

Gamecocks Capture Richmond Championship

Birds Play Maryland Tonight; Virginia Tomorrow

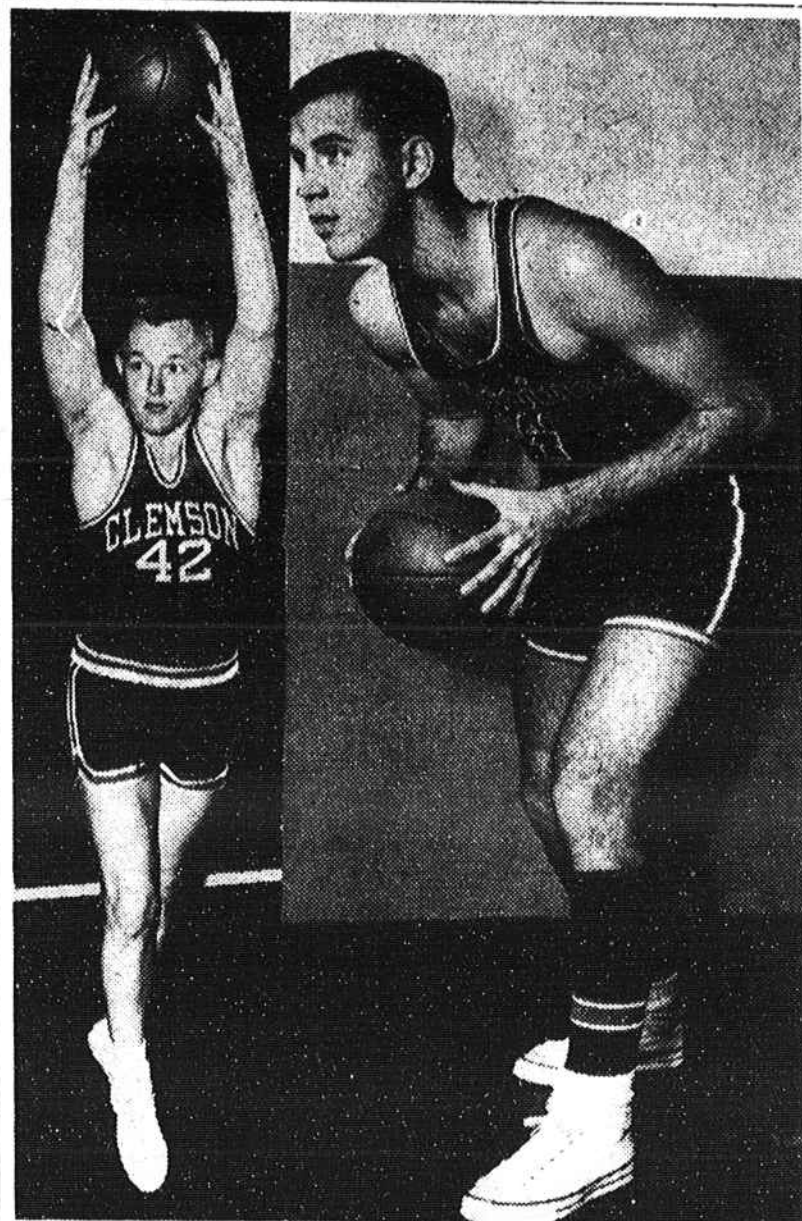
Title Win Surprised Bird Fans

Following losses to Tennessee and Vanderbilt, Carolina got back into the winners' circle by taking the championship in the eighth annual Richmond Invitational Tournament last week.

Entering the tourney a slight underdog with a 2-5 record, the Gamecocks first knocked off host Richmond, 86-75, and went on to win from defending champion Lafayette, 86-85, for the title. Richmond gained third place in the contest with a 71-65 margin over William and Mary.

Art Whisnant and Mike Callahan with 19 and 17 points paced the Carolina scorers in the initial game, but received valuable second half assistance from substitute Bury Hudson, who poured in 14 markers and played a sterling defensive game. Hudson proved especially adept at guarding Richmond's Butch Lambiotte, the tilt's high scorer and the Spiders' most effective weapon.

Callahan was the star of the LaFayette tilt, as he not only led the scoring parade with 35, but his jump shot with only three seconds left spelled victory for the Birds. Carolina piled up a 13-point lead in the waning minutes of play but had to scrap to contain the plucky Leopards. Following Callahan in the scoring department were Art Whisnant with 17 and Fred Luigs with 13. Guard Bob Kauffman led Lafayette with 17.



Clemson guard Choppy Patterson (left) has been pumping in points for the Tiger basketball team this season. Patterson faces the Gamecocks January 16. Virginia guard John Haner (right) has an opportunity to exhibit his form in tomorrow's regionally televised game featuring Virginia and Carolina.

Callahan Moves Up In ACC Total Points

'Long, Hard Trip,' Says Bob Stevens

"It was a long, hard road trip," Coach Bob Stevens said as he relaxed in his office chair after putting the basketball team through a brisk workout. "We have to try to get a little rest before we set off again."

"I was happy with the team's performance in the Richmond Tournament. We had lots of hustle and desire. Those workouts on Davis Field before the season began paid off. We were the best conditioned team in the tournament," Stevens stated.

"There's no satisfaction in losing as far as I'm concerned," the ever-smiling head coach said. "If we had played Florida State just after the Richmond Tournament, it would have been a different situation. The team was dried out for that game; also it was the first home game that Florida State has played. They played eight games on the road until Monday night. The students and home fans gave them a big boost."

Asked to pick the best game the Gamecocks played on their extended trip Stevens hesitated, then replied, "Probably the LaFayette game was our best game offensively and defensively. We played well in that game except for a few mental errors in the last half."

"There's nothing encouraging about playing Maryland and Virginia on the road; but we'll be in there plugging all the way," Stevens concluded as he headed for the dressing room.

Mike Callahan, senior forward and game captain for the Gamecocks boosted himself in the midst of the scoring and rebounding race in the Atlantic Coast Conference. In recent games, Callahan tossed in 35 points on two occasions and 34 on another.

In the Richmond Invitational Tournament the 6-6 Callahan was voted the outstanding player in the event. Against LaFayette in the championship game, Mike's thirty-fifth point won the game for the Gamecocks in the waning seconds.

Last season, Callahan averaged 12.4 points per game and his sophomore year he averaged 12.5. In addition to his scoring, Mike led the Gamecocks in rebounding last season, pulling down 253 for a 10.5 average. At present, he is averaging better than 13 rebounds per game.

Intramural Teams Begin Basketball Early Next Month

The Intramural office is now taking entries in the Independent Basketball League. Teams can be entered by submitting a roster of the players to either Jimmy Usher or Gary McFarlane in the Natorium.

Entries must be in before 5 o'clock January 20. No entry will be considered after this date. Schedules will be made out during the break between semesters and play will begin as soon as next semester gets under way.

Further details on the league can be obtained from the Intramural Office. The old gymnasium will be available for teams to practice the remainder of this semester.

Cavalier Game Set For Video

Carolina's surprising Gamecocks meet Maryland's Terrapins tonight in College Park, in an Atlantic Coast Conference basketball game. Tomorrow night, the Birds move to Charlottesville, Va., where they engage Virginia's Cavaliers in another regionally televised conference game.

The Gamecocks boast a 4-7 record for the season. They have already equaled last year's total wins, four. In conference play, the Birds have won one and lost two thus far.

Coach Bob Stevens has brought the Gamecock basketball team along rapidly, and now appears to be ready to roar into high gear as the team begins conference play in earnest.

Mike Callahan, senior forward and game captain, has taken charge on the floor for the Birds. Callahan, now, is among the top scorers and rebounders in the conference. His near 20.0 per game average leads the team in scoring. He has pulled down 13 rebounds per game playing the iron-man role. Callahan played nine consecutive games without a substitute on the holiday road trip for the Birds.

Sophomores Art Whisnant and Bobby Robinson have given the Gamecocks much needed help offensively. Whisnant currently is averaging 17.1 points per game. Robinson tossed in 14 points against Miami and has become a playmaker at the guard position.

Virginia has a strong, sophomore-laden team. The Cavaliers have a four-six record this season. Only four lettermen returned this season. Guard Paul Adkins leads the ACC in scoring with a better than 20 points per game average. Adkins has scoring help from John Haner, Bob Mortell, Walt Densmore, and a host of sophomores.

Coach Bud Millikan boasts the finest defensive team in the ACC at Maryland. The Terps, led by 6-8 Al Bunge, and 6-2 Jerry Bechtel won the recent Blue Grass Festival Tournament at Louisville, Kentucky. Bob McDonald, 6-7, and Charles McNeil, 6-6, give the Terps the tallest front line in the conference and one of the tallest in the country.

"Maryland is always a contender and Virginia has been getting scoring help from sophomores and has looked good this season," Coach Stevens said.

The Gamecocks return home next Wednesday night to play the Demon Deacons of Wake Forest.

USC Swimmers Meet Davidson, Duke Away

The Gamecock swimming team left this morning for North Carolina where they will swim against Davidson this afternoon. Tomorrow the team moves to Durham to meet Duke.

The Carolina tankmen are looking for their first victory of the young season. Co-Captains John Grunert and Flynn have captured the most points for the Gamecock swimmers in meets held this season.



MIKE CALLAHAN displays his hook shot. Callahan has scored 212 points in 11 games this season while gathering in rebounds at the rate of 14 per game.

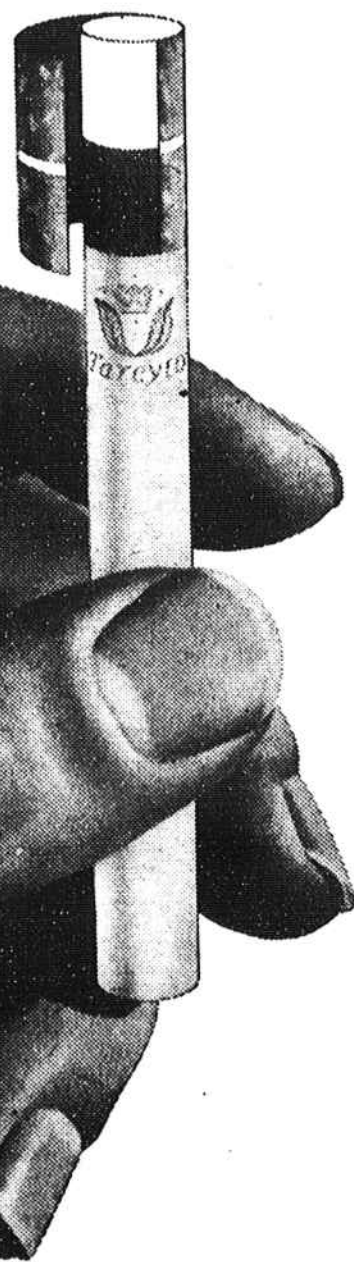
Frosh Play Tonight; Ward Leads Scoring

The Gamecock freshman basketball team gets back into action tonight against North Greenville Junior College in Spartanburg. It will be the first game since the holidays for the Biddies.

All five starters for the Biddies are averaging better than ten points per game. Scotty Ward has hit for 20 points per game, Haney, 13.4, Miller 12.2, Collins 11.9, and Maynard 10.4.

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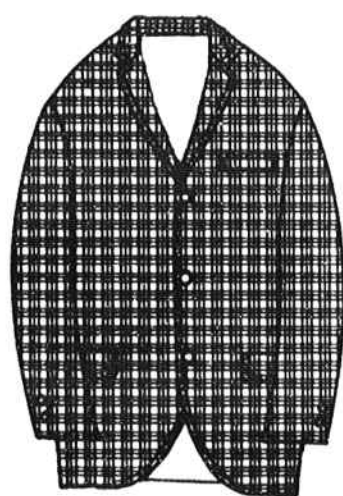
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