

SPORTS WEEK

JULY 12, 2012

Rams to take on Morehouse in Cleveland

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

Winston-Salem State University will battle Morehouse College at Cleveland Browns Stadium on Sept. 15 in the Second Annual Cleveland Classic HBCU Football Game.

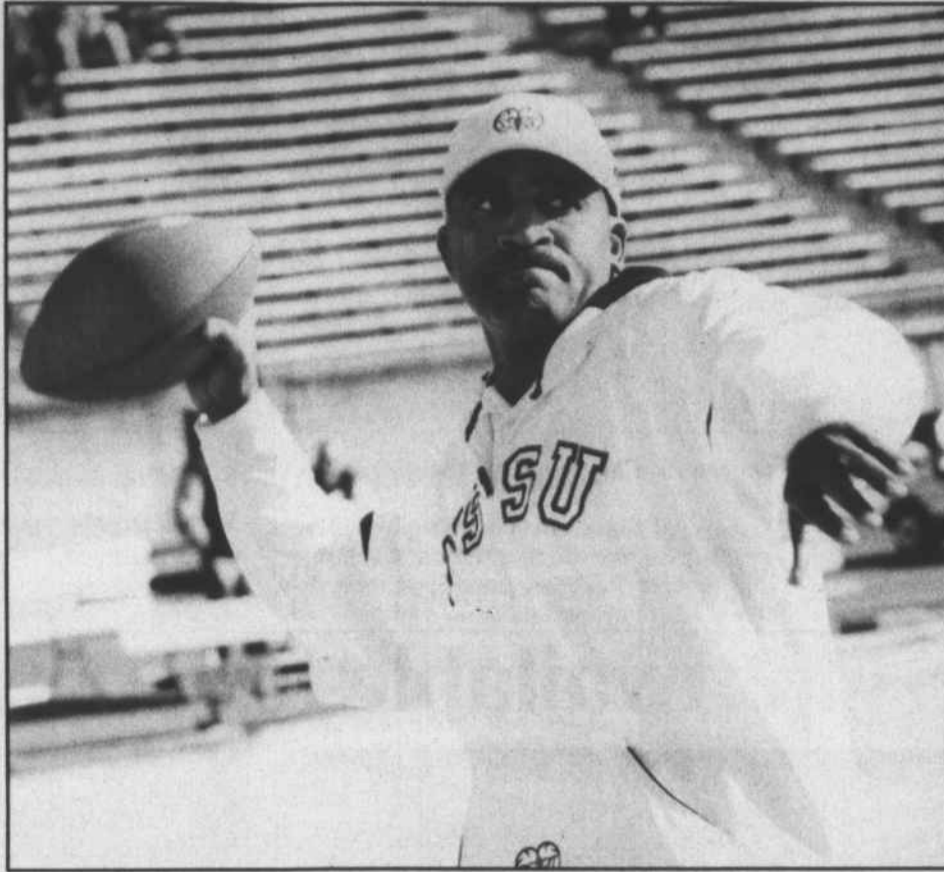
The Cleveland Classic includes an entire weekend full of dynamic activities and events for all ages while celebrating premier historically black universities. Festivities will include a College Readiness Fair presented by McDonald's and College Now Greater Cleveland, a Greek Step Show, a Tailgate Party presented by University Hospitals, KeyBank Marching Band Half-time Show and the Cleveland Classic game presented by McDonald's.

The Cleveland Classic is one of the Greater Cleveland Sports Commission's proprietary events that will serve as a vehicle to bring the community together through exciting sports and educational and cultural activities.

"It is an honor and a privilege to play in the 2012 Cleveland Classic. We look forward to coming to Cleveland, Ohio to face a very formidable Morehouse College Tiger football team. This is a great opportunity for Winston-Salem State University to face a tough opponent in a professional football venue and we look forward to putting on a great show," said WSSU Head Coach Connell Maynor.

Morehouse Sports Information Director Yusuf Davis said, "The entire Morehouse family - players, coaches, fans and alumni - is looking forward to participating in the Cleveland Classic. We are certain that the Classic will be a success on every level and we anticipate that this will be one of the highlights of our season."

To learn more, go to www.wssurams.com.



Coach Maynor will lead his Rams against the Tigers.

WSSU Photo by Garrett Gams



Willie E. Gary has won millions for his clients.

Gary takes case of former NFL players

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

Prominent Attorney Willie E. Gary and his legal team have filed a suit against the NFL that claims the League failed to take effective action to protect and inform NFL players of the true risks associated with concussions, head injury and head trauma.

Since the suicide of Dave Duerson, a former NFL Chicago Bear who committed suicide by shooting himself in the chest, a spotlight has been placed on highlighting the true detrimental effects of concussions and the NFL's presumed concealment of this information.

This recent complaint against the NFL includes Aron Sears, Jimmie Giles, and Don Smith, all former players for the Tampa Bay Buccaneers. Gary's law firm is based in Tampa, Fla.

The lawsuit holds the NFL responsible for deliberately ignoring and concealing known effects of repeated concussions. According to a statement issued by Gary, NFL players were led to believe it was safe to return to practice and play without limitations or restrictions, and without release from a medical physician.

"This is a very sad and unfortunate situation," said Gary, a graduate of Shaw University and the N.C. Central University School of Law. "There are so many who have suffered and many who have died because someone thought that finishing a game was more important than human life."

Gary and his legal team contend that their clients intend to force the NFL to acknowledge their wrongful actions and bring change to the current NFL rules and responsibilities. "When there is no accountability for harm caused, then those at fault will undoubtedly continue to act in whatever ways bring the most profits, with more and more human beings being hurt in the process," said Gary.



Duerson



The Heat



The Thunder

Heat, Celtics win summer league games

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Last week's competition started off with Heat and Thunder, and the combination proved for some exciting basketball action.

Hanes Hosiery 15 and under summer league returned with the Heat topping the Thunder 49-36.

Kier Scales had early layups for the Thunder, and the offense of Isaiah Huffin helped the Heat. The game stayed tight through the first half. The Thunder seemed to be controlling the tempo with their consecutive transition baskets by Jamon Brown, who hit a bank three-point shot with 8:50 to go in the first half. Brown also contributed by taking charge at the point guard position and making intelligent decisions as he assisted Gianni Smith to a corner three-pointer.

In the second half, the Heat's Josh Landingham made critical free throws and two key three-pointers to keep his team in it. The Heat maintained a six-point lead for most of the game, in part because Jordan Fuller made three important baskets. The Thunder somewhat battled back, with scoring from Jayshon Smart, who led the way with 20 points, and Marquis Martin.

The second game featured the Lakers and the Celtics. Caleb Burgess scored six early points for the Celtics. The Lakers had a balanced attack, which resulted in them carrying a six point lead into the second half. Woodrow Wilson and DJ Grant led the way for the Lakers in the first.

The second half would turn for the better for the Celtics when they opened up with a 10-0 run led by Burgess and Sayyid Dalton. Though the Lakers were down, they were never out. The team answered with a late 7-0 run led by Grant, Wilson and Ferris Ford. Yet in the end, the Celtics held on to take a nine-point win with the final score 36-27.



Golfing for a Good Cause

Submitted Photo

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Greensboro will host its 4th Annual Golf Classic on July 23 at Forest Oaks Country Club. Registration starts at 7:30 a.m. The shotgun start is at 8:30 a.m. The fee is \$100 per person, which includes 18 holes of golf, a gift bag, refreshments, a team photo and an awards luncheon with Miss North Carolina presenting trophies. As a special feature, a hole-in-one wins an eight day, seven-night trip to Hawaii. To register, call 336-378-9100.

Deacs named to All-ACC team

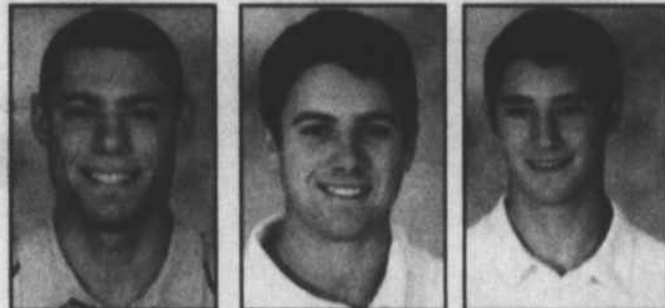
SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Wake Forest's Mac Williamson, Tim Cooney and Evan Stephens have all been named to the 2012 All-Atlantic Coast Conference Academic Baseball Team.

This marks the first time that each of the three players has earned the award, while Stephens was also named First Team Capital One Academic All-District 3.

All three Demon Deacons are finance majors at Wake Forest and made a big impact on the field this season.

Williamson earned First Team All-ACC honors at the end of the regular season and was then drafted in the 3rd Round by the San Francisco Giants in the 2012 Major League Baseball First Year Player Draft. Williamson led the ACC with 17 home runs and started 53 games for Wake



Mac Williamson, Tim Cooney and Evan Stephens

Forest.

The Wake Forest, N.C. native also led the Deacs with 52 RBIs and a .589 slugging percentage, while collecting 12 stolen bases and committing just one error in the outfield.

Like Williamson, Cooney was also drafted in the 3rd Round of this year's draft. He was selected by the St. Louis Cardinals after posting a 3.82 ERA in a team-leading 99.0 innings of work. Stephens, who was dubbed by Head Coach Tom

Walter as the most pleasant surprise of the season on the field, had a breakout year that included 48 starts and 56 games played. Entering the year without a hit after an injury-shortened freshman season, Stephens hit .289 with 40 runs scored, four doubles and two homers.

Wake Forest ended its season with a 33-24 overall record and finished seventh in the ACC with a 13-17 record in conference play.

Joyner leaves WSSU to return home to JCSU

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

Johnson C. Smith University introduced Stephen Joyner Jr., as the new head women's basketball coach last week during a news conference on campus.

Joyner transitions from Winston-Salem State University to JCSU, after two seasons as the Lady Rams' head coach. He leaves WSSU after two of the most successful seasons in school history. After winning just eight games in the previous two seasons, the Lady Rams have won 35 games under Joyner's guidance.

In two seasons with the Lady Rams program, Joyner totaled a 35-21 overall record and a pair of third place finishes in the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association (CIAA) Southern



Coach Joyner rallies his Rams.

WSSU File Photo

Division. During his tenure, only two teams from the CIAA Southern Division (Shaw, Johnson C. Smith) and

two teams from the CIAA Northern Division (Elizabeth City State, Bowie State) have defeated the Lady Rams.

A 2001 graduate of Johnson C. Smith University, Joyner was one of the top point guards in the CIAA during his Golden Bulls playing career. Playing under the tutelage of his father, Stephen Joyner Sr., director of Athletics and a longtime head men's basketball coach at JCSU, Joyner amassed 399 assists with an average of 4.53 assists per game during his final three seasons (1998-2001).

"Now that I'm here, the sky's the limit," said the younger Joyner. "Johnson C. Smith is a great environment and I'm confident that I will be provided with the support to continue to grow this program and maintain a high level of competitiveness."