

# PILOT SPORTS



## Bulldogs Ranked Fourth In NAIA

The Gardner-Webb College Bulldogs ranked fourth in the NAIA, are off to their best start in his-

tory. The Eddie Holbrook Cagers have won 13, while dropping two games to Lenoir Rhyne and Barber

Scottia, 83-79 and 110-105 respectively.

George Adams, who is No. two in the nation in top scorers in the second week of NAIA polls, was scoring at a 31 point clip before the Barber-Scottia game. Adams, who had low scoring games against Allen, Cumberland, and Mars Hill scored his season high, 46, against Mars Hill in the Gardner-Webb Holiday Tournament.

The Bulldogs who led the nation in total offense and winning margin are averaging 110 points per game compared to their opponent's 83.

In addition to Adams, Tony Spagnola and Richard Thomas are averaging in double figures. Spagnola is pumping at a 15 point average and Thomas at a 15.4. Adams is the leading rebounder at 13, while Henry Boyd is putting down 8. Boyd has been suspended because of failure to comply with training regulations.

Demis DeSantis, who will be out for another week due to an ankle injury, is averaging 7.6 and playing a very important role as quarterback of the Bulldogs. Al Graves, Kirby Thurston, Alvin Jones, and Will Moore will be depended upon throughout the season.

Other than regular season games the 'Dogs have won two exhibition games in defeating the Australian Olympic team and Livingstone College. One addition exhibition game is scheduled with the U. S. Philplant later in January.

The Bulldogs have scored their 13 victories over Piedmont, Voorhees, St. Augustine, Barber-Scottia, Allen, Cumberland, and Coppin State. Two victories have been scored over Lenoir Rhyne, UNC-Ashville, and Mars Hill.

The remaining games of the season will bring G-W special recognition if they can come through with victories. A trip to Kansas City will be waiting for the 'Dogs if they can do it in 72.

(The following letter was delivered to the PILOT for publication to all students.)

To the Gardner-Webb Student Body:

I would like to express my personal appreciation on behalf of the Athletic Department for your willingness to help us finance the basketball game with Australia. It would have been a near impossibility for us to have the game if you had not consented to help with the finances. For the 600 of you that purchased advance tickets, a special thanks. We really appreciate the support you give to the 'Dogs, and I hope we will be deserving of all the effort you put forth for us.

Yours in sport,  
Eddie Holbrook  
Head Basketball Coach



Adams displays his Most Valuable Player ability in the Holiday Tournament as baffles players look on.

## Bulldogs Bow to L-R In Holiday Tournament

Lenoir Rhyne did something in the Gardner-Webb Holiday Basketball Tournament that nine other teams have been unable to do this season . . . defeat the Gardner-Webb Bulldogs. The Bears did it at the free throw line by hitting an amazing 80 per cent to win a 83-79 game.

It was the third consecutive time that the Bulldogs have failed to win their own tournament. The Bulldogs won the tournament all three years before the college became a senior college and since then the men of Coach Eddie Holbrook have been able to win the tournament.

Lenoir Rhyne jumped off to a 10 point lead early in the game and it was late in the first half before the Bulldogs got back into the ball game. L-R led 43-40 at halftime. The second half was a see-saw affair, but the winners pulled ahead late in the game and held on for the four point win.

G-W led both teams at the scoring line with a game total of 34 points to go with a 46 point

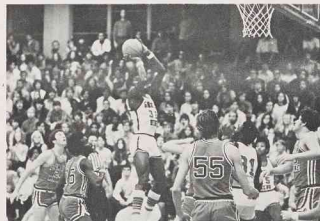
game against Mars Hill in the first round. Adams was named the most valuable player in the tournament for his 80 point journey effort plus 28 rebounds for two games. Vernon Long, of Lenoir Rhyne, was second high scorer with 49 points in the three games.

Belmont College of Nashville, Tenn. came in third by defeating Mars Hill 122-85 paced by Norman Kalkhoff with 21 points.

Lenoir Rhyne beat the Bulldogs at the free throw line by scoring 33 points to 13 for Gardner-Webb. The Bulldogs had only 29 shots and hit for 13 while the Bears had 41 and hit 33 of them. Gardner-Webb outscored the winners from the floor hitting 33 of 75 while Lenoir Rhyne hit 25 of 45.

Others who made the all tournament team were: Tony Spagnola, Gardner-Webb; Bill Clark, Belmont; John Lentz and Vernon Long, both of Lenoir Rhyne, and Kenny Ward, Mars Hill.

The two day tournament was played over a full house both nights.



All American George Adams takes break from action against Lenoir Rhyne while coaches prepare strategy from the bench.

## 1971 Greatest

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In the field of athletics the college received national recognition both in team sports and with the individual efforts of sports figures.

The basketball team was nationally known as a junior college team, but few felt that the team would be able to make the shift from junior to senior college status and retain its national image.

Coach Eddie Holbrook's team closed out the 1970-71 season with a 20-4 record and a seventh place rating in national NAIA polls. Late in 1971 the pre-season polls rated the Bulldog cagers fifth in the nation.

Golf also brought national recognition to Gardner-Webb with the team of Coach Garland Allen finishing fifth in the NAIA national tournament. This team was the first to represent Gardner-Webb in senior tournament play.

Individual efforts brought All-American honors to two Bulldog athletes. George Adams, a native of Kings Mountain, became the first Bulldog to gain national recognition as an All-American in the senior college field. Adams was named to the NAIA first team All-American basketball squad and also earned a first team berth on the basketball team.

Adams was named a national pick for TV Guide.

Florence Florence, Charlotte golfer, finished third in the NAIA national golf tournament and was named to the golf All-American team.

So from the fields of academics and sports Gardner-Webb has already earned its niche among the senior colleges of the nation.



MIKE CHERRY

LEE THOMPSON

## Cherry and Thompson Receive Honors

Two outstanding Gardner-Webb gridgers, Mike Cherry of Gastonia and Lee Thompson of Mableton, Georgia, have received post season honors for their efforts of the past football season.

Cherry and Thompson were both named to the All District 26 NAIA all star team. Thompson, a senior, was named as the defensive middle linebacker. He is a 225 pound middle linebacker who averaged better than eight tackles per game in a 10 game schedule and had several key pass interceptions including one which he returned for a touchdown.

Cherry, a junior from Gastonia, was also named to the All District Team and also received honorable mention on the NAIA All-American

team as an offensive lineman. Cherry is a 225 pound 6-2 lineman, whose quickness and blocking earned him such high recognition. Cherry will be counted on heavily to anchor the offensive line of Coach George Litton's Bulldogs for the 1972 season.

"I am very pleased that these two men received the honors that come when two men put forth such season long efforts," said Coach Litton. "They have brought honor, not only to themselves, but also to the school. We are proud of these two and of our entire football team."

The recognition that these two men received is even more outstanding when considered in the light that the Bulldogs won only three of ten games.

## FRANKLY SPEAKING

by Phil Frank



'WELL, SPORTSFANS - IT'S GOING TO BE A ROUGH SEASON FOR STATE AFTER ITS ATHLETIC BUDGET CUT!

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