

THE \$1.98 RAP SESSION......Good impulses often do evil unless mixed with intelligent

Remember Joe Morgan? The little fireplug second baseman is returning to Cincinnati as a commentator on the Reds' telecasts....And Frank Robinson, the first black to manage a major league baseball team, will serve as coach with the Baltimore Orioles this season. Frank was fired by the San Francisco Giants last summer.

The middleweight bout of the century will not be seen on television. When Marvelous Marvin Hagler squares off with Tommy Hearns next April 15, the 12-round sizzler will be seen only on closed-circuit in theaters and arenas...If you like hunches, take Tommy Hearns over Hagler.

NBC has entered the bidding for the TV rights of NBA games. The League's contract with CBS expires after the 1985-86 campaign. If you're wondering why NBC has become so interested all of a sudden, it's because the NBA is on a roll. While TV ratings dipped for all other sports last year, the National Basketball Association's ratings went skywards. The majority of the nation's highly respected NBA experts list Michael Jordan as the most marketable athlete in all sports. The former North Carolina standout will earn more this year for work off the basketball courts than on.

Wonder why all the fuss is being made of Chris Washburn's low SAT score? Did North Carolina State recruit him for his scholastic ability or for his athletic skills?

Three major basketball conferences - The Big Ten, The Pacific 10, and The ACC - have won 65 percent of their NCAA Tourney games. The Big Ten has the best average, with a 66.1 rating. The Pacific 10 is second at 65.4 and the ACC is 65.3.

City officials should look into the feasibilities of constructing a dome arena. Sources say the NCAA Division I Tournament Committee will vote shortly to conduct the Final Four exclusively in domed stadiums.

Did you know that the NFL salaries have increased 55 percent in the last two years?

It's my two cents' worth that Houston center Akeem Olajuwon will win the NBA "Rookie of the Year" honors over Michael Jordan.

Former UNCC basketball coach Lee Rose has a new five-year contract at South Florida, upping his annual salary from \$86,000 to \$116,000......Look for freshman Chris Washburn to withdraw from N.C. State later in the

Baltimore Orioles firstbaseman Eddie Murray, who gained minor league experience with the Charlotte Hornets, has averaged .290 with 25 home runs and 90 runs batted in, in his first seven seasons in the major.

During a conversation comparing his meager \$5,000 recruiting budget with the \$150,000 or more spent by the major colleges for the same purpose, Joe Harper, football coach at California Poly, explained, "We do a lot by telephone. We don't get very many good players, either!"

When Pittsburgh Pirates controversial flychaser Dave Parker learned that teammate Cesar Cedeno paid \$7,000 property damages after driving into a tree, he remarked, "If I paid that much for a tree I'd at least have gotten the wood for my fireplace!"

My hat's off to ESPN for the excellent telecasts of the NCAA Playoffs last week. Besides, it gave me the rare pleasure of watching basketball on national TV without listening to Billy Packer, who's becoming increasingly boring with his criticism of the coaches and the referees.

Wonder why the CIAA did not use three referees in its

fabulous basketball tournament games recently? The Harlem Globetrotters are coming to town with the remarkable Curly Neal and the delightful Goose Tatum. The entertainment is slated for Friday night.

Forty eight percent of the country's 84 million TV households have ESPN and WTBS. Another 21 million pick up Chicago's WGN, and 29 million have access to the New York Super Stations. Think about it!....That's a lot of

The \$500,000 which the New York Mets will pay star pitcher Dwight Gooden makes the young lefthander the highest paid second year pitcher in baseball history.

Incidentally, the Mets are the only team in either league, that opened camp solid at ever position. Their hitting, sensational pitching and spectacular fielding should make them the team to beat in the National League East this

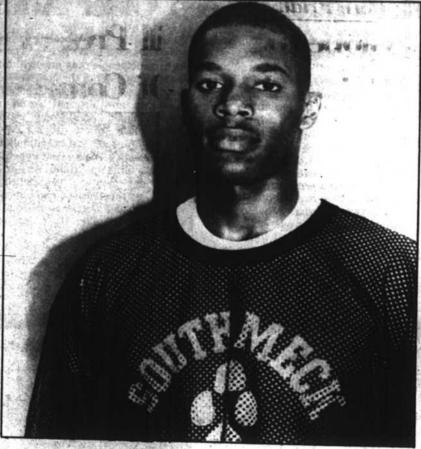
Dean Smith has become the first college coach ever to win 20 games in 15 consecutive seasons... The average NBA coach is not so poorly paid. Each earned more than \$200,000 a year, and the average length of their contract is

three years,
Ken Faulks is busy putting the finishing touches on the new facelife at Pawtucket Golf Course. "Going to have a brand new dining room and a bar," Ken offered recently while visiting our favorite tailor, Jimmy Grier. John Love has already booked two appearances for the popular Par

has already booked two appearances for the popular Par Busters' group at Ken's course.

Michael Bernard, new head basketball coach at North Carolina Central, says he's embarking on a mission of "Excellence Without Excuse!" Bernard, who takes over the reigns in April from interim coach Harry Edmonds, also said he's making a commitment "to discipline, organization and preparation. With those, I hope to build a solid program." The 36-year-old former assistant at Norfolk State signed a four-year contract.





"Roaming" Roman PhiferVersatile athlete

Sport Fans Wonder What Makes Phifer Tick

By James Cuthbertson **Post Sports Writer**

The big names have come calling for other sports but right now South Mecklenburg's Roman Phifer is concentrating on another sport.

Sports fans wonder what makes Roman tick. Perhaps it is the competitiveness of the sport. Whatever it is, it transgresses the world of sport and into the world of academics as the young man is ranked near the top of his junior class

Football schools interested in Phifer are Georgia Tech, Tennessee, North Carolina, North Carolina State, Wake Forest, South Carolina, and East Carolina.

He was All-Charlotte Post in football as a wide receiver, punter, punt return speciality, kickoff return specialist, and outside linebacker.

Basketball schools interested are Virginia Commonwealth, Davidson and Wake Forest. Phifer is a 6-3, 198 pounder.

"I am not sure which one I will be playing," he said. "I'll pro-bably just wait and weigh all the offers before deciding. I like both

In basketball, he was All-County for The Charlotte Post with an 18.9 scoring average and games in which he produced 30 and 34 points.

Presently Phifer is keeping in condition by participating on the South track team.

In its opening meet, the Sabres scored 1301/2 points to 301/2 for Harding and 17 for Olympic.

Phifer, this week's Charlotte Post "Spring Sports Star of the Week," jumped 6-2 to win the high jump.

Six feet and two inches in the first meet of the season is a very good jump.

Another Sabre having a good way was Tony Lindsey with a jump of 43 feet 2 inches in the triple jump.











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