

North Forsyth's girls indoor track team won the school's first state championship in Chapel Hill recently. **B3**



Bobby Dandridge was one of the great players in the CIAA. Now he is an assistant coach for Hampton. **B4**



A picturesque look at some of the highlights in last week's CIAA Tournament. **B3, B5**



SPORTSWEEK

THURSDAY, MARCH 3, 1994 **B1**

Union, Lady Pirates Stake Claim to CIAA Championships

▲ Blue leads Hampton to 67-56 victory; Peebles scores 28 as Union wins third straight tournament title

By MICHAEL JOHNSON
Chronicle Sports Writer

Virginia Union won the 49th Annual Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association Tournament in grand style last Saturday, defeating Norfolk State 93-79 at the Lawrence Joel Veterans Memorial Coliseum. Union guard Thomas Meredith scored 34 points in the championship game and Tournament MVP Warren Peebles has 28 as Union won its third straight tournament title. Norfolk State Corey Williams led his team with 32 points.

Union, which ended its season as the top-ranked team in Division II, advanced to the championship round by edging Fayetteville State 83-78. Peebles scored 29 points in the contest. FSU got into the semifinals by defeating favored Elizabeth City State 86-79. ECSU's Nate Higgs scored a tournament-high 35 points in a losing effort.

In women's championship action, tournament MVP Thelka Blue scored 19 points to lead Hampton to a 67-56 win over Shaw in the Saturday afternoon game. The Lady Pirates got the finals by beating Norfolk State 80-78 for only the second time in twelve games.

Hampton went on a 17-0 run with five minutes left in the half to give the Lady Pirates a 39-26 lead early in the second half. Hampton led by as many as 15 points in the second half.

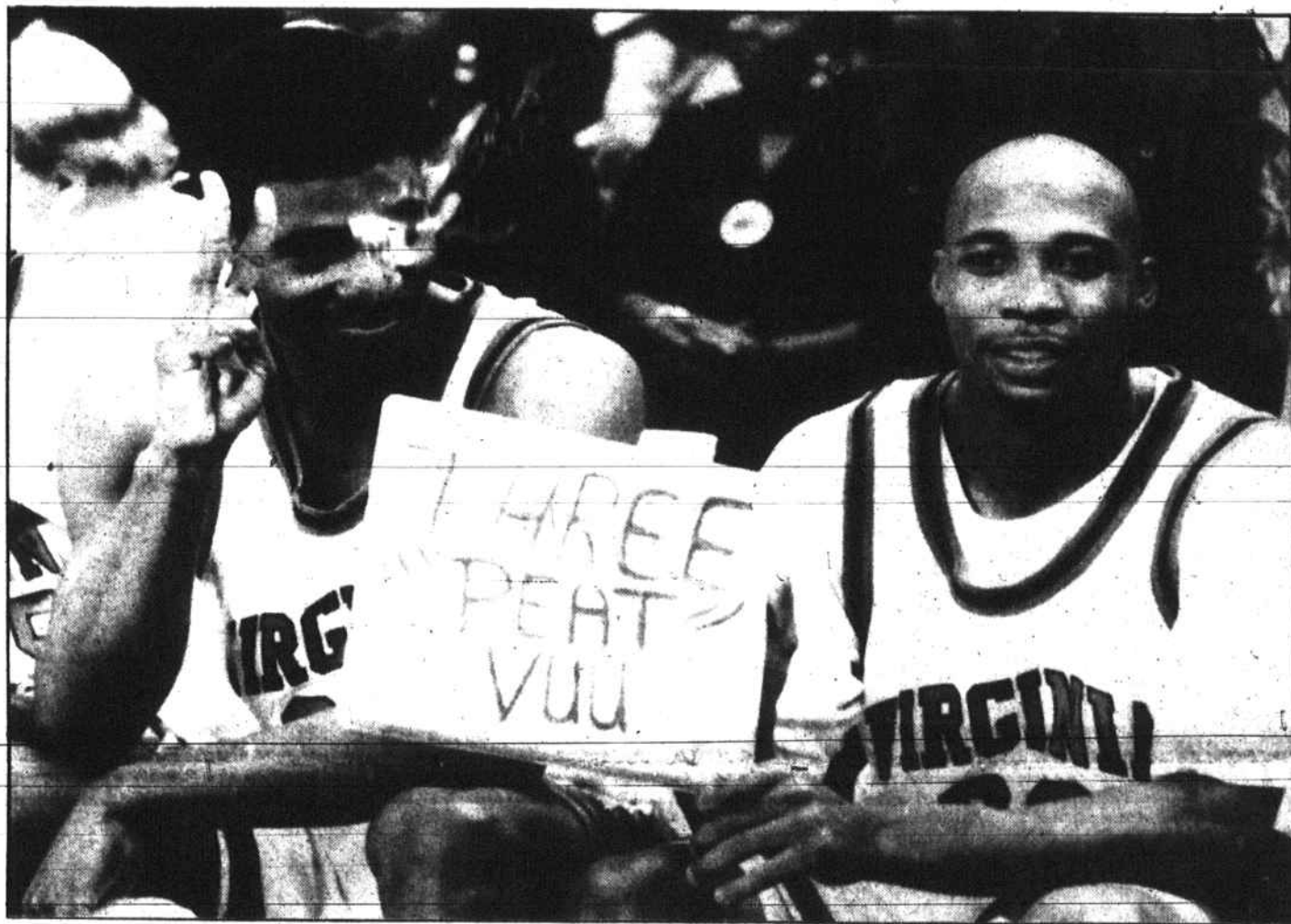
Besides Fayetteville State, another surprise showing was made in the men's bracket by Hampton. The Pirates soundly defeated Winston-Salem State 103-91 and CIAA Southern Division champion North Carolina Central 86-66.

FIRST ROUND

Men's Bracket

Norfolk State 77, Livingstone 55

Norfolk State played an uninspired first half before



Tournament MVP Warren Peebles (right) and Derrick Johnson let everyone know who's No. 1 again.

getting things into gear to take a win over Livingstone. Derrick Bryant led the Spartans with 19 points and Corey Williams scored 16 on 7 of 10 shooting.

Johnson C. Smith 110, St. Paul's 80

In the first tournament game with two brothers

coaching against each other, Steve Joyner's Golden Bulls took a convincing win over Ed "Buck" Joyner's Tigers. Robert Boykins led Johnson C. Smith with 23 points and Shawn Jackson had 22.

See CIAA page B5

Union's Peebles Star among Stars

By MICHAEL JOHNSON
Chronicle Sports Writer

Warren Peebles cleaned up in the honors category the past week.

Seven days after being named the CIAA men's basketball player of the year, the Virginia Union guard grabbed the tournament's most outstanding player trophy after scoring 77 points in three games. The senior from Richmond scored 28 points in the championship game, a 93-79 win over Norfolk State.

"This is a great way to end the season," he said. "All the trophies I received are an added plus, because my teammates come first in everything."

Now Peebles and the Panthers must prepare for the NCAA Division II playoffs, in which Virginia Union will enter as the nation's top-ranked team. In 1992, Union won the national championship and were eliminated by North Carolina Central last year, one game short of reaching the Elite Eight—Division II's version of the Final Four.

Peebles said there are some similarities between the team he played on as a sophomore and the current edition.

"The team two years ago had the same amount of talent and the same amount of size,"

See PEEBLES page B4

Winston-Salem Native Enjoys Surprising First Year at Fayetteville State

▲ Under Duckett's direction, Broncos make improbable run in conference tournament before losing in semis

By MICHAEL JOHNSON
Chronicle Sports Writer

A rebuilding program. Replacing a popular head coach. Playing in the toughest conference in Division II.

Those were the obstacles Ricky Duckett had to face in his first year as head basketball coach at Fayetteville State.

How did he do? In his estimation, not too bad.

"I didn't set any expectations for myself or my team, but I did want our team to be competitive and play unselfishly," said Duckett, whose Broncos finished second in the CIAA southern division and played perennial power Virginia Union closely before losing 83-78 in the CIAA Tournament semifinals. "I think we accomplished what we wanted to."

Not much was expected of the Broncos this year. Not only did FSU lose four starters from last year's 14-11 squad, but also head coach Jeff Capel, who left for North Carolina A&T. Preseason analysts picked the Broncos to finish no higher than fourth in their division, and a losing season seemed inevitable.

However, Duckett had other ideas.

"I wanted to build on the success (Capel) built for

the school the last two seasons," said the Winston-Salem native and UNC graduate. "In order to build on that, you have to set high standards for people to meet. When you have no high standards, you can't meet high expectations."

The Broncos finished 18-11 overall, behind North Carolina Central in the final conference standings.

FSU had a good showing in last week's tournament, defeating Bowie State 67-66 and Elizabeth City State 86-79 before falling to Union.

When tabbed for the job, Duckett was an assistant coach for the Reynolds High School junior varsity team. But prior to Reynolds, Duckett was an assistant coach at six Division I universities, including his alma mater. In addition, he was the coach of the Harvard freshman team for two years.

"The transition wasn't difficult at all, because I had so much experience at the national level and coaching in the NCAA, NIT tournaments," he said. "So it wasn't as big as I thought it would be."

Unlike most teams in the conference, Fayetteville did not have a big-name player. No player on the Broncos squad was named to the All-CIAA team, though Duckett believes senior forward Harvey Petty is "one of

the top 10 players in the league." Duckett said the key to his team's success was his group's ability to blend as a unit.

"Chemistry can be such a problem when you have several players who cannot play together, and having a big-name player to rely on can be bad if that player is not playing well," he said.

Duckett stressed fundamentals in preseason practices, taking care of minute tasks such as blocking out and setting screens. His philosophy was the little things would take care of themselves and, to no one's surprise, Duckett was correct.

"The team improved from game to game, and that was because of coach Duckett," guard Reggie Gilliam said. "We played together as a team, because nobody expected us to do that well, not as a bunch of players."

Equally as gratifying to Duckett was coaching his team in front of a tournament crowd in Winston-Salem. The results were sweeter than the last time his team played here: FSU was upset by Winston-Salem State 80-79 in January on a last-second shot.

"(Debuting in the CIAA Tournament) can be a little distracting because family and friends are out in the crowd and you want your team to do the best they can,"

he said. "It can also be a problem because everything you do is critiqued to the ninth degree."

With his inaugural season under his belt, Duckett now is looking forward to next year. Being hired in early July meant little opportunity to recruit, and Duckett is anxious to get started.

"I believe we can bring in more young men who can play hard and are sound academically, who will build to the success of this season. What I'm looking for is people who know how to do things well, and that's what makes the difference between a talented team and a winning team," he said.



Ricky Duckett

ENTERTAINMENT

Lemon-hued harmonies, bluesy crooning and red-hot r&b balladry characterized *Kolorz*, the first EP from the ambitious group of the same name. **B15**



RELIGION

The Young Men's Fellowship Cooking contest held at Gojer Memorial A.M.E. Zion Church. **B7**



BUSINESS

Natalie Taylor was promoted to director of community affairs and employee development for Food Lion, Inc. **B18**

