

Piedmont players use Triad Top 50 Showcase to display basketball prowess

from B1

mont more exposure and hopefully be beneficial in securing scholarships. The showcase also allows coaches to find players for their programs they may have overlooked previously.

The Triad Top 50 is not exclusive to graduating seniors, in fact, this year's class was dominated by 26 juniors and included 14 sophomores. In this respect the Showcase provides recruiters a sneak peak at the Triad's coming stars and gives them a jump in their plans for recruiting.

The 50 players are split into 4 teams and play 15 minute games with a running clock. The format means that players, who are unfamiliar with each other, are asked to play together and at the same time highlight their individual talents. It is a challenge to do either of the two effectively and only the truly gifted player can do both simultaneously.

This year's Showcase saw some local stars meet that dual challenge and really shine in the showcase. Geoff Williams, a senior from West Forsyth, showed a diverse game that includes a deadly outside touch and the ability to penetrate to

the basket. His 6'4" frame makes him the prototypical college guard and his performance certainly proved he has the ball handling skills to play at the next level at the 2-guard spot.

Williams' West Forsyth teammate, Rhamen Love-Lane, displayed a serious interior game and the ability to penetrate down the heart of the lane. He has always played much larger than his 6'5" height, in part, because of his stalwart frame and partly because of his aggressive style of play. He certainly showed that he could bring both power and quickness to someone's 3-guard or small forward position, and with a couple of dunks during the showcase, one off the dribble in traffic, Love-Lane left no doubts about his ability to get airborne.

East Forsyth, junior, Tyree Manns exhibited a defensive flare and the ability to stand tall in the middle on both ends of the court. However, at only 6'5", Manns will not see much time as a college team's anchor in the post. His off-season should include work on his ball-handling and developing the range on his jump shot. He proved he has a solid foundation to improve on. A foundation that includes, among other

things, a formidable vertical rise.

Eric Jones, a junior guard from North Forsyth showed that his is not to be forgotten in the Viking backcourt that includes highly-touted Jonathon Butler. He proved himself a wily defender and a marksman both as a passer and a shooter.

Braxton Williams, a 6'3" junior, from Dudley High School was the perfect picture of potential. He flaunted explosive speed, and incredible rise off the court. His play was a bit erratic but, with a powerful build that makes his 6'3" frame look stocky, Williams showed flashes of being an impact player at the guard spot. He slashing penetrations to the basket engendered the cry of "Showtime" from his teammates and certainly made the coaches and scouts in the gym sit up and take notice.

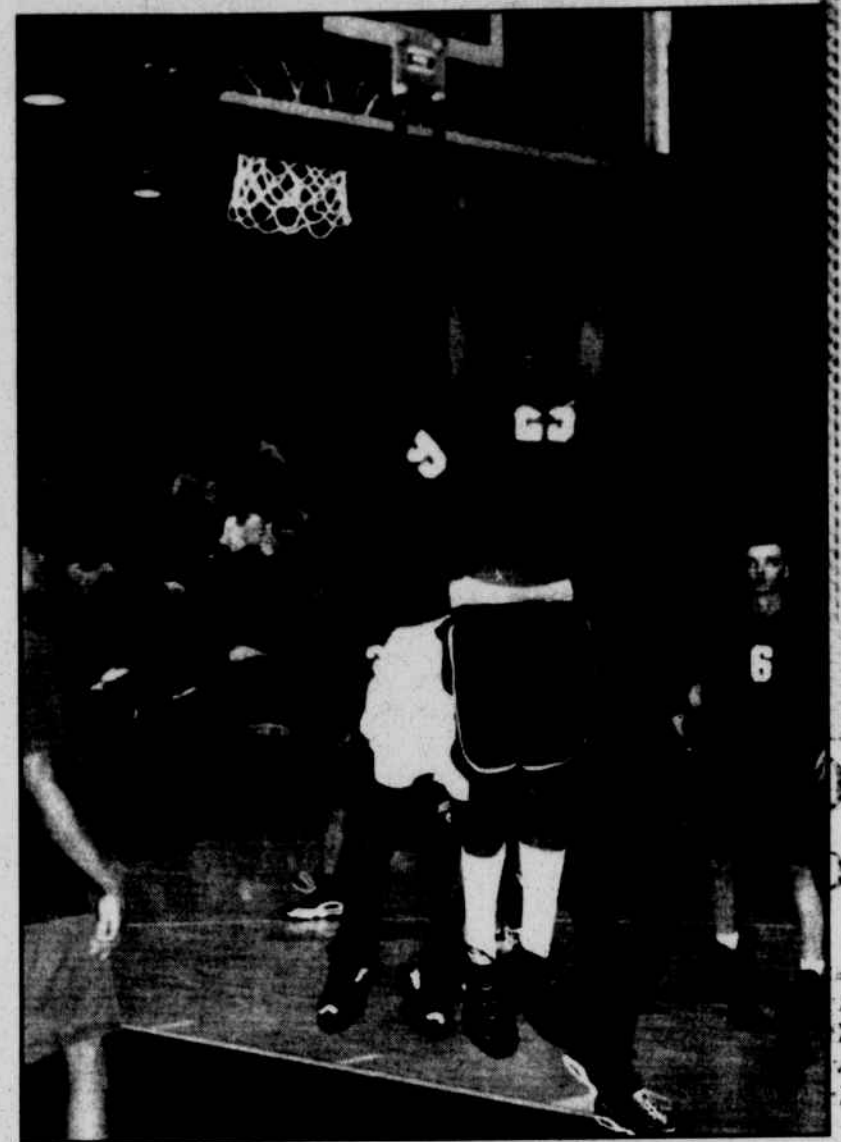
Tedric Jenkins, Lexington High School's junior sensation put together a solid showing. He was proficient at all aspects of the game and showed a knack for knowing where the ball would be. He took the ball to the basket with a smooth, gliding style, but left some questions about his ability to score from the perimeter.

Other players who acquitted

themselves well included: Jonathan Skinner (R.J. Reynolds), Wali Alston (R.J. Reynolds), Teddy Petree (North Forsyth), Jonathan Butler (North Forsyth), Charles Dearmon (Carver), K.C. Dobbins (North Forsyth), John Carter (Greensboro Day), Samuel Lekwauwa (Mount. Tabor), Jermaine Tuttle (North Davidson), Antwon Barnes (Carver), Jon Coleman (Mount. Tabor) and Kassim Richardson (R.J. Reynolds).

The Showcase had two noticeable no-shows, Glenn's Josh Howard, everybody's player of the year and 7'0" senior, Darius Callable, Greensboro Day's force in the paint.

In the end the Triad Top 50 Showcase is not the defining moment when players do or do not get their college scholarships. It is, after all just one, night of basketball and therefore not an accurate way to gauge a player's ability. But, it was a chance for players to put their names in the forefront of coaches' and scouts' minds and a few took full advantage of that opportunity. In the process their stock as potential college athletes rose dramatically and they gave all those assembled a show worth the cover charge.



Action was intense on the inside as local standouts battled last week at the Top 50 Showcase.

Kernersville All-Stars take fifth place in the State Championship

Kernersville All-Stars, 14 and under AAU team, finished 5th in the State Basketball Championship on this past weekend in Mt. Airy, N.C.

The All-Stars opened their quest for the State Championship on Friday night by beating the Newton Flames 53-44. The Kernersville team was led by Marcus Herndon's 16 points off the bench. Herndon got some offensive help from Charles Sanders, who finished with 12 points, and James Stackhouse who poured in 11. Defensively the All-Stars were led by their center, Jason McDougal, who was a consistent force on the boards and a veritable highlight reel of blocked shots.

In their second round game the All-Stars clashed with the

Charlotte Stars. Kernersville had to battle the entire way and in the end were able to claim a five point victory 64-59. The Charlotte Stars gave Kernersville a lot of trouble early in the game. Powered by some outstanding guards the Stars took a one point lead into halftime, 35-34. Incorporating several zone defenses the Kernersville All-Stars were finally able to limit the Charlotte guards and pull out the victory. Sanders put on a offensive show and finished with 18 points. Herndon gave Sanders some help with the offensive workload by adding 14 points of his own. Stackhouse and Jason Pender also made notable contributions finishing with 10 and eight points respectively.

In the third round game the All-Stars met the High Hurricanes, a team that finished last season ranked fifth in the nation. The Kernersville team won this closely fought contest 62-20. The All-Stars played from behind all game claiming their first at 60-59 with 1:04 left in the contest. After taking the lead the All-Stars had several opportunities to salt the game away from the line but could not convert on their free throws. With less than :30 left in the game, reserve point guard James Glenn connected on a 1 and 1, hitting both to seal the victory. Offensively the All-Stars were led by David Edwards (15), Sanders (14) and reserve Marcus Herndon (10).

Glenn, who sealed the

game with his free throws was also instrumental in the Kernersville comeback hitting two 3-pointers to tie the game. Defensively, Jason McDougal controlled the boards. This victory put the Kernersville All-Stars in the Final Four, but having played 3 games in 1 day took a real toll on the team. The All-Stars meet the Greensboro Gaters, one of four seeded

teams, and suffered a heartbreaking loss, 63-61. The All-Stars fell down by as many as 20 points in the game, but fought back valiantly and almost upset the Gaters. Herndon and Sanders were again offensive stars for Kernersville. Herndon scored 19 points and Sanders ripped the nets for 14.

Certainly the accomplishments of the Kernersville All-

Stars are noteworthy despite their defeat. The All-Stars were the only unseeded team to reach the Final Four in the State AAU Championship, and finished ranked fifth out of the 47 teams that entered the tournament not to mention the countless teams that never even made it out of Regional Pool Play.

NFL drafts three players from North Carolina A&T

MEAC leads Black College Football with seven players selected

The Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC) had seven players selected during the 1997 National Football League (NFL) Draft held April 19-20. Of the seven, San Diego selected four MEAC players. Mike Hamilton of North Carolina A&T State University was the first league player taken, snapped up by San Diego in the third round as the 14th overall selection. Hamilton, a 6-4, 245 pound linebacker from Greenville, S.C.; was an All-MEAC second teamer.

In the fifth round, for the Chargers drafted three-time All-MEAC performer Raleigh Roundtree, a 6-5, 305-pound offensive tackle from South Carolina State University. An Augusta, Ga. native, Roundtree was the 109th selection and participated in the Senior Bowl and the Blue-Gray Classic. With the 138th pick in the sixth round, San Diego grabbed runningback Kenny Bynum, who gained many yards off Roundtree blocks.

Bynum, also an All-MEAC choice, rushed for 1,648 yards and 14 touchdowns on 235 carries in ten games. Bynum, a 5-11, 190

pounder from Gainesville, Fla., also returned 11 kickoffs for 255 yards. In the seventh round, 218th pick, San Diego selected Toran James, another North Carolina A&T State University linebacker although he played in just four games because of an injury. James, a 6-3, 275-pounder from Ahsokie, N.C.; was the team's leading tackler before suffering the injury.

Billy Devaney, Chargers Director of Player Personnel, stated: "Historically we have always looked at the MEAC with the same regard as every other conference and year after year the MEAC has provided the NFL with quality players."

The MEAC Offensive Line-man of the Year, Jamie Nails of Florida A&M University, was selected by the Buffalo Bills in the fourth round (120th overall). Nails, an imposing 6-7, 377-pound offensive tackle from Baxley, Ga.; left FAMU one year early.

Antwan Wyatt of Bethune-Cookman College was drafted by the Philadelphia Eagles, who had the 190th pick in the sixth round.

Wyatt, a 6-1, 195-pound speedster from Daytona Beach, Fla.; was an All-MEAC performer at both wide receiver and kick return specialist. He caught 70 passes for 985 yards and four scores and averaged 22.7 yards on kickoff returns and 13.4 on punts.

North Carolina A&T had a third player drafted when the St. Louis Rams selected All-MEAC choice Cedric White in the seventh round (215th pick). White, a 6-2, 280-pound defensive tackle from Los Angeles, averaged 5.4 stops per game and added six sacks on the season. St. Louis new coach Dick Vermeil stated the Rams had thought about free agency for White, but decided not to take the chance.

The MEAC's seven draft selections were not only the most in league history, but also led all NCAA Division I-AA conferences in players selected according to an NFL office report. The Yankee was second with four, while three each came out of Big Sky, Gateway, Ivy, and Southland. The Ohio Valley and the SWAC had two each.

Tri City Relays Track Club to host Johnson/Riley Invitational

The Tri-City Relays Track Club will hold the Johnson/Riley Invitational, Saturday, April 26, at Carver High School Stadium beginning at 9 a.m. Registration for the meet will begin at 8 a.m. The meet, is

for all ages of girls, boys and adults. The events slated include: jumps, throws, runs (100 meters - 1600 meters), and relays. Awards will be presented to the top three contestants in each event. Schools, and

recreation centers are invited to register. There is no admission and new team members can still join.

For further information call: 725-7642, 767-0853, 721-101 or 885-1684 in High Point.

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MANAGER'S CORNER

At last, the warm weather is here. I hope things are going well with you and your family. You know, spring brings about exciting things for all of us. Here at WSNC, we are looking for more great things to happen this month. Please mark your calendar now to be a part of our on-air fund drive scheduled for April 20-26, 1997.

This is your time to show your support by making a donation to the WSNC Spring Fund Drive. Of course, you can give much more, but we feel that everyone can give at least one dollar. Thank you for calling the Listener comment line. This information is very important to me. I would like to hear your thoughts on our public affairs programs. The number is 750-2160. Along those lines, please allow me to point out two new programs that we have added to our line-up. Each month, WSSU Nursing Department produces a half-hour call-in show titled Healthwatch WSNC. This program will air the third Monday of each month at 9:00 a.m. The other program that I hope you find interesting is "Voices of Pacifica," which airs every Saturday at 10:00 a.m. I hope you will tune in to these programs. If you have questions about the radio station, please feel free to call me. I will be happy to listen to your concerns. I can be reached at 750-2324 or e-mail me at CEO4@aol.com.

April's Special Programming

*WSNC will air a live monthly call-in Health Show beginning April 21 at 9:00 a.m. It is a joint effort between WSNC and WSSU's Nursing Department. A panel from the nursing department will discuss health issues. Your phone calls are welcome at 750-2304.
* WSNC will air a special titled Voices of Pacifica on Saturday Mornings at 10 a.m. The program deals with outstanding events and people in the African American Community. This program is produced by Pacifica Radio.
* The Chancellor's Report with Dr. Alvin J. Schexnider. This monthly report takes you behind the scenes of the operations of the university from the perspective of the Chancellor. The Chancellor's Report airs April 2 at 9:00 a.m.

UNDERWRITER SPOTLIGHT

This month we wish to thank all of our underwriters. You see the underwriters make up the better part of WSNC's budget. These are the people and businesses who help us with the programs you enjoy listening to. I wish to appeal to you to support these businesses and let them know that you heard about them on WSNC-FM 90.5. This is very important to the success of WSNC's future growth. If you can't go by the various operations, please drop them a fax or write them a letter. I thank you for your support in this matter. Again, thanks to all of our underwriters.

A 24 HOUR LISTENER COMMENT LINE - A NEW SERVICE FOR YOU!

WSNC-FM 90.5 has installed a listener comment line for you. If you have questions or comments, leave them on the listener line along with your name and telephone number. This service is available to you 24 hours a day. The telephone number is (910) 750-2160. Call us - we want to hear from you - the good and bad. Calls are subject to be aired.

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