

PILOT SPORTS



Football Standout

By RICHARD GRANGER

In the past two years the name Lee Thompson has inflicted fear in the hearts of many opponents on the gridiron. The name has become synonymous with linebacker. No single adjective can describe him appropriately, for his talents are varied. Lee proved his worth on the playing field time and time again. Remember the Lenoir Rhyme game last season? The boys from L-R could have sworn we had dressed out a gorilla.

Lee is a native of Mableton, Georgia, where he graduated from Peble Brook High School. As in college, he excelled in sports and was voted most valuable player in football, basketball, and tennis. In his Senior year, he was voted to the All-Metro Atlanta Offensive Team, which further exemplifies his playing abilities on the gridiron. He also led the region in pass receptions as a wingback. Along with his athletic accomplishments he was also elected President of the Monogram Club and Vice-President of the Senior Class.

Lee completed high school and chose to attend Lee-McCras College. He once again gained recognition on the gridiron under the watchful eyes of Coach George Litton and Assistant Coach Proctor. In his sophomore year Lee was selected by his teammates as co-captain of the football team. He also played on the Lee-McCras tennis team and was scored number six.

Coach George Litton and Assistant Coach Proctor decided to come to the Webb and construct a football team that was not only able to compete with other four year schools but was also capable of winning. Lee decided that the Webb was the place where he would like to hang his hat. At first he felt like many a newcomer to the Webb. Trapped! However, time passed and Lee began to adjust to our style of living and is glad he chose Gardner-Webb as his school.

Since his arrival, Lee has added much spice to our lives on and off of the playing field. He came to us as simply a linebacker but as time passed we began to realize he was much more. He is the kind of guy that stands out in a crowd.

Lee is a likeable guy who gains the respect of others wherever he goes. He is the kind of guy you like to call friend and enjoy sharing lively moments with. Lee is a born leader. He is level headed and always seems to know the direction he is going in. He was selected co-captain of the football team and elected President of the Monogram Club this year along with other honors.

Lee will be a hard man to replace when he graduates in May with a major in Physical Education. At present he is being scheduled for possible pro try-outs with several professional football teams. Other plans include graduate school and a teaching career in Atlanta.

Lee has made much to the Webb in his two years here and he will be missed by us all.

Thinclads Have Improved Season

The 1972 edition of the Gardner-Webb track season is well underway. Head coach Cole Proctor is very pleased with the playing of his boys this season. The thinclads are the most improved squad in the Bulldog sports this year.



Woody Fish heads for the Fish line

With a current 2:2 record when paper went to press in dual meets, the Bulldog track team has collected winning meets over Wolford and Elon, while losing to Presbyterian and Catawba. John Mallory is the leading points getter, with 47 points. Bob Bolick has 36, and Gary Ledford has 25.

Mallory is the "Iron Man" on the squad. He enters five events and usually places first in three of the five he enters. Bolick, who ranks fifth in the state in the shot, competes also in the discus. He also placed 3rd in the Davidson relay in the shot.

School records this season include the mile relay. Basketball stars Alvin Jones, Don Elliott, Ken Napier, with Mallory, make up this mile relay team. Another school record was set by Terry Wilder in the pole vault at 11'8". Wilder has a best own record in practice with 12 ft. mark.

"We have come a long way in the past three years. We now have a new track and a lot more boys have come out this year," stated Coach Proctor.

Baseballers Have Fine 11-2 Record

Gardner-Webb's Bulldog baseball team is enjoying one of its best seasons in its history now sporting a 11-2 record.

Both Bulldog losses have been to the University of North Carolina at Wilmington by identical scores of 2-1. The last loss came over the Bulldog's home field.

This was a particular hard loss for veteran pitcher, Bobby Lail, as

it was the first loss the big left hander had ever suffered in his high school and collegiate career. Lail's season record is now 3-1.

The team's leading pitcher is Johnny Phillips who is carrying a 5-1 record and has done a very fine job this season on the mound. He is also used as a pinch hitter from time to time. David Williams has a 2-0 pitching record. He is used mostly as a reliever man.

The Bulldogs have scored wins this season over High Point, Catawba, Allen and several teams from the New York and Philadelphia areas.

The latest Bulldog win was a 13-7 victory over Catawba in Salisbury.

Coach Jerry Bryson's hitting has been a major factor in the success

of his team. His men have hit the ball well all season and it must continue if the Bulldogs are to continue in their quest for a spot in the district tournament later this season.

The leading hitters are Larry LeCroy, Gary Wiley, Larry Sisk and Ronnie Nor. These four men have been hitting the ball at a terrific clip and this has meant victory for the Bulldogs.

Coach Bryson's men have got the pressure on now as they battle for one of the four spots in the district tournament which will be held in mid-May.

If the Bulldogs win in the district then they will take part in a four-team regional tournament for the right to play in the NAIA nationals in Arizona.

G-W Netters Experiencing Growing Pains

The Gardner-Webb College tennis team has been plagued all season with bad luck and is presently showing a 1-11 record. The Bulldog team's major problem is lack of depth and experience. Charlie Nixon and Richard Granger are the only veterans on the team and are presently occupying the number 1 and 3 positions.

Nixon has come on strong all season and has played good hard-core tennis all season. However, Nixon has been matched with some of the area's finest and has had a difficult season. Granger has been rotating between the number 2 and 3 positions and has improved his game considerably since last season. Granger is noted for endurance and has played seven split sets.

Debbie Wilson has been the drawing card for the team throughout the season and has proved her playing abilities on numerous occasions. She plays a deadly back-court game which has caused many a male opponent embarrassment.

Coach Taylor has high hopes for his ambitious team and believes his team can pull out several more wins in the remaining season.

Other netters this season are Steve Sipe, Everett Robbins, Steve Colvard, and Ken Jarvis.

ADAMS PRO DRAFT CHOICE

All-American George Adams has been picked by the National and American Basketball Association in their pro draft recently.

Selected in the third round of the NBA, Adams was picked by the Milwaukee Bucks. The Indiana Pacers of the ABA chose him in the sixth round the following day.

Adams has been named to such All-American teams as TV Guide, Associated Press Small College and Two-Time All-American by the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics.

"I really did not expect to get drafted that high. I am really excited about it," stated Adams. Adams has also been selected to try out for the Summer Olympics to be played in Germany.



Larry LeCroy, right-fielder, slides into third for a steal, giving the Dogs a chance to score.

Gridders Prepare For '72

Gardner-Webb College has announced an eleven game football schedule for 1972 with two new opponents, Catawba and Wolford College.

Head Coach George Litton said that the Bulldogs will meet Catawba in Boiling Springs, Saturday night, Oct. 14, and will journey to Spartanburg, S. C., to meet Wolford, Saturday night, Nov. 11.

A big change in the schedule is a Thanksgiving afternoon game with Lenoir Rhyme in Boiling Springs. Last year the Bulldogs and the Bears played in the opening game for both teams.

There are six home games on the schedule with Guilford, Georgetown and Catawba set for night games and Mars Hill, Elon and Lenoir Rhyme set for day games. Mars Hill will be the Bulldogs' Homecoming opponent on October 28.

The Bulldogs will open their season with a trip to Newberry, S. C., to play the Indians on September 16. This will be followed by a visit to Birmingham, Ala., to meet Samford on September 23. Catawba's new man will host the Bulldogs in Jefferson City, Tennessee, on October 21.

G-W 1972 Football Schedule

DATE	TEAM	PLACE
Sept. 16	Newberry (n)	Newberry, S. C.
23	Samford (n)	Birmingham, Ala.
30	Guilford (n)	Boiling Springs
Oct. 7	Georgetown (n)	Boiling Springs
14	Catawba (n)	Boiling Springs
21	Carson-Newman (n)	Jefferson City, Tenn.
28	Mars Hill (Homecoming) (d)	Boiling Springs
Nov. 4	Presbyterian (d)	Clinton, S. C.
11	Wolford (n)	Spartanburg, S. C.
18	Elon (d)	Boiling Springs
23	Lenoir Rhyme (Thanksgiving) (d)	Boiling Springs