

# Notes From The Sidelines

By John Lafferty

## Musty Old Tradition And All That Trash

There has been born, in our midst, a tradition at UNC-C. The last lecture.

Much like ringing the bell to celebrate coming achievement such as University Status, Accreditation and when athletic events occur on campus, victories, the

last lecture marks an occasion which otherwise might go unnoticed.

Thus, my last lecture will add itself to a collection which is not gathering dust and moss, the very stuff of which traditions are made.

## This Was The Year

That intramurals took a prominent position in the lives of Charlotte students.

That the Cross Country team brought athletics onto the campus, and finished 2nd in the DIAC.

That the Basketball team suffered through misfortune for half of a season, finally jelled and in the immortal words of Pete Donahue, "became hell".

That the wrestling team never got its mat, and was finally axed by Mid-semester.

That the bowlers led the Conference for a brief spell, and still has a good chance in the tournament.

That the gold and tennis team hope to rebound from last seasons "unblemished" record.

That the bearded wonder of the cinders hoped to guide his fleet-footed squad to its first title.

That everyone waited for word on the gym. . .

And that showed promise of things to come.

## The Foggy Past

It is fortunate that the 49ers do not have a tradition to overcome. For example, a school such as Alabama is looked at with mixed awe and wonder by opponents. If they have an off season, their defeat is magnified.

And Davidson is built upon the notion of gentlemen. Of course gentlemen never win. Magically,

Lefty Disell has overcome most of this as the wildcats made an unprecedented ride to national prominence.

"What's Davidson?" is no longer a byword for the uninitiated. And someday, "What's Charlotte?" will not be, for we have no set standard of performance.

## Moral Victories

Moral Victories are much like kissing one's own sister. But every university must go through a period of these before gaining anything better.

Thus the teams here will stumble, haltingly for a while. But finally UNC-C will abandon the non-scholarship conference affiliations. And athletic facilities will grow.

Even these have had important results, for by remaining in a

non-scholarship conference, the school has been able to gain an academic reputation.

And lack of facilities make each victory, and each gain that much better, because it hasn't come easy.

It may seem a little slow at times, and very frustrating. But the 49ers are building.

And its been great watching, and hopefully helping. . .

## LITTLE MAN ON CAMPUS



"LOOK - STUPID WHEN I SAID WE'D DO A PAINTING IN THE NUDE"

# 49'ers Fall In First Round Of Tourney

By ROD SMITH

A buzzer. A shout of triumph. A crowd of fans on the court. The lost reminders of a bid for the D.I.A.C. Tournament crown that fell just two points and thirteen seconds short. The UNC-Charlotte 49ers, coming off a hot streak of six well-played games had just been beaten in the first round of the Dixie Conference Tournament by the North Carolina Methodist Monarchs. The 76-71 score in the lights failed to reveal the story behind the heartbreaking defeat suffered by Coach Murphy's squad.

The 49ers jumped out to an early lead in the first half, but, Methodist slowly caught up as Anthony picked up three quick fouls. The Monarchs pulled ahead to stay, 33-32, on a field goal by Dave Bowman with four minutes remaining in the first half. Methodist lead 40-34 at the half as Bowman hit eleven, Howard Hudson fired in nine points, and John Murray creased the nets for thirteen points, Ben Basinger (9 notes) Bob Lemmond (8 points)

and Robbie Snipes (8 points) lead the 49ers in the first half. The difference in the first half was Methodist 10-12 from the charity stripe.

The 49ers came out hustling in the second half and cut the Methodist margin to a slim 48-46 on six points by All-D.I.A.C. Jerry Anthony and two crucial streaks by Basinger. Basinger, having his hottest night of the season, locked up the score at 52 all with eleven minutes remaining. Robbie Snipes, playing his last game in veridian and white threads, dropped in a 20-footer with seven minutes showing to put the 49ers ahead 62-61. The score was knotted twice before Methodist took a 69-67 lead on Bowman's layup. The Monarchs were ahead to stay. Basinger hit a free throw and a field goal to pull Charlotte within one with 00:13 showing on the clock. Anthony then fouled Hudson but Hudson dropped in the free throws, sealing the fate of the 49ers. Charlotte committed another intentional foul in a last ditch effort to get back in the game but it was all over but the shouting. The 49ers manager only

37% from the floor in that fatal second half, as the Monarchs hit 46%.

Basinger led the 49ers with 24 points and Snipes, the only graduating member of the squad, came off the bench to hit eight field goals for sixteen points. Basinger also grabbed sixteen rebounds, followed by Lemmond with ten. Charlotte held all-DIAC Jim Darden to 7 points, but Bowman and Murray each hit 22 for Methodist as Darden swept the boards for twelve rebounds. Charlotte won the battle of the boards 47-31, but to no avail. Murray, who has averaged 19 points per game against Charlotte, killed the 49ers chances with his shooting from the floor in the first half and his 5-6 from the line in the second.

UNC-C	FG	FT	P	Reb.	TP
Anthony	4		5	5	11
Cress	0	3-4	2	5	2
Donahue	2	2-2	2	6	4
Lemmond	6	2-4	4	10	14
Snipes	8	0-0	3	4	16
Basinger	9	6-8	4	16	24
	24	13-18	20	47	71

UNC-C	34	37	71
Methodist	40	36	76

## There Was Bright Spot In Tragedy

By ROD SMITH

For the UNC-Charlotte 49ers, the D.I.A.C. Tournament in Laurinburg was a tragedy - at least. The team was primed and fired up, but the Methodist Monarchs succeeded in extinguishing the spark.

There are several comments that can follow such a tournament. The officiating could easily be improved upon. The disconcert of the Charlotte student body was in evidence as the 49er crowd was among the smallest present. Ben Basinger had a great night. All but Snipes will return next year. UNC-Charlotte could use a pep band, even a couple of drummers and a bugle would be helpful. Jerry Anthony is going to be a hard man to stop next year. With the right breaks, we could have won that game, and the tournament. Next year . . .

Meanwhile, Craig Hannas was leading Saint Andrews to the tournament championship with such performances as a 31-point night against Wesleyan. The tournament scores were as follows:

First Round  
Lynchburg 77 - College of Charleston 55  
Saint Andrews 81 N.C. Wesleyan 76  
N. C. Methodist 76 - UNC-Charlotte 71  
Greensboro College bye

Second Round  
Lynchburg 88 - N.C. Methodist 60  
St. Andrews 96-Greensboro College 88  
Championship  
Saint Andrews 77; Lynchburg 75

Consolation  
Greensboro College 100; N. C. Methodist 87

Despite the 49ers loss Thursday night there were a few bright spots later on in the evening,

not the least of which was the performance of St. Andrews' Phil Blundell - number 44 on your program but number one in your hearts! Blundell started the St. Andrews-Weslyan game with a few startling plays and immediately captured the hearts of the Charlotte fans. Blundell picked up three fouls in the first six minutes of the game. But the St. Andrews coach didn't let this hamper Blundell's playing. He didn't let Blundell play for a long time. Late in the second half Blundell came off the bench and kept the crowd on its feet for the five minutes it took him to foul out. With a stirring 4 point performance under his belt and wide smile on his broad face, the radiant redhead of St. Andrews left the floor to a standing ovation with three minutes remaining. Mighty Blundell had fouled out.

To the astonishment of his devoted fans, the fair-haired Marylander did not make the all-tournament team.

Another pastime of basketball fans, whose team has already been eliminated, is to observe and compare the cheerleading squads of each school, few of which compare favorably with Charlotte's. Under the direction of Carolyn Campbell, Charlotte's cheerleaders have provided support and inspiration for the players this year. The other cheerleaders are Gerry Westburg, Joy McKinney, Louise Napolitano, Terry Westfield, Julia Lonon, and Vickie Caldwell. Bill Billups, team statistician; Mark Conrath, team manager; and Lane Hurley, assistant coach seldom receive the credit due to them for the marvelous job they've done this year. To the cheerleaders, Mark, Bill, and Lane - THANKS!!

## Anthony Makes All Conference

Five Dixie Conference colleges contributed players to the all-conference squad announced today.

Methodist, Greensboro, Lynchburg, St. Andrews and UNC-Charlotte were represented by one player each on the dream squad selected by Dixie coaches.

Big Jim Darden, the mainstay of the Methodist attack all season, was the leading vote getter, and thus became the all-conference team captain. Darden polled 57 out of a possible 60 points in the voting.

The Methodist star has led the Dixie Conference in scoring all season, finishing the year with an 18.3 average. He was named to the All-Dixie team in 1966 and 1967.

The only other repeater on the first team is Greensboro's Dean Oldham. He helped guide his team to the league championship with an 11-1 record in the school's second year in the amateur conference. First squad include Ernie Guill of Lynchburg, Craig Hannas of St. Andrews, and Jerry Anthony of U.N.C.-Charlotte. Guill missed his team's last three regular-season games with an ankle injury.

Hannas, a 6-3 forward from Crenbury, N. J., is the only freshman to be named to the starting unit of the all-star squad.

Randy Hunter and Stan Morgan of Greensboro, Harry Coffee of Lynchburg, and Chris Felts of N.C. Wesleyan grabbed berths on the second squad of the all-conference outfit.

Three players tied for the fifth spot on that squad -- Bill Cook and Gerald Lominac of the College of Charleston and Ronnie Mason of Lynchburg.

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