

By James Cuthbertson

# Prep Chatter



**IT'S OFFICIAL....** The new 4A Conferences in our area have names...The South Mecklenburg Sabres, East Mecklenburg Eagles, Independence Patriots, Garinger Wildcats, Myers Park Mustangs, Gastonia Hunter Huss Huskies and Gastonia Ashbrook Green Wave will compose the Southwestern 4A Conference.

The Olympic Trojans, North Mecklenburg Vikings, West Charlotte Lions, West Mecklenburg Indians, Harding Rams, East Gaston Warriors and Shelby Crest Chargers will compose the Tri-County 4A Conference.

**WHAT A SHAME....** We have four teams in the Western Regionals of the state playoffs and the fans in our area had to travel to a little hole in the wall called Icard, North Carolina, to watch them play. The East Burke gym, although beautiful, is far from a populous area. Remember the great debate a few years ago when James Worthy was a junior and West Charlotte was playing Ashbrook in the first round of the state playoffs? Well, the game was moved to the Coliseum because the West Charlotte gym was deemed too small to handle the crowd. The result, 10,000 plus fans. That is still the state record for a high school game. Tell me I am not dreaming. I believe that 7,000 plus fans would easily fill the Coliseum for the Western Regionals. It is a comfortable building and can accommodate the press. The North Carolina High School Athletic Association should seriously think about Charlotte as a good and logical site for the Western Regionals in the future. There will be 14 4A schools in our area and all the other schools in the region are within two hours' drive. It is a shame that Roxboro Person has to travel to Icard, which is five hours away.

Outstanding track performances are being turned in already. Rodney Huntley of Myers Park threw the shot 51.3 and the discus 125-1.

Dale Williams of Myers Park high-jumped 6-4.

John White of West Mecklenburg high-jumped at 6-7 and long-jumped at 20-3.

Daron Davis of West ran 110 hurdles in 15.1 seconds.

Michael Cureton of West Charlotte wins the 1985 Charlotte Post "Mr. Hustle" award.

The one comment made by many coaches was that he was "the one player in the league who really knows how to go after the ball."

Michael averaged nine points and eight rebounds per game.

His best game this season was 21 points when West Charlotte beat Independence, 66-64, and 19 in a 68-58 loss to Olympic's Trojans.

In the playoffs, Michael scored 32 against Greensboro Page.

**SOUTHWESTERN 4A BASKETBALL SUPERLATIVES:** BEST CHEERLEADERS: West Charlotte. Honorable Mention: Olympic.

**BEST STUDENT SHOW OF SUPPORT:** Olympic's Flashers. Honorable Mention: West Charlotte.

**BEST SHOW OF COLORS:** Myer's Park Green Men. Honorable Mention: West Charlotte.

**BEST IN THE CLUTCH:** Dee Pritchett, Myers Park. Honorable Mention: Terry Massey, Myers Park.

**MOST EXCITING NEWCOMER:** Lee Rozier, Independence. Honorable Mention: Terry Massey, Myers Park.

**SMOOTHEST PLAYER:** Letura Stitt, North; Antonio Howard, Olympic.

**BEST TENTH GRADER:** Terry Massey, Myers Park; Bobby Moore, North.

**BEST AT FOLLOWING SHOTS TO THE BASKET:** Paul Grier, Myers Park; Donald Simmons, Olympic.

**BEST FUTURE TWIN TOWERS:** Elliott Dunlap and Ronald Hargett, Olympic.

**ALWAYS 100 PERCENT PLAYER:** Roman Phifer, South; Mike Cureton, West Charlotte.

West Mecklenburg's softball team looks like a powerhouse. The Indians scalped Olympic, 20-1, recently as Dawn Williams and Cathy Farrar had two and three hits, respectively. Kathy Gibbs added two.

Congratulations to Eric Boyd of N. C. A&T State. Boyd was an outstanding football quarterback and basketball forward for Independence High.

At A&T, he was named as the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference "Player of the Year" in 1984-85. He was named as the MEAC's "Outstanding Tournament Player" in 1982, 1984, and 1985.

He is averaging 16.9 points and 5.1 rebounds per game while shooting 43 percent from the field and 74 percent from the line.

Congratulations to West Mecklenburg's John White. He high-jumped six feet and eight inches to set a school record in a recent track meet.

**FINAL SOUTHWESTERN 4A RANKINGS:**  
...1. Myers Park, 2. West Charlotte, 3. Independence, 4. North Mecklenburg, 5. Olympic, 6. Harding, 7. Garinger, 8. South, 9. East, and 10. West.

**STATE TOURNAMENT NOTES**  
The state lost a lot of money at the Western Regionals. Granted, the facilities may have been free but the first night's crowd was probably about 2,000 at the most. The final crowd was about the same. Multiply this by 4,000 tickets sold by the \$3 price of admission and you get \$12,000.

Imagine two nights of 5,000 in the Charlotte Coliseum. This is a low estimate.

With 10,000 fans we are talking about \$30,000 or more than \$18,000 more than was made at Icard.

With North, Myers Park, West Charlotte, and Hunter Huss in it a more likely figure of 8,000 per game is more logical.

That's 16,000 tickets sold multiplied by the \$3 price of admission or \$48,000. The Coliseum couldn't cost more than \$5,000 to rent.

## Here Friday Night

# Globetrotters Will Present Their Unique Form Of Comedy Basketball

The Harlem Globetrotters, the team that made ballhandling their trademark and comedy their calling card, will make a special visit to Charlotte on Friday, March 22.

The Globetrotters have presented their unique form of comedy basketball to more than 100 million people in 101 countries since the team was founded in 1927.

The team's legendary ballhandling skills evolved over a period of years, starting with the team's early days when they would barnstorm across the country taking on all comers.

At that time the Trotters played "serious" basketball with little, if any, comedy.

When they would take a lead over their opposition, the Trotters would dazzle the crowd with ballhandling tricks and other feats of basketball legerdemain. The Globetrotters realized that the fans enjoyed the tricks more than the straight basketball.

The team continued to recruit the finest basketball players in the country, and year in and year out proved themselves to be among the elite of the nation's basketball teams, but comedy became more and more a part of every Globetrotter game.

Today's Trotters roster include some of the nation's finest recent college ball players, providing fans around the world with a spectacular display of high-flying slam dunks and razzle basketball wizardry.

Leading the Trotter squad is Hubert "Geese" Ausbie, the un-questioned "Clown Prince of Basketball." He is joined by a stellar lineup that includes former Houston All-American "Sweet Lou" Dunbar, Clyde "The Glide" Austin, dribbling star Larry "Gator" Rivers, seven-footer Robert "Baby Face" Paige



**RING AROUND THE GLOBETROTTER** - Harlem Globetrotter, Harold Hubbard, left, and Freddy "Curly" Neal go from fast breaks to square dancing during a recent Globetrotter game. Can break dancing be far behind?

and former Minnesota backcourt ace Osbourne Lockhart.

Tickets are \$9 and \$8 and are on sale now at the Coliseum box office.

Ticket reservations are available at all area Sears Stores, Cone Center at

UNCC, Statesville Travel, Belk (Monroe), TAS in Albemarle and Jo Jo's in Gastonia.

Mail orders are accepted when accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Make checks payable to Harlem Globetrotters and send mail orders to: Charlotte Coliseum, 2700 Independence Blvd., Charlotte, N.C. 28205.

## S.C. State Displays Passing Attack In Spring Football Tilt

Orangeburg - South Carolina State, which has thrived on a strong running game, displayed a potent passing attack last Thursday night (March 14) as the Blue team raced to a 34-0 win over the Garnet team in the Bulldogs' annual spring football game.

Rising junior quarterback Charles Glaze passed for three touchdowns and directed two other scoring drives to spark the Blue team. Glaze, who had scoring tosses of 38, 60 and five yards, finished the evening with six completions in 11 attempts for 125 yards.

Two of his TD passes went to former high school teammate David Lee Norman during a 40-point third quarter explosion. Norman, who wiped out Charlie Brown's single-season receiving mark with 30 receptions last year, caught a 60 yarder from Glaze midway the third period for a 27-0 Blue lead, then made it 34-0 less than five minutes later when he took a five yard scoring pass from Glaze. Glaze connected with Edwin Glass from 38 yards away for his other scoring strike.

Despite the aerial show, the Bulldogs did not neglect their running game which chalked up 288 yards on the ground. Rising senior Gerald Foggie was the Blue's top rusher with 63 yards, and opened the scoring with a three-yard blast with 4:45 left in the first quarter. Glaze added 47 yards rushing and rising sophomore Mike Summers 41.

The Garnet team, which was directed by Roscoe Darnell, like Glaze a rising junior, rolled up 134 yards on the ground and added 97 via the airways. Darnell completed eight of 12 passes for 81 yards but suffered two interceptions, one of which Tim Norris returned 18

yards for a score. Darnell was also his team's top ground gainer with 22 yards.

Despite the lopsided score, Bulldog head coach Bill Davis said he saw some positive things on both sides of the football. "I thought we showed a lot of spark on offense," said Davis. "Things got a little ragged at times but overall we played tough defense, tackled well and demonstrated poise on offense."

"The score might indicate the game was one-sided," continued Davis "but we didn't see it that way at all. We wanted to divide the teams equally but that is sometimes hard to do. We had nine offensive starters on the Blue team but the Garnet squad had most of the starting defensive linemen and defensive backs."

Davis, who is in his seventh season at S.C. State, said he was pleased with the attitude of his players and praised his coaches for a fine job of preparing the players for the game.

"We can't make a true evaluation of the performance of the players until we review the film," Davis noted "but we made a commitment to improving our passing game and getting back to winning. I think we have made that first step."

## Lake Looks To NFL

Dover, Del. - The odyssey of All-American fullback Gene Lake appears near an end with word last week that the 26 year old Milford, Del., native has been ruled eligible for the April 30 National Football League draft.

"It's really a relief to me, I feel like all my worrying is over now," said Lake. With his expressed interest in the senior NFL, Lake now awaits the league's April 30 draft.

## WHERE THEY PLAY

**FRIDAY, MARCH 22**  
Boys' Track  
Myers Park at North  
Harding at North  
Independence, West at Olympic  
West Charlotte, East at Garinger

**BASEBALL**  
West at East  
Garinger at West Charlotte  
Harding at South  
Olympic at Independence  
North at Myers Park

**MONDAY, MARCH 25**  
Golf  
East at Myers Park  
South at Garinger  
Independence at North  
Olympic at Harding  
West Charlotte at West

**SOFTBALL**  
East at North, 4 p.m.  
West at Garinger, 4 p.m.  
West Charlotte at Harding, 4 p.m.  
Myers Park at Olympic, 4 p.m.  
Independence at South, 4 p.m.

**TUESDAY, MARCH 26**  
Boys' Track  
East at South  
Myers Park, West Charlotte at West - Harding at Garinger

**BASEBALL**  
East at North  
West Charlotte at Harding  
West at Garinger  
Independence at South  
Myers Park at Olympic

**THURSDAY, MARCH 28**  
Girls' Track  
South at Independence  
West, North at Myers Park  
Harding at Garinger  
West Charlotte, East at Olympic

**SOFTBALL**  
East at Garinger  
Harding at West  
Independence at West Charlotte  
North at Olympic

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Master Card/VISA accepted by calling 527-4006  
Mail Orders Accepted: Send self-addressed stamped envelope along with a certified check or money order to: Harlem Globetrotters, c/o The Charlotte Coliseum, 2700 E. Independence Blvd., Charlotte, N.C. 28205