

SPORTS WEEK

MARCH 17, 2011

A Dream Achieved

WSSU student becomes race car driver

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Jeff Oleen, a student in the motorsport management program at Winston-Salem State University (WSSU), has already reached his major goal for this year. NTS Motorsports recently added him as a rookie driver for its NASCAR K&N Pro Series East program.

"Racing in the K&N Pro Series was my main goal for this year, so the opportunity to compete with an organization like NTS Motorsports is one that I very much appreciate and am excited about," Oleen said. "My career path is aimed at achieving a Sprint Cup ride and I know I need winning results to get to that point."



Jeff Oleen

Oleen has already managed to earn victories along the way. The 2010 season was his first in late-model competition and he earned top rookie honors in the late-model division at Motor Mile Speedway in Radford, Va. Prior to that, he earned victories in USAC Ford Focus Midgets, Skip Barber Regional and National formula cars and kart.

"I started with go-karts and then moved to sprint racing in shifter karts," Oleen said. "I trained on the national level for shifter karts for a year with

one of the lead instructors at the Bob Bondurant Super Karts School in 2004. I also participated in the Skip Barber Racing School and the Skip Barber Regional and National Championship before moving to USAC Ford Focus Midgets."

In 2010, Oleen made his NASCAR stock-car debut racing in the Whelen All-American Series, where he won the coveted Rookie of the Year award. Now, he's moving up to the NASCAR K&N Pro Series, where he will be competing on the national level.

While Oleen's diverse experience with motorsports is intended to prepare him for every possible situation that can occur in a race, he is also taking the necessary steps toward academic excellence. He was an honor roll student at Walt Whitman High School in Bethesda, Md. and graduated one year early. In December 2009, he earned his associate's degree at Montgomery College in Germantown, Md. and enrolled at WSSU in January 2010.

"In racing today, you have to be an excellent driver, but you also have to understand the various aspects of racing, such as marketing and the importance of building a solid fan base," Oleen said.



MEAC Photo by Yusuf Abdallah

Hampton holds its MEAC championship trophy.

Pirates hoping to take down Duke Blue Devils

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

The 2011 MEAC Basketball Tournament Champion Hampton Pirates earned a No. 16 seed in the NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Tournament and will face the top-seeded Duke Blue Devils in the West Regional. The game will tip-off at 3 p.m. in Charlotte on Friday.

The Pirates (24-8) defeated Morgan State 60-55 last week in Winston-Salem to take the MEAC crown. The school's women's team also won the championship.

Junior guard Darrion Pellum, an All-MEAC first-team selection, was named the tournament Outstanding Player and junior guard Kwame Morgan earned All-Tournament Team honors.

Ed Joyner Jr., in his second year, was named the tournament's Most Outstanding Coach.

This marks the fourth appearance for Hampton in the NCAA Tournament. The team's most recent appearance was during the 2005-06 season, when they fell 71-49 to Monmouth in the opening round game. The Pirates also advanced in 2002 and dropped 78-67 decision to Connecticut. In 2001, the Pirates became the second MEAC team and the fourth No. 15 seed to defeat a No. 2 seed when they defeated Iowa State 58-57.

Duke (30-4), the defending national champion, won the Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC) Tournament title on Sunday. The Blue Devils are led by senior guard Nolan Smith, the ACC Player of the Year, who averages 21.3 points per game. Senior forward Kyle Singler, a All-ACC first team selection, averages 17.1 points and 6.9 rebounds a game, while sophomore forward Mason Plumlee is the team's leading rebounder, grabbing 8.5 boards per contest.

The Pirates have never faced Duke and are 1-13 all-time against teams from the ACC.

UP IN THE AIR



WSSU Photo by Garrett Garris

The Winston-Salem State University Cheerleaders dazzle the crowd earlier this month in Charlotte at the CIAA Cheerleading Competition. The Rams squad was joined by cheerleaders from the 12 other CIAA schools.

Wake adds Galloway to football staff

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Wake Forest Head Football Coach Jim Grobe has named Lonnie Galloway as wide receivers coach and

passing game coordinator. Galloway joins the Demon Deacons after serving in the same position at West Virginia.



Galloway

Galloway spent three seasons at WVU and helped the Mountaineers to three bowl appearances, including a win over North Carolina in the 2008 Meineke Car Care Bowl. A 1994 graduate of Western Carolina University, Galloway was a four-year letterman who threw for 5,545 yards, the second-highest total in school history. After spending the 1995 season with the Charlotte Rage of the Arena Football League, Galloway started his coaching career in 1996 at Elon, where he served as the quarterbacks and wide receivers coach through 2002. He spent two years as the wide receivers coach at East Carolina University before moving to Appalachian State for a three-year stint from 2005 through 2007. During Galloway's three seasons at West Virginia, the Mountaineers went 27-12 with three consecutive 9-4 seasons.

Ram Paul Davis named to NABC All-District Team

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

The honors keep coming in for Winston-Salem State University Senior Forward Paul Davis, who was named to the National Association of Basketball Coaches (NABC) All-District team.

Davis, the 2011 CIAA Defensive Player of the Year was one of four CIAA players honored as one of the top collegiate student-athletes in the division.

Davis was named to the Atlantic Region of the NABC All-District second team and was one of four players from the CIAA honored. Johnson C. Smith's Trevin Parks earned first team honors while Virginia Union's Braxton Byerson and Bowie State's Eric Vann both joined Davis on the second team.

Davis' work this season isn't done as he will lead the Rams in the NCAA Division II Atlantic Regional of the NCAA Division II Men's Basketball tournament in West Liberty, W. Va.



WSSU Photo by Garrett Garris

Senior Paul Davis in action.

FCDS coach wants local kids to catch lacrosse fever

JAESON PITT THE CHRONICLE

Marc Winbush is aiming to broaden the popularity of lacrosse.

"It's the fastest growing sport, not only in North Carolina, but the United States," said Winbush, the new Forsyth Country Day School Lacrosse coach and a longtime lover of the sport, which was invented by Native Americans.

At age 12, the New Jersey native was introduced to the sport — where players carry netted sticks and try to score points by landing a small ball into the opponent's goal — by his uncle.

"He played in the '60s for a well known public school and (he) became one of the first black coaches in New Jersey," Winbush said of his uncle.

Winbush played the sport in high school and was even named to the New Jersey All-Star team. He continued to play at Washington & Jefferson College in Pennsylvania, but his college life and athletic career came to an abrupt halt when his father passed away.

He eventually came to Winston-Salem State University to finish his degree and found himself with an opportunity to get back into



Photo by Jaeson Pitt

Coach Winbush with members of his lacrosse squads.

the game he loves.

"I was contacted by Kernersville Alderman Kevin Bugg to start a program in 2008 at East Forsyth. I was working in Corporate America, but eventually I went there as a community coach. I was able to build up an organization of 43 young men," Winbush recalls. "We were able to win eight games with only three losses (and) the kids had never played before."

At Forsyth Country Day, which has long had a lacrosse program, Winbush coaches three squads: a junior high team and a JV and varsity team. His two sons, Jonathan and Devon, are among his

players.

Winbush says he hopes to build upon the solid foundation of previous National Hall of Fame Coach Mike Burnell.

"The families have been wonderful here and the kids have been great. I'm looking to establish my brand of coaching and culture here, and increase it," Winbush said.

Winbush has also established a non-profit organization — P.P.P. LAX, Inc. (Purpose, Provision, Promise, Lacrosse) — aimed at making more local kids fall in love with lacrosse.

"What we're finding is that once the kids see the sport, they have an attraction

to it. It's a fast paced game, it calls for agility, some toughness, it has the toughness of football, but the grace of basketball and even soccer."

Forsyth Country Day is doing more than its part to increase the visibility of lacrosse locally, Winbush believes. Jordan-Smith recently graduated from the school and is now on the successful lacrosse team at UNC.

"He was probably the first Forsyth County student to receive a full scholarship to play Division I college (lacrosse)," said Winbush, who is hoping for similar outcomes for his current seniors — Defensemen Adam Wade and Ben Anthony.



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