

Sports

UNCA Bulldogs continue winning streak

by Guy Stuart
Staff Writer

The UNCA men's basketball team posted three more victories, giving them a 2-0 exhibition mark and bringing their regular season record to 2-0 as well.

On Nov. 20 at the Asheville Civic Center, the Bulldogs played an exhibition game against the USSR/Republic of Estonia. The Estonians entered the ninth game of their ten-game American tour with a 6-2 record. They had defeated every team in the Big South conference except UNCA. The only previous losses by the Estonians on the tour had been to the Citadel and the University of South Carolina.

However, the Bulldogs handed the Soviets their third defeat, outscoring them 82-79. UNCA was led by seniors Milton Moore, who scored a game-high 25 points, and Harvey Shropshire, who finished with 14 points and seven rebounds. Moore said it "felt real good" to defeat the Estonians. "They beat everyone else in the conference, and we were picked number one. It's good that we were the team to beat them," he said.

The top scorer and rebounder for the Soviet team was 6-foot-8 center Margus Metstak. Metstak had 18 points and 10 rebounds and was 8 of 8 from the foul line. Guard Aivar Kuusma added 16 points, including four three-pointers in the second half.

At halftime, UNCA led 45-37. The Bulldogs led by as many as 10 at one point. Point guard Maurice

Caldwell had five assists in the first half and finished with a game high of seven.

In the second half, the Estonians took the lead for the first time at the 15-minute mark and led for most of the half behind strong three-point shooting by Kuusma and Andrus Nagel. Nagel was 3 of 6 from three-point range and had 15 points for the night.

With 42 seconds remaining in the game, UNCA trailed 78-79. After a missed free throw by Aivai Toomiste, Caldwell recovered the ball and was fouled. He hit both foul shots to put the Bulldogs ahead by one.

After an Estonian time out, Rauno Pehka attempted a three-pointer. Shropshire rebounded the missed shot and was fouled. The 6-foot-5 forward sank both shots to give UNCA an 82-79 lead. After Estonia inbounded, Caldwell stole the ball and held it to end the game.

"It was my program's biggest win," said UNCA Head Coach Don Doucette. "The last five minutes were a major key. We stopped them on their last six possessions. They're the best three-point shooting team we'll face all year, and our defense down the stretch won us the game."

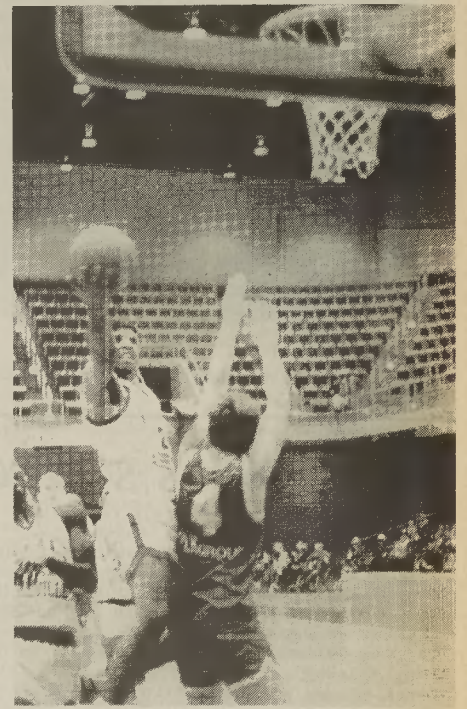
UNCA opened its regular season on Nov. 25 with a rout of Vorhees College. For the third consecutive year, the Bulldogs scored over 100 points against the Tigers, defeating them 114-67.

Moore again led all scorers with 20 points, shooting 9 of 17 from the



Photos by Diane Maney

Maurice Caldwell puts one up against Estonia's defense (right). Moise Preston goes to the basket against King College (top).



field. Shropshire added 16 points and a game-high nine rebounds. Brent Keck, Lance Mitchell, Robert Watson and Derrick Stamey all scored in double figures for the Bulldogs. Mitchell also led in assists with eight. Caldwell had seven assists and two steals.

Vorhees was led by Barry Hubbard, who scored 18, and Donnell McDaniel, who was 5 of 13 from the three-point line.

UNCA had a 22-8 scoring run in the final five minutes to end the game.

On Nov. 28, the Bulldogs

extended their winning streak in Justice Center to eight games by defeating King College 92-57. UNCA led by only two at halftime, but held King to only 13 points in the second half, a UNCA defensive record.

Darryl Sanders, a transfer from Merrimack College, scored 15 points in the first half for UNCA, shooting 3 of 4 from the three-point line. Sanders finished as the game's leading scorer with 17 points. "I think Darryl is showing more confidence and is more comfortable

with the offense, but he still isn't fully into it," said Doucette.

Junior guard Kurt Samuels scored 16 points and shot 7 of 7 from the foul line. Moise Preston was the leading rebounder with eight.

Al Simmons had 16 points for King College, all of them in the first half. He also led the Tornados in rebounding, pulling down eight boards.

Doucette said he was unhappy with his team's play in the first half. "There were some positive things,

but we're disappointed. We didn't play up to our potential, and that's something we need to do every night, whether we play a tough Division I team or a NAIA team with a losing record," said Doucette.

"We beat them by 50 points last year and were 40-point favorites this year. The kids read the papers, and I think we let down a little bit. We made it easy for them in the first half but made adjustments in the second half and extended our defense."

Hall - an asset to the Lady Bulldogs

by Rosy McGillan
Staff Writer

When her father first introduced basketball to her, Shelly Hall wanted nothing to do with it. She was more interested in swimming for a local AAU team. Only when she began middle school five years later did Shelly decide she wanted to give basketball another try. The UNCA Lady Bulldogs are very fortunate that she did.

Coming in as a freshman, Hall led UNCA in scoring with an average of 14.1 points per game last season. She also led the team in three-point shots and was second in steals.

Excelling in athletics is nothing new to Hall. At High Point Central High School, Hall was named to the All-Conference, All-Northwest, and All-Guilford County teams for basketball. She also lettered in softball, track and soccer. In her senior year, she made the All-Conference team for tennis as well.

Hall was also placed on the Academic All-State team while at High Point Central. When she was offered a basketball scholarship at UNCA, she saw it as a good chance to further her studies. "The

opportunity was right. It is a small school with a good academic reputation," said Hall.

For Hall, like most other students, the move from high school to college was not an easy one. Aside from the normal adjustments of new surroundings and hundreds of strange faces, basketball was a new world in its own right.

Practicing two hours a day Monday through Friday in high school was definitely different from the rigors of weights, conditioning and everyday workouts of college ball. Despite the change, Hall saw her game improving in college. "Maybe it is because you spend more time with it. It is more like a job in college, as opposed to just an extra-curricular activity in high school," Hall said.

Under new Lady Bulldogs coach Lalor Jones, Hall is again making an adjustment. Former coach Mary Ann Myers favored more of a half-court game, as opposed to the running game preferred by Jones.

While the two methods of coaching are different, Hall sees the the Lady Bulldogs playing a lot better as a team. "Everyone is contributing something, and hopefully we will see a

greater improvement over last season," said Hall.

Hall is a great threat on the court. Her style of play is both powerful and at

Hall feels her game always needs work. While she is a threat driving to the basket, Hall said she would like to work on developing her

"Everyone is contributing something, and hopefully we will see a greater improvement over last season."

Hall

times intimidating to opponents. "She is a strong offensive player who has a good court presence," said teammate Kate Kinney.

Hall's offensive ability is evident in passing, too. Last year she handed out 63 assists. Despite the statistics,

jump shot.

Hall is currently working towards a major in Health Care Administration. She plans to go to nursing school after UNCA, where she would like to specialize in either emergency room or intensive care units.

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