

Novelty-minded Washington picks Muggsy

By RANDY PETTITT
Chronicle Sports Editor

The front office of the Washington Bullets has been known for drafting a few novelties in their time. And, not to be outdone by "Spud" Webb and "Tree" Rollins in Atlanta, the Bullets have put together the tandem of Manute Bol and Tyrone Bogues.

At 7-6, Bol is already one of the premiere shotblockers in the NBA, and the 5-3 Bogues will look mighty cute while standing by his side for team photos.

Bogues, who Washington chose as their first-round pick (12th pick overall), is without question a great basketball player.

In his four-years of aggravating Tarheels, Terrapins and Tigers while at Wake Forest, Muggsy established himself as an impact player and a valuable cog in the Deacon offense.

He left the Deacons as the ACC's all-time leader in assists (781) and steals (275).

But he will have to prove himself all over again in the NBA — and put up with the short jokes as well.

Will the Bullets create a play where Bogues dribbles through the legs of Bol and crashes the backboard for a lay-up?

Will Bogues be accused of untying the shoelaces of seven-footers he will have to guard?

Might the security guards confuse him for the ball boy?

Bogues has heard the jokes before. And while his opponents were laughing at him, Muggsy was dribbling around them for an easy two.

The Bullet fans might giggle at first, but with a heart the size of Bob Lanier's shoes, he is sure to win them over.

In an interview before leaving to join the Rhode Island Gulls of the USBL, Muggsy hoped his skills and not his size — or lack of it, would win him a job in the NBA.

"I want people to come watch Muggsy Bogues because he is a great basketball player, not because he is only five foot, three inches tall," Bogues insisted.

"I'm quite sure most of the people know what I can do, but there are always going to be some critics. I just give it a 100 percent everytime I go out there, that's all I can say."

Enough said.
Muggsy can play in the NBA. Watch him.

Talley and Waller

While Winston-Salem State fans wonder why no one noticed a medium-sized scoring machine named Alexander Hooper, they can console themselves that two black college greats were taken.

Jamie Waller, Virginia Union's high-flying dunkster, was the New Jersey Net's third round pick. He probably has a fair to good chance of cutting the mustard in the Garden State.

The 6-4 Waller will not be able to leap over everyone in the NBA as easy as one-two-three, but he should help the Nets in some areas.

Meanwhile, the Lakers were smart enough to know a good thing when they saw it. The Express nailed down the services of Norfolk State's Ralph Talley, who was the last pick of the fourth round.

Talley is a survivor, but surviving the bench of the world champions is no easy task. With explosive offensive capabilities, the 6-1 guard will certainly let them know he's there.

ACC Bonanza

An entire slew of Atlantic Coast Conference players were taken in the draft, among them was Kenny Smith.

Smith, the All-American guard from UNC, was the first round choice of the Sacramento Kings and the sixth player to be chosen overall.

As usual, Smith was had little to say.

"I'm just surprised it was Sacramento," he said. "No one from their club talked to me at all."

Former Cavalier star and European journeyman, Olden Polynice, was taken by the Chicago Bulls, but wound up in Seattle. He was traded for Scottie Pippen. The Bulls replaced Polynice's absence inside, by selecting Horace Grant of Clemson a few picks later.

Then of course, Bogues went to Washington.

Joe Wolf was picked up by the L.A. Clippers, who can use anything over 6-7 that breathes and can dribble.

Wolf was the last of five first-round ACC picks. Andrew Kennedy of Virginia and Bruce Dalrymple both went in the second round. Kennedy will try to



Former Virginia Union star Jamie Waller was picked up by the New Jersey Nets in the NBA draft. Waller and Norfolk State's Ralph Talley were among the best black college players to be selected in the draft (photo by James Parker).

make the team in Philadelphia, while Dalrymple heads to Phoenix.

Duke's Tommy Amaker was selected in the third round by Seattle. The frail Blue Devil has a solid game, but his size and lack of bulk is in question.

In the fourth round, the Boston Celtics got what could prove to be their best player in the draft — Virginia's Tom Sheehy. The 6-7 forward isn't pretty, but neither is Larry Bird.

Bennie Bolton went to Golden State and Dave Popson to Detroit.

Michael Tait of Clemson was taken in the fifth round by the

ACC happy Seattle Supersonics.

Martin Nessler was snapped up by the L.A. Clippers, continuing their search for tall bodies (he's 7-2).

Mike Giomi of North Carolina State and Curtis Hunter of UNC were the last of the ACC herd in the seventh round. Giomi went to (guess who) Seattle, and Hunter travels to the mountains of Denver.

It was a good draft as far as the ACC was concerned, but NBA franchises are still scared to gamble on a good black college player. Maybe Ralph Talley and Jamie Waller will help change their minds.

East Forsyth will host wrestling tourney

By RANDY PETTITT
Chronicle Sports Editor

A dynasty is coming to an end. For the first time in 20 years, Parkland High School will not be hosting the state wrestling tournament.

But Parkland Athletic Director, Coach Homer Thompson, said the tournament isn't moving very far.

"East Forsyth will have the 4-A state wrestling tournament this year," said Thompson.

"We've done our part, and felt it just time to let it go," he said.

Under the direction of Thompson, Grant Queen and principal A.C. Larrimore Jr., the state wrestling tournament has been held at Parkland for twenty straight years. Thompson said a "changing of the guard" brought about the decision to not host the tournament in 1988.

"We just won't be able to run it anymore. Mr. Larrimore will be taking on a new job this fall as an Area Assistant Superintendent of the W-S/Forsyth County Schools, and Coach Queen and I have been in this game for more than 30 years.

"We just wanted the North Carolina High School Athletic Association to have plenty of time to pick a new site for the tournament before we all retired on them. They knew it was coming."

East Forsyth High School will



Homer Thompson

be the new home for the State 4-A Wrestling Tournament as confirmed by Athletic Director Bob Sapp.

"Yes, we are very honored to be hosting the state tournament this year," Sapp said.

East Forsyth, where the Western Regionals were held last season, expressed an interest in holding the tournament when Parkland decided to pass it to someone else.

"They did a super job with the regionals last year, and they deserve to get the tournament," said Thompson.

Sapp said it will be nice to have Parkland's expertise just down the road.

New Format

Wrestling coaches in North Carolina recently adopted some changes in the weight formats for this coming season.

At a NCHSAA meeting two weeks ago, coaches elected to approve new weight classes that are endorsed by the National Federation of State High School Associations. The new weights include: 103, 112, 119, 125, 130, 135, 140, 145, 152, 160, 171, 189 and 275 pound pound divisions.

The classes will not change to allow growth during the season. Parkland wrestling coach, Jerry Messick, said the changes were brought about by a glut of middle weight wrestlers.

"There always seems to be so many kids who are between 130 and 170 pounds and want to wrestle," Messick said.

"These changes will help teams that have a lot of middle-weight kids, but will hurt the ones who depend on the larger kids," he said.

The new weight classes were approved almost unanimously by wrestling coaches all over the state.

Girls Golf Open

The NCHSAA will sponsor an open state championship in girls golf next fall. The championship

tournament is scheduled for October 5 and 6, at the Finely Golf Course on the campus of UNC-Chapel Hill.

Athletes of the Year

A number of triad-area athletes were among the 13 Athletes of the Year in fall and winter sports selected by the NCHSAA last week.

Lee Tuttle of North Forsyth was named Athlete of the Year in 4-A Cross Country. He was the individual state champion in the 4-A division.

Tripp Welborne of Greensboro Page was named the 4-A Athlete of the Year in football. Welborne is headed to the University of Michigan this fall.

Anthony DiFoggio, a goalkeeper at High Point Andrews, was named the top soccer player in the 3-A class, while schoolmate Karen John was the 3-A tennis player of the year.

Robert Siler of Jordan-Mathews was named Mr. NCHSAA, while Andrea Stinson of North Mecklenburg was Mrs. NCHSAA. Siler was a football and basketball standout at the 2-A school. Stinson was a 4-A basketball and softball leader at North Mecklenburg.

NCHSAA Athlete of the Year awards in spring sports will be announced later this month.

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