

Sports

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2007

SECTION C

Livingstone basketball notches another upset while Fayetteville State wins bowling tourney at N.C. A&T. Page 3C



Bijoux 12 boutique offers fashion accessories that are actually affordable. Page 6C

Rison shines as NCCU's new coach

Offensive coordinator succeeds Rod Broadway

By Herbert L. White
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The interim tag no longer applies to North Carolina Central football coach Mose Rison.

NCCU promoted Rison from assistant head coach to the top job Tuesday as successor to Rod Broadway, who left last month to take over at Grambling.



Rison

Rison, who was offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach during the Eagles school-record 11-1 season in 2006, had been serving as interim head coach since Broadway's departure.

Rison signed a five-year contract that guarantees him \$120,000 a year, with an increase to \$130,000 on July 1. This is his first head-coaching job at any level. Central, the two-time CIAA champion, is leaving the league for the Championship Division (formerly Division IAA).



Broadway

With Rison directing the offense, the Eagles averaged 30.9 points per game last year, the most in school history. Freshman quarterback Stafford Brown was named as the Sheridan Broadcasting's offensive player of the year, CIAA offensive player of the year and rookie of the year. Tight end Kenneth Broadway, Rod Broadway's son, was all-CIAA and a Sheridan all-America.

Rison spent the 2005 season as the
Please see **RISON2C**

East Meck, VCC football players off to college

By Herbert L. White
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Two East Mecklenburg Eagles graduate to college football preparation Wednesday.

Quarterback Keon Williams committed to N.C. Central and offensive lineman Rodney Austin signed a letter of intent with Elon.

Williams (6-1, 175 pounds) was the Eagles offensive MVP for two straight years. He passed for 3,509 yards and completed 300-of-536 passes (56 percent) with 30 touchdowns. He also ran for 12 scores.

Austin (6-4, 300) was a 2006 all-Southwestern 4A conference selection and received offers from seven colleges. He graded out at 82 percent as a senior with 12 pancake blocks and 56 knockdowns. As a defensive lineman, Austin tallied 26 tackles, broke up a pass and recovered a fumble.

Victory Christian produced a bumper crop of college-bound players, led by defensive end Kournei Brown.

Brown is headed to Alabama but also considered North Carolina, Michigan and Virginia Tech. He recorded 31 sacks as a senior, more than double the number he recorded the previous season.

Defensive lineman Jason Jones signed with Appalachian State, linebacker Brandon Allen committed to Fayetteville State and running back Sanquan Davis signed with S.C. State.

Know anyone who has signed a letter of intent? Email the address above.

NFL quarterbacks made black history before Lovie and Tony



BONITA BEST

Young and old, rich and poor, educated and uneducated, sports fans and non fans, a record black audience tuned in Sunday at 6:30 p.m. to watch the

Soul Bowl between Chicago Bears coach Lovie Smith and Indianapolis coach Tony Dungy.

But while the world watched history in the making - two black head coaches in the Super Bowl for the first time - a quiet revolution is going on in Jacksonville, Fla.

The Jacksonville Jaguars have all black quarterbacks.

What's so revolutionary about that you say. Black QBs in the NFL are not news anymore.

Maybe you didn't read it right. Jacksonville has A-L-L black quarterbacks - first, second and third string.

O-h-h-h-h, now you get it. No NFL team had more than two black QBs on its roster this season, and it's a

good bet that no team in league history ever had a 100 percent chocolate squad.

Now Jacksonville has a quarterback controversy involving three black quarterbacks. Don't cha love it?

The main man behind the saga is James "Shack" Harris, vice president of player personnel.

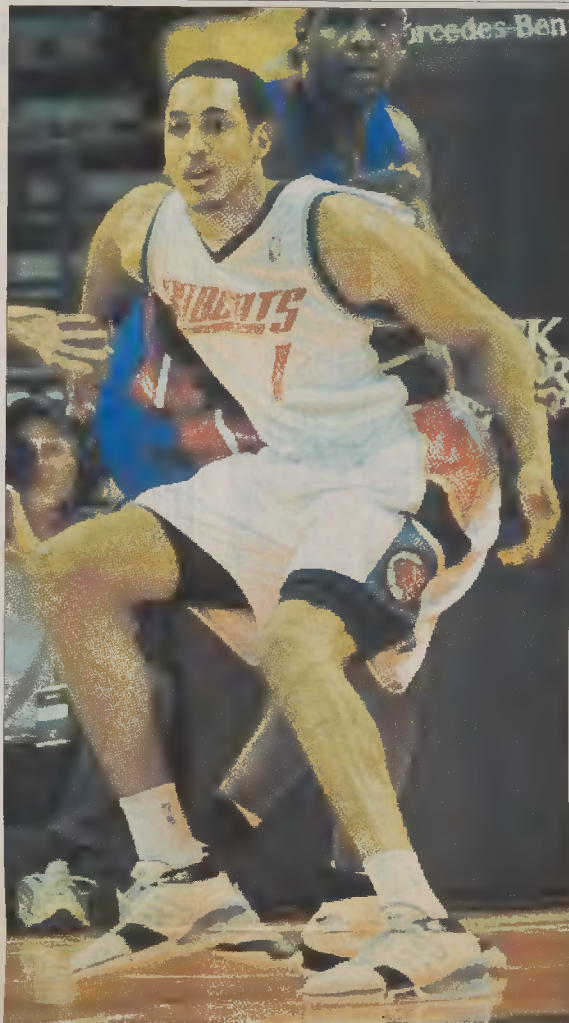
Harris played QB in the NFL

for 12 years. But his legacy will forever be remembered as the first black QB to start in an NFL game.

He also can relate to all three QBs. Not only is he black, but he is a graduate of Grambling State under the tutelage of legendary coach Eddie Robinson. So quite naturally he would understand how a raw gem like Gray,

another byproduct of an HBCU, might get passed over for guys from bigger Division I programs.

Men like Harris and Doug Williams, a personnel executive with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers and another Grambling alumnus, understand the challenges still facing black QBs, especially those from HBCUs.



PHOTOS/CURTIS WILSON

Charlotte Bobcats center Ryan Hollins gained an appreciation for the NBA after spending time in the NBDL, a developmental league.

Ryan's hope

Hollins' athletic potential intrigues the Bobcats

By Erica Singleton
FOR THE CHARLOTTE POST

Bobcats fans may notice an unfamiliar face on the court these days, wearing the number 1, yet Ryan Hollins is not new to the Bobcats organization; not completely.

Hollins, a rookie, was picked 50th overall in the second round of the 2006 NBA Draft.

"Ryan Hollins is a terrific

athlete for a seven-footer, and he is an intelligent player who works hard," said Head Coach Bernie Bickerstaff. "We were fortunate to get a player with his size and athleticism with the 50th pick."

The 7-foot UCLA grad participated in the Bobcats training camp and played in all but one pre-season game. He started the season on the Bobcats inactive

list, until November 21st, when he was sent to the Fort Worth Flyers of the NBA's Developmental League. For many, this might have seemed like a setback, but Hollins is happy about it.

"That was a great thing," said Hollins. "[Here]...on the team we had a lot of guys, and there wasn't a chance for me to really get

Please see **ROOKIE2C**

JCSU gets 12 football commitments

By Herbert L. White
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Johnson C. Smith's football success in 2006 translated into an active National Signing Day.

The Golden Bulls confirmed 12 commitments Wednesday, the first day high school athletes can sign letters of intent.



McNeill

JCSU recruited for size on the offensive line and speed at linebacker. Half of the signees play those positions.

"We have

addressed some of our needs at this point," Bulls coach Daryl McNeill said. "We are looking forward to five or six more players signing."

The recruits were split nearly evenly between offense and defense, with seven signees projected for offense.

Please see **J.C. SMITH2C**



PHOTO/CURTIS WILSON

Johnson C. Smith forward Jerry Hollis (middle) and his Golden Bulls teammates have lost three of their last four games.