

Prep Chatter



Basketball season is just around the corner. On Monday, November 25, Harding and Myers Park open the season at the Mustang gym.

On Tuesday, November 26, R.S. Central is at Crest, Ashbrook at West, South at Olympic, North Gaston at East Gaston, East Rutherford at North, and Shelby at Hunter Huss.

On Wednesday, November 27, Olympic is at Myers Park and Anson County is at Independence.

The conference season begins on January 7 with Ashbrook at Garinger, Myers Park at Independence, and South at Hunter Huss in the Southwestern 4A Conference race.

The Tri-County race begins the same night with West at North, Harding at Crest, and West Charlotte at Olympic.

East Gaston's first conference game will be January 10 when North visits. East Mecklenburg's first conference game will be the same night when Hunter Huss visits.

The top tournament in the area this year will be at the Myers Park gym during Christmas when Harding, Myers Park, Ashbrook, Hunter Huss, Olympic, West Mecklenburg, Lancaster, and Gaffney tangle from December 26-28.

South Mecklenburg will play in the Raleigh tournament on December 5-7.

East Mecklenburg and West Charlotte will play in the Observer tourney at Belmont Abbey, November 27-30.

Crest will play in the Shelby tournament beginning December 27.

East Gaston will play in the Cherryville tournament beginning December 28.

North and Independence will be in the Cel River tournament in Rock Hill beginning December 27.

- SOUTHWESTERN 4A PRE-SEASON RANKINGS**
1. Hunter Huss, 2. Myers Park, 3. South Mecklenburg, 4. Independence, 5. Ashbrook, 6. Garinger, 7. East Mecklenburg.
- TRI-COUNTY 4A PRE-SEASON RANKINGS**
1. West Charlotte, 2. North Mecklenburg, 3. Olympic, 4. Harding, 5. West Mecklenburg, 6. Crest, 7. East Gaston.
- PRE-SEASON ALL METROPOLITAN RANKINGS**
1. West Charlotte, 2. Hunter Huss, 3. North Mecklenburg, 4. Myers Park, 5. Olympic, 6. South Mecklenburg, 7. Independence, 8. Ashbrook, 9. Harding, 10. West, 11. Garinger, 12. Crest, 13. East Gaston, 14. East Mecklenburg, 15. Country Day, 16. Providence Day, 17. Charlotte Latin, 18. Charlotte Catholic.

Congratulations to the North Carolina Scholastic Soccer Coach's Association All Region 8 team.

The members are Jason Burger, South; Gordon Diegleman, South; Jeff Johnson, South; Nail Henderson, South; Rob Vest, West Charlotte; Vinh Luu, West Charlotte; Eric Lacroix, East; Glenn Nelson, East; Larry Kuhn, Catholic; Jamie Dineen, Myers Park; White Neal, Independence.

Congratulations to the N.C. Independent School's Athletic Association soccer coach of the year, Bob Doherty of Country Day.

The All Conference team members are goalkeeper, Mike Bryant of Latin; Eric Nichols of Charlotte Latin; Kearns Kelly of Country Day; Jack Knight of Country Day; David Silverman of Country Day; Kevin Vale of Charlotte Christian; Randy Skidmore of Charlotte Christian; Aaron Elrod of Charlotte Christian; Andy Jeter of Providence Day; Tommy Hunter of Charlotte Latin; and Steven Heeseman of Country Day.

The All Region 3 team included Kearns Kelly of Country Day; Jack Knight of Country Day; Kevin Vale of Charlotte Christian; David Silverman of Country Day; and Andy Jeter of Providence Day.

Second team All Region 3 members were Mike Bryant of Charlotte Latin; and Randy Skidmore of Charlotte Christian; and Eric Nichols of Charlotte Latin.

Congratulations to Tri-County All County members: Vinh Luu, West Charlotte; Scott Schneiderman, West Charlotte; Kevin Layne, North; Mike Langemeyer, Olympic; Basil Al Hussani, West; Rob Vest, West Charlotte; Gary Newcomb, Olympic; Todd Petree, North; Neal Sweezy, Crest; Mark Schill, West Charlotte; Octavius Davies, North; Larkin Murphy, Olympic; Robert Bilger, West Charlotte; Chris Steadham, West Charlotte; and Allen Armstrong, West Mecklenburg.

Congratulations to Southwestern All County members: Eric Hichman, Ashbrook; Tommy Hull, Myers Park; Dan Fairley, South; Glenn Nelson, East; Jeff Helstand, East; Jamie Dineen, Myers Park; White Neal, Independence; Jason Burger, South; Jeff Johnson, South; Jason Burgess, Myers Park; Phillip Thomas, Independence; Gordon Diegleman, South; Niall Anderson, South; David Saunders, East; and Eric Lacroix, East.

The West Charlotte Lions go after their second playoff victory Friday night at Ashbrook against the Green Wave, 35-0 victors over Hickory's Red Tornadoes.

The Lions were victorious in their opener by a 19-0 score as they sent Independence to the closet.

Prediction: West Charlotte 17, Ashbrook 14.

The Harding Rams go after their second playoff victory Friday night against the Mustangs of Winston-Salem Parkland. The game will be held in Memorial Stadium. The Rams continue on the unbeaten track with an 11-0 record.

Prediction: Harding 24, Winston-Salem Parkland 21.

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

Charlotte's Finest Charlotte Post's 1985 All-Metropolitan Team

By James Cuthbertson
Post Sports Writer

You could take this team and lick the dickens out of the South Carolina Shrine Bowl squad in December without any problems. They are a talented bunch who have displayed their wares throughout a grueling football season that has seen a record four Mecklenburg County teams in the state playoffs - Independence, Harding, West Charlotte, and Charlotte Catholic.

Our player of the year said that his team dedicated its season to Carl Williams, a very gifted young athlete who drowned while at a motel in Greensboro practicing for the East-West All-Star game.

"We said this summer that we would dedicate our 1985 season to Carl and we vowed that in his memory we would like to go 10-0," said Anthony Houston of Harding High School.

And, now after 1,650 passing yards, 14 touchdowns and an unbeaten regular season at 10-0, he vows that the dream is not complete.

"We would like to win the state championship," he added. "We have the team that can do it."

Harding romped through the new Tri-County league composed of Olympic, Harding, East Gaston, Crest, West Charlotte, and North Mecklenburg to become its first regular season champion.

They were only tested once when they were down by a 9-6 score with West Charlotte threatening with under three minutes left in the fourth quarter. The defense held.

With lightning speed, Houston passed to one of his favorite receivers, Danny McKay, who lateraled back to Antonio Walker and the Rams were on their way to a 19-9 victory.

Houston, a junior, is our first All-Metropolitan Football Player of the Year. His team entered the second round of the playoffs with a 16-6 win over South Rowan.

Tommy Knotts of Harding is the first Metropolitan Coach of the Year.

"We have played very well this year," said Knotts. "Houston had an outstanding year and we seemed to be able to reach within when we had to and pull out the big ballgames."



Anthony Houston

Houston is joined on the first team by his favorite receiver, Kenny Stevenson, who caught 39 passes and East Mecklenburg receiver Tony Hamer.

The running backs on the All-Metropolitan First Team All-Offensive unit are Broderick Graves of West Charlotte, Junior Hall of Ashbrook, and Donald Ray Colson of North Mecklenburg.

Graves has 4.5 speed and rushed for 1,430 yards and 16 touchdowns. His team has entered the second round of the state playoffs with a 19-0 victory over Independence.

The tackles are Ed Reid of Olympic and Leroy Diggs of North Mecklenburg.

Brad Causey of East is the punter. Causey is a 6' senior who set a school record with 32 extra point attempts, kicking 32 of 35 and field goals of 41 and 41 yards.

Kenny Pate of West Charlotte is the center.

Scott Goins of East Gaston and Paul Bailey of West Charlotte are the guards.

The second team consists of receivers Steve Ford of East and Greg Clifton of Independence; running backs, Marty Karriker of East, Kenny Patterson of West Charlotte, and Antonio Walker of Harding; quarterback is Maurice Flowers of East; tackles are Theartis Woodard of Ashbrook and John Anthony of Independence; kicker is Whit Neal of Independence; guards are Jeff Crook of South and David Starr of Ashbrook; and center is Tim Morgan of Independence.



Broderick Graves

Kell Helms of West Charlotte and Junior Williamson of Ashbrook are the defensive ends on the first team All-Metropolitan Defensive unit.

The interior linemen are Ed Reid of Olympic, Tony Gariogola of Independence, and Derrick Reid of East.

Ed Reid had 13 tackles against West Mecklenburg. He is a 6'3", 225-pounder.

Derrick Reid of East had 62 solo tackles, 20 assists, and eight sacks of the quarterback.

The linebackers are Tony Hamer of East with 91 solo tackles and 26 assists, and South Mecklenburg's Roman Phifer. The defensive backs are Harry Fuller of Independence, Joie Polite of South, Mark Sanders of Olympic, and Jackie Lewis of East Gaston.



Roman Phifer



Harry Fuller

The second team defense included Fred Robb of Crest and Phil Cope of East on the ends; Theartis Woodard of Ashbrook, Tim Carpenter of Huss, Todd Lynch of Harding, and Hayson Grier of North in the interior line; Ty Fuller of West Charlotte and Luther Holder of West Mecklenburg at the linebacker positions; and defensive backs Roderick Morris of Harding, Ron Wilburn of West Charlotte, Roger Melchor of West Charlotte, and Ronald Robinson of Garinger.

Honorable mention on offense goes to Mark Schill of West Charlotte, Derrick McGowan of West Mecklenburg, Donald Donald of Independence, Alvin Blakeney of Myers Park, Eric Grant of Charlotte Catholic, and Reggie Clark of Pro-

vidence Day.

On defense, honorable mention goes to Reggie Powell of Olympic.

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