

# Tournaments Headline This Weekend's Basketball Slate

The collegiate basketball season gets off to a fast start this weekend with the Big Four Tournament set for the Greensboro Coliseum and several of the area small college powers in action.

Nationally ranked N. C. State and North Carolina square off Friday night at 9 p. m. in the opening round of the Big Four following a 7 p. m. game between Wake Forest and Duke. Friday's losers meet Saturday at 7 p. m. and Friday's winners clash for the tournament title Saturday at 9.

Carolina, featuring three players that helped the United States win the Olympics last summer, is ranked as high as number two in the nation in one poll and State is ranked in the top 20 in most polls.

Walter Davis and Phil Ford, both Olympic gold medal winners, will lead the Tar Heels into action

while the Wolfpack will be depending mainly on the scoring and leadership of Kenny Carr. Coach Norman Sloan is also anxious to get a look at some of the top recruits in the nation, including guard Clyde "The Glide" Austin.

Although the Carolina-State matchup is the feature game of the tournament, Friday's winner can't afford to look past the Duke-Wake winner. Although not counted as two contenders in the ACC, both should be much improved and would be capable of pulling a Saturday upset.

Gardner-Webb's Bulldogs, strong contenders again for the District 26 title, gun for their second straight tournament title Friday and Saturday in the Asheville Optimist Tipoff Tournament.

The Bulldogs of Eddie Holbrook, who host Hanover in a warmup tonight at Bost Gym, last week copped the Milligan Tipoff Tournament in Elizabethton, Tenn. One of their victories there was over Guilford, another strong District 26 contender.

The Bulldogs carry a 3-0 overall record into tonight's game and a victory tonight and another tournament title this weekend would vault the Bulldogs into the top-ranking in the NAA circles.

At Asheville, the Bulldogs will compete in a four-team field that includes Pembroke State, Carson-Newman and host

UNC-Asheville. Gardner-Webb, needless to say, is the favored team.

This weekend's event is just the second of five tournaments the Bulldogs will compete in. Later, they'll take part in the WBTV Classic December 9-11 at Belmont Abbey's Wheeler Center, their own Holiday Tournament at Bost Gym on December 30-31, and the Presbyterian Tournament in Clinton, S. C. January 6-8.

The Bulldogs are getting good play from All-American Dave Bormann, Steve Mitchell, and others, and appear to have smooth sailing toward another district tournament berth.

Belmont Abbey's Crusaders, coached by former Kings Mountain High mentor, Bobby Hussey, open their season Saturday night at the Charlotte Coliseum against Johnson C. Smith's Golden Bulls.

Hussey, who led KMHS to two Southwestern Conference titles in three years as head coach, suffered his first losing season ever last winter, 8-16, and is anxious to get back on the winning track.

Hussey had a young team last season and the

year of experience should turn the Crusaders into a District 26 contender. Hussey's signed several top prospects and is anxious to get a look at them in game conditions.

Top returnees are co-captains Bobby Moran and

Clint Bryant, and the Crusaders also return a host of other lettermen, including Desmond Dennis, Glenn Tambon, Jimmy Crawford, Paul Carver, Mike Littlejohn, Craig Wink, Harold Albany and Greg Leslie.

Top signees for the Crusaders include Jack Campbell, Reggie Vattelle, Phil Timberlake and Billy Holmgard.

Another player being counted on heavily is sophomore walk-on, Tom Toporek. Hussey said he's highly impressed with his attitude, desire and hustle.

The Crusaders play a tough 25-game schedule, including games with arch rivals Gardner-Webb and Lenoir Rhyne. The Crusaders host the WBTV Carolina Classic, meeting Lenoir Rhyne in the opening round.



EDDIE HOLBROOK



BOBBY HUSSEY

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## Junior High Splits

### Pair Of Contests

(From Page 2B)

we lost Kim Gladden because of fouls and this hurt us because she had played a super game and was the spark we needed to pull this game out.

"Our girls can't get down on themselves," she continued. "They have got to continue playing just as hard as they have been. Our luck is bound to change."

## KM, SWC Overlooked In Shrine Bowl Voting

Kings Mountain's Mountaineers and the 11 other Southwestern Conference schools were overlooked in this year's Shrine Bowl selections, announced this week.

For the first time in several years, the SWC failed to place a player on the 33-man North Carolina team which meets the 33 best seniors from the Palmetto State in the 40th annual Shrine Bowl game December 11 at Charlotte's Memorial Stadium.

The only local player named to the team was 230-

pound guard Charles Loggins of Hunter Huss in Gastonia. Only three players were chosen from the Western N. C. High Schools Activities Association. Those included guard Dennis Walker of Alexander Central (Taylorsville), and tackles Steve Thacker of North Rowan and Keith James of Salisbury.

Willie Scott, a 6-5, 225-pound end from Newberry, was named to the South Carolina squad. Newberry is coached by former KMHS three-sports stand-out, Mike Ware.

## WBTV To Televis

### UNCC-Kentucky Game

CHARLOTTE — WBTV will televise the basketball game between UNCC's 48ers and the University of Tennessee's Volunteers Saturday, Dec. 4 beginning at 7:55 p. m. from Knoxville, Tennessee.

WBTV's production crew will utilize the Jefferson Production Mobile Unit to televise the game, which will be seen exclusively on Channel Three. Sports Director Jim Thacker will provide the play-by-play.

Lee Rose's "mean green" team had a spectacular season last year, finishing second to

Kentucky in the N.I.T. Four starters will be back this year, including Charlottean Lew Massey, Melvin Watkins, Kevin King and Cedric "Cornbread" Maxwell, who was named the Most Valuable Player in the N.I.T.

The Volunteers, coached by one of America's outstanding defensive coaches, Ray Mears, are rated second to Kentucky in pre-season rankings for the Southeastern Conference. One of their great pluses is Ernie Grunfeld, U. S. Olympic player and All-American candidate.

## UNCC Special Set

### For Airing On WBTV

CHARLOTTE — WBTV Sports Reporter Bob Taylor hosts a half-hour special report, "UNCC Basketball... The Return of the Mean Green," Thursday, November 26, at 7:30 p. m. on Channel Three. He takes a look at the coach, the team, their past accomplishments, and what may be coming up in the season ahead.

The program features an interview with head basketball coach Lee Rose and film of the team at work preparing for the new season. Coach Rose intro-

duces the incoming freshmen on the team, and we get a look at them going through some of their drills.

"We went a long way last year toward solving our identity crisis and building team self confidence," says Coach Rose. "This season we have four of our starters back, and their experience will be vital, but we won't be riding on last year's laurels. Come November 27, we'll be ready to prove ourselves all over again at the opening game."

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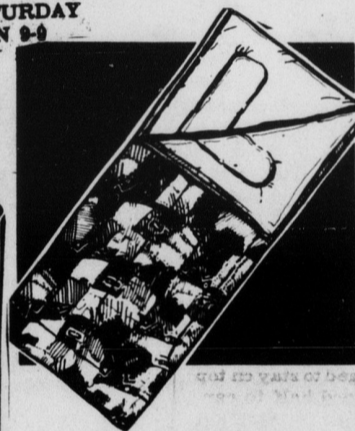
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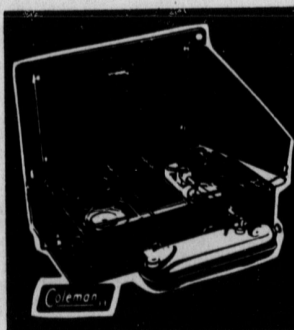
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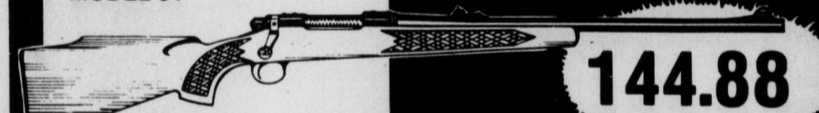
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