

Bananas Breeze By Foes

Thursday nights home games were easy victories for the "Bananas". The matches were so lopsided that Coach Jo Williams got to experiment with various different lineups. The Knights won the first match against Queens College by the identical scores of 15-6. The first game featured Myra McGinnis serving for a total of nine points while in two Glen Kennedy scored five and reserve Barbara Whittier scored three. In the second match against Meredith, SA won the first two games and the match 15-2, 15-2.

With the end of the season quickly approaching, the Knightetts hit a mild slump. Last Tuesday's matches against Guilford and Meredith, at Meredith, should have been easy victories. The Bananas had beaten both teams previously but were not to repeat their earlier performances. Meredith, the team the Knights had thrashed just five nights before marched away with a 15-6, 3-15, 17-15 victory. In the second half of the double header, the Bananas again came up on the short side, losing 6-15, 15-4, 15-11, despite

the efforts of Kennedy, Karen Hardison and Debbe Luckritz. Two relatively easy wins turned out to be disappointing losses. According to the coach, the Knights were just "off". There was little or no movement, lacked concentration and capitalization on every Banana mistake.

Thursday's upcoming match marks the end of the regular season. Upon completion of Thursday's games, the Knights will participate in the Small College volleyball tournament where they are presently ranked No. 2. The team on the whole is very excited and Coach Williams feels there is a very good chance that the netters will come out on top.



Bob Pelon, (right), finished an excellent season by placing first for the Knights' cross country team in their last meet.

Runners Close With Winning Season

Standing on the line, waiting for the gun to go off, the athlete is just a split-second away from success or failure. The anticipation and a week's work are on that line with the runner. Bang! That's the way it all began, the Knights were on their way to the best season in the school's history.

Methodist's Blackburn placed first in the race with a time of 28:48. Bob Pelon placed first for the Knights with a time of 29:47 again proving that he is a force to be reckoned with. This week Bob showed that his strength is returning and he will be with the leaders in next week's conference championship meet. Freshman Steve Lowery surprised many of the older runners by

placing third over all and second for the Knights. His time was one of the best by a freshman in our conference.

Cliff Summers ran an exceptional race and was one of the key factors in the present success of the Knights. His time was 32:27 which is an accomplishment when viewing the rugged course. Jacob Houge was cramp-ridden throughout the race due to a touch of the flu but came through with a much needed place and a time of 32:44 to place fourth for the Knights.

"Dr." Spann came through with what proved to be the needed edge that enabled the Knights to take second place just a few points behind Methodist.

Last Thursday the soccer team gained a plus in the victory column by defeating Pembroke State University 3-2. With improved passing, the Knights collected the first goal seven minutes into the game when Casey Middleditch fired home a direct shot from twelve yards out. Eight minutes later Sheikh Jagne collected the second goal yet Pembroke fought back to tie the score at two apiece with twenty-four minutes remaining in the second half. Determined to avoid another draw Sheikh Jagne collected the deciding goal with twelve minutes remaining and the defense held firm to give the Knights their third victory of the season.

Goalkeeper Karl Jennings attributed the improvement to a "breakthrough with passing as the ball was better moved down the wings." Center half-back Tim Griggs stated that "the fullbacks con-

Soccer Team Wins, 3-2

sistently kept the other team offside which makes for fewer shots on our goal." Griggs also commented that "the problem with halfbacks, mostly due to injury, has kept the team unused to playing together as a whole." Both players wish to acknowledge the efforts of Coach Betts as having accomplished a great deal his first year in light of the many inexperienced players on the squad. Also, Skip Fedak, assistant coach,

should be recognized for his valuable instruction in the techniques of soccer and attention is due to the cheerleaders and fans who have constantly supported the team through their losses as well as wins.

Today the soccer squad plays Atlantic Christian College at 4 p.m. in the last home game of the season and then travels to meet Lynchburg College on Saturday.

The Wild Corner

Kim Phillips

Editors note: Kim Phillips is the retired editor of last year's Sports page. About once a month, "Wild Man" will come out of retirement and give us his "unique" opinion. T.F. will return next week with an opinionated wrap-up of the fall season and some early season predictions for Varsity Winter events.

Ed Smith's 1975-76 Wheelie basketball squad may be looked upon as an expansion team, in that team members are still expanding their knowledge of the game (as are their fans). The team did not expect miracles in their rookie season but much progress has been made since the Knights' first exhibition game nine months ago. Most noteworthy is the wheelies' offensive production which has increased ten points a game since last spring. Other positive aspects shown by this year's squad are their intensity, competitive team spirit as well as a growing confidence with every game played. The players are no longer reluctant to shoot the ball as they were early in the season and with continued hard work and "good attitudes", time will iron out ball handling errors, defensive lapses and easy missed shots.

Coach Smith is not blessed with substantial talent. This lack of proven talent along with a lack of depth hurts the team tremendously. All things considered, though, the Knights have played exciting and fundamental basketball, despite their present 1 win 5 loss record. However, Saturday night's games reflected a major weakness in this year's team; over the continuous playing time of twenty minutes, the Knights lose their stamina. The total 80 minutes of playing over a three hour span is too energy consuming. A shorter game of better conditioning would greatly aid the Knights' chances of victory.

The wheelie record would be more balanced (contain more victories) had it not been for the loss of Don Eller and Forrest Mangum. Both were big, strong, fiery ball players that were learning the rules of the game fast. This left the brunt of the Knights' attack on the shoulders of Richard Hudson and Terry Winborne. Both have played well and have led the team in offensive categories. Jim Ford and Lavon McRae have helped the team considerably. Ford travels 80 miles for practice sessions with the team while McRae travels close to thirty to participate, which is obviously a great sacrifice on their parts. Yet, their efforts are greatly appreciated. Jim Bennett, Pat Ford, Marilyn June, Jeff Larry and David Clodfelter make up the remainder of the squad. Although they are not yet as experienced as the other ball players, they make up for their lack of ability with unceasing hustle.

Time is the key factor in the building of this year's squad. A first year team is undoubtedly going to have problems that will take time and effort to work out. Hopefully, things will be put into focus by mid-season and wheelchair basketball will take a turn for the better.

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