

Wanted: Talented Blacks To Play For Black College Basketball Teams

By Barry Cooper Special To The Post

Black college basketball teams are under attack. They are being assaulted on all fronts, ranging from their alumni who provide no monetary support to the white media and predominantly white schools, who are all but conspiring to keep black college teams out of the limelight.

It is clear that black college basketball teams - particularly those on the Division I level - are at a crossroads, and something must be done if they are to continue to compete on a high level.

Thanks to the leadership of Commissioner Bob Moorman, most of the black college basketball teams in the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association are able to eek out a living. That league of Division II teams is sharply run and its basketball is among the most exciting in the country.

But what about the black college teams who do not belong to the Why aren't most of them CIAA? strong and able to hold their own against other teams on their level?

The answer to that question is two-fold: money and talent.

While many black college basketball teams are sorely underfinanced, most suffer because they cannot attract the top talent.

This is why Division II schools like Norfolk State and Hampton can admit a player who would not be eligible to play for, say, black schools like Maryland-Eastern Shore or North Carolina A&T.

Eastern Shore and A&T are members of Division I, where the admission standards are higher and the competition so fierce that even schools with money have trouble surviving.

The absolute bottom line, though, is talent. How many people heard of Georgetown before Partrick Ewing turned the Hoyas into a national champioship team?

Put Ewing at A&T or Howard University of Johnson C. Smith and presto! A black college team will rise to the top of the charts. That is not likely to happen, though. Black athletes in high school have developed tunnel vision. They see only one thing when they think of attending college, and that is playing in front of big, predominantly white audiences and some TV cameras.

Black colleges cannot offer that yet. and neither can they slide under-the-table inducements to prospects. Inducements such as promises of cars, apartments and plane tickets home. With black college teams, what you see (on your grant-in-aid contract) is all you get. A&T Coach Don Corbett, whose teams have won 20 or more games three times in his six years with the Aggies, know the frustration of

Second in series

going after top talent. When we go after the really top kids, they act like we don't exist,' Corbett said. "They don't answer your letters and they don't return your phone calls. Everybody is so concerned with appearing on television. And believe it or not, a lot of times it is the parents as much as the kids. They are allowing the possible exposure they children may get override the situation."

There is total truth in what Corbett says. The top black basketball players all play for predominantly white schools. It doesn't seem to matter whether those schools have had a record of discrimination against blacks or whether they are located in remote, mostly white areas. Tall black men who could help, really help, a black college team instead flock to the opposition. Not all the players find happiness either. A player can be the best player in the city as a high school athlete and then find himself hopelessly relegated to the bench in college. Said Corbett:

"Often times, it is better to be a

big fish in a little pond than just to be setting there."

Black colleges like A&T and North Carolina Central have other obstacles to overcome in recruiting, too. It used to be that blacks who were high school coaches were the main ally of the black universities. That is no longer the case. Now, the "in thing" for high school coaches to do at professional gatherings is to brag on how many of their players have signed grant-in-aids with so called big-time (white) schools.

'The black high school coaches are looking the other way." said Corbett. "Even when they can't get here kid into one of the big chools, they start calling people like Old Dominion and the University of Richmond. Only if those schools don't want the player do the coaches call us."

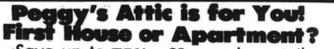
And what kind of players are usually referred to Corbett?

When coaches call me, it is never about a player who is 6-8 or 6-9, a kid who could really make a difference in our program, "Corbett said. "It's always some kid who is in the 6-3 or 6-4 range.'

"We have some good players. We feel like our guards could play for anybody. But you will find that very few black college teams - none really - will have the 6-9 or 6-10 player inside who can really perform. If we are going to break into

See BASKETBALL On Page 16A

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Being Black in America: A Real Picture



letty Funderburke, CPCC Director of Personnel, left, and Robert Carter, Jr., Director of Grants and Scholarships at CPCC chat with Latrelle Peeler, Southeast Region Personnel Manager of Photo American (Corporation of America, International (PCA) at Committee.

featured Dr. Robert L. Albright, president of Johnson C. Smith University, a guest speaker. The Monday morning event was sponsored by CPCC's Afro-American Cultural and Educational Club Advisory

Sorority Recognizes Three For Scholarship, Leadership And Service

Three young women from Kappa Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority at Johnson C. Smith University have recently been recognized for scho-larship, leadership, and service. The three are Karren Spencer, Tammera Vallier, and Tanya But-

The biography of Karren Spencer will be published in The National Dean's List, 1984-85. The National Dean's List is the largest, most prestigious publication in the country recognizing academically gifted students selected by their college represent J.C. Smith at the twoweek Symposium, "Women As Leaders: Preparing Early For Jobs at the Top," to be held in Washington, DC, May 19-June 1. Conference participants will study the history and future of women in the workforce; and explore career opportunities and skills needed for success, as well as strategies for balancing their personal and professional lives. The symposium will also serve as the masis for professional networking. Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., is a service organization whose objec-tives are to exemplify finer womanhood, scholarship, and service.

dean or a comparable faculty representative. Ms. Spencer was named to receive this honorary award by Dr. James R. Law, Vice President for Academic Affairs at Smith.

Tammera Vallier is one of 15 Johnson C. Smith students nominated for inclusion in the 1985 edition of Who's Who Among Students In



American Universities and Colleges. Selections are made by campus ominating committees and are ased on outstanding performance and potential in the areas of aca-demics, community service, and leadership ability.

Tanya Butler has been chosen to

Outstanding scholars - Pictured left to right are Tammera Vallier, Karren Spencer and Tanya Butler, academically gifted students at Johnson C. Smith University.

Labor Pledges Fight To Block Tampering

Continued From Page 1A That would really be off limits, he

That would really be off limits, he made clear. -Senate Majority Leader Robert J. Dole (Kan.) predicted that Republi-can committee chairmen wahld agree to an across-the-board budget freeze that would include abandon-ment of the 1986 COLA for social security recipients. But there were indications that Senate Republicans

were having more difficulty than they had anticipated in shaping a GOP consensus on a budget that would be unveiled even before the President sent his proposals to Congress.

Ironically, a law scheduled to take effect in 1992 would have eliminated the push to cut social security outlays to make the budget deficit appear smaller.

After that date, social security, income and outgo will no longer be considered part of the unified federal budget and thus will not be a factor in budget deficits or surpluses.

The social security trust funds were brought into the budget in 1969.

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Remember your first real history lesson?

when Grandma used to sit you down and talk about her life she wasn't just telling tales. She was following a long line of Black historians who passed their precious knowledge from generation to generation using the most expressive instrument created. The human voice

This knowledge is power. Because when you know where you come from you know who you are. Our grandparents knew this. So did W.E.B. Dubois, Sojourner Truth, Carter G. Woodson and Martin Luther King.

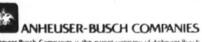
They also knew how important it was that this knowledge continue to be handed down. Black History Month is a reminder for us to learn from the past, because it positively affects the quality of our future.

Anheuser-Busch appreciates this fact. We have an ongoing commitment to forging partnerships with Black organizations across the country which are involved in preserving the Black cultural heritage.

And we've brought Black history into the community through our Great Kings and Queens of Africa art collection.

A real picture of being Black in America includes all of us. The future rests on people of all races working together to make our common reality one we can all be proud of.

Building a future in partnership with the community.



Anheuser-Busch Companies is the parent company of Anheuser Busch Inc. brewers of Budweisers, Michelobs, Michelobs Light, Budweisers Light, Natural Light and Buschs beens

PHOTOCRAPHED BY KEITH HALE. An award-winning Black photographer, Mr. Hale is currently on staff with the Chicago Sun Times. Over the years his work has appeared in major publications, including BBONY and ESSENCE. The photograph below is of Mr. Hale's daughter and

