

By Bill Johnson

SPORTS



Bill

ARE YOU READY FOR THIS? It's human nature to put the blame for everything on someone else, but a man begins to make progress when he blames his shortcomings on the proper person.

Maxine Lewis of Delaware State informs that Jonathan White's teammates call him "Sluggo." That's because the 6-foot-7 freshman is the strongest man on the Hornets varsity.

David Lacy of Shaw University reportedly said, "The coaches have made me a preseason selection on the All-CIAA team, but that's only preseason. I'm doing fine in school and I'm averaging 20 points and four assists." Now that's being modest!

The gala birthday party and tribute that was being planned for former world heavyweight champ Muhammad Ali has been abruptly cancelled. Look for the split between long-time friends Jim Brown and Richard Pryor to explode on the national scene any day now. Although it's being settled through legal contractual means, some very dirty linen likely will come out the wash.

Give The Pepsi Generation credit for being smart. The soft drink company has gotten involved in the upcoming Michael Jackson tour. Michael's tour is going to create the most excitement we've had since that guy rode through the countryside yelling "The British Are Coming!"

You can bet your meal money that coach Tom Landry will remain as Dallas head football coach. He has two more years to go on a contract that pays him \$600,000 each year. Few people can walk away from that much loot!

The signs of the time encourage you to select a winner in Super Bowl XVIII. The Washington Redskins, of course!

Reggie Jackson did not contribute very much to the California Angels' season last summer but he did very well at the pay table. The Angels paid Jackson \$72,000 as an attendance bonus in addition to his \$900,000 annual salary. He's paid 50 cents for every ticket sold above 2,400,000. The Angels drew 2,555,016.

One wonders how long the USFL can keep its head above financial waters. The year-old professional football league continues to sign big name players for astronomical sums at a time when neither the attendance figures nor the television rights warrant it. The USFL will receive a paltry \$800,000 per team from television in 1984 compared to the \$13.6 million each NFL team will be paid for TV rights.

NOW I'VE HEARD EVERYTHING! - "If God wanted football to be played in the spring He would not have invented baseball," quips Cleveland coach Sam Rutigliano recently.

Bet you didn't know that not one of the leading major college scorers since 1971 is currently listed on an NBA roster.

Joe Binion, who is having a great season at North Carolina A&T, is now ranked third among the college prospects in the 1984 NBA draft. Houston rookie Ralph Sampson is earning his paycheck, with a third-place NBA ranking in blocked shots and a fourth-place rating in rebounds.

Something to consider.With Joe Morgan in the lineup, baseball teams have won more than 87 games and have not finished lower than third over the last 11 full seasons.

Don't shed any tears over Billy Martin, who has been fired as manager of the New York Yankees. "Billyboy" will be paid \$638,000 over the next four years. The figures do not include payments from the Oakland A's or the Minnesota Twins.

The Memphis Showboats in the United States Football league has drafted Lenoir-Rhyne College's All-American Butch Gunter. The 6-0, 250-pound nose guard was taken in the 14th round.

South Carolina State football coach Bill Davis will receive a special honor this week. The Freedom Bowl All-Star Classic Committee is also honoring coach Eddie Robinson of Grambling.

David Pope, who tallied 70 points in two appearances last week, is acclaimed as "Player of the Week" in the CIAA. He leads the conference in individual scoring and is fourth in rebounding, 10th in field goal percentage, sixth in steals and seventh in blocked shots. He can do it all!

Here Saturday Night

Golden Bulls Encounter Livingstone Blue Bears

By Phil Easter
Special To The Post
Jerry Fitch will make his debut once again as a basketball coach at Brayboy Gym on the Johnson C. Smith campus.

This time, though, Fitch will be sporting the Black and Columbia Blue colors of Livingstone when the jump ball tips off Saturday's 7:30 p.m. Smith-Livingstone clash.

Jerry is no stranger to Golden Bull basketball, having compiled a 49-61 record as the Smith mentor for four years prior to Bob Moore's arrival in 1978. The odds favor the Golden Bulls based on the last 10 meetings between the local rivals. Smith has won nine in a row, eight straight off Dr. Joe Robinson before he left the coaching reins in Salisbury.

The Fighting Bears have indicated that they intend to become a factor in the CIAA with a championship in the December Currance Classic in West Virginia.

Freshman forward Michael Damon (6'4", 187 pounds) has been a blue chip find for the Bears in averaging 19.8 points, 11.9 rebounds and 52.6 percent shooting from the floor so far.

Damon has also converted 82.6 percent of his free throw attempts.

"Although Livingstone is young, I expect them to come into Brayboy pretty well prepared to play," commented Smith coach Bob Moore. "Winning the Spring Semester

Registration for spring semester classes in traditional and adult degree programs at Sacred Heart College are now underway. On January 12 from 9 a.m. until 12:20 p.m., registration will be held for adult option courses, from 4-5 p.m. for no cost college for the unemployed and from 6-7:30 for adult degree programs.

On January 16 from 10 a.m. until noon, currently enrolled juniors and sophomores are expected to register, and from 1-3 p.m. traditional freshmen and seniors will register.

For more information, call 704-825-5146.



Jerry Fitch
.....Former Bull coach

Currance Classic gave them confidence and certainly Jerry will have them mentally prepared to deal with the pressure of playing Brayboy."

Basketball fans will want to arrive in time to catch

Bob Moore
.....Bulls head coach

the women's game that starts at 5:30 p.m. Livingstone features a scoring machine in forward Debra Jenkins (21.6 points per game). The Lady Bears and Smith are deadlocked for second place and each

would like to get a step upon the other.

The home stand will continue Monday, January 16, and Thursday, January 19, when St. Paul's and N.C. Central pay a visit.

St. Paul's Tigers feature plenty of experience with four seniors in the starting line-up, led by guard Charles Bell's 23 points per game. Coach Moses Gollatt's Tigers play an exciting brand of fast break basketball that features a bevy of accurate long range bombers.

N.C. Central has enough talent up front to challenge in the Southern Division. Four starters are back, led by forward Charles Murphy (17 points per game, 11.7 rebounds per game) and guard Willie Jenette (15 points per game). The Bulls will need to shackle

Jenette, perhaps the quickest fast-break guard in the CIAA.

A good tip, again, will be to come early for the Central-Smith women's game. Smith edged the Lady Eagles in a pair of nailbiters last year by a total of only three points. More excitement will be on tap again.

UNCC 49ers Unbeatable

When Johnson Sparkles

By James Cuthbertson
Post Sports Writer

If the 49ers of UNCC are to evolve into a team capable of capturing the Sun Belt Conference championship, Agent "O" Melvin Johnson is going to have to get his undercover operation into high gear.

So far in the young season, the team seems to play as Johnson does. When he is having an outstanding game and is not in foul trouble, the team plays well.

When he is having a bad game or is in foul trouble, the team staggers.

Johnson was the Sun Belt Conference's Freshman of the Year and Sophomore of the Year.

Last year, he was a second team All-Sun Belt team member.

In this young season, he is averaging 19 points per game and eight rebounds.

Pound for pound, he is one of the premier players in the Sun Belt Conference and could easily make the pro leagues.

He will get a chance to



Melvin Johnson
.....Getting in high gear

show what he has this weekend as the Miners play Western Kentucky's Hilltoppers in the Coliseum at 7:35 on Saturday.

On Thursday, the Monarchs of Old Dominion come to town to do battle with the Miners whose upset last year cost the Virginians an outright conference championship. They shared with Virginia Commonwealth with 12-2 records.

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