

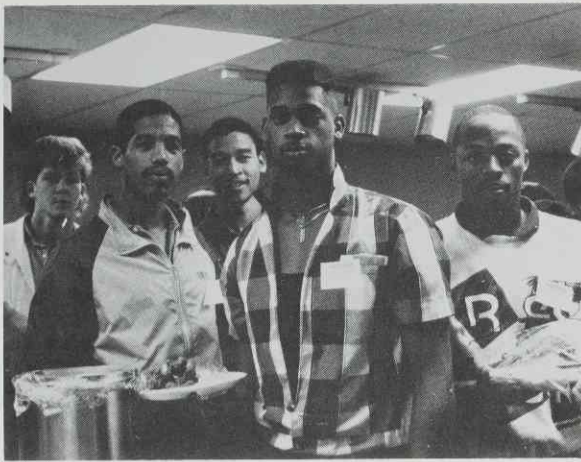
Jones Guest Speaker At FCA

by Ronnie Warrick
The Fellowship of Christian Athletes held its weekly meeting on Wednesday night, November 12, and featured former NBA great Bobby Jones as guest speaker. A crowd, estimated at around 400 people, gathered in the Paul Porter Arena to hear and to see the famed Philadelphia 76er's "sixth man" tell about his life, his career and his God.

In the twenty-five minute talk, Jones spoke of his unwillingness to play sports as a youngster and then being forced to play basketball when he entered junior high in Charlotte, N.C. After three successful years at South Mecklenburg High School, Jones entered UNC under the leadership of coach Dean Smith. It was during his four years at North Carolina that Jones admitted to himself that "Basketball is my God." While at Carolina, Jones met his wife-to-be, Tess, who shared with him Jesus' plan of salvation. Jones stated that he asked Jesus to show that he was real. Since that night, he has turned over to Jesus all of his problems he faced while playing professional basketball, as well as other conflicts that plagued his life.

Jones then posed two questions to the audience: "What kind of people are you around?" and "What makes a success of your life?"

He concluded by saying, "You can have everything and more, but if you don't have Jesus, you're not happy. You are a success only if you're a success in Jesus' eyes. Do everything for the glory of God."



Runnin' Bulldog Basketball Outlook Is Good

by Grady Martin
Coach Jim Wiles and the rest of the Runnin' Bulldogs have reason to be optimistic about the 1986-87 season.

Heading the list of returnees is 6'8" sophomore center Stan Easterling. Stan averaged 15.2 points and 7.7 rebounds per game as a freshman in 1985-86. Stan has added weight and muscle to his frame, and this, along with the last season's experience, should make him a contender for post-season honors.

Also returning is the veteran backcourt of Aaron Patterson and Brad Smith. Patterson is a 6'0" senior who handled the starting point guard position the last two years. Always known as a gritty, defensive player, he has improved his offensive skills and should be a major factor in any Bulldog success this year.

Smith is a 6'3" junior who started most of last year. Brad is a player who is always around the basketball at the right time. The 1986-87 season could be one in which Brad really comes into his own.

Senior Grady Martin should be a major factor this season for the Bulldogs. Hard work and determination over the summer has paid off to make him a threat both offensively and defensively.

Also returning to add depth at the post position are 6'8" sophomores Randy Grayson and Joey Renfro.

The newcomers to this year's squad make up what Coach Wiles called "the best recruiting class since I've been at Gardner-Webb and maybe the school's best class ever from top to bottom."

The list of newcomers is headed by a pair of junior college transfers. Anthony Hailey, a 6'5" junior, transferred in from Brevard College. He is a tough inside player and outstanding athlete. Steve Conley, a 6'5" sophomore, transferred from New Mexico Military Institute. The Marion, N.C. native is an outstanding leaper and super athlete who can play either the post or wing positions.

Several freshman could contribute to the team this season. Reggie Ampley, a 6'2" guard from Gastonia Hunter-Huss, is a fine athlete and has a good fundamental background. Chad Gough, a 6'4" wing from North Surry High, was recruited for his excellent shooting ability. He could become a threat from the three-point line.

Other freshman who could contribute include: Darren Sanders (6'0"), Bill Fath (6'7"), Thomas

Easterling Paces GWC: Panthers Pounce On Win

USCS TOURNEY
Gardner-Webb competed in the USC-Spartanburg tournament during Thanksgiving week-end and came away with a second place finish. They defeated Edward Waters 97-80, but lost to USC-S to even their record at 3-3.

The Bulldogs, led by Stan Easterling's 27 points, had to overcome a half-time deficit to win. They committed 16 turnovers in the first half. Brad Smith chipped in 15 points for G-W.

The bad news was that Anthony Hailey and Easterling suffered injuries in the first round which hampered the Bulldog effort against USC-S.

The Rifles raced out to a 37-24 halftime advantage and never looked back. Behind Smith, the Bulldogs closed to 44-39 at one point only to see the lead increase once more. Foul trouble to Steve Conley and Grady Martin also doomed the Bulldog effort.

Smith paced the Bulldogs with a career-high 25 points. He, along with Easterling, was named to the all-tournament team.

Anthony Hailey hit an 18-foot jumper with 2 seconds left to give the Runnin' Bulldogs a thrilling victory over the Panthers from High Point 60-58. Stan Easterling scored 17 points and had 11 rebounds to lead the Bulldogs. Hailey finished with 11 points.

High Point led for much of the first half. They had a 24-18 lead with 7:15 to go. But Reggie Ampley and Steve Conley brought the Bulldogs back with five unanswered points. Easterling and Chad Gough hit crucial free throws to help G-W to a 29-26 half-time lead.

The game was close throughout the second half. G-W's biggest lead 7 points at the 6:05 mark as Darren Sanders hit a couple of foul shots.

But the Panthers made their move in the waning minutes. They trailed 58-55 with 17 seconds left, worked the ball around and scored a 3-pointer with 4 seconds left to tie the game.

G-W called time-out and put the ball in play to Hailey, who scored the winning tally.



Plaster(6'7"), Darryl Floyd (6'0"), and Orlando Early (6'2").

According to John Haskins, the assistant coach, a lot of the Bulldog's success could be determined from the output of the newcomers.

Merry



Christmas