

# SPORTS WEEK

SECTION B

Also Religion, Obituaries, Classifieds

NOVEMBER 22, 2007



File photo  
Mt. Tabor's Hunter Furr ran for over 200 yards last Friday.

## Teams still hunting for state title

Mt. Tabor (4A) and Carver (3A) are the only Winston-Salem football teams still alive in the playoffs. Atkins and Glenn both suffered heart breakers last week, especially Atkins. They lost 41-38. That had to hurt. Parkland also lost, but that game didn't even seem close.

I still feel bad for the guys that played their last football game. Everybody isn't lucky enough to play ball in college. Some guys are only left with memories. That was always the saddest thing to me. It wasn't the fact that I

lost my final high school game. It was the fact that I knew a lot of my teammates wouldn't grace another football uniform or play in front of screaming fans ever again. That's a sad reality folks.

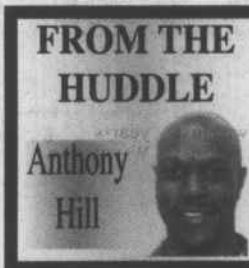
The Yellowjackets and Spartans hope their endings are a lot more joyous, though. Both squads have looked good the last two weeks, especially last week. Mt. Tabor demolished Crest, 4-14. Carver destroyed West Iredell, 34-7. If both squads play similar to the way they did last week then we're going to have a couple state championships to celebrate in

the city. I was at the Mt. Tabor game, where my main man, Hunter Furr, torched the Crest defense for 200-plus yards. No other run was more exciting than his 77-yard scamper for a score right before the half. Mt. Tabor was clinging to a 14-7 lead, and I thought that's the way it would stay until halftime.

The Spartans seemed to be trying to simply run a few plays to end the first half. But Furr took a routine dive and made into a high-light reel.

He broke about three tackles, dipped to the right, hurdled one guy and then took off for the exciting run. I talked with Hunter right before the game ended, and I told him that was the best run I'd seen all year. He simply looked at me, gave me an innocent smile and said, "Thanks." That's Hunter for you. He doesn't get too excited when things are going well. He responds like he's been there before. I like that. My man, Lamont Atwater, also put in a good game for the Spartans. So did Brooks Hardin. No Spartan played better than quarterback Donny McElveen, who finished with 267 passing yards. He looked smooth the entire

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FROM THE HUDDLE

Anthony Hill

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See Hill on B4

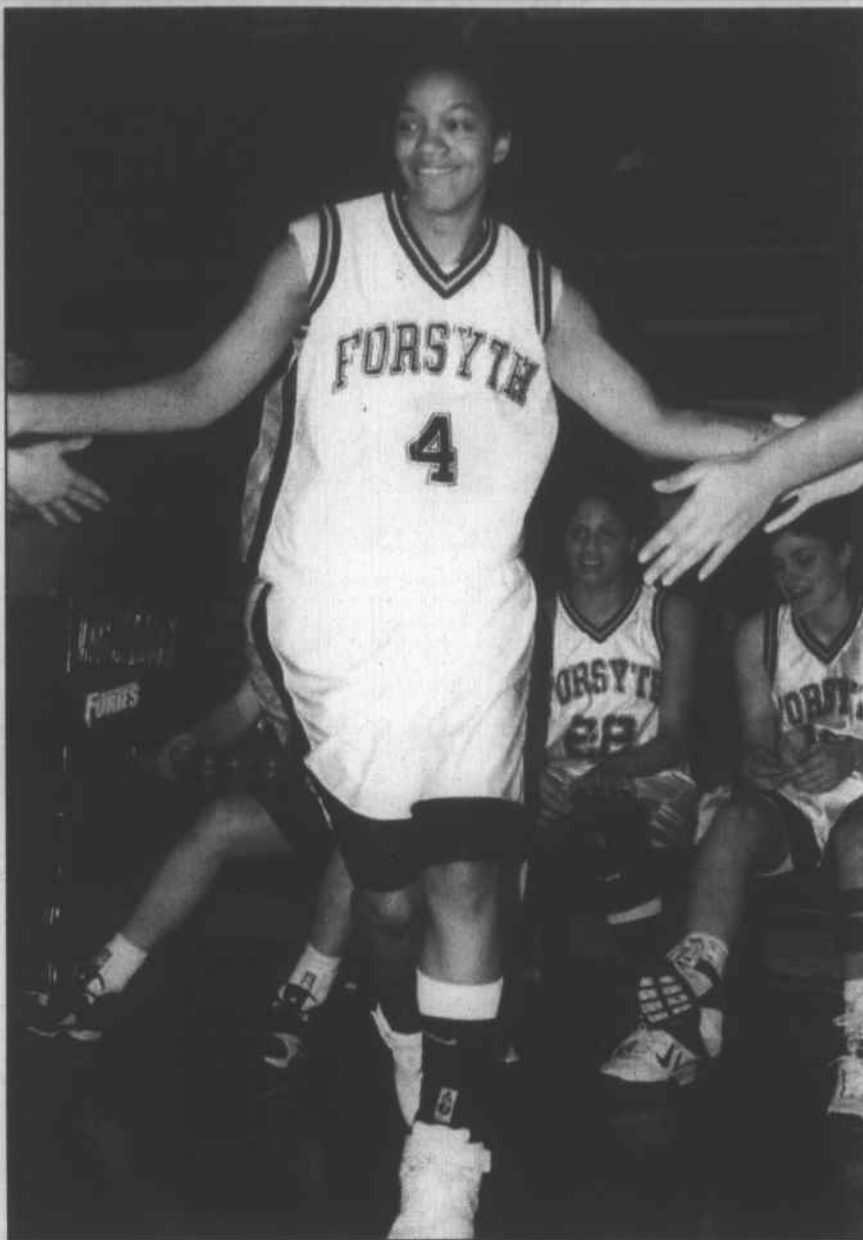


Photo courtesy of FCD  
FCD standout Margaret Harvey is happy to be signing a letter of intent to play for Wake Forest.

## FCD's Harvey is ready to help Deacs

BY ANTHONY HILL  
THE CHRONICLE

Forsyth Country Day senior guard Margaret Harvey has always dreamed of playing basketball for Wake Forest University. Ever since she was 11 years old, she imagined herself suiting up for the Deacs. Last week, Harvey made that dream a reality when the 5-10 shooting guard/ small forward signed with the Deacs in front of family and friends at Forsyth Country Day.

Harvey turned down offers from Old Dominion, James Madison and UNC-Charlotte — to name a few.

"Wake is closer to home," Harvey said. "Plus, I felt Wake was on the level that I am on, basketball-wise. It's a perfect fit for me. And, I've always dreamed of being a Deac."

FCD head coach Ray Quesnel added: "I think it's a great decision on Margaret's part. I'm very

proud of her, obviously. I think that the combination of playing on the highest level in the ACC, coupled with the academic opportunity that Wake gives her will set her up for the rest of her life.



Quesnel

That's an opportunity that every kid would be excited about. Wake's a perfect fit for her. She could've played for a number of other colleges. But I think Wake could be just as strong as any of them. Take a look at the men's program. There's no reason Margaret can't help the women's program be as strong."

Harvey has been a solid performer for the Furies for a while now. She ranks high in a number of other categories for Forsyth Country Day. She holds the school record for career games played (135 and counting) and career team record (106-29). Harvey is fourth in points with 1,913. She's

See Harvey on B3

## Thompson contender for honor

Wake player chosen as sportsmanship award finalist

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Jeremy Thompson, who's a defensive end for Wake Forest University, was chosen as one of 10 finalist for the 2007 National Sportsmanship Award.

The defensive end, who's a health and sciences major and local elementary school tutor, traveled to Liberia to build a school, chapel and orphanage for children during his off season.



Thompson

The Awards and Recognition Association (ARA) revealed the nine other finalists for its annual sportsmanship award, given to one outstanding NCAA Division I collegiate football player who best personifies the spirit of sportsmanship.

Former Brigham Young University Head Football Coach LaVell Edwards chairs the committee that selects college athletes who exemplify sportsmanship. Last year's winner, Rutgers University fullback Brian Leonard went on to play for the St. Louis Rams.

The 2007 Sportsmanship Award recipient will be chosen from one of the ten finalists (listed below) and announced this December. Finalists represent a variety of schools of all sizes and locations throughout the United States and award criteria take into consideration the athlete's conduct both on and off the field.

"ARA's Sportsmanship Award is the only national award that recognizes an athlete's character and leadership as it translates to sportsmanship," said Ed Hunt, president of the ARA. "Our panel looks for players that stand out and contribute when playing and in life. It's encouraging to see so many of today's collegiate athletes who consistently conduct themselves in a highly sportsmanlike manner."

To qualify for the award, an athlete must be a starting player or significant contributor on his team, be a senior in good academic standing, demonstrate great respect for competitors, school, teammates and coaches, show an ability to accept victory

See Thompson on B4

## THE PEOPLE'S CHAMP

Local boxer Earl Ladson thankful for opportunity to pursue dream

BY ANTHONY HILL  
THE CHRONICLE

Local boxer Earl Ladson, 34, has been enjoying a great deal of success in the ring lately. He won a decision over Ron Bellamy last Saturday at Millennium Center. Ladson (15-15) used a solid collection of hooks and overhand rights to outlast Bellamy, who's beaten Ladson during a previous bout.

"That last fight was kind of a tiebreaker," said Ladson's trainer Whit Lowery. "He looked good the other night. We're getting ready to go on the road and upset some guys. Earl has a chance to keep moving up because the heavyweight division is up in the air."

But Ladson's age may be his stiffest opponent. Ladson didn't turn professional until the age of 27. The shelf life for an older boxer typically isn't that long.



File photo  
Local boxer Earl Ladson is thankful to be boxing today.

But that hasn't stopped Ladson from thinking big, and pushing forward to fulfill his dreams of being a boxing champion. He's already viewed as a champion here in Winston-Salem, where he was born and raised. Some people look up to Ladson because of the moderate success he's enjoyed in the ring, while others admire him because of the road he took to get to where he is today.

"Earl has come a long way," said Lowery, who's trained boxers for more than 40 years. "He's also gone through some rough times. But he's a humble man. And he listened to what I told him. Now he's a pretty good fighter."

Ladson has always dreamed of being successful in the ring. He even started boxing at the tender age of 8.

"I was in and out of the gym from the time I was 8 until 14," Ladson said. "I started running with the wrong crowd when I was 14, and I got out of boxing. I started to get into a lot of trouble. I was selling drugs and

See Ladson on B2

## GIMME THAT BALL!



Photo by Tim Wilson  
A couple Mt. Tabor players try to wrestle the ball away from a West Forsyth player during the semifinal round of the Mary Garber Holiday Classic on Monday. Mt. Tabor won the game, 58-34, to advance to Tuesday night's championship tilt with Glenn.