



# SPORTS WEEK



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MARCH 31, 2016

## Tibbs has a bright basketball future at Fayetteville State

BY CRAIG T. GREENLEE FOR THE CHRONICLE

While driving home for Christmas break with a teammate, Will Tibbs made a decision that more than likely changed his basketball future for the best.

A little over 15 months ago, Tibbs, whose home is Winston-Salem, was a freshman player at Maryland-

See Tibbs on B2



Photo by Fayetteville State University

Fayetteville State's Will Tibbs (right) defends against Jamel McAllister of Winston-Salem State.



Pharaohs' point guard Renathan Ona Embo excels at finishing plays around the basket in heavy traffic.

Photo by Craig T. Greenlee

## Pharaohs fall in national finals

BY CRAIG T. GREENLEE FOR THE CHRONICLE

As things turned out, the second half of the Grind Session national championship game was more than Quality Education Academy could handle. The usually energetic Pharaohs could find no remedies to cope with fatigue and a well-coached team with an exceptional point guard.

QEA's championship hopes were laid to rest in a disappointing 82-74 loss to Victory Rock Prep (Fla.) in the final round played last Saturday in Lawrence, Kan. The Pharaohs finished the season at 27-6.

"I give Victory Rock all the credit," said coach Isaac Pitts of QEA. "This wasn't a case of us beating ourselves. They beat us; they were the better team on that night.

Coming in, we felt like we could win it all, but we came up short. We're just very thankful that we got the opportunity to play for a national championship. I want to express my sincere thanks to all the people who supported us throughout the season."

QEA led 33-32 at the break. But the tables turned in Victory Rock's favor in the final half. The primary problem for the Pharaohs was their inability to throw Loren Jackson Jr. off his game. Jackson, who has signed with Long Beach State (Calif.), played like an MVP with a game-high 27 points and 9 assists. The 5-9 point guard was 5-of-10 from the field, 4-of-6 from 3-point distance, and 5-of-6 from the free throw line.

"The point guard was the difference," said Pitts. "We could not pressure him. He did



# 82-74

See Fall on B2

### BASEBALL

## WSSU softball: 'Team is starting to develop'

BY CRAIG T. GREENLEE FOR THE CHRONICLE

Winston-Salem State's softball team dropped a doubleheader to visiting UNC Pembroke by the narrowest of margins last week.

Entering the seventh inning of the opener, the Rams had a three-run lead, but they ended up losing 7-6 in extra innings. In the second game, WSSU came close to overcoming an early deficit, but fell short in a 4-3 defeat.

"This team is starting to develop," said coach LaTaya Hilliard-Gray, "and we're still going through the process of identifying our strengths and weaknesses. So, we still have some work to do."

The Rams (16-15 record as of March 29) is a relatively

See Softball on B2



Photo by Craig T. Greenlee  
Destiny Snipes ranks among the Rams' team leaders in RBIs.



### ATHLETIC CELEBRATION OF EXCELLENCE

## MONDAY, APRIL 25, 2016 ■ 6pm

K.R. Williams | Semi-formal/Formal attire

\$10.00 | WSSU Students with Valid Identification are FREE