

SPORTS BEAT



Bill Johnson

THIS YOU GOTTA BELIEVE!Trust Me!

I have never been able to understand the joys some people realize in gossip.

You can get into lots of trouble sometimes by repeating what you heard someone say. Like Saint Paul's College, which through the years has occupied the bottom rung in the CIAA standings, is pouring more money into its athletic programs. And, if the early indications are accurate, the Tigers will vacate the lower position and head towards the recognition of being one of the conference's most competitive teams. They have made the first step in the signing of nine quality football players, including six athletes who were All-District and All-Regions selectees in high school last fall.

Coach Daniel Antólik says, "These fine athletes should make a valuable contribution to the Tiger football program. He's especially high on William King and Vincent Harris, both of Roanoke, Va. An All-District quarterback, Harris led his high school conference in passing last season.

Juan Lanauze, the 6'9", 200-pound junior who led North Carolina A&T to the MEAC championship and a berth in the NCAA playoffs, has quit the Aggie team. Lanauze, who says he will play basketball on the Puerto Rican national team in the upcoming Pan American games, will continue his education in his native Puerto Rico.

The University of Virginia is doing the right thing for Ralph Sampson. They're retiring his uniform number in appreciation for all the great All-American center has done for the school. What will boxing promoter Don King do next? Well, he and his partners are dickering with management of the Cleveland Cavaliers in an effort to purchase the NBA franchise. Don't bet on this one going through.

Ever heard of the Starks Bucks? They're the new champions of the popular McCrorey YMCA Adult Men's Winter Basketball League, winning both the regular season and the tournament titles.

Johnson C. Smith's football schedule includes two games showing the time of the kickoffs as questionable. Contests with S.C. State and Livingstone are shown with the time of the kickoffs to be announced. Incidentally, the popular series between the Golden Bulls and the Bulldogs of SCSC may be coming to an end. Both schools are looking for replacements.

Can you imagine coach Wylie Harris sending his Golden Bulls against A&T, S.C. State, Livingstone, Winston-Salem State and N.C. Central in that order next fall? WOW! The Bulls' 10-game card lists only two patsies - St. Paul's and Bowie State. If Harris can manage a .500 season with such a touch schedule he should be named "Coach of the Century."

Who said athletes were dumb jocks. Thirty four athletes at S.C. State have proven they are as intelligent as anyone is. Ten made the dean's list and 24 were on the honor roll.

This sounds like fun. WGIV radio personalities will take the court against the Johnson C. Smith faculty and staff in Brayboy Gym April 14. That's a night to be remembered for basketball will never be the same again! Don't expect another North Carolina - Houston confrontation. Or a Philadelphia 76ers - Boston Celtics fracas. This bitter rivalry will not involve run-and-gun patterns. It more likely will utilize the walk-and-cap pistol variety, with the pzone being filled with airballs.

Imagine!—such case standouts (they're standouts because their uniforms do not fit properly) as Phil "Can't-hit-the-side-of-a-barn" Busher; Wylie "Faster-than-yesterday" Harris; and Ike "Fill it up" Fullard. Fill what up? The guess here is that the score will be 2-0. It may be called for regulation because the players on each team most surely will be too winded to continue play.

It's all for charity. The proceeds - a buck for adults and only 75 cents for students - will go to the UNCF. WGIV will give away records and other prizes. You should attend!

The Houston Oilers, who fielded the worse defensive unit in the NFL last season, are shopping the upcoming draft list for defensive standouts. The Oilers other option is to trade Earl Campbell for several named defensive prospects. Calvin Peete was 10th among the PGA money leaders last week, with more than \$62,000 in earnings.

While the other members of the New Jersey Generals were experiencing difficulties in finding living quarters, Herschel Walker was purchasing an expensive condo in upper Saddle Rivers Community. Former president Richard M. Nixon, NFL great Lawrence Taylor and NBA star Otis Birdson are his neighbors.

At Myers Park High School JCSU Invitational Track And Field Relays Scheduled

By Phil Busher
Special To The Post
The Johnson C. Smith Invitational Track and Field Relays to be held Saturday, April 9, at Myers Park High School will feature something for just about every track buff.

Highlight event will be a Feature 100 meter dash with Olympians Ray Robinson, Steve Riddick and Charles Foster. Robinson, currently assistant track coach at St. Augustine's, ran in the 4x100 meter relay in the 1972 Olympics. Riddick, former CIAA 100 and 200 meter champion and now running for the Philadelphia Pioneers, ran in the 1972 and 1976 Olympics in the 4x100 relay and the 100 meter dash. Foster, former N.C. Central great from the 1972 NCAA II championships and now with the Philadelphia Pioneers, ran the 110 hurdles in the 1972 and 1976 Olympics.

Also featured will be a "master mile" for those 30 years old and older beginning at 2:15 p.m. Anyone is eligible to register right up to the starting time. The meet will start with the field events (long jump, high jump, shot put, triple jump and javelin) at 9:30 a.m. The 100 meter dash trials begin at 10 a.m. followed by the

distance medley relay, 110 meter high hurdles, 3,000 meter run, 4x100 meter relay, 1,500 meter run, 4x200 meter relay, sprint medley relay, 5,000 meter run and the 4x400 meter (mile) relay. The awards ceremony will follow at 3:30 p.m.

Men's teams entered are powerhouse S.C. State, Winston-Salem State, Elon, Fayetteville State, Hampton Institute, Morris-Brown and distance runners from Wake Forest, Davidson, Radford and UNCC.

The Women's teams include East Carolina, Wake

Forest, Hampton Institute, Winston-Salem State, N.C. A&T State, Davidson, Shaw, St. Paul's Morris-Brown and Barber-Scotia.

Four meet records were set last year by S.C. State in the long jump (24' 4 1/4"), Taylor, S.C. State), the javelin (211' 2") Holdin, S.C. State) and in the women's long jump (11.58 meters, Hinson, S.C. State).

S.C. State's 1,600 meter relay (mile) record of 3:12.8 set in 1979 will be in jeopardy as both Smith and the Bulldogs have run excellent times early in the year.

Frento Burton Wins

Frento Burton was the big winner in the BATCH Racquet Association's round robin playdowns.

Burton emerged as the number one seed with a victory over Andrew Gordon, four games to three.

Burton amassed a total of 48 points. Cornell "Chuck" Whitley pulled in 43 points to finish narrowly in second place.

Other seeds and point totals were 3. Andy Gordon 35 points; 4. Alan Blackwell 33 points; 5. Robert Reeves 30 points; 6. Don Miller 29 points; 7. Crawford Walker 29 points; 8.

James Cuthbertson 25 points; 9. Eric Law 24 points; 10. James Brewer 23 points; 11. Richard Ellis 17 points; 12. Mack Canady 12 points; 13. Melvin Carthran 4 points; and 14. Desi Fuller 3 points.

The Traveling All-Stars will host the Nest Open Tennis Tournament this weekend at Hornet's Nest Park.

The first match for the team will be home versus the Greenville Aces on April 23.

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Olympic Moves To Head Of Conference Baseball Class

By James Cuthbertson
Post Sports Writer
"We felt that we would have a pretty good team," said Olympic coach Bob Rhodes in assessing the performance of his team that has moved to the head of the class in the Southwestern 4A Conference.

The reasons? Good pitching for one. Heavy hitting is second.

Right hander Bill Haltom is a senior who is 2-1. He is a very hard thrower, according to his coach.

"We felt like they can both be better," Rhodes said. "It is still early in the season. It has been cold, rainy and wet and they have not gotten into a solid rotation sequence yet. They are walking more people than they normally do."

A senior centerfielder is one of the leading hitters. Chris Abell is batting .300 plus.

Third baseman-catcher Todd Fowler is batting .381. He is a savior.

Senior second baseman Rusty Smith is batting .350.

"They have been hitting the ball well," said Rhodes. "We have come from behind with dramatic finishes with Garinger, Myers Park and North Mecklenburg. They think they are like North Carolina State—the

Cardiac Kids. We have really played well in the sixth and seventh innings."

The juniors are tough also.

Left hander Tim Langmeyer is the first baseman. He is hitting .455 with 13 RBIs.

"He never struck out on the junior varsity," Rhodes said. "But he struck out his first four times as a varsity player. We were concerned but then he came out like a ball of fire."

The left handed junior Chris McNear is batting .471.

"He didn't play last year, Rhodes explained. "I saw him playing for Steele Creek and asked him to come out for the team. He came out and started the year as a designated hitter. Now he is a regular and among the leading hitters in the conference."

Rhodes admits that he is still trying to settle his shortstop and catching positions.

But nevertheless the team is 6-1 with a non-conference win over Gastonia Huss.

"We have a road trip coming up with games at Huss, East Mecklenburg, South Mecklenburg, Independence and West Charlotte," he noted. "That should determine how our

season goes." This is Rhodes fifth year as varsity coach at Olympic.



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