



# Homecoming, 1972



The N.C.S.A. Pickles responded to coach-quarterback Andy Wood's public statement, "It looks like we'll have a fine ball club this season," with a sparkling 36-6 victory over the Winston-Salem State Big-Uns. "A real fine ball club..."-this could well be the understatement of the year. The boys are stars!

The Big-Uns defensive unit, always a respected hard-nosed, take an inch over my bloody arse crew, was no match for the intricately developed, finely honed Pickle offense. Equally astounding, if not moreso, was the Pickle defense. The W-S State offense, who in the past few years have established themselves as one of the toughest around, promptly found themselves made mincemeat of by a defensive phenomenon. The N.C.S.A. defensive team can only be described as unparalleled in the game of football. The Big-Uns were allowed, rather lucked into, one touchdown. It was a freak play where the ball tipped off the Pickle defensive safety's fingers right into the hands of a Big-Un who just happened to be standing around the goal at the moment. All other W-S State ground gaining attempts were deftly sizzled.

Never in the history has a team established itself so quickly as a

major football power. Success like this naturally attracts the public eye and they ask: "How do they do it?" After observing the Homecoming Weekend at N.C.S.A., the writer has concluded that the story of their success lies in the total dedication and 100 percent effort of everyone involved... not only the team but the fans too. This youthful artistic community exhibited vitality, imagination, and unwavering support for their Pickles throughout the weekend. Great enthusiasm was displayed at the Homecoming Dance Friday night before the game. Events at the hop included a return appearance of the Andrew Sisters and a dance contest. Carol Levinson, Homecoming Queen, relinquished her crown with a tear and a heart-warming speech to Miss Denise Myers who was selected by an unsecret ballot.

The day of the game, hordes of people crowded the field. Everyone cheered wildly- led by

the prettiest cheerleaders of any era. Two clowns escaped from the circus and made a fast buck off the crowd by selling pickles for a nickel a piece. At half-time the N.C.S.A. marching band provided entertainment. And of course there was the usual long line of convertibles displaying lovely people. Isadora Duncan scarves were most popular with those in the parade and luckily no one was as unlucky as she. After half-time, everyone turned intently back to the football team. Winded players out for a rest munched pickles and sipped water from little green bottles as proudly they watched their teammates rool, on.

All in all, it's rather shocking to see a team of such great tradition at the W-S State Big-Uns totally devastated; however, with a team of young upstarts such as the N.C.S.A. Pickles, on the scene, football is liable to continue to become a game of broken tradition.

- Stencil Bishop

