Mackovic's philosophy

“The schedule,” he said, “should be one that is attractive to the university, to make an outstanding contribution to the university. But, I think we will be in a position to win.”

“Winning”, he added, “is a nice place to be.”

“What are your priorities in getting started on your job?”

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In addition to this strong feeling and understanding of Wake Forest, Mackovic said he felt he also brought considerable football expertise.

“Winning”

— John Mackovic

By Mary Garber

Staff Reporter

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The Layman

Mackovic, Crum Should Be Successful

In the end, the selection committee seemed deadlocked. After the final session, which had all the suspense of a political convention, Mackovic emerged as the “unanimous” choice.

In the ensuing press conference, the new head coach said that he wanted to develop the Wake Forest program to the point that the Deacons would be in a position to win every game. He placed great emphasis on the passing game.

Mackovic also indicated that James McDougald would be a major part of the offense. Strangely, the word “defense” was mentioned only once during the entire press conference. Given time, this young, energetic, sophisticated coach should put Wake back on track.

Down at Chapel Hill, an interesting solution was found for the vacancy created by the resignation of Bill Dooley. In the early going, UNC assistant Jim Donnan appeared to be the leading contender. Donnan was a four-year veteran of Dooley’s staff. He is a bright, articulate, and dynamic recruiter and obviously, a popular choice of Tar Heel alumni. Over 500 letters and telegrams, plus countless phone calls, were received by UNC officials endorsing Donnan.

When he was not selected after the first week, his stock seemed to drop. East Carolina’s Pat Dye began receiving support for the position. Although the vast majority of his support was from east of Raleigh, Dye seemed to be moving toward the front of the pack. Furman’s Art Baker was seen by an eagle-eyed reporter wandering around the campus and was immediately cast into the role of a leading candidate.

The search committee seemed to be reaching way out when it decided to interview Bill Battle, the former Tennessee coach, and the bespectacled Miami (Ohio) Coach Dick Crum. Those two were interviewed on Thursday afternoon. Many of the committee members seemed undecided until they met Crum, who seemed to have something the others did not.

Crum had an excellent record at Miami, a school known for producing outstanding coaches. He was well-organized, soft spoken, and above all, experienced. The sports world was quite surprised when the announcement came late Friday afternoon that Crum had been selected as the new Tar Heel coach.

Crum is famous for fielding strong defensive teams. His units consistently rank in the top 10 nationally in team defense. Crum will probably stick with the Power 1 on offense, given the fact that Bob Loormis, Billy Johnson, Doug Paschal, and, of course, Amos Lawrence, all return. Crum also has the nucleus of a sound defense returning.

If he can blend the existing talent plus establish a good recruiting program, UNC may be on the verge of national prominence. Crum will be a successful coach, although he is not outgoing or particularly witty. All that will be minimized provided he can be successful on the field.
Mackovic Taking Job at Illinois?

By JOHN MONTAGUE
Sentinel Sports Reporter

Speculation grew today that John Mackovic, Wake Forest's most successful football coach in three decades, will leave his alma mater after only two seasons to accept the head coaching job at the University of Illinois.

"Mackovic is signed, sealed and delivered to Illinois, but wants the announcement delayed until after the Tangerine Bowl," said a member of the Ohio State football staff, who asked not to be identified. The Buckeye assistant coach said he had gotten his information from a close friend at Illinois.

"It comes down to money," Mackovic is reported to have told a close associate.

And a member of the Wake Forest athletic department said last night that he would be "surprised" if Mackovic did not accept the Illinois offer.

United Press International, in a dispatch from Springfield, Ill., this morning, said that Mackovic is said to be sensitive to his responsibility of preparing the Deacons for their Dec. 22 Tangerine Bowl game against LSU. And this is a very critical time in those preparations. Wake resumed practice Wednesday and its heaviest drills are scheduled for next week. The team and coaches are scheduled to fly to Orlando on Dec. 16.

On top of this, the Shrine Bowl will be played tomorrow in Charlotte. This game matches the outstanding high school seniors from North and South Carolina. It is a "must" on the recruiting calendar of all the college coaches in this region and Mackovic plans to be there. Last night he was the featured speaker at the Shrine Bowl banquet in Charlotte.

"I will be in Charlotte for the Shrine game Saturday and we will be practicing here Sunday," Mackovic said last night. "As of now, I have no plans to go to Illinois this weekend."

Continued from Page 1

Illinois, of course, wants to make its announcement as soon as possible. But, if Mackovic is the choice, he may be asking for a delay on the announcement because of his immediate commitment to Wake Forest. This was the scenario that seemed to be developing late last night and this morning.

There were some indications that Illinois might be moving its date back. Although Monday was the first date given, Stoner told the newspaper in Champaign last night that the new coach might be announced by Wednesday, but "probably on Friday."

Stoner told the UPI that the selection process has been delayed because of bowl games involvement of "the greater number" of the five finalists.

Beyond Mackovic, White and Edwards, it is not known for certain who the finalists are. However, of these three, only Mackovic is involved with a bowl game. A fourth name mentioned is Utah State Coach Bruce Snyder. Utah State is not involved in a bowl game.

The identity of the fifth finalist, if indeed there are that many, is not known. But there were strong indications from most of The Sentinel's sources today that the whole matter of the five finalists was academic—that Mackovic already is the choice, if he accepts.

The Illinois job became vacant when Stoner fired Gary Moeller 10 days ago. Moeller was at Illinois for three seasons and compiled a 2-10-3 record, including 0-1 in 1981.

Mackovic has two years remaining on his original four-year contract with Wake Forest.

Coaches often break contracts, just as schools often fire coaches before their contracts are up. But the legal technicalities of this have become more complex in recent years. Warren Powers, for example, had to buy up his contract at Washington State when Missouri hired him away two years ago.

"Unless there is a mutual agreement between the coach and the school he is leaving, it can get messy," Mackovic said in a general interview about coaching moves several weeks ago.

It is not known what Wake Forest's position on the Mackovic-Illinois link is, but he apparently was granted permission to talk to that Big 10 school whereas Dr. Gene Hooks, the Wake athletic director, denied N.C. State a similar request last week.

In his first two seasons at Wake, Mackovic, a 1965 graduate of the school, has produced records of 1-10 and 8-3. Only four other schools in the history of major college football have shown a gain of seven wins in one season. The bowl trip is the Deacons' first since 1948.

Mackovic also has a Big 10 background. A native of Barbentown, Ohio, he broke into coaching under Bo Schembechler, now the head coach at the University of Michigan, at Miami of Ohio in 1966. He also was offensive coordinator at Purdue in 1977, the season immediately preceding his coming to Wake.

WFU's Mackovic Headed to Illinois?

Mackovic, Indiana State Coach Dick Jamieson and San Francisco 49ers backfield coach Mike White were among the five finalists for the job, with an announcement expected next week.

The UPI further quoted Neale Stoner, the Illinois athletic director, as saying it was his understanding that "each of the five prospective candidates will take the position if he is offered."

An effort to reach Mackovic by phone in his office this morning was unsuccessful. His secretary said he could not talk because he had "someone with him" in his office.

However, last night Mackovic issued one of those limited denials that are so common—on both sides—when delicate negotiations are under way. Mackovic told a reporter for the Winston-Salem Journal that he had "no plans" to visit Illinois "this weekend."

It is known that Mackovic already has interviewed for the job, so the possibility that he could be Illinois' top choice is definitely there. A Chicago newspaper has reported that Mackovic and White are the only two still in the running.

If Mackovic and Illinois indeed have come to terms, the problem now would concern timing of the announcement.

Mackovic is said to be sensitive to his responsibility of preparing the Deacons for their Dec. 22 Tangerine Bowl game against LSU. And this is a very critical time in those preparations. Wake resumed practice Wednesday and its heaviest drills are scheduled for next week. The team and coaches are scheduled to fly to Orlando on Dec. 16.

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See WFU's, Page 13.
Mills, Deacons Reach Settlement on Lawsuit

Former Wake Forest football coach Chuck Mills has dropped his lawsuit against the school and its Athletic Director Dr. Gene Hooks in an out-of-court settlement.

Mills' attorney, David Liner, said that by mutual agreement neither side would comment about any terms of the settlement, including any possible monetary arrangement.

Mills had filed the suit Aug. 4, 1978, claiming breach of contract and damage to his professional reputation after being fired as head coach Jan. 3. Mills asked for damages of $151,381 from the school and $302,762 from Hooks.

Mills was fired after compiling a five-year record of 11-43-1. For the past year, Mills has been executive director of the annual Blue-Gray all-star game in Montgomery, Ala., which will be televised Christmas Day by CBS.

Both Hooks and Mills issued prepared statements yesterday.

Mills, according to a release from Wake Forest, said, "My five years in Winston-Salem and at Wake Forest were most pleasant. I regret that problems concerning interpretation of my contract developed after my departure. I congratulate Wake Forest on their success this season, and they have my best wishes in the Tangerine Bowl."

Hooks stated, "On behalf of the university I would like to say that all parties involved at Wake Forest regret any misunderstandings which have arisen during this period. We are delighted that the matter has been settled, and everyone at Wake Forest wishes Coach Mills every success and happiness in the future."

The Mills suit was filed eight months after former Deacon golf coach Ron Roberts had filed a suit against Wake Forest asking $443,000 after his dismissal from that post at the school. It was uncertain Wednesday whether the Mills' settlement would have any effect on Roberts' still pending suit.

Mackovic Still Linked To Illini Coaching Job

Illinois will name its football coach today, but as of last night there was no information whether he would be Mike White, offensive coordinator for the San Francisco '49ers, or John Mackovic, Wake Forest head coach.

White arrived in Champaign last night and was to be interviewed this morning.

John E. Cribbet, who has just been named chancellor at Illinois, indicated that the coach would be announced late this afternoon.

A report from Chicago said that White was accompanied by his wife on the visit to Champaign. He will leave from there for Atlanta where the '49ers play Atlanta Sunday.

The report was that White has not made up his mind whether to accept the job if it is offered to him. White is seeking some considerations from the university.

White has been reported to be the preference of Illinois Athletic Director Neale Stoner because the two men are friends.

Another name came into the picture this week, that of Frank Maloney, coach at Syracuse. Maloney is a former high school coach in the Chicago Catholic League where he won a championship. He also was an assistant at Michigan and recruited the Chicago area. However, Maloney was under pressure at Syracuse earlier this season. Syracuse finished 6-5 and the Orangemen play McNeese State in the Independence Bowl Saturday.

Mackovic was in town briefly yesterday and then went recruiting.

The Deacons resume practice today for their Tangerine Bowl game with LSU on Dec. 22. The Deacons will work today through Saturday. They will leave by chartered plane Sunday for Orlando.

Mackovic's next priority if he remains at Wake Forest is to find an offensive coordinator to replace Mike Working, who was named football coach at Appalachian State yesterday.
A kind of euphoria the last several generations of fans of Wake Forest University's Demon Deacon football team have never known has settled on this community's sports enthusiasts.

A conservative estimate is that 7,000 of them will trek to Orlando, Fla., for the Tangerine Bowl Saturday, enough to pack the planes, buses, trains, highways and byways between here and there with "Proud to Be a Deacon" stickers and empty tangerine baskets.

The trip has to be satisfying for the Wake Forest players and coaches who have worked so hard to earn it. But the true measure of pleasure in this post-season game is most evident in the delight of the Deacons' fans.

Their forebearance through the ne'er-do-well years of recent Deacon football history has been only slightly less than steadfast. In fact, a strong argument might be made that being a Wake Forest football fan during recent years has built more of that fabled "character" than the sport itself.

Nonetheless, patience has been rewarded this season.

Winning eight of the 11 regular season games was probably enough to satisfy most local fans. For them, the bowl encounter with Louisiana State University the whipped cream and nuts on an already delicious sundae.

While much of the credit for the season has to be chalked up to the drudgery painfully coaxed out of the players in endless practice, head coach John Mackovic rightfully gets the lion's share. He has proven his abilities, and what must be a dauntless optimism, this season after beginning his head-coaching career here in 1978 with a record to rival the worst since 1950. If those abilities, and that optimism, are lured elsewhere, a lot of good wishes will go with him. Some regrets would be left behind.

The players also are entitled to no small measure of pride in their accomplishments. Being able to believe in themselves and their own abilities after so many frustrating seasons shows a generous quantity of the patience and commitment that are the basic ingredients of athletic success stories.

When they take the field Saturday, they no doubt will feel that heady swell of pride that goes with their success. Here's hoping they enjoy it, for it is the stuff that good memories are made of.

Winning is, of course, of paramount importance to the players and coaches of a team that would not reconcile itself to losing. But win or lose, their fans' truly good memories of the sweet tangerine flavor in 1979 will be satisfying for years to come.
Pressures of winning

Cheers for Wake Forest — in perspective

The success of the Wake Forest University football team has apparently contributed to a 20 percent increase in the number of applications for admission distributed to prospective students. Morale on the Winston-Salem campus is exceptionally high. Only the hard-hearted fail to feel a special thrill in the Deacons' finest season in three decades and do not root for the team to get into a bowl game.

Consequently, there is a temptation to attribute glorious magic to intercollegiate athletics. Yet, without taking anything away from the achievement of the Wake Forest football program, it is appropriate to point out that the impulse to win, and to continue winning, can have a down side for institutions of higher education.

A 20-member commission of the American Council on Education has completed a three-year study of college athletics and has issued a timely reminder that sports must be kept in perspective. Athletics, says the commission, has to remain in the context of a university's educational mission.

Sadly, the commission, which was heavily weighted with chief executives of colleges, concludes that the drift is in the opposite direction on too many campuses. "Overall," says the ACE report, "there is evidence that increased financial pressures and general economic conditions have created an institutional climate in which the emphasis is on the revenues and expenses of athletics rather than on the institution's educational mission. Campuses that sponsor revenue-producing sports are facing increased, even excessive pressures to win in order to support the athletics program.''

The report has already been challenged by J. Neils Thompson, a former president of the National Collegiate Athletic Association who served on the commission. The Chronicle of Higher Education quoted Thompson as saying that "I felt complete hostility toward NCAA from this commission.''

But even genuine sports fans can see that the commission has raised points that cannot be ignored. The ACE panel is clearly not trying to kill intercollegiate athletics, but properly is urging university administrators not to sacrifice their institutions' souls to the lure of the Top 20.

Actually, many of the same points were made in a 1976 editorial by The Sporting News, which can hardly be accused of being anti-sports. The editorial was based on an interview with Leon Hart, the 1949 Heisman Trophy winner.

"Leon Hart says the ultimate answer to eradicating abuses in college football must come from the presidents of the colleges," said The Sporting News. "If the prexies and their administrators insist on a sane policy, the coaches will have to follow suit or seek employment in other fields. College football should be played by bona fide students who are in college to obtain degrees. Education should be primary and football should be — as it was meant to be — a great extracurricular activity, for those who play it and those who enjoy watching it.''

A key recommendation of the ACE commission is precisely that university presidents and chancellors assume firm responsibility for seeing to it that an athletics program is operated "with integrity." In addition, the commission addresses the role of trustees and athletic directors and suggests that revenue-producing sports should be "part of the institution's financial structure." An athletics program should be conducted under clear policy guidelines and a code of ethics, says the report.

"Collegiate athletics have become one of the most perplexing and controversial areas with which presidents must deal," says the ACE commission. "At the same time, charges persist that some presidents have generally ignored responsibility for the ethical conduct of collegiate sports programs.''

The ACE commission offers a definition of an athletic director's role that is at variance with the general public perception. That person, says the report, "is the administrator of an educational program.''

"A prime function of an athletics program should be to provide for as wide student participation as possible and to enhance development through competition, whether at the club, recreational, or intercollegiate level," says the report. It adds that "factual evidence" should be provided "of equality between men's and women's sports.''

What the ACE commission basically argues is twofold: 1) that an athletics program is secondary to a university's educational mission and 2) that sports should be primarily for the benefit of students and "secondarily...may be of interest to the public.''

Obviously, having a great educational institution and having a winning football team are not mutually exclusive. For example, Wake Forest, one of the South's strongest private institutions academically, won't necessarily suffer simply because its Deacons are winning this year, but it and other schools with successful teams must be careful.

Unless recommendations like those of the ACE commission are heeded, the NCAA might as well drop the pretense that big time college sports are played by "student-athletes." If college football players are not in fact students foremost and athletes second, it would be only realistic to pay them a stipend.

The remark of Harry A. Marmion, director of the ACE commission, given to The Chronicle of Higher Education, deserves repeating: "If key administrators do not get involved, then the inevitable will happen. There will be scandals, government involvement and, even worse, public condemnation.'
Beneath the towering spire of Wait Chapel at Wake Forest University there is a bulletin board notice that reads:
SUNDAY 11 A.M. SERMON, PRAY TO WIN, TAKE YOUR LOSSES. At Wake, as it is called on its Winston-Salem campus, taking losses is sort of a tradition. "For years we've been the Skylab of college football," says one alumnus.

Last season Wake won one game and lost 10. That was nothing unusual. The year before, the Deacons were also 1-10. Wake's 263-394-31 record is second only to Kansas State's as the worst of any "big-time" school. Things got so bad in the '60s and '70s that students, administrators and alumni took to poking fun at Wake's football fiascos. They popularized the bumper sticker WAKE UP. After a particularly galling loss sealed yet another 1-10 season in 1974, one fan stopped his car by a road sign on Interstate 40 outside the campus and whipped out a paintbrush. When he pulled away, the sign read: I-40, WAKE FOREST o. Even Chuck Mills, the Wake head coach in 1973-77, joined in the fun. Once he introduced a new "throw and go" offense. Two seasons—and 19 losses—later he told the press, "It's still throw and go; people come to see us play, throw up and go home." Upon being fired Mills said, "Changing coaches around here is a diversion, not an answer."

But that was yesteryear. Going into last Saturday's game against No. 13-ranked Auburn, the Deacons had won six of seven games. They had knocked off three teams—Georgia, North Carolina and Maryland—that at one time or another this season had been among the nation's Top 20. Most astonishingly, Wake had materialized in the Top 20 itself, at No. 18, the Deacons' first national ranking since 1944.

How did it all happen? Well, Quarterback Jay Venuto says it's "character." Safety Mark Lancaster thinks it's because "we believe." No doubt opponents say they're doing it with rabbits' feet. Wake beat tiny Appalachian 30-23 thanks in large part to recovering a fumble with a minute and a half to play. The next week, at Georgia, a Bulldog last-second field-goal attempt fell short of the crossbar by a foot. Wake won 22-21. The week after that, East Carolina missed a field goal on its last play. Result: Wake 23-20. In a 19-14 victory over Virginia Tech, Wake intercepted a pass to squash a fourth-quarter drive that seemed likely to produce a go-ahead score. Then, at North Carolina, Wake stole the ball on a kickoff return, this time with 47 seconds to play, to clinch a 24-19 victory. By Wake standards, its 25-17 win over Maryland was a rout. "It's amazing," says Athletic Director Dr. Gene Hooks. "Every week I keep waiting for the bubble to burst."

But last Saturday, under a bright blue Carolina sky and before an overflow home crowd of 34,000 at Groves Stadium, Wake's bubble didn't burst; it rose to unheard-of heights. In the first half the Deacons lost four fumbles and had a pass intercepted as Auburn surged to a 38-20 lead. Early in the second half Auburn had a chance to pull away. The Tigers took the kickoff and drove to midfield. Quarterback Charlie Trotman dropped back and lofted a pass to Rusty Byrd at the Wake 10-yard line. Byrd had two steps on Wake's Derek Crocker, but the pass sailed through his hands. From then on the Deacons struggled back. Fol-
LOWING a Tiger punt, Wake marched 73 yards in nine plays for a touchdown. The big gainer was a 31-yard pass from Venuto to Wayne Baumgardner. Venuto then hit Baumgardner for a two-point conversion to cut Auburn's lead to 38-28. Auburn drove back to the Wake 34, but a 53-yard field-goal attempt was wide to the right. Venuto answered by guiding the Deacons on a 13-play scoring drive, James McDougald diving in from the one for the touchdown. Auburn 38-35.

With just 4:38 gone in the fourth quarter, Wake scored again to take a 42-38 lead, Venuto completing four passes for 57 yards and McDougald sweeping the right side for his fourth TD of the day to cap a 12-play 77-yard drive. But Auburn wasn't finished. The Tigers advanced from their own 20 to the Deacons' three, mainly on the running of James Brooks, who gained 117 yards for the day. But with third and goal from the three, Trotman fumbled a hand-off and the ball popped on top of a pile of linemen, where Deacon Linebacker Carlos Bradley grabbed it. Wake could not get a first down and had to punt with 2:17 left. Auburn took over at the 50. Trotman kept for a gain of five yards, then threw an incomplete pass. On third down the Tiger quarterback let loose a long pass, but just as Flanker Byron Franklin glued under it at the Wake two, Larry Ingram leapt in front of him and intercepted the ball and Wake ran out the clock.

Earlier, in the second quarter, Franklin had turned Ingram around on a pattern and hauled in a 33-yard scoring pass. "Awhile after the play, Coach [John] Mackovic came up to me and said I could do one of two things," Ingram said later. "I could fold and put my head between my legs, or I could go back out and play ball. I went out. I thought if anything comes my way, it's mine."

Mackovic, 35, is the cockeyed optimist responsible for Wake's about-face. In 1964 he quarterbacked the Deacon team that featured Running Back Brian Piccolo, an experience, he says, that helps him understand the problems of developing a winning team at Wake Forest. It is a picturesque and well-thought-of Baptist school but one with a small enrollment (3,143), high academic standards and, to put it mildly, no winning tradition. Two years ago Mackovic was the offensive coordinator at Purdue, where Head Coach Jim Young had him design the attack and call the plays. Last year he applied for the job at Wake because it presented "an opportunity rather than a challenge." He wanted to be a head coach and the Wake job was open. Mackovic believes strongly in the power of positive thinking. On a bookshelf in his office are Success Through a Positive Mental Attitude, Think and Grow Rich, Psychocybernetics, The Magic of Thinking Big, See You At The Top ("by Zig Zeglar, a great one," Mackovic says) and just about every other self-help book published in the last decade. He studies The Memory Book by Harry Lorayne and Jerry Lucas and has taken three-day seminars in motivation and time management. He enjoys reading Edgar Cayce, the late seer who predicted, among other things, the rise of Atlantis. Cayce might have been wrong now and then, but he was always enthusiastic. So is Mackovic. He remembers the first words he said to his 1978 Wake team. "It was an eight-word speech: 'Never, never, never, never, never, never, never, never give up.'"

After the 1978 team had finished its 1-10 season, Mackovic entered the locker room with a solemn face. Some players figured it was harangue time. Instead, Mackovic said, "I'm proud of you. You played the last game as hard as the first." To people who knew Mackovic it seemed like miracles, he told his assistants. They have become something. This Saturday when the Deacons were crushed 39-0 by Maryland. So impressed with the strength and conditioning of the Maryland players was Mackovic that he asked Terp Coach Jerry Claiborne how he did it. Weight training, said Claiborne. The next day Mackovic instituted a mandatory year-round weight-training program for the Deacons. Last year, he says, maybe two of his players could press their weight 15 times. Now 75% of them can. By this fall, Offensive Guard Syd Kitson, a 232-pounder in 1978, weighed 252 and was twice as strong. Bill Ard, the other guard, added 30 pounds, up to 262. "We don't get pushed around anymore," says Mackovic.

The program also helped McDougald, Wake's alltime leading rusher (3,381 yards), and Nose Guard James Parker, a quick tackle who is the emotional heart of Wake's defense. After the win over Georgia, Parker stumbled off the field and fell to the ground. His teammates thought he was injured. But Parker was just being Parker. He cried, then laughed, and before getting up grabbed a handful of turf and stuffed it in his sock to take back home.

But if weight training helped McDougald, Ard, Kitson and Parker, it resurrected Jay Venuto. Concentrating on strengthening his legs, the junior quarterback lost 20 pounds and has become quicker and more elusive. Last year he was a redshirt who had yet to take a varsity snap. During spring practice this year, Offensive Coordinator Mike Working called him into his office. He showed Venuto statistics of the three most recent scrimmages.

"Who do you think ought to be our No. 1 quarterback?" Working asked.

"I think I should."

"So do we," said Working. "From now on you line up at No. 1."

Right now Venuto is the nation's 13th-ranked passer and fifth in completions with 153 (out of 270 attempts) for the season. On Saturday alone, by completing 23 passes for 358 yards against Auburn, he broke four Wake passing records, two of them—season yardage (2,000) and attempts (270)—held by Norm Snead since 1960. "I can't really justify what's happened to me," Venuto says. "I dreamed about it. I had a bit of it in high school. It seems like everything's happening so fast. I haven't had a chance to pinch myself and say, hey, wake up."

"His greatest asset is awareness," Mackovic says. "Once he knew where everybody on the field would be, his confidence just soared."

Two days before the Auburn game, Mackovic spoke at a Wake boosters' luncheon. "It would be wrong to think that Wake Forest has arrived," he told his audience. "It isn't as if we've suddenly become an ACC power. But they sure have become something. This Saturday they take on 5-2 Clemson. Better wear your lightning rods, Tigers.

continued
The Student Athlete

Some edifying words about student athletes were heard on the air over the weekend. Whenever a college football game is on radio or television, it is accompanied by edifying words about student athletes, about the importance of intercollegiate athletics in a rounded educational program and about the vital role played by the National Collegiate Athletic Association. The edifying words are composed by writers for the N.C.A.A.

Student athlete is a term susceptible to various definitions. It can mean a biochemistry major who participates in sports, or a Heisman Trophy candidate who is not necessarily a candidate for a bachelor's degree. Some student athletes are more studious than athletic, and vice versa.

There is at hand a piece written by a student athlete in his senior year at a major university that has been polishing young intellects for more than a century. He is an attractive young man, short months away from graduation, the best passer than Richard Spelvin, the starting quarterback. The young man said he would write the answer "like it was a quiz."

What follows is an exact copy of the young man's answer. That is, it is exact except for the names. The quarterbacks are not really named John Doe and Richard Spelvin and the university's athletic teams are not known as the Yankees.

"People (Some) feel that Doe did not have the ability to run the type of offense that the yankees ran. He also made some mistakes with the ball like fumbling."

"As a wide receiver it didn't make me any different who quarterback. But I feel he has the best arm I ever saw or play with on a team. Only why I feel the I about the quarterback position is because I am a receiver who came from J.C. out of state I caught a lot of pass over 80 and I did not care a damn thing but about 24 in one year."

"Spelvin is my best friend and quarterback at my J.C. school. Spelvin has an arm but when you don't throw a lot of half the time I don't care who you are you will not perform as best you can. Spelvin can run, run the team and most of all he makes little mistakes."

"So since they didn't pass Spelvin was our quarterback. But if we did pass I feel Spelvin still should of start but Doe should have play a lot. Tell you the truth the yankey's in the pass two years had the best combination of receivers in a season that they will ever have. More — ask to talk about politics alum Doe problems just before the season coaches hate."

The last appears to be a suggestion that alumni politics may have played a part in the coaches' decision on which quarterback would play first string. However, the professor who forwarded this material did so without comment or explanation.

The importance of disguising the names of these student athletes and the identity of the university is obvious. It would be unforgivable to hold a kid up to public ridicule because his name in headlines, has heard crowds cheering him, has enjoyed the friendship and admiration of his peers and he has a diploma from a famous university. It is unconscionable.

Red Smith

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Mackovic Denies Illinois Signing

From Journal Staff Reports

Coach John Mackovic of Wake Forest denied yesterday that he had made any agreement on any new coaching position.

An unidentified Ohio State assistant was quoted yesterday as saying that Mackovic was "signed, sealed and delivered to Illinois, but wants the announcement delayed until after the Tangerine Bowl."

Mackovic, who has hedged in some of his statements on the Illinois job, did not hedge this time.

"I have not made any agreement on any coaching position," he said. "It is unfortunate that anyone must undergo daily interrogation on stories like this that crop up.

"It is preposterous that someone would make a story out of a statement that an assistant coach at Ohio State made."

Neale Stoner, Illinois athletic director, could not be reached for a statement. According to a secretary, Stoner was "interviewing a candidate" and could not be disturbed.

Reports from Champaign said that Dick Jamieson of Indiana State was being interviewed yesterday and that Mike White, the offensive coordinator of the San Francisco 49ers, was scheduled to visit the Illinois campus Wednesday.

Stoner had said earlier that he hoped to make the announcement of the new coach next week, perhaps by Wednesday but more likely by Friday.

Mackovic was in Raleigh last night to attend the North Carolina Sports Hall of Fame banquet. He will go to Charlotte today for the Shrine Bowl game. He plans to return to Winston-Salem Sunday for a Wake Forest practice session in preparation for the Tangerine Bowl game.
KANSAS CITY, MO. — One almost wished the Vanderbilt football team could have heard Coach John Mackovic as he spoke about Wake Forest’s turnaround.

“What we did at Wake Forest (1-10 in 1978, 8-4 in 1979) could happen to any program,” Mackovic said in an interview Monday at the National Collegiate Athletic Association’s College Football 1980 Preview. “What it takes is a great deal of mental as well as physical work, a lot of believing, a lot of overcoming.”

“When I came to Wake Forest from the Purdue staff two years ago, all I heard was negative things. It didn’t take me very long to find out that the real problem was those saying we had problems.

“Our ’79 season was no miracle. It resulted from promoting what we believed in, and the feeling of the players that they were going to win if we gave them the right kind of coaching. We’re not going to leave it there. We’ll continue to be competitive.”

I suspect George MacIntyre, whose team was 1-10 in his first season as Vanderbilt coach, would echo some of Mackovic’s statements should there be a startling reversal in the fortunes of the Commodores next fall.
Wake Coach’s Secretary Runs Great Interference

Maybe it's best I didn't get John Mackovic on the phone. I only wanted a few minutes of his time — regarding wine.

Mackovic is the cerebral young football coach at Wake Forest, an institution of solid academics and no little beauty. Wake Forest is also known as a "church" school, so maybe Mackovic wouldn't have resorted to the spirits idea.

Admittedly, times have changed. Some time ago, Wake Forest didn't allow dancing on campus — and a request to play a College World Series baseball game on Sunday became a major crisis in the 1950s.

The hierarchy in Winston-Salem has become more worldly. If Mackovic is a wine buff, school officials no doubt figure it's his business, particularly after he guided the Demon Deacons to a season and a bowl game last fall.

Last week I called Mackovic's office, hoping he would enlighten us on his technique of tasting and choosing the proper dinner wine. Mackovic's secretary is not hostile, but let us say the President Carter's Oval Office isn't protected with more concern.

"I'd like to speak to coach Mackovic," I said.

"He can't be reached right now."

"How about later?"

"He's in meetings regarding spring practice, and I can't say when he'll be available. Can I have him call back?"

I told her I'm in and out of the office, but if she would suggest a general callback time, I'd make a point to place it. By this time, the blood pressure is up, how about calling him Friday?"

"He won't be in town."

"How about Saturday morning?"

"I can't give you one," she said. "OK, how about calling him Friday?"

"He won't be in town."

"How about Saturday morning?"

"No."

"How about Saturday afternoon?"

"I'll tell him," she said. "Who did you say you are with?"

I supplied name, rank and serial number. "And what will be the nature of the interview?"

"By this time, the old blood pressure is somewhere between 200/300 and little dots are bouncing before my eyes. I asked her if she was with the FBI."

"After that, I didn't much care if I learned about wine or quarterback Jay Venuto's arm operation or any game plans."

"Face it. Some people are more difficult to reach than others. Some aren't."

Old man Phil Wrigley, late owner of the Chicago Cubs, watched his factories produce enough chewing gum to fill Grand Canyon. He was a multimillionaire and doubtless held conferences on the hour. He answered his own phone.

Chicago White Sox owner Bill Veeck does the same. Call Veeck, as in wreck, and if he's at the park, he answers the phone without an intermediary.

I began to wonder how difficult it would be to reach Alabama's Bear Bryant, who must be busy after after the Crimson Tide went unbeaten and again was acclaimed NCAA football champion.

Alabama has won 21 straight games, the last being its Sugar Bowl domination of Arkansas. I dialed Bryant, expecting the old "coach-is-in-eight-meetings" routine. The lady said, "Just a second." Bryant was on the telephone before I could think of a question.

"Glad I caught you before busy spring workouts begin," I said.

"We're in our fifth day of practice," drawled Bryant. "Things are going pretty good."

"Staying on the go? I wondered."

"I got an agent who handles the outside things," said Bryant, whose voice has the resonance of a man on the low side of a kettle drum. "I got the doctor's letter from my doctor. He says I'm getting too old to be moving around so much."

The physician is the only one in Tuscaloosa who talks back to Bryant. Next day, Bear checked into a hospital with a touch of pneumonia.

I wish him godspeed. We need more coaches who answer their telephone.
Willing It

Wake Forest football coach
John Mackovic
has made believers of his players,
and accomplished
a minor miracle last fall.

By Kent McKeithan

Despite prognostications to the contrary by many august observers (we won’t cite any examples), Wake Forest University’s football squad, under the leadership of Coach John Mackovic, finished the 1979 season with an 8-4 record and a Tangerine Bowl appearance. Not since the D.C. Walker team of 1950 had the Deacons won twice as many as they lost. The nearest season with even a majority of wins was 1971 (6-5). That was a repeat of the ’70 season (both under Cal Stoll), then there is a stretch back to Paul Amen’s 1959 team to find a winning season.

Clearly, John Mackovic has accomplished something rare. We went over to talk with him to see how he’s doing it, and to see whether there might be something to learn for those of us not directly involved in sports. We weren’t disappointed.

We found him in his newly redecorated office, resembling more of a corporation executive than one usually associated with a football coach. Walnut panelled walls were hung with oriental prints — a Tang horse, boat scenes, a couple of empresses. A tiny occasional table stood beside a potted plant with graceful green fronds. Armchairs and a sofa formed a comfortable conversation group, flanked by the richly shining walnut desk. No trophies (they’re outside in the case). No schmaltzy school pennants or football memorabilia of any kind. An office to — as Mackovic wanted — inspire confidence.

After a series of questions about Mackovic’s view of football (“I prefer to think that football is just a microcosm of life, and too many people have put football bigger than life, almost . . .”), his reasons for going into coaching, views on discipline and such, we asked, “Given your philosophy of coaching, how do you focus it so that it results in a winning team?”

“We coach and teach everything based upon two things: success and happiness,” Mackovic said, “We all want it, we all deserve it, we’re all entitled to it. If you’re not getting your fair share, it’s your fault — you need to go look for it a little harder. When I came here, the players had very little success, very little happiness. They weren’t bitter about football, but they weren’t happy — they tolerated football.”

“And yet they stayed in it. That’s the amazing thing,” we said.

“Well, it’s not because they had to stay, or they stayed in for punishment. It’s like anything else: they’re here, it’s an opportunity, they’ve started down one path and they just don’t care to change. They know they can change at the end of four years — they can go their own way, like so many others have done here. So many others have tolerated the situation and finished it out, then said, ‘I’m going on my way and I’m going to find something else to do where it won’t be like that.’

“But the one thing that was prevalent when I did come was a real desire by a lot of — well, most of — the players to win, to be different, to change. And I thought that was good, and so went with that.”

Then, illustrating his philosophical priority of the individual over the team: “But we talked about you should have success — not just the guys at other schools. You should enjoy and be happy about playing football. You should enjoy walking across the campus and going to class, and you shouldn’t have to duck and hide and hold you head down, and you should feel that if someone introduces you as a Wake Forest football player that you’re very proud about that, and that someone isn’t going to make some wisecrack about you.

“And that’s why I challenge any wisecrack about Wake Forest football — openly, doesn’t matter — pick a fight with anyone, anytime, who says anything that I don’t like about Wake Forest football. Most of the times it’s just little biting comments, but there’ve been enough biting comments . . . you have to draw a line at a certain place and say, OK, I’m not going to tolerate that any more — I’m
Fall Means Tailgate

Football is, with no doubt, one of the high points of autumn. The two are practically synonymous. And almost as important as the games themselves are the rituals that surround them.

One of those fall customs entrenched in North Carolina is the tailgate party. And with good reason. Why contend with last-minute traffic, full parking lots and long lines at the fast-food joint when you could arrive early and while away the time to kickoff with pleasant company and home-cooked food amid the groves of alma mater?

In the spirit of the season, Ann Lynch of Winston-Salem has put together a tailgate party menu from her Junior League's Winston-Salem's Heritage of Hospitality.

"Tailgating," Ann says, "is as much a part of this town as the Moravian Christmas celebrations." And it's no less a part of Durham, Raleigh, Chapel Hill or wherever football is in the autumn air.

CHEESE DREAMS
2 cups butter
1 lb. sharp cheddar cheese, grated
4 cups flour, sifted
1/2 tsp. salt
Cayenne
Paprika

Cut butter and cheese into flour. Add salt and cayenne. Roll out to a thickness of about 1/4 inch. Cut with a small, round cutter. Place on ungreased baking sheet and sprinkle tops with paprika. Bake at 325 degrees for about 15 minutes or until done. Do not allow to brown.

HERB VEGETABLE DIP
1 cup creamed cottage cheese
1/4 cup sour cream

1 cup mayonnaise
1 Tbls. parsley, chopped
3 Tbls. chives, chopped
2 garlic cloves, minced
2 Tbls. onion, grated
1 tsp. worcestershire sauce
1/4 tsp. hot pepper sauce
1/4 tsp. paprika
1 Tbls. sesame seeds
Salt and pepper to taste


MAYNARD'S SUBMARINE SANDWICH
1 submarine loaf or one flat loaf of French bread, sliced lengthwise
Spicy brown mustard
2 small red onions, sliced
Slices of turkey
2 firm tomatoes, sliced
Mayonnaise
Slices of ham
Lettuce
Garlic salt
Swiss cheese
Salami

Spread mayonnaise, ham, lettuce, salt, cheese, salami, tomatoes, turkey, onions and mustard — in that order — on bottom half of bread. Add top half and secure with toothpicks. Slice crosswise for serving. Be generous with hot or spicy ingredients and let meat slices and cheese overlap.

ST. PAUL'S CHICKEN SALAD
In November each year, a Christmas bazaar is held at St. Paul's Episcopal Church. A popular feature of the bazaar is lunch with a choice of St. Paul's famous chicken salad served with hot fruit and lasagna.

To coarsely chopped cooked chicken, add diced celery, chopped stuffed olives, Durkee's dressing, blanched sliced almonds, sieved hard-cooked eggs, salt and white pepper to taste and mayonnaise to moisten.

HARVEY WALLBANGER POUND CAKE

Cake
1 pkg. yellow cake mix
1 pkg. (3 3/4 oz.) instant vanilla pudding
4 eggs
1/2 cup cooking oil
1/2 cup orange juice
1/2 cup Galliano
Glaze
1 cup powdered sugar, sifted
1 Tbls. orange juice
1 Tbls. Galliano
1 tsp. vodka

Cake: in a large bowl, combine cake and pudding mixes. Add eggs, oil, orange juice and Galliano. Beat on low speed for half a minute and on medium speed for 5 minutes. Bake in a greased tube pan at 350 degrees for 45 minutes.

Glaze: combine all ingredients and dribble over warm cake. Let cake cool completely before cutting.
going to stand up. I’m going to be a stand-up guy. We talked about that for a couple of years. Be a stand-up guy — don’t let someone say, ‘Well, maybe you’ll win a couple of games this year.’ Don’t let someone else tell you what you can and cannot do.”

Mackovic went on to talk about setting goals, measuring progress and assessing attitudes, all of which may sound quite trite, but it came from him with an enthusiasm built on an underlayer of certainty — a feeling that he knew it worked because he’d worked it himself.

His primary emphasis, however, is on belief in one’s ability to accomplish a goal; wanting something, no matter how strongly, is not sufficient for its attainment. Notwithstanding that desire has been called the key to accomplishment by generations of coaches (and teachers/motivators of all sorts), Mackovic asserts, “I don’t think that is correct. What is correct is: do you really believe that you should have it, can have it, will have it — if you really think that this is something worthwhile to you and that you can have it, that you will have it, then you can have it, and when you believe it, then you do the things that are necessary to accomplish it.”

So that’s how the man builds a winning team. He first creates the mental framework wherein belief in success is possible. This is, as he sees it, the vital step. Then he institutes the necessary training and practice measures (including innovations like weightlifting) to provide the “machinery.”

As training improves the body and its reflexes, simultaneously the emotional/mental stance is strengthened, both by the realization of improving physical condition and by the intentional taking in of belief-enhancing messages (words from the coach, positive-thinking literature, teammates’ optimism). Mackovic reinforces this growth with visible, solid success symbols (his office, new equipment), and by verbally challenging any detractors from outside.

Will it continue to work? We think it will. The principles are sound and their interpreter is strong in the very belief he teaches. Look for Wake Forest in the winner’s column this fall.

Kent McKeithan is a full-time freelancer in Winston-Salem.
On the fertile acres of Contentnea Neck stands a house that is one of the few reminders left in Lenoir County of the time when the British ruled the land and the county was named Dobbs.
— Lenoir County News
October 13, 1948

Built by the Whitfield family before 1790, the house named Lafayette was purchased along with nearly 500 acres of land by John Patrick Dunn in 1820. Dunn's daughter Laura Jane Dunn Wiggins inherited the house in 1857. In 1890 it passed into the hands of B.W. Canady, then for nearly a century Lafayette remained at first a tenant home, then a vacant house.

Gerald Tripp's family had farmed the surrounding land for nearly 50 years, and almost from the day he married Jeannie Warrick, he sought to buy the house.

They saw it being scarred by vandals, abused by youngsters and suffocated by weeds and vines. It took ten years, but eventually they convinced the owner to sell.

The bank had already closed that day in April 1979 when the purchase became final. Gerald and Jeannie slept with the deed. "If we have to jump out of the window tonight," Gerald said, "This is going with us."

Maxine Harker is a freelance journalist in Grifton.

Relics of Lafayette's career as a "haunted house" were everywhere when the Tripps moved in.

"Oh my," her mother gasped, "I hope it doesn't look that bad on the inside."
"It looks worse," her grandson informed her. The grandson refused to go inside.

Living with a piece of history.

By Maxine Harker

Jeannie recalls when her mother came to see the house for the first time. "We turned into the front yard. 'Have we missed it already?' No, I told her, that's it — right there.'"
I Don't Think I Can Fail

John Mackovic Shares With 'The Lutheran' Magazine the Reasons for His Success

By VIRTIE STROUP

Sentinel Religion Reporter

John Mackovic, former football coach at Wake Forest University, is the subject of a major three-page feature in the current issue of "The Lutheran."

Mackovic, now in his first season as head coach of the National Football League's Kansas City Chiefs, is called "The Chiefs' Coach" and "a man of faith."

In the article by Floramae Geiser, Mackovic is quoted as saying that at the time of his confirmation, he made a conscious decision to be an active member of the Lutheran Church and he has honored that commitment despite the demands of being a coach. In Winston-Salem, he was an active member of Lutheran Church of the Epiphany.

In the article, he said he accepted his current position against the advice of friends and professional acquaintances — who pointed out that the Chiefs' last four head coaches had been fired as management sought a coach that's where his expertise lies.

The article said Mackovic's rise in coaching began in 1979 at Wake Forest, where he helped end a string of losing seasons, leading a nationally ranked team to the Tangerine Bowl. That also was the year he was named Coach of the Year by Atlantic Coast Conference sportswriters and by "Sporting News" magazine and was the runner-up choice by United Press International.

Mackovic said during his three years at Wake Forest, he consulted his pastor, the Rev. Paul L. Conrad of Epiphany, "as close a friend as any I had in North Carolina. We had breakfast together. We was a good ear. We went through tough times there, but I could talk to Paul about anything. There aren't many persons a coach can confide in that way. Paul came and talked to the team, too.

"We had many nice friends at Epiphany. Mackovic recalled. The congregation was small and friendly, he added. Mackovic ushered, taught adult Sunday school, helped in the nursery and attended services, which wasn't always easy because that was a time of meeting with student prospects.

Mackovic even preached one summer Sunday and his topic was, "I believe in Miracles." During his talk, he said, "We experience many miracles every day but if we're not looking for them, we don't find them."

One of his favorite miracles, he said, was his 8-year-old daughter, Aimee, who has a congenital heart defect. She had open-heart surgery at the Mayo Clinic when she was 15 months old. Aimee, along with first-grader John III and wife, Arlene, make up Mackovic's family.

While in Texas, Mackovic said, he didn't have a "choice" in where he went to church. Conrad "made sure we weren't looking for them, we don't find them."

John Mackovic: "We experience many miracles every day but if we're not looking for them, we don't find them."