

By James Cuthbertson

PREP CHATTER



James

At West Charlotte High School cheerleading is a tradition. When David Beltón brought good cheerleading to the school in the early seventies with his brand of know-how from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill where he cheered for four years, the school's squad was mediocre.

Since that time, they have become known throughout the Southeast for their accomplishments which have included winning Carowinds several times and winning the Cheerleading Spirit Conference in Boone several times.

This year's edition-Lisa Stewart (head), Olivette Patterson, Romana Brown, Selestine Young, Mary Helms, Joan Brooks, Dawn Ramsey, Rhoda Davenport, Vickey Cuthbertson and Pia Townes-has kept the tradition alive.

Recently at Carowinds, they finished first runner-up to winner South Caldwell of Hudson, N.C.

"We were very excited about winning the championship," said head cheerleader Lisa Stewart. "We worked very hard for this honor and we are thrilled to get it."

Stewart admits that being a West Charlotte cheerleader is an honor because it is so competitive and you must strive so hard for perfection.

The other runners-up at Carowinds were Rock Hill High School and West Forsyth High School of Winston-Salem.

It seems that some schools have begun to take note of Olympic's Kerry McDonald.

The senior who pulled down a school record 22 rebounds back in December while scoring 22 points, is still unsigned, but someone will get this superb talent.

Congratulations to good friend Herb Davis on being named as the head basketball coach at traditionally basketball rich South Mecklenburg High School. I am sure his teams will have outstanding records.

Davis, the older brother of Walter Davis, is 35 years old. He has been the assistant at South Mecklenburg since 1977, leading his teams to outstanding junior varsity records.

He graduated from South in 1965 after playing at Pineville Stirling High school and South Mecklenburg.

He was a South assistant from 1972-74 and head at Quail Hollow from 1974-76 before coming back to South.

Herb believes that as an assistant he has learned from Dave Price's system and that relatively few things will change.

He is an excellent leader and motivator of young people and a gentleman on the basketball floor. South couldn't have made a better choice.

He holds his bachelor's degree from Warren Wilson College where he made Small College All-American and a master's from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

Best of luck to Herb Davis and the South Mecklenburg Sabres next year.

Steve Shaughnessy is the new coach at Garinger High School stepping in Gerald Hasty's shoes. The new football coach has been a head coach at Catawba. He takes over a Wildcat program that has not had a winner in years. Best of luck also to Coach Shaughnessy.

The Olympic Trojans baseball team was not expected to fare well this year but Coach Robert Rhodes has put together what he calls the "Cardiac Kids" and they are leading the conference with impressive late inning wins over conference favorites Garinger and North Mecklenburg.

Rhodes hopes this is a repeat of his first year when the Trojans went to the state playoffs only to lose in the second round to Morganton Freedom's Patriots.

In watching the Parade All-American basketball team's accomplishments and standouts, it appears that with most of the players begging from major metropolitan centers, media exposure is crucial to being selected.

If North Carolina were to expand its playoffs to 32 teams think of the amount of revenue that would be generated by the high schools and it would require only one extra week of competition.

Regionals could be set up with the first round at the top 16 schools and the winners advancing to regional competition. This would allow for each of the 10 conferences to send two representatives every year and 12 at-large candidates. That would have included Myers Park this year. The regionals could be West, South, North and East at Asheville, Charlotte, Winston-Salem and Fayetteville, respectively. The championship game could rotate between Greensboro and Charlotte and Chapel Hill when the new arena is built.

Sounds pretty far fetched? No one ever goes anywhere without dreaming.



Bill Davis
...SCSC Coach

Bill Davis To Serve On AFCA

Orangeburg, SC - South Carolina State head football coach Bill Davis has been appointed to serve on the American Football Coaches Association (AFCA) Rules Committee.

Michigan head football coach Bo Schembechler, president of the AFCA, said Davis will serve a two-year term on the committee.

Davis has compiled a 27-10 record in five seasons at S.C. State while winning three straight Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference titles and guiding his team to two consecutive appearances in the NCAA Division I-AA playoffs.

Bryce Is Leading Contender For State Honors

By James Cuthbertson
Post Sports Writer
North Mecklenburg's Clarence Leland Bryce is a leading contender for regional and state honors in high jump competition.

The son of Mr. and Mrs. Collins Lee Bryce of Trinity Park-Beatties Ford Park neighborhood is a 6'3", 190-pound sophomore.

The junior jumped his best high jump ever in his first meet this year when he cleared the pole at 6'4".

Considering the fact that North uses the rough steel pole and not the soft fiberglass model, this is an accomplishment.

If you fail to scale a steel model, your back is subject to abrasions. Perhaps this spurs Bryce to his record marks.

"I set a goal at the beginning of the season," said Bryce recently. "I knew that this would be a year in which I would have a lot of competition. But I wanted to improve on last year's mark of 6'2" that I set in the sophomore meet at Independence."

Bryce won the sophomore meet in the high jump.

The mark is the best in the county so far. Bryce expects competition from Terry Nance of West Charlotte, Haywood Workman of Myers Park and teammate Charles Mahoney of North who has scaled the high jump at 6'5".

The high jump is the only event that he participates in.

"This gives me a chance to specialize," he said. "This is why I want to be good at it. I would like to make the sectionals and then I would like to make the state championship."

Bryce uses the Salisbury flop technique of jumping head first over the bar.

"I am looking forward to having a good season," he said. "I will give it everything that I have got."

With an impressive performance in the team's pre-season intra-squad game Jo Jo was slated to start but on the Wednesday before the season opener, he injured his foot in a freak accident when he stepped on a piece of steel coming from a voluntary extra-session on the practice field.

The injury forced him to miss all of the team's first four games and he played only one series in the fifth game.

White still managed to rack up 728 yards, four touchdowns, gaining All-Conference and All-District honors as a freshman.

Teams began stacking their defenses to stop the Bears run oriented offense but White racked up 1,149 yards including a superlative 322 yards, four touchdowns performance to lead the Fighting Bears to a 65-27, route of the Bowie State College Bulldogs scoring on runs of 90 and 57 yards. The 322 yards established school and conference single game rushing records and helped him earn All-Conference, All-

Big Linebackers Astonish Football Coach Mel Rose

Special To The Post
Livingstone College Head Football Coach Mel Rose stood astonished as three big linebackers converged on all-star tailback JoJo White, but before he could blow his whistle to protect his most precious jewel from impending danger, White stopped, made a quick reverse pivot and raced 40 yards around the opposite end...touchdown!

"He never ceases to amaze me," said Rose, "he is something special." So much for spring practice.

Planting a seed the message is implicitly-grow! That perhaps is the task of Mel Rose in dealing with JoJo White, a gifted athlete who's career started as a walk-on tailback for a team who had completed a disastrous 9-10 record in 1980.

Joseph White, a 5'10", 175-pound physical education major from Southport, N.C., may be the seed that Rose has helped cultivate into a growing star.

Having rushed for over 1,700 yards as a senior at tiny South Brunswick High School, White was not highly recruited because of the lack of publicity and the caliber of competition he played against at the 2A level.

His athletic exploits far transcended the football field, however, as he averaged over 12 points and three assists per game in basketball.

Spring seems to bring out the best in buds, flowers and blooming stars as White was an all-conference baseball performer posting a sensational .520 batting average and chalking up a 9-3 record as pitcher while doubling as a third baseman in leading his team to the state playoffs.

White originally enrolled at Chowan Junior College in Murfreesboro but he never made it to the practice field when the coach decided he was too small to play. He went home and upon the persuasion of Charles Aldrich, a Livingstone graduate, enrolled at Livingstone College.

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District and honorable mention All-American status.

The story doesn't end here it travels through his tenure as a Dean's List student and desire to be a physical therapist. He has taken the initiative to work with area youth groups around the Salisbury area and he, along with younger brother Kenny who also serves as his backup tailback, work in the learning lab on occasion and tutoring and studying with other football players in an effort to improve their grades.

One of 11 children James

another brother is also a student at Livingstone and runs track.

"We were raised in the church," Jo Jo stated, the son of Joseph and Mary White says in his mild mannered temperament, "We were taught to be humble and give God the glory. I really have the faith and it has helped me to overcome all kinds of obstacles." Perhaps the early lessons at Brown's Chapel AME Zion Church and planting time around the White household still has a common cause with Head Coach Rose.

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