

Foster's Aides Seek to Bolster Program

"We will be exciting, we will be entertaining, and WE WILL WIN." This statement by Coach Joe Kingery sums up the attitude of UNCC's quartet of young assistant coaches. Kingery, Dwight Rainey, Bill Moore, and Rick Dobson comprise the young staff of Head Coach Bill Foster and are responsible for much of the program's background work.

Assistant coaching involves everything from janitorial work to promoting the program to alumni and local businessmen. Coach Kingery likes the variety of his job and the different places and people he is able to come in contact with while on the job.

Each assistant's duties are spelled out in individual notebooks given to each staff member. Coach Kingery's main

assignments are: (1) varsity assistant to Coach Foster, (2) head of the scouting program, and (3) academic counselor to the basketball players. In addition, he heads all of the 49er recruiting efforts in North Carolina. Other duties under his direction include off-season contact with the team members and head of the pre-season conditioning drills.

In his fifth year as head recruiter for the basketball program, Bill Moore came to UNCC from Shorter College in Rome, Georgia. While at Shorter, Moore was named 1969 Coach of the Year in the Georgia Intercollegiate Athletic Conference. His years as chief recruiter here at UNCC have included scholarship signees from Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee, Georgia, and South

Carolina as well as from North Carolina.

Another Shorter College product is Dwight Rainey. Rainey works with both the varsity and junior varsity squads and also assists with recruiting. He also works with the UNCC Athletic Foundation and assists in promotion and public relations.

Newest member of the staff is graduate assistant Rick Dobson, a Greer, South Carolina native. Dobson moves to the coaching side of the coin after four years as a 49er player. He was a key figure in last season's record-breaking team and will serve as head junior varsity coach this season. He will be hard pressed to match last year's 20-1 JV record in his initial coaching attempt.



Assistant Coach Joe Kingery

UNCC Freshman Home For College Ball

The world steps aside for any man who knows where he is going. Lawrence Massey is such a man. Sought by 150 colleges and universities, Lawrence chose UNCC because he thought they had a good basketball program, one of the highest academic programs around, and because he would have a better chance of playing more. Lawrence intends to play basketball four years at UNCC and then would like the chance to playing in the pros. Whether the chance comes or not, he will "always play basketball."

Lawrence, who is from Charlotte, is quoted by Sports Information Director Dave Taylor as being "the best freshman recruit we have had since Robert Earl Blue."

A graduate of South Mecklenburg High School, which is steeped in the tradition of winning, Lawrence was one of the most publicized players to be recruited at UNCC. Did the pressure of the publicity affect him? Massey responded candidly, "Yeah, there was a lot of pressure and I feel it now that we have started playing."

It is Lawrence's feeling that people expected him to come in and take over. "Guys on the team have proven to be basketball players. I just have to set back and wait my turn, and when it comes, I'll be ready."

Following in the footsteps of a bevy of South Mecklenburg basketball players who have made it big, Lawrence was asked to compare his talents as a basketball player with the likes of Mark Greiner, now with South Carolina, Bobby Jones, now with the Denver Nuggets, and Walter Davis of UNC-Chapel Hill. He responded, "I think I may be better than Mark. Bobby can jump and rebound and is very physical. Walter is the best—a very flashy player. I sorta feel I am a combination of both Bobby and Walter."

Lawrence feels education and basketball rank about the same in importance, but right now, basketball has a slight edge. His major is geography,

but he is considering changing it to another field of study.

When asked what he thought about Head Coach Bill Foster, Lawrence replied, "In high school, if a coach has one good player, everyone considers him to be a good coach, but in college, a coach has to use his mind, he has to think, when he uses a player he has to think of their overall ability, because everyone who plays college ball knows the game."

On the discussion of athletes in general, Lawrence compared an athlete with a basketball player. "An A athlete does everything well, runs and jumps, and so forth but a basketball player can just play basketball. Everybody on our team is an athlete." On a personal level, Lawrence feels that kids need to think that athletes are something they're not. "A lot of kids,

especially black kids, need someone to look up to. I was fortunate. My dad was always right there." Lawrence realizes that athletes have to watch where they are and who they are with. He says, "I don't like that. That's a double standard."

When asked what he thought of this year's team, Lawrence said, "This team is spirited. From the most recognized players to the most obscure, everyone has spirit. No one is looking out for themselves, they look out for the team." He feels George Jackson, Geoff Bommer, and Jon Heath are the team leaders this year.

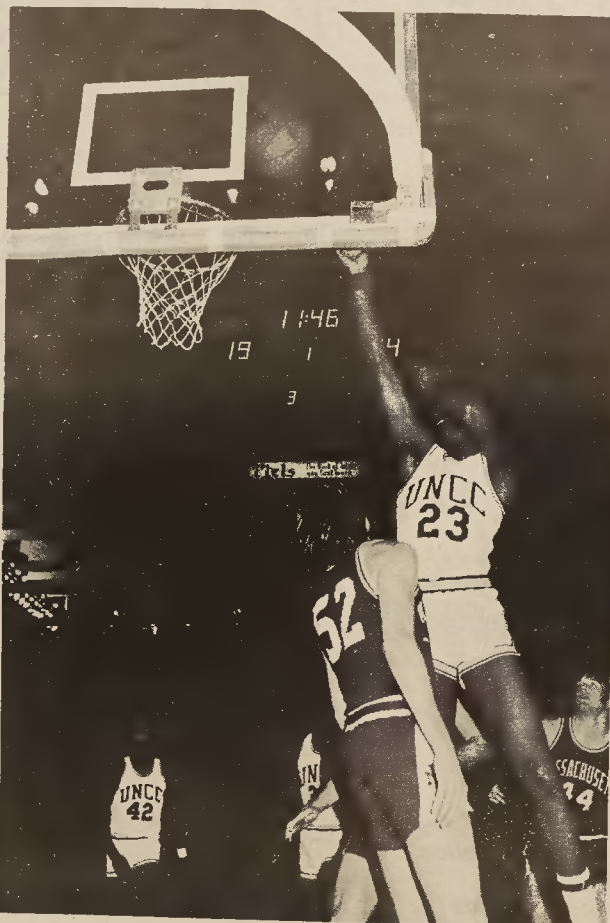
Lawrence said very openly, "I think of myself first and foremost." He likes to spend time by himself, and when things get bad, he sits in his room in the dark. "Some people

think I'm strange, but I think I have good sense."

On the subject of females, Lawrence defines himself as being "A connoisseur of fine young ladies." What qualities does he look for? First—Personality. "Personality should be people's faces." Secondly looks. "Looks have something to do with it." Third—Common Interests. "Someone who likes to do the same things I like to do."

At the end of the interview, after calling him Lawrence the whole time, he said, "I love my name Lawrence. In tenth grade one guy called me Lew and it's been that ever since."

Whether Lew or Lawrence, his basketball talents should be a showcase for the university basketball program in the next four years.



Lawrence Massey (23) scores in the 49er rout of Massachusetts.

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