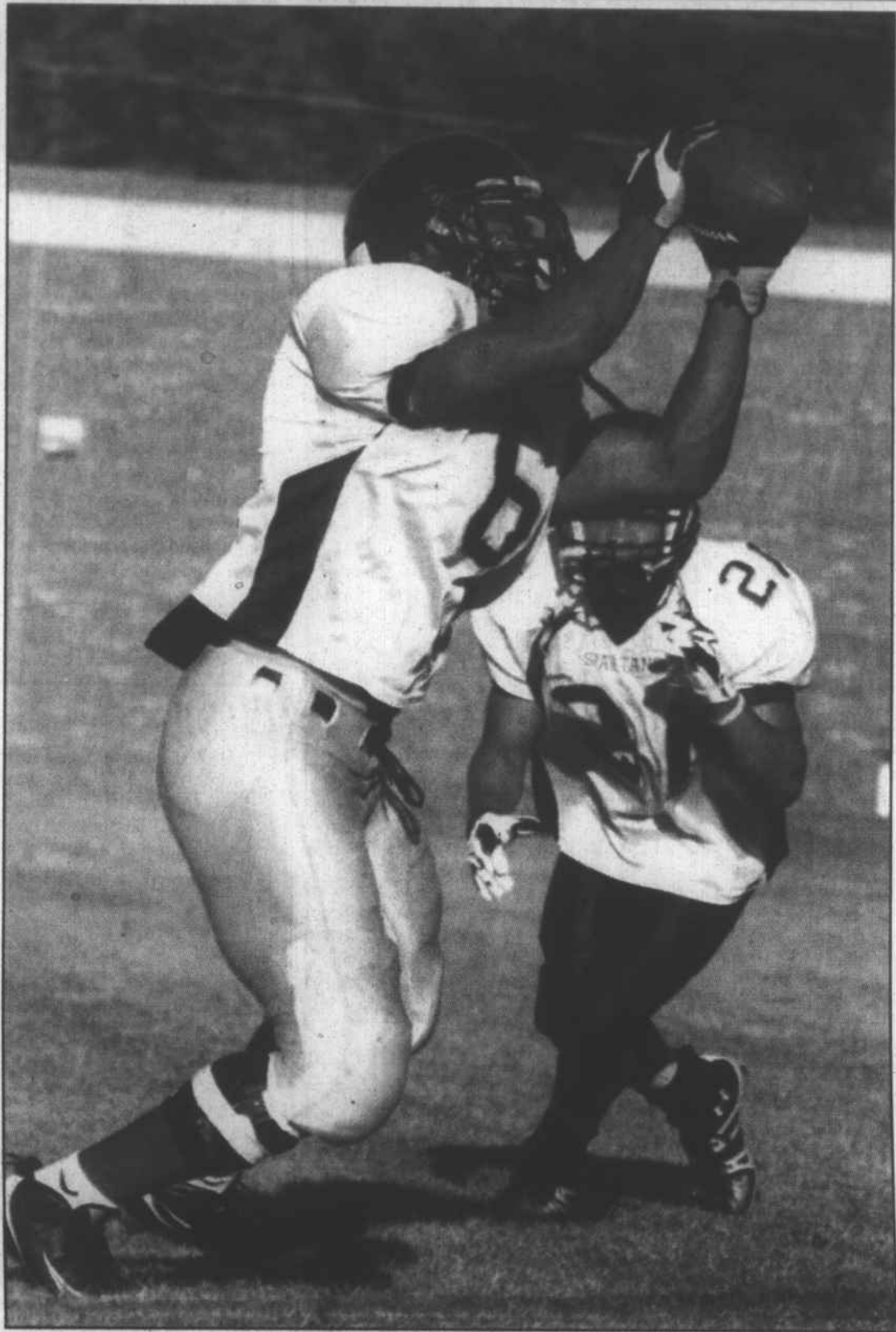
"I'm thinking about the state championship game from last year," said senior linebacker Lamont Atwater, who's a four-year starter. "We're focused on getting back to that game. At the same

time, we're taking it game by game. Hopefully we can beat up on everybody and make it back. And we don't plan on losing if we get back."

Senior running back Hunter Furr added: "We all want to get back to the state championship game. We want another chance to play for a title. But we're still taking everything one practice, one play and one game at a time. We have a long season, and we understand that we have to be focused on each team."

According to first-year head coach Laymarr Marshall, the Spartans have been working hard throughout the off season. He's pleased with the progression of his team. But also echoes the fact that his guys must take it slow.

See Tabor on B4



Here, Mt. Tabor linebacker Lamont Atwater snags an interception during a defensive drill.

A&T names Brown as AD

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

North Carolina A&T State University Chancellor Stanley F. Battle announced the hiring of Wheeler Brown as the school's new director of intercollegiate athletics at a press conference held at the Bryan Fitness and Wellness Center Monday.

Brown has served as the interim director of athletics since last November. Before

taking over the role of interim AD, he served as the department's associate athletics director for inter-



Brown

national affairs and compliance for five years.

During his time as associate athletics director, Brown was one of only 12 applicants selected to participate in the NCAA Fellows Program. The program pairs minorities and women who are striving toward being director of athletics at Division I institutions with an executive Division I director of athletics mentor. Brown was the only person in the program from a historically black college or university. Today, he is one of the program's success stories.

"We had an outstanding pool of highly qualified candidates," said Battle. "However, Mr. Brown brings tremendous energy, experience and leadership to the position. He is an alumnus of the university and the appropriate person for the job at this time."

Brown graduated from N.C. A&T in 1979 with a degree in health and physical education. Before graduating, he competed for four years as an offensive tackle for the Aggies football team. He was a part of N.C. A&T's first MEAC football championship in 1975. The Baltimore native earned first-team All-MEAC honors in 1978. Twenty five years later, he was inducted into the N.C. A&T Hall of Fame.

"It is always an honor to

See Brown on B2



WFU's C.J. Washington uses mother as motivation to remain focused on goals.

Photo by Anthony Hill

WALKIN' TALL

Wake's C.J. Washington dealing with tragedy in stoic fashion

BY ANTHONY HILL
THE CHRONICLE

Wake redshirt freshman running back C.J. Washington can't wait until the Deacs start the season against Baylor on Aug. 28. He's focused on helping Wake any way that he can this season. Most of his playing time may come in the form of special teams action.

Washington is also battling for third string on the depth chart at tailback, behind Josh Adams and Brandon Pendergrass. That fight is nothing compared to the one Washington has been dealing with since June 6. That was the day his mother, Dwaynette Washington, passed away. Washington remembers that morning as if it were only yesterday. He was lying on the couch sleep when his twin sister frantically woke him up, asking what was wrong with their mother. Washington then woke

See Washington on B2

Olympics have my attention this year

I'll admit that I'm not the biggest fan of the Olympics around. In the past, I've really only been into the basketball and track and field. I also like Olympic boxing. But I can never seem to catch it.

This year I've been into every event I could spot. I watched some men's volleyball. I've never done that. Now, I am a fan of watching women play. But that's another story. I watched Michael Phelps get down in the swimming pool. I watched a little badminton. Heck, I had no idea that was even an Olympic sport until a couple days ago. I even watched some gymnastics. Of course, I was on the basketball. You already know that I have to watch my man CP3 get down in his first Olympics. I'm not even going to comment on the fact that Jason Kidd is starting because he's not in the game long enough for it to even matter. The women's basketball team is also looking very good, especially Candace Parker.

What else have I been checking out? I have also been enjoying the tennis. It's

crazy because I've never been into the Olympics like this. I am usually satisfied with the rundown of medals and brief highlights on SportsCenter. This year is different. I was even all excited when I saw the opening ceremony on Friday night. I caught myself getting goose

bumps when I saw the athletes from other countries. What was even more amazing was the actual lighting of the Olympic torch. It was almost like an act from the circus or something. The fireworks were off the chain. I can only imagine what it was like to actually be in China to witness that. I got a thrill watching it all on TV. Maybe that's a sign that I'm getting older. Who knows? I do know that the Olympics haven't caught my attention this year. I'm still not into cycling or shooting. Not really feeling the wrestling either. But I am at least paying attention to who wins gold in those sports.

What's funny it's patriotic to cheer for

See Hill on B4

FROM THE HUDDLE

Anthony Hill



Photo by Smiley Pool/Houston Chronicle/Rapport Press

Runner Lopez Lomong, a former Sudanese refugee, carries the flag of United States during the Opening Ceremony of the 2008 Olympics.