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Rams Ink Outstanding High School Athletes

by Robert Eller Staff Writer

Winston-Salem State University's new head football coach continues to sign outstanding high school prospects to grants-in-aid with the school.

This week coach Bill Hayes announced the names of four more blue chip prospects he has lined up for next season. They are: Kermit Blount, a 5-10 180 lb. quarterback and defensive back from Armstrong High School in Richmond, Va.

Blount is a teammate of Elbert Grinnell a 6-6 280 lb. tackle who had previously signed with the Rams.

Blount was a three year starter for Armstrong and is an excellent runner with a strong arm.

His coach, Angier Lawrence, a CIAA basketball
official says of Blount, "I
didn't call any plays from the
sidelines, that's how much I
believed in that dude running
the wishbone. He was as quick
as you can get for a
quarterback."

The addition of Blount gives Hayes a quarterback with wishbone experience. The coach has previously indicated he may go to the veer offense this season.

Also signed were brothers Daniel and Eugene Jacobs from Durham High School in Durham.

Daniel is a 6-5 235 lb. offensive and defensive tackle while brother Eugene is 6-3 210 and plays linebacker and offensive end. Both were all-conference selections in football and basketball last season at Durham.

The real prize, however, may be 6-2, 180 lb. running back George Miles. The Roanoke Rapids native is the most highly recruited player the Rams have inked. He was recruited by more than 50 schools.

Miles gained over 300 yards in one game for Roanoke Rapids High School this season and picked up 295 in another.

Black-On SPORTS

by Robert Eller Sports Editor

A & T Aggies In NIT

The selection of North Carolina A&T to play in the National Invitational Tournament (NIT) in Madison Square Garden next week restores at least some of the faith in that tournament's selection committee.

The Aggies will be the second predominantly black school to play in the tournament.

In 1973 Maryland Eastern Shore played extremely well before being whistled out of the tournament by game officials.

The Aggies, though not the class of black college basketball, could do well in the tournament. They have a big team and should match up well inside with the rest of the field.

Two crucial factors should determine how far the Aggies will go in the NIT: How tight the Aggies are and how tight the officials call the game inside.

The Aggies were extremely tight in January when they lost to UNC-Charlotte 86-68. (UNCC is also in the NIT). They never got their inside game going and James Sparrow was off. They will need strong inside play and some great games from "The Bird" (Sparrow) to capture the NIT final.

Also, the Aggies chances may ride on how the game is officiated. If the refs decide to let the teams play and allow some contact inside, then A&T could spell trouble for the big white schools. But if the officials call a very tight game, the Aggies may find themselves in deep foul trouble early.

The Winston-Salem State Rams were deeply hurt by not making it to Kansas City. But the two players who were hurt most were seniors Tom Paulin and Melvin Garret. Paulin, a 6-1 guard, still may go high in the draft but a good showing in the NAIA would have really heightened his bargaining position. He missed last years NAIA tourney with an injury and got no exposure.

Garrett, a 6-3 sharpshooter, played excellent ball in Kansas City last year.

The likeable guard saw limited playing time this season because of the Rams' lack of height and the fact that besides Paulin the Rams had Don Helton in the backcourt.

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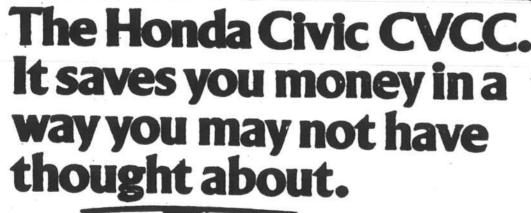
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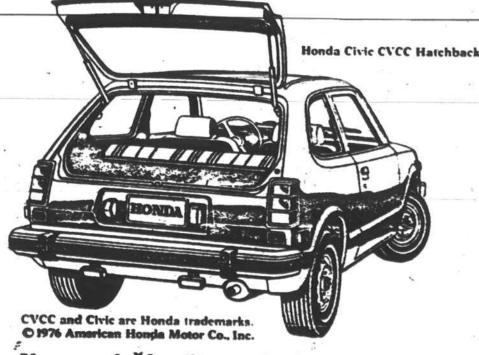
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