

Prep Chatter

With

James Cuthbertson



Well, the season is over and the North Mecklenburg Vikings have accomplished something no other school has done in the history of the Southwestern 4A Conference. They finished with a perfect 10-9 record.

The Vikes accomplished this with a 14.6 points per game average on offense and a 6.5 average on defense. They are worthy opponents to face High Point Central Friday at North Stadium.

Other scoring averages for the season were Harding 17.4, Myers Park 15.7, West Charlotte 15.4, East Mecklenburg 13.4, Olympic 12.7, South 9.4, West 7.7, Independence 7.1 and Garinger 5.6.

Other defensive averages were West Charlotte 3.1, East 6.2, Olympic 7.2, Harding 7.8, Myers Park 11.5, Independence 16.2, Garinger 17.2, West Mec. 18.5, South 20.0.

The Lions led in the scoring margin department with a plus 12.3. They were followed by Harding plus 9.6, East plus 8.3, North plus 8.1, Olympic plus 5.3, Myers Park plus 4.2, Independence minus 9.1, South Minus 10.6, West Meck, minus 10.8, and Garinger minus 11.6.

For the season, I finished with 47 wins and 13 losses for a 78 percent clip. Not bad or as good as I would have liked. In Friday's game, I predict North by 13 over High Point Central. The Vikings should be in the championship game in three weeks.

FINAL RANKINGS

1. North Mec.- The Vikes did what they had to do and in the process had a perfect season. Only a state championship could make the Vikes happier.
2. Harding-The Rams turned the beat around and will be back next year for more of the same. It is a shame we can't sent two teams to the play-offs.
3. Olympic-The Trojans came on strong at the season's end. The losses were close ones. The first win ever over East made the year sweeter.
4. Myers Park-The Mustangs defeated the Lions for the first time in five years to close out on a winning note.
5. West Charlotte-The Lions had a good season. A total of 12 points made the difference in a perfect season and a tie for third place in the conference.
6. East Mec.-The Eagles had their worst record in ages this year. With so many graduating next year will be a test.
7. Independence- The Patriots won four games. That's more than in their previous two years. Things look bright in 1980.
8. South Meck.- The Sabers were down this year. Look for improvement next year.
9. Garinger-The Wildcats salvaged one win in a dismal season.
10. West Mec.- The Indians never got it together in 1979.

The Olympic Trojans set a school record when they held their opponents to 72 total points this season. The old record was 106. Jeff Hall, Eric Adams, Derek Martin, Chuck Barnette, Sammy Cunningham, and Mike Cureton are stalwarts of the defense.

The Charlotte Catholic Cougars prepare for a first round playoff game with Central Davidson. Look for the Cougars to play Maiden for the Western Regional crown with the winner to emerge as state champions.

For Saturday

Johnson C. Smith Schedules

Football, Basketball Games

It will be time to wring out the old and bring in the new as Johnson C. Smith University hosts a Golden Bull double header Saturday.

Wylie Harris' football team plays Virginia State at Memorial Stadium at 1:30 p.m. while Bob Moore's basketball squad hosts the Australian Olympic team at the Campus Brayboy Gym at 7:30 p.m.

The Australian National team is on a tour of the United States in preparation for the 1980 Olympics in Moscow. The Aussies have finished in the top 10 in the last two Olympics. Last year at the World Games they lost to the United States' team by only two points. Since Australia does not have professional basketball, the 12 players who will arrive in Charlotte will represent their countries' best roundballers.

"I realize that we will be playing against older, more experienced players," commented Moore, "but the experience will be a great opener for us to get in shape for the upcoming CIAA campaign."

Tallest Australian will be 7-foot center Peter Walsh, followed by 6'9" Rocky Crosswhite, who played collegiate ball for Lefty Drissell at Davidson College.

Letter To The Editor

Incorrect Interpretation

From the Commissioner

The Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association takes full responsibility for the incorrect interpretation of the penalty against Virginia State University in their game against Norfolk State University, Saturday, November 3, 1979 in Norfolk, Virginia.

As a result of a questionable call regarding a touchdown made by Virginia State University football player, who made an "intimidating gesture" prior to crossing the goal line and was penalized from the spot of the foul for his actions, which resulted in eliminating the touchdown.

The interpretation of Rule 9-2 of the NCAA Football Rule Book was correctly used in making the call, however the Rule itself is contrary to its interpretation and should have had precedence.

Because the score of the game was final based on NCAA rule 1-1, there in no other course of action but to let the score stand.

The conference wishes to apologize to the fans, the players, coaches and the entire Virginia State University family for the resulting consequences of the call.

We would like to emphasize the point that the officials were acting in accordance to the rule interpretation and instructions given them and should not be blamed in any way for the error.

Corrective actions have already been taken among all CIAA officials' teams to stick strictly to the rule to insure that a reoccurrence of this nature will never take place again.

Since there are no other alternatives, the score must stand as played.

If there are any questions please direct them to the CIAA conference office (704) 838-8801.

Bob Moorman
Commissioner

"It won't be that much different than playing Hampton," added assistant coach Steve Joyner. "It seems we were the smallest team in the CIAA last year, too."

Golden Bull followers will get an early chance to see just who will likely be the starting five on the team that is two deep at each position. "Tibbs' injury throws open a spot and I haven't decided who will be playing the low post," pointed out Moore. Expect Ronnie Thompson and Peter Smith to be greatly improved on the boards. Thompson was a conference rebound leader a year ago, pulling in 11.7 a game while Smith was a 60 percent shooter, tops among the league's big men.

Because of the gate fee paid to the Australians, there will be an admission price of \$3 per adult and \$1 per student.

Virginia State's football team comes to town smarting from their recent loss to Virginia Union. A misinterpreted ruling by an official cost them the CIAA title game.

The Trojans won't be caught napping against the Golden Bulls this year. Up in Petersburg last season, VSU had to rally in the last two minutes to beat the young Bulls, 19-17. Harris will be using a good many young players as several earned the right with fine performances last week, particularly Elvin Ellington, John Westmoreland and Ed McNeely.



Sonny Proctor
Outstanding guard

THIS WEEK'S GAMES
High Point at North
(North Mecklenburg Stadium 8 p.m.)
Central Davidson at Catholic
(Catholic Stadium 8 p.m.)
FRIDAY NIGHT, NOVEMBER 16



JOHNSON C. SMITH UNIVERSITY

"Golden Bulls"

-VS-

VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY

"Trojans"

Saturday November 17, 1979

1:30 P.M.

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