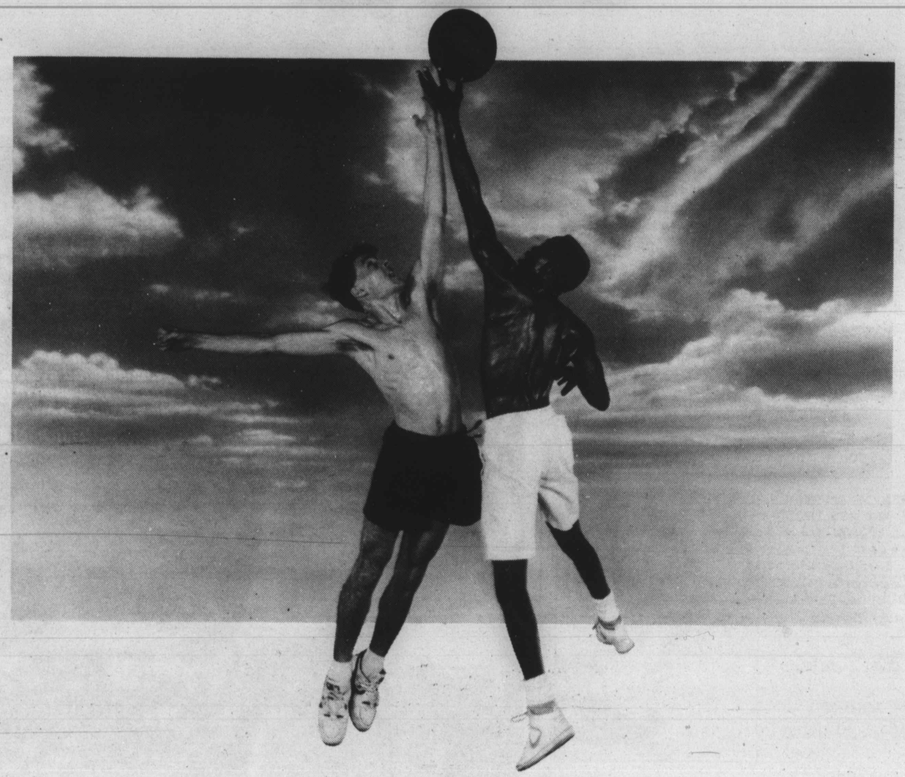
Some changes are made one-on-one.



Competing against each other in a basketball game can teach kids a lot of respect for the other guy's ability. And sometimes the changing of a whole society begins as simply as that. The exchange of an idea between a student and teacher. The common concerns of neighbors.

At the Adolph Coors Company, brewer of Coors, Coors Light and Coors Extra Gold,* we're encouraging positive change through our support of community events, education, athletics and cultural activities. We believe the more people get together, the better things get.

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BLACK COLLEGE

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PUBLISHER
Ernest H. Pitt

EDITOR
Craig T. Greenlee

PRODUCTION
Yvonne H.B. Truhon
Brenda Thomas
Courtney Mack

STAFF WRITERS
Rolando Simmons
Roscoe Nance
Steve Zimmerman

PHOTOGRAPHERS
J.D. Schwalm
Joe Daniels
Max Dunhill

Business as usual ...

It was business as usual in the NCAA men's basketball tournament -- the Southwestern Athletic Conference and Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference champions suffered lopsided first-round defeats.

South Carolina State's 90-69 loss to Duke was the ninth consecutive loss for the MEAC without a victory since the conference gained an automatic berth in 1981.

Southern's 93-79 loss to North Carolina made the SWAC 3-10 in the tournament since 1980, and SWAC is winless since the field was expanded to 64 teams in 1985.

At first glance, that comes off as a sorry track record. The SWAC and MEAC champions have done so poorly bec ause they're not playing on a level field.

Since '85, MEAC champions have played Duke, Oklahoma, Kansas, Alabama and Syracuse in the first round. In that same span, SWAC champions have opened against North Carolina, Kentucky, Duke, St. John's and Temple. The lowest seed in the bunch was No. 3 Syracuse last year.

Those schools are card-carrying members of college basketball's aristocracy. They spend as much on stamps and phone calls as SWAC and MEAC schools have in their recruiting budgets. Given those conditions, expecting anything other than defeat is ludicrous.

The matchups are always compared to David vs. Goliath. But at least David had a fighting chance with his rock and slingshot. Asking a SWAC or MEAC team to beat a No. 1 seed is like sending David after Goliath with his slingshot but no rock.

It's impossible to win any battle without weapons. In basketball, the ultimate weapon is having big, talented athletes who can run and jump and shoot.

There aren't enough of those kinds of athletes attending MEAC and SWAC colleges. Why?

Like flies are attracted to honey, such athletes are attracted to high-profile schools. Schools that we see on television three times a week. Your Alcorn States and Howards and South Carolina States need not apply.

The NCAA tournament is one of the top four or five sporting events in America. It has attained that stature because it epitomizes the American way.

Under the guise of fairness, the underclass are invited to the big party with the idea that they won't be around for the last dance. They were given $250,000 for showing up and sent on their way.

They go away pleased with their payday, and the bluebloods are happy they're gone. Now they can get on with the party and zero in on the real money -- $1.25 million -- that goes with dancing the last dance.

Once again the rich get richer. Business as usual, right?

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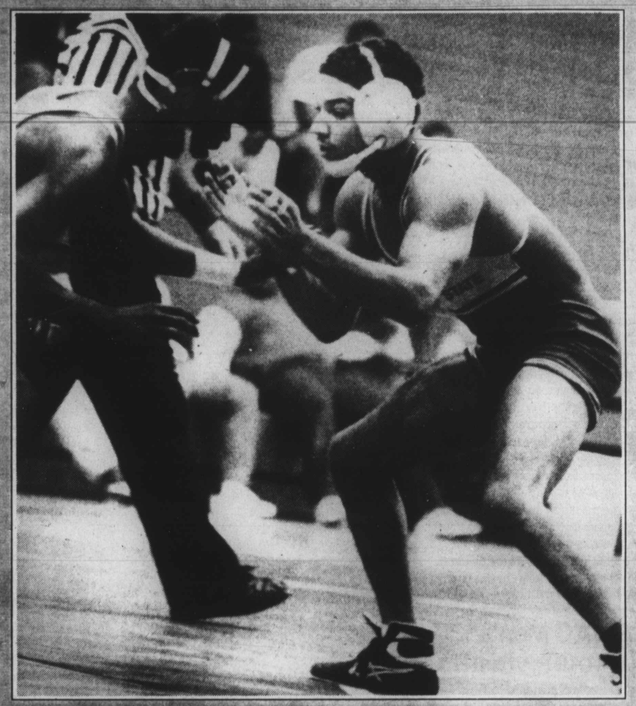

Photo by Max Dunhill

Kirwyn Adderley, right, has proved that he has the grit and technique to wrestle well against the nation's best.

Norfolk's Kirwyn Adderley finishes second in NCAA wrestling nationals

Norfolk State's Kirwyn Adderley concluded a successful collegiate wrestling career by finishing second in the recent NCAA Division II Wrestling Championships held at the University of California in Pennsylvania.

The Philadelphia senior lost in the finals of the 134 lbs. weight division when he dropped a close 8-6 decision to James Sisson of Portland State, the school that emerged as the eventual national team champion. Adderley's finish earned him All-American honors for the second year in a row. Last year, he finished sixth in the competition.

In the NCAA nationals, the top eight finishers qualify for All-America status.

The technique oriented matsman earned a spot in the finals by winning a tough, 9-8 decision in the semifinals against Larry Robey of Pittsburg-Johnstown. After receiving a first round bye in the tournament, Adderley encountered very little opposition in dominating Tim Falling of Springfield, 21-11 in the quarterfinals.

The NSU star is one of the best on the mats regardless of college division. While Norfolk State isn't noted nationally for its wrestling endeavors, Adderley demonstrated how far he's progressed since his freshman year by competing in the Division I nationals held at Oklahoma City, OK.

He lost in the first round, 7-5. But to get a proper perspective on the level of his skill, you have to consider his opponent. In this case it was Chuck Barbee of Oklahoma State. Barbee, known as one of the best around, took his act all the way to the top this season, winning the national title. So certainly, Adderley doesn't have to feel that he wrestled out of his league by competing against the big boys in Division I.

Adderley enjoyed an outstanding season in his final collegiate campaign, amassing a record of 19-2. The three-time, all-CIAA performer has won conference titles in two different weight classes.

As a freshman, he won the CIAA in the 142 lbs. weight class, then lost in the conference finals as a sophomore. For the past two seasons, he has been at the head of the CIAA class at 134 lbs.

Adderley completed his four year NSU mat career with a record of 89-33-3.

-- Shawn Ricks