

By James Cuthbertson

PREP



Chatter



James

It is mid-semester time in the Southwestern 4A Conference and time to give out grades on the progress that teams have made so far.

Some teams will get good marks because they have performed way over expectations, while others will come in on the low side.

INDEPENDENCE

The Patriots have been the over achievers of the conference. Although returning only 10.1 in scoring from a team that was 26.3 last year and facing the messy problem of blending them with a junior varsity that was 18.3, they stumbled a little early, put themselves back together, and have turned into a conference contender.

Harrell Patterson improved his 4.3 average last year to 16.7. Brad Smith improved his 4.3 average of last year to 13.5 and the supporting cast of Keith Simpson 9.4, Ronald Downer 5.0, Chip Ferguson 7.0 and McCall 7.5 have provided the team with firepower. **GRADE - A+**

NORTH MECKLENBURG

The Vikings returned 18.9 in scoring from last year but nobody expected them to be at the top of the conference this early in the season.

Pat Baggett has improved his average from 4.8 last year to 10.6. Mike Gurley is up to 12.1 from 4.7. Clarence Bryce is up to 11.2 from 5.1 and Tyrone Conner is up to 11.9 from 1.3.

Pleasant surprises have been Latura Stitt with a 6.7 average and Todd Holden with a 7.0 average. Both are sophomores. **GRADE - A.**

MYERS PARK

Myers Park was named in several coaches' pre-season poll so the fact that they are doing well is not really a surprise.

What is a surprise is talented newcomer Paul Grier who has given the Mustangs a powerful inside game with his short jumpers.

Grier is averaging 13.2 points per game and getting better as the season progresses.

Haywood Workman, the Mustangs' premier stallion, has improved his average from 13.0 last year to 16.9 this year.

Stuart Fiou is up to 11.1 from 4.3 of last year and Nate Lewis is up to 7.7 from 2.6.

The Mustangs are not as good as they could be. Depth is still a major problem and in a tight, physical game, they might have problems should Workman or someone foul out. But they have passed most of their major tests and deserve a good grade. **GRADE - B+**

WEST CHARLOTTE

The Lions have the tallest team in the league and are considered the most reviewers.

Terry Nance is on a tear, improving his average from 11.0 last year to 18.8 this year. He is the conference's leading scorer.

The old heads from last year—Daughtry, Maultsbym Trosch and Crudup—have not improved on their averages as much as expected, but newcomers Maurice Caldwell 7.0, Mike Cureton 4.3, and Lance Jones 6.0, have the Lions roaring. **GRADE - B.**

OLYMPIC

The Trojans have looked like world beaters at times and got an A+ for a performance against Louisville Male in the Rock Hill Tournament and an A+ for a triple overtime thriller against North but lackluster performances against East Mecklenburg and Myers Park cause their average to drop.

Nevertheless, they have won as many games as they did last year and that has to indicate that the team is on the rise.

Herman Springs has raised his average to 13.8 only 1.7 off last year. Gene Young has become a double figure scorer, Bobby Junior is up to 6.8 from 1.7 last year and Antonio Howard at 8.3, Donald Simmons at 4.7 and Skip Glenn at 5.9 are providing depth. The Trojans could change. **GRADE - B.**

EAST MECKLENBURG

The Eagles are registering almost as good as last year. David Septeca, Tony Witherspoon have already improved their averages. Terry Conner is shooting the lights out. **GRADE - C+**

SOUTH MECKLENBURG

The Sabres returned a pitiful 2.8 points and have accumulated few wins, but the Sabres have never given up and played some teams close. Roman Phifer is having a good year. **GRADE - C.**

WEST MECKLENBURG

The Indians have moved Damon Rawlinson, 18.4, and Harry Carty, 5.8, up from the junior varsity and discovered some firepower to go along with Milton Moore, 13.1, and Terrence Griggs, 7.5.

They look like a more solid team and next year could be very good. **GRADE - C.**

"Player Of Week"

Terry Nance Has Been On "A Tear!"

By James Cuthbertson
Post Sports Writer
Terry Nance of West Charlotte is this week's Charlotte Post "Player of the Week."

In his last two games, Nance, 6'4" and 180 pounds, has been on a tear. In a loss to Myers Park, he scored 25 of his team's 60 points and he provided leadership in his team's 59-58 win at North Mecklenburg in which he scored 17 points.

Nance is the conference's leading scorer averaging 18.8 points per game.

Haywood Workman of Myers Park is the second leading scorer in the conference with a 17.0 average.

He is followed by Harrell Patterson, Independence, 16.0; James Elmore, Garinger, 14.8; Willie Walker, Garinger, 14.3; Damon Rawlinson, West Mecklenburg, 13.8; Herman Springs, Olympic, 13.5; Brad Smith, Independence, 13.4; Paul Grier, Myers Park, 13.0; Terry Conner, East, 13.0; Milton Moore, West Mecklenburg, 12.8; Mike Gurley, North, 12.7; Donald Sibby, Harding, 12.2; David Serepca, East, 12.1 and Gene Young, Olympic,



Terry Nance
.....Leading prep-scorer

Independence remains as The Charlotte Post's number one team. They are followed by Myers Park, West Charlotte,

North Mecklenburg, East Mecklenburg, Olympic, Garinger, Harding, South Mecklenburg and West Mecklenburg.

College Recruiters List

15 Hottest Prep Prospects

By James Cuthbertson
Post Sports Writer

There are 15 hot prospects in the Southwestern 4A Conference, according to recruiters on the local high school basketball scene.

These are the names that keep coming up in conversations held with coaches of the Sun Belt Conference, Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association and the Carolinas Conference.

Terry Nance, a 6'3" forward with an 18.3 average, is a senior at West Charlotte. He averaged 11.0 last year, has started every year he has been at West Charlotte and has a great shooting touch.

Independence's Harrell Patterson is averaging 16.7, up from 4.2 on last year's state championship team. He is a 6'4", 205 pound forward who can dribble.

Haywood Workman of Myers Park is averaging 16.6, up from 13.0 last year. He is 6'3", and 170 pounds. Workman has the ability to take control of a basketball game as he has done several times for Myers Park this season.

Olympic's Herman Springs is a big guard who is averaging 13.6. He is a great outside shooter and is a great rebounder with his 6'1", 178 pounds. The physical player can hang inside with the best of them.

Gene Young is an Olympic guard. His 12.1 average is up from his 9.8 last year. He is 6'1" and 175 pounds. As Young goes, so goes the Trojans.

West Mecklenburg's Milton Moore was called by his coach as pound for pound the best athlete on the Indian squad. He is 6'1", and 170 pounds. He aver-

aged 15.0 on the junior varsity last year.

Willie Walker is a 6'3" and a slender 160 pounds. Walker averaged 3.9 as a sophomore on the varsity last year and is presently one of the leading scorers in the county with his 14.8 average.

James Elmore of Garinger averaged 12.5 last year and has improved to 15.6 this year. He is 6'3" and 170 pounds. The junior is one of the best players in the county.

Antonio Howard of Olympic is a 6'1", 150 pound junior and probably the best pure shooter in the conference. He is averaging eight-points per game and has recently made progress by beating one of the seniors on the talented squad.

Donald Simmons of Olympic has impressive credentials in the ability of his long arms to control the areas around the basket by getting rebounds and garbage baskets. He can put the ball in the hoop. Although averaging only 5.1 points per game, the sophomore had an outstanding junior varsity career at Olympic.

Maurice Caldwell was a one-man team at Coulwood Junior High School. He is averaging eight points per game from his starting position at West Charlotte. He is a talented 6'1", 168 pound point guard for the Lions.

Lance Jones is a wiry 6'4", 160 pounder who can take the ball to the basket. He is averaging 6.9 points per game from his guard-forward position.

Roman Phifer is a talented South Mecklenburg football player. The highly academic young man was a punter on the football

team and is a starter for the varsity basketball team. He is averaging 11.0 points per game on a 6'2", 175 pound frame.

Nance has been on a tear by hitting highs of 24 against East Mecklenburg, 25 against Myers Park and 21 against Independence. Patterson hit 25 against North, 21 against Kannapolis and 20 against Myers Park.

Workman hit 23 against West Charlotte, 21 against East and 20 against Independence.

Springs hit 20 against Male High of Louisville, 24 against North, Mecklenburg and 19 against Independence.

Young hit 19 against West Mecklenburg, 18 against Garinger and 16 against Rock Hill.

West Mecklenburg's Milton Moore hit 20 against East Mecklenburg and 16 in the Indians' upset of state ranked West Caldwell.

Garinger's Willie Walker had 23 over Providence Day, 21 over Olympic and 19 against North and South.

Teammate James Elmore hit 23 against North and 21 against Olympic.

Howard had 17 against North in a triple overtime thriller and 14 against Male of Louisville in the Rock Hill Cel River Classic.

Simmons had 10 against Clover and 10 against Male High of Louisville.

Maurice Caldwell had 11 against East Mecklenburg. Lance Jones has 17 against Garinger and 12 against Kings Mountain and West Mecklenburg.

South's Roman Phifer scored 16 against Rock Hill Northwestern and 15 against Garinger.

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