



Duke
supers
Spanarkel
and Banks



Duke Fosters hopes of No. 1

Bill Foster's grinning from ear to ear over the talent on his Blue Devil basketball team, which is the team to beat in the ACC—and the nation. Foster hopes he's smiling in March.

by PETE MITCHELL

Cameron Indoor Stadium, as rowdy a place as it is these days when Duke is playing, wasn't exactly civilized back then, either—back in 1975. Bill Foster's second year.

That's the season Duke was 2-10 in the ACC with a roster loaded with no-names and fans who proved more of a nuisance to the opposition than the Blue Devil players themselves. Foster, sweated it out alongside a promising freshman guard—a knock-kneed, pigeon-toed kid with a New Jersey accent named Jim Spanarkel.

That's when it all began. The folks in Cameron sensed they had something good and haven't quieted yet.

It's a long drive up the interstate to Jersey City, N.J., Spanarkel's home town. Keep going and you'll hit Connecticut somewhere near tiny Monroe. That's where 6-foot-11, 245-pound Mike Gminski is from. On the way back, ride through Philadelphia to pick up Gene Banks, a juiced-up muscleman who's well-versed in the city game.

That's the route Foster took. And the returns included three consecutive ACC Rookies of the Year and eventually an ACC championship and a trip to the NCAA finals.

This year, Duke has everybody back plus one of the top five recruits in the nation, Vince Taylor. Duke is the consensus No. 1 preseason choice in the country this fall.

Foster assured the media his team hasn't been

practicing cutting down the nets. The writers handed him the scissors, anyway, registering 107 of their 110 votes for Duke.

"We're the hunted instead of the hunters all of a sudden," Gminski said.

"It's a nice type of pressure to have after three years at the bottom," Foster said. "We've come full-circle."

Carolina people know the pressure well from being ranked alongside Kentucky during preseason last year after finishing second in the NCAA.

Banks, a second team All-ACC player his rookie year, says all he's worried about is the team keeping its head should things go bad at first.

"Our only weakness is in our heads, how we're gonna react to the press and other things if we lose a few," Banks said. "I'm going to act like we're number 25 trying to get in the Top 20 to keep us hungry with something to shoot for. I'm having a theme for every game."

"We shouldn't be thinking about (the rating) anyway," said captain Spanarkel. "Once you get out there, the favorite-underdog stuff goes right down the drain anyway."

In addition to Spanarkel (20.8 average last year), Gminski and Banks, sophomore forward Kenny Dennard and either John Harrell or Bob Bender

will start. Steve Gray, Harold Morrison and Jim Suddath will be in reserve along with Taylor, "Mr. Kentucky" in basketball last year who Foster plucked right out from under Wildcat coach Joe Hall's nose.

"He's in the same situation I was in as the only freshman," Gminski said. "So he's got 11 guys to help him out."

Foster will use Taylor (6-5) at big guard and forward. The schedule includes lots of national television exposure and some tough opponents like Marquette, Louisville and Southern Cal after opening up at Western Kentucky.

"Our goals are the same this year, but the situation is different," said Gminski, who is still hurting from an off-season ankle injury. "Al McGuire came and told us the only pressure we have is what we put on ourselves."

"Everyone is saying 'Beat Duke, Beat Duke' and it's a helluva feeling," Banks said. "We're not immortal, but we think we can win the championship."

"We're about where we want to be at this point," Foster said two weeks ago. "I'm very pleased."

Foster is confident and perhaps enjoying things a bit more than back in '75. But according to his players he's still the same coach. And then there's Cameron Indoor Stadium, rocking as always. But those Devils: how they've changed in such a short time.

Player	Field Goals			Free Throws			Rebounds		Points		
	G	M	Pct.	M	A	Pct.	No.	Avg.	No.	Avg.	
Jim Spanarkel	34	244	.480	330	220	.285	863	110	3.4	708	20.8
Mike Gminski	32	246	.450	547	148	.178	841	319	10.0	840	20.0
Gene Banks	34	238	.451	528	105	.148	719	292	8.8	581	17.1
Kenny Dennard	34	140	.254	.551	51	.78	871	215	6.3	331	9.7
John Harrell	34	68	.14	.485	38	.46	826	34	1.0	174	5.1
Bob Bender	22	41	.84	.488	31	.42	738	32	1.5	113	5.1
Scott Goetsch	32	41	.88	.821	12	.19	832	80	2.2	94	2.9
Steve Gray	25	32	.89	.484	18	.21	857	18	0.7	82	3.3
Jim Suddath	31	30	.82	.484	18	.25	720	49	1.6	78	2.5
Harold Morrison	22	16	.40	.400	13	.17	785	32	1.5	45	2.0
Bruce Bell	21	10	.25	.400	5	.10	500	12	0.6	25	1.2
Rob Hardy	13	8	.14	.571	0	.000	0	0	0.6	16	1.2
Cameron Hall	7	9	.16	.563	6	.7	857	11	1.6	24	3.4
TOTALS	34	1123	.2131	.527	885	841	.781	1295	38.1	2911	85.8
Opponents	34	1047	.2238	.488	434	634	.686	1129	33.2	2528	74.4



No.	Name	Hgt.	Wgt.	Age	Class	Hometown
20	EUGENE BANKS	6-7	205	19	So.	Philadelphia, Pa.
24	HAROLD MORRISON	6-7	200	21	Sr.	West Orange, N.J.
30	JIM SUDDATH	6-6	185	19	So.	East Point, Ga.
33	KENNY DENNARD	6-7	200	20	So.	King, N.C.
43	Mike Gminski	6-11	245	19	Jr.	Monroe, Conn.
44	SCOTT GOETSCH	6-9	215	21	Sr.	Chatsworth, Cal.
12	Vince Taylor	6-5	180	18	Fr.	Lexington, Ky.
14	ROB HARDY	6-3	170	21	Sr.	Columbus, Ohio
21	BOB BENDER	6-2	175	21	Jr.	Crown Point, Ind.
22	JOHN HARRELL	6-0	170	21	Jr.	Durham, N.C.
23	STEVE GRAY	6-2	180	21	Sr.	Woodland Hills, Cal.
34	JIM SPANARKEL	6-5	190	21	Sr.	Jersey City, N.J.

CAPS Denote Letterman

CAR SHOP

SHOP FOR ALL YOUR FAVORITE
BEVERAGES RIGHT FROM YOUR CAR

We specialize in



Kege's of All Kinds

1305
E. Franklin St.

942-2626

The Crêpe Room

FOR A NEW BREAKFAST & LUNCHEON EXPERIENCE

Willow Park Mall
4422 Chapel Hill Blvd.
Durham, N.C. 489-6014

CREPES
QUICHE LORRAINE
GOURMET DINNERS

WINE & BEER
SPINACH SALAD
FLAMING DESSERTS

Breakfast 8-11
Lunch 11-2
Dinner 5-10