

SPORTS

Bucks travel to West Charlotte State playoff qualification process is confusing

By HAL NUNN
Sports writer

After the first read of the North Carolina High School Athletic Association (NCHSAA) handbook and three calls to Chapel Hill (the office of NCHSAA), I thought I had it down pat. I was told that if the Bucks did not get four conference victories that they would not advance to the state playoffs. Was I misinformed or what?

The Bucks (6-4) overall and (3-4) in conference play earned a spot in this year NCHSAA 4A state playoffs.

I guess it all depends on how you look at the big picture. The Bucks made the playoffs because of the size of the school and the conference they play in. Their overall record and position in the conference determined their seeding, which is number 14.

The Bucks play the West Charlotte Lions out of the ME-CA 8 conference that is the same conference as #1 in the state Charlotte Independence Patriots. The Lions only loss came at the hands of the Patriots 14-30.

To win this first round game, the Bucks must rebound from three

straight losses, the last from Raeford Road rival Seventy-First last Friday night 20-0. The Bucks played like someone just stole their candy on Halloween night. Players and coaches alike were stunned by the Falcons defense and could not seem to get together on the field and off the field.

If this team is going to pull off a victory in the first round, they are going to need to pull together and play as a team. The coaching staff will need to set the tone for the players and keep them focused every play.

4AA NCHSAA State Football Championships - 2003 Saturday, December 6 Wake Forest University - Winston Salem



THE HIGHER SEEDED TEAMS EARN THE RIGHT TO PLAY AT HOME ONCE THE TEAMS ARE SEEDS, THEY MAINTAIN THEIR SEEDS THROUGHOUT THE PLAYOFFS.

Hoke County high school is seeded #14 in the North Carolina High School Athletic Association 4A football playoff pairings. The Bucks (6-4) will travel to Western Charlotte this Friday to take on the (9-1) Lions.

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Sign up your kids for basketball now

Parents and guardians may register for the 2004 basketball season now through November 21 on weekdays from 8 a.m. until noon and 1 through 5 p.m. Saturday registrations will be November 8 and 15th from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. The registration fee is \$25. A late fee of \$5 will be charged if space is available. Registration forms may be picked up or filled out at the former National Guard Army Building office. Children's birth certificates are required as well as correct change.

Miami, Florida

Do you want to get away after the winter holidays? Come join Parks and Recreation on a trip to Miami from February 29 - March 5, 2004. The package includes round trip transpor-

tation; five nights deluxe hotel accommodations; five breakfasts (hot buffet); three dinners; cruise on Biscayne Bay (see the homes of Paul Newman, Rosie O'Donnell, Gloria Estefan, etc.) visit the Bayside Marketplace; visit the Miami Beach and South Beach areas; admission to Flamingo Gardens. The price: \$419 pre-paid for double occupancy; \$399 pre-paid, triple occupancy; \$568 single occupancy. Half of the money is required by November 21, 2003; the balance by 5 p.m. January 16, 2004.

Seniors bingo

The seniors continue to enjoy bingo. The next session will be on Wednesday, November 12 at 10 a.m.

until noon at the Hoke County Library with prizes and refreshments.

Seniors bowling

The seniors continue to enjoy bowling at Sandhill Bowling Lane in Aberdeen. The van leaves the parking lot (old National Guard Armory) at 1 p.m. and returns approximately 4:30 p.m. every Thursday. If you are interested, call on Tuesdays.

Board meeting

The next meeting of the Hoke County Parks & Recreation board will be Monday, November 10 at 6:30 p.m. in the conference room.

If you are interested in any of the above, call 875-4035.

Hitting camp Nov. 15, 16

St. Andrews Presbyterian College and Scotland High School will hold its annual hitting camp on November 15 and 16. Registration begins at 9:30 Saturday morning at Clark Field on the campus of St. Andrews Presbyterian College.

The camp begins immediately following registration at 10 a.m. and will end for the day at 4 p.m.

The camp's final day is Sunday and runs from 1:15 to 4 p.m. The cost is \$60.

This camp staff includes Bobby

Simmons, head coach at St. Andrews College; Tommy Britt, head coach, Scotland High School; Trent Mongero, head coach, Richmond Senior High; Paul Hodges, head coach, Lumberton High School; Jeff Hewitt, head coach, Pinecrest High School; Ray Greene, asst. coach, St. Andrews College; Chris Chaffinch, asst. coach, St. Andrews College; and Mackie Register, asst. coach, Lumberton High.

To pre-register, call Bobby Simmons at 910-277-5426.



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TESTIMONIAL

IF YOU ARE NOT A BELIEVER THAT
"DISPLAY ADVERTISING" WORKS,
THEN ENJOY THIS TESTIMONIAL BELOW

Around October 8, 2003 the Drexler family dog was lost. Joann Drexler, the mom of Danielle, Kaitlyn and Joshua Drexler, was determined to find her children's number one pet. She began putting up flyers and telling everyone she knew about this family tragedy. After a week had passed, she thought about putting an ad in the local newspaper. During the second week, Mrs. Drexler placed an ad in the *Echo* and *The News-Journal*. When the third week was just about to pass, she got a call from a gentleman who said, "Ma'am I saw your ad in the paper and I have found a dog that fits the description of the dog in the ad." Mrs. Drexler hesitantly said, "I will come by and check it out." Seven days after the weekly paper had been printed with the ad in it, her family tragedy had come to a successful ending. Humphree was found!



Joann Drexler would like to thank Brian Daniels of Daniels Exxon for recognizing that ad and calling her immediately. She would also like to thank Lieutenant Spradlin, the Hoke County Sheriff's Office and all of the wonderful people who called and helped in locating Humphree.

Sincerely,
Joann, Danielle, Kaitlyn and Joshua Drexler

Sports News Deadline. Friday Noon

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