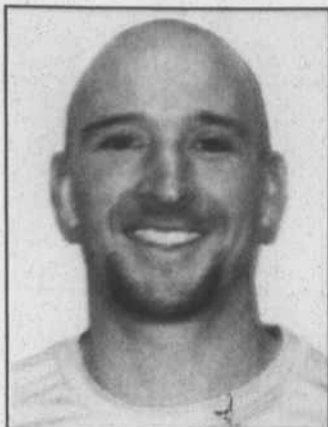


SPORTS WEEK

JANUARY 27, 2011



Ricky Proehl



Gene Overby

N.C. Sports Hall of Fame to induct Proehl and Overby

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

Former Wake Forest University star wide receiver Ricky Proehl and former WFU announcer Gene Overby are among the seven people who will be inducted into the 2011 North Carolina Sports Hall of Fame. The others are race car driver Dale Jarrett of Conover; high school coaching legend Larry Lindsey of Wake Forest; tennis coach Tom Parham of Emerald Isle; former football and track star Jerry Tolley of Elon; and athletic trainer Al Proctor (a Wake Forest alumnus) of Raleigh.

They will be enshrined at the 48th annual induction banquet on the evening of May 12 in the main ballroom of the North Raleigh Hilton Hotel, following an afternoon news conference at the North Carolina Museum of History, home of the North Carolina Sports Hall of Fame.

The Bronx-born Proehl, who now lives in Greensboro, had to overcome the label of "too short, too slow" and became an inspiration along the way. He still holds several Wake Forest receiving records and was the team's MVP in his senior season.

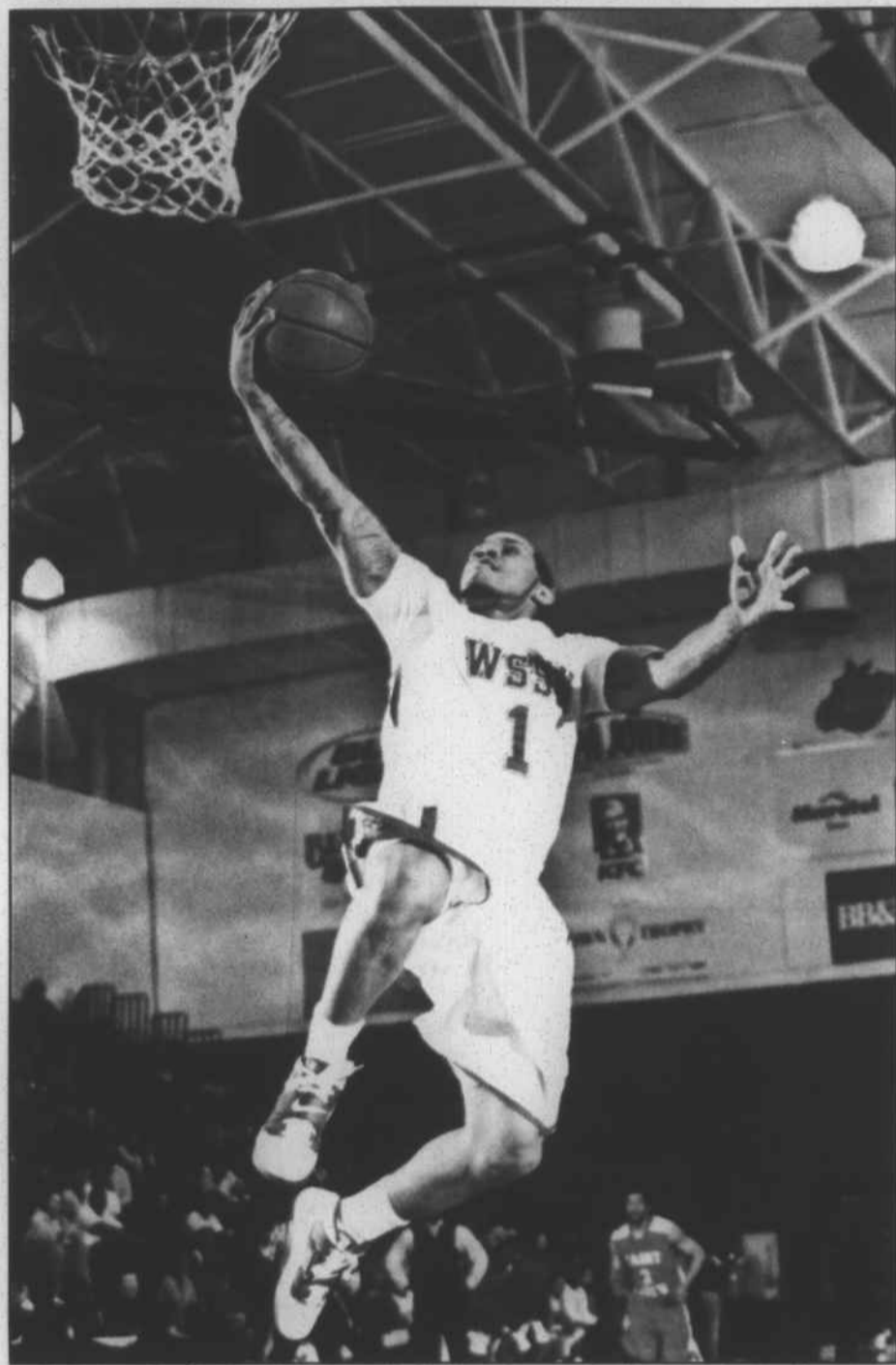
The Arizona Cardinals did not deem him too short and too slow, choosing Proehl in the third round of the 1990 draft and launching a professional career that would last 17 years. He set the Cardinals' rookie record for reception. Along the way, Proehl would play in four Super Bowls with three different teams, twice winning NFL titles. He had a 100-yard receiving game and caught the game-winning touchdown for the St. Louis Rams in the NFC Championship game against Tampa Bay, then went on to play a key role in the Rams' Super Bowl XXXIV victory over Tennessee. He also led the Carolina Panthers into the Super Bowl, catching the pass that tied the game with just over a minute left.

For 17 years until his death in 1989, Overby was the radio voice of the Wake Forest Deacons for both basketball and football. Twice chosen North Carolina Sportscaster of the Year, he was sports director for Winston-Salem radio stations WSJS and WTQR. He also anchored the sports desk at WSJS-TV, now WXII, in Winston-Salem. He made his radio debut at the age of 10 by doing a commercial spot.

An all-state second baseman at Reidsville High School, he was offered a minor league contract by the Philadelphia Phillies (he turned it down because his mother refused to sign her consent). Overby is a member of the Wake Forest and Winston-Salem/Forsyth Halls of Fame. A communications scholarship at Wake Forest is named in his memory.

Banquet ticket information is available from www.ncshof.org or by dialing (919) 845-3455.

Flying Without Wings



Winston-Salem State University Junior Guard Lamar Monger soars on Jan. 21 as he helps his team do battle against Saint Paul's. The Rams, playing at home, fell short, losing to the aggressive tigers 93-83.



Gene Thompson

VSU 're-assigns' b-ball coach

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Virginia State University has re-assigned Men's Basketball Coach George White and has named Gene Thompson as interim coach for the remainder of the 2011 season.

In announcing the changes, VSU Athletic Director Peggy Davis said, "It is in the best interests of the VSU men's basketball program, the student-athletes on the team and the University to take the program in a new direction."

The men's team is currently 1-13, having lost 13 consecutive games after an opening season victory.

Thompson is currently men's tennis coach at VSU. A native of Newport News, Va., Thompson graduated from Carver High School and attended Compton College and graduated from Elizabeth City State University with a BS degree. He received his master's degree from Virginia State University.

He had a long career coaching boy's basketball at Wilmington (Del.) High School, where he won nearly 500 games. He also assisted at the Five Star Basketball Camps for over 30 years, where he coached many college and NBA players, including Christian Laettner, Vince Carter and Grant Hill. He is a member of the Delaware High School Basketball Hall of Fame.



White

MEAC to use instant replay for televised games

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

The Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC) has announced that it will institute instant replay during its 2011 MEAC televised football games broadcasted on the ESPN family of networks.

"It is important that we continue to improve our football officiating program and remain inline with the advances in technology that are currently available," said MEAC Commissioner



Thomas

Dennis Thomas. "We are proud to implement instant replay during our televised games and feel that this is the first step to adding the system to our regular season conference games."

The use of instant replay is the second MEAC announcement expected to have an effect on the conference's football officiating program in the 2011 season. On December 6, 2010, longtime Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC) official Rosario Amato was named the conference's Coordinator of Football Officials.

An evaluation of the instant replay system will be performed following the completion of the 2011 season to assess its effectiveness and future implementation.

NCCU picks new football coach

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

With 12 years of collegiate head coaching experience and a reputation for rebuilding football programs, Henry Frazier III was announced as North Carolina Central University's 21st football head coach in school history last month during a press conference in the William Jones Building on the campus of NCCU.

Frazier comes to NCCU after seven seasons as the head mentor at Prairie View A&M University in Texas. Prior to his arrival in Texas, the Panthers experienced the nation's longest losing streak from 1989-98, dropping 80 contests in a row, and struggled through back-to-back 1-10 seasons in 2002 and 2003. Frazier closed his tenure with four straight winning seasons and delivered consecutive 9-1 records in 2008 and 2009, including a Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC) title in 2009, the program's first conference championship since 1964.

In recognition of his accomplishments, Frazier was presented with a host of coaching honors in 2009, including SWAC Coach of the Year and a repeat selection as AFCA Region III FCS Coach of the Year. He also became the first coach from a historically black college or university to receive the Eddie Robinson Award, given annually by The Sports Network to the top coach in the Football Championship Subdivision.

Frazier enjoyed similar success as the head football coach at his alma mater, Bowie State University, from 1999-2003. In 2001, Frazier led Bowie State to its best season since 1989 with a 7-3 record. Frazier moved the BSU program to another level during the 2002 season, with the Bulldogs' first CIAA Eastern Division title and CIAA championship game appearance. Continuing the winning tradition in 2003, he guided the Bulldogs to their third consecutive winning season with a second place finish in the CIAA Eastern Division. Frazier's 26-24 career record at Bowie State currently stands as the most victories by any football coach at BSU.

Frazier is married to the former LaNier Turner of Washington, D.C. They have three children, Brijan, 20, Brinia, 10, and Henry IV, 9.



NCCU/MEAC Photo

Henry Frazier III with Chancellor Charlie Nelms.



Submitted Photo

The Carver High Boys will be in action on Saturday.

Carver to host trio of games Saturday

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Carver High School Varsity Boys' and Girls' Basketball teams will be in action on Saturday, Jan. 29.

Lady Yellowjackets will have a rematch of last year's Conference Championship as they face the ladies of Trinity High School. With a 2-0 record, the Carver Girls' Team is currently undefeated. The girls will play at 4:30 p.m. at Carver.

Their game will be followed by a match-up between the Carver Boys, led by senior forward Marion Hall and junior guard Thiry Dennis, and the boys of Trinity at 6 p.m.

The action won't stop after that game. The nightcap will feature Quality Education Academy, the #16 prep team in the nation, versus Raleigh's Word of God Academy at 8 p.m.

QEA features a number of Division I players, including forward Dom Pointer (St. Johns), Anthony Fields (Wake Forest), Charles Fredricks (Depaul) and Josiah Turner (Arizona), who is currently ranked as the #3 point guard in the nation.

Word of God's players include John Wall, CJ Leslie, Bishop Daniels, 6'9 forward Joseph Uchebo and 6'7 forward TJ Warren.