

SPORTS WEEK

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SECTION B

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Photo by Anthony Hill
Reagan head JV boys coach Travis Holcomb-Faye uses his knowledge of the game to teach his squad how to win on the court. Here, he takes time to tell his team the importance of defense, among other things. So far, his Raiders have compiled an 8-2 record after only winning one game last season.

Holcomb-Faye happy at Reagan

Former Reynolds, ECU star coaching Reagan JV to victory

BY ANTHONY HILL
THE CHRONICLE

A newspaper reporter asked Travis Holcomb-Faye, who's East Carolina's all-time leader in assists, what he thought he might be doing in four to five years after a Senior Day game in Greenville two years ago.

Holcomb-Faye said then that he was going to be a high school coach. He's always been around coaches, with his father Walter Faye coaching AAU and prep ball for years. Plus, he's kind of been a coach on the floor for years during his playing days from his customary point guard position. So it was seemingly easy for the former Pirate to vision his future job. Now, he's living out one of his dreams of being a

high school coach, at Reagan High. He's presently the head junior varsity boys coach.

"I worked a camp here with coach (Howard) West this summer," Holcomb-Faye said. "He told me that I could coach with him if I didn't go back to the ABA. I had surgery on my knees in March, and I knew I wasn't going to be able to play. So I came here."

Holcomb-Faye spent last season playing in the American Basketball Association for the upstart Charlotte Krunk, in the teams first year in the league. Holcomb-Faye was one of the leading passers on the squad. Playing for a new ABA team was very difficult for Holcomb-Faye, but coaching a two-year-old school that only won two games last year might seem a little more difficult.

"I was scared at first," Holcomb-Faye said. "I was

worried because the guys only won two games last year. I told the guys that I didn't come from a losing background before our first game. I haven't lost that many games in Winston. The most games I ever lost in one season was four. I think we won 24 games that year. And, coach West didn't bring me here to lose."

Holcomb-Faye, with the assistance of another former Reynolds star — Mike Russell, have coached Reagan to a surprising 8-2 start so far this season. Holcomb-Faye coached the team by himself during the first three weeks of the season. The early season success gave the Raiders a No. 2 seed in the upcoming David Lash/Chronicle JV Holiday tournament (Dec. 28-30).

"I've been impressed with the heart of my

See Holcomb-Faye on B3

Strictly business

FROM THE HUDDLE

Anthony Hill



Before I get started, I want to say that this is a column. It's my column too. In columns you will read opinions. A column is different from a story. A story consists of more research and objectiveness. The Journal printed a story on some of the issues or concerns with athletics at WSSU last week.

I simply let my friend, Al Harvey, voice his opinion in my column last week. Again, it's my column. It's no different than me holding a conversation outside and stopping to let someone else get a word in. O.K. maybe I have



Caldwell

more readers of my column than listeners to an open conversation. That doesn't take away the fact that what was said happened to be the opinion of someone.

Secondly, I don't have a problem with WSSU athletics director Dr. Chico Caldwell. I just thought it was time to let a lot of what I hear on a regular basis out there.

"I don't have a problem with Chico, personally," said Al Roseboro. Most of you already know that Roseboro is a former WSSU athlete, coach and administrator. "There's no personality conflict either. I think he's a fine, young man... in another job. I don't have a problem with him, personally."

I don't think Al Harvey does either. And, none of the many people that e-mailed me seemed to dislike Caldwell as a person. Believe me, I got way too many e-mails in support of what Harvey and I were saying last week to even blink an eye at anyone opposing our conversation and message within the column. Some of the e-mails were less-friendly than Harvey and I. Again, it's not personal with me.

I'm going to be honest with you all, though. I see more WSSU results than the average person, being that I'm part of the media. I get releases and box scores on a regular basis. I see the close losses and blowouts before they hit The Journal or get broadcasted on local news stations. I don't like to see WSSU always on the short end of things when their scores are scrolled across the ESPN ticker. And, it wasn't too progressive to watch the Jayhawks dunk all over the men's basketball team on SportsCenter yesterday morning either.

Ya'll know what I'm talking about.

I've recently heard that it's only the beginning. Give the program a chance. That reminds me of the old saying, "It's not where you're from, but where you're at." Well, if matters are a lot better for me (in the long run) where I came from then I'm more than likely going back. You feel me. I've even heard something about the Rams playing all of these teams somehow helping recruiting.

See Winfield on B5

See Hill on B4

Surry Central JV squeaks by Reagan

Raiders allow visitors to make huge run in fourth

BY ANTHONY HILL
THE CHRONICLE

The Surry Central JV boys (10-2) had a brief lead during the early moments of the first quarter when it played Reagan (8-2) on Tuesday night on the Raiders home floor.

The only other time Reagan allowed Surry Central to hold a lead was on the final possession of the game when a Surry player connected with the second of two free throws to leave Reagan with a 53-52 win.



Photo by Christie Hill
Reagan's Dedrick Hines locks down on a Surry Central player during a close defeat on Tuesday night.

Holcomb-Faye added: "That was the first team that's been able to guard us, man-to-man. It was almost like playing ourselves out there tonight, except I think we're more athletic than they are. Tonight simply wasn't our night. It shouldn't have come down to that last call. We let them come back from 11 points. We're a much better team than we showed tonight."

Reagan had things clicking rather well early on. The Raiders led 11-9, 15-12 and 17-12 in the first quarter behind the play of Corbin Pierce, Matt Miller, Joe Miller and C.J. Martin. Matt Miller, who's

See JV on B5



Photo by Anthony Hill
Carver's Zoe Winfield poses with a jacket that has both, Tennessee and the University of South Carolina on the front.

Carver's Alonzo Winfield headed to South Carolina

Senior linebacker switches from Tennessee

BY ANTHONY HILL
THE CHRONICLE

When Carver's senior three-star, linebacker, Alonzo "Zoe" Winfield, committed to the University of Tennessee during the early parts of the summer he was sure he wanted to be a Volunteer.

But he kept his options opened and never completely closed the door on the University of South Carolina. As a matter of fact, Winfield remained in contact with his recruiting coordinator in Columbia, and seemed to gain more interest in South Carolina as the season progressed. After USC and Tennessee played each other earlier in the season, Winfield began to seriously consider changing his decision to go to the University of

Tennessee — despite the fact the Volunteers won that game.

"I was also looking at Tennessee's depth chart and who else they're bringing in," said Winfield, who's 6-foot, 200-pounds. "They're bringing in eight to 10 DBs (defensive backs). I'd play linebacker at South Carolina. They're only bringing in two linebackers. So, they know what they (USC) know what they want. I feel like I might have a better chance to play early at South Carolina. I'd probably have to wait two years to play at Tennessee. (So) I'm going to South Carolina."

Winfield verbally committed to South Carolina on Dec. 13, but made a more concrete commitment after he took an official visit to

See Winfield on B5

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