

SPORTS WEEK

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NOVEMBER 26, 2015

WSSU

WSSU volleyball team clinches CIAA title

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

FAYETTEVILLE — The Winston-Salem State University volleyball team clinched the 2015 CIAA Championship title with a 3-1 win over Shaw University on Sunday afternoon in Capel Arena. The Rams earned the first CIAA Volleyball Championship for Winston-Salem State in program history dating back to 1978.

Winston-Salem State earned a 25-16 win in the opening set and dropped a narrow 25-22 decision to Shaw in the second set. The Rams earned 25-15 and 25-13

victories in the third and fourth sets, respectively, to earn the CIAA Championship title.

Keveesha Wattley led the effort for Shaw with 15 kills. Kelly Murphy followed with 11 kills and 11 digs in the setback while Michelle Olmeda-Gonzalez handed out 36 assists and collected 14 digs. Tiffany Brooks added 14 digs for Shaw. Olivia Owens recorded 12 kills in the



historic win for Winston-Salem State. Her performance garnered her CIAA Tournament Most Valuable Player honors. Jocelyn Mills added 10 kills while Zipporah Foster and Mya Snow notched 15 assists and 10 assists, respectively. Sydney Holland grabbed 14 digs as Michelle Murray-Garcia

grabbed an 8-6 lead behind a 4-0 run off of Teynia Sheperd's serves. Shaw stayed close on Winston-Salem State's heels but was unable to steal the momentum or the lead in the remainder of the set. The Rams secured the 25-16 victory in set one using a Shaw attack error.

The Lady Bears raced to a 10-3 lead at the start of the second set, forcing Winston-Salem to take a timeout. Down but not out, the Rams persistently chipped away at the deficit and back to take a 17-15 lead after two service aces by Holland.

See CIAA on B2

Parkland holds steady to beat Glenn in season opener

BY CRAIG T. GREENLEE FOR THE CHRONICLE

The junior varsity basketball season tipped off in grand fashion as Parkland posted a 61-59 win over Glenn last Friday night. The Mustangs led for most of the game, but the Bobcats caused some anxious moments coming down the final stretch.

Early in the fourth quarter, Parkland had built a 47-35 cushion and seemed to have a firm grip on the game. Glenn, however, had other ideas. With Marcus Harris and Paul Carlton leading the way, the Bobcats made a strong run in the waning minutes, but they ran out of time.

Harris hit a high-arching three-pointer from the left wing with three seconds remaining to cut the Bobcats' deficit to two points.

The only issue, however, was that Harris' shot came so late, that there was only about one second left to play. Parkland in-bounded the ball and the final buzzer sounded to end the game.

Daniel Leal was the top scorer for the Mustangs with a game-high 18 points.



Williams

Damien Thacker, who finished with 16 points, hit some timely long-distance jumpers in the second half. For the game, Thacker had three, 3-pointers. Raequane Key rounded out the double-figures scoring for Parkland with 10 points.

"I was impressed with our hustle," said Coach James Williams of Parkland. "We did a good job of using our athleticism against a team that was bigger than us."

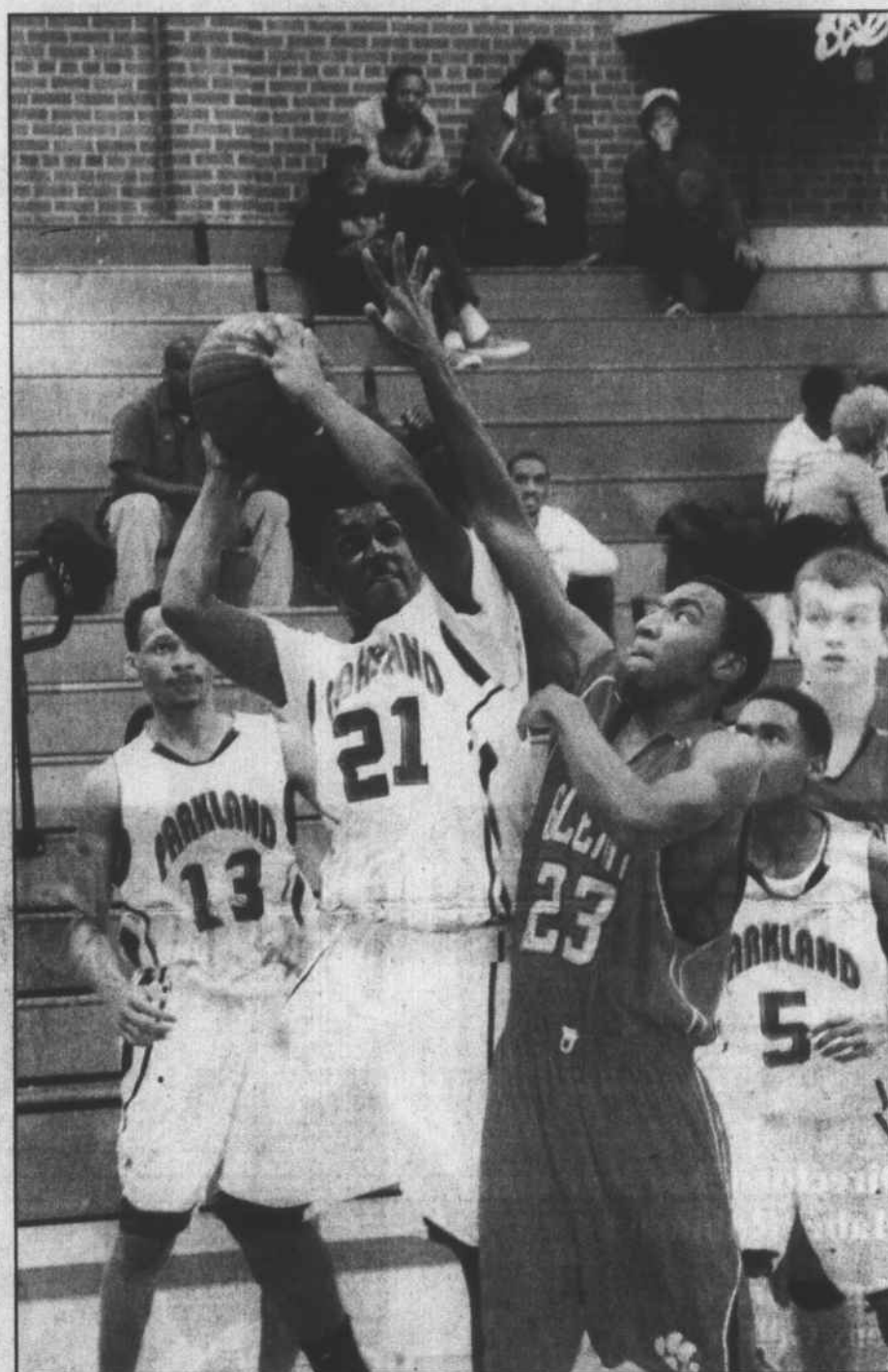
The contributions of Leal and Zach Holmes were crucial in helping Parkland to withstand Glenn's late-game comeback bid.

When Glenn pulled within five points of the lead, the game was still in doubt, and Leal took control. During a two-minute stretch, he scored a basket and four free throws to help the Mustangs maintain their lead. Holmes delivered a key block, which led to a Parkland basket in the closing moments.

"Damien [Thacker] came through for us and Daniel [Leal] hit some key shots late in the game," said Williams. "But there are some areas that we need to work on. We have to do a better job with our man-to-man defense and with our box-outs on rebounds."

The Bobcats had their chances, but poor free-throw shooting proved to be a major contributing factor to their downfall.

See Opener on B2



Parkland's Damien Thacker attempts to shoot over the outstretched arms of Glenn's Elijah Scales.

Photo by Craig T. Greenlee

JV FOOTBALL



Nick Childs of East Forsyth showcased big-play skills as a receiver and kick returner this past season.

Photo by Craig T. Greenlee

Defense sets the table for Titans' unbeaten season

BY CRAIG T. GREENLEE FOR THE CHRONICLE

Going undefeated for an entire season speaks for itself. And since there was only one team to accomplish that feat this season, West Forsyth is the undisputed king of JV football for 2015.

East Forsyth and Carver both had excellent years, but not quite as good. The Titans also had an edge over the Eagles because they won (41-33) in a head-to-head match-up during the early weeks of the season. Here's a summarized look at the top three JV football teams in Forsyth County from the recently concluded season.

West Forsyth (10-0): Offensive diversity was the big reason why the Titans proved to be tops in the county. But without a stellar defensive effort, it's not likely that they would've made the fourth-quarter comeback to beat North Davidson 34-31 earlier this month.

See Season on B2

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