

Sports Deal

BY
BILL JOHNSON



TELLING IT LIKE IT REALLY IS.....

It will be North Carolina A&T against Virginia Union in the third annual Gold Bowl in Richmond, Va. Saturday afternoon. Both teams finished second in their respective leagues. Winston-Salem State, top team in the CIAA, is competing in the NCAA Playoffs and MEAC top team South Carolina State has stowed away its uniforms for another year.

Look for MEAC officials to hold developmental meetings in Atlanta and Nashville, Tenn. in the coming months. The fledgling young conference expects to expand from its present seven members to a 10-team circuit.

Coach Charles McCullough will learn quickly just how good his highly-touted West Charlotte basketball team is when the Lions encounter Myers Park Tuesday night. West Charlotte opens its new campaign against Concord at home Friday night.

Observer circulation expert John Love, a tough man to beat on the golf courses, along with Robert Sanders competed in the annual South-eastern Golf Tournament in Jekyll, Ga. last weekend. Robert came away with a handsome trophy and a new golf bag, denoting championship honors for the fourth flight. John came away with great memories of having a "wonderful time." Wonderful, that is, if one can enjoy rounds of 88-90. According to Love, more than 150 professionals and amateurs from around the country experienced great fun playing on a beautiful golf course in 70-plus degrees.

Norfolk State, which opened its basketball campaign with a pair of victories, has only three freshmen on its 1978-79 squad roster. They are 6-2 guard Morris Peterson, 6-8 forward Louis Thomas and 6-6 forward Frank Stallworth.

Ed Roper, the Charlotte native who is one of the better prospects in the MEAC, canned 24 points and pulled down 18 rebounds in North Carolina Central's losing efforts to Virginia State in Norfolk Saturday night.

The dailies carried the announcement of the All-CIAA Football team two weeks ago. Wonder why conference officials are just getting around to informing the Black Press of their selection? Shame on ya'll.

Harry Gray, the talented golfer and Johnny Colquitt, cross country specialist, are sharing "Golden Bull of the Week" honors this week.

According to information from Norfolk State's sports information director, Johnson C. Smith will compete in the annual Tidewater Area Builders Corporation Association Christmas Basketball Tournament in Norfolk, December 28-30.

Speaking of basketball tournaments, is the Charlotte Chapter of the Johnson C. Smith University Alumni going to sponsor their annual Tip-Off Tournament here this month?

Do you go for statistics and percentages, etc? How do you like the following information? Winston-Salem State's unbeaten Rams forced their opponents to throw the football 44 percent of the time this season. The opposition completed only 36.6 percent of their passes, and the Ram defense intercepted 9.6 percent, plucking nearly one theft for every 10 throws. Winston-Salem gave up only 8 touchdowns through the airlines during the regular season.

On the other side of the ledger, coach Billy Hayes' fine outfit, under the able leadership of quarterback Kermit Blount, took to the airlines only 22.7 percent of the time and completed 44.8 percent. They averaged 13.4 yard per reception and only 6.1 percent of their passes fell into the hands of the enemy.

Against the rush, Winston-Salem's defense was even more stingy. They held their opponents to a mere 81.7 yards per game, or 2.2 yards per rush, while yielding only 817 yards in 10 contests.

Did you know that Albany State has won four successive Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (SIAC) cross-country championships?

West Charlotte Sets

Sights On State Title

by Chase Vance
Post Sports Writer
The West Charlotte Lions are like the chicken that laid eggs and eggs until the golden one finally came.

The Lions have laid seven goose eggs at their opponents and as a result, they find themselves still vying for the golden one, a state championship.

The Lions have not been scored on since they lost to East Mecklenburg by a 14-7 in the fifth game of the season.

In the process they beat West Meck 47-0, Garinger 14-0, Harding 10-0, Independence 27-0, Ashbrook 7-0, East Burke 20-0 and Winston-Salem R.J. Reynolds 14-0.

They are averaging 17 points per game and giving up a mere 4. The defense is tenacious.

Charlotte Post All-Country quarterback Don Davis has been running the West Charlotte option with perfection and poise and has put to rest all the critics who said the Lions would be hurting at that position this year. You don't get to the state finals without a strong quarterback.

The Richmond County Raiders have lost to two teams the Lions have played. They lost to Gastonia Ashbrook 19-16 and to East Mecklenburg 3-0. They have not lost since.

The Lions are 12-1. Richmond Country is 11-2.

Both teams were written off early in the season and neither had any player making the North Carolina Squad of the Shrine Bowl.

Richmond's last trip here they lost 6-0 to High Point Andrews in 1976.

"I am happy to be in the final game of the state playoffs," said head coach Rudy Abrams. "I believe we had a good team all along. We have just been playing better and better."

For Abrams, this is the beginning of a dynasty at West Charlotte. In the last three years, his teams have been 9-3 (state playoff semifinalist) 7-3 and 12-1. That is a 28-7 record for the Post's Coach of the year.

This is the chance for the chicken to lay another egg. Next week's results will tell us whether or not it is golden.

Soup's On

If you make your own, one of the best ways to sweeten the broth is with the vegetable liquids that sometimes get poured down the drain.

Specialists with the NCAE Service recommend saving the liquids from boiled potatoes and other canned vegetables to use as a base for soup.



RUDY ABRAMS
...West Charlotte Coach

WBTV To Air UNCC Cage Contest

UNCC's "Forty-Niners" meet the Furman "Paladins" on their home court at Green Memorial Auditorium in Greenville, S.C., Monday, December 4. WBTV will telecast the game beginning at 8 p.m.

Adding to the excitement of the game will be the fact that both teams have new coaches. UNCC's coach is Mike Pratt, who was Assistant Coach under Lee Rose, and Furman's coach is Eddie Hol-

brook, former Head Coach at Gardner-Webb.

The "Forty-Niners" can boast of their All Sunbelt Guard, Chad Kinch, and their rebounding leader, Kevin King, while the "Paladins" have All-Southern Conference Center-Forward, Jonathan Moore to brag about, plus being chosen pre-season favorites to win the Southern Conference Championship.

Calling the play-by-play will be WBTV Sports Director, Jim Thacker.

Bulls Face Lenoir

Rhyne In Tournament

by Chase Vance
Post Sports Writer
Johnson C. Smith's Golden Bulls will meet the Lenoir Rhyne Bears in the 7 p.m. game of opening day in next week's Carolina Classic.

In other opening first round games, the Bulldogs of Gardner Webb will tangle with Barber Scotia at 2, Pfeiffer and Livingstone will square off at 4 and Belmont Abbey will play Catawba at 9 p.m.

The winners will play on Friday at 7 and 9. The game for third place will be at 11:30 a.m. Saturday followed by the championship game to be televised at 1:30 on WBTV.

Lenoir Rhyne is coached by Neil Hodges. He didn't inherit a single senior from the squad that finished 19-12 last year. Seven freshmen, two sophomores and four juniors are included among the ranks.

Mark Moore and Mitch Anderson, both 6-3 return. They averaged three points and one rebound each. Height is a problem unless 6-7 Rick Buchanan and 6-7 Jeff Nifong, who transferred from junior colleges begin to help immediately.

Six-Six freshman Kevin Maloney and a pair of 6-4 frosh, Gary Nobles and Alvin Cobb are vying for point guard.

The Golden Bulls are 0-2 this

year. They finished 10-17 last year, making it to the semifinals of the CIAA tournament in the process. A lack of experience is reportedly their biggest problem. Starting guard Sonny Proctor won't be eligible until after first semester.

Top scorer Herb Entzminger has graduated. Robert Moore is the new head coach. He was 93-41 at Virginia Union and won Northern Division titles in the CIAA and NAIA District 29.

Leading the Bulls in the first two games has been 6-6 freshman leftyhander Timmy Tibbs who has a soft touch with his jumpers.

The Bulls will play the winner of the Belmont Abbey-Catawba game in the second round if they get by Lenoir Rhyne.

The Abbey soundly defeated the Bulls in a doubleheader. They are among the favorites in district 26. Dave Kershaw, Mike Littlejohn, Lawrence Carter and 6-7 Charlotte senior Jimmy Crawford are names that will be heard from.

Catawba, with only starters returning from and 11-15 team is not a threat in the Carolinas Conference race. Benny Callahan, 6'7", is back with his 20.1 points and 7.8 rebounds per game average.

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