

SPORTS WEEK

B SECTION

MARCH 28, 2002

Hosiery finishes second in state

Harris pours in 63 points in two games to lead the way

BY SAM DAVIS
THE CHRONICLE

Marcus Harris put on an offensive show for Hanes Hosiery's 14-and-under All-Star team, but it wasn't quite enough to lead his team to a North Carolina Parks and Recreation state championship last weekend in Charlotte.

Harris poured in 63 points in the championship round of the tournament. However Hanes Hosiery couldn't come up with the key plays in the championship game and dropped a 74-67 loss to New Bern.

Hanes Hosiery's 16-and-under All-Star team also was knocked out in the championship game. The 16-and-under team dropped a close

loss to Washington County in the championship game after advancing to the title game with a key victory over Zebulon.

Hanes Hosiery's 14-year-old All-Stars defeated a strong Clayton team 81-67 in the semifinals to earn a berth in the championship game. In that game Harris poured in 30 points and got ample help from Demon Smith and Jonathan Williams, who scored 16 and 12 points, respectively.

Harris' offensive display was even more outstanding in the championship game when he scored 33 points.

Hanes Hosiery, winner of the West Regional title, got out of the gate quickly and ran out to a quick 7-0 lead. New Bern fought back, however, to take a

40-32 lead at the half.

Harris and Hanes Hosiery rallied to get close at the end of the third quarter, cutting the lead to only three points. But this time Harris didn't get the support he needed from his teammates and Hanes Hosiery was denied the title.

Coach Art Blevins of Hanes Hosiery said it was nevertheless a good run for his team.

"We played well and competed hard as a team," he said. "We were able to cut the lead behind the hot shooting of Marcus Harris. But New Bern was too strong and their big men inside caused us some problems. It was a very physical and hard-played game."

Hanes Hosiery's 16-year-

See Hosiery on B3



Hanes Hosiery 14's All-Stars: front row - coaches John Harris, Art Blevins, Hurk Shaw; second row - Tay Springs, Marcus Harris, Bernard Lyons, Jonathan Williams, Errick Tate; third row - Patrick Blackwell, Myron Hairston, Kennard Weeks, Rico Dodd and Dearon Smith.

Rams begin spring drills

FROM THE PRESS BOX
SAM DAVIS

Blount still looking to find replacement for Faison

Finding a defensive coordinator isn't coach Kermit Blount's biggest concern for the next month or so. Filling a couple of holes in the defensive line-backing corps and finding depth for the offensive unit are the major concerns of Blount, whose Winston-Salem State football team began spring drills last Monday.

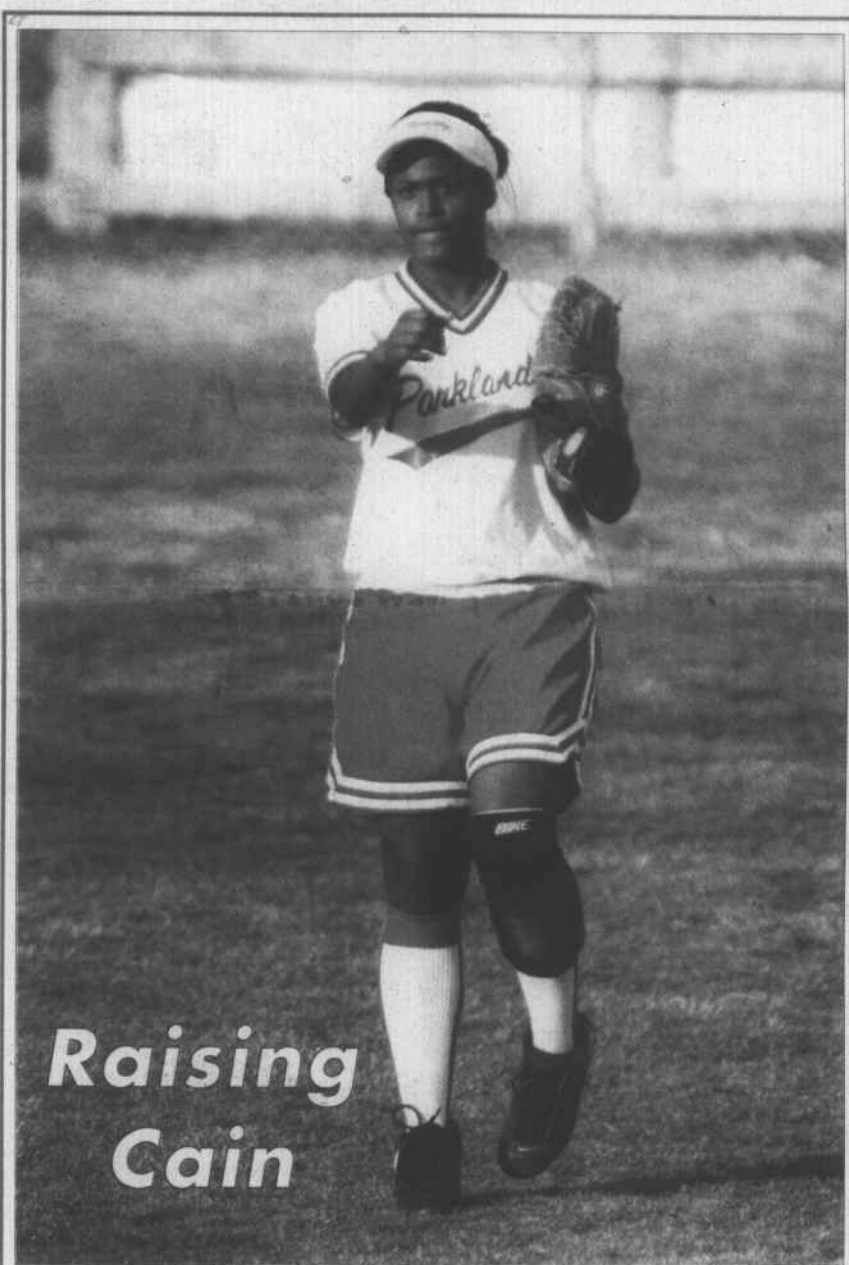
The Rams, who lost in the CIAA football championship game last fall, began spring drills for the first time in a long while without the services of defensive coordinator Andrew Faison, who accepted the head coaching job at Virginia State.

But for now Blount is more concerned about who he will put on the field this season when the 2002 season kicks off in August. The Rams are hoping that the return of quarterback Josh McGee will help the Rams win the league's Western Division title again this season.

Blount said the Rams will practice five days a week for the next few weeks before ending drills with their annual Red-White game.

"We just started our drills but we look for some good things to happen this spring," he said. "Our biggest concern is at linebacker, where we lost (Robert) Mackey and (Carnell) Brown. We have some good looking young

See Rams on B4



Dana Cain of Parkland fields a grounder during a recent Mustangs game. Cain and her Parkland teammates are in Coco Beach, Fla., this week participating in a national softball tournament. The Mustangs have compiled a 3-1 record in the Piedmont Triad 3-A conference. Last week Cain went 4-for-6, drove in four runs and hit a home run in two Parkland victories.

Raising Cain

Assume the Position



Photo by Bonitta Best
St. Augustine's College looked like the days of old as football practice got under way after a 35-year hiatus. The Falcons, who will play a regular fall schedule, will take on Fayetteville State in their first game of the season.

Football is officially back at St. Aug's and Shaw

BY BONITTA BEST
CONSOLIDATED MEDIA GROUP

RALEIGH - The sky was gray and overcast with sporadic drizzles. The temperature was in the cool 50s, but for 60 hopefuls, the sun was shining bright at 3:20 p.m. March 19. That's the moment football returned to St. Augustine's campus after a 35-year hiatus.

And less than 10 minutes away, 50-plus wannabes were giving it their all for Shaw coach Gregory Ruffin. The Bears began their first spring practice in 23 years at Chavis Heights Park.

"The anticipation and expectation level is high," said St. Aug's coach Michael Costas, who was the secondary coach/defensive coordinator at Elizabeth City State. "I have the numbers; now if I can find some talent. Some haven't played in a long time, some never have, but I see the ability. Guys came here because of football."

Costas will have a short time to decipher the haves from the have-nots. Spring training is only 15 days long, he said. Then there's a break until the fall. But Costas said he doesn't mind the hard work ahead. That's what spring training is for.

"Spring training is the opportunity to teach," he said. "It's a time to show the players what the real program is all about. We work on the same

See Football on B4

William C. Sims Center honors its own

Happy Hill center supervisor honors standouts on Parkland football, basketball teams



Sims Center honorees Jeff Middleton, Ray Bristow, Mark Mason, Tasha Wilson, Tremont Springs, Jovon Scipio, Paris Barnes and Traimaine Springs surround center supervisor Ben Piggott.

BY SAM DAVIS
THE CHRONICLE

There was an important gathering at the Williams C. Sims Center in Happy Hill Gardens last Friday night. The gathering was to honor some of the center's prized pupils.

Ben Piggott, the supervisor of the center, held the event to honor Tasha Wilson, Paris Barnes, Brian Carlton, Tremont Springs, Jeff Middleton, Jovon Scipio, Ray Bristow and Traimaine Springs.

The gathering drew some 100 people, who came out in support of the Parkland High athletes who got their start in sports at the Sims Center. But more important, according to Piggott, it was a way to show the kids of Happy Hill that



Family members honoring the role models at Sims Center: Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Barnes, Kemp Robinson and Mrs. Mason

they can rise above their circumstances and be successful.

"We want to show the younger children who live in Happy Hill that if they keep their grades up and continue to improve their athletic skills, there is a world of opportunity out there waiting

on them," Piggott said.

Piggott knows firsthand the results of working in the trenches. As center supervisor, Piggott is able to put his hands on hundreds of youths who come through the cen-

See Sims Center on B2