

Quakers Cage Falcons!

by Chris Benfey

"That", said one of our cheerleaders, "was a tough game!". But should it have been? The Pfeiffer Falcons flew into Greensboro with the worst record in the Carolinas Conference. Guilford led the CC with a 9-2 record. It was the last regular season game for the Quakers and everyone expected an easy win.

For the first few minutes the game looked more like football than basketball. One team carried the ball down the floor, fumbled, and switched into reverse, as the other team recovered the fumble and went the other way. Guilford managed to stumble to a 9-2 lead when Ray Branch intercepted a pass and gleefully dunked the ball at the other end.

The Quakers held on to that seven-point lead as the half wore on. I watched the radio sportscaster remove his sportscaster without closing his mouth, then allowed my attention to drift back to the ballgame.

Guilford's defense was crumbling, and its offense was hardly offensive. The score was 25-18, then it was 25-23; then with seven minutes left Pfeiffer had tied the score at 29. The lead seesawed for awhile and the two-year-old sitting next to me fell asleep. Then a Falcon fouled a Quaker. The Pfeiffer coach complained. The official called a technical. The Pfeiffer coach complained about the technical, and received a second one. "Show your colors, Ref!" shouted the Pfeiffer fan next to me (The two-year-old on his lap was now wide awake).

Branch made the free throw, Kennedy connected on both technicals, and Guilford pulled ahead to 41-37 with three minutes left in the half.

The Quakers seemed confident, calm and collected throughout the first half, but found themselves behind at the buzzer, 50-45.

They drank some coffee over halftime, and came back with an inspired man-to-man defense. The press bewildered the Falcons and, with five minutes gone in the half, Guilford was up by three, 61-58.

Then the game started seesawing again, 65-64, 68-68. I chatted with the fellow behind me about the plight of the Guilford cheerleaders. Barbara Duboise, senior captain of the squad, had been recognized earlier for her contribution to school spirit. It

will be remembered that she and the rest of the squad have been criticized from within and without the Guilford community. Let me put in a few words in their defense. First, each of them can do a cartwheel. Second, they successfully executed a pyramid. Third, they seemed to me very enthusiastic, if not always very inventive. Is it their fault if they don't "lead" anyone? You can hear from anywhere in the gym, despite the modest size of the squad. The poor girls listened in dismay to the thundering mob of Pfeiffer cheerleaders of both sexes, thumping the floor, beating tambourines, and sweating like squirrels.

The score was tied at 76. Mike Cheery squeezed in a basket and drew a foul. Then, with five minutes remaining, something happened to the Guilford fans. They responded ecstatically to the cheerleaders. I tried to figure out what was going on. The Quakers had dropped into a 1-3-1 zone, and the Falcons were tossing the ball about in the backcourt. Behind by three, they needed a good shot.

The noise was deafening. Organized cheers disintegrated into a constant roar. "Every time we stand out there waving our arms", Coach Jensen explained, "it makes the crowd go crazy". The noise got so loud that the

women at Mary Hobbs gave up trying to study, and turned on the radio to listen to the sportscaster (who had just smoked a cigarette without a break in his commentary).

The noise was so loud that the Falcons couldn't hear the falconer. For Pfeiffer, things fell apart. The coach got so rattled he complained about a call, and picked up another technical.

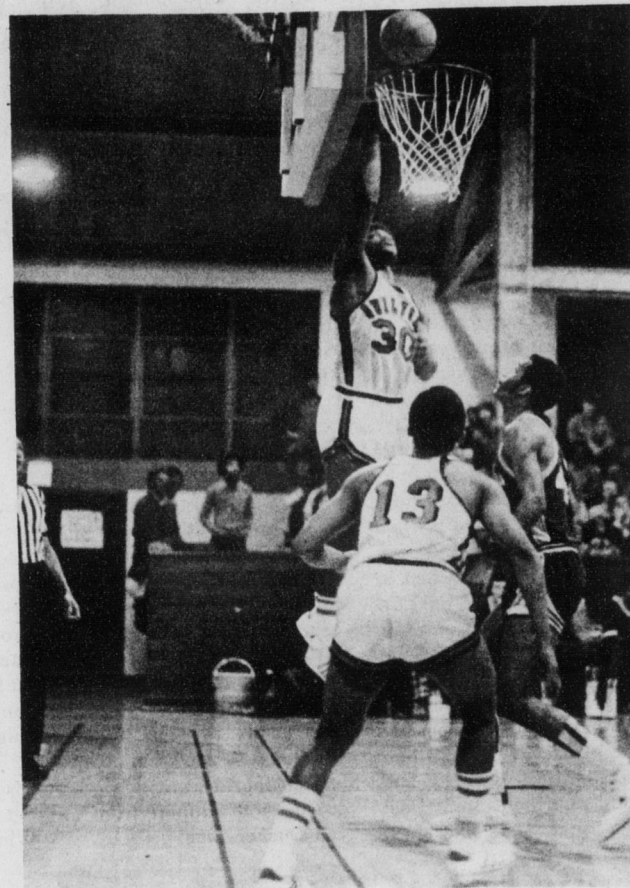
After the foul shots Guilford was up by five, 83-78. A minute later, Gary Devlin took off from the free throw line, and didn't land till he had flown past the backboard, tossing in a basket on the way. Guilford won comfortably an uncomfortable game, 89-80.

When Branch bowed out with a few second left, he received an ovation from the crowd. In his last game at Guilford he had scored 34 points and pulled down 18 rebounds.

It was also the final regular season game for seniors Johnny Ralls and Robert Kent.

Guilford, with its win Saturday, won the regular-season championship of the Carolinas Conference. The Quakers go on to compete in the conference tournament next Friday and Saturday.

They also have an automatic place in the NAIA District 26 tournament a week later.



Spring Soccer!

Guilford's soccer team is competing in the North Carolina Spring Soccer League and it opened up the season this weekend with two wins.

Saturday, the Quakers' opposition was the Piedmont Soccer Club and after falling behind early in the game, Guilford prevailed, 8-3.

PSC took a 2-1 lead in the early stages, but behind the scoring of Carolina transfer Bobby Propster, Paul Chapman and Ken Boone, the Quakers overtook the visitors.

The Guilford offense domi-

nated Sunday's match with the Greensboro Soccer Club. The Quakers won, 3-1, on goals by Chapman, Steve Hicks and Cary Spicuzza. The game was tied 0-0 at the half, and Chapman's penalty shot broke the ice early in the second period.

Greensboro was unable to score until the 38 minute mark.

Guilford is now 2-0 and plays again Sunday. All games will be held every Sunday and home games will be played on the football field.

GUILFORD COLLEGE BASEBALL SCHEDULE 1976

Feb. 29	West Va. Institute of Technology	H
March 1	West Va. Institute of Technology	H
March 4	Methodist College (Double Header)	H
March 5-13	(Spring Break)	
March 14	Slippery Rock State (Double Header)	H
March 17	Salem College (Salem, W. Va.)	H
March 18	Liberty Baptist College	H
March 20	Duke University (Double Header)	A
March 22	Franklin and Marshall College	H
March 23	Catawba College	A
March 24	Hampden-Sydney (Double Header)	A
March 25	Liberty Baptist College	A
March 27	St. Lawrence Univ. (Canton, N.Y.)	H
March 29	A & T State University	H
April 2	Atlantic Christian College	H
April 3	Lenoir Rhyne College	H
April 5	Atlantic Christian College	A
April 7	Catawba College	H
April 8	Winston-Salem State	A
April 9	A & T State University	A
April 11	Elon College	A
April 13	Pfeiffer College	A
April 14	St. Andrews College	H
April 15	Lenoir Rhyne College	A
April 16	Mars Hill College (Double Header)	A
April 18	High Point College	H
April 20	Pfeiffer College	H
April 21	Winston-Salem State	H
April 24	Davidson College	A
April 25	High Point College	A
April 27	St. Andrews College	A
April 28	Elon College	H

Home games during week days start at 3:00
All doubleheaders start at 2:00
Regular Saturday and Sunday games start at 2:00
Stuart Maynard, Baseball Coach