

By James Cuthbertson

Prep Chatter



James

Congratulations to Eric Abrams, the 1985 "Mr. Tennis" of The Charlotte Post.

Abrams made it to the semifinals of the North Carolina State High School Tennis Championships before he lost to Brian Burchfield of Concord, 6-3, 6-2.

Abrams beat Brad Hubbard of Asheville to take the consolation title.

The 17 year old East Mecklenburg junior will travel the Southern circuit this summer and play tennis with the BATCH Racquet Association.

Scott Russ of the Garinger Wildcats was named as the "Most Valuable Player" in the Southwestern 4A high school baseball tournament which was won by the Wildcats, 8-7, over defending state champion Independence.

The pitchers on the team were Doug Hahline of Garinger, Tony Garagiola of Independence, and Jamie Furr of Olympic.

Brian Prince of Garinger was the catcher.

Infielders were Keith Kozlowski of Myers Park, Scott Russ of Garinger, Tom Malchesky of Independence, Tim Payne of Garinger, Jim Karp of Independence, and Greg Brown of Garinger.

Outfielders were Forrest Kenley of Olympic, Robbie Kistler of Independence, Gene Brown of Garinger, Phil Edwards of Myers Park, and Wes Black of Independence.

Garinger opened the 4A playoffs with a 6-3 win over Winston-Salem Parkland.

Donald Hanline was the hero, winning his seventh game against three losses while throwing a four-hitter at the Mustangs with the help of reliever Kelly Hill.

In that game Kelly Hill took over for two-thirds inning and got a pop up, gave up a two-run homer and got another pop up to retire the side. East Forsyth beat the Cats, 9-4, in the second round.

The Southwestern 4A All Golf Team included Mike Danyluk of Independence, Rodney Elam of South, Tom Thunderburk of East, J. D. Koontz of Independence, Braxton McClennan of Myers Park, Tom Padgett of Harding, George Payne of Myers Park and George Valashinas of Independence.

Final standings were South 9-0, Independence 8-1, Myers Park 7-2, Harding 5-4, East 5-4, North 4-5, Garinger 3-6, West 3-6, West Charlotte 1-8, and Olympic 0-9.

The Southwestern 4A Conference All Softball Team was led by West Mecklenburg, South Mecklenburg and Independence, who placed 10 of the 14 players on the team.

The outfielders were Clarrisa Forney of North, Dorina Ruocco of South, Cathey Farrar of West, Dawn Williams of West, Michelle Prater of Independence, Michelle Young of East, and Latonia Davis of Harding.

Infielders were Shannon Mullins of Independence, Lois Jarvis of Independence, Angie Smith of South, Lori Helton of West.

Pitcher was Jane Stover of South.

The catcher was Shannon McArver of West Mecklenburg.

Superlatives included Forney's .490 batting average, .944 fielding average, and 17 runs batted in; Ruocco's .521 batting average and 21 runs batted in; Farrar's .526 batting average, five homers and 21 RBI's, and 41 hits; Williams' .443 batting average, six homers, 34 RBI's, and 35 hits; Prater's .519 batting average and .911 fielding average; Young's .420 batting average and .913 fielding average; Mullins' .479 batting average; Jarvis' .460 batting average; Smith .464 batting average; Helton's .491 batting average; Stover's .529 batting average and 2.08 earned run average.

The Patriots' baseball team was beaten on a last ditch rally by Gastonia Ashbrook, 3-2, to end their hopes of returning to the state championship.

The Independence girls' softball team beat Central Cabarrus, 10-1, but fell to East Rutherford in the second round.

The North Vilings lost in the second round to East Rowan.

Congratulations to the Independence Patriots, the new state boys' track champions.

The Pats got wins from its 400 and 1,600 meter relay teams. Coached by Jerry Todd, they scored 52 points to Garinger's 31 for an All Southwestern 4A affair.

Harold Simpson was second in the 200 meters and fifth in the 100 meters, Teddy Pauling finished second in the 300 meter hurdles. Bill Beamer was fourth in the 100 yard meter dash.

The Independence 800 relay team was second.

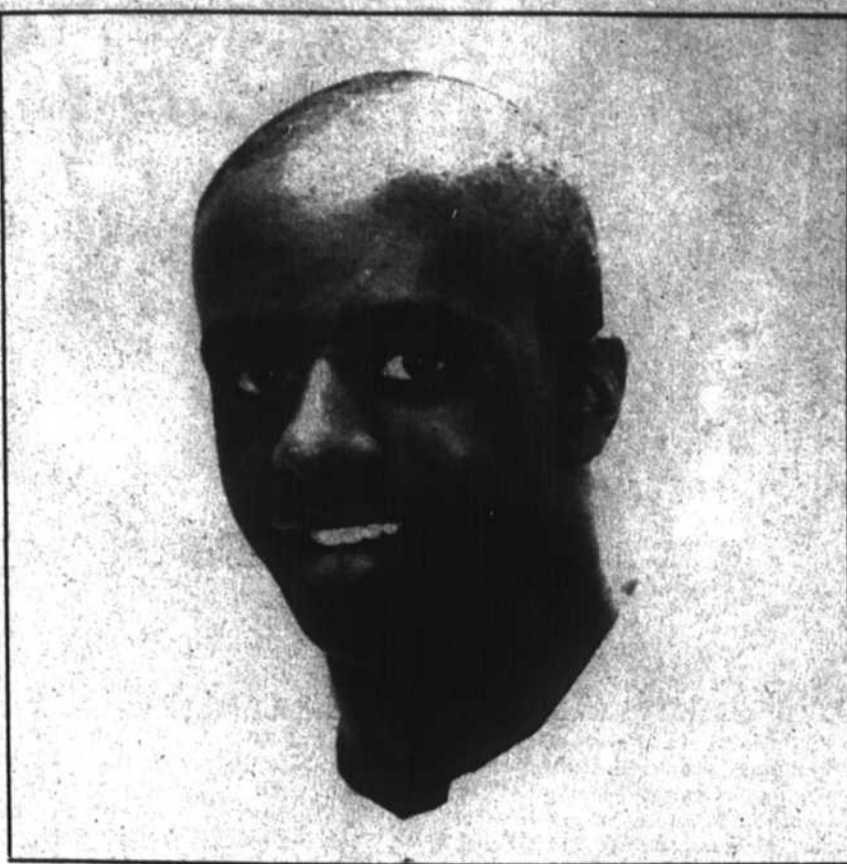
Garinger's Thayne Harmon won the 800 and the 1,600 and David Parker was second in the pole vault.

Myers Park's Alvin Blakeney finished second in the long jump and Mike Hailey of the Mustangs finished second in the discus.

In girls action, Garinger's Tonya Fillmore won the 400 and West Mecklenburg's Barbara Myers won the discus.

It is nice to see Russell Clark of West Charlotte qualifying for the NCAA Division II track and field championships at California State (Los Angeles).

Clark goes to Pembroke State University.



Tony Sneed
.....North's top golfer

Tony Sneed Named "Mr. Golf"

By James Cuthbertson
Post Sports Writer
North Mecklenburg senior Tony Sneed is the 1985 Charlotte Post "Mr. Golf."

Receiving a golf scholarship to Livingstone College, the Viking is excited about attending college and playing golf.

He averaged 80 strokes per match and was the top player at North Mecklenburg High School.

For three straight years he has received the most valuable golf trophy.

"I have played golf since I was 11 years old," he said of his six-year stint on the links.

Playing all three years of high school Tony said he likes the game because "it is an individual sport and everything depends on you. You play for a team, but you don't have anyone to blame when you hit a bad shot."

His best score was a 77 that he shot at Pawtucket Golf Course this season.

A lot of his inspiration has come from his father, Tony Sneed Sr., who introduced him to the game.

Tony's favorite course is Crystal Springs because "I like the layout. It is nice. The people who work and play there are nice. I know the course well and the manager Bill Pierce has helped me a lot with my game."

At Livingstone, Tony will be playing on the Corbin Hills Golf Course.

"The people at the school are very nice," he said. "I went up there to look around the campus twice. The golf team was third this year and won the CIAA last year. I hope to be a part of this winning effort next year."

Sneed hopes to major in business administration.

BATCH Wins First Conference Victory

The Traveling All-Stars of BATCH won their first conference victory last weekend with a 21-12 Southeastern Racquet Association win over the Greater Columbia Tennis Association.

The BATCH juniors won 8-1.

Winning in singles for BATCH were Eric Abrams, Phil Chiles, Joe Twitty, Mike Brumfield, Debbie Frazier, Gloria Duval, Shirley Whitley, Wildred Mack and Colletta Bryce.

Junior singles winners were Algernon Johnson, Terry Neal, Melvin Cuthbertson, Comyrn Cuthbertson, and Ritchie Cuthbertson.

Doubles winners were the teams of Joe Twitty and Ron Johnson, Debbie Frazier and Elaine Watson, Colletta Bryce and Shirley Whitley, and Stephanie Wells and Wildred Mack, Terry Neal and Melvin Cuthbertson, Comyrn Cuthbertson and Jermarr Reeves, and Algernon Johnson and Cecil Brandon III.

The BATCH record moves to 1-3 overall at the halfway mark of the Southeastern Racquet Association season. The juniors are also 1-3.

The next match is with undefeated Winston-Salem June 15 at Homet's Nest Park.

Olympic Leader To Kick Off State Games

Baron Pittenger, Assistant Secretary General of the United States Olympic Committee, will attend the opening ceremonies and competition of the Tar Heel State Games July 5-7 in Charlotte.

Jack Stickley, member of the Games board in charge of visiting dignitaries, made the announcement this week.

Pittenger is one of the founders of the fast-growing state games movement, with 16 states participating this summer. The United States Olympic Committee is getting in-

involved more closely with the state games program this year than ever in its seven-year history. Pittenger told Walter J. Klein, President of the Tar Heel State Games.

Stickley said other national sports figures have also been invited to kick off the 16-sport festival at sports facilities throughout the Charlotte area.

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Mr. And Miss Track Pauling And Gray Singled Out

By James Cuthbertson
Special To The Post
Independence's Teddy Pauling finished second in the state in the 300 meter hurdles with a time of 38.88 seconds. He was only .41 seconds off the time of state champion Michael Baldwin of Fayetteville Cape Fear.

Pauling's performance was part of the effort that led Independence to a state boys' track championship as they outdistanced Garinger, 52 to 31, to bring home the laurels.

Pauling also ran on the 1,600 meter relay team that won the state meet with a time of 3:16.4 seconds.

The 1985 Charlotte Post Top Ten Senior of Merit is the 1985 "Mr. Track" for The Post.

At Independence, he was All Conference in track his junior and senior years and All Conference in football in his senior year.

Pauling ranks in the top 20 percent of his graduating class of 600 and served in the Order of the Patriots

and as a member of the Kappa Alpha Psi Beantillon Militaire. He was president of the senior class and served as co-captain of the track and cross country teams.

The 1985 "Miss Track" is North Mecklenburg's Monica Michelle "Neese" Gray.

Neese finished fourth in the state in the 100 meter dash with a time of 12.42 seconds. That was only .52 seconds off the winning time of 11.9 by Lamonda Miller of Shelby Forest City Chase.

She finished fifth in the long jump with a jump of 17-9 1/2 feet. That was 1 1/2 feet off the winning mark of 18-10 by Kim Austin of Wilson Beddingfield.

At the sectional, Gray pulled off an unprecedented surprise as she won the long jump, the 100 meter dash, the 200 meter dash, and anchored the winning 400 meter relay team with Tiffany Johnson, Tammy Shipp and Rommelle Blakeney.

Washington Redskins Signs Gene Lake

Dever - Gene Lake, the most widely acclaimed player in the history of Delaware State football, will get his chance at the National Football League (NFL) after signing recently with the Washington Redskins as a free agent.

The May 13 signing ended several months of waiting for the All-American fullback who forfeited his final year of eligibility at Delaware State to pursue a pro career. Picked in January in the second round by the New Jersey Generals of the United States Football League (USFL), Lake watched in dismay as that decision was nullified two weeks later by the league because he had not filed for hardship status as required of undergraduates.

Subsequently he applied to both the USFL and NFL for a hardship ruling which was quickly granted by the fledgling USFL in time for his selection in a supplemental draft by the Baltimore Stars. In mid-February his request for a hardship status was granted by the NFL, and the 26 year old Milford native opted to wait for the senior league's April 30 draft with several teams having already expressed interest in his services.

Though overlooked in the draft, Lake had little time to face that disappointment as the Redskins promptly signed him to a free agent

contract. The leading rusher in Division I-AA in 1984 with 1,722 yards and 20 touchdowns is slated to report to the Redskins training camp at Dickinson College in Carlisle, Pa., on July 18. He has already taken part in a mini-camp for Redskin rookies and veterans the week of May 13-18 in Washington. Details of his contract were not released by the Redskins.

All-Sports Award

Dever, Delaware - Delaware State College capped one of the most successful sports years in its history by winning the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference 1984-85 T. L. Hill

All-Sports Award, the first time in 12 years that the coveted trophy has been won by any school in the conference other than South Carolina State.

Delaware State, in winning the title for the first time and becoming only the fourth school in the MEAC to ever win it, broke an 11

year stranglehold by South Carolina State. The award, named for Talmadge Layman Hill, the first president of the conference, is based on overall excellence in each MEAC intercollegiate athletic season.

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By the way...
By Joe Black

If our Black communities have realistic plans to improve living conditions, one thing is perhaps more important than anything else.

Our Black communities need to grow.

By growing, I don't mean in population. Or in area. Or in new building starts. Our communities must begin to grow economically.

The reason for economic growth is simple. We must establish and attract business to our communities.

But, to attract new business, we are faced with some nasty, old business we have to take care of first.

The business of curbing crime in our communities.

We must all begin to give greater respect to law and order, and stop remaining silent when we see it being broken. We must stop excusing Black crime, and turning our eyes away from it when we see it happening.

Black robbing, and extorting from Black business is not beautiful. We need to weed out that insidious element from our neighborhoods, soon. We have to stand together and stamp out the parasites who call us brother to our faces, then rob us blind when our backs are turned.

I simply can't believe that Black crime is the result of years of deprivation and oppression. If so, why aren't we all stealing and killing?

Let us stand strong against crime. All of us. When we do, we will make our neighborhoods far more attractive to business. Which, in turn, will create more jobs. And reduce insurance rates. And add millions of dollars to our spendable income.

Consider for a moment: Can crime do as much for all of us?

Joe Black
Vice President
The Greyhound Corporation

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