



From The Press Box

Sam Davis

14th Street program draws city's top young hoopsters



Robert Little, 14th Street supervisor

There is never a shortage of local sporting news inside 14th Street Recreation Center. The walls of the bulletin boards are plastered with photos and sports articles about local high school athletes.

And that's for good reason. Most of the names and faces on the local high school scene have passed through the gymnasium at 14th St. Center. Center supervisor Robert Little can rattle off hundreds of names of current and former athletes who have participated in the center's basketball program.

This year, Little's program is directed primarily at student-athletes in the 13-15 age group. The eight teams in that age group play their games on Saturday's at the center. Last Saturday's games featured exciting matchups, including the Boys Club vs. Crosby's. The line ups of both teams were riddled with some of the top athletes in Winston-Salem.

Little said his program is geared toward that age group because most are at the point where they are trying to make the transition from middle school and youth league sports to the high school level.

"That age is when the kids really begin to see where they stand in terms of their skills," said Little, a former standout at Parkland High School and North Carolina Central. "We focus on the competitive aspect of their game. They have to step up to another level to compete in this league."

When you start looking at the crop of this year's high school players, Little can rattle off a long list of names. They include Danny Gathings of Parkland, Mike Noell and Antoine Smith of Reynolds, Tyre Kirby and Courtney Weaks of Carver, Montise Heath and Billy Williams of East Forsyth.

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Winston Lake YBA program enjoying banner year

By SAM DAVIS
THE CHRONICLE

The bleachers in the gymnasium at the Winston Lake Family YMCA can't accommodate the crowds that assemble there on Saturday afternoons when YBA basketball games are being played.

The YMCA is experiencing a banner year for its program. Some 300 participants are in the program this year, the highest total that the YBA program has ever had at Winston Lake.

William Meisenheimer attributes much of that success to the people involved in the program.

Meisenheimer is the program's direc-

tor and he says his assistants, Brian Leak, Linwood Skinner and Marcus Henry, help to make the program successful.

"Those guys are the gym supervisors and they are responsible for monitoring the gymnasium, including practices, to make sure the coaches are going over the characteristic traits that we want all of our participants to understand," Meisenheimer said.

Those traits include respect, responsibility, honesty and caring.

"Before practice each week our coaches talk with the players about what's going on in school and at home," Meisenheimer said. "We work on the total body and being. We work hard on the funda-

mentals of passing, dribbling, shooting and things like that."

Most of the participants in the program have come up through the ranks at the Winston Lake Y, advancing from one age group to the next.

That should be the case even more so in the future. The program's Mighty Mites (ages 3-4) is growing by leaps and bounds with 27 participants this year.

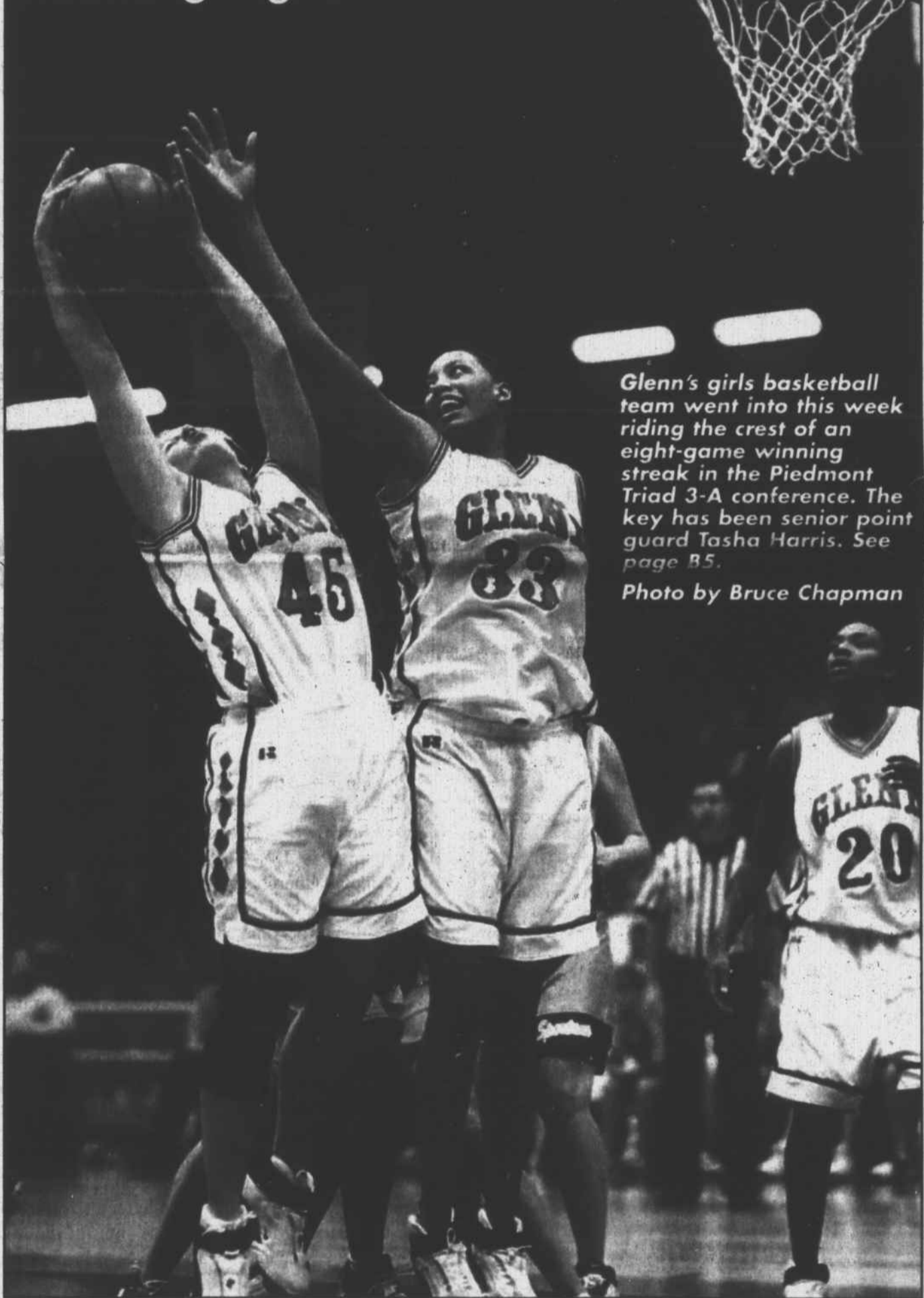
"The numbers have really increased this year," Meisenheimer said. "I think we've done a better job of marketing to new members and we've made sure that we kept the kids that were in the program

See Winston Lake on B4



R.J. Livingston shoots during a YBA game last Saturday.

Reaching Higher!



Glenn's girls basketball team went into this week riding the crest of an eight-game winning streak in the Piedmont Triad 3-A conference. The key has been senior point guard Tasha Harris. See page B5.

Photo by Bruce Chapman

Tough road losses have Rams looking to find consistency



Photo by Bruce Chapman

Larry Paterson scored 16 points against NCCU but it wasn't enough to get the Rams a victory.

By SAM DAVIS
THE CHRONICLE

As expected, the 1998-99 basketball season has been a learning experience for Winston-Salem State's basketball team.

The Rams have surprised some of the CIAA's top teams, but they have also had their down moments. They include two tough road losses last week, a 68-64 loss to Fayetteville State and a 73-68 decision to North Carolina Central last Saturday night.

In both games, the Rams played well in spurts, but lack one or more key ingredi-

See Rams on B2

Kirby, McCloud, Gray bring Carver's 1999 recruiting class to eight members

By THERESA DAVIS
THE CHRONICLE

As The Chronicle went to press yesterday, high school football players all over the nation were preparing to sign binding letters of intent to the colleges of their choice.

Running back Tyree Kirby, defensive tackle Adrian "Bull" McCloud and free safety Marcus Gray, members of Carver High Schools undefeated 3-A state championship team were expected to sign their names on the dotted line with Division I-AA schools from the MEAC and SWAC. That brought the number of recruits from Carver to eight for the current season, with as many as four more expected to commit later in the year.

Tauric Rice and Dwayne Little signed with Hampton Univ., also of the MEAC.

See Kirby on B2



Tyree Kirby



Win two booklets of CIAA tickets

See page B5

'Hyper-Lowe'

Local wrestler trying to keep unbeaten streak intact

By THERESA DAVIS
FOR THE CHRONICLE

Most people around Carver know it takes very little to get Mike Lowe hyped up when it comes to the sport in which he's participating for the Yellowjackets.

A triathlete who participates in football, wrestling and track, Lowe is one of the few people around the state who can still boast about being undefeated for the 1998-99 year.

Lowe was a starting nose guard much of the season for Carver's football team which posted a 16-0 record and captured the State 3-A Football Championship. As soon as football ended, he traded in his pads to become the Yellowjackets' 189-pound wrestler. Through 16 matches he has yet to suffer a loss.

Lowe said he hopes to keep that record intact as he prepares for regional competition in two weeks and the state championships the

following week.

He said he's still riding the momentum from the state championship in football.

"It was good to leave out from one sport with a state championship and go to another one," he said during a recent interview. "Having a successful football season helped me to get ready for wrestling."

Although he enjoyed a good season in both sports last year, Lowe said both ended with disappointment during his junior season. The Yellowjackets' football team was defeated in the second round of the playoffs in 1997 and then he lost in the second round of the state tournament as he posted a 15-3 record.

This season Lowe said he's determined to win it all.

"I feel that I'll win it," said Lowe, who began wrestling for the Yellowjackets during

See Lowe on B5