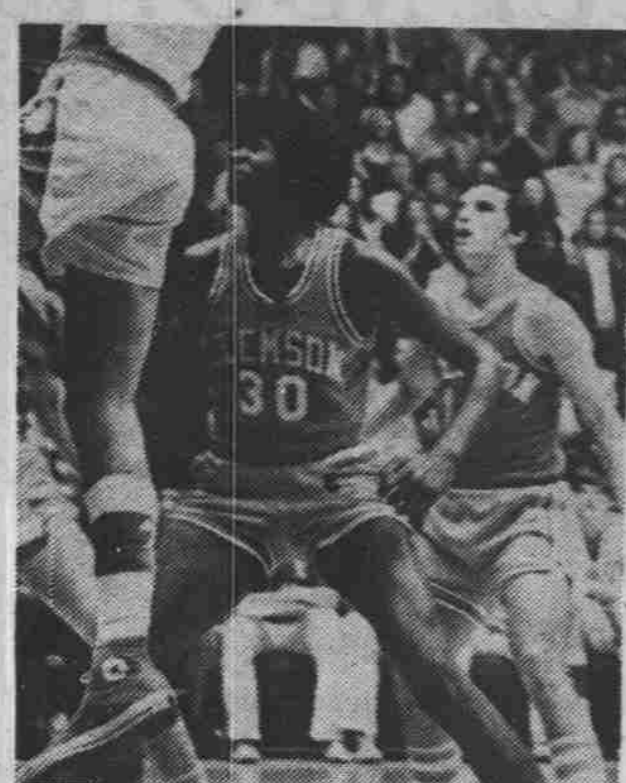


Carolina's 'season that counts' gets underway

Tar Heel cagers host Clemson tonight at 9 p.m.



Tree Rollins in high school (l) and at Clemson

by Susan Shackelford
Asst. Sports Editor

The season that counts begins tonight. In its first Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC) game, the Carolina basketball team hosts the Clemson Tigers at 9 p.m. in Carmichael Auditorium. The regionally televised contest is the first Tar Heel showing since a disappointing Big Four Tournament last weekend in Greensboro.

The Heels suffered back-to-back losses to Duke and N.C. State, but head coach Dean Smith is confident of the team's rebound.

"We're going to start a second season this week," said Smith, whose team holds a 5-3 record. "We've played well at times this year. But we must show more consistency on defense."

"However, what makes our task extremely difficult is that we must now try to come back against a very good Clemson team. We beat them by one point on our home court last season, and we don't even have many of those (UNC) players back. And they have a greatly improved team."

The Clemson attack is led by freshman guard Skip Wise, who is averaging 17.6 points with a 53.9 field goal percentage. "They say they must have Wise like we must have Kupchak," Smith noted.

Speaking of the Tigs' center, Wayne "Tree" Rollins, who averages 12.5 points and 10.2 rebounds, Smith said, "Clemson has in Rollins an outstanding center. He'll be the biggest center we have played (7-1)" but the Tar Heels

won't key on him "because we try not to make individual changes. Defending one (player) makes the other players better than they are."

Apart from Wise and "Tree," the Clemson line-up includes 6-5 forward Stan Rome, who adds speed to the 6-5 team; 6-9 forward Wayne Croft and 6-3 guard Van Gregg.

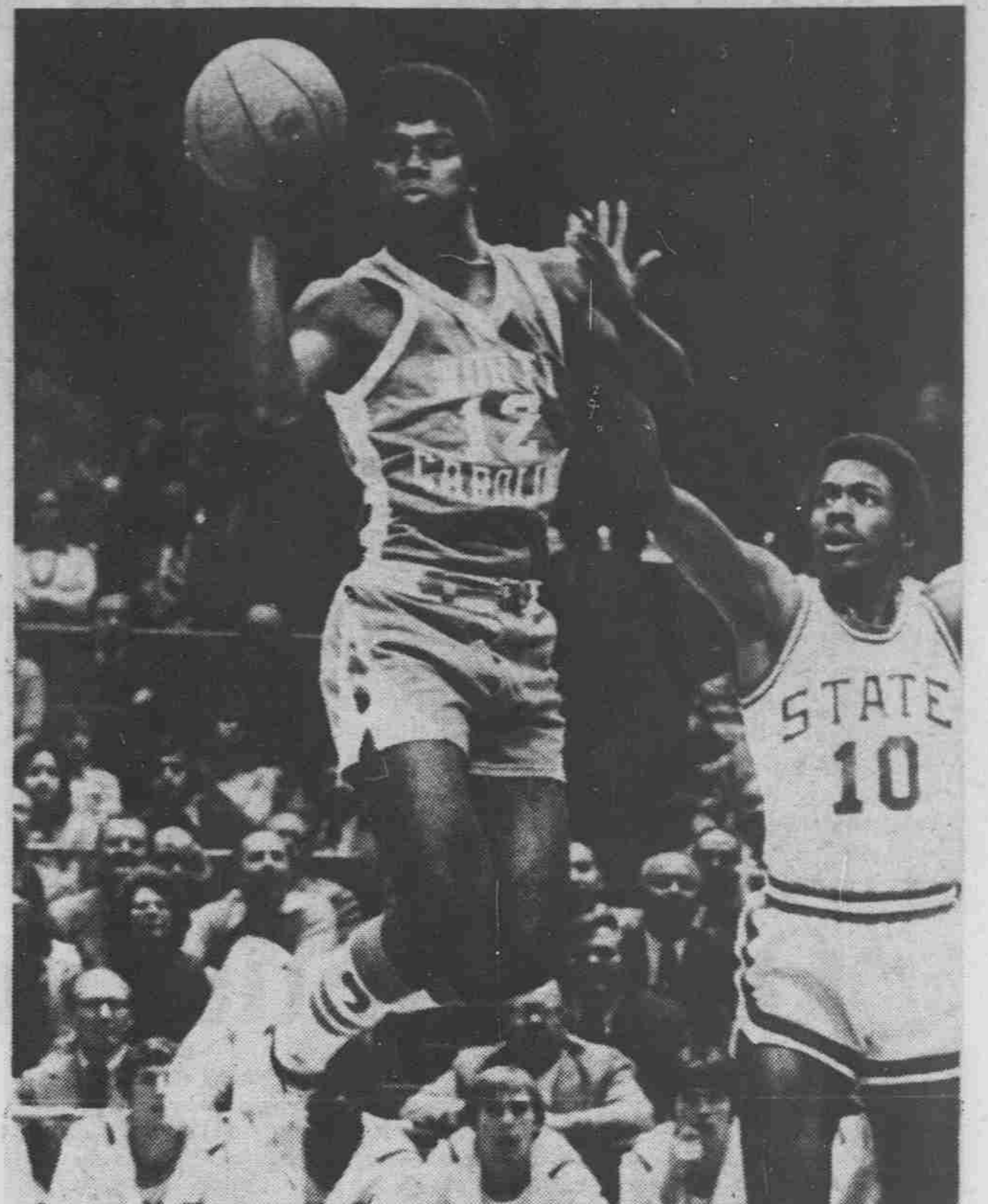
For the Heels a balanced scoring attack is one of their best weapons. Four men are averaging over 10 points a game, led by junior frontcourter 6-9 Mitch Kupchak, with a 19.1 mark. Sophomore Walter Davis follows with 16.8.

Fresh star 6-2 Phil Ford, who got 20 points last Friday and 22 Saturday in the Big Four, owns a 15.1 average. After that tourney, Smith said, "Phil is very good about penetrating the zone and taking the jumper. I think he had a great tournament."

The other guard in double figures (11.0) is senior Brad Hoffman, who also with 37 assists leads the Tar Heels.

Kupchak is hitting 62.6 per cent of his field goal attempts and Hoffman 55.1. The team percentage is 52.8.

Other personnel include 6-10 senior Ed Stahl, who has started at a forward spot and averages about five rebounds and seven points; and sophomore John Kuester, who in a substitute role has made 23 assists. Coach Smith hopes recent practices will improve the team's execution, which suffered over the holidays. For example, when UNC played two days in Spain, travel time prevented much practice.



Staff photo by Gary Lohrsook

UNC's Phil Ford on the move

Art Weiner named as NCAA finalist

Art Weiner, former star footballer at the University of North Carolina, is one of 12 college graduates of 1950 who have been selected as finalists for the NCAA's Silver Anniversary Top Five Awards.

The winners will be chosen by a selection committee and will join the Today's Top Five Student-Athletes as part of the College Athletes Top Ten.

Tony Waldrop, sensational trackman at Carolina, already has been selected as one of Today's Top Five Student-Athletes. He will be honored this week at the NCAA's annual Awards Banquet at Washington, D.C.

Each Silver Anniversary finalist must have been a letter winner in an intercollegiate sport and must have achieved distinction in his chosen profession after graduation.

Weiner is vice-president of Burlington Industries, Inc. He joined that company as a trainee in 1952. His responsibilities with

Burlington Industries include aviation, engineering, chemicals and public relations. He resides in Greensboro, N.C.

As a football player at Carolina, Weiner teamed with Charlie (Choo Choo) Justice to lead the Tar Heels to some of their finest hours in the sport. He made all-America at end and still holds many of the Carolina pass-catching records.

Three of the 12 finalists are college presidents and others represent various business interests. The finalists in addition to Weiner are Bernard Adams, Princeton; David Bolen, Colorado; Robert Folsom, Southern Methodist; Thomas Hoffman, Rochester; Billy Mac Jones, Vanderbilt; William Keating, Cincinnati; William Matthews, Georgia Tech; Ralph O'Brien, Butler; Phillip Ryan, Navy; Thomas Wenzlau, Ohio Wesleyan; and James Williams, Rice University.

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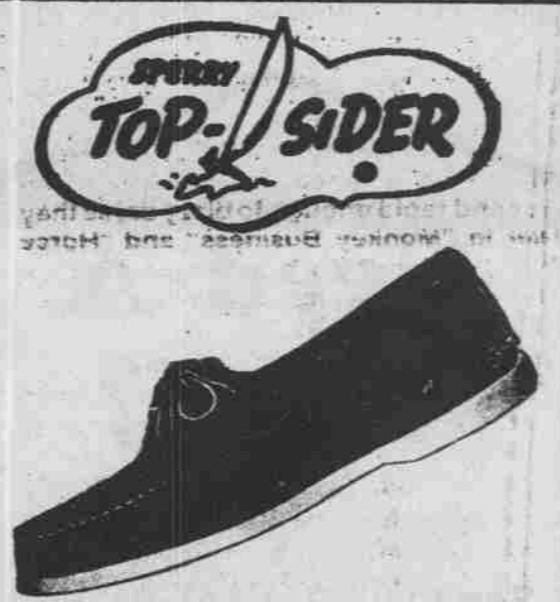
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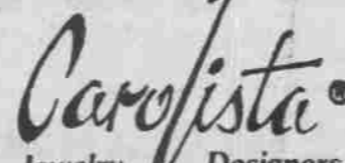


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