

Sports Deal

BY BILE JOHNSON



ARE YOU READY FOR THIS?.....

There are too many leaders today who would rather be smart than right.

Early reports out of Winston-Salem are that coach Billy Hayes of Winston-Salem State University is encountering problems. It seems that several of his key football players will be ineligible this season because of academic deficiencies. "We won't cry about it," Hayes reportedly said last week, "We will just do the best we can."

The oddities of the game of golf can be found in the fact that Lee Elder, who won the Westchester Golf Classic a year ago, didn't make the cut this past weekend.

Kevin McCray, a 5-9 guard who is headed for Winston-Salem State, played in the annual Sonny Hill League Senior All-Stars Basketball contest in Philadelphia last Sunday. He's a recent graduate of West Philadelphia High School. Look for Billy Ray Bates to be rated among the top newcomers in the NBA this upcoming season. Bates, who was a standout center at Kentucky State, signed recently with the Philadelphia 76ers.

List Miles College of Augusta, Georgia as the latest black college to drop football from its athletic program. According to Dr. W. Clyde Williams, Miles' president, the football program would cost \$50,000 and Miles would get "about \$8,000 for all sports in gate receipts. Over a period of three to five years, that can hit hard on a budget," Dr. Williams explained.

ACCOLADES OF THE WEEK to James Threatt Jr., sports information director at Fayetteville State University, who recently received an award for "Most Improved SID Program." The award was presented at the CIAA Conference held recently in Norfolk, Virginia. Threatt joined FUS's sports department in the fall of 1978....And to the Par Busters officials for the excellent way they staged their annual tournament at Crystal Springs last weekend. The event continues to show steady improvement and it currently rates with the best tournaments in the area.

Here's one for you!.....Old golfers never die. They just get tee'd off and putt away!

It would appear that if Muhammad Ali is serious about running for public office and "Too Tall" Jones is serious about turning from football to boxing for a livelihood, both of these gentlemen should consult their Joke Consultant Firm for a refund.

Did you know that a sociology professor at Mansfield State College in Pennsylvania has discovered that football players pay dearly for their gridiron glory? Dr. Gale Largey's analysis of 120 former players shows that the average age at death was a mere 47 years - about 15 years below the normal life expectancy of those who have not played the game. The study revealed that most ex-football players die before age 50.

I'm happy to learn that Earvin "Magic" Johnson is going to get his degree. The former Michigan State magician, who recently signed for \$600,000 per year for the next five years just to play basketball, has assured his mother that "I'm trying to get back to school for some credits this summer. If it takes me nine or 10 years, I'll get the degree."

Have you noticed that the California Angels are the No. 1 attraction in the American League this year, having outdrawn even the New York Yankees? Wonder if the writers who report that baseball is dying, are aware of the fact that the major leagues have played to a little over 1 million more fans this year than last? Don't be too surprised if Vince Evans, a black man is in the quarterback slot when the Chicago Bears open their football campaign a week from Sunday.

Larry Holmes is telling everyone that he'll knock Earnie Shavers out when they clash for the World Boxing Council heavyweight title on September 28. Holmes is recuperating from surgery to remove a polyp on his vocal cords.

The much publicized No. 16 hole at Crystal Springs took its toll of the golfers in the Greater Griertown Open last weekend. Only four of the 89 golfers birdied it on Saturday while 16 were making pars, 29 bogies, and 19 double bogies. There were 11 who made 8's, six who carded 9, two who counted up to 10, and as many who quit counting after 11.

According to tournament co-director John Love, the pin was changed for play on Sunday and the results were even most embarrassing in that there were only four birdies and a mere nine pars. In the meantime, 19 of the players turned in bogies, 24 double bogies and 17 had 8's. Also, there were six 9's, two 10's and two 11's.

Wylie Harris is taking his show on the road this Saturday when he journeys to Gastonia for a scrimmage session. The Golden Bulls will work out at Ashbrook High Stadium from 3 until 4:30 p.m.

Johnson C. Smith University will be among the few schools in the CIAA without radio broadcast for its football games this fall....Wouldn't it be an excellent idea if Golden Bull supporters would get busy and find out why?

Winston-Salem State Eyes Third CIAA Title Under Hayes?

By Paul Kuhl
Special to the Post

Winston-Salem, NC -- After back-to-back perfect seasons in 1977 and 1978 Coach Bill Hayes of the Winston-Salem State University Rams believes that he has "about as good a chance as anyone" to win the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association title again in 1979.

The Rams have not lost a regular season game since the 1976 Homecoming loss to Guilford College (16-14). Since then they have won 22 games without a tie or loss. The Rams defense kept opponents out of the end zone the last 11 consecutive quarters of regular season play. In post-season play the Rams are 1-2, a 14-0 win over Cal-Poly (SLO) in the first round of last year's championship play in NCAA Division II and a 10-7 loss to South Carolina State in the 1977 Gold Bowl and the 41-0 defeat at the hands of the University of Delaware in the semifinals. Hayes has a 26-8-0 record in his three years as head football coach.

"This is going to be an interesting year," says Hayes. "We have an even chance at another title. We'll be competitive, but we have some problems. And this is the toughest schedule I've faced since I've been a head coach."

The Rams play eleven games without a weekend off. WSSU replaced Shaw University with Central State of Ohio and added Kentucky State. Both are road games.

"Overall," says Hayes, "our offensive line is questionable, our defense solid, and our specialty game gone."

The offensive backfield returns. Kermit Blount (5-8½, 185) the All CIAA and Mutual Black Network All American will again direct the veer offense. Called the "best option quarterback in North Carolina Football" by Larry Keech of the Greensboro News, Blount is the engineer of an offense called the "K.B. Express" by Ram fans. In his three years at the throttle, Blount has generated 3539 yards, 905 on the ground and 2634 in the air. He has completed 154 of his 372 passes for a .414 percentage. Receivers have picked up an average of 17.1 yards per catch and scored 20 touchdowns. In addition,



TIMMY NEWSOME
...Hard-running senior

Blount has rambled and scrambled for 905 yards on 348 carries, an average pickup of 2.6 yards, and scored 15 TDs.

Behind Blount are veer back Timmy Newsome (6-2, 235) and speed backs Arrington Jones (6-1, 238) and backup Chris Kirkpatrick (6-1, 225). Newsome is the national leader in scoring and rushing among NCAA Division II returning lettermen. Chosen offensive captain by his teammates, the Ashokie native has gained 2856 yards in 467 carries, an average gain of 6.1 yards. He has scored 29 TDs running and 1 receiving and has scored a 2-point conversion for a total of 182 points. Last year he rushed for 1377 yards on 183 carries, a 7.5 per carry average. He scored 15 TDs, 14 rushing and 1 receiving.

In his sophomore year last season, Jones picked up 662 yards on 97 carries, a 6.8 average, and scored 3 TDs. Next year Jones will be stronger in the blocking department and will use his considerable receiving talents more. Kirkpatrick, a High School All

American from Winston-Salem, averaged 5.3 yards in his 34 carries and picked up 181 yards en route to his 2 TDs.

Blount lost his best receiver Billy Diggs to the Minnesota Vikings, but he has plenty of talent to throw to this year. Wide receiver Antonio Howard, Blount's homeboy from Richmond, Virginia caught 44 passes, picked up 722 yards, 16.4 yards per catch and scored 4 TDs the last two seasons.

At the other wide receiver spot, Sidney Wilkins has ambitions of making Ram fans forget about Billy Diggs before the season is half over. After a good spring training, Hayes says that Wilkins runs his routes as well and "maybe" has better hands than Diggs.

Gone from the offensive line are Gary Raiford (All CIAA tackle) to the U.S. Army, and Bill Murrell, tight end drafted by the Pittsburgh Steelers. Rodney Taylor (6-0, 207) alternated series with Murrell and should have the starting nod. But Hayes laments that he has yet to fill the tackle slots to his satisfaction. "I may have to work some freshmen in. I don't like to have to put that much pressure on a freshman, but I may have to," said Hayes.

The interior of the line is solid. Anchoring the line at center is Lonnie Franklin (5-11, 200) an All CIAA candidate. Guards are experienced and dependable seniors James Tyson (6-3, 239) and Craig Umstead (6-2, 223).

Hayes believes that this year's defensive unit is the strongest he has fielded at WSSU. Senior defensive end Winfred Mack (5-10, 180) is the Defensive Captain of a unit strong in all positions even though the entire left side of the line graduated.

Ricky Atkinson (6-7½, 266) is recovered from an injury and will be ready for the September 1 opener against North Carolina A & T State Univer-

sity. Elbert Grinnell (6-8, 284) started most of last season and is looking forward to a good senior year. Daniel Jacobs (6-6, 273) has power, speed and agility and wants to show his brother who the real 'honcho' is.

Holding down the guard spots are Albert Redd (5-10, 219) and Tony Pierce (5-8, 220). A junior, Redd led the squad in QB sacks with 19. Pierce replaces last year's leading tackler Jerome McDaniel who stopped 124 ball carriers in just 9 games.

Last year's co-captain and signal caller Baxter Harrington is going to medical school and will be replaced at linebacker by Eugene Jacobs (6-3, 215). "Jacobs is one of the most talented athletes on this club," said Hayes. "I think he can be the 'honcho' this team needs." At the other linebacker position is junior Joe Ashe (6-2, 230).

In the defensive backfield, Spurgeon Thompson (6-0, 178) returns at safety. Thompson provides leadership in the secondary and will coordinate veterans Robert Johnson (6-0, 186), Dennis Bullock (6-2, 180) and Vincent Lilly (5-10, 180) at the corners.

Antonio Howard will resume his punting chores (37.1 average), but the spots of return specialist and field goal and PAT kicker are open. "Both of these are crucial areas, and right now I don't even know who we can try at these spots," says Hayes.

Is there pressure for a third undefeated season? "Not on me," says Hayes. "The pressure is on the opposition, not me. Most of the CIAA teams haven't beaten WSSU in three years; they're the ones who know that they have to do what they haven't done yet. They know they have to face Blount, Newsome, Howard and Jacobs brothers all over again. And they know that these young men want to have a great senior year. I think everyone is looking forward to this year's CIAA football."

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