



James.

And now for the semester grades that were omitted in last week's column due to space.

SOUTH MECKLENBURG - The Sabres' coach Herb Davis didn't return very much this year, but has managed to be competitive in several games.

Roman Phifer is going to be a great one before he leaves Sabre land. The Sabres only returned 2.9 points of experience. They have made the most of the talent they possess and except for some mental lapses could have a better record. GRADE C. .. HARDING - The Rams were rated as one

of the teams to beat in the conference. With one of the taller teams in the league, they feature talented players like Leonard Faulcon, Donald Sibby, Brett Thompson

and Ramone Hollit returning. The Rams have not gotten on track. After losing 53-52 to Myers Park earlier in the season, the Rams lost 55-40 last week to the

The Rams have more talemt than they show. GRADE D+.

#### THE RANKINGS

.... INDEPENDENCE - The Patriots are alive and kicking. They could very well win a second conference championship. That is a credit to coach Dave Christenbury's skill

.. 2. MYERS PARK - The Mustangs could be tough at season's end. They get more "vintage" with age.

... 3. WEST CHARLOTTE - The Lions keep tagging behind the frontrumers, hoping for

4. NORTH MECKLENBURG - The Vikings play on heart and play very well. They could be a dark horse in the con-

5. EAST MECKLENBURG - With hot-shot erry Conner, the Eagles are always ready

to do battle.

6. OLYMPIC - A lot of talent on a team that sometimes gets lost along the way, but is, nevertheless, dangerous.

7. GARINGER - This is another team that could pose a problem for other foes in the Southwestern 4A Conference tournament.

8. WEST MECKLENBURG - The Indians with wins over West Caldwell, Olympic and South Mecklenburg in which they came from behind, have shown that someone is going to be sorry in the conference tourney.

9. HARDING - The Rams are another team in this well balanced league that could

team in this well balanced league that could thwart someone's rise to the state tourna-

10. SOUTH MECKLENBURG The Sabres, in the midst of rough times, hope to surprise some conference foes.

West Mecklenburg hot-shot Milton Moore is averaging 14.0 points per game after hitting 34 against North and 24 against Olympic last week.

Moore, a junior, is fast becoming one of the better players in the Southwestern 4A.

On the girls' front, Lisa Cole, Lisa Austin, Constance Watt and Shay Jones led the Rams to a big upset of Independence, 57-51.

With Independence leading 47-46, with 1:36 left, Cole hit a field goal to close the gap. Then Shay Jones and Tonya Williams stole the ball and the Rams hit seven of eight in the final 1:08 of play to leave the Patriots grounded off the unbeaten list.

A big game coming up Friday has Independence at North Mecklenburg. This game could have a bearing on who wins the conference championship.

Veronica Harris hit 18 points and four late free throws to lead the Trojans over West Charlotte by a narrow 59-58 margin.





Antonio Howard .....Gangly 150 pounder

# **Antonio Howard Has** Sure Ticket To Stardom

By James Cuthbertson **Post Sports Writer** 

Antonio Howard is a striking 6'1", 150 pounder who has an aura around him that indicates that he is a sure ticket to stardom one day.

The gangly youngster is presently averaging 10.0 points per game from his shooting guard position and is helping Olympic to re-juvenate from last year's 8-20 team that didn't make the playoffs.

When we lost six or seven games in the middle of the season," he began, "we went back to the basics. We knew that we

basics. We knew that we were pretty good so we practiced harder and played harder and worked on our free throws."

This is his seventh year playing basketball.

At Kennedy in the ninth grade, he averaged 10 points per game. Last year he averaged 14.5 for the junior varsity which ended the season with a 17-3 record.

It is his hope and desire to play in college.

The tournament at Rock Hill helped us by expering us to better competition, but hurt us by starting in on a losing binge that it was hard to come out of," he said.

Included in that losing binge was an 81-77 loss to

Louisville Male, a 72-64 loss to Rock Hill Northwestern, a 71-60 loss to Myers Park

and an 87-85 triple overtime loss at North and a 67-73 loss to East,

The Trojans broke out of the slump with a 65-82 win over a South Meckinshag team that Howard said had vasfly improved over their showing in the Rock Hill tournament.

"The triple overtime at North was the second I have been in," he said. "We had one last year at Independence, We, won 92-56."

The Trojans rarely win The Trojans rarely win at Independence so maybe it's a good sign for the team that looks like it is a year away from being at the top of the conference.

Howard is one of the top juniors on this squad that also includes Donald Sim-

mons, Reggie Wilson, Lamar Simond, Dwayne Glenn, Bobby Green and

Jim Corry.
They join seniors Reggle
Grier, Bobby Junior, Jeff
Miller, Herman Springs

and Gene Young.
"We are trying to get to
the top of the conference,
to we can have a home
sout advantage," he said.
His favorite player is
Lorenzo Charles and Spud
Webb on his favorite team,
the North Carolina State
Wolfpack.

# **Guilford College Hosts** All-Star Soccer Camps

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p.m. on the UNCC ca



## Melvin Johnson Is One Of Sunbelt's Fines

was previously "Freshman of the Year" and "Sopho-more of the Year." Johnson has started in 95 of 103 games that he has

of 103 games that he has played while a 40'er.

At the latest count Johnson had moved ahead of Phil Ward on the all-time scoring list and is a cinch to pass Kevin King at number five and Robert Earl Blue. at number four before he

graduates.

Cedric Maxwell's 1,824
may be a little harder to
beat. Johnson would have

### Volunteers Needed To Help Illiterates

Central Piedmont Com-munity College needs vo-lunteer instructor assist-ants for its Adult Basic Literacy Education (ABLE) center in Freedom Mail.

Mail:

Volunteer training sessions will be from 1-5 p.m.
Saturday, February 11, at the center, located beside the N.C. Liberte, Plate

Bureau.

Volunteers will receive an orientation to the center and learn to work with adults in using the Laubach tutoring method. Soon after beginning service at the center, volunteers will receive individual training in supervising computer-assisted instruction.

ABLE is the first project in the nation to use the

ect in the nation to use the latest in educational technology – microcomputers, television, sound-slide programs and more – to teach illiterate adults. Instruction is free. tion is free.

To sign up for the contahop, sall Jocelyn Dienst at 373-6715.

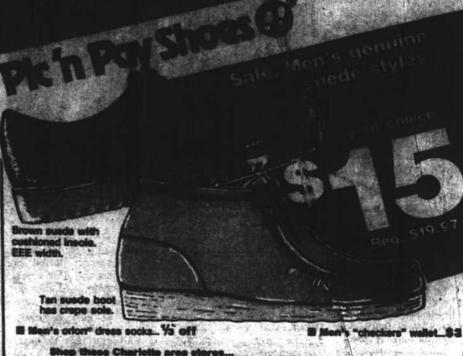
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ne a rematch of the 76-70 game won by UNCC over the Blue Beast in Charlotte in January.

The team needs both games to avoid a lower-tylsion standing at the pagent's and



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