

Sports Beat



with

Bill Johnson

BE MY GUEST...

Picking a winner at next week's famed CIAA Basketball Tournament is about as difficult as finding a bargain at a Dollar Day Sale.

One's initial impulse is to select Norfolk State with its fine 12-2 league record, but, then, Elizabeth City is red-hot with an eight-game winning streak and could be an easy winner. Many observers, who like to believe they're experts on the subject, feel that T.L. Reeves' Fayetteville State Broncos have not reached their peak. Neither has Joe Alston's run-and-gun Johnson C. Smith Golden Bulls.

Virginia State has the tools to become a nemesis and, finally, there are those two tourney-wise giants -- Tom Harris of Virginia Union and Bighouse Gaines of Winston-Salem State.

If one is to go out on the proverbial limb, the thinking here is that Gaines' multi-talented Rams will finally put it all together to give their cage master another tourney championship trophy to add to his already over-stuffed trophy case. If Alston can add a little patience and better organization, Johnson C. Smith is a likely choice as the team that could turn everything around.

NOTES OF INTEREST

As quietly as it has been kept the basketball teams in the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference are staging a knock-down, drag-out fight of their own for the league title. Maryland of the Eastern Shores is currently heading the pack with a perfect 6-0 slate. The Hawks are also undefeated in 15 encounters.

Howard (5-1) is second while North Carolina A&T (5-2) and Morgan State (3-1) battle for third place.

Dr. Jack S. Brayboy, one of the most knowledgeable members of the CIAA Tournament Committee, and Perry Leazer, the able promoter of the conference athletics, are the special guests on the J.C. Smith basketball show on WSOC-TV this Sunday with announcer Curt Peters and coach Joe Alston.

What does it take to win All-CIAA honors in basketball? George Cooper, J.C. Smith's super soph is not on the 1973 All-CIAA Squad. Latest conference stats have the 6-8 pivot star high among the individual leaders in two categories. He is the league's second best field shooter and his third top rebounder.

George Foreman didn't receive but \$375,000 for whipping Joe Frazier. He, however, got added incentive last week when he was given the key to the city of Hollywood, Calif.

Coach Joe Alston must view his important game with dangerous Fayetteville State here Saturday night with mixed emotions. A victory over the Broncos would sew up second place in the southern division standings. It would also mean that the Golden Bulls would draw troublesome Virginia State in the opening rounds of the CIAA Tournament at the Greensboro Coliseum next Thursday afternoon at 1:30.

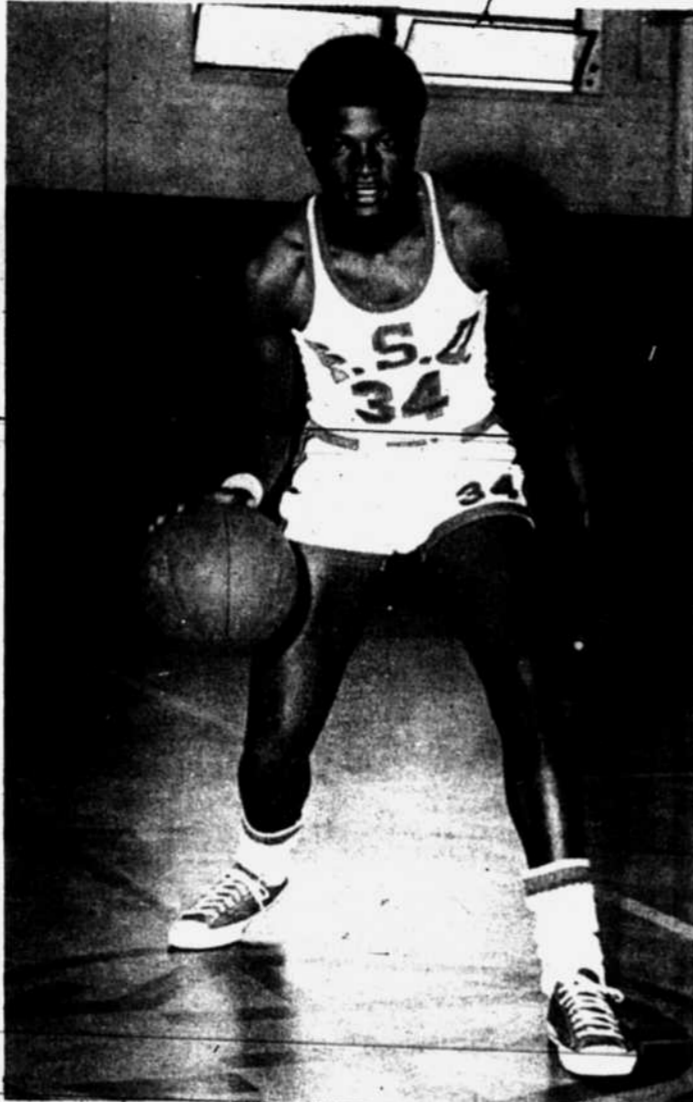
A loss would drop the Bulls to third in the Southern Division but it would also give them the dubious opportunity of clashing with surging Elizabeth City in the tournament at 7 p.m. Thursday night.

The Carolina Cougars will hold registrations for their Run, Dribble and Shooting Contest at Johnson C. Smith University at 9 o'clock Saturday morning.

The good folks up at Morgan State College are waving the flag for better times because of the sensational play of cager Phil Pugh, who has established a new career rebound mark at the Baltimore school. The 6-5 senior entered Morgan four years ago on a track scholarship.

Dave Robinson, former Green Bay Packer star, has been named director of minority affairs with the Jos. Schlitz Brewing Co. He has been an All-Pro selection four times.

And Morehouse College has done very well with its recruiting of football players this season. Coach Mike Gray has inked three gridders from the strong St. Jude High School team in Montgomery, Ala. That's exceptional picking.



Alton Cogdell, strong candidate for the 1973 All-CIAA Basketball Squad, will lead the Broncos of Fayetteville State College against Johnson C. Smith on the Smith campus here Saturday night in a battle for second place in the CIAA Southern Division.

Broncos, Bulls

To Battle Here Saturday

The Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association heads into the final week of its basketball campaign with two

Indoor Golf Classes Set For YWCA

Indoor Golf and Yoga Classes are two new programs being offered at the YWCA Trade Street Center, 418 E. Trade.

Indoor Golf Classes will be offered on Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. beginning February 21 and Thursday at 10 a.m. beginning February 22. These classes, which continue for a five-week term, are planned for beginners who want to get a head start on the golfing season by learning the basic grip, swing and use of each club. Participants should bring clubs, indoor balls, plastic self-supporting tees and a rubber door mat or thick throw rug.

Interested persons may register at the Trade Street Center Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. or at the first session of each activity. Registrations will also be taken at the YWCA Park Road Center, 3420 Park Road. For further information, call 333-7553 or 525-5770.

tournament positions unsettled.

Johnson C. Smith University and Fayetteville State will battle here Saturday night for second place in the Southern Division. At the same time, Shaw and St. Augustine's, will meet in Raleigh in a very important battle for fourth place in the same division.

"We're in the best shape we've been in for some time," coach Joe Alston of Smith said Wednesday. "We'll be at full strength for the first time in three or four weeks."

Alston sounded elated over the fact that Ellis Allen is returning in time to play against the tough Broncos Saturday night at the Hartley-Wood Gym.

"He (Allen) has provided the spark for our team all season," Alston warned. "His return is a welcome sight."

Thomas L. Reeves, headman at Fayetteville, will also have top conditioned squad.

"I think that Cogdell is a tremendous player," says Reeves, who was named the conference's "Coach of the Year" last season, his first at Fayetteville. "And I feel that Tyus and Murchison have contributed a great deal to our team this year and should be recognized."

Reeves believes that forward Alton Cogdell, guard Robert Tyus and forward Terrence Murchison are three of the league's better performers.

However, prior to engaging J.C. Smith here, Reeves and his Broncos have a very important date with Winston-Salem State in Winston-Salem Thursday night.

Scouts Flock To CIAA Tournament

The Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association sent the first black players to the National Basketball Association and the pro scouts continue to flock to the CIAA Basketball Tournament in search of talent. The 1973 CIAA Basketball Tournament is set for the Greensboro Coliseum Thursday, Friday and Saturday, February 22, 23, and 24.

Johnny McLendon, one of the all-time great cage coaches, took Earl Lloyd and Harold Hunter to Washington, D.C. for a pro try-out in the early fifties and both of them made it. Lloyd, the former West Virginia State College great, played in the NBA for a number of years and was the first CIAA grad to be named a head coach in the professional cage ranks. Al Attles, the former North Carolina A&T player, gained his collegiate spurs as a CIAA performer and is now coaching the Golden State Warriors.

More recently, the CIAA tournament has graduated Earl "The Pearl" Monroe, Mike Gale, Robert Dandridge, Lee Davis, Mike Sneed, and Rudy Peele.

It is no secret that the pro cage scouts are drooling over Norfolk State's Leroy Jones, 6-8, 240-pound pivotman; Virginia State College's Linwood Johnson, 6-8 pivotman; Winston-Salem State University's Earl Williams, 6-8 pivotman; Elizabeth City State's Glen Windley, 6-7 cornerman; Winston-Salem's

Sandy Smith, 6-3 guard; Norfolk State's Ronald W. Wilson, 6-1 guard; and Fayetteville State's Alton Cogdell, 6-4 swingman.

One pro scout was heard to comment recently that Jones and Johnson are ready to step in as cornermen in the pro ranks right now. He also said that the CIAA grads are usually sound on fundamentals and perhaps this accounts for the reason that they adjust in the pro ranks so well.

Many other performers in the CIAA Tournament have gone on to play pro ball and they include Fred "Curly" Neal, Sam Jones, Cleo Hill, Frank Stephens, Jackie Jackson, Warren Davis, and many others.

During the 1972 tournament, 14 scouts from National Basketball Association and American Basketball Association showed in search of CIAA gold. In addition, five pro football representatives took in the three day dribble

derby. Bobby Garner, 6-7 been drafted by the New Orleans Saints for a possible tight end position. State University, has already

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All-CIAA

Squad Has 3 Rams

Winston-Salem State University has placed three players on the All-CIAA Squad, announced Tuesday.

The 12-man squad also includes two players each from Virginia Union and Norfolk State and one each from Fayetteville State, Elizabeth City State, Hampton, Virginia State and Shaw.

Earl Williams teams with Arthur Chavious and Sandy Smith to represent the Rams while Ralph Hunter and Andrew Hazley were the choices from Virginia Union. Leroy Jones and Ronald Wilson were the Norfolk State players chosen.

Alton Cogdell of Fayetteville, Linwood Johnson of Virginia State, Willie Youngblood of Hampton, Glen Windley of Elizabeth City and Daniel Agee of Shaw rounded out the All-Star squad.

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The top four teams from the Northern Division and the Southern Division will play in the coveted CIAA Basketball Tournament

NORTHERN DIVISION

Elizabeth City State University
Hampton Institute
Norfolk State College
Virginia State College
Virginia Union University
Saint Paul's College

SOUTHERN DIVISION

Fayetteville State University
Johnson C. Smith University
Livingstone College
Shaw University
Saint Augustine's College
Winston-Salem State University

Please make your motel reservations by mail by writing to the particular one that you wish to stay in. Many new features have been added to the CIAA Basketball Tournament to make it even bigger and better.

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