Lacrosse: Is There A Future

by Hal Soden

For those not familiar with the game, lacrosse is perhaps the fastest team sport played by man on his two feet. It is an extremely physical game possessing beauty, finess, and precision team work. Invented by the American Indian, lacrosse resembles field hockey and is played using a stick or long-handeled pouched racket.

A team consists of ten players working together to advance the ball across the field and into the opposing team's goal like soccer. From start to finish the name of the game is "action" in the form of raw body contact as well as finess, requiring each player to be top physical and mental condition. Thus, Lacrosse offers supreme excitement and involvement to the spectators.

Lacrosse is a varsity sport here at Guilford, and has been for the past four years. The program was founded by a group of interested students having mixed backgrounds in the sport, along with John Hardy, a local lawyer with a knowledge of the game volunteering as coach.

The athletic department furnished the developing team with uniforms, equipment, and the football field for games. Since then, little or no new equipment has been provided, the games have been at the soccer field, and Coach Hardy has left the program unfortunately due to his expanding law practices.

Last year Tommy Saunders, a graduate assistant football coach having absolutely no knowledge of the game, was assigned the coaching position by the athletic department.

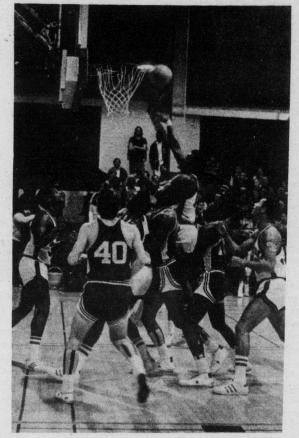
This spring, Saunders is switching to track, and Charles Forbes, another football coach also never having been exposed to the game, has been assigned the coaching position.

In an interview with Dr. Herb Appenzeller, the athletic director, he stated that for a time the athletic department was considering dropping the lacrosse program and making it a club sport, thus cutting all financial support. Now that the budget has improved, however, the department is planning to escalate financial support to the program in an effort to bring it up to the level of the other sports programs.

Appenzeller is optimistic about the future of the program. He places his confidence in Forbes' coaching ability, which he believes will give the lacrosse program the basic continuity needed for further development.

When talking with several of the returning players, however, I discovered they all came up with the same overall suggestion. "We need a coach with authority who is willing to devote both the time and the effort needed to go onto the field and take control", they said.

Jay Plaisted, sophomore and leading scorer last year, stated, "We need a strong coach capable of drawing the team together and creating a unity among teammates." Dave Turner, a senior with the team since its beginning stated, "The lacrosse program has been stagnate for the past two years. What the team really needs is a coach knowledgeable in lacrosse, and able to show even the experienced players new and



Sam Kennedy leaps above the crowd for a two pointer in upset loss to High Point Photo by Enos

dazzling things."

This year's team has more talent and depth than ever before. The returning players are Dan Sommerville, David Turner, Jay Plaisted, David Rosenzweig, Richard Perry, Bill Baker, Mark Weston, Paul Huges, Ted Harrington, Bruce Hendricks, and Paul Fribush. Adding to the talent already present are a few talented freshmen who will fill many of the gaps that resulted in last year's disappointing 1-5 losing season.

Yes, the lacrosse does have a future. The talent, enthusiasm and tremendous amount of potential is here. However, in order to build, the lacrosse team must have the support of the entire school, including the administration, alumni, athletic department, and most important, the students. The team also needs a coach, whether it be Forbes or someone else, to gain the respect of the players and instill pride into the team.

Intramurals

The Basketball intramural season is here! Schedules have been distributed to those players who signed up for teams, but even if you didn't sign up, come on out and play! There are extra schedules in the gym, but for convenience we also have it partially printed up here. For more information, contact Mrs. Clark in the gym or Frankye Boyles or Mark Buckley, intramural student coordinators.

Craft Center Receives Wheels

The Craft Center has three new kick wheels thanks to Dave MacInnes and Stephen Ellison. They painstakingly put them together on Saturday. The metal parts came in a kit by Brent; Dave bought the plywood to finish it up. The flywheel is weighted by bricks glued and clamped into place. Hopefully these will be finished by next week. Staining and varnishing will take place on Tuesday (tonight) if anyone would like to help. For more information, contact Carla McAdams or Stephen Ellison.

In the Swim

The hours for free swimming at the Greensboro College Pool are as yet still unsettled, but the Gullfordian plans to run the completed schedule in next week's issue.



Elizabeth Parker lays it in during the exciting Quaker win over UNC-Charlotte Photo by Enos

Thursday & fuiday mights
Journary 29 th. & 30 th. @ 8:15

DANA AUD.

50 ¢ Guilford students

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Vincent Canby, New York Times

"One of the greatest films I've seen in my lifetime. A masterpiece of intimacy, sensitivity, wisdom and intelligence. Scenes from a Marriage asks the question everyone has either faced or refused to face: is it better to hide away in a relationship because it is comfortable and easy, or is it better to accept growth and change even though it is painful."

Rex Reed, New York Daily News

