

Livingstone standout has it made in Shade

Continued from page 1C

Shade is the first Livingstone runner to win a CIAA and regional individual championships

"I am very proud of Darius

for his accomplishments, Bears coach Adrian Ferguson said. "Thus far, he has represented Livingstone and the track and field program very well. As a sopho-

more, He has a lot of potential. With his work ethic and dedication, Darius' track & field career has just begun. The sky is the limit when he reaches full potential."

Overall, the Blue Bears team finished 14th. Freshmen Joshua Smith finished 83rd in 40:07 and Lavernon Spivey finished 91st in 40:43. Junior

Marshon Winters was 98th with a time of 41:58 and Freshman Saif Davis wrapped the race up with the 109th position. Livingstone finished with 352 points.

Mars Hill won the 10K race with 48 points. The champions will join Darius Shade and the runner-up team St. Andrews (82 points) in California for the nationals.

Bobcats tip off season with new home, attitude – and results

Continued from page 1C

The winning record for the first time in franchise history was special, but not unique in nature, as many more firsts were established on the opening night of the Charlotte Bobcats Arena.

"We can remember it tonight and maybe a little in the morning, but we've got another team coming in here," said Gerald Wallace, toeing the company line, trying to downplay the significance of breaking the 500 barrier. "We're trying to be a playoff contention team, but we need to take it one game at a time and to get used to winning. This is a big win for us, and a big win for the city of Charlotte, but we have to move on. We have higher goals than just that."

Two nights later, the Bobcats were back in action, providing another overtime thriller. This time, Bickerstaff's club fell just short, dropping a heartbreaker to the Utah Jazz to slip back to even on the season. Still, Bickerstaff remained classically stoic.

"We're just happy to be here," said Bickerstaff. "I don't think we had a winning record all last year. But we've had the ability to keep things in perspective, even last year. We've now won two basketball games. No big deal."

The winning record for the first time in franchise history was special, but not unique in nature, as many more firsts were established on the opening night of the Charlotte Bobcats Arena.

FIRST POSSESSION – Proving to be hospitable hosts, the Bobcats allowed the Celtics the initial possession. Leaping against the Bobcats' Primoz Brezec, Mark Blount tipped the ball directly to Raef LaFrentz.

FIRST POINTS – Shortly thereafter, a Celtic player also garnered the honor of registering the first points in the arena. Drifting just off the elbow, Ricky Davis drained a 15-foot jumper, earning his place in the history books.

FIRST MISS, FIRST REBOUND – Collecting a much less desirable distinction, Matt Carroll clanged a shot off the rim to record the first miss in the fledgling arena. Reigning Rookie-of-the-Year Emeka Okafor swooped in to collect the first rebound, but promptly missed a baby-hook from the lane, keeping the Bobcats scoreless.

FIRST STEAL, FIRST BREAKAWAY, FIRST BOBCATS POINTS, FIRST DUNK – Guaranteeing that his name would litter the record books, Wallace took matters into his own hands, ensuring that the Bobcats would

not be held scoreless for long.

With unsuspecting Celtics point guard Delonte West, who earlier tallied the first assist with the dish on Davis' basket, dribbling atop the arc, Wallace snatched the ball and streaked down the court unabated. To the roar of the crowd, Wallace jammed the rock home with one hand, notching the first Bobcats points in their new abode.

FILLING UP THE BOX SCORE – Apropos, in addition to claiming the first rebound in the Bobcats Arena, Okafor also swatted the first block, deflecting a shot from Blount. West colored the history books green with the first free throw attempt and conversion, as well as the first three-point field goal, but Wallace later managed the first traditional three-point play.

SECOND HALF, MORE FIRSTS – Throughout the accomplishments in the first half, the Bobcats never held a lead. But that changed with 10:40 remaining in the third quarter, as a field goal and free throw by Brezec sent the Bobcats ahead for the first time in their new digs.

The advantage was short-lived, but the brief taste of the lead sustained Charlotte for the duration of regulation and overtime.

FALSE FINISH – Despite the positive environment, Charlotte appeared destined for a loss in the inaugural game at Charlotte Bobcats Arena. But when the home five pulled within five, 101-96, the sixth man made its first appearance, as the crowd rose to its feet, urging on the home team. The wave of momentum carried the building into its first overtime, enabled by Melvin Ely's clutch free throw in the waning seconds.

FIRST WIN – Wallace shot the Bobcats ahead 107-105 in regulation and the defense held strong, blanketing Paul Pierce and preserving the Bobcats' first of assuredly many wins downtown.

FIRST IMPRESSION – Amazing. From the wide-screen scoreboard to the wide-open concourse, the Bobcats Arena immediately becomes a gem for the entire community.

"This was a great atmosphere," said Sean May. "This was an NCAA tournament kind of atmosphere. We came in at halftime, and the fans were just waiting to burst. We said that we had to give them something to scream about and we did. I think we did our part for the people of Charlotte."

Shaw women aim for fourth straight CIAA championship

Continued from page 1C

just having a chance to win, but we won't be able to dominate this year," said Curtis who advanced to the Elite Eight last year. "We'll be able to be in every game and do everything that we need to do, but if we don't do what we need to do, we can lose like everybody."

Gone are outside shooting specialists Kiarsha Curtis (18.4 ppg) and Joy Hairston (17.9 ppg), and defensive hound Jessica Hawkins (10.6 ppg).

Shaw returns three starters: guards' Nastassia Boucicault (12.9 ppg), Jenna Bradford and Leslee Anderson.

Curtis added five newcomers: Chanae Early (Atlanta), Jamie Goshen (Chesapeake, Va.), Carletta Harrell (Cleveland), Nicky Souter (Brooklyn) and Erika Bailey (Newport News, Va.)

The Lady Bears have several streaks to defend: three-time Eastern Division champions, three-time tournament champs, consecutive home wins and consecutive conference wins.

"All the pressure is always on the seniors to maintain what the last group of seniors did," Curtis said. "So Nastassia and Jenna know that they are not trying to be the first seniors to lose a regular season game or to be the first team not to win the CIAA championship. It's a lot of pressure on them."

Shaw opens its season Nov. 18 at Central State in Ohio. N.C. Central (16-13, 11-5)

Coach Joli Robinson can't contain her excitement over the coming season. And with good reason.

The Lady Eagles return three starters, three players

with some playing time and four newcomers.

Shaw aside, NCCU was one of the hottest teams down the stretch. After starting out 4-10, the Lady Eagles and won 12 of their last 15 games.

It's hard not to mention Cassie King and NCCU in the same breath. King finished atop the conference in scoring (22.9 points) and was a rebound away from averaging a double double (9.8).

But neither NCCU nor any other team can win a championship on the back of one player.

"We want to be sure that everybody scores so that in turn can take the pressure off Cassie," said Robinson, who was given a two-year contract extension. "People are still going to be aware of her, but younger kids can come in and contribute a little bit more and battle it out."

Sophomore guard Karla Gamble has a year of experience under her belt, and senior 6-4 center Shante' Collins is the brick house in the middle.

Robinson added a stellar recruiting class. Tania Roundtree was a two-time all PAC-Six Conference at Northern High. Keyonta Thacker of George Washington High won two district championships. And NC State recruit Nakisha Stewart from Bunn High was conference player of the year after breaking the state rebounding record.

The Eagles open their season Nov. 18 in the Winston-Salem State Classic.

St. Augustine's (17-12, 7-9)

Coach Antonio Davis isn't into preseason predictions. That's good because the Lady Falcons are predicted to finish a surprising fifth in the

West.

St. Aug's finished fourth last year, but played its best ball down the stretch, and can even boast that it gave

Shaw the most competitive games of anyone.


Junior guard Valicia Brown said the ranking is just a motivator for the season.

"You care, but then again, it's just a preseason poll, it doesn't really say who's going to be No. 1 at the end of the season," said Brown, who


was voted Miss St. Augustine's. "It doesn't really affect me except for motivation. We'll show them at the end of the year."

OBSESSED


WITH QUALITY



05 CTSs
from **\$27,988**



04 CTSs
from **\$25,988**



03 CTSs
from **\$21,988**

OVER 5 MILLION IN FRESH TRADES AVAILABLE.

PALMER PRE-OWNED

EAST INDEPENDENCE PINEVILLE

2000 Buick Park Avenue	S/R.....	\$9,988	1999 Chrysler Town & Country	.....	\$9,988
2001 Dodge Durango	SXT.....	\$10,988	2001 Cadillac Catera	.....	\$11,988
000 Toyota Solara	SLE.....	\$11,988	2000 Jaguar S Type	.....	\$13,382
2001 Honda Civic	A/T.....	\$12,988	2002 Infiniti QX4	.....	\$16,991
2002 Ford Expedition	4x4.....	\$14,988	2003 Mercury Mountaineer	.....	\$17,988
2001 Cadillac SLS	Ginger.....	\$17,988	2004 Honda Accord EX	28K Miles, V6.....	\$19,493
2002 Volvo S-80	Certified.....	\$17,988	2004 Ford Expedition Eddie Bauer	Loaded, 3rd Row.....	\$23,991
2002 Lexus 300	37K Miles.....	\$24,988	2005 Chevrolet Colorado Z71	4x4, Leather, Loaded.....	\$23,991
2005 Cadillac CTS	Luxury Pkg.....	\$28,988	2002 Cadillac Eldorado	Rare.....	\$24,988
2002 BMW 325i	Convertible.....	\$28,988	2003 Chevy Suburban Z71	4x4, Clean.....	\$26,994
2003 Cadillac Escalade	AWD.....	\$37,988	2005 Acura TSX	5K Miles.....	\$27,991
2003 Chevy Corvette	3K Miles.....	Call for Price!	2004 Toyota Sequoia 4X4	17K Miles.....	\$36,988
2005 Cadillac ESV Platinum	.....	\$49,888	2006 BMW 330i	5K Miles.....	\$37,988
			2005 Cadillac Escalade EXT	12K Miles.....	\$44,988

PALMER BUDGET VEHICLES OVER 25 TO CHOOSE FROM UNDER \$10,000

SATURDAY SERVICE & COLLISION CENTER

SINCE 1991.

CONVENIENT: 8 AM - 5 PM!

INDEPENDENCE BLVD.

800-241-9653

WWW.CAROLINACADILLAC.COM

ARNOLD PALMER

Cadillac

OBSESSED WITH EXCELLENCE

BREAK THROUGH


SOUTH BLVD.

800-853-0119

WWW.APCADILLAC.COM

TWO LOCATIONS TO SERVE YOU BETTER!

All prices less incentives plus tax, \$66 tag fee and \$499 documentation fee. Photos for illustrative purposes only.



get closer at Charlotte Bobcats Arena

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11

Bobcats vs. Dallas Mavericks

Schedule Cups to all fans
courtesy of Bojangles

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16

Bobcats vs. Indiana Pacers

Pregame autograph session on the
concourse from 6:15 - 6:45

Game time 7:30 pm • Tickets start as low as \$10 • Great seats still available

704-BOBCATS • BobcatsBasketball.com

Catch the Bobcats Saturday night at Miami on WJZY UPN 46 / Cable 8 • Game time 7:30 pm

