

# Rams roundball

hand. Brian Boorie is an adept low post scorer and rebounder who gets better as he gets continues to recapture his form after undergoing serious knee surgery 18 months ago.

Boone along with Vernon Redmond gives this team inside muscle at both ends. But the missing factor that will help put the Rams over the top is the return of power forward Charles Bennett.

Bennett, who missed a lot of practice time because of grades and a stomach virus, is eligible for the second semester and will see his share of minutes at the Alamo Heritage Bowl Basketball Classic this weekend at Boca Raton, Fla.

Last season, Bennett developed into a consistent force down low, scoring 14.7 points and

pulling down 8.8 rebounds a game. Bennett shoots 49 percent from the field.

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### - Bighouse Gaines

good range from 15 to 17 feet out," Gaines said. "Their shooting percentages from that distance are better than a lot of the scorers we'll face this year."

During the Thanksgiving

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break, Gaines promised that his team would provide more reasons for Rams fans to reach a state of ecstasy on a regular basis. He's abandoned the patterned offense, opting to go with a quicker paced game.

"We have enough shooters to play that way," he explained. "These guys are capable of scoring 80 to 85 points a night. We'll be better off with the quicker style."

"In recent years, we probably held the ball too long and never got enough done when he had possession. The more we held the ball, the more mistakes we made."

Gaines expects tough matchups at this weekend's tournament in south Florida. But in his mind, it won't require anything fancy.

"We'll go in, play as strong as we can as early as we can," he said. "Then we'll see who has to make the adjustments."

Even though Gaines likes the prospects of his team's offensive potential, he shakes his head when defense is the item of discussion.

"I'm still not satisfied with that part of our game," the coach said. "Everybody always talks about the offensive moves they have. But few people say very much about the great defensive moves. But we are doing some positive things."

"The kids are getting a better grasp of our matchup zone which is nothing more than a switching man-to-man. The better they pick up on that, the better off we're going to be."

# Basketball Classic

have their hands full. FAU has yet to lose at home.

Florida Atlantic's strength is rebounding. FAU is outbounding opponents by an average of 10.5 caroms a game. However, the Owls haven't been very protective on offense, averaging 21 turnovers a game.

When FAU has the ball, the emphasis is on the game in the lanes. David Cargill (9.2 ppg, 7.8 rpg) and Dexter Hill (10.6 ppg, 4.2 rpg) are the prime contributors down low. Wayne Baxley (14 ppg, 5.7 rpg) is the main spark at guard.

Defensively, coach Tim Loomis likes to employ variations of man-to-man and zone. But the Owls hardly ever use full-court pressure. Jeff Faile and Cargill are intimidators around the basket, combining to block 15 shots so far this season.

### Clark/Atlanta

The Panthers are a strong SIAC title contender this time. Going into the tournament, CAU owns a 6-1 record which includes a split against Division I competition.

Coach Michael Vickerstaff's guys beat Alabama State 107-103 in overtime and lost to Georgia State 109-99 after leading by 14 points at halftime.

Clark/Atlanta's sterling record is largely attributable to consistent free throw shooting and taking care of the basketball. When the Panthers limit their turnovers to 12 or less in a game, they always come out victorious.

As a team, the Panthers are shooting 79 percent from the foul line. Guard Dalton Greene (27.9 ppg) provides the Panthers with a lot of perimeter firepower as does point man Tito Parker (15.3 ppg).

Dwight Huggett, Mike Nowell and Edward Ward are very solid front court performers.

# Lady Rams

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they want.

That explains why WSSU is holding foes to 60.3 ppg and 38.6 percent shooting from the floor.

Individually, Courtney and Fluellyn are the focal points. But that doesn't mean that they are the Lady Rams sole contributors. In a 67-61 loss to Division I North Carolina A&T, Courtney produced 17 points in defeat.

The following week, Bobbitt, Fluellyn and Neva Littlejohn grabbed the spotlight in a 103-51 blowout over St. Paul's College last Saturday.

Bobbitt fired away for 20 points to lead all scorers and Fluellyn followed up with 19 points. Littlejohn, a back-up center, finished the game with 14 points, eight blocked shots and seven rebounds.

It's still early in the year, but the Lady Rams appear to be on the verge changing the pecking order of the CIAA South. With no more games to play until Jan. 7, the Lady Rams are one of four teams who have yet to lose a conference game.

### Morris Brown

MBC hasn't found its groove just yet. At 2-4, there's obviously room for improvement.

Royce Turner is the major threat who carries this team. The shooting guard has lit up everybody's scoreboard early on, averaging 28 ppg. His highs so far were 31 points vs. Miles College

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and 30 points vs. Columbus College (Ga.). Turner's lowest output was 22 points vs. Paine College.

Turner, though, needs some assistance if the Wolverines are to make a successful run this season. He gets three steals a game and is the team's leading rebounder with 6.3 per contest.

When the shooting guard is

the top rebounder, you have problems. That's why MBC is having trouble gaining any consistency. They are being out rebounded by almost a dozen a game. Insufficient rebounding coupled with turnovers and poor shot selection in the backcourt, will make this a long season for coach Ajac Triplett's crew.

# CIAA Basketball Standings

As of Dec. 9th

## MEN

### Northern Division

Team	Division	Conf.	Overall
Virginia State	1-0	3-2	3-2
St. Paul's College	0-0	1-0	2-4
Virginia Union	0-1	2-1	4-1
Norfolk State	0-0	2-1	4-2
Hampton University	0-0	1-3	3-3
Elizabeth City State	0-0	0-2	3-3
Bowie State	0-0	0-5	1-6

### Southern Division

Team	Division	Conf.	Overall
Shaw University	1-0	3-1	6-1
North Carolina Central	1-0	1-2	2-3
Fayetteville State	0-0	4-0	6-0
St. Augustine's	0-1	2-1	4-3
Johnson C. Smith	0-1	3-2	4-2
Winston-Salem State	0-0	1-1	2-1
Livingstone College	0-0	1-3	1-5

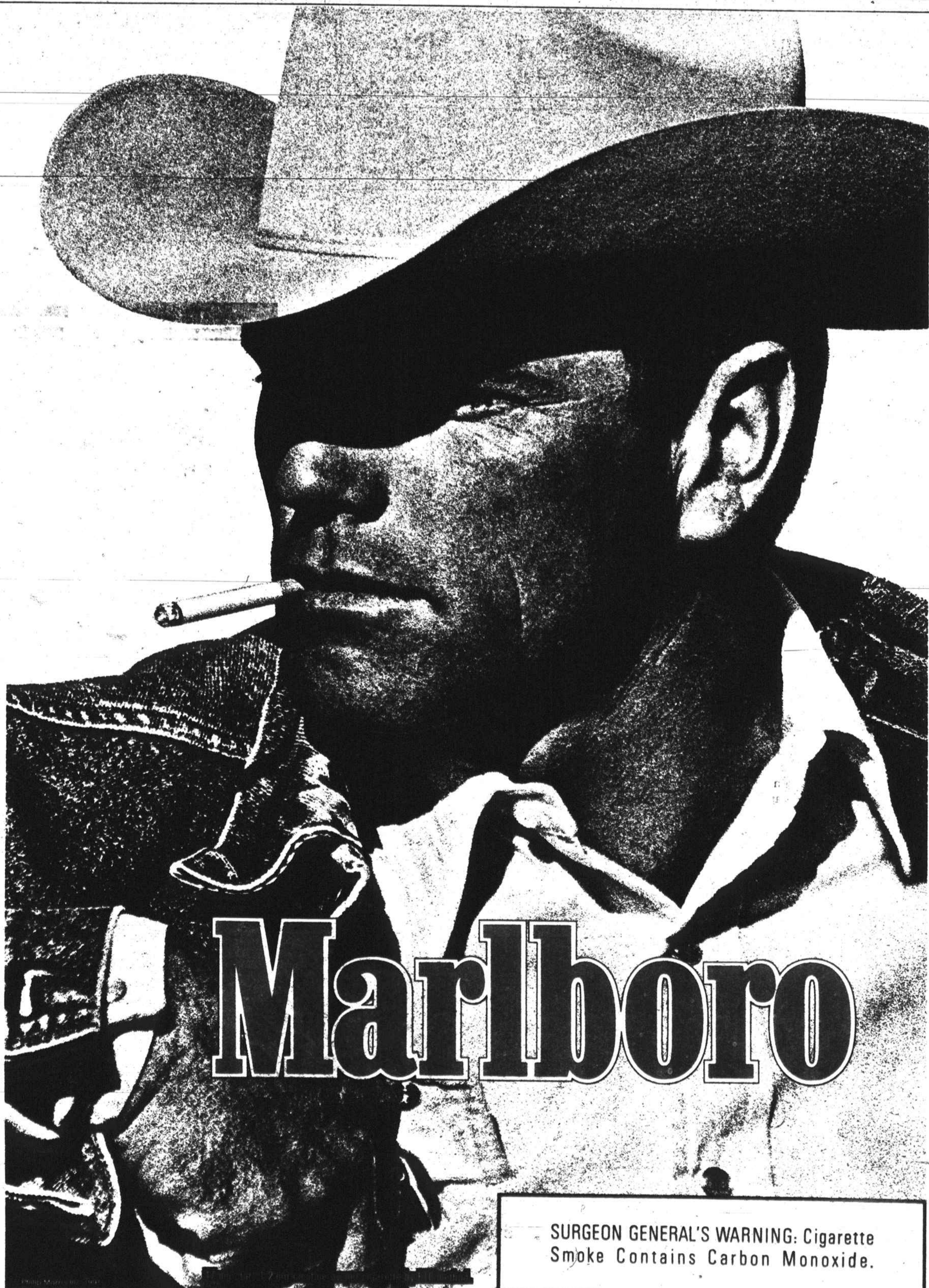
## WOMEN

### Northern Division

Team	Division	Conf.	Overall
Virginia State	1-0	4-1	4-1
Hampton University	0-0	2-0	6-2
Norfolk State	0-0	2-0	3-3
St. Paul's College	0-0	1-1	2-1
Elizabeth City State	0-0	1-1	2-2
Bowie State	0-0	2-3	2-5
Virginia Union	0-1	1-3	1-4

### Southern Division

Team	Division	Conf.	Overall
Johnson C. Smith	1-0	3-1	5-2
St. Augustine's	0-0	2-0	3-0
Winston-Salem State	0-0	4-8	4-1
Fayetteville State	0-1	1-4	1-4
North Carolina Central	0-0	0-2	1-3
Livingstone College	0-0	0-4	1-5
Shaw University	0-0	0-1	0-4



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