



Through
THE
Looking
Glass

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It's hard to believe that Dr. Charles Duffy is going on 62, but he readily admits it. And for those in the same boat he passes along these observations by James I. Banash:

They are building staircases steeper than they used to. The steps are higher, or else there are more of them, or something. Maybe this is because it's so much farther from the first floor to the second floor and I've also noticed it is getting harder to make two steps at a time. It's even getting harder to make one.

Another thing I've noticed is the small print they are using lately. Newspapers are getting farther and farther away when I hold them up to read and I have to squint to make them out. The other day I had to back halfway out of the telephone booth to read the number on the coin box.

It is obviously ridiculous to suggest that a person my age needs glasses but I find it best when I want to learn what's going on to have somebody read aloud to me, and even that is not too satisfactory because people speak in such a low voice these days I can't hear them very well.

A lot of things are different today. Barbers, for instance, no longer hold a mirror behind me when they've finished, so I can see the back of my head, and my wife has been taking care of the tickets when we go to a theatre.

They don't put the same material into clothes any more. I notice that all my pants have a tendency to shrink, especially in certain places such as around the waist or the seat, and the laces they put in shoes nowadays are much harder to reach.

Even the weather is changing. It's getting colder in winter and the summers are much, much hotter than they used to be. I'd go away someplace if it wasn't so far. Rain is much wetter today than the rain we used to get. Drafts are much more severe. It must be the way they build windows now.

People are changing too. For one thing they are younger than they used to be when I was their age. I went back recently to an alumni reunion at my college, and I was shocked to see the mere tots they're admitting these days as students.

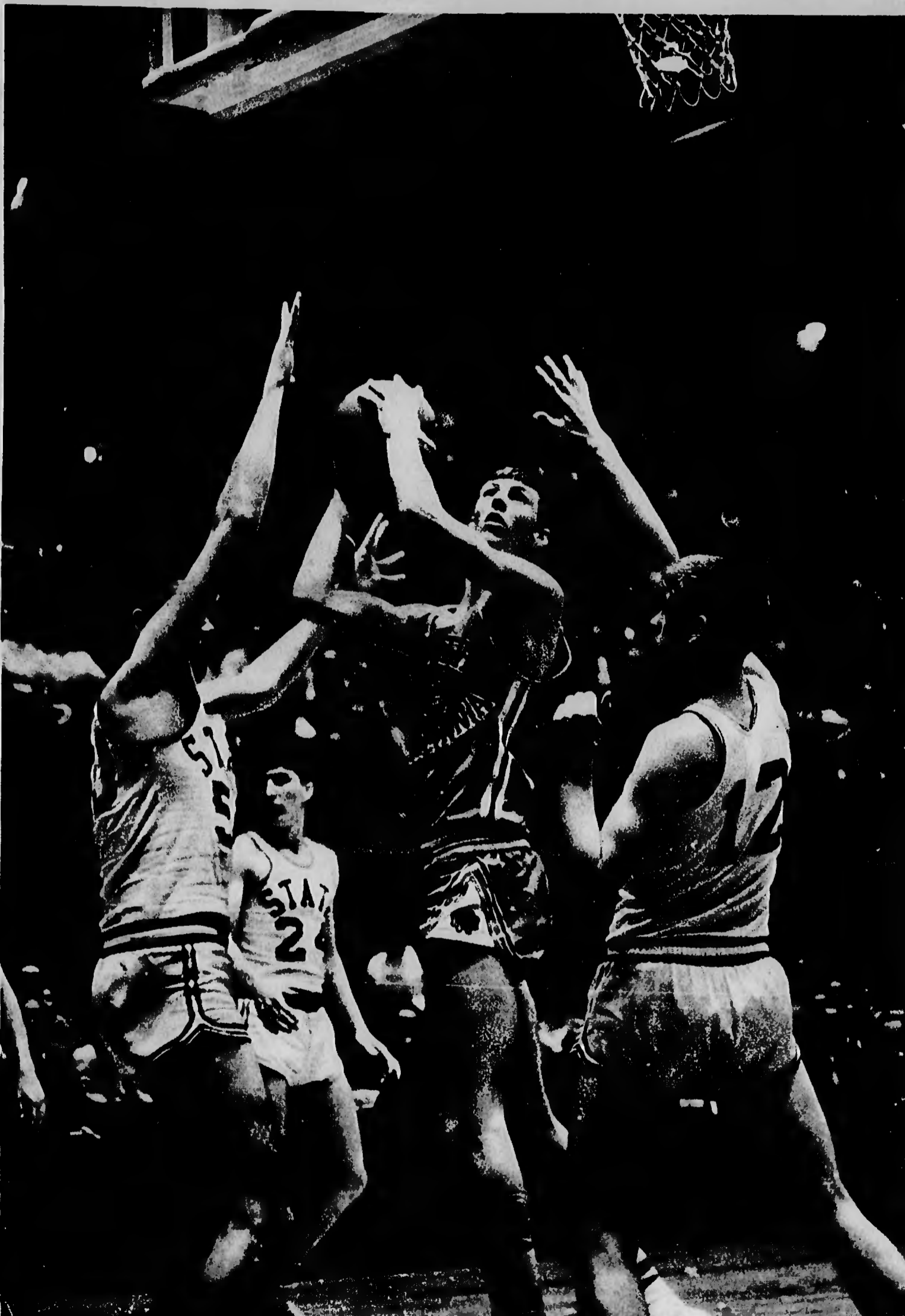
Why the average age of the freshman class couldn't have been more than seven. They seem to be more polite than in my time. Several hundred graduates called me "Sir" and one of them asked me if he could help me cross the street. Imagine, in broad daylight.

On the other hand, people my own age are so much older than I am. I fully realize that my generation is approaching middle age (I define middle age roughly as the period between 21 and 80) but there is no excuse for my classmates tottering into a state of advanced senility.

Why I ran into my old roommate at the bar and he had changed so much that he didn't recognize me.

That's the whimsical piece Dr. Charles (Charlie to most of us) Duffy wanted to share with our readers. Even past 60, he remains slender. Like another spry New Bernian, John

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DOUBLING UP—Two unhappy members of N. C. State's freshman team surround New Bern's Bill Bunting as the University of North Carolina frosh star comes down with another rebound at William Neal Reynolds Coliseum in Raleigh. In this particular game, Bunting was deadly off the boards and at the foul line had a perfect night, making good on 12 attempts. The 6-8 former Bruin excels in all depart-

ments, but in college as in High School he is gaining wide fame for his free throws. Carolina's freshman outfit has had a terrific season, and among its victims were the varsity Tar Heels. You can expect to see six sophomores on the varsity squad next season, including Bunting. With a wealth of talent, a national power is in the making and spirits are high at Chapel Hill.—Photo by Chick Natella.