

# Bulldogs Head For The Moon Next Week

By Clint Fuller  
Times Sports Editor

On Friday, November 14, Apollo XII will take off from Cape Kennedy and the astronauts will head for the moon. That night, the Louisburg High School Bulldogs will blast off on a moon trip of their own. The moon to the Bulldogs is a state championship. Not so long ago the suggestion that either would be successful would have brought on the boys in the white coats.

Today, however, having shown what they can do, men are expected to land safely on the moon. And it stirs the white-coat boys very little to speculate that the Bulldogs might also complete their mission.

Sometime ago a projection of the Bulldog potential and future strength strongly indicated that 1970 would be their year. It showed that then the squad would be made up, for the most part, of experienced juniors and seniors. The projection was wrong. It was wrong because the Bulldogs developed early. Sophomores played like juniors and seniors and juniors and seniors have played in the best tradition of upperclassmen.

So, what was only whispered in the early weeks of the season was heard in louder voices as Louisburg one by one knocked off Franklinton, Oxford Orphanage and Wakelon and captured its first conference championship in history. And boasting a respectable 7-2 record going into the final game of the season—with both losses coming on lone points in games in which the locals played well—it would appear that the Bulldogs are ready. That this is their year. And the word goes out: Everything is A-OK for blastoff.

Like the astronauts, the Franklin Area Conference Champs have a lot going for them. They have what one daily newspaper terms, "perhaps the finest young quarterback in the entire state" in sophomore Larry Fuller. The youngster has smashed all passing records at the school, thrown for nine

touchdowns and scored five. He has completed, unofficially, 52 of 98 passes and accounted for over 1,000 yards thus far this season.

In Randy Seidel, the Bulldogs have one of the finest running backs in Class A ball. Named Back of Week in the area several times, Seidel has scored ten touchdowns, two two-point conversions and picked up long yardage in every game.

Neil McDonald, senior fullback, is as good a short yardage man as the Bulldogs have ever had. Plagued lately with an asthmatic illness, he has nevertheless been the difference in many of the games.

Sophomore back Phil Redmond backs up Seidel and McDonald and the beauty of it is that when he's in the game, the Bulldogs are equally strong. Phil has scored three TD's and a conversion and he can fill in for others if needed.

Robbie McDonald, junior flanker, has caught five TD passes and is tied for the conference lead. Jimmy Wrenn, another junior back, has grabbed two TD passes, thrown one and accounted for two conversions.

In the offensive line, the Bulldogs have junior Steve Perdue giving a steady performance game after game; All Conference Johnny Pernell, also a junior standout; sophomore Mike Leonard, developing into a real tough competitor; and All Conference Edward (Boo Boo) Pergerson, several times Linesman of the Week and a real bear in the line and on defense.

Then there is big John Kornegay who gives the opponent all the trouble they can stand game after game. Jack Versteeg is the sophomore center who has been so pleasing to Coach Tommy Twitty this year. Versteeg has missed the last two games and Jerry Holmes among others has filled in adequately.

As good as the offensive line is, it would be hard-put to move against the defense. Perhaps here is where the Bulldogs

have gained their success. Neil McDonald, Pernell, Kornegay, Holmes, Leonard, Pergerson, Perdue are joined by some of the best defensive men in Bulldog history.

Big Steve Roberson, whose safety won the Oxford game and set the stage for the championship, and Dan Hayes, whose steady work has halted many a back this year, are but two of the reasons for the Bulldog moon trip. Charlie Hobgood, playing his final year, has snagged a number of passes bent by the opposition on TD's and Eddie Edgerton's timely body tackles have saved an untold number of yards by opponents and perhaps some TD's as well.

Put this together and toss in a dash of Carey Wrenn, pound for pound, the toughest Bulldog, and Larry Romero, swifty back who nailed down the title with a kickoff return against Wakelon and you have a pretty fair country ball club getting ready to make the trip.

Stage I comes November 14 when the Bulldogs meet mighty Weldon, who for four weeks this year was rated No. 1 in the state. The Franklinton Rams caused the Chargers to drop to No. 2 this week as the FAC squad allowed the favored Weldon eleven only an 18-14 win last week.

By comparison, against the same opposition Weldon and Louisburg are about as equal as they can get. They have each played Warrenton, Norlina, Ayden, Littleton and Franklinton. Weldon has given up 52 points to the five while Louisburg has allowed only 46. Louisburg has scored 149 points against these opponents, Weldon has scored 148. That's pretty equal. Against Warrenton, Weldon won 26-6. Louisburg won, 24-14. Against Norlina, Weldon won 52-0, Louisburg 50-0. Ayden downed Louisburg 13-12, Weldon won, 22-20. Louisburg topped Franklinton, 20-12, Weldon won, 18-14. Against Littleton, Louisburg scored 42 and allowed only eight. Weldon scored 36 and gave up 12 points.

The first stage should be a real donnybrook. The important point is that Louisburg can win. Weldon is good and the Bulldogs respect this but Weldon, in their minds, is not invincible. The Bulldogs know this, too.

The other Eastern bracket teams are Manteo, champs of the Tidewater Conference. They meet the Tobacco Belt champs, which looks at this writing like Vanceboro. The winner of the top bracket will meet the West entry on November 28. That's the date the Bulldogs hope to land on the moon.

Between here and there are a number of obstacles. They are named—not like stars but localities such as—Weldon, Manteo, Vanceboro, Robbinsville, St. Pauls, Red Springs, Lillington, Angier and North Duplin. All but two conferences have chosen champs. St. Pauls and Red Springs will decide the Cape Fear race and Lillington and Angier will settle the Mid-Carolina scrap Friday night.

When the season ends here Friday, Louisburg will be one of only eight Class A teams in the state. To reach their moon and accomplish their dream, they must win three games—three of the toughest they've ever played. Can they do it? Did men land on the moon?



## LJC Hurricanes Set For New Cage Season

Louisburg College will open the 1969-70 basketball season on November 13 with a home game against Kittrell College. The Hurricanes, 1968-69 Cavalier Tarheel Conference and Tournament champions, have a tough 28 game schedule that includes three tournaments plus the rugged doubleheaders at Brevard College. The schedule also includes two games each with freshmen teams from North Carolina State University and East Carolina University in addition to the conference schedule.

Coach Enid Drake has six lettermen from the '68-69 season along with several promising freshmen candidates. Returnees are topped by Larry Paschall, 5'9" guard, and Terry Davis, 6'4" forward. Paschall and Davis were named to First team, All-Conference, and All-Tournament during their freshman year. In addition, Paschall was chosen the "most valuable player" in

the conference tournament. Paschall averaged 17.8 points per game as a freshman and was the quarterback in the Canes' drive for the conference crown. Davis averaged 14.9 points per game and

grabbed 15 rebounds per game. He placed second in the conference in rebounding. In commenting on Paschall, Coach Drake ventured, "Larry is capable, in spite of lack of size, of battling the larger

players because he has the 'basketball sense' necessary to get the job done. He has the intestinal fortitude that characterizes winners as indicated by the fact that he usually plays his best when the big games come along. For instance, Larry tallied 32 points in the tournament finals against Ferrum last year."

Drake speaks in these terms about Davis: "Terry has the potential to be one of the better players ever to play in the Cavalier-Tarheel Conference. He has quickness to go along with his great jumping ability. In practice thus far it seems that Terry's shooting is improved over last year and if he increases his accuracy he will be hard to handle. Look for him to be among the top scorers and rebounders in the conference."

Running with Paschall at guard is another sophomore, George Bowden, a 6'1" speedster who has great quickness and a good eye for the basket. Bowden was a part time starter last season until he injured an ankle in January. He averaged 8.4 points per game and ignited several rallies that enabled the 'Canes to break open games last year. In his appraisal of Bowden, Coach Drake said, "George is a player who only needs to be more confident in himself to become a fine player. He and Paschall form a fine duo at guard, probably unequalled in our conference. Their harrassing tactics on defense forms the nucleus of our defensive play."

Gene Rawlings, at 5'9", gives the 'Canes backup depth at the guard position. Sandy Frazier and Mark Wilson, both at 6'3", are in a battle for the other starting position at forward, opposite Davis. Frazier plays well on defense and is an unselfish offensive player. His shooting shows improvement over a year ago and this should make him more of an offensive threat.

Wilson is a fine rebounder who has great scoring potential inside. Drake commented that "Mark has the quickness and rebounding ability to become a strong player for us this year. He has worked hard to improve his defensive play and to overcome a tendency to take poor percentage shots. When he learns to be more patient and take the good shots he should have a good season."

The standout among the freshmen thus far has been Ricky Richardson, 6'5" player who weighs 215 pounds. He is a good rebounder and should give the 'Canes good scoring strength underneath. Drake says, "Ricky has good quickness for a big man. He is aggressive and does not mind contact. He uses his weight to advantage under the basket and will be quite strong off the offensive board. His shooting has been erratic but Ricky is a hustler and he will work hard to improve."

Richardson had an illus-

trious high school career at Churchland High School in Chesapeake, Virginia where he averaged 22.5 points per game as a senior and grabbed 15 rebounds per game. He was named All Southeastern, District, and All-Tournament. He followed these honors by being named All-Metro, All-State, second team, and honorable mention high school All-American.

Bill Moran is a 6'4" for-

ward who rebounds strong and should give added strength underneath. Butch English, a 6'3" forward is probably the best shooter among the front court players but will have to improve his overall play in order to play. He averaged 23 points per game as a senior at Bartlett-Yancey High School.

At the guard position Billy Spence from Portsmouth, Virginia has been impressive. Spence is 5'11" and has quick hands and good basketball

know how. Another freshman guard who has been impressive is 5'11" Wes Webb from South Edgecombe High School. Webb is a good shooter who averaged 18 points per game as a senior. Wesley Grant, 5'10" from Elm City's Frederick-Douglass High School and Steve Alford, 5'8" from Southern Durham High School add to the plentiful supply of back court men on the Louisburg campus.

Compared to the 1968-69

team Coach Drake believes that "the 'Canes will have a stronger starting five, and overall team speed will be improved. Depth in our front court could present a problem for us in rebounding. We will be strong defensively and should be able to score better than we did last year. We probably will be hard pressed to improve on our 21-9 record of last year but when this group becomes a team they could be stronger than the 68-69 team."



LARRY PASCHALL



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