

# Playing the Name Game

*They're not well-known, but emerging stars are taking their places*

By Bonitta Best

THE TRIANGLE TRIBUNE

The successful TV comedy "Cheers" had a popular opening theme: "I want to go where everybody knows your name..."

In the CIAA, that song can be sung for those players who, before the season began, only their coaches and teammates knew their names.

Now, everybody knows who they are because they've made the most of their opportunities. We polled several coaches and asked them to give us their candidates.

So, let's hear it from the coaches' mouths.

- Shaw: Chanae Early (13.6 points, 3.1 assists)

"She's playing a major role in what we're doing, and when people scout us, that's one of the two names they come up with. 'If we're going to beat Shaw, we need to stop her.'" -

Bears coach Jacques Curtis

- Johnson C. Smith: Maurice Hooper (12.2 points, 3.2 assists)

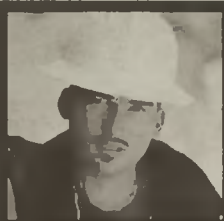
"Maurice was quietly the rookie of the year last year, but I think it still went over everybody's head who he was and what his contributions was to the team. This year, the team is certainly, by wins, more successful than they were last year, and he has contributed significantly. People are beginning to pay attention and say 'who is that guy?'"

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PHOTOWADE NASH

Johnson C. Smith guard Maurice Hooper was the CIAA rookie of the year in 2005, yet plays under fans' radar



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