

# BULLDOG BARKS

## Athletes Of The Month

### LANE LOWDER

The Albemarle High School football team will lose one of its most valuable players with the outgoing seniors this year.

Lane Lowder, 205 pound, 6'1" guard, made many spectacular performances in the 1956 season. Lane was chosen to the North Carolina All-State team by the *Charlotte News*. He was also selected for the South Piedmont's All-Conference team.

He lettered in track, and is a member of the Monogram Club. To top off all of his other honors, Lane was chosen to play in the Shrine Bowl game in Charlotte.

Other than being an athlete, Lane is a leader in many activities. He is an officer in the DeMolay, is on the business staff of the *Crossroads*, and was president of the M. Y. F. of his church.

### DAVID GRIGG

David Grigg, mainstay in the A.H.S. Bulldogs' line, is an outstanding figure both on offensive and defensive stands. Playing a guard position, David won a slot on the all-conference team. David was a co-captain of the varsity football team this year and is a top member of the varsity basketball team.

Besides his athletic accomplishments, David is president of the student body, Master Councillor of the DeMolay, a member of the National Honor Society, a member of the Debating Team, and was a delegate to the N. C. Boys' State. He served as secretary of the student body one year and as commencement marshal for three years and has been an officer of the M.Y.F. at the Central Methodist Church.

## Chatter

The Albemarle High School Bulldogs finished the 1956 season with a heartbreaking loss to the Yellow Jackets of Lexington. The defeat was the first loss since 1956, when the Bulldogs were before beaten by Lexington in a postseason playoff game. These two losses and one suffered back in 1952 at the hands of Kannapolis are the only three times the Bulldogs have fallen in fifty-three starts.

The Bulldogs compiled a 9-1-1 record, while scoring 376 points and yielding only 72 points to opponents.

Twelve boys enjoyed the thrill of scoring during the season. Graham Harwood led the scoring with sixteen touchdowns for 96 points; "Punk" Gantt was second with fourteen touchdowns for 84 points; "Rat" Lisk was third with seven touchdowns for 42 points; Glenn Talbert tallied six times for 36 points; and "Q" Smith crossed the goal five times for 30 points. Scoring three TD's each were Roger Smith and Sherrill Whitley, while Don Montgomery, Drip Kimrey, and James Norton made one each.

Jerry Lowder and Larry Mullis kicked extra points with an accuracy of 31 for 52 tries for Jerry and three good for five tries for Mullis.

The Bulldogs are now co-champions for the South Piedmont Conference.

Fourteen seniors, Robert "Q" Smith, Lane Lowder, Jerry Lowder, "Punk" Gantt, Charlie Smith, Don Taylor, Glenn Talbert, David Grigg, Mickey Dry, Gary Pendergraft, Clyde Hill, Jack Cranford, "Rat" Lisk, Gerry Currier will be missing from the '57 team, on which there will be only two starters from the '56 team, tackle Roger Whitley and tailback Graham Harwood.

Congratulations go to Jerry Lowder for making the All-State first team.

AHS is also proud of its All-Conference five, Steve "Punk" Gantt in the backfield, end "Rat" Lisk, guards Lane Lowder and David Grigg, and tackle Jerry Lowder, who numbered more than any other team in the conference in the selection.

## Basketball Begins

With football season now over, basketball season is rolling around, and the games will soon begin. Both boys' and girls' teams have been working hard and are looking forward to a successful season.

Coach Lippard has one starter and two lettermen back from last year's team. His style of play is entirely different from that of Coach Benton last year. As of yet, no starting positions are sure, but all of the boys are working hard to nail down one of these positions.

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## Grigg, Harwood On Final Check List

Two weeks ago the final Greensboro check-list was picked, with two Bulldogs on it. They were Graham Harwood and David Grigg, picked for their fine play in Albemarle's win over Kannapolis for the South Piedmont Conference title.

David played a bang-up ball game on both offense and defense the whole season. He stayed in the Kannapolis backfield most of the night stopping plays. He also did a good job of kicking off for the Bulldogs.

Graham's passing and running kept Kannapolis behind all night. He passed for two touchdowns and ran for another as the Bulldogs romped over Kannapolis 39-0 to win the South Piedmont Conference.

## Year's Statistics

Albemarle	Opponents
139	First downs 92
3380	Yds. gained rushing 1558
132	Yds. lost rushing 189
844	Yds. gained passing 496
4434	Total yards 1833
120	Passes attempted 113
863	Yds. kicks returned 695
20	No. punts 57
22	Passes intercepted by 5
15	Fumbles lost 11
325	Yds. penalized 220

## 2 Bulldogs Play In Shrine Bowl

Lane and Jerry Lowder spent November 26-30 in Charlotte in preparation for the Shrine Bowl game, which took place Saturday, December 1.

Jerry Lowder, left tackle, and Lane Lowder, guard, were chosen from the Albemarle High School team to participate in this game.

Jerry has received honors other than participating in the Shrine Bowl game. He was named to the All-North Carolina Prep team by the *Charlotte Observer*. He was selected for the 1956 All-Conference team as announced by W. C. Clary, secretary of the Western North Carolina High School Activities Association. Aside from being a star linesman, Jerry also kicks for extra points. Out of fifty-two tries, he made thirty-one.

Dick Pierce, *Charlotte Observer*

## Lexington Edges Bulldogs 14-12 For Piedmont Crown

The brilliant running of full-back Punk Gantt was not quite enough as Lexington nipped the Bulldogs 14-12, and cut them short of the Piedmont Championship for the second time in three years.

Steve "Punk" Gantt, playing one of the best games of his career, scored twice and piled up an amazing 255-yard rushing. His first touchdown covered 97 yards.

The first period was a scoreless tussle. The opening kick-off was fumbled, and Lexington recovered on the Bulldogs' 5-yard line. The next play Moyer Smith, Lexington's explosive halfback, fumbled, and Lane Lowder was on hand to pick it up. Then the see-saw battle began, up and down the field with neither team going into the end zone.

At the beginning of the second period Moyer Smith's punt went dead on the 1-yard line of the Bulldogs on the second play from scrimmage. Gantt bulleted through the line on the second and into the secondary, where he poured on the coal and virtually walked off and left the entire Lexington team. The P.A.T. was no good, and the Bulldogs took the lead.

A few minutes later Lexington struck back, driving nearly the length of the field with Boozier Moore carrying the ball into the end-zone from the 14. The conversion was good, and Lexington took the lead.

The Bulldogs made a valiant effort in the closing seconds of the half to regain the lead. Rat Lisk alertly scooped up a deflected pass and raced into the end-zone, but a penalty nullified the T.D. and

sports writer, when asked to single out some of the Tarheels who performed especially well, singled Jerry out in the line.

Lane Lowder, who also went to the Shrine Bowl, was one of the five Bulldogs who made the All-Conference team. He was also chosen by the *Charlotte News* for the North Carolina All-State team.

the half ended with Albemarle trailing by one point.

The third quarter was almost like the first. The ball went from one end of the field to the other, but never crossed the goal line.

As the final quarter began, Albemarle had possession on the Lexington 26-yard line. On the first play from scrimmage Gantt danced, twisted, and bowled his way into the end-zone. The P.A.T. was no good, and the Bulldogs led 12-7.

This lead was short lived. Moyer Smith took the kick-off and carried it back to the Bulldog 32, where Harwood, the only one who could catch him, bounced Smith out of bounds. Lexington pushed to the 17, where Don Elkins took over and plowed into the end-zone. Moyer Smith's toe found its mark, and the Lexington Yellow Jackets went into lead.

With less than a minute to go, Albemarle's final gallant attempt to regain the lead fell short. On fourth down, with two feet to go for a first, the Bulldogs were stopped six inches short, thus ending a 21 game winning streak.

## What Would Happen If...

Mr. Hatley wasn't the smartest man living

Mrs. Fry's flowers would die  
Someone would steal Mr. Morris's glue pot

Roach would tell a good joke  
Burnie couldn't smile

We would have steak in the cafeteria

E. C. Haley was principal  
The students were allowed to take a "Siesta"

Larry Smith wasn't sleepy  
Larry Joe could march  
Joe Madren and Billy Lowder would graduate

If Mr. Grigg had hair like Elvis Presley

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