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Aggie Basketball: Goin' To The Promised Land By Cureton Lee Johnson

As usual the North Carolina A&T Aggies have a lot to live up to as the 1971 basketball season approaches. Attitudes among players and coaches are optimistic and nothing less than high hopes is expected from one of the nation's best college coaches, Cal Irvin.

A&T patched together a rainbow of talented ball players last season to record a creditable 24-8 season record. Most of those team participants will be back to help Coach Irvin find the gold at the end of the long season.

"Naturally I'd rather be ranked seventh in the nation at the end of the season more than now," he said contemplating his squad's top ten preseason rankings in several sports magazines. "But nevertheless, I do feel very optimistic about our chances this year."

Those returning who will make coaching less of a chore and more of an art include guard William "June" Harris. Labeled "quick as a cat" and real tough in one-on-one situations. Harris was the team's second leading scorer last year averaging 16.3 points per outing.

A&T can also count on the services of senior Elmer Austin. The 6-4 forward cracked the Aggie starting lineup his freshman year and came on to account for 19.1 markers each game and lead the team's scoring.

But the playmaker will be 5-11 guard Al Carter who averaged 12.9 points. Although an excellent shot, Carter has sacrificed himself as a playmaker in learning to move excellently without the ball in only two seasons of play.

Other key players include senior Melvin Evans, an excellent shooter (9.2 pt. average), senior Bobby Parks, a 6-3 for-Anderson, 6-71/2 senior (10 pt. avg.)

With all this talent, plus the return of high school All-American James Outaw, Irvin has a right to be looking for something like a national championshin.

He will be fielding one of the shortest teams under his guid-! ance at A&T "but size doesn't mean everything," the coach said attack the previous Monday dition improved.

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Throng Gathers At Opening Of Black Bank

Among the crowd attending the opening of the Dr. J. E. Smith and Dr. D. G. Long. Behind Dr. Long is black-owned Greensboro National Bank were founders (in Jim Melvin, the mayor of Greensboro. front row left to right) James E. Burnett, Ernest Canada, (Photo by Moore)

W BLACK-OWNED BANK NOW OPEN FOR BUSINESS

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loans, business loans, mortgage service to its customers. accounts, savings accounts and call Bill Pickens or Ralph Jones

While the permanent bank The bank is offering a full and building is under construction, Greensboro National Bank will

be operating out of a trailer: Services provided are as fol- however, the bank intends to

If there are any questions,



Freddie (Curly) Neal, 28, the pariso University, where he col-Greensboro native and long- lapsed while giving one of the time Harlem Globetrotters drib- dribbling exhibitions which have bling master, was showing "continued improvement" Monday night in Porter Memorial Hospital in. Valpariso, Ind.

Neal was stricken with a heart while playing basketball at Val-

thrilled cage fans all over the world

Neal's heart attack was kept secret by the Globetrotters and hospital officials until his con-

(Continued on Page 5)

VETERANS ADMINISTRATION FIGHTS DRUG ABUSE

The formal opening of a drug | "This money will be used exabuse treatment center at Brook- clusively for VA drug treatment lvn hospital, recently, brought the ity has been assigned to the number of drug rehabilitation staffing for these programs, and centers operated by VA to 32. their maximum possible utili-Brooklyn was the 27th drug zation by veterans," Johnson treatment unit opened since added. June when VA announced plans

specialized units for veteran fied drug dependence as a meddrug abusers. Five units were ical emergency for purposes of operating in June 1971, at the admission to VA hospitals. Adtime President Nixon called for ministrator Johnson has directed a government wide effort to all 165 VA hospitals to admit deal with drug abuse.

Administrator of Veterans Affairs Donald E. Johnson noted those who inquire about treatthat as a part of his total attack ment to accept hospitalization. on drug abuse, the President in Johnson said, VA has available Johnson directed. in its current budget \$17,162,programs in Fiscal Year 1972.

Veterans Administration programs, and the highest prior-

In another step to help vetfor a six-fold increase in its eran drug users, VA has classiall eligible applicants for hospitalization and to encourage

"If a patient, after admission, his message asked Congress to requires services not available increase the VA budget by \$14,- at the admitting hospital, prompt 000,000 "to permit the immedi- arrangements will be made for ate initiation of this (VA) pro- transfer to a VA station that gram." With the extra money, can provide the needed care,"

Three additional moves in the 000 for its drug rehabilitation stepped up VA program to help (Continued on Page 4)