



West Forsyth captured the Chronicle/ Lash JV Basketball Tournament title last year.

Hill

from page B1

really don't mind. Don't get me wrong. I love varsity basketball just as much as the next fan. But it's not as pure as JV ball. Guys on the varsity level are trying to get scholarships, a higher seed in the state playoffs and credibility. The JV guys are simply hoping to beat a group of guys they used to go to middle school with a year or two ago. They're also trying to get bragging rights.

Remember, junior varsity sports is the last time that sports are played for fun. In high school, you play varsity to earn a scholarship and win championships. In college, you play for a chance to play professional ball. And, it's nice to get a chance

at a title. But very few athletes get a chance to play for a title. I can count the titles that were even in my reach while I was playing sports.

Another reason why I like JV sports so much is the fact that you can get an early look at some of the future standouts.

Which JV squads are hot?

Most of the teams seem to be getting into a rhythm right now. Teams like Reynolds, Mt. Tabor and West are even entering the tournament with a little win streak. The top four seeds of the tournament are as follows: West, North Forsyth, Mt. Tabor and Reynolds. Those schools are followed by Winston-Salem Prep, Parkland, Glenn, Reagan, Carver, East and Atkins. The Camels were bounced from

the tournament after losing to East in a play-in game on Dec. 20, which was last Saturday.

That's a shame too. I mean, Atkins played a good game. I probably would've dropped Carver out of the tournament after they lost to Reagan 95-27 in a play-in game. I don't think you're ready for a tournament if you allow yourself to lose like that. Did I mention this tournament was played at the Carver gym. Reagan looked really good against the Yellowjackets over the weekend.

It's really going to be interesting to see which team wins the tourney this year. There are going to be some interesting match ups too. I'm definitely looking forward to the possibilities of Reynolds and West bumping heads on Saturday if

they both advance. I would love to see Reynolds point guard Jerran Foster go against his old school in West Forsyth. Foster is actually a good player to watch during this tournament. You won't see a better JV point guard anywhere. J. Foster controls the game. I like that. One of the sleepers of the tournament will probably be Reagan's Ozzie Otero. This kid can really play. East has a guard named Randy Morrison that's worth the price of admission too. As a matter of fact, there's a number of guys that should play well this weekend. Make sure you catch the action.

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NCCU endows baseball and softball scholarship

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

The North Carolina Central University Department of Athletics recently announced the establishment of a \$25,000 endowed scholarship fund for the men's baseball and women's softball programs.

The scholarship was established by Wayland Burton in memory of his parents, Robert and Mattie Oliver Burton. The Burtons were natives of Durham, avid baseball fans, and supporters of North Carolina Central University.

The deserving student-athletes must be a member of the men's baseball or women's softball team, have a cumulative grade point

average of 3.0 or above and be active in the Durham community.

"I am excited about this history-making event, since this is the first endowed scholarship for these programs," said NCCU Athletics Director Dr. Ingrid Wicker-McCree. "We hope that their investment incites others to take advantage of our major gift opportunities. We thank the Burton family for this contribution to assist us in the development of our future citizens and leaders."



Wicker-McCree

For information about establishing an endowed scholarship or investing in NCCU Athletics Soaring Eagles Annual Giving Campaign, call (919) 530-6724.

Durham

from page B1

over the final 11 minutes of play en route to earning the 15-point victory.

"That is a team that played us today like many of the teams in the MEAC will play us," said WSSU head coach Bobby Collins. "They are a very talented basketball team and we had our hands full today. We will take this win but you can say that we won't be putting them on the schedule again anytime soon. They are definitely a very talented team."

Winston-Salem State improved to 3-7 overall with the win while Averett fell to 6-4 overall with the loss.



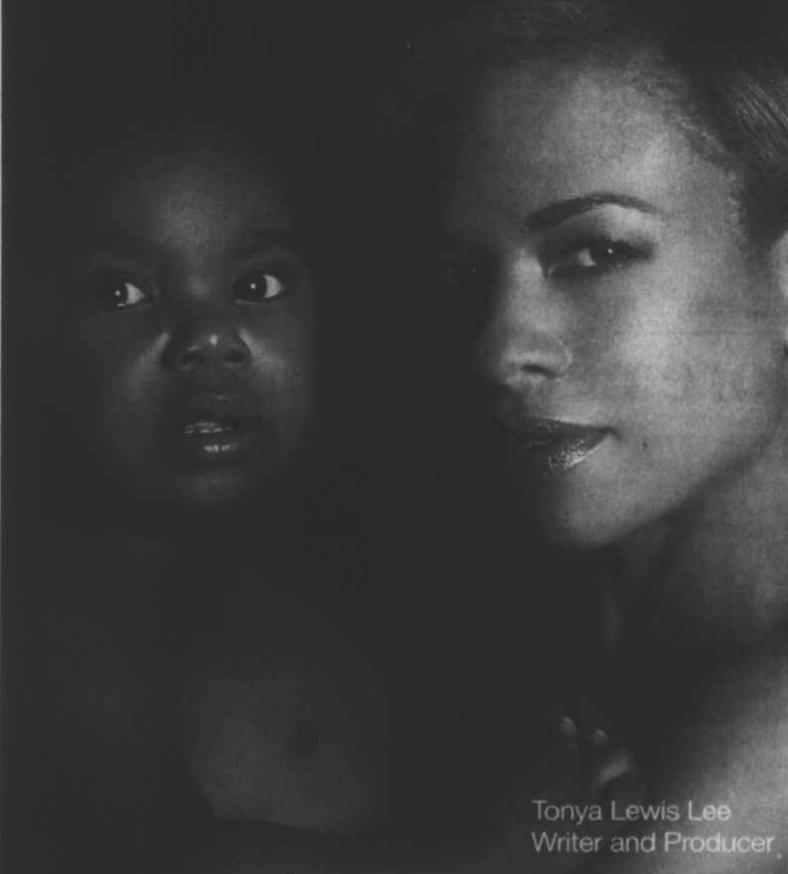
WSSU's Bobby Collins

The Rams will return to action on Dec. 30 at 7 p.m. as they travel to Norfolk, Va. to face the Monarchs of Old Dominion University.

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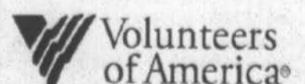
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