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THE FULL MOON

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# Bulldog Sports

EDITOR: RUSTY STORY



## Girls Just Want to Have Fun!

by Heather Freshly

Who ever said football is a sport only for guys to play? Once again Albemarle High School will host Powder Puff on October 29 as a fund raiser for the junior/senior prom. The juniors try their hardest to pow it out against the top-dog seniors; however, the seniors are notorious for winning.

This year should be an exciting game considering comments made by some juniors and seniors. Junior Beverly Poplin can't wait to claw the seniors' eyes out. On a lesser scale, Amber Perry just wants to learn the inside scoop on how to play the game. Nikillya Clark will enjoy showing off her football skills that she learned from the Westside. (Her boyfriend goes to West Montgomery.) Senior Kelly Miller says, "Those juniors need to stay home and spare themselves the embarrassment." Missy Jones, Katherine Garrison, and Emily Rogers comment, "We're going to kick those juniors' #@#." Connie Edwards believes the seniors will carry on the tradition of a

senior victory.

If you would like to see a passel of girls toughing it out and showing these guys how tough they really are, come out and support the Power Puff.



These seniors are ready to kick butt!

## The Gridiron Battle Continues

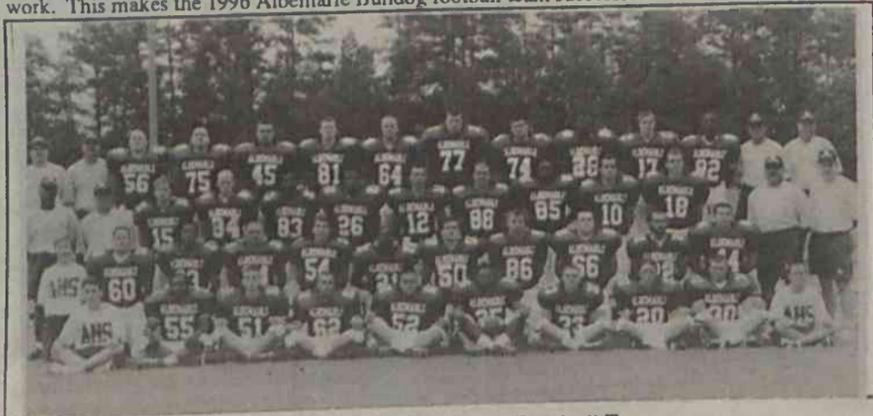
by Wilson Beaver

The 1996 Albemarle Bulldog Football team is having a successful and exciting season. The team had an undefeated non-conference season and is currently 3-1 in conference play. The Bulldogs lost the conference opener to rival West Stanly and then went on to beat the big, bad Warriors of West Montgomery. They have a so hadconference wins over Norht Stanly and Salisbury. Hopefully, the Bulldogs will find themselves in a play-off position.

The team is constantly striving to become better than the week before. The boys start out each week by watching film from the previous week to correct errors in the game. Then they go over the new strategy for the upcoming game. Everyday at practice the team works on drills to improve tackling, passing, receiving, kicking, and running skills. These fundamental skills are necessary in building a successful team. After the fundamentals are taken care of, the team practices executing plays that have been found to break the opposing teams' defense. At the end of every practice, the coaches allow the players to run 4x4's. A 4x4 consists of running the width of a football field four times as fast as a player can. The players always look forward to this time when they can rid themselves of the grub they eat during the day. But in the end all of the suffering pays off when the team is victorious.

No one outside the football program sees what goes on behind the scenes. The men that have the privilege and responsibility of taking care of the team are the equipment managers. The Bulldog managers work long hard hours to make sure the coaches and players are able to concentrate solely on the game coming up. Managers make sure that there is water readily available to players upon request. Equipment is cleaned, fixed, and/or replaced by the manager. Being a Bulldog manager takes time, patience, discipline, desire, dedication, and skill. A manager without these characteristics has no place on the team. Managers get little public recognition for the hard work they do. The only praise they receive is from coaches and players. Most managers remain invisible to the public. So next time, pay more attention to the sideline work at a game.

The Albemarle Bulldog football team is made up of many different components that must work together to be successful. Everyone that is part of the team has a job to do, and they take pride in their work. This makes the 1996 Albemarle Bulldog football team successful.



1996-97 Albemarle Varsity Football Team

## Cheerleaders are Athletes, Too

by Bo Andrew

Football is known for long passes, "nasty sticks", and of course, touchdowns. But football at AHS is more than blocking and running. Albemarle football includes toe-touches, free libs, and jazzy dances.

This year's varsity football cheerleaders have had a very rewarding season. It all began with a tough but exciting summer. They attended the Champion Cheerleading Camp at UNCC in early July. Four girls from Albemarle were named to the All-American cheerleading team, a top honor in the sport of cheerleading. The All-Americans selected from the Bulldog squad were Allison Hudson, Erin Mauldin, Beverly Poplin, and Stephanie Efrid. The squad also attended a specialized stunt camp led by the coach of the award-winning "Charlotte Allstars."

Since practice makes perfect, the squad wasted no time preparing for perfection. They eagerly began hours of practice and planning for many games and activities promoting school spirit. This year's captains Allison Hudson and Erin Mauldin help lead our famous cry "Woof, Woof! Let the Dogs Out!" This year's team members are as follows: Beth Hathcock, Connie Edwards, Tonya Smith, Sommer Thompson, Allison Hudson, Erin Mauldin, Mika Rogers, Emily Rogers, Sweet Flake, Mandi Hathcock, Emily Nance, Nikillya Clark, Beverly Poplin, Tiera McDonald, Jennifer Byrd, Jodie Dennis, and Katherine Garrison. Keep up the good work, Cheerleaders!



1996-97 Albemarle Varsity Football Cheerleading Squad

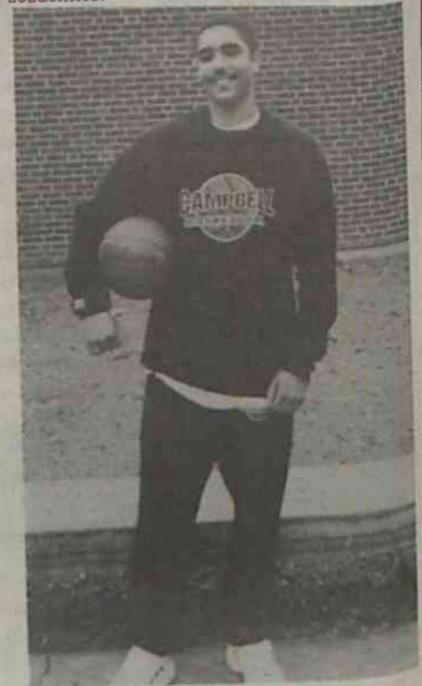
## Simmons Rides High with the Camels

by Rusty Story

When asked about the success of the basketball team last year, most people would remember the play of our "big man in the middle." Well, we have lost that guy to graduation. For those of you who are not athletically-minded, I am speaking of Jamie Simmons. I was able to contact Jamie at Buies Creek during a break in his hectic schedule.

Jamie has gone on to the college level to play for the Campbell Camels. Spending long days in the gym and weightroom are not uncommon for Simmons. Jamie has worked out in the preseason at small forward. The coaches and Jamie are still unsure if he will red-shirt. If he chooses to, he will receive an extra year of eligibility. Simmons has spent one hour each day lifting and thirty minutes each day working on individual skills with a coach. Then the team runs sprints and distance runs to prepare for the upcoming season. Simmons replied that on the college level, "It's more intense, competitive, and time consuming. There is always someone who can take your spot. You have to give all you have to excel on this level of play. Unlike high school ball, there is an even spread of players. Everyone has about the same talent as the next player." The team began practice on October 8th. The Camels practice six times a week. They have Tuesdays off. Their first game is an exhibition game on November 13th. The highlight of Jamie's freshman season could very well come on December 21st when

Campbell squares off with Tim Duncan and the Deacons of Wake Forest. We are all proud of the way Jamie has represented our school. We all wish him the best of luck for the next four years of basketball and academics.



Simmons now plays for the Campbell Camels.