

Quakers Rally Again, Close Regular Season in Crackerbox

by Steve Beck

HANOVER HALL, Wilmington-For the second time last week Quaker Coach Jack Jensen was noticeably pleased with his team's performance, the latter being an 83-81 comeback win over home-standing UNC-Wilmington here last Saturday night. The Quakers impressed Jensen earlier in the week with a tough conference road victory over Lenoir Rhyne.

Belmont Abbey invades the Crackerbox Saturday night, closing out Guilford's regular season schedule in a non-conference game. The contest will mark the last home performance for senior guard Greg Jackson. The Brooklyn native broke into the Quaker outfit the same year Jensen became coach, replacing Jerry Steele in 1971. Since that time "Jocko" has helped the Quakes to produce an 83-27 record excluding Tuesday night's game against rival High Point. A tremendous leaper at only 6'0", Jackson will not doubt be ready to perform the skills which put him among the ranks of such great form players as Bob Kaufman, Jerry Crocker, and M.L. Carr. Game time is slated for 8:00.

Psyched-up by a large homecoming crowd of nearly 3,000 Wilmington raced to an early six point lead before the Quakers could scratch the scoring columns on Ray Massengill's tip with two minutes gone in the first half.

The Seahawks then proceeded to score at will from the outside to gain leads of 13 with 13:20 left and 14 midway through the opening period. Guilford seemed unable to stop the radar-like sharpshooting of Willie Jackson and Mike Cherry.

Guilford played the Seahawks even down the first half stretch as the two teams exchanged baskets for over five minutes. Jackson then drove the lane with :03 left and his layup dropped the UNC-W lead to six at the half.

Lloyd Free cut the lead to four following the halftime intermission and Jackson connected on a free throw complements of Cherry's technical, slicing the lead down to four with 17:12 left. The 'Hawks then rallied as they outscored Guilford 13-4 in a period of two minutes and 35 seconds to produce their largest lead of the evening at 70-52, as Jackson threw in another one from the outside.

Three Quaker timeouts were needed to stop the Seahawk rally as Jensen ordered better rebounding, and more important, a full-court press. The results were missed shots and backcourt turnovers by UNC-W, combined with stronger rebounding on both boards, by Guilford with Sam Kennedy leading the action. Kennedy's lay-up finally tied the score at 76 all with 3:51 remaining aided by Free's assist. Free then put the Quakers in the lead for the first time when the 6'2" sophomore connected on both ends of a one-and-one situation with 3:05 left.

Cherry hit again from the inside with 2:20 left and as the Quakers brought the ball up the court Jensen ordered the defending champs into their stall offense. The tactic almost backfired as 'Hawk guard Bob Allesi stole the ball. Allesi was unable to score and passed to Cherry who was fouled in the act of shooting by Zeke McKinney. Cherry hit the first but missed the important second shot and the Quakes recovered the rebound with 1:17 left.

Jackson, Free, and McKinney then ran the stall to perfection, forcing Wilmington to foul in desperation went Jackson went to the charity stripe twice the final minute, hitting on three out of four, and giving Guilford a four point lead at 83-79 with only ten seconds left. The Seahawks scored an unimportant goal at the buzzer to produce the 83-81 final. During the final 9:35 Guilford outscored their opponents 31-11 as Kennedy and Free scored 10 and eight points respectively during that period.

After the game Jensen stated that he felt defense had been the key to his team's comeback victory as he commented, "I thought the last 14 minutes we played the best defense we played all year." Jensen was not surprised at the excellent outside shooting of the Seahawks relating that since Guilford had played Wilmington earlier, they had been shooting about 60% from the floor.

John Ralls, a reserve guard, summed up best the Quaker rally, "You gotta do what you gotta do." As tournament time nears, the Quakers seem to be doing just that.

Quakerettes Rack Up 5-5 Record

by Velina Hammond

With only one home game remaining in the season, the girl's varsity basketball team has demonstrated outstanding defense, but has lacked offensive force, earning a 5-5 record.

The Quakerettes were rated number nine in last month's poll of women's basketball teams among colleges throughout the state.

Elizabeth Parker has led the offense averaging 18.3 points per game. Elizabeth's highest point effort of the season was 27 in Guilford's victory over Duke.

The members of the 1973-74 team are: Doris Adams, Janet Boyles, Dana Chester, Cheney Davis, Ginger Garner, Velina Hammond, Charlotte Hines, Debbie Holfowell, Barbara Johnson, Annette King, Kim Milner, Elizabeth Parker, Penny Parsons, and Pam Walker.

The Quakerettes will host Salem College on Monday, February 25th at 7:30, before hitting the road for their last two games, at Duke on the 26th, and Salem on March 5th.



In case you missed it: Forward Steve Hankins in action during upset victory over conference leader Elon. Photo by Knight

Animal Farm Champs

Congratulations to Animal Farm for winning the Co-ed Intramural Volleyball League championship. They defeated the regular season champs, Snakepit, to win the title. Their record was 13-1. Team members include: Garret Wall, Bill Norris, Chris Paphitas, Dennis Salisbury, Paul Hoffman, Greg Novac, Denny James, Martha Wolf, Beth Kieger, and Mike Dimoff.

Errata

The Guilfordian apologizes for the error in last week's paper, in which Randy Catoe was given credit for the picture on the sports page taken by Jim Knight.

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