

Sports Scene...

By DAVID GUTHRIE

Congratulations to Coach Bill McCraw's cagers for getting off to the finest start in Chowan's basketball history. The Braves blazed through the months of November and December winning their first nine games before losing their first game of the new year to Brevard.

Their record has surprised many of the campus basketball "experts" including myself. In several pre-season scrimmages the Braves played extremely unimpressive basketball. Under pressure they completely abandoned their pattered offense, resorting to a run and gun style, while playing absolutely no defense. Personally, I felt Chowan's hopes for even an average basketball team would have to wait until next year.

When the season started, it was as if the "Wizard of Basketball" had decided to personally oversee the Braves' court fortunes. Chowan opened with away and home dates against Kings College, and completely blew them off the court, going over the century mark in both games. The Braves then took their next seven games including a come-from-behind overtime victory in the Frederick Military Academy Tournament. Coach McCraw's team accomplished this by combining an aggressive defense, hot-shooting, and strong rebounding.

The team's lone defeat came January 11 at Brevard. It was disappointing defeat and that the Braves had previously defeated Brevard by a wide margin. Even more disappointing was the fact that several Braves did not show up for the game. In all fairness, it must be noted that the game took place during Christmas vacation. Still, the players owe loyalty to their teammates and coach. The Braves are off to a fine start and must not get complacent or overconfident. These are the worst enemies of a team with championship calibre. If they continue to play in the aggressive style which they used in their first nine games, a winning season can be guaranteed.

Southeastern College Falls To Chowan

Forward Lonnie Payton pumped in a game-high 30 points and center Bernell Riddick added 23 as Chowan College snapped a two-game losing streak and notched its 12th win by defeating Southeastern Community College in a non-conference game here Thursday night, Jan. 23, 87-82.

The Braves were down at the half 53-47. But they soon overhauled Southeastern behind the shooting of Payton, Riddick and guard Richey Weires, who scored 18. The game remained close until Chowan opened up its winning margin in the final few minutes.

The win improved Chowan's record to 12-3. Southeastern is 7-6. The Braves play two important conference games next week meeting Louisburg Monday and College of the Albemarle Wednesday. Both games will be played in the Braves' gym.

Further Developments

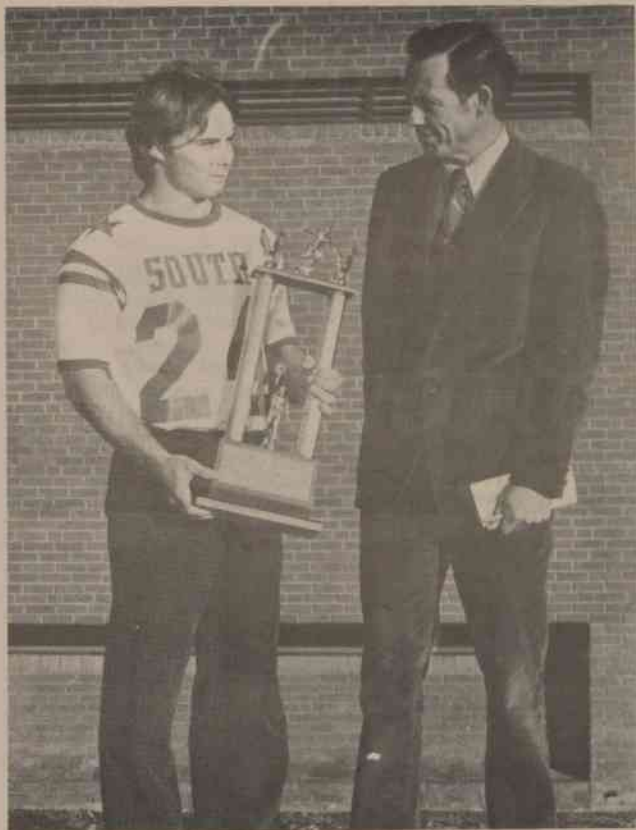
Since the writing of the above article, several events have occurred which I feel should be reported. First and most important is the fact that the Braves have had to forfeit four games because of the use of an ineligible player. The situation arose when Coach McCraw learned that one of his players had been enrolled in another junior college before attending Chowan. Under national junior college rules, a student-athlete must establish residence at a school by being enrolled for one year before he may participate in a varsity sport. This rule applies only for transferring students.

Coach McCraw stated that there was no way for him or any other school official to have known about the situation prior to the start of the basketball season. He also stated that the player in question was in fact unaware of the rule. Because he only participated in four games, these will be the only ones which Chowan will be required to forfeit. The games forfeited were the two games with King's College, the first game of the Frederick Military Academy Tournament, and the first game with Brevard.

Forfeiture of the four games drops the Braves record from a lofty thirteen wins and four losses to a much lower nine wins and eight losses. The Braves conference record stands at an even three wins and three losses. Still the team is only one game out of first place with a very good chance of winning the conference championship.

Coach McCraw stated that the players have taken a very positive attitude about the whole situation thinking of themselves as a team with a record of thirteen wins and four losses. He also said that he was very pleased with the attendance at the game with Louisburg and Ferrum and that the crowd attendance had a direct effect of the team's performance. Coach McCraw indicated that he felt confident that the Braves could, with good student support, finish the season with a winning record.

Chowan's league mark is 2-2 following a 103-78 loss at Kittrell Jan. 21.



South all-star Robbie Barrow, Chowan College sophomore flanker, grips the trophy awarded him as the most outstanding offensive player in the second annual Coastal Conference All-Star football game played in Keyser, W. Va. Nov. 30. Chowan's head coach, Jim Garrison, right, directed the South to a 10-0 win over the North with Barrow contributing 124 yards on 14 carries from tailback and flanker positions.

Robbie Barrow Named Most Valuable Player

Chowan College running back Robbie Barrow of Morehead City has been named the most valuable offensive player in the recent Coastal Conference All-Star football game played at Potomac State College in Keyser, W. Va.

Barrow was one of eight Braves playing for the South squad which defeated the North, 10-0. Chowan's head football coach, Jim Garrison, was the winning coach.

Barrow received the offensive honor by gaining 124 yards on 14 carries from tailback and flanker positions. Chowan's two starting offensive guards, Keith Harver of Ivor, Va. and Ronnie Green of Charlottesville, Va., provided blocking as pulling guards on several long runs Barrow made, Garrison noted.

Garrison said the North's only scoring threat followed a South

fumble of a punt. A bad snap from center erased a field goal try. The South scored on a 50-yard pass from Ferrum teammates, quarterback Mike Fallon to wide receiver Keith Rogers. Eddie Huff of Ferrum added a 25-yard field goal.

Barrow, a graduate of West Carteret High School, was the Braves' leading scorer with six touchdowns as Chowan lost only to national champion Ferrum and Wesley. The Braves tied Nassau, defeated by Chowan, 33-14, for second place in the Coastal Conference.

A large trophy wasn't the only reward garnered by Barrow for his outstanding performance. He also received considerable attention from senior college scouts, who were also interested in the other Chowan sophomores, Garrison reported.

Braves Lose To Ferrum

Chowan College needed two baskets in the final 19 seconds to tie but could manage only one and Ferrum handed the Braves their first conference basketball loss, 66-64, here Saturday night, Jan. 18.

A combination of dismal shooting and defense gave Ferrum a commanding 14-point lead midway through the first half. When the Braves abandoned their man-to-man defense to return to the zone they had opened the game with, the Panthers' lead began to narrow. Forward James Goffigan began to find the range and the Braves finally caught Ferrum finally caught Ferrum with four minutes left, 34-34. Goffigan scored all of his 16 points in the first half as Chowan led by three at intermission, 43-40.

Ferrum scored two quick baskets to regain the lead at the start of the second half. The game remained close until the Panthers opened up a six-point lead, 61-55, late in the game. Only the hot shooting of guard Ricky Weires kept Chowan in the game. Weires scored 12 straight points for the Braves on long arching jumpers. His last one narrowed Ferrum's advantage to 63-61. Chowan trailed by one following a foul shot by guard Lonnie Payton on a technical called on Ferrum's coach. The Braves had 1:26 left to forge a win. But Ferrum followed with a free throw and basket to lead 66-62. With 19 seconds left and in control of the ball, Braves' coach Bill McGraw called a time out. When play resumed, Weires needed six seconds to score to reduce the Panthers' lead to 66-64. Chowan could not come up with the ball over the final 13 seconds and Ferrum improved its league record to 2-3 and overall mark to 10-4. Chowan slipped to 11-2 and 2-1.

Weires tied Ferrum guard Fred Lee for scoring honors with 19 points. Goffigan had 16 and Gentry 10 for the Braves. Chowan plays three games this week including two conference road games, at Kittrell Tuesday and Sandhills Saturday. The Braves meet non-league foe Southeastern Community College at home Thursday at 7:30 p.m.

Karate Class Offered

Sherman Courtney of Ahoskie is interested in forming a karate class for Chowan students. If there is sufficient interest, he will come to the campus one or two nights weekly to conduct classes. Sherman Courtney holds the Fifth Degree Black Belt. There is a fee of \$12.50 per month. Insurance, although not required by the instructor, can be purchased for \$10.00. Uniforms are not required.

Students interested in enrolling in a karate class should complete the form below and return it to the Office of the Dean of Students located on the first floor of historic McDowell Columns. An organizational meeting will be held in the near future if enough students are interested.

KARATE

Yes No

I want to attend an organizational meeting with Sherman Courtney present to give more information about the program.

I am definitely interested in taking karate lessons.

I would prefer taking karate lessons on campus rather than in Ahoskie.

According to choice, list three nights you could take karate lessons.

First Choice _____ Second Choice _____

Third Choice _____

(Signature) _____