

SPORTS WEEK

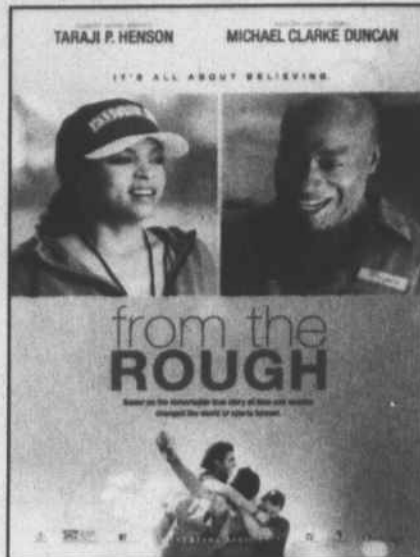
APRIL 24, 2014

ROBINSON HEADED TO SALEM



Winston-Salem Prep's Barbara Robinson will be making plays for Salem College this fall. The 5'8" senior made it official last week, signing her letter of intent while flanked by her parents, Alvin and Gwendolyn Robinson, and other family members and friends. The Salem Spirits had a record season last year, and Coach Anita Howard is predicting an even rosier upcoming season.

Submitted Photo



Puryear serves as consultant for golf film

BY CRAIG T. GREENLEE FOR THE CHRONICLE

Winston-Salem native Sam Puryear served as consultant for a movie about the trailblazing woman who was his golf coach at Tennessee State. The film, "From the Rough," is based on the true story of Catana Starks, the first woman to coach a NCAA Division I men's golf team.

The movie debuts in selected cities nationwide on Friday, April 25 and will be shown at the The Grande Theater - Four Seasons in Greensboro.

The film centers around the monumental hurdles Starks faced as she built a golf program from scratch into one of championship-caliber.



Puryear

Oscar nominee Taraji P. Henson plays Starks. "From the Rough" also stars the late Michael Clarke Duncan, Tom Felton, Henry Simmons and LeToya Luckett.

"It's exciting," said Puryear, a Carver graduate. "I'm very happy that Coach Starks is having her life put on film. It's just great to see that happen for somebody who defied the odds and touched so many lives."

Puryear is the director of Golf Operations at Queen's University in Charlotte. He too has shattered glass ceilings. At Michigan State, he became the first black head coach of a major Division I program. During his four-year tenure, the Spartans captured the 2008 Big Ten Conference championship. In that same year, Puryear was named Big Ten Coach of the Year. The former TSU golf team captain started his college coaching career as an assistant with the Stanford team that won the NCAA championship in 2007.

Even though the movie focuses on the ups and downs of a fledgling college golf team, Puryear believes that "From the Rough" has an undeniable big-picture message that he hopes will deeply resonate with moviegoers.

"When people see the movie, they should come away with the idea that anything is possible," he said. "Dreams do come true if you're willing to work hard and believe in yourself. What the movie shows is that your background really doesn't matter when it comes to pursuing goals and making those goals come to pass. Socioeconomic status, race and gender does not define who a person is or what they can become. Those things do not define you. You define yourself."



Starks

DCCC player signs with the Rams

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

Davidson County Community College Storm basketball player Robert Story has accepted a basketball scholarship from Winston-Salem State University. Story, a star shooting guard who helped lead the men's basketball team to a regular season championship this year, will transfer to Winston-Salem State.



Wilhelmi

"Robert is one of the most prolific shooters we have had here in the history of our program," said Head Coach Matt Ridge. "We are extremely proud of his accomplishments."

Story has been a key contributor to the team for two straight seasons. This past season, he made 106 three-point shots in 27 games, giving him a 42 percent shooting average from the three-point line.

"Winston-Salem State is getting a knockdown shooter who will blend in nicely with the pieces they already have in place," adds Ridge. "Without question, I believe Robert's best basketball is ahead of him. Just like former Storm players Justin Glover, Kimani Hunt and Maurice Nash, I expect Robert to help Winston-Salem State continue its winning tradition in men's basketball."

Story is the fourth DCCC player to be



DCCC Photo

Robert Story (center) signs with WSSU as his (from left) grandmother Ruby C. Holeman, grandfather Willie L. Holeman and mom Angelia Holeman watch.

signed to a full scholarship by Winston-Salem State. As a member of the Rams team, Story will continue his role as a shooting guard. In the classroom, where he equally excels, he plans to major in either sports management or sports science.

"I am excited to get the opportunity to take my talents to the next level," said Story. "It has been a great experience here at DCCC."

Story will initially play for James Wilhelmi, who was named the Rams interim coach last week by Interim

Director of Athletics Tonia Walker. Wilhelmi is filling the shoes of Bobby Collins, who resigned as coach at WSSU to lead the basketball team at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore.

"It is an honor and a blessing to have been chosen to continue to serve WSSU, where we believe in graduating student-athletes and winning championships," says Wilhelmi, who joined the Rams in 2011 as an associate coach. "We are continuing to work hard in preparation for another exciting season of Rams basketball."

Rams prove to be best on the diamond

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

The Winston-Salem State University Lady Rams Softball and WSSU Baseball teams both won Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association Championship titles last weekend in Petersburg, Va.

The Lady Rams beat the Saint Augustine's Lady Falcons 5-4, while the Rams topped Virginia State University 9-5.

The Lady Rams clinched their seventh CIAA Championship in program history with the win and will make an NCAA Division II Atlantic Regional appearance May 9-11.

WSSU junior Monet Daly led the Lady Rams to the victory after a stellar performance in every facet of the game. She earned the CIAA Tournament Most Valuable Player honor. Three Lady Rams - Francesca Edgerton, Mercedes Hargett and Daly -



WSSU Photos

The Lady Rams pose after their victory.



Coach Kevin Ritsche receives his award from CIAA committee member Dennis Hessel.

earned spots on the 2014 CIAA All-Tournament team.

Ray Crawford, who a day before the championship-clinching victory was named the CIAA Baseball Player of the Year, led the Rams to victory. He was named the tournament's MVP and to the All-Tournament Team. Rams Devin McLemore and Alex Grubb also made the All-Tournament list.

Head Coach Kevin Ritsche earned his third consecutive

CIAA Baseball Coach of the Year honor. Ritsche is in his fourth season as the head coach for the Winston-Salem State University Rams. Ritsche started the baseball program in 2010 after a 38-year hiatus and instantly took it from non-existent to their fourth straight 30-win season.

Since the program's resurrection under Ritsche, the Rams have won four CIAA Championships.

Let's do it again!
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