

SPORTS WEEK

MARCH 26, 2009

To the Victor Goes the Spoils

Hometown fighter brings NABA super middleweight belt to Winston

BY CHAD ROBERTS
THE CHRONICLE

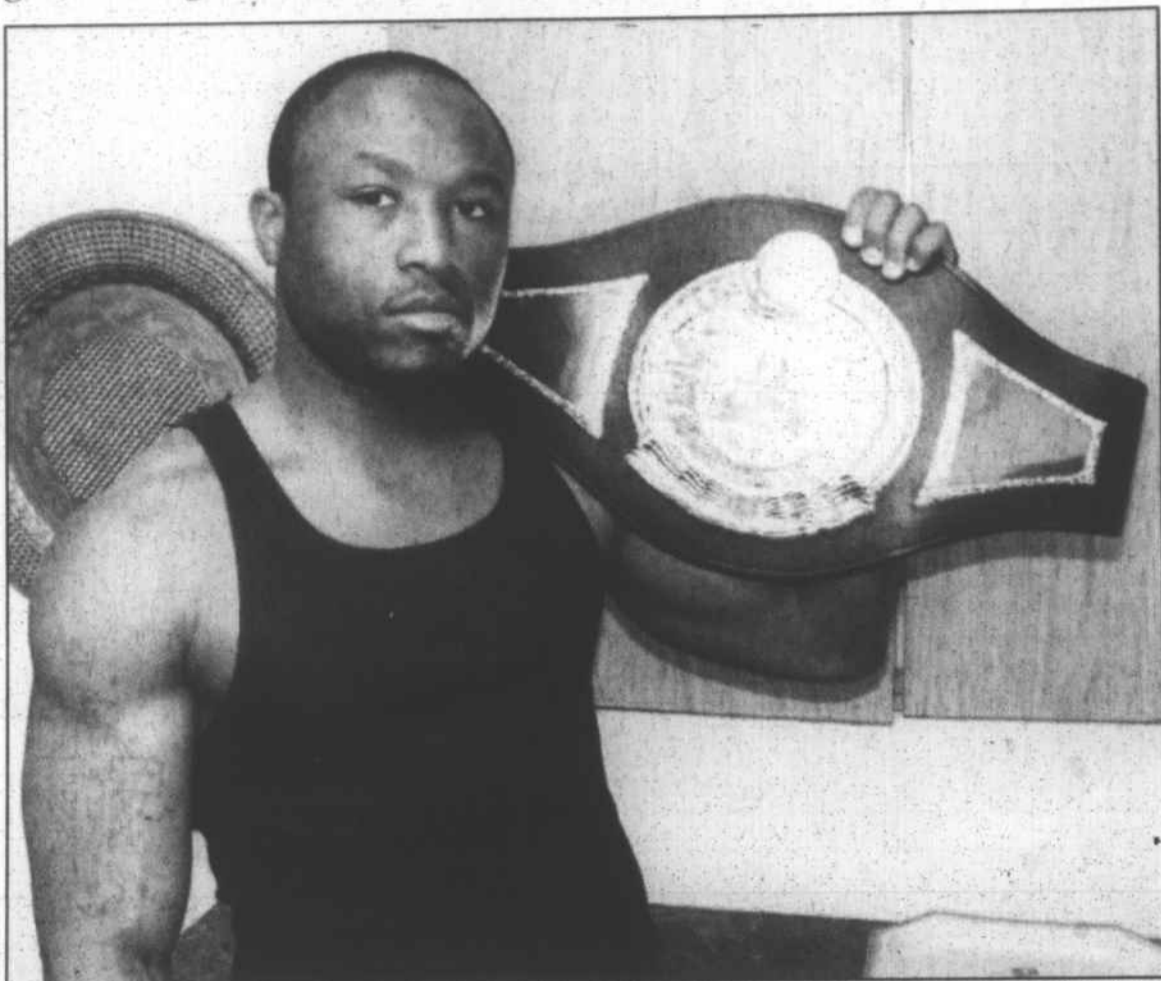
Six years of intense training, fighting and traveling have paid off for a Winston-Salem resident.

On Saturday, March 24, boxer Derek Edwards won his biggest fight yet – defeating Brooklyn's Anthony "Ice" Greenidge in a 10-round unanimous decision at the Palladium Arena in Atlanta. The victory gave Edwards, who is known as "The Black Lion" the North American Boxing Association's super middleweight title.

Edwards said he won the fight by using the skills he has picked up and learned throughout his pro career.

"I used my experience. I counterpunched and used my defensive skills," said Edwards, whose win Saturday leaves him still undefeated after 24 fights.

Another thing that Edwards says helps him is his family. He usually travels with a couple of relatives when he goes away to fight. And loved ones who aren't able to attend the matches themselves are "with me in spirit," Edwards said.



Derek "The Black Lion" Edwards holds his championship belt.

Photo by Chad Roberts

See Edwards on B12



WSSU Photo by Garrett Garris

Ram Kenneth Lathan takes a swing during last weekend's competition.

Eagles fly into town and beat Rams

WSSU finishes fourth in hometown golf tournament

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

The North Carolina Central University Eagles turned an eight stroke deficit into a 10 stroke victory on Sunday morning at Winston Lake Golf Course. NCCU fired a team total of 332 (674 total) to overcome the Saint Augustine's Falcons and capture the 2009 Winston-Salem State University Golf Invitational Championship. With a 362 (722 total), the Rams of WSSU finished fourth in the four-team, two-day event.

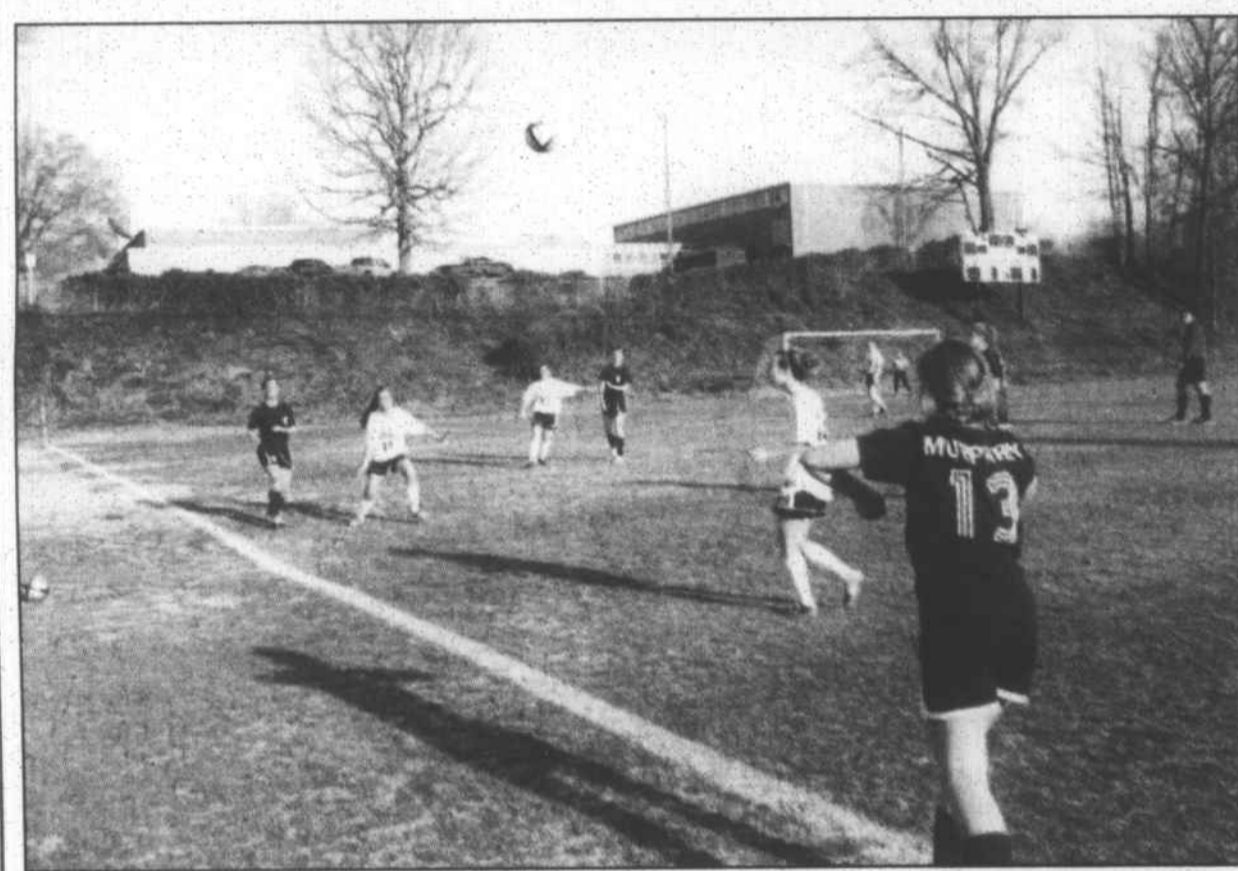
North Carolina Central benefitted from a round of 75 carded by Josue Garza and a round of 78 from Braden Cox as the pair turned in the top two rounds on Sunday to finish first and second, respectively, in the individual medalist portion of the event as they led the NCCU rally en route to the team title.

The four-team tournament, the fourth annual WSSU Golf Invitational, saw Saint Augustine's College lead after first round action and saw the Eagles rally on the final day to capture the title. Hampton University carded a team total of 341 (702 total) on the final day to finish third overall while the Rams rounded out the field with a 362 (722 total) in a fourth place finish.

Aaron Oliver, the tournament leader after day one action, turned in a round of 85 to finish third with a two day total of 163 (78+85=163).

WSSU's Jerrell Fields was the top Rams' finisher with a two-day total of 170 as he followed up Saturday's round of 83 with a final-round 87. He was the only WSSU player to finish in the top 10.

The Rams return to action on Saturday and Sunday April 4-5, 2009 in Orangeburg, S.C. as they participate in the South Carolina State University Bulldog Classic.



GETTIN' THEIR KICKS

Photo by Tim Bullard

The girls JV soccer squads from Reynolds and Mount Tabor had beautiful weather Monday afternoon for their game at the Bolton Elementary School Soccer Complex. The heated competition ended in a 2-2 tie.

Deacs, and a few Rams, put through NFL workout

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Representatives of all 32 NFL teams were on hand at Wake Forest University on Monday as nearly two dozen former football players at Wake Forest and other local universities went through Pro Day.

The players underwent the same type of testing that was conducted at the NFL Combine in Indianapolis last month. Agility drills, bench press and the 40-yard dash were among the benchmarks observed by the 41 pro scouts and personnel

directors in attendance at the Doc Martin Practice Complex.

With lots of local media on hand along with a film crew from the NFL Network and representatives of ESPN, the Wake Forest contingent was led by potential first round draft choices Aaron Curry and Alphonso Smith. Curry, labeled by some draft pundits as the top available player in the draft, was outstanding at last month's combine. He did not participate in the individual tests but was put through a series of drills by the



Curry



Smith

See NFL on B11

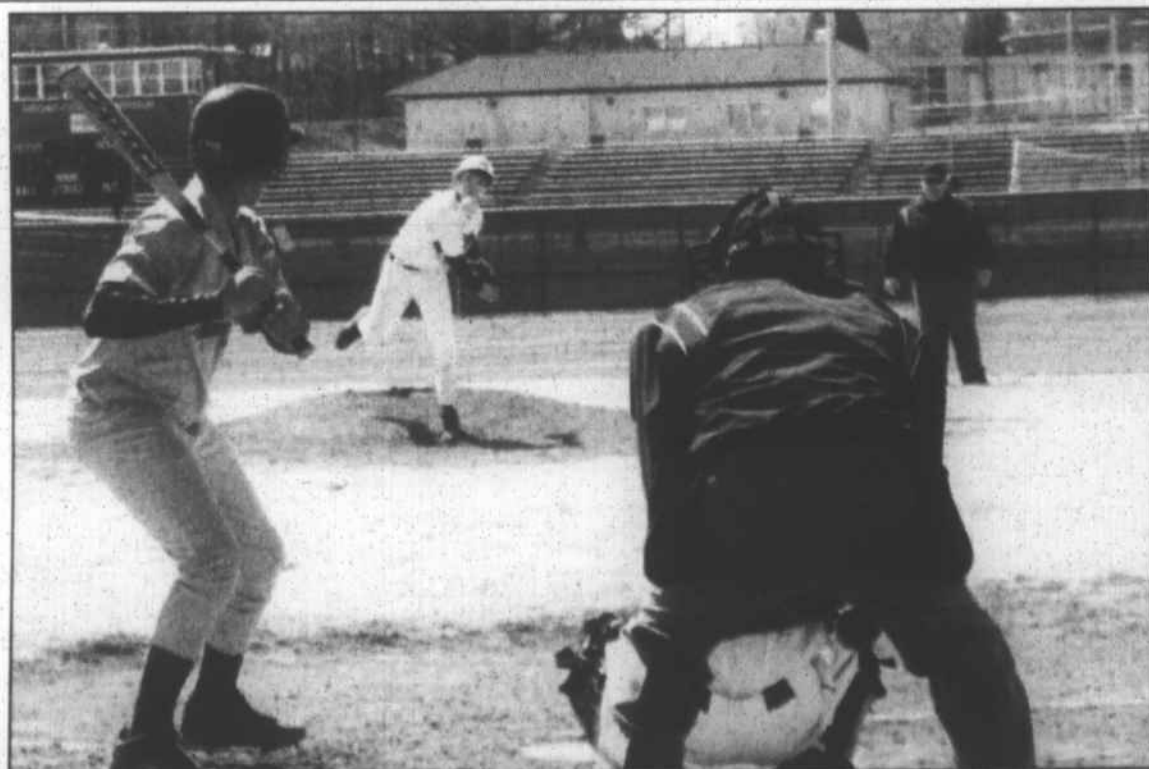


Photo by Tim Bullard

North pitcher Kyle Rife lets one loose during the weekend game against Carver.

Carver, North play some ball

BY TIM BULLARD
FOR THE CHRONICLE

Carver High School's JV baseball team defeated North Forsyth High School 10-6 on the Viking's turf Saturday - but not before fans got their five dollars' worth.

With seven innings of back-and-forth leads, tense swinging and runs, it was easy to see why this game is called America's favorite pastime.

Pings echoed through the park as aluminum bats started connecting with leather balls in the first inning.

Jewan Thomas made the first run for the Vikings. In the bottom of the first, Austin Willard had the bases loaded with the score 1-0 Vikings, and he was walked, bringing in another run to make it 2-0. In the second inning, Carver staged a comeback, going up 4-2.

Carver refused to budge much after that. It was 5-3 in the fourth

See Baseball on B12