

# sports

## Guilford Rugby: Elegant Violence



Photo by Julie Marqolies

Ruggers: John Granger, Mark Clinard, Boo McKee, Jim Kohl, Bo Habery, Mike Peterson

By Boo McKee

Guilford rugby has kicked into high gear this season with impressive wins over Davidson and the U.S. Marines. Guilford has also played joint games with the Triad Rugby Club against the Raleigh Vipers, North Carolina, and Dan River. The Ruggers defeated Davidson on two different occasions, one which was termed "the Mud Bowl" on Davidson's Parent's Weekend. The Ruggers also defeated the U.S. Marines at Cherry Point Air Marines at Cherry Point Air Marine Base.

The Triad Rugby Club often invites the Guilford Ruggers to play games with them. This is profitable to Guilford because it gives the Ruggers experience and an opportunity to watch good players in action.

This year's Ruggers should be the best ever. Says junior Jim Kohl, "I'm quite

impressed with our new players. The scrum and the backs are both playing well. We are all looking forward to the spring season." As it stands now, the only ones who should be able to beat the Ruggers are "ourselves," some of the players commented. The secret to the Ruggers' success is that the players are very close to each other and the captains are excellent leaders. John Lenartowicz is the Ruggers' "Fearless Leader" and the co-captains are Toshio Ueno, Mark Clinard, and Jim Kohl.

On November 22, the Ruggers take on UNCG in a game that should turn into a minor war. The game should give the fans plenty of excitement and the hospitals plenty of UNCG's support. Upcoming games in the spring season include North Carolina State, North Carolina, Wake Forest, Duke, UNC-Wilmington, Belmont Abby, and many others.

## Guilford Hosts Wrestling

By Mike Spladle

Last Wednesday, Nov. 5, Guilford College hosted a wrestling match for the first time since 1970. The Guilford Wrestling Club competed against an established team from Wilkes Community College upstairs in the old gym before an enthusiastic crowd of more than forty fans. From the start of the meet when the newly formed Pep Band played the Star-Spangled Banner until the end of the last match, the Guilford fans cheered and encouraged the young club, and in return, the club showed the spirit and enthusiasm that has earned them the respect of other teams.

David Humphreys (121 lbs.) set the pace for the evening by wrestling intensely during the first period, but a pinning combination with 38 seconds left in the second period put Wilkes up by six points. Freshman Pete Alfinito (129 lbs.) ignited the fans with a strong reversal during the second period of his match, but lost on points when he was unable to score an

escape in the third period. The excitement continued as junior Chris Bright, at 137 lbs. refused to quit after being turned to his back several times. He rallied in the third period, scoring an escape and a takedown, and even turned the Wilkes wrestler to his back just as the match ended, but the late efforts weren't enough to give a victory to the Quakers.

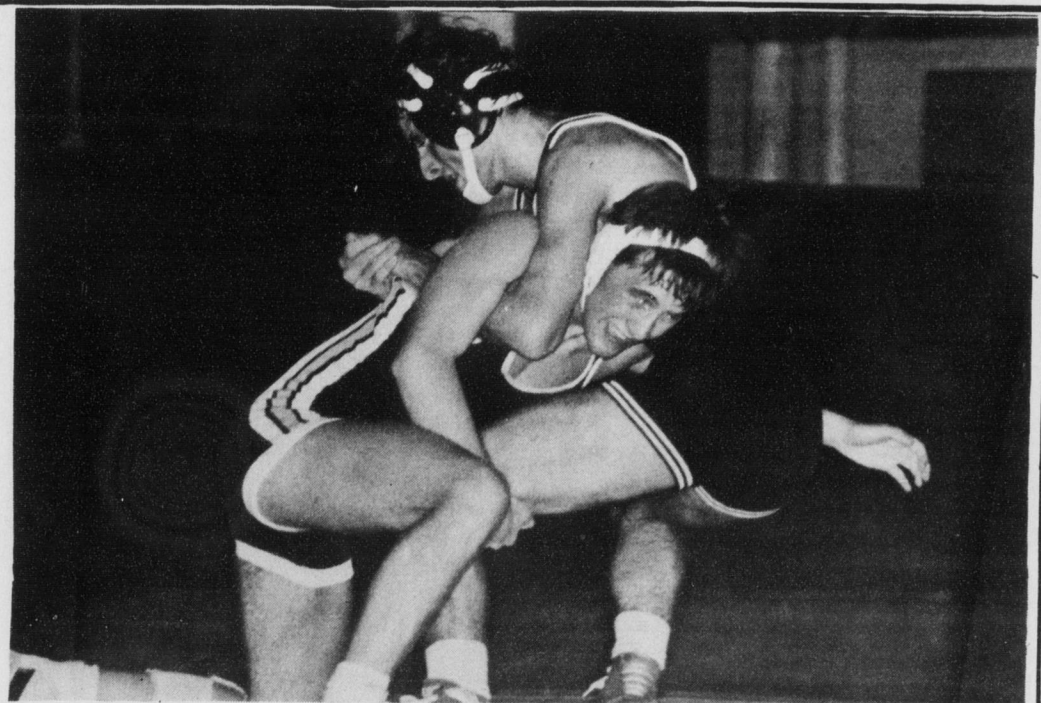
That victory came during the next match as team co-captain Rick Wicklin exploded in the first period to score two takedowns and a near fall. Wicklin executed a hip toss at the end of the first period which sent the Wilkes wrestler to his back and the Guilford fans to their feet. He followed it up with a reversal in the second period to put him ahead 8-3. A Wilkes takedown and a penalty point narrowed Wicklin's lead, but when the match ended, the Wrestling Club had won their first match of the evening by a score of 9-6.

Wicklin's win turned out to be the Club's sole victory. Adam Hurt (151 lbs.) lost by points as he was turned to

his back several times, but each time he managed to fight out of the pinning combination. The Quakers forfeited three of the next five matches: two because they do not have wrestlers at those weight classes and one because of a shoulder injury sustained by Brian Quarters earlier in the week. Both David Kemp (161 lbs.), wrestling his first match ever, and Warden McLean (Heavyweight), who has not wrestled in four years, were defeated by more experienced opponents.

But the wrestling didn't stop there. After only a few minutes of rest, Wicklin, Hurt, and McLean all wrestled exhibition matches against heavier opponents. "We figured that they had driven all this distance to wrestle, so we wanted to make sure that they all had that chance," Wicklin explained with a grin.

As the Club rolled up the mats and put away the chairs, they all were smiling. They had lost the meet, but they had won a victory which was even more important to them: after two years of work, they had brought wrestling back to Guilford.



Chris puts infamous pizza-hold on opponent