

Leon Coleman Gets Honors As Hurdler

One of the nation's leading hurdlers is WSSC's own track star, Leon Coleman, a 1963 graduate of Boston Trade High School. His track career began in high school. He ran for the varsity in season and with the Boston Pioneer Club during the summers.

Coleman came to WSSC under a work aid program. Although he has achieved adequate grades, he has not been satisfied with his classroom work.

"There should be special tutoring for all students," he said. He prefers a general tutoring program to individual instruction to students who desire it.

Although Coleman enjoys all sports and likes the college's athletic staff, he feels that track should get more attention.



The Rams' "Big Four" relay quartet.

"There is not enough emphasis on track," he said. "The track team would do much better if there were more encouragement from the student body."

Coleman has been a frequent

competitor, both on the boards indoors and on the turf outdoors. His greatest achievement came at Hanes Park in the Winston-Salem Relays when he won the 120-yard high hurdles in :13.5,

the fastest outdoor time recorded in early season.

His next big goals are the CIAA and Carolinas AAU championships this spring and national championships in June.

Track Team Is Successful With 8 Men

The track team achieved its most successful season in several years, as hurdlers Leon Coleman and Thomas Gomillion gave outstanding performances.

Coleman has developed into one of the nation's best high hurdlers, and he and Thomas Gomillion are leaders in the 440-yard low sticks.

Other members of the eight-man squad are James Smith, a muscle man; Joe Silva, Azzel Martin, Lamont Fletcher and Russell Van Britt, all freshmen, and Ronald Shamwell, a sophomore.

During the season Coleman set two records and tied two others in the 120-yard highs. He and Gomillion dominated several meets in the 440-yard lows.

Smith did well in the discus and shotput.

Basketball Team Completes an Outstanding Season

The Winston-Salem State College Rams completed one of their most successful basketball seasons in a number of years with 21 victories and 5 defeats. They won the CIAA (Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association) Tournament to highlight the 1965-66 season.

Other highlights included second place in the Georgia Invitational Tournament and third place in the NCAA College Division Mid-East South Central District playoffs.

Two players in red and white were among the nation's top players in small college circles. Earl Monroe ended up in the top 10 among the nation's leading scorers. He also made the NAIA third team. Howard (Sonny) Ridgill averaged 20 points plus a game. He and Monroe made the all-CIAA team.

Monroe was voted the CIAA Tournament's most valuable player. He also led all players

in scoring in the CIAA tourney.

During the season only one team was able to gain the edge on WSSC. The Norfolk State Spartans, winners of the CIAA visitation title, shocked the Rams the first time in Atlanta, Ga. by winning the Georgia Invitational championship 89-79. WSSC had been tournament champions two straight years before being upended by Norfolk State.

In other tourney tests the Rams shocked Stillman 122-95 and ripped Clark, the host quintet, 89-77.

From then on the red and white entered CIAA competition. The Rams opened by topping Livingstone 95-77 in Salisbury. In their home debut they routed Fayetteville 101-69. Coach C. E. (Big House) Gaines played his starting five for only 10 minutes.

Playing the next two games in Whitaker Gymnasium on campus, WSSC routed North Caro-

lina College 109-92 and Elizabeth City 105-88. Monroe scored 48 against Elizabeth City.

On the road again, the Rams defeated Fayetteville 124-59 and Elizabeth City 125-118 in overtime.

Then came Norfolk State again and another defeat. The Spartans won 111-102 in Norfolk. The Rams bounced back, rolling 101-91 over Johnson C. Smith, 94-79 over Morgan and 79-73 over NCC.

Misfortune struck the red and white as two starters, James Reid and captain Thomas (Joe) Cunningham, were lost because of ailments. Reid was lost for the season. The Rams continued to win, however, taking Morgan 102-77, Johnson C. Smith 92-83, A & T 102-84 and St. Augustine 116-70.

At this time the Rams were riding high in first place in the CIAA and could have clinched the CIAA visitation crown by topping either A&T or Norfolk State. They lost both games, 91-78 to A&T as the Aggies controlled the boards, and 115-91 to Norfolk State, as the Spartans blasted the nets.

The Rams wrapped up the season with two easy ones, 110-70 over St. Augustine and 94-66 over Livingstone College.

The next stop was the CIAA Tournament in Greensboro. The Rams were seeded second behind Norfolk State. WSSC rolled over Smith 96-86 in the first round. Then came trouble, but WSSC outlasted Howard 85-84 in overtime.

Then came the Rams' big moment of the season. They shocked their enemies, Norfolk State, 87-80. Earl Monroe scored 42 points, and Willis (Spider) Bennett grabbed 13 rebounds which gave the Rams the CIAA Tournament.

This victory moved the team to the NCAA College Division action. The Rams were upset 69-66 by a well disciplined Oglethorpe team in the first round. The Rams salvaged the consolation game 85-80 over South Carolina State. This ended basketball for the campus in early March.

The team boasted a season's tournament record of six victories and two losses and a CIAA record of 15-3. Three seniors played their last game for the red and white. They are Ridgill, Bennett, and Cunningham.

AFRICAN DANCERS AND SINGERS

Babatunde Olatunji and his company of African dancers, singers and drummers performed in a lively, entertaining and different kind of lyceum program at Fries Auditorium on March 22.

The program opened with a lively welcome dance, "Fanga," said to have originated in Liberia. Then followed Odum De, Odum De, a harvest song and dance thanking the gods for providing plenty.

Masoma, the next work, was a drum solo demonstration by Ladji Camara, an artist with an exquisite technique.

Three pieces that followed were Akii Wa Wa, Aiye Onipekum, Firekoba, Masque Dance and Batakato, all lively dance

tunes in a very fast two fourths time.

Olatunji then presented a number of African musical instruments. Included was a primitive xylophone constructed with pieces of wood of various lengths laid parallel to each other. These were connected by strips of animal hide laid across two parallel sticks attached to four small gourds placed at each corner, both for support and for tonality.

He then gave Dr. Kenneth R. Williams, president of the college, a set of the group's first recordings.

Not all members of the ensemble are from Africa. Sonny Morgan, drummer and flutist, is from New York City. Stack Edwards hails from Newark, N. J. Ralph Dorsey, a trap drummer, is also a native American.

Olatunji, Ladji Camara, Ala Ishangi Rozok, Shekers Agbea and Babafemi Akinlana are all natives of Africa. The dancers are all from Africa. The lone male, Gbanya Alkullu (Charles in English), is the brother of Ijalu, also a dancer. Others are Afau, Awalowo, Aquasiba and Agile.

Olatunji did his undergraduate studies at Morehouse College and graduate work at New York University. He did not major or minor in music. His fields are science and psychology.

Nevertheless, he is an artist whose skill and agility with bongos and other percussion instruments are surpassed by few, if any. He seeks to project and arouse emotional feelings through music.

"We must recognize that this is a world of change wherein we must be prepared to face the world and accept challenges of this decade," he said. "We must realize that education is the training of all parts of man's nature, physical and moral as well as intellectual."

"Each of these must be developed to meet the needs and wants of others. The young Negro of America should be proud of his heritage. Africa has contributed so much to the culture of all."

—Leon Barber

Baseball Returns As Varsity Sport

By Lawrence Starks, Jr.

For the first time since 1958 WSSC fielded a baseball team. The Rams played their home games on the new baseball diamond, which is part of the new campus sports complex.

Coach John X. Miller had the task of molding a baseball team out of the student body. He met 21 eager players in practice and kept a squad of 18 for the CIAA season.

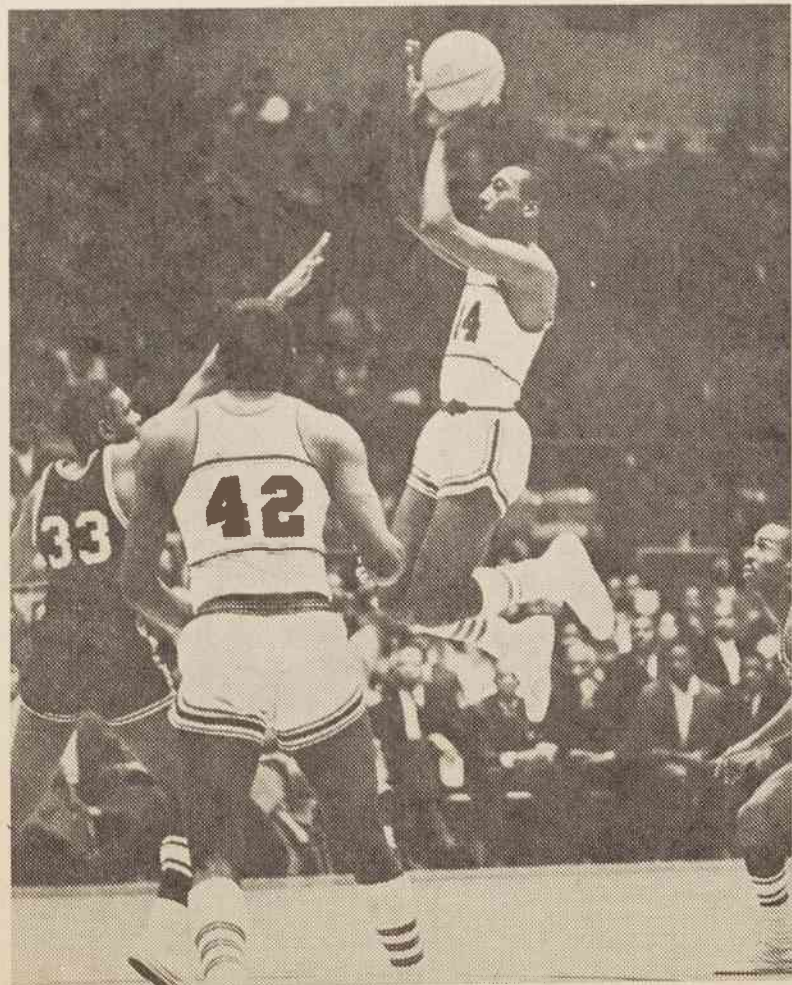
Lack of experience cost the team a number of games, but it finished with a 3-13 record for the season.

The Rams opened against Shaw, defending CIAA champions, and lost 18-1. The red and white knew it would have to do better to compete.

Then came five more defeats before the Rams won their first game from Fayetteville, thanks to an ineligible player with the losers.

On the diamond the Rams also defeated Howard 1-0 and Norfolk State 7-4. All three victories were on the road.

Weak pitching and lack of know how caused the Rams to go down. Since most of the players will be back next year, a better team is expected in 1967.



Eugene Smiley (44) shoots, and William English (42) watches, as Rams edge Howard 85-84 in overtime in CIAA Tournament in Greensboro.