

EARL MASON'S SPORTS VIDEO



CORRECTION DEPARTMENT

Last week we mistakenly printed that North Carolina Central had signed Willie Burden to an athletic grant-in-aid. We wish to apologize for this error.

George Quiett, head football coach at NCCU, has signed Julius Branch, the star running back for Enloe this past season, to a letter on intent. Branch and Burden played together at Enloe before Burden graduated and went on to attend N. C. State.

No, Burden is not transferring to NCCU. Great things are expected of him this coming season at N. C. State. Burden will be a junior this year for the Wolfpack. CIAA STILL EXCITING

When the CIAA was decreased from 48 teams to the present 12 teams, some thought the regular season standings would not be as they had been in previous years. But as it turns out, the season will go down to the final night before the CIAA tournament committee will know exactly who the teams will be, teams will be.

The Northern division teams are set for the February 24, 25, and 26 action. Norfolk State has won the divisional title and will be the top seeded team from the Northern Division. Elizabeth City, Virginia State and Virginia Union will be the other representatives from the division.

But in the Southern Division, it is a different story. Winston-Salem has won the regular season title and Shaw and Fayetteville are sure-ins for the dribble derby. But the fourth position is the only remaining question and possibly, it won't be decided until Saturday night when the curtain is drawn on the final conference action.

St. Augustine's and Johnson C. Smith are the two teams battling for the one remaining position. And more than likely the final decision will not come before Saturday night when the Golden Bulls meet Fayetteville in the Queen city.

As it stood Monday of this week, the Falcons were 7-8 in conference play, while the Golden Bulls had the same record. These two teams cannot tie for the fourth position because St. Augustine's plays one more conference game than does Johnson C. Smith.

The Falcons played Virginia State at home Tuesday night and will entertain Shaw Friday night at Dorton Arena in the homecoming game for the Falcons.

For Joe Alston and the Golden Bulls, the game Saturday night will conclude the regular schedule. But what an important game for them.

The fact that St. Augustine's plays an odd game could be good or bad depending on the outcome of the games. The Falcons play a total of 17 conference games while J. C. Smith plays 16, the minimum number required by the conference. But with the odd game, there will be no tie for the fourth spot between these two teams.

So one team is going to finish the season with at least a half game lead over the other and this will keep the conference from having a playoff game for the fourth position.

So it looks as though the coaches, players and alumni of the two teams involved will have to wait until Saturday night around 10 o'clock before they will know exactly who is going to the tournament. But the cry from the other teams is "See you in Greensboro at the tournament."

HARRIS SALUTES "BUCK" LEONARD

One of our correspondents, J. B. Harris, writes special salutes to Walter "Buck" Leonard. Harris writes that Leonard played with many of the baseball greats such as Satchell Paige, Josh Gibson and Jackie Robinson. During many winter vacations, Leonard had played with all-star teams touring Latin America, Mexico and the Virgin Islands.

Leonard, a popular and profitable player at the height of the old Negro League era, is presently a tenant officer in Rocky Mount and sells real estate as a sideline. He lives (a widower) at 605 Atlantic Street in Rocky Mount.

LOCAL CLINIC GAINING MOMENTUM

The first annual summer basketball clinic to be held here in Raleigh this summer by George Blair, Harvey Heartley and Ed McLean is gaining momentum even at this early stage. The clinic will run for two weeks, on the St. Augustine's campus. The first session will be held July 17 and run through July 21. The next session will be held July 24 thru July 28. Tentative plans call for conducting two sessions daily. The morning session will convene at 9 and run until noon. The afternoon session will be from 2 until 5.

The coaches plan to teach basic basketball fundamentals in the morning session with the afternoon session devoted to league play.

The clinic is open for boys between the ages of 8 and 18 years old. A player who has graduated from high school even though he may be 18 or under, is not eligible for the clinic because of NCAA recruiting guidelines.

Some professional players are expected to attend the clinics and pass along some tips to the potential basketball players during the sessions.

SHAW READY FOR SPRING PRACTICE

Captain George Clements and his staff at Shaw are making final arrangements for their spring football practice sessions. Tentative plans call for spring practice to begin March 6. According to NCAA rules, a team has 30 days in which to workout for 20 days. Clements expects some 45 players to answer the whistle March 6 for the spring drills.

The session will conclude with an intra-squad game between players of the maroon and white teams.



LANDS LEFT- New York: Floyd Patterson bounces a left off Argentina's Oscar Bonavena during their 10-rounder at Madison Square Garden February 11. Patterson, dispelling the belief that he was a washed up, the 37-year-old ex-champ, scored a unanimous decision. (UPI).



SPORTSMANSHIP CITATION-Good Sportsmanship displayed by the Fisk University basketball team during the Chicago Christmas Classic won them their Miller High Life special award. Accepting the trophy from Miller Public Relations Co-ordinator Al Bullock (left) was Fisk Captain Eugene Sewell (right). Eight of the nation's best black teams competed in the seventh annual tournament, won by Prairie View A&M.



DIVES FOR RECORD-Houston: Cliff Branch of Colorado University dives for a record breaking finish in the 100-yard dash February 12. Branch (L) broke the old world record with a 9.3 seconds time. The old indoor world record was 9.4 seconds. (UPI).

Weekend Action Could Decide MEAC Tournament Pairings

DURHAM - Weekend action in the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC) this week could decide the tournament pairings for the upcoming conference tournament set for Durham's Cameron Indoor Stadium, March 2, 3 and 4.

Four teams are still in running for the regular season championship but after action this weekend, the stage could be set for the first round action in the three-day dribble derby.

A&T took a giant step toward gaining the regular championship and the first day bye by knocking off two of its three challengers on successive nights.

The Aggies bombarded Howard University last Friday 88-64, in Washington in the game billed as the championship game for the tournament. Then last Saturday, the Gate City charges turned back Morgan, 73-62.

These victories for the Aggies gave them a two game lead over Maryland-Eastern

Shore and Howard. A&T has a 8-2 league record while the Hawks and Howard are tied for second place with 5-3 marks. Morgan has a 4-3 family slate.

South Carolina State has won its last five conference games after losing its first five to even its record at 5-5 in conference action. NCCU has a 3-7 family slate, good for sixth place while the Hornets of Delaware State, 2-9, are in the cellar.

First Aid Classes Offered Here

In striving to meet the needs of the people of Wake County, and in order to help local businesses to comply with the Occupational Safety and Health Act, the Wake County Chapter of the American Red Cross will be offering 3 new First Aid classes in February. These classes will be taught at the Red Cross Chapter on 301 N. Blount St. The only cost involved is the price of a textbook.

There was Standard First Aid Course starting on Monday, February 7 from 7-9 p.m. This course is taught every Monday and Wednesday nights through February 21.

There was a Standard First Aid Course starting on Feb. 8, which will be taught on Tuesday and Thursday nights through February 22 from 7-9 p.m.

On February 29, an Advance First Aid class will begin. This class will be held every Tuesday and Thursday nights for 4 weeks, ending on March 23. This also will be taught from 7-9 p.m.

If you would like to enroll in any of these classes, please call 833-3015.

Billy Hodge, is director of the safety programs.

STRIKES AND SPARES

BY PHYLLIS ROBINSON



Norman Mitchell of the The Blazers can be termed as one of the most successful bowlers in the league. He has been bowling for three years and the fact that he hasn't won but one trophy doesn't mean that he is not an outstanding bowler.

His record speaks for itself. This season he has brought in games of 192, 195, 204 (twice) 205, 215, and 230. His high sets have been 507, 515, 520 and 525. Norman's average is a developing 156 and he rolls a very distinguished curve ball.

Valentine's Day wasn't even thought of and hearts and flowers were the furthest thing from the mind as The Five Spots beat The Aces 3 1/2 to 1/2.

Harry Binford rolled a 209-182-152 for a 543 set. Pearl Fowler knocked a 146-162-169-477 set. Rev. C. W. Ward had a nice 152-173-213 for a 538 set. Aces' Wilson Stewart had a 169-160-149 for a 478 and Jas. Stone Walker had a 200-182-219 for a 601 set.

The Rookies handed The Blazers a 3-1 shape up with James Campbell bowling a 151-184-160 for a 495 set. Blazor Norman Mitchell rolled a 137-160-166 for 463 and Don Terry Hough bowled 192-128-176 for a 496. Junior Brown had a 181.

Peebles Flames and The Johnson Five split, 2-2. For the Flames, Skip Lassiter had high game of the night with a 244-188-173 backing it up for high set of the night at 605. I bowled a 150-185-135 for a 470 set. For The J-5's, Ardo Holt socked a 169-191-212 for a 572 set. Frankie Walker had a 183 and Carlton Lassiter was hot with his 154-192-204 for a 550 set.

Standings for the week show The Blazer in first place at 56-36, The Johnson Five in second with a 49-42 and The Five Spots third place with a 49-43. The Five Aces and Peebles Flames are tied at 48-44 for fourth place and The Rookies hold on the last places with 25-wins and 67 losses.

March 2, 3 & 4 Close Finish Expected For First Annual MEAC Slated For Durham

DURHAM - Forecasting a winner of the first annual Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC) basketball tournament is becoming more difficult by the week.

With little more than two weeks left before the playoffs in Duke University's huge Cameron Indoor Stadium, North Carolina A&T hangs in first place, but only by a hair.

The way those red hot MEAC teams have been knocking off each other, the first tourney championship has got to be a tossup.

You take South Carolina State, for instance. They were considered doormats this year, that is until they drumped strong Ho-

ward and Morgan State in successive nights two weekends ago. Then last week, the Bulldogs defeated Maryland-Eastern Shore and Delaware State.

In case you haven't given much thought to the University of Maryland at Eastern Shore you better take note.

The talented Hawks uncorked a super shooter, 6-5 Reggie Collins, against A&T and the results were disastrous.

The University of Maryland is as good as any team we have seen this season," said an A&T coach. Other teams in the playoffs will be North Carolina Central and Delaware State.

So all in all, the first MEAC

tournament shapes up as a real shoot-out. Officials here said the demand for tournament tickets and hotel reservations has been encouraging.

Cameron Indoor Stadium seats 8,800 fans. The tournament will get underway on Mar. 2 with the visitation champion drawing a first round bye.

The tournament will feature three games on Thursday, two on Friday night and the consolation and championship games on Saturday night.

Tickets for the tournament are available at all of the institutions.

Jackson State Cheering Squad Adds The Color

JACKSON, Miss. - When JSC's Tiger basketball team hits the court they're backed up by eleven of the most lively and energetic J-Staters around --The Tiger Basketball Cheerleading Squad.

There are eight pert sprightly young girls and three brawny, robust and their roaring voices never fail to fill the house with action and excitement, whether the playing site is College Park Auditorium or the Mississippi Coliseum.

Cheerleading requires a lot of energy and vitality from these young people but they don't mind it at all. They love everything about it.

"Yeah, we enjoy it," says Patricia Franklin a senior health and physical education major who is a three-year veteran of the squad.

"The most exciting thing about being a cheerleader is being able to participate," says Bonnie Forbes, a senior health and physical education major who has been on the squad for three seasons.

This year men were added to the squad for the first time. Instead of participating in the cheers so much, the guys do a lot of gymnastics.

"They needed something extra to attract crowd attention," says one of the new male members. "Acrobatics produce a lot of crowd reaction."

More than anything else, the squad members learn to work with people and cope with situations two lessons which make the Tiger Basketball Cheerleading Squad quite a worthwhile organization.

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