Cardinals best Braves in exhibition play

By Justin Thomas
Sports Writer

The men’s golf team finished in a tie for 15th in a field of 18 schools after competing at the McDo-
nough Cup at the Rio Pinar Country Club in Orlando, Fla., on Oct 29 and 30. Junior Ian Locklear, a Penbrooke native, led the way for the Black and Gold as he finished the event in a six-way tie for 41st place.

Sophomore Trent Clominger finished in a 10th-place tie for 54th in the Black and Gold, 15 strokes behind the pace. Junior Michael Mull- mann and freshman Kendall Smith both finished in a tie for 54th in the Black and Gold, 15 strokes behind the pace.

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Senior Zack Sallinger led the Black at Gold lead 54-41.

For the next three min- utes, Athletics in Action, chipped away at the Braves’ lead with a 140 of their own to go up one on the home team.

The visitors backed back the score at 43, 35, and 37 before taking a 39-37 lead on a Corey Cooperwood made layup.

The following possess- ion, the Braves captured the lead as Brackett con- nected on a three-pointer and make the score 40-39. UNCP held onto the lead until the 15:12 mark during the second half.

Despite the turnover problem, the Black and Gold were able to stick with the Cardinals going into halftime down 38-31.

In the second half, the visitors were down as much as 12 points on two separate occasions but were able to size down the Cardinals lead both times, in large part due to senior guard Shahnell Brackett’s scoring. With just over three minutes remaining in the game, a dunk by sophomore Reggie Cobia brought the Braves within six points, but the Cardinals were able to pull away as they knocked down key free throws down the stretch.

In a closely contested match, both squads were relatively even on the glass as the Cardinals’ much bigger frontcourt out rebounded the Braves 44 to 42. Both sides also shot 42 percent from the floor.

The Braves finished the game with 11 turnovers compared to just 10 assists and allowed the host to score 15 points off turnovers and 14 points on second chance opportuni-
ties.

“Overall, I thought we took a step in the right di-
rection with our defensive effort,” UNCP head coach Ben Miller said. “The rebounding was better, but for a 5-minute stretch in the second half where they got their second chance points. We had some scarred faces in our box, and com-

Junior Aaron Bright led the Cardinals with a game-
high 21 points while back-
court mate Chassie Randle scored 15 points on 7-of-15 shooting.

Forward Josh Huestis scored a double-double for Stanford as he scored 16 points and grabbed a dozen rebounds.

Brackett led the Black and Gold and also snagged six rebounds. Senior guard Blakeney and freshman Quami rose also scored in double-digits for the Braves tally-
ing 16 and 11 points respectively.

Blakeney also grabbed a team-high seven rebounds in a losing effort.

Black and Gold senior Shahnell Brackett takes a jump shot earlier in the season. Brackett scored 20 points against Stanford on Nov. 4.

The following possess-
ion, the Black and Gold tasted their first loss.

Coach Mark O’Hara from Mount Olive and Patrick Garrett each had five points during the run.

The visitors mounted a five-person playoff, includ-
ing 16 and 11 points, respectively.

With 39 seconds left in the effort proved to be not enough.

Bradley had a big night in his first appearance in a Braves uniform as he tallied seven rebounds and seven rebounds to go along with three assists and two blocks.

Seattle and Loyola each had double-fingers in the frontcourt for the Braves as they each had 11 and 10 points, respectively.

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