

# Sports

## Dogs and Pack took similar routes



Perry McIntyre, Jr.

Fair shows his defensive skills to Syracuse fans

By IVAN ARONIN  
Red and Black Staff Writer

The shock might have already worn off in Tarheel territory, and the folks might just be recovering in the land of Sampson, but in Athens, Ga., and Raleigh, N.C., the NCAA Tournament party is still going strong.

The Georgia Bulldogs head down the road to Albuquerque, N.M., the site of this year's final NCAA Final Four, for a showdown with the field's other "team of destiny," the North Carolina State Wolfpack.

The Wolfpack, like the Dogs, did not conquer its regular season crown, but came on strong at the ACC Tournament to defeat North Carolina and Virginia on successive nights to take the ACC title.

The Dogs finished the regular season tied for fourth in the tough SEC, but breezed through the tournament in Birmingham.

The Wolfpack's success closely resembles that of the Dogs. The Pack is blessed with two explosive guards and a strong power game inside.

Sidney Lowe and Derrick Whittenburg, a pair of senior guards, lead the Pack attack. These seniors, whom Georgia coach Hugh Durham called the "most experienced backcourt in the United States," have played four years at North Carolina State together and were teammates at Dematha Prep in Washington D.C. for three years.

Whittenburg has been averaging 17 points per game this year, but he missed 14 games in mid-season due to a broken foot. Ernie Myers, a 6-4 freshman, filled in for Whittenburg, and Durham said he feels the experience for the freshman gives North Carolina State good depth in the backcourt.

Terry Fair and his frontcourt mates, Lamar Heard and James Banks, have the responsibility of containing Thurl Bailey and Cozell McQueen, State's pair of 6-11 frontliners. Also coming on strong for the Wolfpack is Lorenzo Charles, a 6-7 sophomore, who has

played brilliantly in the playoffs.

Although Bailey, who averages eight rebounds per game, and Charles, who averages six, give State the definite height advantage, Durham said he is still confident about the Dogs' chances Saturday.

"Sure, they are much bigger inside," he said. "But we are quicker and taller in the backcourt. It is just that we both peaked at tournament time."

Durham pointed out that Georgia's hot streak started with the last regular season game against Tennessee. "We began playing exceptionally well in the Tennessee game, and it carried over well to the SEC Tournament and at Greensboro."

However, while Durham said he does not resent the label "Cinderella Team," he said he does feel bitter about some of the coverage of the Dogs during the Eastern Regional Tournament.

"Nobody up there really gave us or Ohio State a chance to win it," he said. "They (the writers) made it sound like we were there to give St. John and North Carolina something to do until Sunday's championship game."

The trip to Albuquerque will be the second time a Durham-coached team will be appearing in the Final Four. He took his Florida State squad in 1972, but lost in the championship game to UCLA in Los Angeles.

This will be the first Final Four fling for Durham's current squad, however. And the Dogs must be excited about making the trip.

Gerald Crosby, said that when Georgia defeated St. John's and North Carolina "we surprised everyone in the country but ourselves. And if we play like we are capable of playing and defeat two more great teams, then the dream will really be fulfilled."

Freshman guard Donald Hartry added, "They (North Carolina State) are tough. They are quick. But coach Durham is keeping us pretty calm. And while Lowe and Whittenburg will still make their points, it will be our job to contain them while our guys score."



Perry McIntyre, Jr.

Banks shoots for two in win over North Carolina

## Dogs teach Yankees a basketball lesson

John Childers



The "Beast of the East" is deceased. Sam Perkins finally knows where Georgia is. And the Yankees are still stuck with Syracuse.

Go Dogs. When Hugh Durham's Bulldogs slushed their way out of the Athens snow last week, they could not possibly have expected to be subjected to the abuse which was hurled on them by the press corps in New York.

But then, of course, the press corps in New York didn't expect the Bulldogs to hurl much abuse on Lou Carnesecca's St. John's Redmen. And certainly, the muffled media minds from "The Big Apple" (and surrounding areas) had no thoughts that Georgia could down the defending national champions in Sunday's final.

I feel quite sure that the Bulldogs will take the swap of surprises and call it even.

The barrage of questions about how the victory over St. John's might transform Georgia from a "football" school to a "basketball" school began as soon as the clock in the Carrier Dome showed :00.

"Do you think this win (over the omnipotent Redmen who must be a far superior team because, after all, they are from New York) will sort of ease the pain left from Herschel's departure?"

The what? I seriously doubt if Durham sat his team down before the game and said, "Look guys, the campus is still reeling because Herschel left. I realize it would be a small token of our sympathy, but let's win this game and try to take at least a small bit of that agony away. Alright men, go get 'em."

The northerners just couldn't get over the fact that Georgia had beaten a team from the Big East.

"Do you think your guys are playing above your heads?"

Let's get real, ya'll. The Bulldogs came out in the first half against the Redmen and didn't play very well at all. They missed shots and didn't black out but still, Georgia stayed close.

If the Bulldogs had played against St. John's the way they played in the Southeastern Conference tournament, the game might have been decided by halftime.

But the questions continued. "Do you think that now maybe people will recognize you when you walk around campus?"

Actually, the basketball team is probably the most recognized group

on campus. Granted, the football Dogs receive more attention on game days but they wear helmets and it's pretty hard to tell what they look like. The basketball team wears very little when it plays and the players tend to stand out (up?) in a crowd. There just aren't that many 6-5, 6-6 and 6-7 people walking around campus wearing Georgia Athletic Department sweat-shirts.

The foolishness continued throughout the weekend. Perkins' comment about his lack of knowledge of Georgia's affiliation to an athletic conference was almost lost in the shuffle of other such remarks.

When the Bulldogs took the court against North Carolina, they virtually had to win in order to pay back all the degradation they had been subjected to.

The win over the Tarheels was much easier than even the most devout Georgia fan could have hoped for. The Bulldogs pulled away from Carolina in the second half and only some giveaway baskets at the end of the game made the score close.

But the Bulldogs were just beginning to experience the sweet taste of revenge.

Like the game, the Dogs were led in their assault on the press by Richard Corhen. The 6-6 sophomore, who had just finished his best game ever as a collegian, entered the press room and calmly waited his turn to answer questions from the writers and broadcasters there.

The questions opened with the usual "are you surprised at your performance?"

Corhen quickly responded that he had no doubt that he could play the way he did.

That's when the fun started. The following dialogue is between Corhen and one of the members of the press in the room that day.

Writer: "That's your role to come in for Terry, right?"

Corhen: "Right."

Writer: "Did you look out of the corner of your eye to see if he (Durham) was going to put you in?"

Corhen: "No."

Writer: "Well how did you know to go in?"

Corhen: "He told me."

Writer (obviously grasping for some way to save face): "Well, what did he say to you?"

Corhen: "He said, 'Richard, go in the game for Terry.'"

Game, set and match; Corhen. The writer was last seen under his chair wondering why he hadn't stayed in med-school.

Corhen was last seen at practice as he and his teammates prepared for this weekend's Final Four and wondering what the temperature will be in Albuquerque.

John Childers is spending Easter in Albuquerque.

## USC: 'just another game'

By KEVIN PROCTER  
Red and Black Staff Writer

Freshman Lisa O'Connor is not any different than any other member of the Lady Bulldog basketball team as far as experience goes. For O'Connor and the rest of the team, Friday night's national semifinal with Southern California will be their first "fabulous foursome" experience.

"We are trying to treat this game just like any other," O'Connor said.

Despite what O'Connor thought, Friday's contest with the second-ranked team in the country before 12,000 people in Norfolk, Va., will not compare to any contest Georgia has ever had.

Southern Cal is 29-2, has the best freshman in the country and has a front line that averages 58.4 points per game.

But despite the pressure that should accompany the Final Four, O'Connor said she is taking it in stride.

"Our play so far has got us here, and I think it will be fun playing in front of all those people," O'Connor said.

The Lady Dogs are riding a nine-game winning streak, and should they claim the national crown they would equal the longest Georgia winning streak ever.

Georgia head coach Andy Landers left for Norfolk Wednesday morning and was not available for comment. Assistant coach Carol Higginbottom spoke for Landers:

"We really don't know what to expect, but basically we're trying not to stress that we are in the national tourney."

So far the Lady Dogs' tournament play has been outstanding. Georgia has won four of the five tournaments it has participated in, losing only in the finals of the Crush Classic to UCLA to open the season.

The Lady Dogs captured the Nike-Carolina Classic, the Southeastern Conference tournament and the NCAA Mideast Regional as well as being named the Outstanding Team in the Dial Classic in Miami, Fla.

On the way to the Final Four, Southern Cal has disposed of Northeastern Louisiana, Arizona State and Long Beach State. Last year the Lady Trojans made it to the Mideast final before falling to Tennessee, 91-90.

In freshman Cheryl Miller, Southern Cal could eventually have the best player ever to play the game. Miller was featured in *Sports Illustrated's* college basketball issue and has earned the Freshman-of-the-Year award. Georgia's Janet Harris claimed the honor last year.

Miller, a 6-2 forward, leads USC caps in scoring with 20.3 points per game. The McGee twins, Paula and Pam, are each 6-3 and average 19.4 and 18.7 points per game respectively.

O'Connor, who will draw one of the McGee sisters in a man-to-man defense, said the only thing she has heard about Southern Cal is its front line.

"All we can do is try to slow down their front line," O'Connor explained. "We just have to play this game like it is our last one. That's how we have been doing it so far."

Old Dominion, which will be playing on its home court, and top-ranked Louisiana Tech meet in Friday's second game at 9 p.m. Georgia and Southern Cal square off at 6 p.m. WUOG 90.5 FM will air the Lady Dogs' contest live beginning at 5:50 p.m. The championship game will be Sunday at 2:30 p.m.

The Lady Dogs have gone from a team who had played in only one NCAA game to one of the top four in the country, and now are one game shy of being in the national championship game.

"I came here to play big-time basketball, but I didn't expect to go to the Final Four in my first year," O'Connor said.

If the Lady Dogs play with the same type of aggressiveness as they have against the Lady Vols, Georgia could have its first-ever collegiate basketball championship.



Guard Lou Sims points the way to No. 1

## Lady golfers in elite field for tournament at Dallas

By MELANIE BURT  
Red and Black Staff Writer

The Lady Bulldog golfers were invited to tee off March 30-April 1 in the first Southern Methodist University Lady Mustang Invitational in Dallas, Texas.

The Lady Bulldogs are one of the 12 teams selected to play in the prestigious SMU tournament. The invitations were extended to the 12 teams on the basis of the results from last year's scores in the national championships in which the Lady Bulldogs finished fourth.

Assistant coach Donna Newnan and Sports Information representative Glada Gunnels are escorting Cindy Pleger, Caroline Gowan, Beans Kelley, Cindy Schreyer and Martha Stacy to the invitational.

Head Coach Liz Murphy will have to miss joining the team on this excursion because she is scheduled to attend press conference with the Georgia women's basketball team in Norfolk, Va., beginning Wednesday.

"We really need to score well in the Lady Mustang Invitational," Murphy said. "We haven't been playing too well thus far this season and need to come through strong now to ensure qualification for nationals."

During the Betsy Ross Invitational March 11-13 in Austin, Texas, the Lady Bulldogs placed eleventh from a pool of 20 teams. Prior to that tournament, Georgia had placed sixth of 18 teams at the Lady Gator Invitational in Gainesville, Fla., and third of 11 teams at the Sun Coast Invitational in Tapron Springs, Fla.



All-America Cindy Pleger