



Prep Chatter

With James Cuthbertson

MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING....

Duke's Mike Krzyzewski believes that you should work hard to get a basket and that the three point field goal is a threat to the sanctity of college basketball.

Sports Illustrated recently in its College Basketball column gave some opinions on the newest phenomena for college basketball.

The 199" three point field goal was engineered by Dr. Edward S. Steiz and the NCAA rules committee.

Before it was instituted it was experimented with by several conferences including the Atlantic Coast Conference and the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.

The fans loved it, just like the dunk.

The coaches hated it because you can never really put a team away if they have a three point shooter.

Some coaches have used it as part of their game plan and have recruited three point specialists. Some coaches use it when they are behind. Others use it when they are ahead.

Dean Smith is one of the coaches who likes it, according to Sports Illustrated, saying that if you have a 45 second shot clock, you need a three point field goal to keep teams from packing their defenses to hamper an inside attack by the center and forwards.

Some believe the shot is too easy. I think percentages will show that although it is not an easy shot to make, it is possible to make with a reasonable degree of accuracy.

And that is good. It has made for more exciting games. A 20 point lead with less than five minutes left in the game is not a cushion and coaches have to employ strategies not to lose. This is where good coaching comes in.

Personally, I don't like the 45 second shot clock, but like Dean, I will compromise my hatred of the clock for the exciting three pointer. It needs to stay where it is. If it is put out any farther it will be too hard to make to be effective.

The three pointer brings the man under six feet back in the game. There is hope for youngsters to develop a three point shot early and get as good a shot at a scholarship as a 7 foot player.

The game was going the way of the big men. Now the little guys will have a chance.

If the high schools were smart, they would institute the three pointer immediately.

A shot clock would be too much trouble in high school. There goes my hatred of the shot clock again.

Okay, let's adopt the shot clock and the three pointer for high school and junior high school so that the players can get used to the type of basketball that they will be playing in the colleges and possibly the professional ranks.

METROPOLITAN GIRLS' RANKINGS

1. North, 2. West Charlotte, 3. Hunter Huss, 4. East Gaston, 5. South, 6. Ashbrook, 7. Olympic, 8. Myers Park, 9. West Meck, 10. Independence, 11. Crest, 12. East, 13. Garinger, 14. Harding, 15. Latin, 16. Country Day, 17. Catholic, 18. Providence Day, 19. Gaston Day.

METROPOLITAN BOYS' RANKINGS

1. North, 2. Garinger, 3. Myers Park, 4. Independence, 5. East Gaston, 6. East Mecklenburg, 7. West Charlotte, 8. Providence Day, 9. Hunter Huss, 10. Ashbrook, 11. Crest, 12. South, 13. Olympic, 14. Harding, 15. West Meck, 16. Catholic, 17. Christian, 18. Country Day, 19. Latin, 20. Gaston Day.

THE PLAYOFFS

The sectionals for the state playoffs begin March 2. Here are the pairings. Each conference will get five representatives in our area:

The Southwestern fifth place team will play the Tri-County champion.

The Tri-County champion will play the Northwestern 2nd place team.

The Tri-County fifth place team will play the Southwestern champion.

The Southwestern 3rd place team will face the Northwestern champion.

The Northwestern fourth place team will be at the Southwestern 2nd place team.

The Southwestern fourth place team will be at the Tri-County second place team.

The Tri-County third place team will be at the Metro third place team.

There is a possibility that three teams from the conference could make the regionals on March 12 at Icard.

The Northwestern Conference includes East Burke, Freedom, Hickory, McDowell, South Caldwell, Watauga, and Alexander Central.

The Metro Conference includes W-S Carver, East Forsyth, W-S Glenn, North Forsyth, Greensboro Page, and Greensboro Smith.



We're Proud To Remember the life of a great man, who touched the lives of All Americans, As he fought for peace throughout the world.

Player Of Week

Bobby Moore Desires To Win

By James Cuthbertson
Post Sports Writer

Reflecting on the successful showing they made in the CalRiver Classic at Winthrop College in Rock Hill, South Carolina, point guard Bobby Moore of North Mecklenburg Vikings, said, "I just wanted to win. We had not won a tournament since I have been at North Mecklenburg. We were runner-ups to Independence last year. This year, we took home the top trophy. I wanted the championship game very much."

Moore, the son of coach Robert Moore who is Johnson C. Smith Golden Bulls are having a banner season, is partially responsible for the nine game winning streak that the Vikings put together which resulted in winning the tourney, rated as one of the most competitive in the country.

"A point guard must possess leadership," he said. "The coach has given me the license and the confidence to run the team. I did not shoot very much in the first game, but he told me to shoot when I had the shot."

That resulted in a 63% field goal shooting against Myers Park. He was 12 of 19 from the field.

Two years ago, the Vikings were 13-0 and lost four games in a row.

"We are going to guard against that this year," said Moore, this week's Charlotte Post "Player of the Week." "We have tough games coming in the conference with East Gaston and West Charlotte, two of our biggest rivals."

Then there are other teams like Olympic who still could be dangerous, Harding who always gets up for us, and West Mecklenburg and Crest who could beat you on any given night."

"Coach Leroy Holden treats me like a son," Moore said, adding that the faith that coach Holden has in him really inspires him to get going. "He makes me feel comfortable during a ball game. He just says go out and play your best. He is letting us run more this year and we are a more relaxed unit."

Moore is averaging 19.0 points and six assists per game.

Howard, NC AT, Miami of Florida, Guilford, and Norfolk State are a few of the teams that have come knocking at his door.

"I have not really thought about where I would like to go," said the affable 6-1 senior.

"I will have four years left after this year and I would like to use my talents to get a college education," he added. "A good academic school will prepare me for the future."

This year the Tri-County 4A will get to send five teams to the sectionals and Bobby Moore has this comment:

"We expect to be one of those teams."

High School Basketball

Where They Play

Friday Jan. 16

Garinger at Harding
Crest at Olympic
West Meck at West Char.
East Gaston at Myers Park
South Meck at Myers Park
Ashbrook at Independence
East Meck at Hunter Huss

Sat. Jan. 20

Hunter Huss at S. Meck
Independence at Myers Park

Tue. Jan. 20

Myers Park at east Meck
Hunter Huss at N. Meck
West Meck at Crest
W. Charlotte at E. Gaston
Olympic at Harding
S. Meck. at Ashbrook

Wed. Jan. 21

Independence at Granger



Rodney Richardson soars through Livingstone defenders for a big basket.

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-VS-

PAINE COLLEGE PANTHERS

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Brayboy Gym

JCSU Campus

7:30 p.m.

LADY BULLS

-VS-

LADY PANTHERS

5:30 p.m.



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