The Chronicle, Thursday, October 29, 1981-Page 19

Norfolk State Controversy Continues

by Barry Cooper Sports Correspondent

"For a while, it looked as if Norfolk State basketball :oach Lucias Mitchell had dodged the bullet. Mitchell, said to have mistreated his players by verbally abusing the team and putting them through over-demanding drills, was given a vote of confidence recently by the Norfolk State administration.

School officials said, Mitchell, one of the winningest coaches in the history of black college basketball, would keep his job, despite the allegations.

But now the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Conference, of which Norfolk State is a member, has promised to conduct its own inquiry into the charges. This could mean more trouble for Mitchell, who has come under neavy criticism.

In fact, the CIAA has already launched its investigaion.

"It is regrettable that an action of this type is hecessary," said CIAA commissioner Bob Moorman ... "Because of the extremely high visibility of the alledged problems, I feel that the CIAA must conduct ts own investigation. I feel the integrity of the CIAA, as well as Norfolk State University, is at stake."

The CIAA investigation was sparked by present and former Norfolk State players, who have complained publicly about Mitchell. But after an investigation by school officials, Norfolk State president Harrison Wilson

announced that Mitchell would be retained.

That ruling didn't sit well with the Norfolk media, and it didn't go over well with some members of the Norfolk State basketball team. Several wrote letters to the news media and to the university, again complaining of what they called "inhumane and demeaning treatment" by Mitchell last season.

Two players left the team recently. They are Louis Thomas and Tim Allen. Thomas was captain of last year's team.

Mitchell has a 61-28 record in three years at Norfolk State. He was absent from practice last week because of the controversy. Mitchell, 46, has a cateer record of 253-47. He also has coached at Kentucky State and Norfolk State.

The CIAA is expected to wrap up its investigation by mid-November.

NEWS ITEM: FAMU Grad Gets \$250,000 Award.

Andre White, a former Florida A&M and San Diego Chargers football player, has just won a \$250,000 lawsuit against the Chargers.

White, who played under Florida A&M Coach Jake Gaither in the sixties, received the quarter-million-dollar settlement 13 years after suffering a career-ending knee injury.

White testified in court that the knee injury was much more serious than the Chargers would admit. He said the team called the injury a bad sprain, and White was sent home for the summer to recuperate.

and discolor from torn cartilage and ligaments. After a grievance was filed, NFL Commissioner Pete Rozelle ruled the Chargers owed White a full season's

bay and corrective surgery. "I waited nine months and I didn't have any operation," White said.

But during the summer, White's knee began to swell

Tired of waiting, White took to the courts and finally won after a 13-year battle.

White says he remembers the play that put him out of pro football.

"I got hurt against the Kansas City Chiefs when some guy clipped me," he said. "I was hurting and all they (Chargers) could think about was whether or not I could play the second half.

"Sid Gillman (the San Diego coach at the time) was heartless. If you were hurt, he had no use for you. He was so different from my college coach (Gaither). Gaither was like a father to me. When they (San Diego) saw I couldn't play, they released me."

So serious was White's injury that he came out of the operation with 60 percent disability in his right leg.

"I can get along all right as long as I don't move laterally," he says. "I'll be fine. I'm just worried about the young athlete that has the delusions of playing in the NFL. I don't want this to happen to them."

Howard Drops To 7-2-2

The Bison soccer team work on everything, expecidropped to 7-2-2, after tying ally shooting. The team is UDC, 0-0, last Tuesday, just a little off target, but 1 and losing to Division III have confidence that they power, Averett College, will pull together."

Howard, which was rank-1-0, last weekend. After reeling off six ed number one in the straight victories in the Mid-Atlantic Region and as early season, the Bison high as seventh nationally, have lost two, tied two and now has dropped to number won one of their last five three in the Mid-Atlantic and out of the national poll. games.

"We lost some of our The Bison will travel to consistency during those Alderson-Broaddus on Oct. games," recalls coach 31, before returning home Keith Tucker. "This week to host Old Dominion on in practice, we are going to Nov. 4 at Howard Stadlium.

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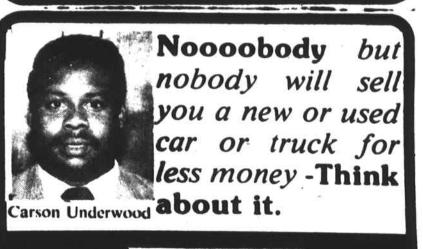
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tacklers are still tackling, noted. "The keys to our hit the courts yesterday.

ever."

LORMAN, MS-- The run- but we must balance it with another outright champion- poll in our conferenners are still running, the good defense," Whitney ship." but nevertheless, Davey season will be the develop-Whitney's basketball team ment of a center and how well we play defense."

for the college basketball returnees from last year's results in a lot of wins, then fight." season was met with en- 17-12 team is All-SWAC that's great. thusiasm at Alcorn State forward Albert Irving, a 6-7 University, the defending senior from Natchez. Irvco-champions of the South- ing, who has been scouted western Athletic Con- by professional scouts, avference (SWAC). For the eraged 17.1 points and 9.0 Braves, the Alcorn State rebounds a game last year. coach called it "their The leader of the Braves"

toughest first-day practice line-up, who has been ham- Second-year head women's scoring power, but I'm pered by a leg operation, basketball coach Sanya confident that the newcom-"That was propably the said he's optimistic about Tyler welcomed eight re- ers will help make up for hardest opening day prac- the prospects for his team. turning veterans and five hat," says Tyler. The lead-"We opened up with a newcomers to the beginn- ng returning scorer will be ing of fall practice last point-guard Blondell 'BeBe'' Curnell, who averweek. "I'm very pleased with aged 11.0 points per game he condition that the girls ast season. eturned in. They seem to have a tough schedule. So I nave worked hard during The Bisonetts will be look-Alcorn State's opening know that we have a lot of the off-season and ready to ng for scoring power from nave a good year," says newcomers Claudia Eaton improvements to make." In the conference race, **Fyler**. and Sherry Van Pelt; both Street and Smith's College Howard finished the 1981 are transfers with excellent season with 11-14 record. scoring ability. Eaton Basketball Handbook writers have tabbed Alcorn while winning six of their as the team to beat. ast eight games and winnstands 6-3 and can play ng the Catholic Invitational sither the strong-forward or center position, while Van Fournament. However, "The Braves of Alcorn this Pelt, at 5-11, averaged 21.C our of the team's top scorers were lost to graduapoints and 10 rebounds at at the top of the standings Atlantic City Community ion. "We have a lot of offense, as they run away with yet "We lost a lot of our College. by George Booie may gain from do-it-your- ed several occasions where when I know that the best finny sport. There is nothing wrong about looking self jobs are not worth the I was out-fished by a kid crappie fishing is accomplished with a cane pretty and well equiped Sometimes I think about pole, a strip of cut bait or a when you go on a lake. You the fun that I have missed small minnow. Don't let won't be alone when it while trying to master these experiences alter comes to returning with an In some areas, fishing has sophisticated equipment; your thinking about the empty stringer.

While Whitney isn't mak- thing," the coach continuing any predictions this ed. "I don't know what the early in practice, he did chances are, but we're still say, "We just hope we play champions and we certainly The first day of practice Heading the list of Brave to our potential. If that won't give it up without a

> "Even though we're pick- December 1, 1981 at the ed No. 1 in the pre-season University of Missouri.

Howard Organizes Women's Basketball

ce, that doesn't mean a

Alcorn's season starts on

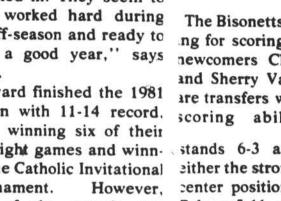
tice we've ever had," Whitney stated. "But the hard practice and I think squad is in real good shape that's an indication of and we're pleased with the things to come," Irving way things went. We have said. The SWAC race is a bunch of people who're going to be tough, plus we aggressive.'

day drills, as well as subsequent workouts, will concentrate heavily on individual and team defense, rebounding and ballhandling, according to Whitney. With the graduation of Houston Chronicle reporter stalwart center Eddie W. H. Stickney, Jr. wrote, Baker, though, it's the defense that may be the key year will establish stability to the 1981-82 season.

-If you are storing fishing equipment and boats, now is the time to winterize those items. Especially the motors: those being a bit complicated for tinkering. For the best performance, motor should be winterized by the dealers that sell them. The saving that one inconveniences that could with a cane pole. be experienced with a breakdown.

become so sophisticated that it is necessary to use handbooks to get the most out of your equipment. Experiments have been conducted to determine which color lines will increase one's catch. There are also certain positions that one must hold a reel when setting the hook. Further there is the use of electronic components that will insure the locating of fish.

When I see all of this specific gear and aquaint myself with the expressions ...like Techsonic Transducers and Fish Locations, I feel mighty proud that I studied electronics and worked in same at the National Bureau Of Standards. Then I wonder why I try so hard to lure and hook a lunker bass; fail, then see a ten year old fisherman come along and take the fish on a "cane pole. I have experienc-



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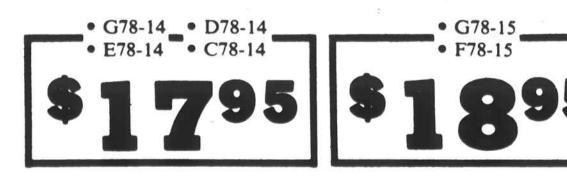


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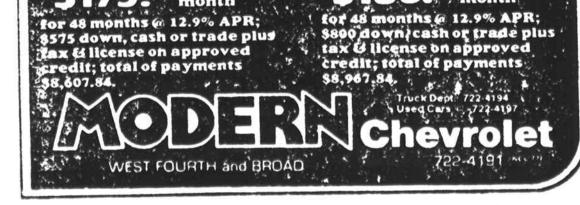


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