

SPORTS BEAT



TELLING IT LIKE IT REALLY IS

A girl who says she'll go through anything for a man usually has his bank account in mind.

If one is to believe coach Horace Small, the popular athletic director who doubles as head football coach at Johnson C. Smith, the Golden Bulls will live on the bright side of life during the 1986 football season.

Small doesn't own any medals for bragging. He's not that kind of person, but he does say he believes his Bulls will become a contender for the CIAA Southern Division this fall. He bases his enthusiasm on a 170-pound lad who stands 6-foot-1 and plays quarterback better than anyone else in college circles.

A Greensboro native who received rave notices during the first seven games in the 1985 campaign, Mel Westmoreland stepped into the leadership role when starting quarterback Wendell Dixon got hurt early in the 1985 season. And, like the coffee and the grits you mix with a little water to get the desired results, he was an instant success. Mel was accurate with 49 of his 146 throws and was on target with 33.7 percent of his aims. He contributed 425 yards to the Bulls' offense with his aeriels, including three touchdowns and 11 interceptions.

His problems stemmed from an inexperienced line which Small believes he has corrected with several lineup changes and a strong incoming freshman class which places strong emphasis on offensive linemen. The consensus is that better upfront protection will make Westmoreland a superstar.

The railbirds (those who are watching the Bulls in spring practice) agree that Westmoreland appears set for an outstanding season.

Small will also have a strong running game to complement Westmoreland's air game. In Tim Newman, Rondro Boney, and Raymond Joyner, the Bulls' mentor has a trio of gallopers who have the ability to make life tough for the opponents' defensive linemen.

Newman began blossoming a year ago when he ran for 428 yards and three touchdowns with 93 carries. He's ticketed for stardom this fall. So is Boney, a 6-3, 218-pound sophomore from Wilmington New Hanover High has been the rave of the spring camp. He's proving that he can really tote the mail. So can Joyner, the 6-1, 230-pound sophomore fullback from Columbia, S.C. Both will receive lots of playing time this fall.

Another offensive threat, that has Small up in the air is place kicker Lefoy Wise, who hit 11 of 12 extra point tries and four of seven field goal attempts for 23 points a year ago.

Small has apparently abandoned the wishbone for a new formation that will better complement Westmoreland's talent. Wide receivers Terry Jeter and Randy Briggs are the top receivers the JCSU coach is placing his trust for the next year.

The Bulls will open their 60th football season at Hampton next September 6.

Altogether, they will encounter eight CIAA opponents on a 10-game card that includes non-conference foes, North Carolina A&T and Morris Brown. The schedule also includes home contests with Norfolk State, Bowie State, N.C. A&T, Virginia State, and Winston-Salem State. Homecoming will be celebrated with Winston-Salem State in Charlotte Memorial Stadium, Saturday, November 1.

HERE AND THERE Rumors are that defensive specialist Joe Crosby is leaving Johnson C. Smith for a similar position at Savannah State.

Now it can be told - Dwight Gooden, the sensational New York Mets' pitcher, who is the most idolized athlete in professional baseball, confesses that he's a hero worshiper himself. He says he "looks up to" guys like his teammates Keith Hernandez and George Foster, Mike Schmidt of the Philadelphia Phillies and Atlanta's Dale Murphy.

Look for O. J. Simpson to accept an offer from CBS. He's to become a college football analyst.

The Atlantic Coast Conference will likely form a college basketball association for television purposes before next season. Dennis "Oil Can" Boyd is apparently well again. He is scheduled to pitch the Boston Red Sox's second game in Detroit and their home opener in Boston.

Dwight Gooden is adding an "off-speed" pitch to his already overstocked arsenal.... Larry Thompson, offensive line coach for the Florida A&M Rattlers, will serve in a similar capacity with the South Carolina State Bull Dogs.

Thompson is the fourth assistant chosen by new head football coach Dennis Thomas.

BATCH Opening New Tennis Campaign On "Happy" Note

By James Cuthbertson
Post Sports Writer

"We are looking forward to having a great year," said Shirley Whitley, director of the BATCH Racquet Association. "We have several members who have so much enthusiasm."

Whitley, who has been playing tennis actively for three years, moves into the post of the director of one of the top tennis programs in the Carolinas.

Last year, the BATCH Traveling All-Stars, who play out of Hornet's Nest Park in Charlotte, were co-champions of the Southeastern Racquet Association with Winston-Salem's Smokers after finishing dead last in regular season.

"We had so much pride in the tournament that was held in Greenville, SC," she said, and it has carried over until this year. The men are excited, the ladies are excited, and the juniors are excited.

The first match for BATCH will be a conference encounter at Winston-



Comyron Cuthbertson
..... Young tennis phenom
Salem on May 3. This will be a tough opener for the team.
"We have more talent this year," Whitley said, "and we should give Winston, Greenville, and Greensboro a run for their money."
Round robin was recently held for

the club and Chuck Whitley emerged as the pacesetter on the men's roster. He is number one and is followed by Nelson Britt, Stan Law, Alan Blackwell, Terry Neal, Delano Rackard, Crawford Walker, Richard Ellis, Sylvester Lee, Donald Raspberry, James Brewer, Herbert Taylor, James Cuthbertson, James Richardson, and Greg McVay.

Carolyn Perkins emerged as the number one seed on the women's ladder. She is followed by Sharon Ford, Debbie Frazier, Aldra Greene, Colletta Law, Wildred Mack, Shirley Whitley, and Ann Harris.

Keith Richardson is the number one player on the junior's junior varsity roster. He is followed by Melvin Cuthbertson, Marcus Hart, Ritchie Cuthbertson, Comyron Cuthbertson, Terry Neal, and Eddie Owens.

Cecil Brandon, Algernon Johnson, and Keith Chisholm are the pacesetters on the junior's varsity roster.

Bill Madrey's JCSU Tennis Squad Compiles Impressive 15-3 Record

By James Cuthbertson
Post Sports Writer

Coach Bill Madrey has put together an exciting tennis program in his second year at Johnson C. Smith University.

The team opened with a 7-2 indoor win in Winston-Salem against Wake Forest.

This was followed by a Florida excursion where they beat Central College (Pelham, Iowa), 8-1, Bethune-Cookman, 9-0, Webber College, 9-0, Florida Tech, 6-3, Central Florida, 9-0, and Morehouse, 6-0.

The Golden Bulls came back home to beat UNC-Charlotte, 9-0, Winston-Salem State, 9-0, and Amherst College, 7-2.

The only losses were 5-4 to Appalachian State and 6-3 to Ball State.

Then the Bulls went on a northern excursion to Hampton where they lost, 8-1, to the perennial CIAA and NCAA Division II powerhouse.

Then, they beat Howard University, Virginia Union, Virginia State, Shaw and St. Augustine's in succession by 9-0 scores.

The team has a 15-3 record.

"We believe that we have a good team," said Dr. Madrey recently. "We were exhausted after the long ride to Hampton and I think this

affected out players' play inadvertently. We will be ready when we see Hampton again at the CIAA tournament."

The top six players for the Golden Bulls are Muri Ajibade, Innocent Modika, Yakubo Suleiman, Howard Rankine, Koray Ozturkler, and John Hattersly.

Others contributing to the Golden Bulls' efforts are Merritt Johnson, Peter Echols, Malcolm Avant and Nicholas Echols.

WBTV Sets All Star Classic

The "WBTV All Star Classic" exhibition basketball game, featuring top senior ACC stars and alumni, will be held at the Charlotte Coliseum on Thursday night, April 24, 7:30 p.m.

Among the players will be North Carolina's Brad Daugherty, Steve Haje and Warren Martin, along with former UNC great Phil Ford; Duke's Johnny Dawkins, Mark Alarie, David Henderson, and Jay Bilas; N.C. State's Nate McMillan and Ernie Myers; Georgia Tech's Mark Price and John Salley; Davidson's Gerry Born; and Wake Forest alumni Delaney Rudd.

WBTV Sports Anchor Paul Cameron will host the halftime festivities including a Slam Dunk Contest. And, Johnny Dawkins will hold a clinic, open to all ticket holders, beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Tickets are \$10, \$7.50 and \$5, and all seats are reserved. They may be purchased in person at the Coliseum Box Office and Belk at SouthPark. Reservations may be made at Belk, Monroe; T.A.S.S.; Albemarle; Statesville Travel; UNC Cone Center; and most area Sears stores.

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