

Winston-Salem's first indoor football team makes big announcement

BY TEVIN STINSON
THE CHRONICLE

Although the Winston Wildcats don't officially begin play until 2016, the team had a very productive weekend.

The Wildcats is Winston-Salem's first professional indoor football team and on Saturday, Oct. 17, the team held its first official open tryout. The tryout was open to anyone over age 18 who has already completed high school.

Less than 24 hours before the tryouts were scheduled to begin, the Wildcats announced that offensive lineman LaVance Ginyard would be joining the program. Ginyard is from Charlotte and is expected to play a big role in the Wildcats' first season.

The news was announced on the Wildcats official Facebook page on Friday, Oct. 16. The post reads: "We are pleased to announce that we have reached contract terms with another player for the upcoming football camp and season."



Ginyard is the eighth player to sign with the Wildcats since officials from the AIF League (American Indoor Football League) announced they would be joining the league in late June.

During the tryout, coaches evaluated Wildcat hopefuls while they completed drills that showed their speed, strength and overall knowledge of the game. The drills were similar to drills that NFL coaches use to evaluate college prospects.

The AIF League was started in 2005 and has teams in a number of major cities around the nation, including Atlanta, Chicago, New York and Philadelphia. The Wildcats will compete in the league's Southern Division, which is the league's largest division.

John Morris, CEO of the AIF League, said the team and the league will play a major role in the community and will continue to spread indoor football across the South.

The League is expected to add another team in North Carolina in the coming season.

"We feel that with this addition and with the previously announced teams, that the AIF blueprint for league success is further cemented," said Morris. "We will play a major role in the community and will lead the way for indoor football in the region."

The Wildcats will hold another open try out on Saturday, Nov. 14 at 9 a.m. Tryouts are held inside the D1 Sports Training Facility, 1901 Mooney St.

Rose gives the people what they want

The ESPN analyst speaks with The Chronicle one-on-one

BY TEVIN STINSON
THE CHRONICLE

Most basketball fans know the impact the Michigan Fab Five had on the landscape of collegiate basketball in this country.

In 1991, the Wolverines changed how the game was played when they became the first Division I program to start five freshmen. These were no ordinary freshmen, all five players (Jalen Rose, Chris Webber, Juan Howard, Jimmy King and Ray Jackson) were McDonald's All-Americans and each could have been the star on a number of other teams. The five All-Americans also helped to bring a popular "Hip-Hop" style to the court with their long baggy shorts and "in your face" attitude.

Jalen Rose, who played point guard for the Wolverines from 1991 to 1994, may be the most well known and outspoken member of the Fab Five. After playing 13 seasons in the NBA, Rose, hung up his basketball kicks and picked up a microphone. Rose is currently a sports analyst for ESPN/ABC.

Recently, Rose added author to his resume when his first book "Gotta Give The People What They Want," hit store shelves on Oct. 6. The book is a colorful collection of stories about basketball and life that will give fans insight and understanding they cannot get anywhere else.

While on tour to promote the new book, Rose made a quick stop in Winston-Salem to host the Champion Fashion Show at the HandsBrand headquarters. During his visit, Rose took time to sit down with The Chronicle Sports to discuss his new book, the Fab Five, The Jalen Rose Leadership Academy and the late Stuart Scott, who grew up in Winston-Salem.

WSC: Thank you for taking the time to sit down with me today. I know you're a busy man so, I'll try to keep it brief.

Rose: No problem, thank you for reaching out. It's always a pleasure to help a fellow journalist.

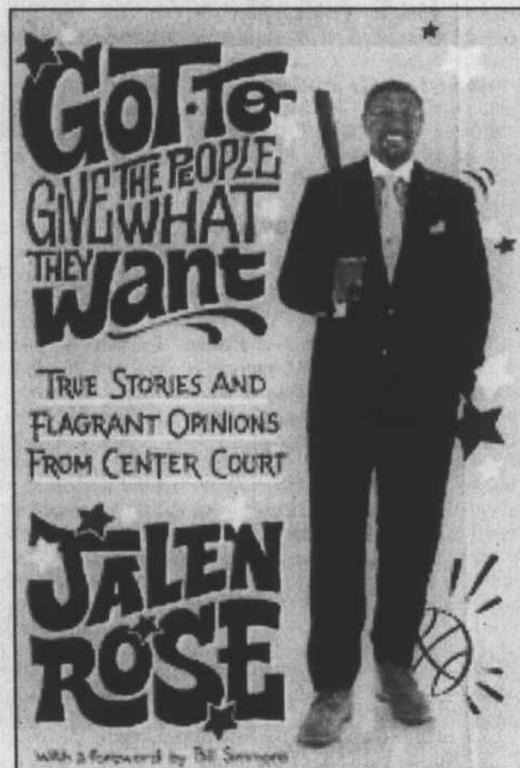


Photo submitted by Jalen Rose

WSC: Everyone knows the impact the Fab Five had on the court, but the team also had a huge social impact as well. Could you tell me a little more about that?

Rose: The social relevance part came into play after we all became brothers. A lot of people overlook the brotherhood that we had back at Michigan. We all made a sacrifice by going to Michigan, and that's when we first realized that we were all for one. For the most part, we were all from the same type of neighborhoods and we wanted the fans to see us for who we were. That's why we

started wearing the baggy shorts and black socks. When a lot of people thought we were bad for basketball, we didn't care because we knew we had our brothers standing with us.

WSC: You opened the Jalen Rose Leadership Academy in the fall of 2011 in your hometown of Detroit. Why did you decide to open a school?

Rose: Growing up in Detroit, I was always thinking of ways I could influence the city that had lost a lot of its roots and home-grown talent due to the closing of manufacturing factories, and I felt like I could do that with education. I wanted to bridge that education gap for inner city kids so they could get the same quality education that the suburban city kids get, even though they get less money from the government.

WSC: It's been over 20 years since you left Michigan. What made you decide that now was the right time for the book?

Rose: You know what, at age 42, you start to mature and you start to reflect. Just like when I did the Fab Five documentary, I wanted to end the story. The next day, whatever happened was like falling on the sword, good, bad or indifferent. I'm just owning it and that's how I felt about the book as well. To me, once the book hit shelves on Oct. 6, the next chapter of my life began on Oct. 7.

WSC: As you know, your late colleague Stuart Scott attended high school in Winston-Salem. What type of influence did he have on you and your career?

Rose: Great Question. Thank you for asking me about him. Stuart was not only a mentor for me, but my brother. The same time we were looking to make an impact on the court, Stuart was making the same type of impact with the media at ESPN. With the catch phrases, integrating Hip Hop, having style and flavor, Stuart was a real game changer. Before he took that chance, our voices weren't necessarily being heard by the masses. Losing Stuart was a major loss, not just for the ESPN family but for society because he was a good man.

WSSU SPORTS

WSSU's Tonia Walker appointed to athletic association position

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Winston-Salem State University Director of Athletics Tonia Walker has been appointed to a position on the D2 Athletic Directors Association's Board of Directors, and has been voted as the president of the Central Intercollegiate Athletics Association (CIAA) Athletic Directors Association.

Walker will serve a three-year term as a D2 ADA board member.

The D2 ADA is the first organization of its kind to provide educational and networking opportunities; enhancement of acceptable operating standards and ethics; and establishment of the overall prestige and understanding of the profession of Division II athletics directors.

Walker is in her second year as director of athletics at Winston-Salem State University, and has been an integral part of the Winston-Salem State University Department of Athletics successes for more than a decade. Walker has

occupied nearly every administrative position within the department. She was appointed director of athletics on May 1, 2014.

"I count it a privilege and an honor to represent Winston-Salem State University and the Central Intercollegiate Athletics Association on the D2 Athletic Directors Association's board", said Walker. "I look forward to working with an outstanding group of extraordinary leaders as we continue to elevate the Div. II experience for all student-athletes, coaches and administrators."

The D2 ADA is the first organization of its kind to provide educational and networking opportunities; enhancement of acceptable operating standards and ethics; and establishment of the overall prestige and understanding of the profession of Division II athletics directors. The National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics (NACDA) administers the D2 ADA.

Walker has also been voted as president of the CIAA



Walker

Athletic Director's Association.

As president, she will help in coordination, administering, and promotion of intercollegiate athletic competition within the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association.

The responsibilities of the association include scheduling regular season and championship competition. Responsibilities are coordinated through the operations of the CIAA Office. Administrative responsibilities include the development of legislation.

NBA

from page B1

award-winning director and producer whose Oscar-nominated documentary, "Hoop Dreams," won every major critics prize and journalism award in 1995. "Sports storytelling students will graduate with the expertise to tell the stories behind the stories of the 24/7 news cycle — the ones that fuel conversations."

When the idea for a master's degree in sports storytelling was proposed, Gilbert immediately knew he wanted to draft Chris Webber for its faculty lineup.

"I'm excited to bring

real-life experience to the program. Sports are my passion and telling stories about sports is my new career," said Webber. "I've been involved with the NBA for nearly 25 years, and I understand firsthand how sports, business, race, gender and economics mesh. Sports storytelling gives us a platform to explore these issues in an academic setting. I'm looking forward to not only sharing my own experiences, but learning from students how sports has had an impact on their own lives."

Gilbert first met Webber while filming "Hoop Dreams" when

"We are excited to offer a program that provides a way to look deeply at and truly engage in the societal issues surrounding all sports for all age groups."

—Bradley Jones, dean of Wake Forest's Graduate School of Arts and Sciences

Webber

was just a teenager. In 2012, they launched Webber Gilbert Media Group, a multimedia production company that produces feature films and documentaries focusing on the intersection of sports, culture and society.

Chris Webber's two seasons as part of the fabled "Fab Five" at the University of Michigan in the early 1990s and his 15 years as a power forward in the NBA laid the founda-

tion for his current success as a broadcaster, businessman, philanthropist and steward of African-American culture. He has earned the distinction of being a "thinking fan's player-analyst" for his work on NBA-TV's "NBA Gametime Live" since its launch in October 2008. Webber is a game analyst and color commentator for Turner Sports.

Bradley Jones, dean of Wake Forest's Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, said Wake Forest's program is unique. "There are programs in sports journalism and sports marketing and sports media production, but Wake Forest's storytelling

program will focus on the academic connections between sports and culture. Several Wake Forest communications professors including Ron Von Burg and John Llewellyn are committed to working with the DFP to create a program with challenging coursework that will prepare graduates for careers from long-form documentary film creation to storytelling across multiple platforms such as short films, mobile apps and websites," said Jones. "We are excited to offer a program that provides a way to look deeply at and truly engage in the societal issues surrounding all sports for all age groups."