

# MEAC Begins Conference Play This Weekend

Four Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference basketball teams begin their trek in quest of a regular season championship, and a possible MEAC title this weekend.

The tenth annual MEAC Tournament is scheduled for March 6-8 (Friday-Sunday) in the Winston-Salem, North Carolina Memorial Coliseum.

For the first time ever, the MEAC Tournament winner will gain an automatic berth into the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division I Basketball Tournament. The NCAA's first and se-

## Last Week's Results

- Dec. 29: Miss. Valley 82, B-Cookman 68
- Dec. 30: Grambling 89, B-Cookman 72
- Dec. 31: B-Cookman 90, Miss. Valley 82
- Jan. 3: N.C. A&T 61, Tennessee St. 59
- Grambling 74, Florida A&M 59

## Games This Week

- Jan. 6: Florida A&M at Alcorn
- Jan. 7: Southeastern at Del. St.
- Jan. 9: N.C. A&T at Howard
- S.C. St. at Delaware St.
- Jan. 10: N.C. A&T at Delaware St.
- S.C. State at Howard
- FAMU at Tenn. State

cond rounds are set on March 12-15, regional games are March 19-22, and the finals are scheduled in Philadelphia on March 28 and 30.

Friday night, defending MEAC champion Howard University (4-4) will entertain tough N.C. A&T (6-1), while South Carolina State (0-6) travels to Delaware State (1-5).

On Saturday, Delaware State hosts N.C. A&T, and S.C. State will be at Howard. Each will be seeking victories to get a jump on the rest.

Florida A&M (6-3) and Bethune-Cookman (4-5) begin conference play on January 16.

# sports

# Winston-Salem Chronicle

## Rams Take On Broncos

By Sam Cary  
Special to the Chronicle

The WSSU Rams basketball team will try to end a six game losing streak when the Broncos of Fayetteville State come to Gaines Center Saturday evening, January 10, just as determined to keep their perfect CIAA record intact.

The visitors are currently leading the southern division with a record of 3 and 0, including a decisive victory over St. Augustine's on the latter's home court. Coach Jake Ford's team is led by William Person and Bonny McNeil who rank in the conference's top five in field goal percentage and free throw percentage respectively. As is expected by all Ram fans, FSU will have a height advantage when the two teams take the floor. The game has

additional meaning for McCray and his teammates as it will be the last home appearance until late January, and like all other conferences, the home court does seem to be a major factor in the outcome of a basketball game. Coach "Bighouse" Gaines would certainly be pleased begin the long road schedule with a 2 and 2 conference record.

Although the absence of a player above 6'6" makes the Rams vulnerable at both ends of the court, Gaines is more concerned with the performances of the players on hand. Except Kevin McCray, the team's current leader, one is playing with the aggressiveness and intensity that have long been characteristics of Gaines coached teams. The most recent examples are Mike Robinson who at 6'6" out rebounded the oppos-

ing center in every game last season and the smallish McCray who led the team in steals. The Rams are a good team and only need to add some "fire" to their attack. The loss of James Mitchell after four games has hurt, for the freshman appeared to making excellent progress as a rebounder in the game against Winthrop. His replacement, Rodger Mason, another freshman, does not have the quick hand possessed by Mitchell nor the finesse under the boards. Disappointing in the eight game played has been the performance of Hilton Graham who was expected to fill the void created by Mike Robinson's graduation. Hilton has had only one good outing and has not shown the rebounding skills that made him the most valuable reserve last year. Danny Womack and Ricky

Wright have had scoring spurts but neither shows a liking for the kind on contact that takes place under the boards.

The return to the team of Mark Clark should be a definite plus. His brief appearance in the Aggies Classic was evidence of his offensive skills which gained him an 18 point average last season. The games against Howard University and Delaware State should be all the conditioning he needs to become a starter. Therman Green, the junior from Essex College in New Jersey, has had trouble establishing and consistency in his performances. The Cleo Hill protegee has all the tools to become an outstanding forward in the league and after eight game knows what he needs to do and must do if the Rams are to win. Joe Brawner, who transferred from A&T State



Winston-Salem State's Rams will try to start the year off with a win Saturday night. The Rams are 2-6 on the season.

after three fine seasons with the Aggies, saw limited action against Howard and Delaware; enough, however, for the fans to believe he is a valuable asset to the line-up. Joe won the MEAC Player of the Year Award and also was an All American candidate while at A&T.

## Ramettes Play Panthers Here

The WSSU women's basketball team will return to action Saturday, January 10, to take on the Panthers of High Point College on the latter's home court. Coach Cleo Wallace and his Ramettes will be trying to turn around the dismal record which shows only one victory in nine games played before the Christmas holidays.

In order to win, however, the Ramettes will have to show great improvement in all phases of the game.

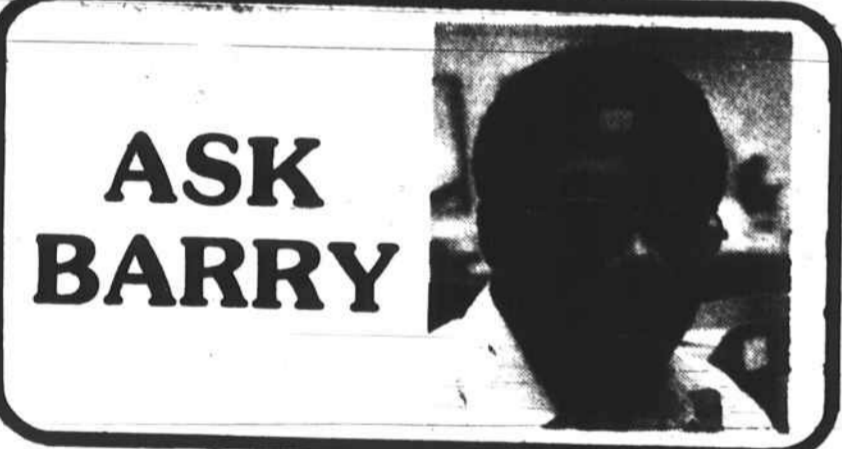
High Point is undefeated in NAIA District competition and has lost only one game—that to NCAA Division I Campbell University. Thier offense is led by three returnees from last seasons very fine team: Blanchard, Simmons and Cowles. Blanchard is averaging 27.8 points per game and the other two have scoring averages above 14. The Ramettes have no player at

this time whos performance comes close to these three stars.

Pamela Glenn and Cheryl Burke have carried the offensive attack for the Ramettes, and Vanessa Smith is the team's chief rebounder. To solve their problems Coach Wallace will have to get more production from starters Fellicia-Williams and Betty Drake, plus more help from the reserves.

## Acquatic Program

Adults interested in an Aquatic Fitness Program designed for individual needs are invited to the YWCA 6 to 9 a.m. swim time on Tuesdays and Thursdays beginning January 6. Lap swimming is available from 6 to 9 a.m.



ASK BARRY

## Bogues Named Player Of Week

Pembroke--William Bagues, Atlantic Christian's 6-foot-1 senior forward who averaged 22.5 points in shooting 72 percent from the field and 90 percent from the free throw line last week, has been named NAIA District "Men's Basketball Player of the Week."

There were no women's games played in the district during the past week.

Bogues, from Camden, N.C., was superb as Atlantic Christian split two games in the Sertoma Invitational Tournament at Greenwood, S.C. He hit 11 of 15 shots from the floor and two of three free throws in scoring 24 points as AC edged Erskine 69-68 in the first round. He also grabbed eight rebounds and three steals.

In the consolation game against Lander, which AC lost 79-67, it was not fault of Bogues'. He was true on 7 of 10 from the floor and buried all seven free throws for 21 points. He also captured 13 rebounds and made three more steals. For the

tournament, he was thus good on 18 of 25 from the field and 9 of 10 from the charity stripe for his 45 points. He had 21 rebounds and six steals. Bogues made the all-tournament team.

Gardner-Webb captured its own Bulldog Classic with Frank Streater, a 6-foot-7 sophomore center, being voted the "Most Valuable Player." G-W beat Belmont, Tenn., by 104-96 in the first round with Streater contributing 17 points and 17 rebounds. In the title game which the Bulldogs won 83-81 over Cumberland, Ky., Streater contributed 11 points and seven rebounds. He was 13 for 31 from the floor for the two days and two for four from the foul line.

An important single game took place Saturday at Belmont Abbey where Catawba's defending champions of the Carolinas Conference walloped Belmont Abbey 74-61 in a big win. Leading the Indians was Dwayne Brewington, a 6-8 junior postman, who scored eight points and had 15 rebounds.

## NAIA Standings

### MEN'S DIVISION

District	All Games	
	W	L
Catawba	6	0
N.C. Central	2	0
Johnson C. Smith	1	0
Gardner-Webb	1	0
High Point	5	1
Fayetteville State	3	1
Lenoir-Rhyne	3	1
Pembroke State	2	1
Belmont Abbey	3	2
Elon	3	2
Guilford	4	3

## Grambling Quarterback Finishes Tops In I-AA

Mike Williams, the Grambling quarterback and brother of Tampa Bay's Doug, finished the season as the top-ranked passer in Division I-AA football. Williams completed 127 of 239 passes for 2,116 yards and 28 touchdowns. Third was Howard's Ronald Wilson, who hit on 97 of 182 tosses for 1,784 yards. Both Williams and Wilson are seniors, with Williams more likely to be drafted.

Black college players also did well in other statistical areas. Alcorn's Gregory Jones was sixth in I-AA rushing with 1,054 yards, and Howard's Tracy Singleton was fourth in receiving with 49 catches for 1,013 yards.

Recognition is slowing starting to come Joe Adams' way. The Tennessee State quarterback was ignored by most All-America teams this year, but he did make All-South, a prestigious team which includes players from the South's largest schools. A senior, Adams will also play in the Blue-Gray All-Star game ...

Black college football coaches are heavy into recruiting right now, but so far the pickings have been slim. Florida A&M, for example, has signed just three plays. However, Rattlers' Coach Rudy Hubbard says not to worry. "We're after some good athletes," he said recently. "If we can get the ones we want, we'll have a fine year. The ones we're after haven't committed to us, but they haven't committed to anybody else, either."

Phillip J. Busher, the witty sports information director from Johnson C. Smith, says he believes in miracles after watching JCS lose recently to Gardner-Webb. Wrote Busher: "The odds were heavily stacked against Gardner-Webb ever getting off a final shot with a jump ball and six seconds remaining against (JCS) in the WBTV Classic. But the ball slipped out of Bill Tibbs' hands towards a grateful G-W player and somehow managed to find its way into the cylinder as the buzzer sounded for a 79-78 (G-W) victory."

Despite that miracle victory by Gardner-Webb, things haven't gone all that badly for JCS. The Bulls were 3-1 at last glance. Top scorer for JCS was a 6-foot-8 junior forward named Bleu Oliver. He was averaging 17 points and 10.7 rebounds per game.

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