

SPORTS

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Moore Rebounds With New Job

By Russell Clark
Post Staff Writer

Helping high school students in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg School System prepare for college is Robert Moore's first priority this fall when he joins the CMS as a math instructor.

"I want to be a positive influence as a teacher and a former athlete," points out Moore who coached men's basketball at Johnson C. Smith University for nine years.

"There are so many student athletes who can't get into college because of the new NCAA Proposition 48 Rule, but I want to help these kids have the capabilities to get into any college," says Moore who was released from Johnson C. Smith on July 17 over a contract dispute.

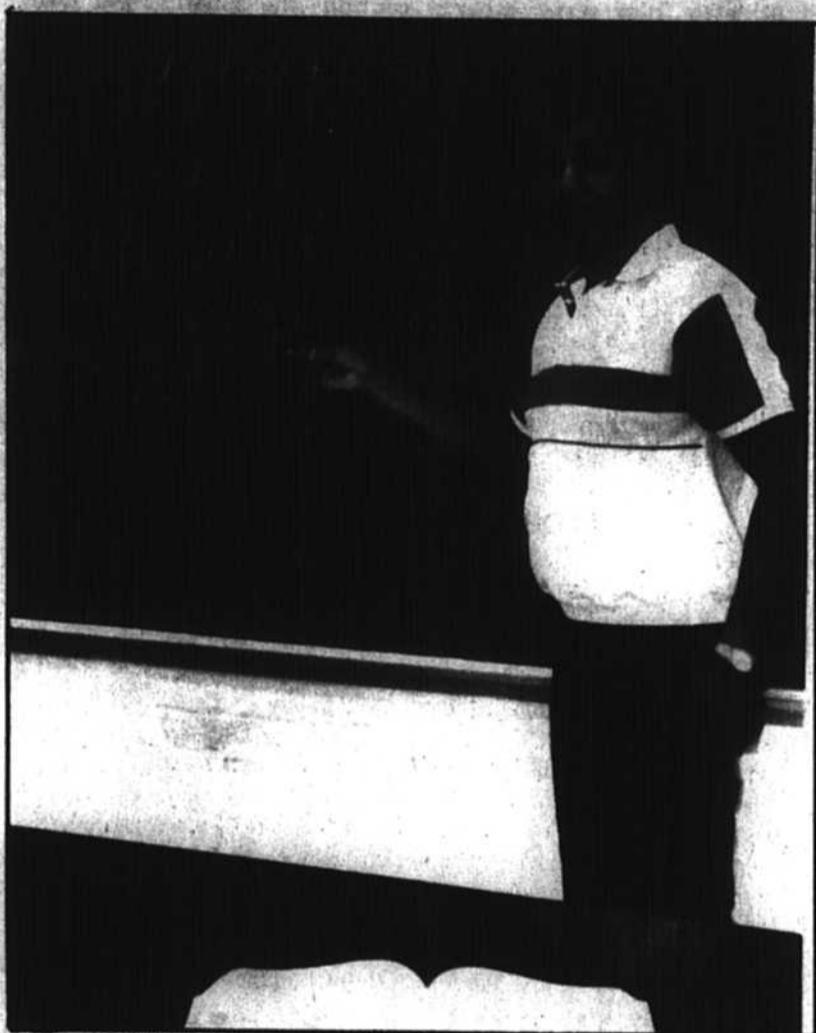
Local television stations said that the university was dissatisfied with his coaching. The newspapers reported that the school had offered him a contract that would cut his pay as a teacher.

"We offered him a joint contract to coach men's basketball and to supervise in the computer science laboratory," remembers Dr. Robert Albright, JCSU president. "The contract was mutually inclusive which meant we could not accept one without the other. We normally give our instructors 10 days to turn in their contracts. It took him one month to turn in his coaching contract and he never turned in his contract for teaching."

During the second semester of the 1986-87 school year, Moore did not teach in the Smith math department. He said he was told by school officials that the Southern Association (which accredits the school) would not allow him to teach because he did not have enough graduate course hours in math.

"It was a surprise meeting and I was shocked when Mr. Hedgespeth (vice president for business) told me that they no longer needed my services."

According to Moore, the teaching contract called for a \$7,000 payout but the basketball contract



Robert Moore intends to score big in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg School System as a math teacher this fall.

was the same as last year's.

A reflection over Moore's coaching record shows that he has won 407 games to 200 losses in 15 years. Last season, he led the Bulls to a 21-9 record before they lost to Norfolk State 81-76 in the semifinals of the C.I.A.A. Tournament. Later, they received an NCAA-II bid and were beaten soundly by Kentucky Wesleyan who went on to win the title.

In 1969, he was named "Coach of The Year" in North Carolina. At that time, he was coaching at Atkins High School in Winston

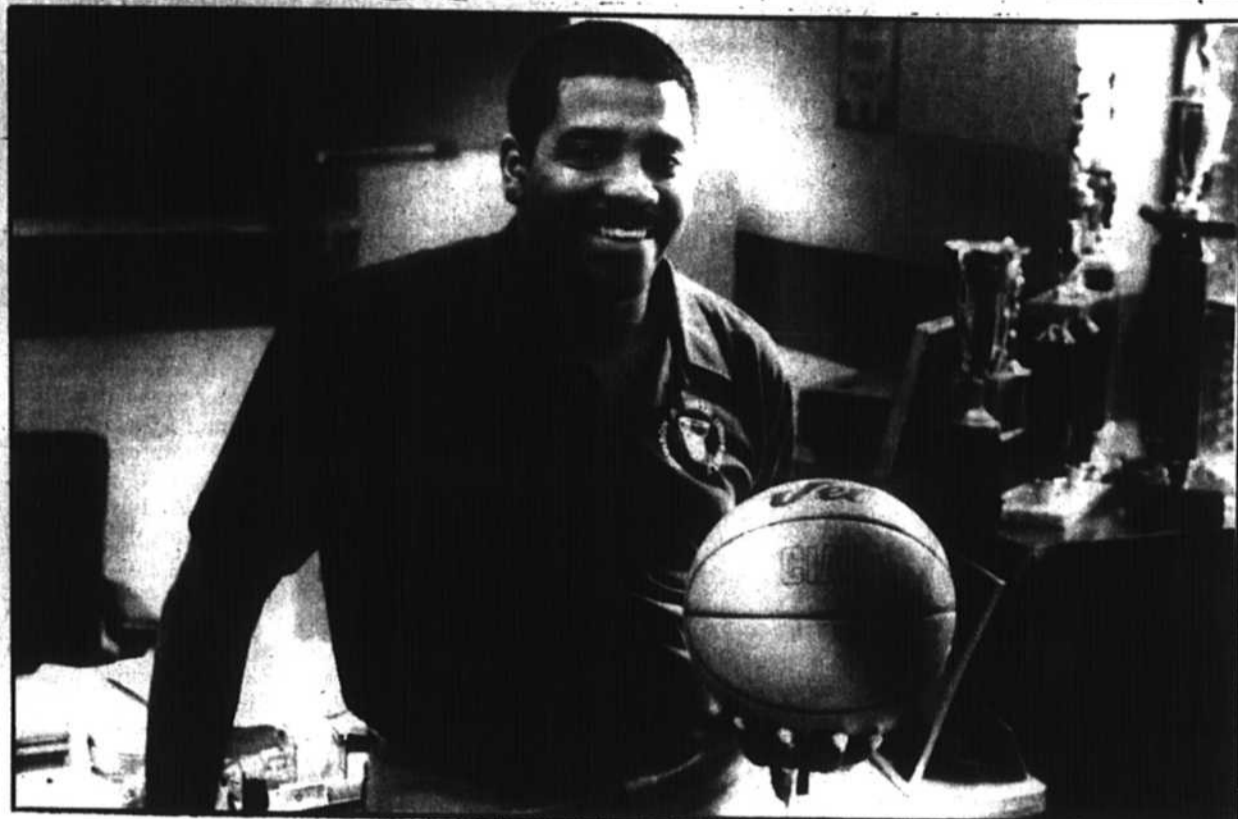
Salem where his team posted a 23-0 record. "Out of my 13 players on that team, 11 of them received college scholarships," Moore adds.

In 1974, he teamed up with Ste-

ven Joyner who was a player on that team. As a duo, Moore and Joyner turned around a losing program at Virginia Union before coming to Smith.

In the meantime, JCSU acted swiftly and replaced Moore with Joyner who has coached the Lady Bulls for the past seven years. Joyner plans to capitalize on more local players but Moore says he tried with little success.

"For two summers in a row, I tried hard to recruit local talent but most of them couldn't get in because of Proposition 48. Local players are ideal because you get a good following from local fans." "If you sign a local player, you want him to be the best. If you get him and he's not good enough to start, you can create problems with local fans."



As the new J.C. Smith Men's Basketball Coach, Steven Joyner plans to get the entire community involved with the Smith Basketball program next

season. "I just want to make the program better for whoever takes over after me," Joyner says.

Coach Joyner Plans To Grab More Local Talent For J.C.S.U.

By Russell Clark
Post Staff Writer

"We won't be doing a lot of things different but we would like to capitalize on more local talent," projects Steven Joyner, the new men's basketball coach at Johnson C. Smith University.

"By recruiting more players out of Charlotte and surrounding counties, we expect to increase attendance and total community support," says Joyner who coached the "Lady Bulls" to a 92-87 record in seven years.

Reggie Moses, a former West Charlotte standout, is the only local player returning from last year's team but the Bulls have already added Pervis Thomas who played for Garinger.

The 36-year-old Joyner also mentioned that he would like to make some scheduling adjustments in the future. "We are looking into playing UNCC, Davidson, Wingate and Winthrop."

Although the team will be without all-C.I.A.A. performer Dante Johnson, it will be returning center, Chris Jones and guard, Vincent Brown.

Since gaining the new job, Joyner has been calculating who will be eligible to play next season. "Right now, I'm trying to find out who we have coming in and what is the situation with our returning players. I'm in the process of checking up on players who are attending summer school to find out if they are taking the courses they need to be eligible to play," adds Joyner while gazing out the window of his office.

"From the athletic standpoint, our student athletes have been doing well and most are on a good academic track," he asserts.

The weekend that J.C. Smith released veteran coach, Robert Moore, Joyner was on his way to Virginia State to become the men's assistant coach. "The op-

portunity to head coach on the division II level was very enticing and I hope to continue the winning tradition that Coach Moore has established."

Joyner and Moore first met in Winston Salem during the 1960s. At the time, Moore was coaching at Atkins High School where Joyner was a standout guard. "During high school, our record was 43-3 and we won the state championship in 1969. I feel fortunate to have been led to Smith as an athlete and now coach."

Describing himself as an around the house kind of guy, Joyner said he enjoys spending time with wife, Narell, and three kids Janell, 16, Steven Jr., 7, and Brian, 6.

"I think Steve is a good fundamental coach," says Horace Small, Smith Football Coach and Athletic Director. "He really elevated our girl's basketball program and I'm happy to see him get the opportunity."

Clark Recaps Athletes In Action's European Tour

By Russell Clark
Post Staff Writer

It was bright sunny day last June when I flew out of Charlotte heading for Europe with an Athletes in Action Track Team. My delayed flight arrived at La Guardia Airport in New York City late that evening. Afterwards, I joined the 20-member team for the first time. Although we had never met, we had two things going for us, athletics and ultimately a relationship with Jesus Christ.

For most of us, it was our first trip overseas and I must admit I was paranoid. Before we left for Europe, our fearless leaders, George Mason and Steve Moussetis briefed us on the countries we would be competing in. Among them were Germany, Hungary, Austria, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, Romania and Poland.

The day of our departure from New York, (June 17) I heard on the radio that it was 92 degrees. But when we stepped off our Lufthansa flight eight hours later in Munich, it was a brisk 41 degrees and raining. The rain drops fell musically from swelled clouds overhead as we waited for our rental vans. We couldn't help but notice that all of the taxi cabs outside of the airport were new, beige 190 Mercedes and BMW's.

As we drove away from the airport into the countryside of West Germany, the wheat fields were colored green and far off to the right I could see a hand full of houses topped with hues of red. To the left, through a window, a forest could be seen with mystic mountains edged across the sky. As we neared our motel the Gasthaus Inn-many houses in the small community featured a tractor and a BMW in front.

Once we checked in, around 2 p.m. (8 a.m. Charlotte time), I

went jogging with some of the teammates. Later, we showered, had Bible study and ate dinner in a nearby town. The food was good. I had baked henl (chicken), pom frits, (french fries) and a cold Spatze (combination of Pepsi and Orange Fanta drink).

Early the next morning, we encountered a culture jolt at breakfast. The waitress, a middle-aged, over-weight German lady served us hard rolls, jam, tea and coffee. She spoke very loud German and in a harsh tone. She must have had a good sense of humor because the other German motel guests were laughing at her too.

Following breakfast, we sang spiritual songs including, "Swing Low Sweet Chariot, Down By The Riverside and This Little Light Of Mine." Around noon, we gathered at the home of Reid Lamphere, an AIA staff person who lives outside of Munich. We left there and went to a festival in a nearby village. There we ate henl again under a huge tent. While eating, we noticed many parents treating their kids to a beer.

Two days later, we had our first competition in Bewardorf, Germany. I was really fortunate to set a new stadium record at 7 feet two inches in the rain. Beyond my athletic performance, I introduced three more young athletes to Christ.

As our stay in Germany came to an end, we met a group of 10 teen-agers at a nearby cafe. We became friends and eventually, they all prayed to receive Christ in their lives. On Sunday, we all went to an afternoon church service at the International Baptist Church in Munich. The program was in English and there were several Americans worshipping



Fresh From Europe, Clark Displays a few of his awards from his international tour with Athletes in Action

there. On Monday, we split up into two teams, A and B. I went with the better athletes (A-Team) heading North. Our first stop was Salzburg, Austria which is very romantic. We had lunch and later went sight-seeing. We visited Mozart's birth-place, and the location where "The Sound Of Music" was filmed. Later, we hit the highway bound for Vienna, Austria. Again the countryside was spectacular.

As our journey continued to Budapest, Hungary, we all prayed for a boarder check. We were all armed with Bibles and other spiritual weapons. The religious materials were in all different languages so that we could communicate the good news to others. We knew that we were not allowed to

bring in any Christian literature behind the Iron Curtain, but we were determined to carry out the Lords business. We left all AIA uniforms back in Germany and took on a new identity-ZINKWAZI (African word meaning-soar like an eagle) International Track Team. This was a safety precaution because the guards could have traced AIA back to the U.S. They would have never let us pass had they known we were an athletic ministry.

When we entered the Hungarian boarder, I got butterflies in my stomach after seeing guards with machine guns.

Once we got to Budapest, it took us two hours to find a place to stay. We ended up at a Budapest University dormitory which converts into a Motel in the summer-

time. It provided a good opportunity for sharing for there was a disco on the first and second floors every night. Budapest is a city of over two million people but many of the people we met from other countries including, Nigeria, England and Australia. After being kicked out of the motel twice because of communication misinterpretations, we moved to the BEAC (Bay-ach) Sports Complex where we trained and shared with many athletes. Our next competition, the Hungarian National Championships, was held in Miskolc, Hungary. There were about 30 high jumpers competing and I finished in second place. The champion won with a 7-5 jump while I cleared 7-3 for second place.

From there, we packed our old,

orange Volkswagen Van once more and sped-off for Romania. We were told by our leader that this was the toughest country to get in and it was true to form. We spent a week at that boarder one night. On top of that, it was the Fourth of July in America. Although it was a long wait, the

night was very dramatic. First the guards weren't going to let us pass because they said our van was registered improperly. Next, a nearby thunderstorm knocked off the lights for 30 minutes as the howling sound of dogs echoed across the night. They finally let us go around 7 a.m. that morning after they found out how much money we had.

When we got to our next meet sight, Timisora, Romania, everyone in the town looked as if they had a bad cup of coffee for breakfast.

Every five minutes, someone would come up to us asking for cigarettes or to exchange money. Later, we took refuge at the Hotel Touristic. Later we went to the track which was built from rubber squares. The squares were neatly placed together to compose a unique running surface. It didn't compare to American stadiums but the local people took pride in it.

The track meet there wasn't very competitive for me. I cleared 6-10 in the rain again to break the old stadium record. After the competition, we went back to the hotel. After a hearty dinner, we shared with another group of athletes and five of them accepted Christ as their personal Savior. Later that night, we gave away a lot of American sports-

See Clark on Page 8B