



By HERMAN MATHEWS

The National Basketball Association's regular season is almost at the halfway point. Only recently have I noticed the new theme song, tune, or whatever, that is being used in conjunction with its (NBA) televised games.

Yes, I am behind in my homework pertaining to professional roundball action. In the absence of having a favorite team, to not know, or have facts of what is going on puts me at a real disadvantage when conversing with hardcourt hardhats.

I must cram. So, allow me to prepare and share my homework right now, which is as follows:

1. There are about 213 players employed by 18 NBA teams. Approximately 140 of those players are tall, tan, and certainly terrific. (Note: For EEO purposes, non-black players will hereinafter be referred to as "minorities", or "minority" when singular, since there are more Black players in the NBA than of any other races, creeds, or colors combined.)

2. At last count, 17 of the 18 NBA teams had more Black players on their rosters than minorities. Philadelphia suits up 5 Black players and 7 minorities.

3. Pertaining to individual statistics, Buffalo's Bob McAdoo is the scoring average leader at 31.5 points per game; Kareem Abdul-Jabbar of Los Angeles leads in rebounding average (18.5) and blocked shots (5.05); Washington's Wes Unseld leads in field goal percentage at .554; Don (Slick) Watts leads Seattle and the league in steals with 3.10 per game; and Detroit's Kevin Porter is on top assists average at 10.2 per contest. Rick Barry, a minority, leads in free throw percentage at .915.

4. A general overview of statistical categories reveal that: 9 of the top 10 individual scoring leaders have permanent tans, especially the top five players. While 7 of the top 10 field goal percentage leaders are Black, it is important to note that an equal proportion of Black players are identified as being the best at stealing - the basketball that is. The pictures of nine of the leading ten rebounders, and seven of the top ten assist leaders appeared along with their teammates pictures, in Ebony Magazine's feature titled "NBA Outlook - 1975-76."

5. Looking at categories (12) on individual highs, such as Most Minutes Played, Most Points-Game, Most Assists-Game, and etc., only Pete Maravich of New Orleans breaks the color line with Most Free Throws-Game, 23.

6. Only four teams (of 18) had minority scoring leaders, and only one of those teams (Barry, Golden State) are playing better than .500 ball.

7. Boston, Washington, Milwaukee, and Golden State lead their respective divisions. Of the total 48 players on their playing rosters, 30 are Black men.

Well, as of now I have a little facts to help me warm up for the professional roundball season. The NBA is really a big business, and is run as such. Just as other businesses, who apply good business practices and political perception, the NBA hires people who can do the job, and adheres to EEO guidelines. Special Note: in the NBA, the "majority" rules!

NCCU Eagles Lose To So. Carolina State Bulldogs

by Kenneth Edmonds
Times Staff Writer

North Carolina Central University dropped a close one Monday night against South Carolina State 72-71.

After a slow and uneventful first half that ended with SCS leading 34-30 both teams emerged from the dressing rooms ready to play.

NCCU rallied with 15 minutes left as Robert McClellan hit three straight jumpers to tie the game at 42. But SCS got a shot in the arm behind the scoring of Harry Nickens and Steve Singletary.

The scoring see-sawed back and forth until John Harrell hit a jumper with five minutes left in the game. Central led 59-57.

SCS continued to fight back until with 10 seconds left and Central ahead 71-70, Willis Brown got a lay-up on a broken play ending the scoring at 72-71 SCS.

BOWLING BULLETIN

The Hazel B. Plummer League of the Durham and Orange County Bowling Association announces the following scores for High Game and High Series in the Men's and Women's Division.

Leading in High Game in the Women's Division was Nancy Rowland with 198, followed by Anne Reed with 193 and Dee Plummer with 188. Leading in High Series was Delores Plummer with 534, followed by Nancy Rowland with 520 and Anne Reed with 506.

Leading in High Game for the Men's Division was Jimmy Harrington with 217, followed by Wallace Royal with 204 and Guster Lewis with 201. Leading in High Series was Norman Johnson with 552, followed by Jimmy Harrington with 551 and Wallace Royal with 549.

In other bowling news: George Thorne, 543; Jim Dyer, 536; Joseph Parker, 534; Doss Massenburg, 523; Mike Nieves, 520 and Guster Lewis, 519.

A&T-Morgan Headed For Showdown

Defending champion North Carolina A&T and Morgan State are the leaders in the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC) basketball race as the members of the seven-team conference head into the final four weeks of their schedules and seedings in the upcoming 5th annual MEAC Basketball Tournament which will be held February 26, 27 and 28 in the spacious Greensboro Coliseum.

A&T won the 1974-75 visitation title and went on to meet Morgan State in the finals of the 4th annual MEAC Tournament held in Baltimore a year ago with the Aggies coming out victorious.

According to the MEAC conference standings following games of January 24th, the two teams may be headed for a repeat performance in the tournament this year. But before the tournament A&T and Morgan must meet each other twice during the regular season.

The Aggies are off to a fine 5-0 league start. The Gate City quintet defeated South Carolina

State Saturday night in Greensboro, at the Coliseum, 91-79. Overall, the Aggies, are 11-2 having lost to arch-rival Winston-Salem State Friday night, 62-59.

Morgan State has a clean conference slate at 3-0. The Bears romped to a 74-50 win over Delaware State Thursday night to run their record to 12-3 for the season. Wednesday night Morgan blew an early 12-point lead and dropped an 83-79 decision to unbeaten Virginia State.

Howard made the biggest jump in the conference standings with a pair of family wins last week. The Bison moved up from last place to the number three spot in conference competition with an 85-65 win over UMES and a 64-60 win over Delaware State. Howard now stands 2-2 in league play and 5-9 overall.

The two losses suffered by Delaware State to Morgan and Howard dropped the Hornets to 2-4 in MEAC play and 3-10 overall.

South Carolina State dropped

a pair of road games last week losing to Mercer, 80-78 in an overtime Monday night in Macon, Ga., and dropping a 91-79 conference setback to A&T Saturday night. The Bulldogs are 1-2 against MEAC teams and 9-4 overall.

North Carolina Central did not play a conference game last week but the Eagles divided a pair of non-conference tussles. The Eagles held on to an 80-71 win over Shaw at home Wednesday night but dropped to a 93-83 decision to St. Augustine's in Raleigh Saturday night. The Eagles are now 1-3 in conference play and 3-10 overall.

Maryland-Eastern Shore dropped a pair of defeats last week. The Hawks suffered their fourth conference loss Wednesday night at home against Howard. The Bison walked away with an 85-65 victory over the Hawks Saturday afternoon. Maryland-Eastern Shore now stands 1-4 in league play and 2-13 against all opposition.

Seven conference games will

highlight a 10-game card in the MEAC this week. North Carolina Central will be the busiest team in the league this week with four games on tap including three league games. The Eagles played S. C. State Monday night, and will be playing three straight road games. Tuesday NCCU travels to Gardner-Webb and hits the road for weekend games against Maryland-Eastern Shore

Friday night and Delaware State Saturday.

S. C. State has three league games on tap this week. After meeting North Carolina Central, the Bulldogs will play host to Howard Friday night and Morgan State Saturday night.

Delaware State plays at Coppin State Tuesday before rolling out the welcome mats for A&T Friday and N. C. Central Saturday night.

Howard journeys to Lincoln University Wednesday and then do battle with S. C. State in Orangeburg, S. C. Friday.

A&T plays Delaware State Friday night and Maryland-Eastern Shore Saturday night on the road.



COLUMBUS, OHIO - Top-seeded Arthur Ashe looks up in the air with disgust after missing a serve by Australian Phil Dent during their World Championship Tennis semi-final match here Jan. 10. Ashe advanced to the finals by beating Dent, 6-2, 7-5. (UPI).

Black Athletes Back To Black Colleges: Hayes

and back to Durham's Hillside High where he was in line for the head coaching position following Russell Blunt's retirement.

Ram Athletic Director, 'Bighouse' Gaines says he likes Hayes' philosophy and the energy he puts into recruiting. Hayes contends that one of the problems in making the transition from Wake Forest to Winston-Salem State will be

having to teach at least two classes. He says coaches have a little easier time at Wake having to "teach about twenty minutes a year."

Hayes believes he would have "the inside track on the guys I've already recruited. But at this late point I would have to rely on some of my fellow coaches to help me get the guys that might be a step or two too slow for their own teams."



COACH BILL HAYES

WINSTON-SALEM - A Durham native who sees a new trend developing in black college athletics has been named head football coach at Winston-Salem State University.

Bill Hayes says that "Black kids are looking more and more these days toward black schools instead of predominantly white schools." The 1965 graduate of North Carolina Central University says "it's happening in all sports. And I just heard a report...that during this year's pro sports drafts, more athletes were drafted from black colleges than from white colleges. That's got to be proof that things are changing."

For the past three years, Hayes was offensive coach and recruiter for Wake Forest University under Coach Chuck Mills. After leaving Durham, he coached at Danville, then took over the Paisley High football team in Winston-Salem. From there he went to North Forsyth

Grambling Heads Number Of Players On All-America Football Team

GRAMBLING - Here's one of the trivia buffs: What is the most amount of All-America players ever selected from a single college football team?

Nine may be the answer.

Grambling State University may be the school.

Nine members of the 1975 Grambling football team have been selected to one All-America team or another.

The nine Tiger gridders who earned All-America recognition this past season are: defensive halfback James Hunter; middle linebacker Robert Pennywell; tight end Ron Singleton; wide receivers Sammie White and Dwight Scales; quarterback Douglas Williams; defensive end Richard (Mike) St. Clair; punter Keith Smyre; and offensive guard Arthur Gilliam.

White and Hunter reaped the biggest bonanza

of the group, being named to a combined total of 15 All-America units. In addition, Hunter and White were selected to play in the annual Senior Bowl and East-West Shrine football games.

The two were also selected offensive and defensive players of the year by Jet Magazine, the Mutual Black Network and the National Black Network.

Hunter also earned All-America honors during the 1974 season.

The G-Men were named to the following All-America teams:

Hunter: The Sporting News, Associated Press, Newspaper Enterprise Association, Time Magazine, Mutual Black Network, Jet Magazine, National Black Network, The New Courier, Kodak and Universal.

White: Mutual Black Network, Jet Magazine, The New Courier, National Black Network and Associated Press.

Scales: Jet Magazine and National Black Network.

Williams: National Black Network and The New Courier.

Pennywell: Mutual Black Network, Associated Press, The New Courier, National Black Network, and Jet Magazine.

Smyre: National Black Network and Jet Magazine.

St. Clair: National Black Network.

Gilliam: The New Courier and National Black Network.

Singleton: Jet Magazine, National Black Network and The New Courier.

Grambling players were named to every recognized college division team except the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) squad.

In addition to the players Grambling coach Eddie Robinson was named "Coach of the Year" in polls conducted by the Mutual Black Network, Jet Magazine, the National Black Network and the 100 Per Cent Wrong Club of

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St. Augustine's Cagers Win

RALEIGH - Melvin Baker made only four points but all came in an overtime period as St. Augustine's defeated Livingstone's Bears, 80-77, in a CIAA basketball game here Wednesday night.

St. Augustine's held a one-point lead in the extra period when Baker entered the game. He hit two quick jumpers to settle the issue.

Livingstone tied the regulation game at 69-69 on a three-point play by George Washington, with about 15 seconds left in the contest.

St. Augustine's missed and Livingstone grabbed the rebound. Tommy Johnson was fouled with five seconds left. He missed the front end of a one-on-one, which probably would have won the game.

Johnson topped the Livingstone attack with 27 points. Reginald McDougal followed with 14, and Melvin Boone followed with 13. James Weathers had 11.

It was the seventh straight loss for the Bears. They are now 2-11 for the campaign.

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