

# SPORTS WEEK

OCTOBER 30, 2014

## AGGIES ATOP MEAC RANKINGS

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

North Carolina A&T's 40-21 homecoming win over Florida A&M Saturday afternoon at Aggie Stadium had a little more meaning than just giving the alumni something to be proud of.

The win put the Aggies (7-2, 4-1 MEAC) in sole possession of first place in the MEAC with three games remaining on the Aggies' schedule.

North Carolina A&T holds a half game lead over Bethune-Cookman, S.C. State, Norfolk State, Morgan State and N.C. Central. The Aggies also improved to 4-0 in homecoming games under head coach Rod Broadway. The Rattlers (2-6, 2-2 MEAC) have now lost three straight to A&T.

"Homecoming is different; look at the crowd and the atmosphere," said Broadway. "You can feel it around here. It's the Greatest Homecoming On Earth, and it is big. At (historically black colleges and universities) homecoming is always big, and it was a conference game. It took us to seven wins. I think this is the third year in a row we've had seven wins. That means we're getting a little bit better every year."

As the Aggies enter what will be a tough fight for the conference crown, they received some good news on Saturday when junior quarterback Kwashaun Quick walked out on the field as the starter. In his first game back after missing three weeks with a knee injury, Quick threw for 233 yards and three touchdowns on 16-for-26 passing.

"I was ready to get back out there," said Quick. "It was eating me alive not to be out there with the boys. I'm back now and it's time to move forward and get better from here."

All three of his TD passes went to sophomore Denzel Keyes who used his 6-foot-4 frame against the smaller FAMU defensive backs to be effective most of the game before using his smarts for what may have been the biggest play of the afternoon.

With the Aggies leading 20-14 in the third quarter,

they decided to take advantage of something they noticed throughout the first half. The FAMU defensive backs were keying in on Quick's movements. Whenever Quick motioned to throw, the Rattlers came forward to stop the short pass or run.

On a second and fourth from the Aggies 27-yard line, Keyes was scheduled to run an out pattern, but when he saw the corner come up on the Quick throwing motion, he continued to run downfield. Quick spotted Keyes running free down the sideline and connected with the Aggies forward from the men's basketball team for a 73-yard touchdown and a 27-14 lead.

Keyes finished the day with a career-high 129 yards receiving on five catches.

"My hat goes off to Denzel Keyes, he had some big plays for us," said Broadway. "That's where we are developing as a football team. We are getting some pretty good athletes in here now. We are still about 14 short, but once we get 14 more we are going to improve a little bit. We have a few weapons we can go to right now."

Keyes was not finished. He used his height to go over the top of 6-foot Devonte Johnson to end the third quarter with a 21-yard touchdown reception to give A&T a 33-14 lead after the extra point was blocked.

"He is 6-4. He is a basketball player, a football player and he can make those plays,"



Denzel Keyes had a career day.

A&T Photo by Kevin L. Dorsey

said Broadway.

Senior kicker Jose Garcia-Camacho helped the Aggies put the game away as his ensuing kickoff was perfectly placed at the FAMU 24 where no Rattlers were standing. Marlowe Wood swooped in and dove on the live ball to give A&T a 1st-and-10. Desmond Lawrence followed with a 21-yard gain on a reverse. Sophomore Tarik Cohen closed out the drive with a 3-yard TD run to open the fourth quarter.

The Aggies will take a week off before playing their home finale against one of the MEAC championship contenders, Morgan State, on Saturday, Nov. 8 at 1 p.m. at Aggie Stadium.



Photo by Charles Leftwich Jr.

Nate Grimes has verbally committed to Fresno State.

## QEA anticipates exciting season

BY CRAIG T. GREENLEE FOR THE CHRONICLE

The basketball countdown is underway for Quality Education Academy. With the season opener only five days away, there's an unmistakable air of excitement and eager anticipation.

Coach Isaac Pitts expects championship-caliber production from his 10-deep squad. In this case, the sum of the total parts could prove to be greater than the whole. This team is built to run and it has the requisite parts to grind opponents into submission.

Look for QEA to put on a full display of what's to come when it plays host to national powerhouse Oak Hill Academy (Va.) next Tuesday (Nov. 4) at 7 p.m. The Pharaohs and Warriors earned a split of the two games they played last season. In both meetings, the home team won by double digits.

"I like what I've been seeing in practices," said Pitts, who guided QEA to a 21-4 finish last season. "We're making progress every day. We have size, quickness and interchangeable parts. As a coaching staff, we believe we have all the right pieces to compete on equal terms with the top teams in the country."



Pitts

The Pharaohs are well-stocked in the backcourt. DeAngelo Bruster (verbally committed to Western Illinois), Jerron Love, DeShawn Corprew and Andrien White are crafty passers who can create their own shots and all are above average from 3-point distance. Defensively, they pose problems because of their speed and quickness.

"High school basketball is guard-driven," said Pitts. "That's the key to winning. Our motto is to run on every possession regardless of makes or misses. With the guards we have, we can push the tempo and press and trap for the whole game. As a tandem, I believe our guards could be the best in the U.S."

While QEA has exceptional depth at guard, the front line won't take a back seat. Papa N'diaye, a 6'9" power forward, is the top returnee. N'diaye has a solid inside game at both ends and he's evolved as a dependable 3-point shooter. For now, he hasn't declared where he'll go to college. N'diaye, though, has had his share of offers, including ones from Oklahoma, Mississippi State and Washington State.

QEA's top newcomer for this season could be Nate Grimes, an athletic 6'8" senior who can play both forward positions. Grimes, who committed to Fresno State, runs the floor, blocks shots, and has expanded his offensive game as a much-improved ball-handler and perimeter shooter.

Athleticism, shooting touch and moxie are the prime attributes of sophomore Tremaine Lawrence. The 6'5" swing man with the 42-inch vertical leap, is considered to be among elites for the Class of 2017. Forward Derrick Farquharson is a difficult-to-defend 3-point shooter who flourishes in an up-tempo game.

In the middle, Bama Jaye, a 6'10", 240 pounds center, is expected to further bolster the interior as a relentless rebounder and menacing shot-blocker. Marsellis Purvis provides added depth as an in-the-paint presence.

Oak Hill will come to town with its usual abundance of talent. The Warriors will be led by prized college prospects Dwayne Bacon and Daniel Giddens.

Bacon, a 6'6" wing player, is smooth and effective with the ball in his hands. As a highly-touted recruit, Bacon received 26 offers and opted to commit to Florida State. Giddens, a defensive-minded 6'10" center, has committed to Ohio State. According to the college recruiting analysts, Giddens is viewed as a key acquisition for the Buckeyes. Two other Warriors, post player Joe Hampton and swing man Joshua Reaves, have committed to Penn State.

"This game is going to have a big-time atmosphere," said Pitts, in reference to next week's contest. "Between both teams, there will be 20 players in the gym who are being scouted by high-level Division I basketball programs."

Oak Hill has a well-known legacy as a prep hoops power. The school has an alumni list that can easily double as a Who's Who of pro basketball. Over the years, 25 former Oak Hill players have been selected in the NBA Draft. The list of current NBA players includes: Carmelo Anthony (Knicks), Brandon Jennings (Pistons), Ty Lawson (Nuggets), Rajon Rondo (Celtics), Steve Blake (Trail Blazers) and Josh Smith (Pistons).

## Salem earns Great South regular season crowns

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

The Salem College Spirits have earned Great South Regular Season Championships in volleyball and soccer.

The volleyball title, Salem's second in as many years, came last week when the team pulled off a five set win against arch-rival Agnes Scott. Kylie Taffer had 23 kills and a .259 kill percentage.

Salem jumped out to a 1-0 lead with a 28-26 win. Agnes Scott fought back to win the 2nd set 25-22, before Salem took the lead back with a 26-24 3rd set win. Agnes Scott won the 4th 25-19,

and Salem took the deciding set 15-12.

Zykeya Henderson led the team with an impressive 38 digs, while Hillary McPhatter had 36 digs. McPhatter finished with 14 kills and Roslyn Nixon had 11. McPhatter also led the team with 2 aces. Taylor Rhodes had a strong 47 set assists.

Salem improved to 4-0 in the GSAC and to 8-12 overall with the win. The team was to finish off the regular season this week with home matches against Piedmont International and Guilford.

Salem Soccer earned its third-straight Great South Athletic

Conference Regular Season Title with a 2-0 win against Agnes Scott. Brooke Bukas scored the game-winning goal in the 76th minute. Salem improves to 14-3 overall and 4-0 in the GSAC.

The game predominately stayed in the offensive end for Salem. Bukas converted a Tarryn Johnson cross. Less than a minute later, Sawyer Ferguson added a goal from outside the 18 yard box on another assist by Johnson.

The Spirits held a 22-4 shot advantage and a 7-1 corner kick advantage. Paige Ketchum earned the shutout in goal. Salem celebrated five seniors in the win: Ferguson, Taylor Norman, Nataly Mojica, Liz Smetana and Stephanie Verdi.



Bukas

## WFU wins Landfall Tradition for third time

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Wake Forest became the first three-time champion in the 13-year history of The Landfall Tradition Sunday at the Country Club of Landfall's Pete Dye Course. Wake Forest finished the tournament at even par with a score of 286-289-289=864. The Demon Deacons ended a six-year drought after winning the event in 2007 and 2008.

After sharing the top of the leaderboard with Oklahoma State through two rounds, the Demon Deacons broke out front early on Sunday and blew past the rest of the 18-team field in impressive fashion. Sunday's 289 total snapped the Sunday record shared by Tulane (2004) and Wake Forest (2007) and the three-day score of 864 was 13 shots better than Purdue's total in 2005.

"It was a team effort," said Head Coach Dianne Dailey. "Everyone contributed to the victory. The team played tough and kept their focus. We had five birdies on the last three holes which propelled us to the top. The



Members of the golf team poses with coaches.

WFU Photo

entire team worked so hard this semester and can now enjoy the rewards of their efforts. Any one of them is capable of being under par and they demonstrated that this weekend."

The tournament win is the first for Wake Forest since the 2010-11 season when the Deacs won the Bryan National Collegiate on March 27, 2011.

Allison Emrey was Wake Forest's top individual finisher at fourth place. Emrey carded a 3-under 213 (72-69-

72) for the weekend. Freshman Erica Herr posted a 2-under 70 in the final round to finish tied for 11th at 216 (73-73-70).

Sierra Sims wrapped up the weekend tied for 24th with a score of 220 (69-76-75). Marissa Dodd and Mariana Sims tied at 41st with matching scores of 222.

Wake Forest is off until Feb. 8, 2015, when the Deacs travel to Palos Verdes, Calif. for the Northrop Grumman Regional Challenge.

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