

Array of Talent to be on Display in Baltimore MEAC Tourney

BALTIMORE, MD.—An array of talent headlined by All-American Marvin Webster, will be on display at the Baltimore Civic Center Feb. 27, 28, and March 1 when the

fourth annual Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC) unfolds at the Baltimore Civic Center.

Webster, who will be rounding out his collegiate play in his hometown during the MEAC Tournament, is slated to go either first or second in the professional basketball drafts this season. The 7-0 All-American has been voted the Player of the Year in the MEAC for the past two seasons and will be one of the candidates for the honor again this year.

Webster climaxed his junior season last year by leading Morgan to the Division Two cage title and was named the College Division Player of the Year last season. Webster and Morgan State played in the finals of the third annual MEAC Tournament last year at the Civic Center but the Bears came out on the short end of a 77-62 score to Maryland-Eastern Shore.

While Webster is an All-American and the leader of the Morgan quintet, Coach Net Frazier also has some players with plenty of talent. Backcourt wizard Billy Newton is the Morgan floor leader and a potent spark in the Bear attack.

Pat Edwards, Jethro Crum and Mike Streeby are other Morgan players who will display their talents at the MEAC Tournament.

North Carolina A&T's Allen Spruill is one of the best "crowd pleaser" basketball players in the conference. Spruill dazzles the spectators with his one on one moves and keeps the crowd on the edge of their

seats during an entire game.

The Aggies' Ron Johnson has always managed to play well in MEAC tournaments. In two previous MEAC Tournaments Johnson has displayed some of his best performances. Fan who attended the MEAC Tournament last year will remember Ron Johnson as one of the best all around performers for the Aggies.

Unheralded Sinclair Corbett may be the key to A&T's survival in the tournament. Corbett, a 6-10, is the top rebounder for the Aggies averaging better than 10 rebounds per outing.

Alex Barron of South Carolina is described by his coach as being one of the best when the chips are down. Barron has been a consistent scorer and rebounder for the Bulldogs this season.

Robert Little of North Carolina Central stands only 6-7, but the Winston-Salem junior plays like a giant when he takes the floor. Little is averaging better than 20 points and 13 rebounds per game for the Eagles. Pro scouts who will be on hand for the MEAC Tournament are expected to take a long look at Little during the three-day dribble-derby.

While Little is the leading scorer and rebounder, NCC's first-year Sterlin Holt would take nothing for Wesley Johnson. Johnson stands 6-4 but Coach Holt has moved him to the front court this season and he has responded by averaging double figures in both rebounding and scoring.

Delaware State is probably the tallest overall team in the conference and the Hornets have some top individual players in the league. All-MEAC backcourt star Sam Shepherd is one of the top individual performers in the conference. He always manages to get plenty of help from teammates James Roundtree, Fred Simmons, Wade Pittman and Martin Kemp.

Howard's Vadnay Cotton is the top scorer and rebounder for the Bison. The 6-6 junior from Chapel Hill rates as one of the best pure shooters in the conference. Guard Angelo Council gives Howard scoring support in the backcourt.

Several outstanding freshmen will be making their debuts in MEAC Tournament competition. This year's list of top first-year performers rates as one best since the MEAC was formed four years ago. S.C. States' Harry Nickens is the top scorer in the conference and the Washington, D.C. native will be playing in his "backyard" in the MEAC Tournament.

Speaker

(Continued From Page 5A)
P. DeJarmon leading the services.

During the dinner activities with Mrs. Slade of Theta Beta Omega Chapter as Mistress of Ceremonies, special musical selections were rendered by Mrs. A.E. Smith and Mrs. Jessie White gave special commentaries on black history. Closing remarks were made by some of the visitors.

MEAC Race

(Continued From Page 6A)

Morgan State last Monday night in Greensboro. Morgan avenged the setback by nipping A&T, 87-65 Friday night in Baltimore. The Gate City cagers bounced back Saturday night to trip Howard, 80-76.

The Aggies also won a non-conference game during the week turning back Johnson C. Smith Tuesday night, 81-76. Overall, A & T has a 14-7 record.

Ron Johnson and Allen Spruill each scored 23 points in the win over Morgan Monday night. All-American Marvin Webster was high for Morgan with 16.

Johnson and Spruill combined for 50 points against Johnson C. Smith with Spruill getting 28 points and Johnson 22. George Cooper was high for the losers with 27. Webster was the ringleader for Morgan in the win over A&T Friday

night as last year's MEAC Player of the Year collected 20 points. Spruill rang the nets for 34 points in the victory over Howard.

Morgan is resting comfortably in second place in the league standings with a 6-3 record and a 15-6 overall mark. In addition to the split with A&T, the Bears rolled to a win over North Carolina Central Saturday night. Webster grabbed 20 rebounds to lead a balanced scoring attack against the Eagles. Jethro Crum led the scoring with 14 markers.

Delaware State took over sole possession of third place in the conference standing with a 97-81 win over South Carolina State Friday night. Jonah Ham tallied 24 points for Delaware State while Harry Nickens topped S.C. State with 18.

The Hornets divided a pair of non-conference games last week to increase their overall record to 14-6. Virginia Commonwealth romped to a 91-60 victory over Delaware

State Tuesday but the Hornets bounced back with a 112-85 win over Fayetteville State Saturday.

Wade Pittman led the Delaware scores against Va. Commonwealth with 15 points while James Roundtree scored 29 points and collected 19 rebounds in the victory over Fayetteville.

S.C. State ranks fourth in the MEAC Standings with a 6-5 record. The Bulldogs divided a pair of league games after bouncing back to shellack Maryland-Eastern Shore, 128-90 Saturday night. Alex Barron scored 26 points, Marvin Fields 24 and Harry Nickens 20 in the Bulldog 13th win. Against all opponents S.C. State owns a 13-10 record.

Howard defeated North Carolina Central, 77-65 Friday night behind the 29-point 12-rebound performance by Gerald Glover. Vadnay Cotton added 18 points for the winners while Robert Little and Stanley Melvin each scored 15 points for the Eagles in a

losing cause. In the loss to A&T Saturday, the Bison fell to 5-5 in league play and 10-11 overall. Cotton was the top scorer for Howard with 28 points.

The Eagles of North Carolina Central saw their league record fall to 4-7 after the weekend defeats to Howard and Morgan. Little, hampered by a virus, was the top scorer against Morgan with 13 points and 10 rebounds.

Central did manage to win one non-conference game during the week. The Eagles survived a 96-89 triple overtime win over Virginia State Tuesday night. Little high lighted the victory with 29 points and 20 rebounds. Overall NCCU holds a 10-14 mark.

The defeat for Maryland-Eastern Shore at the hands of South Carolina State Saturday was the only game of the week for the Hawks. Cedric Roane had 28 points for UMES in the loss.

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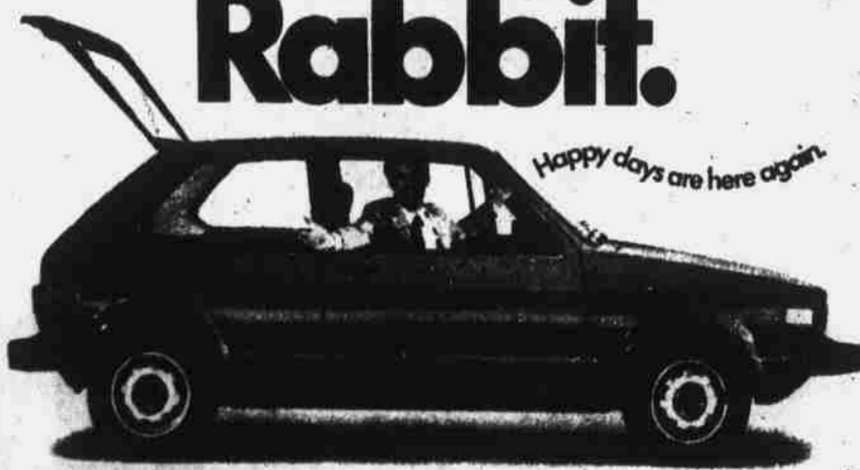
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