

With James Cuthbertson

Prep Chatter



James

The NCAA men's basketball rules committee approved a 19 foot 9 inch three-point line for college basketball measured from the center of the basket.

This rule is designed to bring back the art of shooting to the game and to help the little men. It will extend and improve defenses and make the game more exciting for fans.

The three-point arc intersects the top of the foul circle. Edward Steltz, secretary-editor of the rules committee, said the committee believes the adoption of the rule will open up rough inside play.

If the colleges are going to this exclusively, it is time for the high schools to follow suit. Otherwise, you won't have players prepared when they get to college. Many high school coaches frown on those long outside shots, but if they were worth three points you would see the smiles come on the faces of some of the coaches.

On the softball circuit, Andrea Stinson of North Mecklenburg is still doing an outstanding job for the Vikings. For instance, last week Andrea had three hits in a game with Independence. Included in the three hits was a grand slam home run. She also batted in six runs. Also in that great victory for the Vikings were a five for five showing by Trisha Fox, another of the outstanding lady athletes at North Mecklenburg.

The Vikings are enjoying the same success in softball that they enjoyed in basketball. Could another state championship be in the offering? We certainly hope this is the case.

Andrea Stinson, only a junior, is one of the most gifted athletes in the history of Mecklenburg County. Word has it that she is a good student and a great sportswoman.

Look for the colleges and universities to beat a well worn path to her door. She is unusual in a time when athletes are being condemned for poor academics and poor sportsmanship.

Hats off to Miss Stinson, a quality individual.

It would be nice to have a state baseball champion in this our year of champions.

East Mecklenburg, Olympic, and South Mecklenburg are all having good years.

America is waking up to a critical problem: drug and alcohol abuse among teenagers. On May 18, a nationwide event, the Kodak Liberty Ride Festival, will help raise funds to provide information on this important subject.

While alcohol and drug abuse appears to be increasing at an annual rate of two percent for the general population, statistics compiled by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services report that among young people 12 to 24, alcohol abuse is increasing twice that rate. And drug abuse is an increasingly serious factor in the lives of youth.

This problem won't go away by itself. We must educate young people on the dangers of drug and alcohol abuse; we need to inform parents on how to detect signs of such abuse; and schools want to know how to handle the problem as it affects schools.

One basic need: information. People need to know more about the subject. For instance, try to answer the following questions: What is drug ecstasy? Is a student who is constantly fatigued probably a drug user? Are athletes and other active students less abusive of drugs than other students? How many beers impair the driving of a six-foot, 180-pound male?

Some of the proceeds received from the ride will benefit Target, a national program to help students cope with alcohol and drugs. Target is sponsored by the National Federation of State High School Associations, and part of the Target monies will be used to assist state programs. In short, the ride can help create educational programs right here in North Carolina.

Another segment of the proceeds from the ride will go to America's family album, a project that supports Kodak's pledge to help the Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation, Inc. The event will be held in 100 USA cities including Charlotte, Greensboro, and Raleigh. There will be a three-pronged bike course with music, food, entertainment, and fun.

What could be better? This bicycling event combines having a great time while raising money for two very important causes.

The event is sanctioned by the North Carolina High School Athletic Association.

With 9-Under-Par-133

Donald Littlejohn And Phil Neely Roar From Behind To Capture Par Buster Golf Tournament

By Joe Brown
Post Staff Writer

Donald Littlejohn and Phil Neely stroked 133 points to win the Par Busters Golf Group 10th Annual 4-Ball Tournament held at the Pawtucket Golf Course last Saturday and Sunday. The team of Littlejohn and Neely won over the largest field of competitors ever in the tournament's history.

The tournament attracted 106 golfers for the two-day tourney. Saturday's competition ended with first day team leaders and scoring: Mark Harris and Rick Powers (68), William Funderburke and Tom Polite (68), Joe Notaro and David Notaro (69), Jerry Helms and Buddy Murray (70), Donald Littlejohn and Phil Neely (70), Arthur McDonald and Leroy Roseboro (70), Charles McCullough and Otis Worthy (72), Larry Tidwell and Wayatt Blackmon (72), and James Davis and Jimmy Gaston (72).

The winners of flight one were Cornelius Howell and Melvin Griffith, stroking a 75 first round and 68 second round for a 143 total. Second place team, John Love and Dewey Robinson, followed with a 75, 69-144. Third place putted a 75, 69-144 by the team of Sam Barnette and Shedrick Jackson.

The winners of flight two were Francis Fendergrass and Harry Gray (78-70-148). Second place team played (78, 70-148) by Jack Lawson and John Coffey, and third place was Otis Green and William Hearn (77, 73-150).

Flight three and four are as



Phil Neely
.....Provided help



Donald Littlejohn
.....Shot the lights out

follows: Flight 3- Timm Harris and Bill Johnson (79, 73-152), Donald Mackey and Barry Robinson (79, 74-153), and Charles Camp and Jennings Brewer (79, 74-155). Flight 4- Fred Bookman and Strawn Bookman (82, 80-162), Olin Grier and Thurmond Adams (84, 78-162), and Harry Benton and Bobby Lee (86, 78-164).

The closest-to-the-hole winners on Saturday were Pete Key and Sidney Jackson. Sunday winners were Dwight Little and Reggie Sellers.

The scoring results reflected greater competition and better play at this year's tourney. "There was a

problem of tee time starting late and the Saturday and Sunday rounds ending in the dark. We would like to apologize to the players and will improve all other problems in future tournaments," stated John Love, tourney coordinator.

Sunday's play spurred exciting action as champions Donald Littlejohn and Phil Neely tied the tournament record of 133 set by Donald Littlejohn and Heyward Stevenson in 1978 and 1979. Littlejohn and Neely birdied 4 of the first 5 holes on the front side and were 4 under par at the turn, with a red-hot 33.

Harris and Powers shot 34 on the front side to lead by one stroke.

After parring 10 and bogeying 11, Littlejohn and Neely parred 12, eagled 13 and 14, birdied 15 and 16, and parred in for 30. They shot 5-under-par 67 for the day.

Harris and Powers stroked par 10, bogeyed 11, parred 12, birdied 13, eagled 14, birdied 15, bogeyed 16, parred 17 and 18, setting 34, 33-67.

Both teams finished at 133. But Littlejohn and Neely captured the title with a birdie on the first playoff hole.

Intramural Tourney

Livingstone College will host the Second Annual "I-85 Basketball Classic" April 11-12.

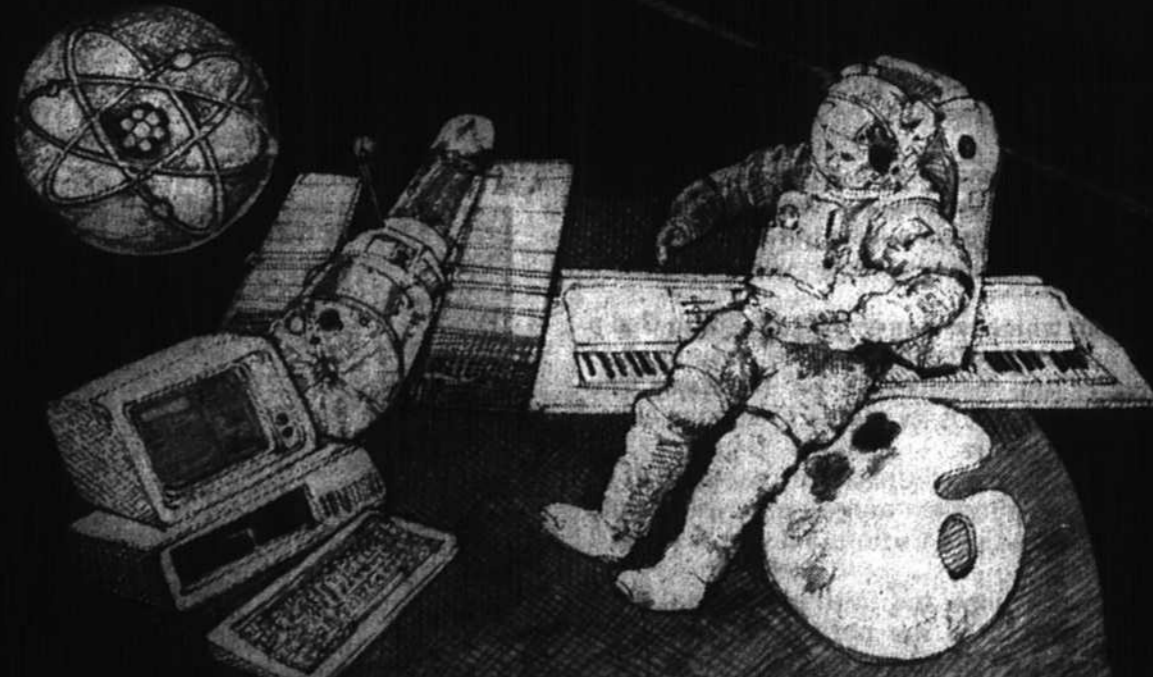
Teams from Livingstone, Barber-Scotia, Catawba, Elon, and Johnson C. Smith will compete in the Intramural Tournament.

Tip-off is 6:30 p.m. Friday, April 11, in new Trent Gymnasium on Livingstone's campus with play continuing Saturday, April 12, at noon. This event is free and open to the public.

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