

# How long can UNC's Tarheels remain number 1

By SHEILA SMITH-CAMERON  
Sports Writer

The Carolina Tarheel basketball team ended the 1976-77 season with an impressive, hard-fought defeat at the hands of Marquette in the NCAA finals. They reached the title game despite injuries to such players as Phil Ford, Tommy LaGarde and Walter Davis. This season, with only two starters returning from a 28-5 team, the Tarheels have been picked as the pre-season choice to win the national championship. Ford, last year's scoring leader, with an 18.7 average, returns as the pre-season pick for National Player of the Year by several basketball publications, while sophomore Mike O'Koren will attempt to show the same type of ability seen by fans last year when he averaged 13.9 points per game.

The remaining spots in the starting lineup can be filled by any three players. For

the center position, Coach Dean Smith has three players vying for the starting position. Senior Jeff Crompton returns to challenge sophomore Rich Yonakor and Jeff Wolf. Yonakor may start, while Crompton, returning for his final season of eligibility, should battle with Wolf for the second spot.

For the two forward positions, Smith has two juniors, two sophomores, and two freshmen who could make picking two forwards quite a difficult job.

O'Koren will definitely start, while the three remaining lettermen, Dudley Bradley, John Virgil, and Randy Wiel return, battling for the other position. Smith also has two freshmen who may be very important to Carolina's drive this year for the ACC and NCAA championships. Al Wood, a well-known player from Gray, Ga., and Pete Budko from Lutherville, Md., should give their up-

perclass teammates reason to believe that they can come in and have impressive debuts like Ford and O'Koren did their freshman years.

Smith must choose a guard to team with Ford in the same way John Kuester did last year. Ford could start with Dave Colescott or Tom Zaliagiris, two players who actively gave Ford and Kuester much needed rest last season. Mike Pepper, a freshman guard from Vienna, Va., will

add depth to the backcourt positions.

Coach Smith must rely on his present players to make up for the lack of effective rebounding lost by the graduation of LaGarde and Davis. Depth may not be a problem this year with the talent Smith has, but he will have to stress team play (as usual) in order to mold a team that can win with the spirit of last year's "miracle" squad and return from St. Louis as NCAA champions.

## The other Foster is confident

By SKIP FORMAN

It was not the woodman who decided not to spare "The Tree," but instead, the Atlanta Hawks, who drafted Wayne Rollins from the Clemson Tigers, leaving the team without a big man of experience for this year's ACC campaign. Tack on the NCAA probation which only allows three recruits for Clemson, and the situation is not what one would call healthy.

The strength of the Tigers lie in the back court and on the wings. Nine lettermen return from last year's 22-6 team, among them are 6-5 Stan Rome, 6-5 Colon Abraham, 6-6 Jim Wells, Jim Howell, Derrick Johnson, and Greg Coles.

Head coach Bill Foster is expecting help from newcomers John Campbell, a 6-9, 250-pound pivotman, Triangle (Raleigh Broughton) stars Billy Williams, and freshman Larry Nance, tall at 6-8, but light at 180.

In assessing his team in a newspaper interview, Foster said he needed help from Abraham and Rome. "We need another rebound or two from Stan Rome and Colona Abraham. We can't afford the

breakdowns defensively, and we must rely on each other a lot more. We don't have a Tree standing in there anymore."

With Rollins gone, many experts have chosen the Tigers to occupy the ACC cellar. Foster, however; thinks his team, Treeless as it is, will remain a contender.

"It looks like one of those everybody-tied kind of years," he said. Foster also said he thought the team would be picked for the bottom, "but we ain't going to end up there."

In the ACC, a pick is only as good as the paper it's written on. Watch out for the Tigers.



Rod Griffin: Last year's ACC Player of the Year is back for another banner season.

will have to produce more than they did a year ago for Wake to challenge for the ACC crown.

As for the National Championship? Assuming it is true (as has been written) that Fran McCafferty has "memorized the 19 definitions of pass in Webster's New World dictionary," it's conceivable that Wake Forest could storm troop into St. Louis next spring with an abundance of "Soul Power" and a touch of "White Magic."

## Opeyo Dancers

(Continued from page 7)

I mean I know they're there and I say 'Gwen you have to do the best you can because everybody's looking at you.' If the audience responds positively, I feel that I am in total command."

Why did you want to be an Opeyo Dancer?

"It's something I really wanted to do. I used to watch them all the time. It took a whole bunch of guts."

## No crown for King Foster

By ORLANDO DOBBIN  
Sports Writer

The Duke is about to reclaim his kingdom, but not right now. With an array of knights that include successive rookies of the year, Sir Jim Spanarkel and Sir Mike Gminski and veterans Sir Harold Morrison, Sir Cameron Hall, Sir Bruce Bell, and Sir Steve Gray, King Bill Foster is assured of victory in most all battles.

To strengthen his bid for the coveted ACC crown, King Foster has knighted some very fine prospects. Probably the best of them all is Lord Eugene Banks, a 6-6 forward that comes with all the standard

equipment, plus a variety of extras, that have yet to be found anywhere, including some of the more famous knights. He is expected to become an instant silver knight for King Foster.

Lord Kenny Dennard and Lord Jim Suddath are no pushovers by any means. They come with credentials that would impress King Smith. Lord John Harrell from N.C. Central is expected to supply the Duke with lots of battle time. Early battles will greatly aid the new knights as they will probably receive grand opportunities to try out their battery of weapons.

Barring injury, the Duke should move a step closer to regaining the ACC crown.

## The Lamp will shine in Charlottesville

By JAMES ALEXANDER, JR.  
Sports Writer

Coac'. Terry Holland and his ever-fighting Virginia Cavaliers enter the 1977-78 ACC season in probably the best form they have been in for quite awhile. Four returning frontliners and a highly-touted freshman swingman will provide the nucleus for the Cavaliers in their quest for an ACC championship.

The frontline will consist of 6'8" senior Marc Iavaroni, 6'6" Mike Owens, and 6'6" Steve Castellan, while towering Otis Fulton (6'10") will man the middle spot. All four of these players were starters for the Cavs at one time or another last year. Iavaroni, Fulton, and Castellan absorbed most of last season's frontline playing time. Lee Raker, a 6'5" freshman will join them in the frontline.

In the backcourt will be prize rookie catch Jeff Lamp Raker's high school teammate. Lamp, 6'5" was Mr. Basketball in high school in Kentucky last year. He has already been compared to ex-Cav superstar Wally Walker. Plans are for Lamp to become a swingman, but when at guard he'll team up with either 6'2" transfer Tom Hicks (Tulane), or rookie Kenny Hall.

Experience and depth up front along with the added quickness of Jeff Lamp will be crucial factors in determining whether or not the Cavs can up last season's 12-17 mark. Otis Fulton is going to have to become more dominant and contribute more to the offense, and Lamp will have to live up to his preseason billing to give the Cavs a good shot at the ACC crown.

Holland has also added Lamp's high school head coach Richard Schmidt to the Cavs' camp to join Lamp and Raker.

Memories of Virginia's Cinderella ACC

tourney title two years ago are echoed in the Cavalier camp while they look for a fruitful season in the ACC. The predicted overall balance of the ACC this season will make the Cavs' task harder, and their final record may not indicate their true ability.

Everyone in Charlottesville is excited

## 'White Magic' to lead Deacs

By DAVID SQUIRES  
Sports Editor

Once again, Wake Forest University will start as many or more Black basketball players than any team in the Atlantic Coast Conference. But this year their continued success will depend on a well-measured portion of "White Magic."

Gone from last season's 22-8 team, which made it to the final eight games of the NCAA tournament, are All-ACC forward Jerry Schellenberg and All-ACC guard Skip Brown. However, the Demon Deacons return the ACC Player of the Year in All America forward Rod Griffin. The 6'6" 225 pound Griffin averaged almost 21 points per game last season, and led the ACC in field goal percentage with a .621 mark.

He will be teamed at forward with 6'6" senior Leroy McDonald who will fill the void left by the graduated Schellenberg. 6'11" junior center Larry Harrison will join the two seniors in the forecourt. The fleet-footed Frank Johnson (6'2") who teamed with Brown as a freshman last season, will be joined by a newcomer this year at Wake's other guard position. The new face will be highly-touted freshman recruit Fran "White Magic" McCafferty.

It is claimed that "White Magic", at 6'4", was second only to Duke's Eugene

about the upcoming season, and particularly about the expected performance of frosh Jeff Lamp. Even though the Cavs are overwhelmingly enthusiastic, experienced, and have a new "Lamp", their lights may still be out as far as a title is concerned.

Banks around the playgrounds of Philadelphia. A superb ball handler, the white kid from Philly will have to mold Rod Griffin and the other Black starters together into a well-knit team if Wake is to be a contender.

Wake Coach Carl Tacy signed three other players in addition to McCafferty. Ed Thurman, a 6'2" guard from Lynn, Mass. is said to have enough quickness for a neighborhood. In high school he averaged 23 points a game. Justin Ellis, a 6'10 pivot man from Washington, D.C., will give the Deacons depth at center. Even more impressive is 6'6" Wilbert Singleton of Sumter, SC. who has a vertical jump of 41 inches. (If that means nothing to you, David Thompson had a 42-inch vertical jump while at N.C. State.) Whether or not Tacy can get these players to display their highest degree of talent is a different story.

Thus Wake Forest has proved to be unpredictable by most writers. Various basketball publications have picked them to finish from ninth to twenty-fourth to an also-ran. Wake has been picked to finish behind North Carolina and Duke (and in some cases Maryland) in the ACC.

In conclusion, Griffin will score big this season and will have a good senior year, but the rest of the Deacon's Black starters