

## SA Nine To Open Season Here Against Pfeiffer; Gregory Named To Start

BY MIKE KEECH

The word heard most often in association with the latest edition of the SA baseball team is optimism. With the opening game of the season only four days away, the Knights appear to have the potential for a successful season.

Two of the newest reasons for this optimistic outlook are the presence of Ken Mehrling and Riley Erwin on the 1970 roster. Mehrling, a transfer from High Point College, will do the catching for the Knights and he should also be a valuable addition to the offensive attack. Erwin, a 6'2" freshman from Florida, should bolster the pitching staff and is capable of performing elsewhere when not on the mound. The likeable righthander has hit the ball well in practice sessions, as has the left handed hitting Mehrling.

Much of the pitching load will again be carried by the capable veteran righthander Kemp Gregory. Kemp pitched extremely well last season and finishing with a 6-3 record and a fine ERA of under two runs a game. Co-captain Steve Litchford and lefthander Mark Kleber will also see regular mound duty for the Knights. Freshman James Seibles rounds out this year's pitching staff.

The Knight infield appears to be a sound unit. Veterans Glenn Hundertmark and co-captain John Everett hold down the third and first base slots. The double play combination is a new one with Kemper Fitch a short-stop and Wayne Wise at second base. Fitch is also a capable reserve catcher. Stuart Parrish is the Knights' utility infielder.

The outfield unit is strong with veterans in all three positions. Junior Irv Northam will play left field and probably be the Knights clean-up batter. Litchford will play centerfield when he is not pitching and Dave Mills will be the rightfielder. Freshmen Mike Eller and Bill Asher, along with sophomore Jim Lawson will be reserve outfielders on this year's squad.

Coach Gerald Griffin believes the Knights are capable of bettering the .500 mark, but is quick to point out the difficult schedule his team must play. He feels Lynchburg is SA's toughest conference foe.

One of the biggest questions facing the Knights is how well their pitching staff can perform with limited rest. Next week will provide an answer to the query as the season starts on Monday afternoon at Clarke Field with the Knights hosting rugged Pfeiffer College.

S.A.'s Dean Leake and Richard Bridgeforth both won District 29 wrestling titles in recent competition.

## Linksters Qualify

This year's SA golf team has some four berths yet to be decided before Monday's opening match at Campbell College. Veteran Mac Jones and promising freshman Joe Boyd will fill the top positions for the linksters. Jones is the only returning letterman from last year's squad.

This weekend the other team hopefuls will compete in a 54-hole qualifying exhibition to determine the other four team members. Leading the contender is senior David Sinclair, who lettered on the 1967-68 teams. Sophomores Jim Lutz, Chris Johnson, and Marsh Orttenburger, along with freshmen Toby Vosburgh and David Bowie round out the field of qualifiers.

The SA linksters have been unbeaten in conference play the last two years and should be strong contenders for the title again this season. Lynchburg and N.C. Wesleyan should be their toughest conference rivals.

Home matches will begin at 1:00 at the Scotch Meadows Country Club.



ACE RIGHT HANDER Kemp Gregory will be the Knight's starting pitcher in the season opener here on Monday against Pfeiffer College.

## Depth Is Key To Racketeers Seasonal Success

BY MARK KLEBER

Having lost only two men off last year's squad, the 1970 tennis team should battle defending champion Synchronburg for the top spot. Lost to this year's team are Frank Ligon and Chuck Hardesty. Returning lettermen include seniors Harry Kraly, captain and '69 MVP, Rod Moore, and Bert Cushman along with Dan Robinson, a junior. Other members who should adequately fill the vacancy are Wirt Hatcher, a junior transfer from University of Virginia and freshman Davis Miller and Richie Robinson.

On March 13 and 14, the SA Racketeers journey to Buies Creek, N.C. to open their season in the Campbell Tournament. Atlantic Christian College, Pembroke Methodist, High Point, and host Campbell should provide stiff competition for the Knight's.

If any word describes the tennis team it would be depth. All positions, both singles and doubles, are up for grabs. This depth should be the key to a successful season.

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