



MIKE SPEARS
...Quick and alert



ED ROPER
...Team leader



GUARD EDDIE LATTA
... "Post's Player of The Year"



STAN BROWN
...All-round player



CALVIN JOHNSON
...Turns it on

Next Weekend MEAC Tournament Records In Jeopardy

Baltimore. —Several of the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC) Tournament individual and team records may be eclipsed during the fourth annual MEAC Basketball Tournament which will be held next weekend at the Baltimore Civic Center.

Last year 26 of the individual and team records were broken or tied during the three-day extravaganza. All of the individual single game records were broken including five on the first day of the 1973 tourney.

Last year Achilles Carroll of Howard wrote his name in the MEAC Tournament record book when he scored 36 points against Delaware State in the opening round to lead Howard to an overtime victory. Carroll broke the mark of 34 points held by teammate Robert Lewis set in 1972.

Freshman Harry Nickens of South Carolina State, swingman James Sparrow of A & T and Robert Little of North Carolina Central stand a good chance of erasing this mark. Nickens scored 34 points this season while Sparrow dropped in 36 points against Howard recently and Robert Little has consistently scored in the high 20-point bracket.

Seven-foot All-American Marvin Webster of Morgan State can also be listed as a possible successor to this record. Even though Webster has not scored points in a great abundance this season the "MEAC Player of the Year" still has the potential to score more than 36 points on any given night.

In setting his 36-point tournament record last year, Carroll converted 15 field goals for a new field-goal tourney record. Sparrow and Nickens both have scored 15 or more field goals this season.

South Carolina State's Alex Barron hit 14 of 17 free throw attempts in S. C. State's 81-71 defeat at the hands of Morgan last year in the first round of the tournament. Barron set



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Latta, Brown, Spears, Johnson, Roper Named To "All County" Team

By James Cuthbertson
Post Staff Writer

He comes from a basketball-minded family. His brother Gary plays college basketball and his brother Charles was reputed to be one of the best guards in the city in 1965, although he never played high school ball.

And he's carrying on the family tradition so well that as the Charlotte Post 1974-75 "Cager of the Year", he heads a starting five that could beat any high school team in the state, and probably do well against many collegiate varsity teams.

He has been scouted by Wake Forest, VMI, Western Carolina, Davidson, South Carolina State, and Belmont Abbey and has assured his team of a berth among the 16 top 4-A teams at the State Tournament in Greensboro.

Eddie Latta, 6'4" Senior Guard for the Harding Rams, is averaging 22 points per game. When this tall guard moves, you'd better look out. He wheels and deals with the best of them and is always on his toes in clutch situations. At the Rams' season finale against second-place finisher Olympic, Eddie's long bombs shook the Olympic team so much that at the end of the first quarter the Trojans were facing a 17 to 4 deficit.

He has had highs of 27 against West, 24 against Myers Park and 22 against Olympic. These teams were the top four finishers in the Southwestern 4-A Conference's Division 10. Latta rises to the occasion for the Rams and the tighter the situation is the more relaxed Latta is and the more points find their way through the hoop.

He is a team leader, a good outside shooter, just an all-around player, and very smart on the court," said his Coach, Pete Campbell.

SECOND TEAM:

Raeford Caldwell, Garinger, 6'4" Forward, Sr.
Jimmy Crawford, Catholic, 6'6" Center, Sr.
Reginald Nance, Olympic, 5'10" Guard, Sr.
Kevin Staley, West, 6'2" Guard
Don Smith, Olympic, 6'0" Forward, Sr.

HONORABLE MENTION:

Dwight Allen, Olympic Senior; Jeff Anthony, Olympic Senior; Russell Caldwell, Garinger Senior; Steve Cassell, West Senior; Bobby Edwards, Myers Park Senior; Gene Harris, Olympic Junior; Reggie Irby, Garinger Senior; Larry Long, North Mecklenburg Senior; Jerome Mobley, South Mecklenburg Sophomore.

Another clutch player has won a berth on the All-County first team. Olympic Senior Forward Stan Brown stands 6'1 and although listed as a forward spends most of his time playing guard.

Brown's success this season is the reason the Trojans reversed last year's 2-21 record and have presently set a record at Olympic for the best season ever with a 18-6 record. Coach Vernon Hedrick calls him a terrific shooter. Scouted by Clemson, East Tennessee State and Davidson, Brown is presently averaging 20 points per game. He is the only player in the county who can match Latta's shooting. This long bomber is also a clutch player.

Two more reasons Harding has a chance to go far in the State playoffs this year are 6'5 Senior Center Mike Spears and 6'3" Senior Forward Calvin Johnson. They have com-

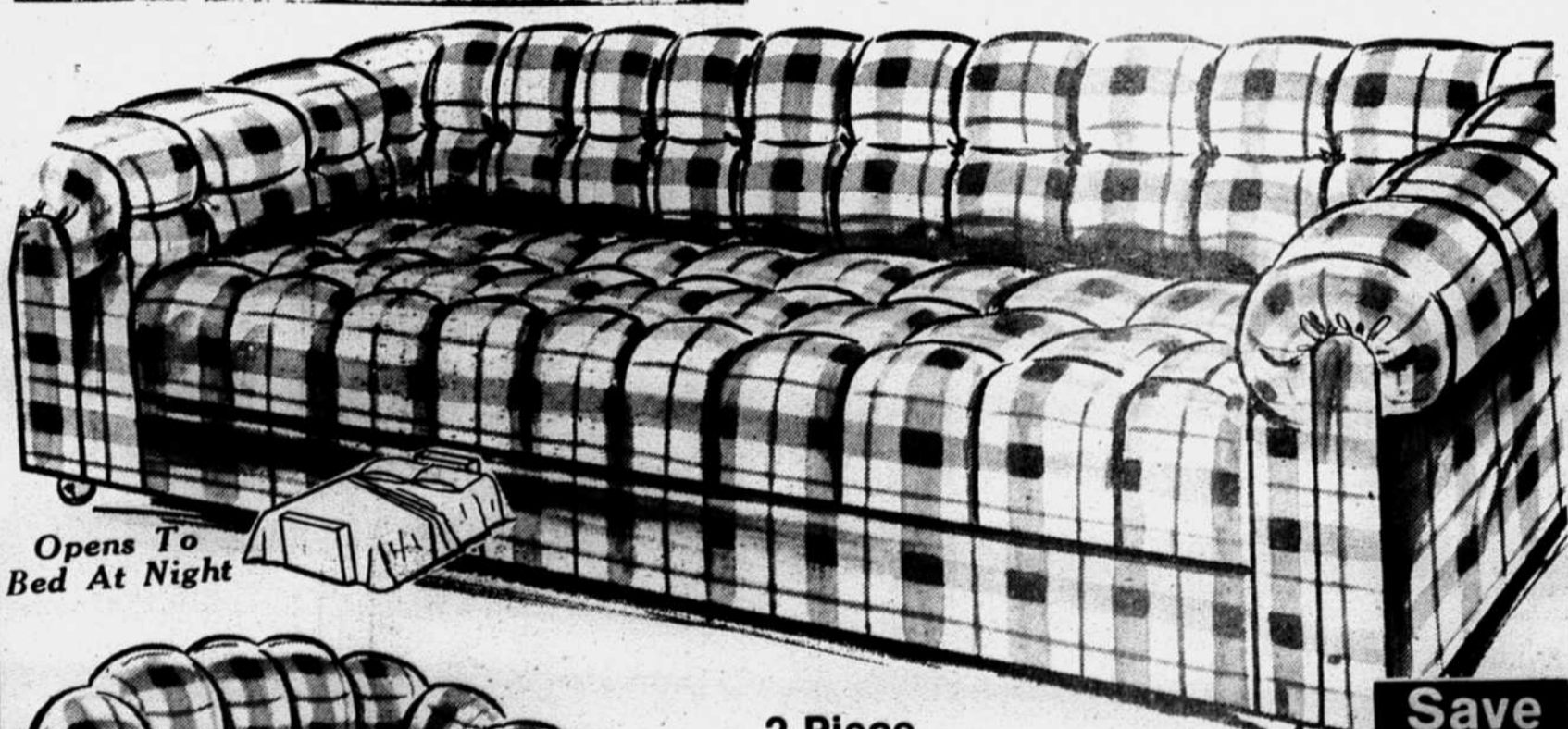
bined with Latta to lead Harding to a 19 and 4 record.

Mike Spears is quick and alert around the basket. He passes the ball well, is a good rebounder, and very unselfish. "He doesn't take as many shots as he should," said Coach Pete Campbell. His highs this season, in which he has been plagued by a knee injury, have been 26 points and 23 rebounds against West Charlotte, and 22 points against Olympic. With Mike Spears in the center and Calvin Johnson under the basket Harding controls the boards.

Six Foot Three Inch Harding Senior Forward Calvin Johnson usually gets off to a slow start every year, but when the man turns it on, you'd better watch out.

He really hustles. High point games have been 30 against Myers Park, 27 and 22 against Olympic, and 20 against inter-divisional rival, West Charlotte.

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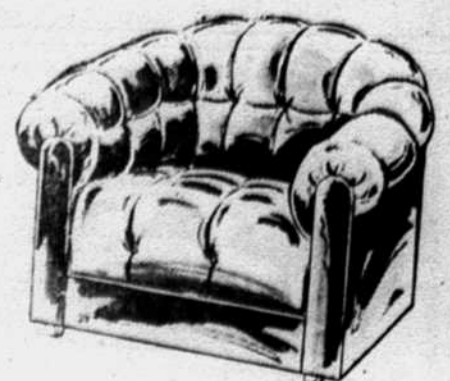
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