

SPORTS WEEK

Also Religion and Classifieds

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Gold medalist: Take advantage of opportunity

BY TEVIN STINSON
THE CHRONICLE

Olympic gold medalist LaTasha Colander-Clark told the women athletes from Winston-Salem State University (WSSU) to wake up and recognize the importance of the time they are currently in.

She spoke at the second annual She's Got It Covered Classy Hat Affair. The event, held Saturday at the Grand Pavilion Ball Room of the Embassy Suites Hotel, is designed to raise funds and awareness to improve equity and access for girls and women in sports. The event also highlights the importance of leadership, teamwork, and loyalty.

"Time is ticking, and your time is ticking," said Colander-Clark during her keynote address. "You have to use this time to find out what your destiny is all about."



Colander-Clark won a gold medal during the Sydney, Australia, Olympics in 2000 as a member of the 4 x 400 meter relay. She is also a two-time U.S. champion in the 400 meter and in 2004 was an Olympic champion in the 100 meter.

A graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Colander-Clark said she was excited to talk to the student athletes because she knows what it's like.

"I know dorm life, I know traveling and cafeteria food," she smiled. "I know it's hard, but destiny is right here at Winston-Salem State."

During her speech, Colander-Clark also stressed the importance of supporting each other and giving back. She mentioned she would not have made it without a strong support system pushing her to be successful.

"We have to support each other because if we don't, no one will," she said.



Olympic gold medalist LaTasha Colander-Clark delivers the keynote address during the second annual She's Got It Covered Classy Hat Affair on Saturday, Jan. 30.

JV BASKETBALL

Mount Tabor gets revenge win over rival Reynolds

BY CRAIG T. GREENLEE
FOR THE CHRONICLE

Revenge is indeed sweet for Mount Tabor in JV basketball.

The Spartans finally made amends against a Reynolds squad that has been their nemesis this season. Mount Tabor built an early lead and held steady to manufacture a convincing 61-44 victory on its home floor last Friday. With a little over a week left in the season, the Spartans find themselves in a tight race with West Forsyth, Reagan and Reynolds for first place in the Central Piedmont Conference.

So far this season, Spartans have lost twice in 13 games. In both instances, defeat came at the hands of the Demons. The second loss, which occurred in the semifinals of the Lash-Chronicle JV Tournament in December, was especially painful because Mount Tabor was the No. 1 seed.

"Our guys marked the date of this game on their calendars," said coach Willie Harrison of Mount Tabor. "In both losses, we felt like we could've come out with the victory. With this win, it shows that we've turned the corner as individuals and as a team. I'm proud of what they accomplished tonight. We're back to where we need to be."

The critical difference for Mount Tabor was its ability to deal with Reynolds' half-court defensive pressure. In doing so, turnovers were minimized, which enabled the Spartans to get the maximum out of their inside game.

Post players Dillon Bullard and Jalen Moore did most of the damage. Bullard

controlled the paint at both ends of the floor and finished with a game-high 27 points. Moore came off the bench to contribute 16 points and four steals, which included a couple of crowd-pleasing dunks.

"I was very pleased with the way we came out and played with a lot of energy," said Harrison. "Defensively, we finally stepped up as a team. Plus, we really helped ourselves by moving the ball around and we didn't look for just one guy to do most of the scoring."

In this third meeting of the season between these two teams, Mount Tabor went up by as much as 20 points in the second quarter. By intermission, the Spartans led 32-16.

"Things did not go well for us early," said coach Mike McCulloch of Reynolds. "There were a lot of easy shots that we missed. We seemed a little too content to just get to the rim, and not finish. That was a problem."

Reynolds (12-3, 4-2 CPC) did make a gallant comeback in the third quarter. The Demons rediscovered their shooting touch and outscored the Spartans 19-11 in that quarter. By the start of the final quarter, the double-digits deficit was trimmed to eight points at 43-35. Ian Henderson of Reynolds scored nine of his team-high 13 points in the fourth to lead the way.

The Demons, however, were not able to sustain that run. Bullard and Moore combined to score 16 of Mount Tabor's 18 points in the fourth to put the game on ice.

"We were down by 16 at the half," said coach Mike McCulloch of Reynolds. "I

51-44



Coach Harrison



Dillon Bullard (22) dominated the paint for Mount Tabor with a game-high 27 points.

Prep suffers stomach-turning loss in final seconds

BY CRAIG T. GREENLEE
FOR THE CHRONICLE

Growing pains.

These days, Winston-Salem Prep is learning some hard lessons in JV basketball. Case in point: a 50-44 home loss to East Surry last week.

This back-and-forth contest was up for grabs until the final minute of play. The outcome wasn't so much about losing in the closing moments. From the Phoenix point of view, it was a strange turn of events that opened the door for defeat.

With just under 50 seconds left to play in the fourth quarter, Jalen Crawley of Prep drove to the basket and was fouled. He hit a pair of free throws to give the home team a 44-42 lead. As things turned out, it was the last time the Phoenix would put any points on the board.

44-42



After the free throws, the downward slide started for the Phoenix, when its best player, Tyren Hairston, fouled out. Since it was a non-shooting foul and Prep was not in the bonus, East Surry had to inbound the ball.

Prep, however, had a communication breakdown on defense. Austin Pardue took a cross-court pass and hit an uncontested 3-pointer from the right wing, which put the Cardinals on top for good at 45-44.

When the Phoenix inbounded the ball on the next possession, Colby Guy came up with a steal and scored on a lay-up to push the lead to 47-44 with 30.2 seconds remaining.

See Loss on B2



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