

Howard Named "Male Scholar-Athlete Of Year"

By James Cuthbertson
Post Sports Writer

"I would characterize myself as a person who is very hard working and willing to learn," said Antonio Howard, the 1985 Charlotte Post "Male Scholar-Athlete of the Year."

"I always give 100 percent in everything that I do," he said, "whether it is work or play, I always try to be myself and that is the best that I can be. I always strive for the best."

Antonio is the son of Bobby and Lynn Howard of the Clanton Park neighborhood.

The senior at Olympic High School ranks in the top 15 percent of his graduating class of 304 students.

A look at Antonio's schedule reveals the following:

During his sophomore year, he took Advanced English, Spanish I, Biology, Physical Education, Algebra I, Introduction to Business, and Drivers Education-Personal Issues.

The first semester of his sophomore year he had 3 A's, 2 B's, and 1 C. The second semester he brought home the identical report card.

His junior year saw him taking courses such as Advanced English, World History, Accounting, Geometry, Spanish II, Weight Training and Team Sports.

First semester of his junior year, he had 1 A and 5 B's. The second semester, he had the identical

average.

In his senior year he is taking Advanced English, United States History, Concepts, Accounting II, Psychology, Sociology and Spanish III.

The average is still up.

During this time, he played junior varsity basketball, varsity basketball, and participated in his church choir, the Explorers Club, and Young Life.

The most valuable player of the varsity and junior varsity basketball teams was also named to Who's Who Among American High School Students.

Tony maintained a 3.72 average while participating heavily in sports.

"I love basketball," he said. "I believe that I play the sport fairly well, but the bottom line is that my studies come first. I come home from practice and immediately get out the books. An education is the key to success and one of the most important things a young man can ever have. No one can ever take your intelligence from you."

For his efforts in basketball, Tony was named the 1985 "Mr. Basketball" by The Charlotte Post.

He averaged 19.6 points and 8.9 rebounds per game while leading the Trojans to the conference's upper division.

For his efforts in the books, Tony is the 1985 Charlotte Post "Male Scholar-Athlete of the Year."



Antonio Howard
.....Gives 100 percent

TELLING IT LIKE IT REALLY IS!

When wine, women, and song become too much for you, stop singing!

Charlotte native Charles Sifford has finally begun to reap his deserved rewards. He recently was elected to the Carolina Golf Hall of Fame, and will be inducted in ceremonies June 24 in the North Carolina Sandhills. Charley was 36 years old when he became the first black to join the PGA circuit back in 1959 and he was in the top 60 money winners from 1960 to 1969. Sifford was the 1975 PGA Seniors champion. He won more than \$100,000 in 1985 on the PGA Senior Tour.

Willie Horton is back in the major leagues. The New York Yankees signed the former Detroit Tigers stand-out last week. The one-time leading hitter for the Tigers, who later became their highly-respectable batting coach, will share his considerable knowledge as the Yankees' hitting coach. He was released by the Tigers following a lengthy contract dispute.

How many times have you heard this one? Carl "The Truth" Williams, who will fight International Boxing Federation heavyweight champion Larry Holmes Monday night in Reno, says he has "very little respect" for the champ. "Larry Holmes has 10 years on me and that's a great differential. He's 35 and we're talking about 35 year old legs," Williams said. As a pro, the 218-pound Williams has won 12 of 17 bouts. All of his victories have come via knockouts.

However, Holmes has considerable more experience, with a brilliant string of 49 victories. He's unbeaten. In my opinion, Williams has picked on the wrong man! Maybe, the \$250,000 he will earn has something to do with his witty sayings. NBC will carry the fight live during prime time.

The Dallas Cowboys' top choice in last week's NFL draft was a former University of Michigan defensive lineman, Kevin Brooks. The Cowboys also made a serious effort to get Herschel Walker away from the New Jersey Generals of the United States Football League. Herschel is setting rushing records for the troubled USFL and everyone knows that Dallas is badly in need of a dependable runningback.

Look for Joe Namath to replace Don Meredith on "Monday Night Football" next fall. Linebacker Jeff Rohrer, a Yale graduate, says he's capable of negotiating his own contract with the Dallas Cowboys. He points out, "My parents didn't spend \$40,000 on my education for me to be some kind of dummy." Time will tell!

Did Johnson C. Smith hold its annual spring football game this year? If so, why wasn't the local media informed?

How's this for an amazing record? The Houston Astrodome is celebrating its 20th anniversary. It enjoys special status. More than 74 million persons have toured the massive structure....More than 2,750 sports events have been staged there and the eighth wonder of the world has pumped an estimated \$1 billion into the Houston economy.

How much did it cost?....A mere \$35.5 million.

In reference to William Perry's ponderous weight, a Chicago Bears official quipped, "We'll have to use the scale down at the feed store."

The exciting Billy "White Shoes" Johnson is recovering from 1984 knee surgery and is running at three-quarters speed. The speedy wide receiver expects to be in top physical condition when the Atlanta Falcons open their 1985 NFL campaign.

Did you know that NFL teams selected 31 defensive players in the first six rounds?And that the first nine first-round choices had an average weight of 262 pounds?

"I was surprised I was selected so high," Herschel Walker responded when told he was chosen in the fifth round by the Dallas Cowboys. "I'm not as excited as I normally would be," he continued, "I don't want to throw myself off track. The NFL is far in the back of my mind, I don't want to start wondering about the future."

Did you know that former North Carolina Central football star who once played for the Pittsburgh Steelers, John Baker, will seek a third term as Wake County's chief law enforcement officer?

Delaware State will have tri-captains this fall. According to coach William Collick, the Hornets elected quarterback Pat Spencer and linebackers Dan Coppedge and Bertram Chew to lead them on the field next fall. Collick says its the first time in history that the school has had three captains.

Calvin Peete continues to occupy a prominent place on Golf Official Money Winning list for the 1985 PGA tour through May 12. He's in second place, with \$289,030 in earnings. Jim Thorpe, who is 34th with \$34,614, and Jim Dent, who also earned \$18,116 and is 120th among the leaders, are the other blacks on the list.

You knew it would happen, sooner or later. Georgetown's highly successful basketball coach John Thompson is being courted by three National Basketball Association teams. "I'm evaluating and making an assessment," Thompson remarked. He has won 297 games and an NCAA title in 13 years at the Washington, D.C., school. While I do not believe he'll leave Georgetown, the thought comes to mind that Thompson and Patrick Ewing would make a great combination in a package deal with the New York Knicks.

Did you know that the Boston Celtics have an achilles heel? The experts say they have a glaring weakness at point guard. The oddsmakers have the Philadelphia 76ers at 3-to-1 to take the Celtics in seven games. Maybe someone should inform the Boston team, which holds a 2-0 advantage at the moment, that they aren't supposed to win.

When Patrick Ewing graduates May 26 he'll have kept a promise he made his mother before she died. "I'm proud to fulfill that promise," the big guy said last week. My guess is that he will become the highest paid rookie in NBA history.

It's about time for Baltimore Orioles firstbaseman Eddie Murphy to go on a homerun-hitting binge. He hasn't parked one since April 25.

Abrams Highly Regarded As Region's Top Player

By James Cuthbertson
Post Sports Writer

East Mecklenburg's Eric Abrams polished off Matt Surbeck of Hunter Huss in the finals of the sectional tennis tournament at the University of North Carolina to set up an almost sure advancement to the state tournament next week in Chapel Hill.

Abrams is highly regarded as one of the top players in the Western Regional of the state.

For his accomplishments, he is the 1985 Charlotte Post "Mr. Tennis."

Abrams won 18 and lost two during his junior season on the high school tennis circuit.

Playing number one for the East Mecklenburg Eagles, a position he has held since he enrolled at the school, he has made the Eagles a formidable powerhouse in the Southwestern 4A Conference, a team which is threatening to end the dominance by the big two of Myers Park and South Mecklenburg.

Abrams contributes his success to practice.

"I usually practice every day," he said. "Five hours per day every day including Saturday and Sunday."

The predominant serve and volley type player said he doesn't like to resort to one stereotype because he finds that you have to adapt to be able to play different type players.

"I believe my greatest strengths



Eric Abrams
.....Tennis whiz

are my serve, my volley and my forehand," said the affable young man who is looking forward to advancing to the state tournament.

Abrams also plays with the BATCH Racquet Association, a member of the Southeastern Racquet Association and his record there is undefeated also with wins against Greensboro and Greenville, S.C.

Job Hunting

Are you needing a "job-hunting" pickup and renewal of energy? "Where Do I Go From Here? Gain a Career by Getting a Job," a WomanReach seminar will do that for you on May Wednesday, May 22, at 4:30 until 6 p.m.

Each Wednesday at this time Creative Temporaries will co-sponsor with WomanReach an ongoing support network, featuring a month seminar on a pressing aspect of the job search, and extend over a six-month period.

For more information and to register, call a WomanReach peer counselor Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m., at 334-3614.

All women are welcome at WomanReach, where all services are free. A United Way agency. WomanReach facilities are handicapped accessible.

Inbolement Committee

Grier Heights Inbolement Committee would like to thank everyone for the work they did Saturday, May 11, taking part in the clean-up campaign. All people of the community are asked to take an interest in the neighborhood and are invited to come to the meeting and get involved.

Meetings are held every first Monday night of each month. The next meeting will be held June 3 at Antioch Baptist Church, Skyland Ave. The community is invited to come out and meet their neighbors at 7 p.m.

Dorothy Polk, publicity chairman; Avery Kirkpatrick, president.

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