

Moore keeps his perspective

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"Sometimes the best players don't make the NFL, and I've seen it happen here where great athletes don't get the chance or do the best they can to get to the next level.

"I'm a realist. It would be a shame if I waste my time focusing on the NFL."

Moore's role model for dealing with high expectations is former teammate Raleigh Roundtree, who was drafted by San Diego in the April NFL draft. Roundtree was projected as a prototypical tackle coming out of S.C. State, yet didn't let his impending jump to the pros change his outlook on the game or life.

"He set a real good example as far as handling the pressure and the media," Moore said. "He never said 'I'm this and that.' He never said 'I know I'm going pro.'"

Moore, a four-year starter who has played all three line positions, said the Carolinas Classic will be important to S.C. State on a couple of fronts: the Bulldogs want to improve their four-year win streak over the Aggies and earn a possible Heritage Bowl bid. A&T week brings out the best in everyone, he said.

"We talk about it," Moore said. "The one thing about it is it has the true ring of a rivalry. A&T was 8-2 and preparing to go to the Heritage Bowl (last

season) and we snuck up on them. The coaches don't have to do much that week."

Moore's come a long way since he first stepped onto the Orangeburg, S.C., campus four years ago. In that time, he's grown as a scholar and a football player. He's proud to have been able to contribute to S.C. State's reputation for producing powerful offensive linemen. No running back, quarterback or receiver can be successful without the guys up front.

"We've always taken pride in being the top offensive line in the MEAC," he said. "I'm just trying to continue that legacy. The offensive line tries to be productive, and we take pride in that at S.C. State."

Pelshak ready for S.C. State

It'll 'be a dogfight'

Continued from 1B

A&T, which has yet to beat rival S.C. State in the Carolinas Football Classic, will be out to change the status quo

Saturday. Last season, the Aggies had the better record, but their 8-3 mark included a 35-0 shellacking by the Bulldogs, who finished 4-6. Much will be at state this season, too. The winner could get an at-large bid to the NCAA Division I-AA playoffs or the Heritage Bowl against the SWAC champion.

"Last year we overlooked them because of their record," Pelshak said. "This year, they're winning and we're looking forward to putting an end to their postseason aspirations and ending our four-game losing streak to State."

"The game at Ericsson Stadium truly will be a dogfight. I guarantee it."

Aggies' play earns them a trip to the Hula Bowl

Continued from 1B

holes we helped create. I only know we'll give a better effort than last season."

Florida A&M coach Billy Joe praised McNeil for his relentless effort after A&T beat the Rattlers earlier this season.

"He's an outstanding defensive end," Joe said. "He's the best we've played against in many years. He's quick, he's very aggressive, he's tough, very smart and I don't see how he can miss playing on Sundays. We have a lot of respect for him because he gave us fits for four quarters."

That tenacity is one of McNeil's strengths, said Aggies coach Bill Hayes. He gets so excited, McNeil's pre-game persona burns with an intensity that's on the edge.

"McNeil comes to play every down, every game, and even finds it hard to shake hands with opponents prior to kick-offs," Hayes said. "When we played Morgan (State) in Baltimore, one of the game officials introduced himself as Ted White (the same name as Howard's star quarterback) and I'll be damned if Chris didn't try to tackle him. This kid

really gets after opponents."

McNeil knows he'll be a factor

Saturday, and that's the way he likes it. His responsibility will be to shut down S.C. State's powerful running game and pressure the quarterback.

Hayes

"I've already proven that there's not a tackle and a back that can block me," McNeil said. "I'm making teams one-dimensional. They never run to my side."

The soft-spoken Clyburn, who's known as "House" to his teammates, was the first Aggie nominated to the Hula Bowl. A Winston-Salem native, he led East Forsyth High to the 4A state championship and played in the Shrine Bowl in Charlotte. He'd like for his last game at A&T to be memorable.

"I guarantee you, the Battle at the Border will be an all-out war," he said.

Then comes that trip to Hawaii.



Hayes

PAL moves closer

City champions Raiders play Cary team Saturday

By Herbert L. White
THE CHARLOTTE POST

The PAL South Raiders will try to move one step closer to the Pee Wee Super Bowl this week.

The Raiders, Charlotte's 9-10 age group city champions, will play the Cary Jets Saturday at 10 a.m. at Durham City Stadium in the second round of the N.C. Regional playoffs. The winner advances to the regional final next week in Wilmington.

"Going to Orlando" Raiders offensive coordinator Sammy Shannon said, "is our goal." That's the site of the national championship game on Nov. 29.

PAL South (9-1) has been on a roll of late, beating the Winterfield Cowboys 19-8 in the Optimist Bowl for the Charlotte city championship and Salvation Army of Gastonia 7-0 last week.

Running back-linebacker Jameal Anthony has sparked the Raiders with seven touchdowns in the last three games as well as being a defensive standout. The offensive line, led by Isiah Person, has done a good job of opening holes for Anthony and protecting quarterback Rodney Carson.

Jameal wouldn't have scored all those touchdowns if it weren't for these boys blocking," Shannon said.

Defensive standouts include linebacker Sidney Westbrook, free safety Brandon Autry, and linemen Jebontay Crockett and Tony McCoy.

NBA's fashion police handing out tickets

By Chris Sheridan
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK - The NBA fashion police were on patrol again Monday, trying to make sure shorts are short enough and knees are naked.

The latest to cross the fabric line were rookie center Kelvin Cato and forward Rasheed Wallace of the Portland Trail Blazers. They were fined \$2,500 apiece by the league and the team was fined \$25,000 because the players wore uniform shorts that hung below their knees.

It was the second such penalty in a week from the conservatively dressed folks at the league's Fifth Avenue office.

"It has gotten out of control," said Rod Thorn, NBA vice president of operations. "This is a professional league and you should wear your uniform in a professional manner."

The length-of-shorts rule, which is new this season, states that shorts must be at least 1 inch above the top of the knee. Thorn acknowledged some flexibility in the rule, but anything below the midpoint of the kneecap is out of bounds.

"If you look at other leagues,

they all have rules and regulations about how you have to wear your uniforms. We can't have players wearing shorts that hang down to the middle of their calf," Thorn said.

More than 30 players have been warned by the NBA to shorten their shorts.

Last Saturday night, a representative from the athletic apparel company Starter, which makes the Sacramento Kings' uniforms, and league official Christopher Arena were in the visiting locker room in New York, their eyes cast downward at knees.

The players union said a grievance would be filed over the fines to Cato and Wallace, just as one was filed last Friday when the league fined Chris Carr, Stephon Marbury, Kevin Garnett, Clifford Rozier and Doug West of Minnesota \$2,500 apiece and the Timberwolves \$25,000.

"It seems like a waste of time," union director Billy Hunter said.



Garnett

"They should be more concerned with on-court conduct, trying to enhance the game so there are more points scored and seeing that the quality of the game is kept at a sufficient level."

At least two members of the Timberwolves, Stanley Roberts and Sam Mitchell, were among those who were warned and subsequently hiked their shorts high enough, Thorn said.

"I've moved mine up a little," said Kenny Anderson of the Trail

Blazers.

Unlike the Timberwolves general manager Kevin McHale, who ridiculed the fine last week, Blazers' president Bob Whitsitt was careful in his reaction, at least publicly.



Jordan

"I think there are a lot of other issues to worry about," Whitsitt said, "but we'll do our best to comply."

Cato, although obviously upset, declined to comment. Wallace doesn't talk to reporters before games.

The trend toward longer shorts is widely acknowledged to have begun with Michael Jordan, who wore his baggier than usual with the Bulls because he had North Carolina trunks underneath.

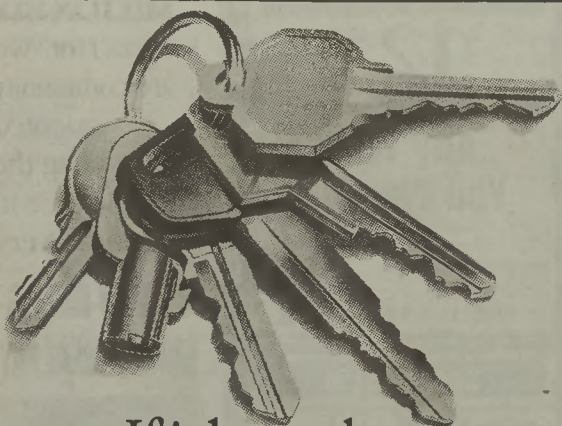
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