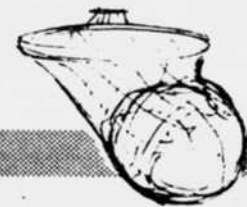




# SPECIAL EDITION



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## CIAA's Battle-Ready For An Exciting Basketball Year

By James Cuthbertson  
Post Sports Writer

In these parts fans in the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association really got excited about their teams.

It's right up there near God and Country when you get to talking about who is going to win the annual championship.

In the pre-season poll, the Northern favorite was Virginia Union, a team always fighting for the championship.

They were followed in order by Hampton, Norfolk State, St. Paul's, Virginia State, Elizabeth City State and Bowie State.

The Southern favorite was St. Augustine's. They were followed by North Carolina Central, Johnson C. Smith, Winston-Salem State, Shaw, Fayetteville State and Livingstone.

Everyone makes the CIAA tournament now, so making the top four to avoid being left at home is not as important as it used to be.

Last year Fayetteville State shocked Virginia Union in a first round game by a 77-68 score to prove that the lower finishers could compete. The Broncos of FSU had finished fifth in the Southern Division.

Elizabeth City shocked the Bulls of JCSU 102-90 to prove that the sixth place team in the Northern Division could compete.

The cream still rose to the top as Hampton, the Northern winner, beat Norfolk State, a 75-74 conqueror of the Southern champion St. Augustine's 73-68 to win the tournament.

### NORTHERN DIVISION

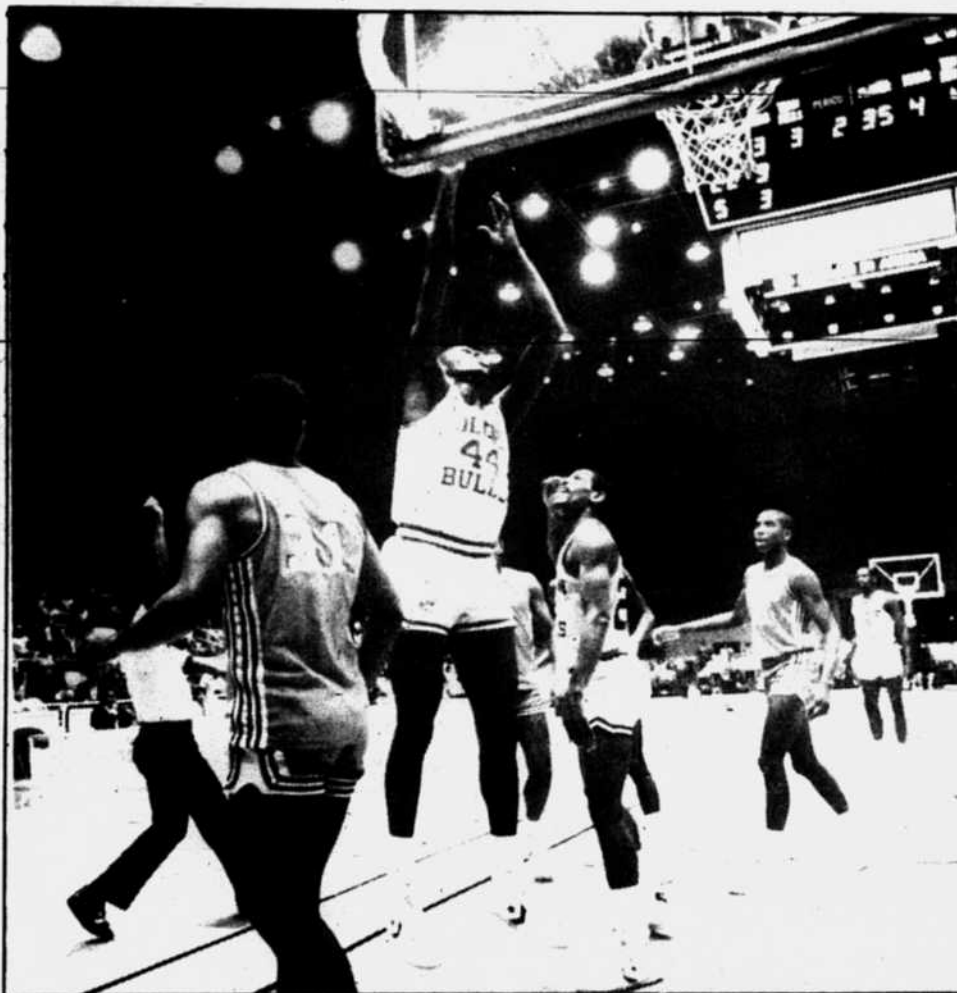
Virginia Union returns three starters in a 6'9" center Charles Oakley, 6'9" Anthony Singleton and 6'5" Gary Dalton.

Oakley averaged 19.3 points and 13 rebounds per game. Singleton had an 11 points per game and 7.8 rebounds per game average. Dalton had a 9.5 points per game and 5 rebounds per game average.

That is a great nucleus to start with. The Panthers could be as good as the 1980 championship squad.

The Pirates of Hampton have won two consecutive CIAA championships.

The eight returnees are 6'10" center Cedric Miller, 6'3" junior



Center Phil Smith (44) is making his move towards the basket for an easy jump shot. Coach Bob Moore is depend-

ing upon the veteran pivoter to contribute more points and rebounds to the Golden Bulls' attack this season.

guard Larry Garrick and 6'4" swingman Al Godwin.

Miller an All-Tournament selection averaged 9.2 points and 8.2 rebounds per game.

Norfolk State has David Pope, 6'7" forward back. Pope averaged 20.9 points and 11.3 rebounds last season. He is a three time All-CIAA selection and was tabbed as a college division All-American by the prestigious Street and Smith Basketball Yearbook.

He is the man the team looks to for an outstanding season.

The Tigers of St. Paul's lost big men Lawrence Carr, 6'6", and 6'7" forward Walk Buckhanan, but sharp shooting guards Charles Bell and Michael Seward return. Bell had an 18 points per game and hit 50 percent of his shots.

Seward had a 13.8 points per game.

The Tigers look to improve on last year's 11-17 record and make a run for the divisional title.

The Trojans have forward Cliff Straughn, 10.4 points per game, 12.4 rebounds per game and sub Walt Dixon back.

They are a very balanced team losing two all-time leading scorers and the sixth man on the team.

The Vikings of Elizabeth City lost four lettermen. They return 6'3" forward Rudy Burns, 17 points per game and 6.9 rebounds per game and 6'1" junior guard Benjamin Brown 16 points per game and 6'5" rebounds per game.

Bowie State hopes to improve. Last year they were outscored by 24 points per contest.

Senior forward Charles Warner is the top returnee. He averaged 15.4 points and 8.8 rebounds per game last year. Senior forward Renard Banks had a 12.4 points per game and a 9.4 rebounds per game. Look for Bowie to improve.

### SOUTHERN DIVISION

With seven returning lettermen, including two starters from last year's 22-6 team, the Mighty Falcons who finished second in the NCAA Division II South Atlantic Regional are expected to be tops.

Heading the list of returnees are point guard Emanuel Chapman, 9.3 points per game and

Norman Roscoe.

With four starters back from last year's team, in 6'8" center Charles Murphy, 6'5" forward Duane Griffin, 6'3" guard Darnell Evans and 5'1" guard Mike Wright the Eagles expect to be tough.

Murphy had an 11.9 points per game and 7.9 rebounds per game; Griffin 8.3 points per game, 5 rebounds per game; and Evans 16.1 points per game and 4.1 rebounds per game.

Six-eight center Rodney Davis of Charlotte and 6'1" guard T. Carl Reid of Charlotte are expected to provide instant help.

The Bulls have Roosevelt McGruder back with his 21.4 points per game and 9.1 rebounds per game. Center Phil Smith had a 12.4 points per game and a 7.5 rebounds per game average.

The weak spot is the guards. The Senior Texas pair of Tracey Bookman and Mike Singleton are back for the Bulls.

"Big House" may find the going rough this season. Anthony Nance is a 6'4" forward who will provide instant help along with Eric Hudson also of Charlotte.

Top scorer Troy Russell, a 6'3" junior guard brings his 18.1 scoring average back to help the team.

The Shaw Bears should be improved over last season. Isaac Pitts returns with his 15 points per game and 10.5 rebounds per game. Dave Lacy, 13 points per game and Andre Sheppard, 9.3 points per game are returnees.

The Broncos of Fayetteville State hope to improve with William Person, 6'8" freshman. A newcomer to watch is Joseph Cooper from Enfield, N.C.

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