

# Bona In '69? Jr. College Blood?

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RALEIGH, N.C. — What

happened to Bona? The Ironman Five finally

ran out of gas, is the fast answer.

Simple, as that. You need more than five to win the NCAA basketball title.

North Carolina provides the best example. The Tar Heels are tall, talented and most

important, coach Dean Smith can go to the bench — at any time of the game — and ship in fresh blood (he sent in three at one point) and not lose any size.

**THE TAR HEELS** starting five went this way, size-wise: 6-4 and 6-5 in backcourt, 6-10 at center and 6-4 and 6-9 at the forwards. Subs? Try 6-5, 6-6, 6-5, 5-11. That's it — and, that's ENOUGH!

Larry Weise had to work with five men all year. The 22-0 regular season record is testimony to the club's ability.

But, at the end — using just five all the way — proved to be the Brown Indians' downfall.

"We went longer than I thought and further than I thought," the coach said after the two poundings by North Carolina and Columbia.

"We just ran out of gas. Will you try to pick up a couple of big forwards from the junior college ranks to beef up that front line?"

"Right now I'm going to take a couple of days off and then start thinking again," Weise replied.

But you can surmise he'll think about help up front for Bob Lanier and John Hayes next season.

The help from the frosh crew, while excellent, does not have the size needed to cope with the North Carolinas.

Asked about the lack of depth this year, Weise answered:

**"I DIDN'T PLAN** it that way." He meant he had no control over the injuries to Mike Kull or Vinnie Martin, the loss of Willie Mangham (from last year's frosh club) due to academic deficiencies or the loss of Eddie Ahearn (6-5 senior) who dropped out of school because of personal reasons. That left Weise with a bench of inexperienced sophomores.

The Ironman Five, looking back at a tremendous year — and confidently looking ahead to another winning campaign — discussed the situation:

**JIMMY SATALIN:** "Maybe

we were worn down. We had our two worst games of the year. We were due for a bad game. Plus, Carolina, I can't pinpoint what happened. NC overpowered us. Too much size. It's not that we couldn't play them on another night and we would do all right. They played good defense and forced us into a lot of mistakes. My own shooting games? Not the slightest (far off from last four games)? Not the slightest idea what's wrong. I felt I was on. I felt good, I got open, but I don't know what it was. I felt I came out of it the last half of the Columbia game. If I had hit, it would have made big difference. It would have loosened things up underneath."

Satalin was asked about next season:

"Next year? Sure we want to go back (NCAA.) We embarrassed ourselves this year. We need a couple of big forwards. It was so evident in the tournament. North Carolina, Davidson, Columbia. All could throw in 6-5, 6-6, 6-7 size. We had no one. We need some junior college guys. The coach is looking at some. The junior guard from Syracuse continued:

"Five guys can't go 40 minutes the whole game. I'm not talking about guards, but the BIG guys. It's nobody's fault. We just didn't have them. I know I would have been fresher if I had been able to take a break here and there. We couldn't do it with five guys. I definitely think we can come back. After getting bombed in two games, that's an added incentive. We want to show these guys. Sure, we lost Butts (Bill

Butler) and we have no big man (scorer) coming up from the frosh. This was a good year. We are too good a club to get beat by 20 points in those two games. But it's over. Now we can think about next year."

**BUTLER ADDED** his thoughts: "North Carolina played well. Big, strong, fast. Good defense. We didn't have the rebounding strength and didn't have good shooting. We didn't have the reserves. They had men to put in. They ran. They used 9-10 men and all were good."

Next year?

"I think they'll make it. I'm quite sure. I hope they make out a lot better than we did. Our dream was crushed. I would love to have gone to L.A. If we had played better ball, even with North Caro-

lina's size and depth, we'd have given them a good game. But that's neither here nor there, now."

**Bob Lanier,** Bona's 6-11 sophomore All-American, was disappointed about his own poor showing. "I don't want to sound like the Phillies — you know, 'see you next year' — but..."

And then he added: "I'm really disappointed in myself. I wish I could say something to the team for letting them down. It was my biggest letdown of the season. Just didn't have it when I needed it. When I'm down in the dumps, we are all down in the dumps. When I'm not getting my share (rebounds and points), it overburdens the others and they couldn't handle the burden (NC was so big). Next year we'll have basically the same problem."

No size up front. No size is coming up from the frosh next year. We need another big, strong forward."

And Lanier closed: "It was a memorable year."

**John Hayes** was asked if he wanted another shot at the NCAA:

"Sure, all of us do. We didn't play well. Why, I don't know. Can't understand it. The others shot well. We didn't. That hadn't happened to us all year. Next year? Should be good, except we'll be rated before the season starts and won't be able to sneak up like we did this year. Don't know if we'll be better. I can't say how things will work. We won't have much size to go with Bob except for myself and Bubba (Greg Gary, freshman). But Bubba gets up well."



TIME OUT: Coach Larry Weise (kneeling) makes a point or two himself

## Meet The Bonnies

### —The Ironman Five—

**BILLY BUTLER:** Senior, 21, 6-3, 205 pounds. Captain of the Brown Indians — a leader off the court, too — has been treasurer of his class since entering school. No. 1 scorer last year, second to George Carter in rebounding — ranks behind Tom Stith and Freddie Crawford as all-time Bona scorer. Scored 407 points his sophomore year and 484 points in his junior year — topped the 500 mark in 22 games this year. Wants to join the C.I.A. — has excellent body control and can fake and twist his way clear for amazing soft shots around the hoop — An economics major from Washington, D.C.

**JOHN HAYES:** Junior, 21, 6-5, 205 pounds. Knee injury sidelined him last season after five games — had corrective surgery a year ago January — was a question mark before the season started because of that damaged right knee, but after a slow start, settled down to tough board work, his specialty — third in rebounding behind Butler and Bob Lanier — has excellent pair of hands and maneuvers well around the basket — team calls him its "garbage man" and that's a compliment — has knack of picking up everything that's loose and popping it into the

hoop — from Niagara Falls, a business management major.

**BOB LANIER:** Sophomore, 19, 6-11, 265 pounds. The key to Bona's success — as one coach pointed out, the big guy can erase a lot of mistakes — leads the club in scoring and rebounding, naturally — when the Bonnies are in trouble, they look to this guy — has ranked in the top 10 in nation in scoring all season — a lefty, marvelous soft touch for a big man — a sure-fire future All-American — his final three minutes plus of play wrecked Villanova, did the same to Seattle when Pacific Coasters threatened — was named the most valuable player in the Tampa Tournament — high for the year, 39 in destruction of Duquesne — from Buffalo — is majoring in business management.

**BILLY KALBOUGH:** Sophomore, 19, 5-11, 155 pounds. Rooms with Lanier, on campus and on the road — adept ball handler. Excellent pair of hands — good shooter, but doesn't shoot unless he has the shot —

looks for the big men inside — can dribble with the best in backcourt — doesn't lose the ball — The Kid prevented Seton Hall from upsetting the Brown Indians, his outstanding individual effort of the season — works well with Jimmy Satalin — his father, Bill Sr., is coach at RPI in Troy — is a history major.

**JIMMY SATALIN:** Junior, 21, 6-2, 175 pounds. Comeback kid of college basketball — missed last year due to operation for vascular condition adjacent to the brain — definitely a question mark before season opened — just as definitely, a take-charge guy — he won a starting assignment as a sophomore — cool operator — tied the Toledo game with last second jumper — deadly at the foul line under pressure, witness first Canisius game — good dribbler, smart, clever and excellent outside shooter — his brother Fran, played last year on Bona club — his father, Frank, is coach at St. John the Baptist High School, Syracuse — an English major.