

Sports Beat



TELLING IT LIKE IT IS

The folks over at Livingstone College have an excellent point. They are of the opinion that, if their Blue Bears and the Spartans of Norfolk State should each finish the campaign with undefeated conference records, a playoff contest should be considered between these two fine football teams.

It makes more sense to promote the playoff game simply because such a contest would put more money in the conference treasury and it would eliminate any arguments supporters of each school may have as to who is the real 1974 CIAA football champion.

If the Blue Bears get by Virginia Union in Livingstone Saturday afternoon, coach Baxter Holman's fine crew would finish the conference season 5-0, the same record Norfolk State has posted.

That would give rise to the question of how would the champion be determined. And, also, if the two teams co-champions, which one would get the bid to the Gate City Bowl in Atlanta, Ga. on Dec. 21?

This reporter takes sides with the Livingstone officials. It must be repeated here that we strongly believe that a championship contest between the winner of the CIAA and the winner of the MEAC would attract more fans than the game in Atlanta or the contest in New Orleans, La. where the MEAC title-winner will encounter the champion of the SWAC on Dec. 7.

Both leagues are losing money. The transportation cost for each trip will be staggering, and the games likely will not attract as many paying spectators as would a contest between the MEAC-CIAA champions played in this area. RFK Stadium in Washington, D.C. would be an ideal site if Howard win the MEAC and Bulldog Stadium in Orangeburg, S.C. would be the place if S. C. State captures the honor.

The Post congratulates Jerry Clark, a junior with the Johnson C. Smith University cross-country squad who finished second in the Qualifying Meet held in High Point Saturday. He ran second in the 5-mile run. Sophomore Mike Hall came in 18th and freshman John Griffin was 21st....

It looks like Tuskegee's powerful Golden Tigers will be the SIAC representative at the established Gate City Football Bowl in Atlanta next month. The Tigers are 7-1 overall and 5-0 in the conference. They have won six straight contests since dropping their opener to Southern University.

Young Jerry Fitch, who succeeded Joe Alston as head basketball coach at Johnson C. Smith, has been placed squarely on the proverbial hot seat by the basketball coaches in the CIAA. The conference head cage men pick Fitch's Golden Bulls to win the Southern Division Championship this winter...

What happened to the plan for bringing together the MEAC and the CIAA Basketball Tournaments in the Greensboro Coliseum next February?

CIAA news releases on the conference basketball promotions do not include any information on the supposed co-sponsored tournament the fact the tournament will or will not be co-sponsored Feb. 27 March 1. Wonder Why?

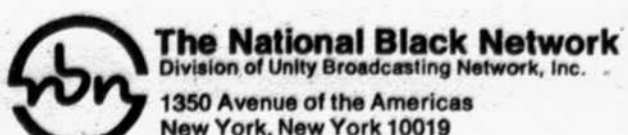
Bet you didn't know that if Johnson C. Smith defeats Fayetteville here this week and Virginia State in Petersburg, Va. next week, the Golden Bulls will wind up fourth in the CIAA---the same position they held a year ago.

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JUNIOR JERRY CLARK
...Golden Bull Runner

J. C. Smith Runner To Compete In NAIA Meet

The young Johnson C. Smith University Cross Country squad will send a runner to the NAIA National Cross Country Meet in Kansas City Saturday.

Jerry Clark, son of Mr. and Mrs. T. D. Clark of 2840 Ridge Ave., will represent Johnson C. Smith as one of the five representatives from District 26.

A graduate of Harding High School who attended Winston-Salem State University for one year, Clark placed second last week in the District 26 Meet, turning in 26:43 time for the

5-mile run cross country.

The 21-year-old junior was making his first bid in cross country competition. He is the holder of the CIAA 2-mile title, having first won the honor in 1972 and again this past spring. He won his first CIAA title while representing the Rams of Winston-Salem State University.

Clark has also won the District 26 3-mile crown and was second in the 6-mile run. His best time in the mile run is 4:23. He has been clocked at 14:39 for the 3-mile and 31:43 for 6-mile.

HOW THEY STAND

MEAC			CIAA					Conf.					All										
			Conf	All	W L T		W L T		W L T		W L T		W L T		W L T								
			W. L. T	W L T	Virginia Union	5	1	0	6	2	0	Hampton	3	3	0	3	5	0	8	1	0		
			S. C. State	4	1	0	6	2	0	J. C. Smith	2	2	0	2	7	0	Norfolk State	8	0	0	8	1	0
			Howard	4	1	0	8	1	0	Livingstone	5	0	0	8	1	0	Virginia State	5	0	0	8	1	0
			N. C. Central	3	1	0	6	2	1	Winston-Salem	3	1	0	4	5	0	Norfolk State	8	0	0	8	1	0
			Morgan	4	2	0	5	4	0	Virginia State	2	3	0	3	5	0	Elizabeth City	2	5	0	2	7	0
			N. C. A&T	1	3	0	4	5	0	Fayetteville	2	5	0	4	6	0	Shaw	1	5	0	3	6	0
			Maryland-ES	1	5	0	2	6	0	St. Paul's	0	5	0	1	7	0	Livingstone	2	0	0	3	5	0
			Delaware State	0	4	0	3	4	0	Winston-Salem	3	1	0	4	5	0	Shaw	1	5	0	3	6	0

CIAA Cage Coaches Pick Smith, Virginia Union

The Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association Coaches Association have tabbed Virginia Union University and Johnson C. Smith University as the best bets to win their division championship in the 1974-75 basketball race.

Johnson C. Smith University received the highest number of votes in the poll, fifty-nine (59) as nine out of twelve coaches gave them first place votes in the poll. Virginia Union was the next highest overall vote getter as they amassed 50-points and five first place votes.

Robert Moore, Virginia Union's mentor, picked himself to finish last in the Northern Division and picked Norfolk State College to win the title.

Smith was the top honor team in the Southern Division and the coaches picked Winston-Salem State University to finish second. The Rams received three first place votes and one second place vote. Coach C.E. Gaines picked his Rams to finish last.

Coach Charles Christian's Norfolk State College Spartans were picked to finish second in the Northern Division race. The Spartans, defending conference champions, received five first place votes and four second place votes, including a second place vote by Coach Christian.

The 1974-75 CIAA cage season opens November 29 with Hampton Institute visiting Christopher Newport, Winston-Salem State University hosting North Carolina Central, and Norfolk State and Virginia State hosting alumni teams.

Here's how the CIAA Coaches see the 1974-75 finish:

SOUTHERN DIVISION
J. C. Smith University (59)
Winston-Salem State (39)
Saint Augustine's College (29)
Fayetteville State (28)
Shaw (21)
Livingstone (20)

NORTHERN DIVISION
Virginia Union University (50)
Norfolk State College (48)
Hampton Institute (33)

Cooper, Lewis Named To CIAA Cage Squad

The Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association Basketball Coaches Association has announced their picks for the pre-season 1974-75 All-CIAA Basketball Team.

The conference, abandoning the traditional method of selecting guards, centers and forwards, selected six front courtmen and four backcourtmen.

Five selectors made the mythical team last year and they include George Cooper, Johnson C. Smith University; Ralph Hunter, Virginia Union University; Eugene Cunningham, Norfolk State College; Jerry Hamilton, Livingstone College; and Andrew Richardson, Shaw University.

Most of the coaches agreed that the honors team includes some of the best collegiate talent in the country. It has size, speed, experience, scoring power and individuals that believe in team effort. One coach gazed at the stars and requested that they all be deposited on his campus.

The team: Front Court: Eugene Cunningham, Jr., 6-6, 220 lbs., Norfolk State College; George Cooper, Sr., 6-7, 210 lbs., Johnson C. Smith Univ.; Ralph Hunter, Sr., 6-4, 210 lbs., Virginia Union Univ.; Robert Wilson, Jr., 6-5, 215 lbs., Fayetteville State Univ.; Donnie Roberts, Jr., 6-6, 215 lbs., Saint Paul's College; Robert Lewis, Jr., 6-6, 220 lbs., Johnson C. Smith Univ.; Back Court: Jerry Hamilton, Sr., 6-1 1/2 lbs., Livingstone College; Andrew Richardson, Jr., 6-1, 180 lbs., Shaw Univ.; Charlie Carr, Sr., 6-4, 185 lbs., Elizabeth City State Univ.; and Calvin Rand, Jr., 5-10, 165 lbs., Saint Augustine's College.

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