

SPORTS WEEK

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West upends Parkland

BY CRAIG T. GREENLEE
FOR THE CHRONICLE

It took about half of the first quarter for West Forsyth's junior varsity to get into the flow. But once that happened, it was smooth sailing in a 55-49 home-court win over Parkland on Jan. 23.

Mason Matrey led the scoring with 12 points, and he had plenty of help from the Titans' front line. Not only did Kamoyi Becton and Ben Uloko contribute 10 points apiece, but they controlled the paint on defense and were dominant on the boards.

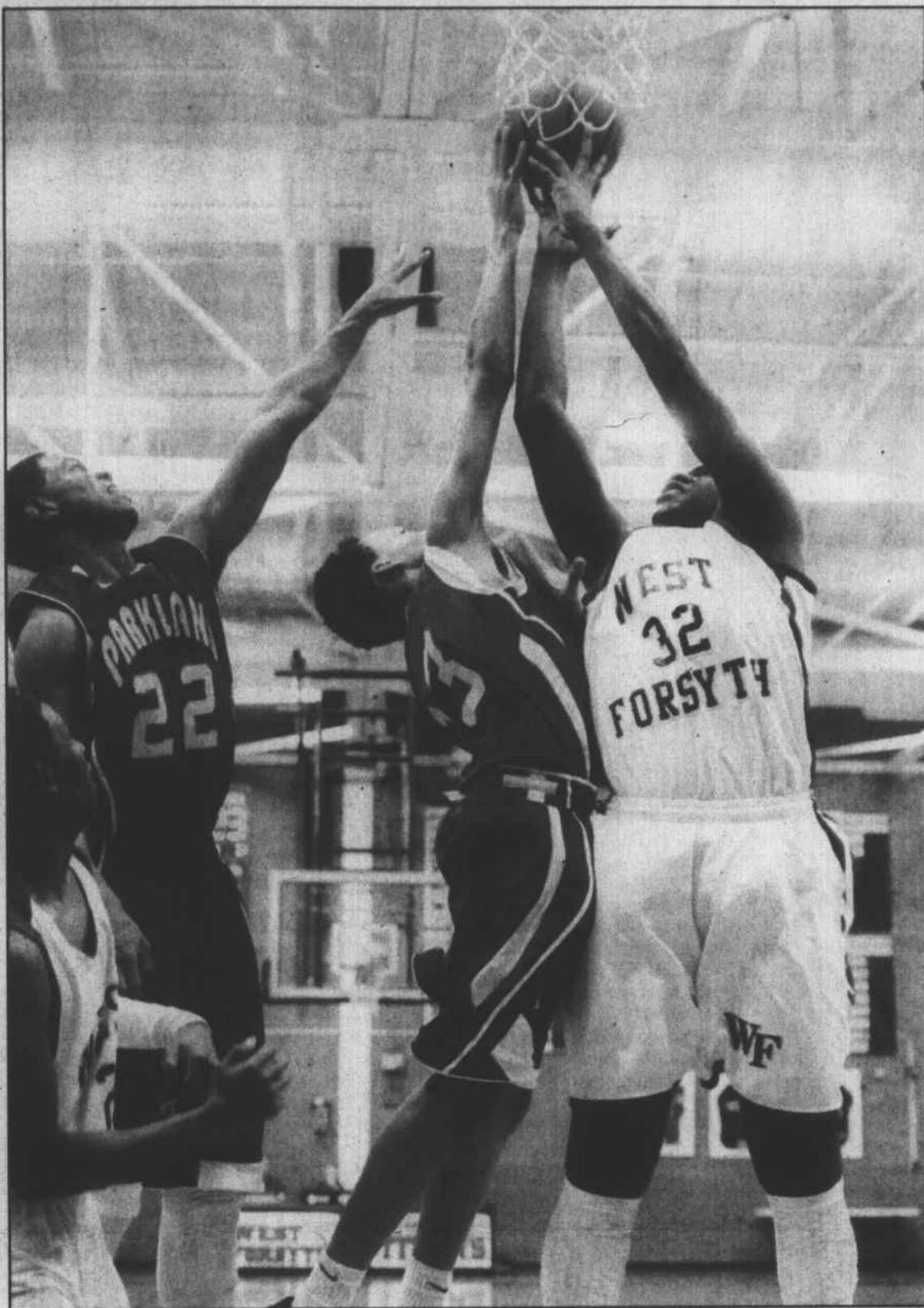
"Our bigs picked it up in the second half," said Coach Jeffrey Williams of West Forsyth (9-7, 4-3 Central Piedmont Conference as of Jan. 26). "Parkland's zone put a lot of pressure on our guards, so we had to make some adjustments. We found a lot of success when we made the conscious effort to get the ball inside to the low post."

In the opening minutes of the game, the Titans trailed 9-3, and appeared to be out of sync, but they eventually regrouped. Dwight Palmer hit a 3-pointer from the left wing, which sparked a 14-3 run. By the end of the quarter, West Forsyth led 17-12.

Parkland, in the meantime, was unable to overcome its own mistakes. The combination of missed shots at point-blank range, botched defensive assignments and unforced turnovers hindered the Mustangs in their efforts to regain the lead.

Kobe Young took

See West on B2



Ben Uloko's shot is contested by Parkland's Zach Holmes.

Photo by Charles E. Leftwich Jr.



Photos by Craig T. Greenlee

William Comer is one of the top contenders in the Central Piedmont Conference.

JV wrestler emerges as varsity standout

BY CRAIG T. GREENLEE
FOR THE CHRONICLE

Quantum leap.

It's a fitting catch phrase to describe William Comer's still-budding wrestling career at Reagan. A year ago, Comer was a back-up on the junior varsity. A year later, he's emerged as one of the Raiders standouts in only his first season of varsity wrestling.

Comer, who wrestles in the 170-pound weight class, had a 15-7 record at the start of last week. The



Cutshaw

5-foot-8 senior hopes to further establish his reputation as one of the tops in his division when he competes in the Central Piedmont Conference Wrestling Championships on Saturday at West Forsyth.

"With his record, I believe he'll be placed among the higher seeds," said Coach Josh Cutshaw of Reagan. "Will has improved tremendously. He's grittier and more hard-nosed. He's one of the Reagan wrestlers who I think has a good shot at making it to the big dance (state championships)."

As a junior, Comer decided to give wrestling a try just to see what it would be like. It wasn't the smoothest of transitions for someone who had never participated in any high school sport. At his first practice, he came in weighing 230 pounds. After one junior varsity season and the first few weeks of varsity practice, he has systematically trimmed down to reach his current weight.

Comer, who has a 4.6 weighted grade-point average, also helped his cause by taking part in

See Comer on B3

WSSU outlasts Fayetteville State on the road

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Winston-Salem State University got a career night from Terrell Leach, and the Rams had four players in double figures, as WSSU won its fourth game in a row, with a 91-84 road win over the Broncos of Fayetteville State last Saturday evening.

With the win, Winston-Salem State University improves its record to 11-5 overall, 5-3 in the CIAA and 3-0 in the Southern Division. Fayetteville State falls to 10-9 overall, 4-5 in the CIAA and 1-2 in the Southern Division.

WSSU started the game on fire — check that — Terrell Leach started the game on fire, as the redshirt-freshman outscored the Broncos early 9-0, to put the Rams out in front early, and they never looked back from the opening tip.

The Rams quickly jumped out to an 11-point advan-



Bazemore

See WSSU on B2



WSSU Photo by Garrett Garms

Terrell Leach was the man of the hour.

Atkins gets it done against Bishop McGuinness

BY CRAIG T. GREENLEE
FOR THE CHRONICLE

It appears that the Atkins Camels are in "get over the hump" mode in junior varsity basketball. As of Jan. 22, the Camels had won three of their last four games, which included victories over Walkertown, Carver and Bishop McGuinness.

Lineup changes and a sustained commitment to function as a singular unit have sparked a turnaround. Atkins' overall record of 4-11 is not a true indicator of the team's level of improvement in recent weeks. What's more telling is the Camels' 3-3 mark in Northwest 1-A Conference games. The Camels took another step toward gaining respectability in recording a thrilling 41-39 win over Bishop McGuinness on Jan. 20.

"Team basketball, that was the difference," said Coach David Prim of Atkins. "Everybody is beginning to buy in to the team concepts that

See Atkins on B3



Photo by Craig T. Greenlee

Justin Nolan (50) of Atkins drives to the basket for the game-winning score as David Molen defends.



Atkins guard Syrus Sadler rises up to shoot a jumper.

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