

By James Cuthbertson



**PREP
CHATTER**



The Southwestern 4A Conference is now beginning to stabilize and the picture is beginning to focus on who will be the playoff contenders.

It makes predicting a lot easier also. Last week, I predicted seven of nine games correctly, including the private schools.

This brings the season's total to 24 correct and 14 wrong for a 65 percent mark.

Without further ado, let's take a stab at this week. WEST MECKLENBURG (2-2, 1-2) at EAST MECKLENBURG (2-2, 2-1)

The Indians enjoyed considerable success early in the season but have run up against tough teams in back to back losses that have almost doomed their playoff plans.

The Eagles started horribly and have turned the beat around to make a run for it. East Mecklenburg 24, West Mecklenburg 12.

GARINGER (3-1, 2-1) at WEST CHARLOTTE (3-1, 2-1)

The Wildcats of Garinger could almost have insured themselves of a playoff spot with a win over South Mecklenburg last week.

They didn't.

The Lions of West Charlotte are back in form after an upset loss to the East Mecklenburg Eagles two weeks ago, sending the Indians of West reeling out of playoff contention with a 28-7 win. West Charlotte 14, Garinger 13.

OLYMPIC (1-3, 1-2) at INDEPENDENCE (3-1, 3-0)

The Trojans won their first game last week at Harding and seem to be turning the beat around. They held Harding to three points.

The Independence Patriots are on a roll. They are undefeated in conference play and headed to the state playoffs. Independence 21, Olympic 7.

HARDING (1-3, 1-2) at SOUTH MECKLENBURG 2-2, 2-1)

Harding doesn't have the manpower to stay with the Sabres.

Roman Phifer and Tony Lindsay, Greg Wilcox and the boys should keep moving towards the state playoffs. South Mecklenburg 18, Harding 6.

NORTH MECKLENBURG (2-2, 1-2) at MYERS PARK (0-4, 0-3)

The North Vikings have to have a win here to keep any hopes that they may have alive.

The Mustangs are improving week by week. North Mecklenburg 14, Myers Park 7.

IN OTHER GAMES:

Catholic 19, Piedmont 6; Charlotte Latin 14, Camden Military 7; Providence Day 16, McColl (SC) 7; and Country Day 21, Asheville School 10.

THE RANKINGS

1. Independence - The Patriots deserve this ranking. They have worked hard for it and are presently the only undefeated team in the conference.

2. South Mecklenburg - The Sabres are one of the few teams that have garnered this spot with two losses, but the wins were big, both over playoff contenders Garinger and West Mecklenburg.

3. Garinger - The Wildcats aren't out of contention, but the heat will definitely be on at West Charlotte.

4. East Mecklenburg - The Eagles have turned it around and stand a hare's breadth away from being a playoff contender.

5. West Charlotte - The Lions experienced a height last week with a rout of West Mecklenburg. With Garinger knocking at the door, a loss could knock one team out of the playoffs.

6. North Mecklenburg - The Vikings' road to the playoffs is difficult, having lost to contenders Independence and Garinger.

7. West Mecklenburg - The Indians have dropped two games and about seven notches in the standings.

8. Olympic - The Trojans move up a notch after a good defensive win over the Harding Rams.

9. Harding - The Rams lost to Olympic, but are still dangerous and could be a spoiler in someone's plans.

10. Myers Park - The Mustangs of Myers Park have hit rock bottom. A year ago, they were on top. They won't be down here long. Rumor has it that there is a lot of talent in the stable.

PRIVATE SCHOOLS

1. Catholic - Look for the Cougars to make the playoffs.

2. Country Day - This is a tough team, make no mistake about it.

3. Latin - They have turned the beat around.

4. Providence Day - With Reggie Clark, they are very explosive.

The list of playoffs contenders narrows, but among those teams who look like they have a shot at it are: Garinger, South Mecklenburg, East Mecklenburg, Independence, and West Charlotte.

Big games looming in the future are Friday, October 12, with Independence at South Mecklenburg; Friday, October 19, with Independence at West Charlotte, and East Mecklenburg at Garinger; Friday, November 2, with Independence at Garinger; and Friday, November 9, with South at East.

The North Carolina High School Athletic Association is considering action that could cause changes in the scope of high school athletics in the state of North Carolina that would be monumental.

The Academics and Attendance Committee has recommended that a student be required to pass four subjects for the previous semester in order to obtain athletic eligibility.

This year, the requirement is three with one being academic.

The attendance regulation would be raised to 75 percent during the previous semester.

This year, the requirement is 60 percent.

It is also recommended that a student be in attendance the day of the game before he or she can play in that contest.

In Philadelphia, Pa.

MEAC Schedules Press Conference

Greensboro - The Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference will hold a basketball press conference and luncheon in Philadelphia on Friday, October 12, at the Franklin Towne Econo Lodge beginning at noon.

MEAC Commissioner Ken Free and the head basketball coaches will preview the upcoming 1984-85 season. Philadelphia Mayor Wilson Goode is also scheduled to be present.

Free chose the city because the 14th Annual MEAC Basketball Tournament will be held there March 7-9, 1985 in the Palstra.

According to Free, the tournament has not been staged that far North since 1975, when it was played in Baltimore, MD. "It has been held in North Carolina for the past nine years. The men's defending champion is NC A&T State, while Bethune-Cookman won the women's division last season. NC A&T met Morehead State in the 1984 NCAA

post-season Division I Basketball Championships, and the MEAC will have its automatic berth again in 1985," Free said.

MEAC men coaches are Jack "Cy" McClairn of Bethune-Cookman, Joe Dean Davidson of Morgan State, A.B. Williamson of Howard University, Howie Davis of Maryland Eastern Shore, Tom Dean of Morgan State, Don Corbett of N.C. A&T and Percy "Chico" Caldwell of South Carolina State.

Women coaches include Willie Simon of SC State, Joyce Spruill of NC A&T, LaRue Fields of Morgan, Germaine McAuley of Maryland Eastern Shore, Sanya Tyler of Howard, Stanley McDowell of Delaware State, and Alvin Wyatt of Bethune-Cookman.

The annual MEAC Basketball Officials Clinic will be held in conjunction with the press conference extending to October 13.

Self-Examination Workshop Scheduled

Most breast cancers are first discovered by women themselves. Since breast cancers found early and treated promptly have excellent chances for cure, learning how to examine your breasts properly can help save your life. As Breast Self-Examination (BSE) instructors, nurses play a vital role in cancer control.

On Wednesday, October 17, the American Cancer Society, Mecklenburg Unit will sponsor a Breast Self-Examination Trainer Workshop for health professionals interested in teaching this important cancer safeguard. Sessions will be offered

from 12:30-2 p.m. and 4-6 p.m. at the Cancer Society office at 1928 Randolph Road.

Nurses can earn three hours of CERPS credit as they become certified BSE instructors. To register for the workshop, call the American Cancer Society at 376-1659 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays.

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