

# SPORTS REVIEW

## Rams Lose Their Season Opener

By Bryon Tinnin

The Winston-Salem State Rams dropped their season opener to Clark Atlanta University 76-71 in the Second Annual Bighouse Gaines Classic.

The Rams, playing before an estimated crowd of 2,700 at the Lawrence Joel Veterans Coliseum, rebounded from a 25-point deficit to narrow Clark's lead to 73-69 with 45 seconds left in the game.

Guard Craig Maynor had a chance to get his team closer, but lost control of the ball at the free-throw line. He regained control, looking for a teammate, but no one was there. The ball ended up out of bounds and

Clark regained possession.

The Rams came as close as 74-71 with 11 seconds left on a Jonathan Hardin lay up. The rally was held off after Clark hit some clutch free throws in the closing seconds.

The Rams' scoring was lead by Hardin, a junior college transfer, with 26 points and 14 rebounds and 17 points from guard Charles Swaringen. Mike Phillips, a reserve guard, contributed tenacious defense on Clark's hot shooting Elgin Pritchett.

In the second game, North Carolina Central routed Elizabeth City State 76-58.

## Rams Edge By Vikings

By Bryon M. Tinnin

A lay up by Jonathan Hardin, with eight seconds remaining, gave Winston-Salem State a 76-75 victory over Elizabeth City State.

The Vikings, who led the majority of the game, held a 71-51 advantage with 9:49 left to play.

The Rams changed all of that by closing the game with a 25-4 run. They started

trimming that lead away at the free throw line.

Charles Swaringen and Lance Jones hit six straight free throws to narrow the gap. After hitting the front end of a 1-and-1, Swaringen made the score 75-74, but missed the second. Jones rebounded and passed the ball to Hardin underneath for the winning basket.

The victory felt good to the Rams who played poorly through most of the game.

North Carolina Central capped the Gaines Classic with a 69-58 win over Clark Atlanta University. They were led by the 30-point performance by Henry Canty.

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