

SPORTS WEEK

OCTOBER 9, 2014



Marquez Jones in action last season.

Rams picked to finish well this season

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

The Winston-Salem State University Rams have been selected to finish second in the CIAA's Southern Division, and WyKevin Bazemore and Marquez Jones were selected to the preseason team. The Lady Rams have been predicted to finish third.

The men will be under the direction of new Coach James Wilhelmi this season. WSSU finished 18-11 last season and fell in the championship game to Livingstone College, the squad selected to finish first in the division this year.



Dionna Scott

Fayetteville State has been picked to finish third. Johnson C. Smith, Shaw and St. Augustine's University round out the CIAA's Southern Division.

In the Northern Division, Bowie State was picked to finish first, followed by Lincoln University, Virginia State, Virginia Union, Elizabeth

City State and Chowan University.

Jones was second in the CIAA in scoring at 20.2 points per game, while also averaging 3.0 rebounds, 2.0 assists and 1.8 steals per game. Bazemore was chosen for All-CIAA for the third consecutive season in 2013-14. Bazemore lead the CIAA in rebounding at 9.7 per game and was third on the team in scoring at 14.3 points per game.

The Lady Rams earned the preseason ranking after posting a 15-12 overall record and a 9-8 record in CIAA play to place third in the southern division last season. The ranking marked the fourth consecutive season that the Lady Rams have ranked third in the preseason.

The Lady Rams were ranked behind the two teams that played for the 2014 CIAA champion: the four-time defending champion Shaw Lady Bears and the runners-up, the Fayetteville State Lady Broncos.

Senior forward Dionna Scott was also named to the 2014 CIAA Pre-Season All-Conference team. She earned a spot in the 2014 CIAA All-Conference team as well. Last season, Scott was the team's second leading scorer and rebounder with 11.0 points per game and 6.1 rebounds per game.



Glenn wide receiver Braxton Rorie (24) in action during last week's victory over Carver.

Photo by Charles Leftwich Jr.

Comeback 'Cats

Glenn rallies to beat Carver

BY CRAIG T. GREENLEE
FOR THE CHRONICLE

Glenn appeared to be on the verge of self-destructing against Carver in junior varsity football last week. The Bobcats, however, managed to side-step potential disaster to post a 34-24 win.

"We hadn't played in 17 days, so our timing wasn't what it needed to be," said Coach Aldine Payne of Glenn. "At first, our offensive line was slow in getting off the ball. Once we knocked off the rust, we were able to get into a rhythm."

Lack of focus and untimely penalties conspired to put Glenn at a disadvantage throughout most of the first half. The Bobcats got on the board quickly when Tahliek Games blocked a punt and returned it 20 yards for a touchdown to give his team a 6-0 lead in the first quarter.

Carver responded with two scores midway through the second quarter. Rakeem Jenkins broke three tackles on a seven-yard touchdown run and T.J. Boyce ran for the conversion to put the Yellowjackets in front at 8-6. Minutes later, Boyce scored from nine yards out, then ran for the conversion. At that juncture, it seemed that Carver, up 16-6, would take full control.

Glenn (4-1) answered with a scoring drive to trim the deficit in the waning moments before halftime. Stephon Brown scored on a quarterback sneak and Jarred Jones kicked the PAT to close the gap to 16-13 with 7.5 seconds remaining. That score was set up by a 53-yard pass from Brown to Braxton Rorie.

"The no-huddle is working well for us," said Payne.

"We're getting a nice balance between running and passing. Our defense flies around and we're good at all three levels."

The second half belonged to the Bobcats. Carver had no answer for the Brown-to-Rorie hook-up. Rorie had touchdown catches of 17 and 54 yards. Brown closed out the scoring on a 10-yard keeper to push Glenn's lead to 34-16 with 7:47 left to play in the game.

The Yellowjackets still had a chance to make things interesting. Jenkins scored his second touchdown of the night on a 23-yard run and it became a 10-point game after Devin Campbell's PAT run. Carver put together another scoring drive, but the Bobcats defense stiffened. The drive ended when Ashton Green batted down a fourth-down pass at the goal line.

"We had far too many mental mistakes and we gave up too many big plays," said Coach Alonzo Winfield of Carver. "On the other hand, this was our best game of the year on offense. At the end of the day, though, we just needed to make more stops."

Carver (1-4) appears to have found a starting quarterback in Jaquan Dodd, who joined the team three weeks ago. The Yellowjackets had been short-handed in that department due to a season-ending wrist injury to Tyrese Murphy, who's been sidelined for the past month.

"Jaquan is very decisive in his decision-making," said Winfield. "And he's already proved that he has a great command of the offense. It was his first game and it's clear that we're more productive with him in there."

The Bobcats and Yellowjackets are back in action today (Oct. 9). Glenn is at home against Southwest Guilford and Carver plays host to Surry Central. Kickoff is 7 p.m. for both games.

Aggies win HBCU Challenge

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

The North Carolina A&T men's cross country team won the Robert Shumake HBCU Challenge in Cary for the second straight year. The men's team was able to score 45 points to beat second-place Morehouse College (51).

"Very proud of our men's team!" said Duane Ross, director of track and field programs. "This was a very competitive and close competition, and our young team showed their maturity as defending champs by being patient when they needed to be and aggressive when it counted. We achieved what we wanted in this competition. Our fourth through seventh runners are all freshmen and we needed them to step up big and compete today, and they did just that."

Sophomore Darren White led the Aggies with a second-place finish at a personal best of 26:01 in the 8k. Senior Saeed Jones placed fourth in personal record time (26:21), while junior Perry Cabean finished

third for the Aggies with his personal best of 27:05, placing 11th. Freshmen Steven Stowe (27:09) and David Conner (27:32) also were able to run their fastest times.

Freshman Miranda Green led the Aggie women to a sixth-place finish. Green placed seventh with a time of 19:29. Sophomore Daniqua Dye had the second highest finish for the Aggies with a personal best time of 20:23. Freshman Imani Coleman also recorded her best (20:34).

"Very happy with how our women competed today. Miranda continues to show why she'll contend for a MEAC title in a few weeks," said Ross. "She continues to impress me week by week. The women are beginning to come around as a team. We still have some work to do before conference, but they are a very committed group of young women and I expect them to rise to the occasion at MEAC's like they did today."

The Aggies next competition will be Friday, Oct. 17 at the Delaware State Invitational.



Ross

100th win for Salem College's Coach Callahan

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Salem College Soccer Coach Jay Callahan reached his 100th career win on Sunday, Sept. 28 when the Spirits defeated the Oglethorpe University Petrels in Georgia.

Callahan, who also serves as the school's Sports Information Director, began his coaching career at Salem College in 2006 and is currently in his ninth season with the soccer team. During his time as coach, the soccer team has been awarded many distinctions, particularly through the Great South Athletic Conference (GSAC) - of which Salem College has been a member for five years.

Callahan is a two-time GSAC Coach of the Year (2012, 2013) and in 2008 was named the Association of NCAA Division III Independents Coach of the Year. His current career record is 100-47-8.



Salem College Photo

For six of Callahan's eight seasons, the soccer team has won at least 10 games. Salem College is the only North Carolina Division III school to win 10 games each of the last five seasons.

Under Callahan's leadership, the Spirits competed in the GSAC Conference Semi-finals every year that Salem has been in the conference. They also took home back-to-back GSAC Regular Season Titles in 2012 and 2013. Last season, the team won the GSAC Tournament before advancing to the NCAA Division III Tournament. Salem soccer players have won the last five Salem College Anne Woodward Athlete of the Year Awards, and the team is home to three NSCAA All-South Region Award winners and three All-South Academic All-Region Winners. Callahan has coached a GSAC Player of the Year, a GSAC Tournament MVP and a GSAC Freshman of the Year.

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