

LARRY KEITH

Black Wednesday And Big Thursday

It was the Black Wednesday before the Big Thursday. A release from the Sports Information Office arrived through the mail. A brief paragraph read: "Carolina Coach Dean Smith received distressing news last week from Viet Nam. Richard Vinroot of the Tar Heels' 1962 team wrote that his teammate on that team, Dieter Krause, has been wounded in the fighting. Dieter, an Army captain, received an injury to his legs." Later, while standing in the lobby of Carmichael Auditorium assistant coach John Lotz walked over. "Have you heard about Doug Moe?" he asked, referring to the two-time Carolina All-American who is now starring in the American Basketball Association. "No," he said. "His father died Tuesday night." We interrupted and expressed our sorrow, without realizing that Lotz was still talking. "... and his three-week old son died this morning." Minutes later we were standing in the Sports Information office, waiting to see Jack Williams.

-Tonight, The Tourney Begins

The phone rang. It was Jack, calling from the doctor's office. "Apparently," he told his secretary, "I'm sicker than I thought. They say I may have appendicitis." That was Wednesday afternoon. Tonight, the Tar Heels open defense of their Atlantic Coast Conference title in Charlotte against Wake Forest. "You know," said Lotz after tiling us about Moe, whose brother Donnie graduated from here last year, "when things like this happen, tournaments don't seem so important, do they?" The game, like the show, goes on, however. That is the nature of sport, although its truth seems to have been tested with sudden cruelty too often this year. Prior to the start of this basketball season freshman hopeful Butch Bennett, a lad who had dreamed of wearing Carolina blue, died of leukemia. A few weeks later the school's Athletic Director, Chuck Erickson, suffered two strokes within a matter of days.

-The Game Goes On - Of Course

Ah, but the game goes on. I must go on. Tip off tonight is 7:00. Nearly 12,000 people will be there to see it. Of course Dieter Krause won't. He's in Viet Nam, wounded. Of course Doug Moe won't. He grieves two great personal losses, suffered within 24 hours. Of course Jack Williams won't. If it is indeed appendicitis, this great Tar Heel fan can be glad he's able to hear the games on the radio. And of course Butch Bennett won't. His story of dedication and courage has been told many times. As for Mr. Erickson, his recovery has come along so well that he may be able to attend. Many football seasons ago Notre Dame won one for the Gipper. It is not for us to be melodramatic as to suggest that the basketball team win one for anybody except themselves. Play the game and play it to win. If you lose, you may lose prestige but never pride. "When things like this happen, tournaments don't seem so important, do they?"

Speed Record Set

Pearson Takes Rockingham Pole

ROCKINGHAM (UPI) — David Pearson of Spartanburg, S.C. set North Carolina Motor Speedway history Wednesday when he took the pole position for Sunday's Carolina 500 for the second straight year. Pearson, driving a 1968 Ford, had the fastest lap at 119.422 mile per hour in the two-lap qualifying trials which got underway here Wednesday. This speed broke the mark of 117.400 mph he set last year. Six other cracked that mark. The South Carolinian picked up \$250 and the Falstaff Trophy for his run. Fords and Plymouths dominated the first days trials. Leroy Yarborough of Columbia S.C. in another 1968 Ford was the second fastest qualifier with a one lap speed of 119.146 mph. Paul Goldsmith of Munster, Ind., drove his 1968 Plymouth 118.203 mph for third place and Darel Dieringer of Charlotte driving another Plymouth 118.125.00 took fourth spot. Others breaking the old qualifying mark were Donnie Allison of Hueytown Ala. at 118.044 mph in a 1968 Ford Richard Petty, Randleman, 117.939 mph in a 1968 Plymouth, and Cale Yarborough, Timmonsville, 117.878 mph in a 1968 Ford. Qualifying for the \$75,000 race continues here Thursday and Friday. The qualifiers Wednesday were: 1. David Pearson, Spartanburg, S.C., 1968 Ford, 119.422 mph. 2. Leroy Yarborough, Columbia, S.C., 1968 Ford, 119.146 mph. 3. Paul Goldsmith, Munster,

20th CENTURY-FOX PRESENTS THE INCIDENT... VICTOR ARNOLO, ROBERT BANNARD, BEAU BRIDGES, RUBY DEE, ROBERT FIELDS, JACK GILFORD, MIKE KELLIN, ED McMAHON, GARY MERRILL, DONNA MILLS, TONY MUSHANTE, BROCK PETERS, THELMA RITTER, MARTIN SHEEN, JAN STERLING, DIANA VAN DER VLIET, MONROE SACHSON, EDWARD MEADOW, LARRY PEECE, EDWARD G. BAHR, Music scored and conducted by Charles Fox

Varsity



North Carolina engaged in a brief workout at Carmichael Auditorium Wednesday afternoon prior to its Atlantic Coast Conference tournament opener against Wake Forest tonight. Tar Heel Coach Dean Smith pronounced his Tar Heels in fine physical and mental spirits. They leave for Charlotte at 10 o'clock this morning. Their game will be the third of the day in opening round action that will send all eight conference teams into play. An interested gathering of Carolina students and fans sat in on the practice session. —DTH Staff Photo by GENE WANG

NCAA Ready To Begin Play With Addition Of Columbia

By United Press International With the addition of Ivy League champion Columbia, the NCAA Major College Regional Tournament field stood complete Wednesday for Saturday's first round games. Houston and St. Bonaventure, the only major college teams to go through the season undefeated, also takes part in tournament games in widely separated areas. Houston, the nation's No. 1 team, faces Loyola of Chicago at the University of Utah Fieldhouse in Salt Lake City. The Cougars carry a perfect 28-0 record into the playoffs. The other half of the Western Regional Playoff schedule in Utah's Capital City sends little Weber State of Ogden, Utah, against potent New Mexico State. St. Bonaventure, 22-0 and boasting its first perfect regular season in 30 years, faces Boston College in an Eastern Regional first round game at Kingston, R.I. The second half of the Eastern Regional, a Saturday afternoon twin bill at College Park, Md., pits Southern Conference champion Davidson against St. John's and Mid-Atlantic king Lasalle against Columbia, which had to beat Princeton in a playoff game Tuesday night to qualify for the NCAA tournament. Mid-East Regionals at Kent, Ohio, send Mid-American champion Bowling Green against Marquette and Ohio Valley champ Eastern Tennessee against Florida State. Weber State and Florida State are newcomers to NCAA tournament competition. Weber State, coached by Dick Motta, won the Big Sky Conference title to earn its spot in the playoffs. Florida State was picked as an at-large entry. Defending national champion UCLA, already assured of a tournament berth, completes its Pacific Eight conference schedule this weekend. The Bruins open their bid for another title by meeting the Weber State-New Mexico State winner March 15 at Albuquerque, N.M. In second round action opening March 15, Missouri Valley Champion Louisville takes on the Houston-Loyola winner and the Big Eight's Kansas State faces Texas Christian of the Southwest Conference at Wichita, Kan.; the St. Bonaventure-Boston College winner meets the Atlantic Coast Conference champion, probably North Carolina or Duke, at the Davidson - St. John's winner faces the Columbia-Lasalle winner at Raleigh. Southeastern Conference champion Kentucky meets the Bowling Green-Marquette winner and the Big Ten champion faces the Florida State-East Tennessee survivor. The other West Regional pits Western Athletic Conference winner New Mexico against the West Coast Conference champion. The regional finals are March 16 and the two-night finals begin March 22 in Los Angeles.

ACC Runnerup To Get Berth For NIT

NEW YORK (UPI)—The National Invitation Tournament field came to within one team of completion Wednesday when the tourney selection committee chose West Virginia the Southern Conference runner-up as its 15th team. Johnny Beach, the Fordham coach who is chairman of the NIT selection committee, said the final berth will go to the runner-up in the Atlantic Coast Conference Tournament. North Carolina and Duke are expected to battle for top ACC honors, with upstart South Carolina listed as a long shot. The ACC winner is committed to the NCAA Tournament. West Virginia, 19-8, including victories over St. John's (N.Y.), Syracuse and Davidson the conference champion, will be appearing in the nation's oldest post season tournament for the fifth time. The Mountaineers, coached by Bucky Waters, won the tournament in 1942 and also appeared in 1945, '46 and '47. Ron Williams, who received honorable mention in the recent All-America balloting, leads the Mountaineer attack, averaging 22 points per game. The tourney, being played for the 31st time, begins March 14 in the new \$43 million Madison Square Garden. Other teams invited to the NIT are Army, Fordham, Oklahoma City, Notre Dame, Duquesne, Long Island University, St. Peter's, Temple, Marshall, Villanova, Wyoming, Bradley, Dayton and Kansas.

- 1. Darel Dieringer, Charlotte 1968 Plymouth 118.125 mph. 2. Donnie Allison, Hueytown, Ala. 1968 Ford 118.044 mph. 3. Richard Petty, Randleman 1968 Plymouth 117.939 mph. 4. Cale Yarborough, Timmonsville, S.C. 1968 Ford 117.878 mph. 5. Jim Paschal High Point 1967 Plymouth 117.347 mph. 6. Tiny Lund, Cross, S.C. 1968 Mercury 116.792. 7. Buddy Baker Charlotte 1968 Dodge 116.497. 8. Bobby Allison, Hueytown, Ala. 1968 Ford 115.677 mph. 9. Sam McQuagg, Columbus, Ga. 1967 Dodge 114.569 mph.

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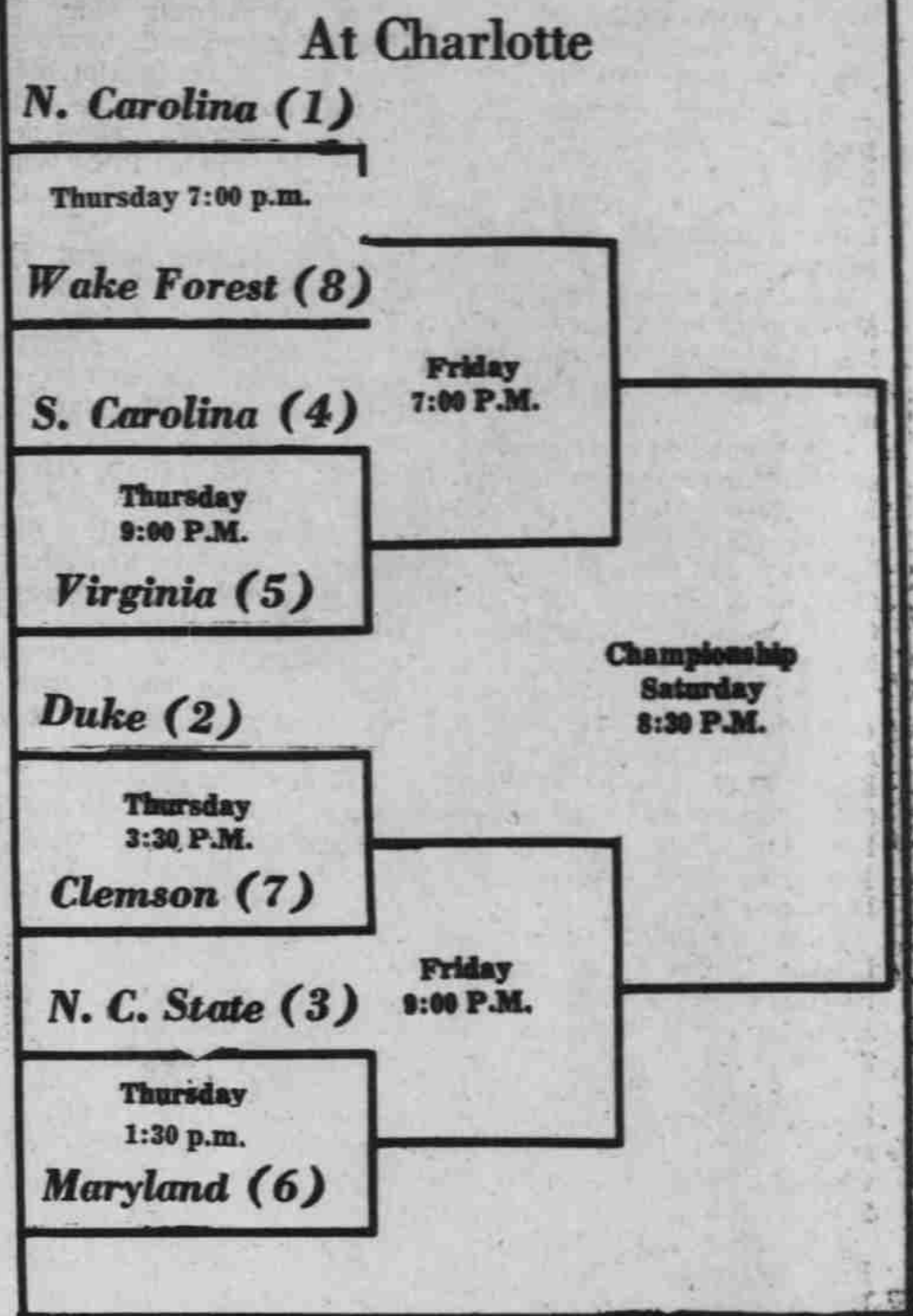
Opening Round This Afternoon

Tournament War Begins In Charlotte

Top Seeds Expected To Go On

By OWEN DAVIS of The Daily Tar Heel Staff CHARLOTTE — North Carolina, Duke, South Carolina and North Carolina State will, barring a major upset, battle in Friday night's Atlantic Coast Conference tournament semi-finals. Today's first round of action should only provide a warmup session for all four first division teams although there could be a scare in any contest. The quartet which leads the ACC, has a combined 70-22 record, while the bottom four sport a lowly 24-72 combined mark. Only a mental letdown by one of the top teams will allow an upset today for there is a sharp difference in the abilities of the upper and lower division clubs. The scrap between the fourth and fifth place teams, South Carolina and Virginia, ideally should be the closest since the two are far apart in the conference standings. That probably will not be the case. Although the Cavaliers edged USC early in the season, it was a fluke. Guard Jack Thompson for South Carolina was injured and the Gamecocks were caught by surprise. When they battle again at 9 p.m., USC should have a fairly easy time. The kickoff game at 1:30 between third place State and Maryland in sixth will most likely provide the best competitive game. The Terps have won three in a row and State will be looking ahead toward Duke. Coach Norm Sloan's Wolfpack won't get beat in the first game as they did last year, but they shouldn't run away with a victory. Clemson is the weakest tourney team and Duke had the luck of the draw in facing the Tigers in the opener. The two teams clash at 3:30 and Coach Vic Bubas will probably go to his bench by 3:35. All-conference center Mike Lewis will have an easy time on the boards with only 6-7 Richie Mahaffey giving him a battle. Lewis will shoot for most valuable player honors and gun for 25 points and 15 rebounds. The Blue Devils are 20-4, Clemson 4-19. The most exciting contest will develop from what should be the most boring. The match between first place Carolina (22-3) and co-cellar dweller Wake Forest (5-20) may not be the closest, but it should be rough. Carolina has the board, shooting and reserve strength however, and only a vengeful attitude by the Deacons could make the score closer than 10 points.

ACC Tournament Pairings



Scott, Clark Join Miller On All-ACC

North Carolina superstars Larry Miller and Charlie Scott headlined the All-Atlantic Coast Conference basketball team announced Wednesday morning. Miller was a unanimous selection to the five-man unit chosen by area sports writers while Scott was the only sophomore to make the squad. Duke's Mike Lewis, also a unanimous pick, South Carolina's Skip Harlicka and Eddie Biedenbach of North Carolina State round out the quintet. None are from the South. Miller adds the all-conference honor to a host of All-America teams he has made this season. He led the Tar Heels in the regular season with a 22.6 point average and hit 50 per cent of his floor shots. Scott finished with an 18.0 average and developed into one of the conference's finest passers in his first year. Lewis led the conference in both scoring and rebounding during the season. He scored at a 23.6 clip and averaged 15.4 rebounds a game. Harlicka is the leading scorer for South Carolina with a 21.3 average. Biedenbach scored 14.9 points per contest and was noted for his playmaking ability. There are 169 towns and cities in Connecticut.

Miller, the only repeat choice from last year and 1967 ACC Player of the Year, polled a maximum 190 votes along with Lewis. Scott was third in the balloting followed by Harlicka and Biedenbach. Carolina center Rusty Clark was a second team selection along with Butch Zatezalo of Clemson, Gary Gregor and Frank Standard of South Carolina and Mike Katos of Virginia. The first team is a short one, with 6-7 Lewis being the tallest man. Scott and Miller are 6-5 and 6-4 and Harlicka and Biedenbach are both 6-1. The population of Afghanistan is about 13.5 million. THERE are 169 towns and cities in Connecticut.

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