



SPORTS

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Forward Signed

Robert Earl Blue, III, of Concord Senior High School, one of the state's top basketball prospects, has signed a grant-in-aid here.

The addition of Blue gives UNCC an outstanding freshman lineup, Coach Bill Foster said. He said that Blue is a versatile player, who can play guard or forward. He played forward in high school and averaged 26.5 points per game.

"In my 30,000 miles of travel this year I have not seen a better shooter," Foster said. His field goal accuracy was 55 percent, and he made 80 percent of his free throws.

Young Blue picked off 11.7 rebounds per game in helping Concord High to a 21-4 season this year.

The 6 foot 6 and a half forward has already applied and been accepted for admission here.

He has been sought by Atlantic Coast and Southern Conference teams.

"With a great freshman team, we ought to have a great varsity in a couple of years," Blue said. He predicted that UNCC will become to the Consolidated University of North Carolina what UCLA is to the University of California system.

He said that UNCC has the best dormitories that he has seen. He indicated that he looked forward to playing near home so that his parents can see him but that the biggest reason for his choosing this school was his impression with Coach Foster.

"A great number of people in Concord wanted me to stay home," he said.

Blue is the fourth freshman prospect signed by Foster. Others are Rick Dobson of Greer, South Carolina, Lee Wilson of Charleston, South Carolina, and Derek Jones of Stockbridge High School near Atlanta.

Their scoring averages are Dobson, 33.7; Wilson, 27.3; and Jones, 30 points.

UNCC will be playing as an NCAA independent next year against such teams as Texas A&M, Buffalo, Xavier, and Toledo.



UNCC steals prize from ACC and Southern Conference teams as Coach Foster signs Robert Blue for next year.

Phi Nu Pi captures intramural crown

Phi Nu Pi's intramural team captured the basketball crown last week by downing APO, 64-58.

The team was composed of nine players : Sammie McGriff, Jerry Springs, Ronald Swann, James Cuthbertson, Joe Wingate, Spencer Singleton, Paul Hemphill, Ben Byers, and Wayne O'Rear.

The regular season began with defeat at the hands of Chi Phi, 38-34. Sammie McGriff led the team's scoring with 13 points. From that point on, the team went undefeated, beating Theta Psi, 65-40; slipping by APO, 45-44; and defeating Kappa Sigma, 53-38.

McGriff and Jerry Springs consistently led the Phi Nu Pi scoring attack throughout the regular season. At the conclusion of regulation play, Phi Nu Pi was tied with APO for the regular season Division I championship with a 4-1 record.

Moving into the championship tournament, Phi Nu Pi met the Bootleggers in the opening round. Led by Springs, who had 27 points, Phi Nu Pi defeated the Bootleggers, 73-62. The tournament's second round pitted Phi Nu Pi against Kappa Sigma. In the two previous meetings, the teams had split. In a game which was close to the finish, the Scrollers came away a 54-46 victor. Ronald Swann and Joe Wingate led the balanced scoring attack with 16 and 15 points, respectively.

The victories over the Bootleggers and Kappa Sig put Phi Nu Pi in the championship bracket with APO.

Phi Nu Pi took control of the game from the outset, leading by as much as 19 points late in the first half. Down but not out, APO staged a furious comeback attempt with eight minutes remaining in the game. The rally brought the "Lovers" to within four points with 50 seconds remaining.

APO, however, was not able to capitalize on Phi Nu Pi's mistakes and the clock ran out on their rally.

Sammie McGriff led Phi Nu Pi's scoring with 20 points, followed by Joe Wingate with 16.

Scotty first 49er to score in national tournament

On March 11, wrestling coach Paul Fleming and two of his wrestlers left Charlotte bound for the NAIA wrestling tournament at Superior, Wisconsin. All three had high hopes, and all three were disappointed with the results of the trip.

Freshman Gary Annis, wrestling in the 118-pound class did not make it past the first round. He was pinned in the second period of the match with five minutes and thirty-four seconds gone. Dale Neikus, from Kansas State Teachers' College, was the boy who beat him. Even though he was not quite as strong as Neikus, who looked much bigger than he actually was, Gary was a better wrestler than he seemed to be at the national tournament. Perhaps Gary's first trip to such a tourney had him psyched. At any rate, "Little Gary" has three more years to take a shot at the national title and it is a sure bet that he will not be beaten in the first round again.

Garry Scotty, the 134-pounder from Cincinnati, made it farther than did Annis. But in a way, he had more reason to be disappointed. After reaching the finals in two AAU tournaments last summer, he was hoping to make the finals at Superior. Scotty won by pin in both the first and second rounds defeating John Smith of Northland and Jay Headlund of the University of Minnesota. The quarter-final round was the disappointment. In the words of Coach Fleming, "Scotty should have beaten that boy. He wasn't as good as Scotty." Garry lost 8-4 to Landy Wallers of the University of Nebraska at Omaha. Wallers advanced to third place in the tournament,

while his team won the NAIA team championship, and the UNCC delegates spent the remainder of the weekend as spectators.

Still, with only two advancements and five points, UNCC placed 34 out of the 97 teams that entered the NAIA. Coach Fleming is very happy with this development, especially since Scotty's five points are the first points ever to be scored in a national tournament by a UNCC participant. His one disappointment is that he had only two boys to take to Superior with him. As he said, "It was something that all of them should have had the opportunity to see. Only two of them went. The rest of the boys have no idea what it is like to participate or even see it."

The only other North Carolina school represented was Appalachian State University. Appalachian produced a second place in the heavyweight division, but none of the schools from this area placed in the top ten. The top eleven teams in the tournament, in order, are as follows: the University of Nebraska at Omaha, Adams State, Winona, Upper Iowa, Bemidji State, Clarion, Lock Haven, Wayne State, Bloomsburg, Central Washington, and Ohio Northern. UNCC wrestled a dual meet against Ohio Northern earlier in the season.

The 1970 season is now over for all of the UNCC matmen except Coach Fleming. He still faces the task of recruiting new wrestlers, determining awards, organizing schedules, and taking care of numerous administrative jobs that are associated with the management of any athletic team.

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