



Bulldog Sports

EDITOR: SETH CAIN



Hittin' The High Notes

By Courtney Brown

The college football season is done and the bowl invitations sent out. Many teams are finished while the season of others rests solely on the outcome of one game. There will be no national champion declared unless Miami or Washington is upset because both are locked to go to separate bowls. I, unlike most everybody, want to keep the present day bowl system but not let the bowls have locks with certain conferences that hinder their ability to get the best game possible. This way the number one and two teams can play for the national championship, but also keep the festivities associated with respective bowl, i.e. the Rowl Bowl Parade. So the point I'm making in short is- keep the bowls, lose the locks.

If any of you read the college basketball preview in *Sports Illustrated* about Christian Laettner, you may look at him in a different light. I bet you thought Laettner was the BMOC (big man on campus) - a person everyone looks up to and admires. Well, how wrong you are. Students at Duke call him arrogant, tactless, cocky, and most surprisingly-queer. While trying to dispel the rumors of his sexual preference, Laettner has made matters worse by joking through the press about his relationship with teammate and fellow roommate Brian Davis. He said in *SI* that the only three things that mattered in his life are "clothes, basketball, and Brian Davis." He also said that he would rather spend time with Davis than anything else because he loves Davis. By trying to be funny, Duke's All-American center has dug a deeper hole for himself and has shown a lax attitude toward public relations.

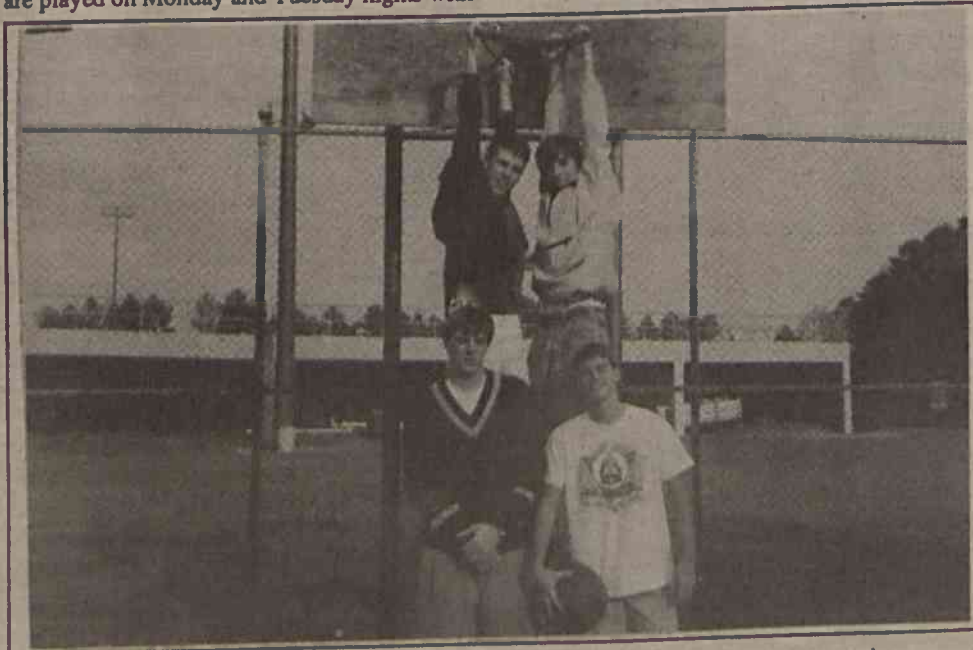
The ACC Big East Challenge ended this year prematurely because the Big East coaches voted and chose to end the series one year early. This disappoints me because any basketball fan loves watching big time college schools battle not only for themselves but for the reputation of the conference. This year's series ended with ACC domination, with 6 wins to 2. The overall series ended in a tie, 12-12. The games were televised nationally by ESPN and for a whole week all eyes were focused on the ACC and Big East conferences. This not only brought recognition to the conferences but also a large amount of money. I read in the paper that the ACC will start a series of games against teams of the Big Ten conference. Hopefully this will be a long running series that will keep both conferences in the national spotlight.

Doug's Dawgs Plan for Hi-Y Title

By Kim Smith

Not only does Albemarle High School have its own basketball teams, but so does the YMCA. Many people are saying, "Move over Dogs", the "Y" has something better!" This year the YMCA is sponsoring a basketball league called Hi-Y. This league is not only made up of teams from Albemarle but consists of teams from West Stanly, North Stanly, and South Stanly. These teams are totally independent; they fund their own teams and practice on their own time. Many of the players get together in the YMCA "old gym" and play pick-up games. Though these games can get a little out of control at times, most of them are good, hard-playing ball games. The actual games are played on Monday and Tuesday nights with

officials and scorekeepers. One of Albemarle's own Hi-Y players, Curtis Cox, comments about the season ahead. "I'm really pumped up about this year's season because it's going to be pretty fun and dominated by our team Doug's Dawgs, featuring such players as Tortoise Cox, Almost All-State Speight, Swimmy Snyder, Beast Culp, Bush Atwater, Duck Sullivan, Trooper Aldridge, and our coach White Bailey. I encourage every body to come watch our acrobatic dunks during regular season and the playoffs. We're going to carry on this year's tradition of kicking some North Stanly butt." For excitement on a dull winter evening, try watching some Hi-Y ball!



Curtis, Brian, Chad, and Chad show how real basketball is played.



Coach Weiker's JV 'Dogs fly high for the rebound.

Small 'Dog - Big Plans

By Jason Ingram

The boys' JV basketball team is sporting several new faces this year, including a freshman coach. Former coach Al Andrews has moved up to varsity assistant, and coach Gary Weiker has taken his place on the sidelines. This is Weiker's first high school basketball coaching job, and he is hoping the task of coaching three sports (baseball, football, and basketball) doesn't weigh him down.

Coach Weiker says that there isn't much difference between coaching baseball and basketball, except that coaching hoops calls for more on-the-spot coaching, whereas most baseball decisions are made before the game. Coach also says that he is not going to mold the JV squad after the varsity team, stating that he wants to do "his own thing."

Two years ago, the JV 'Dogs went undefeated, and with Coach W at the helm, they are sure to continue their winning ways. Good luck, Coach!

Coaches' Resolutions for '92

By Kim Smith

It's 11:59 and there's only exactly one minute left to the new year 1992. You're impatiently counting down the seconds 35, 34, 33,..... Have you decided what your New Year's resolution is yet or are you like those many thousands of people who do not even give it a second thought? 24, 23, 22,..... it's getting closer. Hurry, think! Think! 5, 4, 3, 2, 1- it's 1992. Everyone is cheering and is full of excitement. They have started the New Year off right because they have made a solemn promise to themselves to quit smoking, lose weight, be a better person, or to make a lot of money the upcoming year. Well, we went to the coaches of Albemarle School to see what kind of resolutions they have made for this upcoming year.

- Mr. Holcomb**- "To be more forceful and outspoken in both teaching and coaching and if I have to, bust somebody to do it!"
- Mr. Weiker**- "To improve the Junior Varsity Baseball program 100% from last year."
- Mr. Moran**- "To wear my underwear outside my clothes at least once this year."
- Mr. Johnston**- "To try to be more patient with a young basketball team."
- Mrs. Maske**- "To lose 30 pounds"
- Mr. Fanes**- "To change the offense to an I-formation, develop a strong, solid defense, and to get Albemarle back into the state playoffs."

These few coaches plan to TRY to stick to these resolutions for as long as possible. Well, good-luck to all of you in reaching your goals!

Running With Bulldog Pride

By Reishana Morrison

Indoor track season has begun. The coach again this year is Mrs. Agnes Maske. The first practice was December 2. This year's meets will be held at UNC Chapel Hill and Virginia Tech. Indoor track is very similar to outdoor track except it's held inside a huge gymnasium. The meets consist of mostly 3A and 4A schools. The question may come to you that why do we as a 2A school compete against these highly athletic schools? First of all, these meets help prepare the team for outdoor track season. With the competition from 3A and 4A schools, the track team becomes more competitive in spring track against schools of similar rank.

The practices for indoor track take hard work. Believe me, it's not an easy task. It's obvious that indoor track deals with running. However, strategies and techniques are taught for coming out in the event successfully. Mrs. Maske teaches the team concepts for winning and acceptance of losing. Not only that, she teaches the meaning of team unity and the importance of having a good attitude.

Running track does not just require being able to run the 100 yard dash in 12 seconds or jumping 18 feet in the long jump. You must have a good

attitude, determination, willingness to work, and be supportive to your teammates. If you lack the qualities and wish to become a member of the team, be prepared to make some adjustments 'cause Mrs. Maske don't play!



Mrs. Maske urges her runners on a cold December afternoon.