

Wake's escape from ACC cellar dealt a serious blow

Deacons lose Robert Siler for season with injury

By RANDY PETTITT
Chronicle Sports Editor

Just when Wake Forest was beginning to have hope of escaping the cellar of the Atlantic Coast Conference, disaster has struck again.

Freshman guard Robert Siler will miss the rest of the 1987-88 season because of an injury to his left knee. The 6-3 standout from Jordan-Matthews High School in Siler City hurt his knee during the opening moments of the Deacons' 79-66 win over American University. He was averaging nearly 10 points a game and scored 13 second-half points in Wake's 81-73 loss to nationally ranked Purdue.

Wake has also been without the services of 6-6 freshman Darric Keys and was hampered in the middle when sophomore Greg Keith decided to quit the team and head home for Norwich, Connecticut.

Keys has suffered from tendinitis in his left knee, but is expected to recover.

Keith, a 6-10 center, left the

team earlier this season unsatisfied with his progress.

But since Keith has departed, the Deacons have had a lift from the services of sophomore Ralph Kitley. The Spencer native scored a career-high 19 points in Sunday's Georgia Tech. and pulled down 10 rebounds.

Kitley surprised nearly everyone with the performance and brought delight from Coach Bob Staak.

"We need Ralph to do that for us more often," said Staak. "He needs to make himself more of a presence in the middle for us. He did that against Georgia Tech."

Now Wake is left very thin in the middle, possessing only the 6-10 Kitley and unproven 6-9 freshman, Tom Wise.

All is not lost, though. Wake continues to get great service out of 6-7 sophomore Sam Ivy. Ivy leads the team in scoring with 17.8 points per game and is the team's top rebounder with 7.6 boards per game.



Robert Siler: Out for the season

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BLACK COLLEGE NOTES From Page B3

and a 70-66 thriller over Howard last Saturday.

The Aggies, 7-1 overall, have won the men's title for six consecutive years and appear ready to capture their seventh trip to the NCAA Tournament. Carlton Becton, a 6-6 junior forward, paces the Aggie attack with his 19.6 scoring average. Claude Williams (15.0 ppg), Thomas "Ice" Griffin (14.6 ppg) and Kenny Cox (14.6 ppg) are also among the league leaders in scoring.

Cox, a 6-7 senior, leads the league in field goal percentage, shooting 71% from the floor, while Williams is third, hitting 65.1% of his shots inside the two-point area. Becton is third in the league from the three-point stripe, hitting 25 of 43 for 58%.

Florida A&M has quietly matched the Aggies' league mark with a 105-89 thrashing of Maryland Eastern Shore and a 89-67 defeat of Delaware State University.

FAMU is led by 21.1 points per game from Reggie Henry, which matches the league's best mark held by Phil Booth of Coppin State.

The University of Maryland Eastern Shore is currently rated as the worst Division I basketball men's team in the nation according to NCAA statistics and schedule ratings.

A&T is rated 71st among the 291 ranked Division I schools. The Aggies are well ahead of several big schools such as Wake Forest

(137), UCLA (96) and Alabama (125).

Delaware State, ranked 280th, Morgan State (283) and Bethune-Cookman (288) are among MEAC schools ranked the lowest in the ratings.

In women's competition, Bethune-Cookman has a perfect 3-0 mark in the league, but is only 4-4 overall. North Carolina A&T has the best overall record, 6-2, and are 2-0 in the MEAC.

Defeating MEAC women's champion, Howard University, has gotten off to a slow start. The Bison are currently 6-8 overall and lost their only league encounter with N.C. A&T, 68-66. Howard has won three league titles in the past six years.

Southern Is Top Dog In Slumping SWAC

Southern University, paced by 22.9 points a game from Kevin Florent, is currently the top dog in the Southwestern Athletic Conference with a 5-4 record.

The Jaguars, favored to win the conference, are the only SWAC men's team to post a winning record. Alabama State, 3-7, is the only other team with more than two victories.

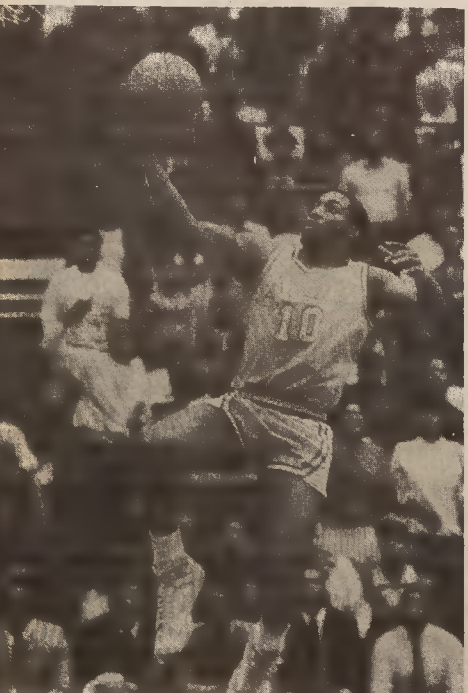
In women's action, Grambling's 6-4 mark is the league's best. They are led by LeChandra LeDay, who leads the league with a 26.8 average.

Panthers' Brotherly Duo Lead Clark to SIAC Top

Clark College, idle since they topped Livingstone and Saint Paul's in the Bighouse Gaines Classic a few weeks ago, shares the lead in the Western Region of the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Association with a 10-0 record.

The Panthers, 1-0 in league play, share the lead with Alabama A&M. A&M, 8-1 overall, is the favorite to win the league, but Clark has five players averaging in double figures and has posted impressive wins over several quality NAIA and CIAA schools.

Robert Pritchett, Jr., and his brother Elgin both are averaging better than 14 points per game for the Panthers. They are coached by their father, Robert Pritchett, Sr., and are the only team in the nation with two brothers in the starting lineup.



Corvin Davis lays one in for N.C. A&T. The Aggies, 7-1 overall and 2-0 in the MEAC, are favored to make their seventh straight trip to the NCAA tournament (file photo).

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