

Sports Deal



BY BILL JOHNSON

TELLING IT LIKE IT REALLY IS.....
By the time you read this approximately 8,000 basketball-made fans will have converged on Norfolk, Virginia for a fun-filled weekend.

The occasion is the annual Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association Basketball Tournament, which will be staged in the 11,000-plus seat Norfolk Scope, beginning at 1 p.m. Thursday. Following the afternoon doubleheader, the famed Dribble Session will complete the first-round activities with a twin bill Thursday night. The semi-finals will be held Friday night and the championship finals Saturday night, starting at 7:30 p.m. It will follow a 5 p.m. women title contest.

This has been the "Year of the Bulls!" Thus, after winning 14 and losing 5 games in the conference, coach Bob Moore and his galloping Johnson C. Smith Golden Bulls will take on Virginia State in the second part of the afternoon doubleheader on Thursday wearing the "expected to win it all" label.

Their strongest challenge is expected to come from Elizabeth City, the top team in the northern division. But Hampton, St. Augustine's and Norfolk State are not without large vocal support. Virginia State, which came from deep within the pack in the final weeks, will prove no pushover. They manhandled the Bulls in Petersburg a couple of weeks back.

If you're going to forego that six-pack this week to make a wager on one of the teams in the popular tournament, lay it on either Hampton or Virginia State. The Trojans are on a winning binge, having captured their last three in a row, and they're third in team offense and fourth in field goal percentage shooting.

The Pirates do not have impressive stats. Defense is their forte. Defense is where it's at in tournament play!

NEITHER HERE NOR THERE... There will be two black golfers in the Masters Golf Tournament in Augusta, Ga., next April 9-12. Lee Elder, who was the first black to get a bid to the prestigious event, and Calvin Peete, who had a very successful season in 1980, were among the 81 U.S. golfers who received invitations last week.

Frank Robinson has hired his Baltimore Orioles ex-teammate Don Buford as his first base coach for the San Francisco Giants.

Reports are that Toronto running back Terry Metcalf may be returning to the NFL. Metcalf starred for the St. Louis Cardinals before casting his talent with the Canadian Football League in 1978. Don't bet on it!

Look for ESPN to telecast 25 NCAA tourney games. The All-Sports Network is preparing to televise 16 first-round contests, eight regional semi-finals and the national third place game.

When Johnson C. Smith's eagers return home from the CIAA Tournament sometime Sunday, they'll have to pack their bags and head for Winston-Salem for the annual NAIA District 26 Tournament. The Bulls will compete with Catawba, Belmont Abbey, Gardner-Webb, N.C. Central and possibly Elon for the rights to represent the District in Kansas City. JCSU has drawn a first-round bye and will not play until Tuesday night.

There is a strong possibility that the former Michigan State tandem of Magic Johnson and Greg Kelser will team up again. The Los Angeles Lakers are close to making a deal with the Detroit Pistons for Kelser and Magic is slated to return to the Lakers lineup any day now.

It seems that almost everyone is going to the computers these days. The NCAA is using a computer study to determine its 48-team field for the upcoming National Basketball Tournament.

Bet you didn't know that San Antonio's Gus Johnson is blocking more shots than the great Abdul-Jabbar? Gus has rejected 192 shots in 66 NBA contests for an average of 3.10 per game. Jabbar is averaging 3.05 blocked shots in 58 contests.

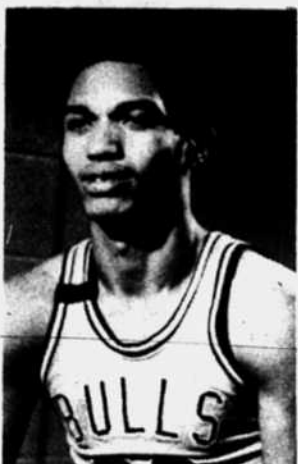
This may come as a source of great surprise, but there are no Heisman Trophy winners in the Pro Football Hall of Fame. You would do well to encourage your son to grow up to be an NBA referee. According to NBA statistics, conference referees earn \$100,000 a season.

Here's hoping that UNCC's late season spurt will continue throughout the Sun Belt Tournament this weekend!

Golden Bulls Favored

CIAA Tournament Underway

Special To The Post
Johnson C. Smith is riding on more than hope as they head for the Norfolk Scope. The spacious Virginia Coliseum will host the 36th annual CIAA Tournament showcase of basketball beginning Thursday. The championship game has been switched to a 7:30 p.m. slot Saturday night.



Phil Flores
All-CIAA

The Bulls enter as southern division champions for the first time since the 1973-74 season.

"Winning the title against St. Augustine's was important," noted coach Bob Moore. "We enter the tournament with a title to defend - number one."

Bob Moore's talented team also earned a first round bye in the NAIA District 26 tournament beginning Monday at the Winston-Salem Coliseum.

The Bulls play the winner of the Belmont Abbey vs. Elon game Tuesday night at 9 p.m. Tickets (\$4 adults, \$2 students) will be available Monday on campus at the Business Office and from Eddie McGirt (372-2370, ext. 233). Other teams battling for the right to represent the district in the NAIA national championship in Kansas City are top seeded Catawba (1), Gardner-Webb (4), and N. C. Central (5).

"We're facing two tremendous challenges in these tournaments," assessed Moore. "It will take the breaks falling our way and 5 straight games of pressure basketball against the best teams in Virginia and North Carolina. I feel our players have been handling the pressure well all season and that we will mentally be ready to play."

A trip to Kansas City and the CIAA Tournament goals for the 1980-81 season. The southern division title was the first. Johnson C. Smith has never won the tournament championship and has not made it to Kansas City since declaring NAIA seven years ago.

"This will be my last chance," commented senior forward Ronnie Thompson. "We're a veteran team. We know what it takes now and we've got the hunger and talent to win it all."

The many Golden Bulls followers from the past 35 years certainly wish Thompson and his teammates the best.

"It will be a dream realized," declared one. "I don't think we'd every stop celebrating if this team takes the crown."

UNCC Hosts

Prep 4-A

Semi-Finals

Friday's games conclude the Southwestern 4A Conference basketball race.

The East Mecklenburg Eagles will host non-tournament finisher Olympic. Garinger will visit the other non-tournament team Harding. Independence is at West Mecklenburg. Myers Park is at West Charlotte in the biggest game of the night. And North Mecklenburg is at South Mecklenburg.

The boys' tournament begins at 8 p.m. on Tuesday with the top four teams hosting the bottom four.

East's Warren Wallace Is

"Player Of The Week"

By Warren Wallace
Post Sports Writer

When East Mecklenburg mentor Reginald Thompson talked about star Warren Wallace prior to the season, he mentioned the countless numbers of letters the forward had been getting from major colleges.

"Warren is a very good basketball player," said Coach Thompson. "He does so many things well," he added. "He is a good rebounder. He is a good shooter. He even dribbles the ball well."

Wallace led East on a last minute spree as the Eagles captured the last spot in the Southwestern 4A Conference tournament and forced a tie with West Mecklenburg and South Mecklenburg. The Eagles finished the season with a 10-12 overall record. They were 8-10 in the conference.


In the season finale, a 109-76 win over Olympic, Wallace had his season high of 43 points. This is the record for the county this season.

When the Eagles take the floor against the Myers Park Mustangs, second place finishers, you can bet Warren Wallace will be

ready. Other outstanding performances were recorded by Frank Henderson who hit 24 in the Lions win over Myers Park that gave them the championship. Lion playmaker Martin McGinnis, who was outstanding in a reserve role with eight points. Independence's Eric Boyd, who pumped in 34 in a win over West Mecklenburg and Raymond Phillips of North.

who hit 19 in the Vikings win over South. Geoffrey Crosby of South had 22 in the Sabres loss.

In girls action, Sharon Burns of South had 17 in a win over North Mecklenburg. Angie Buford of West Mecklenburg had 34 points and 14 rebounds in a win over Independence and Jama Purser of Garinger had 20 points in a win over Harding.



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