

SPORTS WEEK

SECTION B

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DECEMBER 20, 2007

Hopkins, Kennedy to get USTA honors

BY ANTHONY HILL
THE CHRONICLE

Charles Kennedy and David Hopkins will be picking up some special hardware during the USTA North Carolina's 2008 Tennis Weekend Luncheon in Pinehurst, N.C. The event will take place on Jan. 26.

Kennedy was selected to receive the 2007 Educational Merit Award from the North Carolina Tennis Association. Kennedy earned the honor for his service to junior tennis through the KPTC Junior's

Program.

"Congratulations to Charles Kennedy for being selected to receive the 2007 Educational Merit Award from the North Carolina Tennis Association," said KPTC president James Berry. "It's good to know that others are looking at what KPTC is doing and giving recognition to those who work so hard to make things run smoothly."

Hopkins, who recently signed to attend Wake Forest on a tennis scholarship, will receive the James H. Leighton Junior Male Tennis Player of the Year

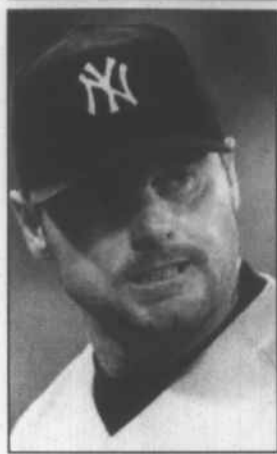
award during the luncheon.

"I'm so excited to get to receive such an honor," Hopkins said. "I really didn't think that I would get it. But I think my body of work, and my accomplishments throughout my career helped me out. This is definitely one of the best honors I've ever received. It's just a great honor to be recognized as one of the best tennis players in North Carolina."

But Hopkins isn't content with his latest accomplishment. He said that he's going to use his accomplishment as motivation to do even more in college.

"This is definitely motivation for me," Hopkins said. "Now that I'm going to college I want to win the same award. I want to continue to better myself. I look forward to working towards that goal."

Amanda Marrow, an African American from Durham, will receive the legendary Coach David L. Lash Junior Female Tennis Sportsmanship Award next month. Several other honors will be awarded during the luncheon. A complete list of winners can be seen at www.nctennis.com.



Roger Clemens

Steroid issue a joke

FROM THE
HUDDLE

Anthony
Hill



It's funny how one week steroid use is the worst thing that could ever happen in sports, and the next people are debating whether or not it's even a big deal anymore. That's seemingly what's taken place among the mainstream media after this infamous (George) Mitchell report was released last week.

According to the 409-page report, 86 former and present players were identified. Among the group of potential cheaters were seven past MVPs and 31 all-stars. I am not really believing everything about the report because I find it hard for Mark McGuire or Sammy Sosa not to be mentioned anywhere in there. That's just me, though. The names I do recall reading while skimming the report were Roger Clemens, Barry Bonds, David Justice (who denied use the next day), Miguel Tejada, Eric Gagne, Jason Giambi, Gary Sheffield, Troy Glaus, Gary Matthews Jr., Paul Byrd, Jose Guillen, Brian Roberts, Paul Lo Duca, Rick Ankiel, Jason Giambi and Andy Petite. The report said that steroid use was widespread by stars as well as scrubs.

I will admit that I really don't care about past steroid use. I am more about making sure the steroid era is over, and making sure guys aren't cheating now. I've talked to quite a few friends that feel similar to me. What I do care about is how everyone was seemingly jumping on Barry Bonds when he was the biggest name in this investigation, saying he should

See Hill on B4

APPALACHIAN DYNASTY



Photo by Tim Davin

Appalachian State head football coach Jerry Moore lifts the national championship hardware following ASU's 49-21 rout over Delaware last Friday. Appalachian won its third consecutive NCAA Division I National Title, the first in FCS/IAA history. ASU is the first NCAA Division I program to win three consecutive national titles since Army accomplished the feat in 1944, 1945 and 1946.

Nofflet continuing career at Hiwassee College

Former East player gaining
Division I attention

BY ANTHONY HILL
THE CHRONICLE

Former East Forsyth baller Josh Nofflet (6-4, 185) was worried his basketball career was over after he played his final game for the Eagles almost two years ago.

Nofflet, who was named player of the year in one publication his senior year, put up the type of statistics that normally land student-athletes in college. He averaged 19.8 points per game, over six rounds and three assists, to go along with deadly penetration skills and steady defensive play. But his grades weren't ideal during the signing period.

"I was really concerned and nervous," Nofflet said. "I just worked harder to pull my grades up."

Nofflet proceeded to work endless hours to improve his grades. Then, a



Former East star Josh Nofflet is making himself at home at Hiwassee College.

friend (Jermaine Carlton) connected him with Hiwassee College during the summer after his senior year, where he was immediately accepted. Hiwassee College is a Methodist-related college in (Madisonville) Tennessee that prides itself in faculty-student communication. That made things a little more ideal for Nofflet, according to him.

"Josh has been a steal for us," said Hiwassee College head coach Danny Green. "Jermaine introduced us. Josh has been a pleasant surprise. He's presently the leading scorer in our conference, averaging 20-plus points per game. He's averaging about nine rebounds. Josh is shooting about 67 percent from the floor too. Josh is a slasher-type. He's a really strong player too, that works hard on and off the court. I've had a lot of Division I schools contact me about him."

Schools like Appalachian State and Middle Tennessee State are two schools that definitely have interest in signing

See Nofflet on B2

Parkland JV squad falls to Atkins Camels 69-62

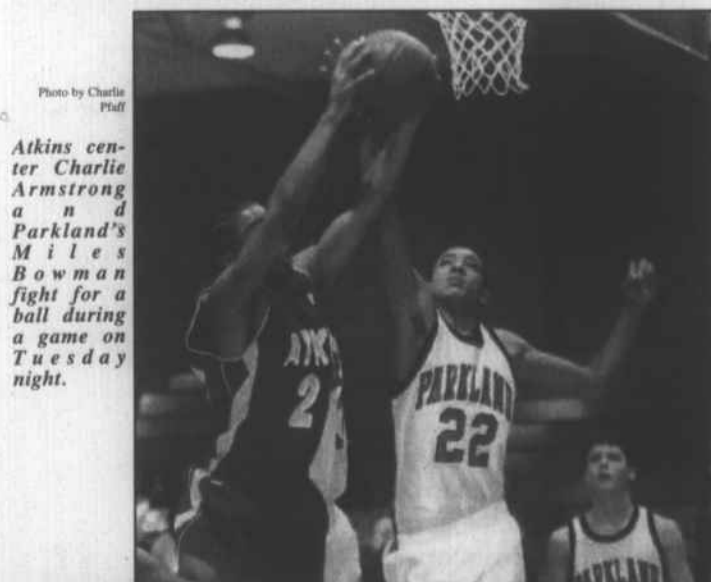


Photo by Charlie Puff

Atkins center Charlie Armstrong and Parkland's Miles Bowman fight for a ball during a game on Tuesday night.

Two teams will battle in
Lash play-in game on
Saturday

BY ANTHONY HILL
THE CHRONICLE

The Atkins JV squad wasted little time jumping on Parkland on Tuesday night in the JV Game of the Week. But the Mustangs showed tremendous heart and fight to narrow the Camels lead to 2 points in the fourth. Atkins, behind Ricardo Johnson's 24 points, managed to still slip away with a 69-62 win at Parkland.

The two squads will play again on Saturday in a Lash/Chronicle Holiday JV Tournament play-in game at Carver.

"This game was good for confidence," said Atkins head coach

Rodney Brewington. "At least we know that we can play with them. But I anticipate them being more aggressive next time. I just let my guys know that we have to do what we did tonight."

Parkland JV coach Xavier McCarter added: "You know, it's hard to play a team you just beat. We're going to be better on Saturday. We're already looking forward. The guys felt bad after losing tonight. We know the necessary adjustments we need to make for them now. It's going to be a good game. We plan on going far in the Lash tournament. Just got to get this game out of our head first."



Brewington

Atkins jumped on Parkland with near perfect execution to start the game. Charlie Armstrong began an early 13-0 run to start the contest. Antonio Bennett, Johnson and Phillip Clark spearheaded the early lead. But Parkland refused to be blown out in their own gym thanks to the amazing effort of Miles Bowman. He finished with a game-high 25 points. He scored Parkland's 11 points. The Mustangs managed to make narrow the Camels to only a 10-point lead at the end of the first quarter at 17-7. Jake Russell (11 points) and David Griffin (8 points) also played well for the Mustangs to make the game closer. Atkins only had a 28-24 lead at the half.

"I know coach McCarter," said Brewington. "He's very good at what he does. He keeps his team ready to play. They did a good job of coming back on us. That's the sign

See JV on B2