

Prep Chatter



To my good friends at West Charlotte High School - Helen Hairston and Nona Brewington... Your feedback is always appreciated on comments made in this column. It's great to know that someone is reading me intensely. Keep up the good work, ladies!

Congratulations to the Anson County Bearcat Cheerleaders from Wadesboro, N.C. They on the varsity division of the fourth annual Piedmont Invitational Cheerleading Championship at McCrory YMCA. The Bearcats won a \$100 scholarship. Second place went to Freedom High of Morganton. They won a \$50 scholarship.

Freedom's Junior Varsity won the JV division over second place West Charlotte and third place East Rowan. Millers Creek won the junior high division. Northeast Junior High was second.

All-Star cheerleaders were Angie Nichols of Millers Creek, Lee Pethel of East Rowan, Tara Roberts of Northeast, Crystal Parsons of Freedom, and Wilhelmina Caper of Anson County. The Cheerleader of the Competition was Lynn Dula of Freedom.

THE RANKINGS

1. Harding, 2. West Charlotte, 3. East Mecklenburg, 4. Independence, 5. Ashbrook, 6. North Mecklenburg, 7. South Mecklenburg, 8. Olympic, 9. Crest, 10. Hunter Huss, 11. Myers Park, 12. Catholic, 13. Country Day, 14. West Mecklenburg, 15. Garinger, 16. East Gaston, 17. Latin, 18. Providence Day.

GAME OF THE WEEK

East Mecklenburg at Gastonia Ashbrook
The Eagles have an important date in Green Wave country. The Eagles have been riding high at the top of the Southwestern 4A Conference as a result of early wins over tough Independence and South Mecklenburg. A win here would clinch the Southwestern 4A championship. Mr. Tony Hamer, Mr. Maurice Flowers, Mr. Steve Ford, Mr. Edward House, and Mr. Marty Karriker are having an outstanding season. They all deserve the title before their names because East Mecklenburg is a class act. Coach Rudy Abrams has done a fine job motivating his Eagles. Looks like another trip to the state playoffs for the Eagles. East Mecklenburg 17, Ashbrook 16.

West Charlotte at North Mecklenburg - West Charlotte was clearly the force to be reckoned with in the Tri-County Conference until the other teams found a way to stop Broderick Graves. West Mecklenburg did it and the teams since, Harding, Olympic, have all found ways to continue it. The Lions are still hot, but the Vikings have finally found a way to make the playoffs, by beating West Charlotte. There is no love lost in this series as fans divide loyalties and girl and boy friends break up during the time of the game. The schools are so close in proximity that the fans chide each other all the time. North is finishing in a rush but the Lions are solid in all areas. West Charlotte 27, North Mecklenburg 17.

In other games: Crest 17, East Gaston 0; Hunter Huss 16, Myers Park 7; South 21, Garinger 0; Harding 17, West Mecklenburg 16; Independence 14, Olympic 7; Catholic 26, North Stanly 7; Country Day 14, Wake Christian 0; Latin 14, Gaston Day 6; Providence Day 10, Asheville Day 7.

TOUCHDOWN DERBY - Derrick McGowan, West Mecklenburg, 14; Chad Grier, Charlotte Latin, 14; Eric Grant, Catholic, 12; Connor Bost, Country Day, 13; Anthony Houston, Harding, 11; Shawn Collins, Country Day, 12; Maurice Flowers, East, 11; Tony Hamer, East, 10; Junior Hall, Ashbrook, 11; Broderick Graves, West Charlotte, 13; Brend Land, Country Day, 9; Benny Capps, Hunter Huss, 7; Mark Bostic, Catholic, 7; Reggie Clark, Providence Day, 8; Greg Wilcox, South Mecklenburg, 8; Kenneth Hilton, East Gaston, 7; Antonio Walker, Harding, 7; Curtis Gingles, Ashbrook, 8; and Cedric Sanders, East Gaston, 6.

One Thousand Yard Club - Broderick Graves has rushed for 1,020 yards this season. The young man from West Charlotte is averaging 145.7 yards per game. Eric Grant of Catholic has rushed over 900 yards.

Top Receivers - Kenny Stevenson, Harding; Bill Pitt, Charlotte Latin; Dirk Floyd, Hunter Huss; Marty Karriker, East Mecklenburg; Steve Ford, East Mecklenburg; Steve Schachner, Catholic; Junior Williamson, Gastonia Ashbrook; Tony Franklin, South Mecklenburg; Chris Noonan, Charlotte Latin; Brent Land, Country Day; Danny McKary, Harding; Steve Wilks, West Charlotte; Kevin Armstrong, Hunter Huss; Deron Davis, West Mecklenburg; Darryl Floyd, Hunter Huss; Venton Bell, West Charlotte; and James Glover, Myers Park.

TOP PASSERS - Anthony Houston, Harding; Chad Grier, Latin; Maurice Flowers, East; and Benny Capps, Hunter Huss.

Graves Named "Player Of The Week"

This week's Player of the Week is garnering the title for the second time in this young season. West Charlotte's Broderick Graves ran for three touchdowns and 160 yards in 19 carries to up his season yardage total to 1080 in 156 carries. That is an average of 6.92 yards per carry or 135 yards per game.

His three touchdowns took him near the top of the conference with 13 for the season or an average of 1.62 per game.

Against the East Gaston Warriors he was devastating as the Lions moved their record to 7-1 overall and 3-1 in the conference to set up the Game of the Week with North Mecklenburg.

Earlier in the season Graves said, "I believe we have the talent to take the entire thing." And the Lions, number two in the Metropolitan area rankings of the Charlotte Post, seem like they are destined to make the playoffs.

Ray Henderson rushed for 158 yards in 10 carries to serve notice that North Mecklenburg will not lay down and let the Lions run over them as the Vikings upended Hunter Huss 34-0.

Maurice Flowers of East passed for 114 yards and two touchdowns in the Eagles 42-20 win over Myers Park. Brad Causey set a school record of 29 extra points in a season as the Eagles emerged victorious. Derrick Izzard of Olympic had 103



Broderick Graves
.....Lions' touchdown maker

yards as the Trojans outlasted West Mecklenburg in overtime 13-7. Harding's Anthony Houston

passed for two touchdowns as the Rams kept moving with a win over East Gaston, 21-6.

Freedom Bowl Format

Greensboro - At a press conference held in Atlanta, GA; Commissioners Ken Free of the Mid-Eastern Athletic (MEAC) and Dr. James Frank of the Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC) announced the following format for the 1986 Freedom Bowl All-Star Classic football game scheduled for January 11 in Atlanta-Fulton County Stadium.

This is the third Freedom Bowl, and it annually matches the premier senior all-stars of SWAC against those of the MEAC.

SWAC and MEAC senior players selected to the first team All-Conference squads automatically make their respective Freedom Bowl rosters.

The conference-winning coaches will earn the honor to head coach.

Assistant coaches will be comprised of the second, third, and fourth place finishers and one regular season assistant from the conference's championship team.

Since SWAC has eight member institutions, and the MEAC only six football-playing institutions, Independents Florida A&M and Tennessee State all-star selections will play with the MEAC.

Like last year, all-stars from the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference will join the SWAC team, while Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association selections will be added to the MEAC roster.

For the first time to include all football-playing historically Black institutions: Lincoln U. (MO), Langston, Arkansas-Pine Bluff, Central St. Ohio, and Bishop (TX) all-stars will play with SWAC, and the MEAC will select players from

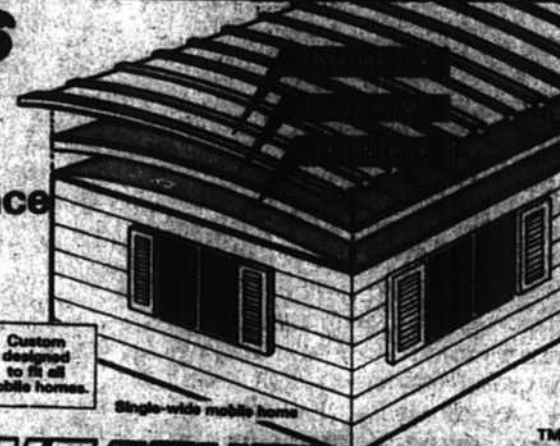
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FOOTBALL



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Elizabeth City at Fayetteville State
J.C. Smith at Winston-Salem State
St. Paul's at Livingstone
Norfolk State at Howard
Virginia Union at Virginia State
N.C. A&T at Bethune-Cookman
Morgan State at Jackson State