By Karen Rosen Staff Writer

Basketball has again found a winning expression on the Maryland campus.

"Any time you can bring smiles to kids' faces, that's my reward," said Maryland coach Bob Wade.

Last year the Terrapins plodded through an 0-14 ACC schedule. This season, Wade's second, they have emerged from the shadow of Len Bias' death and coach Lefty Driesell's forced departure to lead the conference at 2-0. At 9-3, the Terps have equaled last year's total number of wins against 17 losses.

"Everyone here," said Wade, "is just bub-

bling with excitement."

The bubble could burst tonight when Maryland plays No. 2 North Carolina in Cole Field House (9 p.m. ESPN). Then it's No. 7 Duke on the road Saturday.

"We're playing a team that's probably the hottest in the league," said Duke coach Mike Krzyzewski.

"We're not the hottest team. We just won a couple of games," said senior forward Derrick Lewis.

But they were ACC games, 93-76 over Wake Forest, then 68-53 over Clemson.

"They're generating a lot of excitement and rightfully so," said Krzyzewski. "They're very talented, very deep ... and big. They're jelling. The more victories they get, the more confidence they seem to have."

Last season the program was in a shambles. Because of the furor surrounding Bias' cocaine-related death and reports of poor academic standards for the team, the university limited the Terps' practice time to 18 hours a

week. They didn't play their first game until Dec. 27, and never shook off the stigma. Two players flunked out. Keith Gatlin returned this season and Terry Long didn't. Tony Massenburg was suspended for cheating on an exam, but he, too, has returned.

This year, Wade said his team has exceeded his expectations. "We used to have the fatigue factor, or didn't have experience down the stretch," he said. "Now we have people who can handle the basketball and get the job done at the end of the game."

All of Wade's starters from last year's team came back, and then some. Junior-college transfer Rudy Archer, considered by some the best point guard in the country last year, is the Terps' leading scorer.

"We're not going to overpower anybody," said Lewis, the ACC's leading returning scorer and rebounder. "We just play as best as we

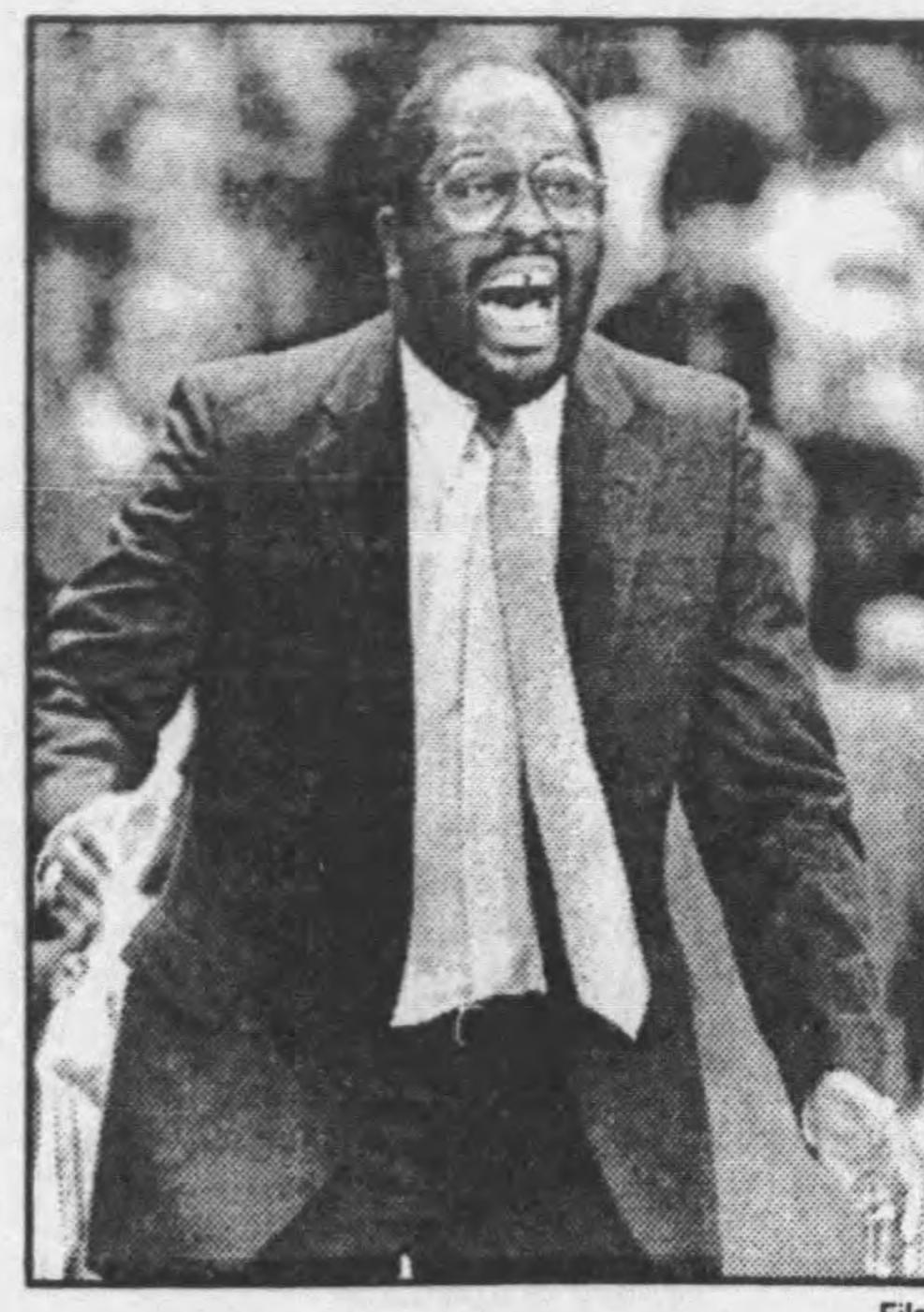
Last year, the 6-foot-7 Lewis played center. This year? "It's fun to play with two guys bigger than you are," he said. The center is 6-10 freshman Brian Wil-

liams, a top prospect last year, and the other forward is Massenburg, a 6-9 sophomore. Massenburg missed the first seven games while he regained his eligibility, and also

bulked up in the weight room. He returned for the South Carolina game and scored a careerhigh 25 points. Sophomore Steve Hood is the other start-

ing guard. Gatlin, a senior guard, rejoined the team two games ago. "The key to winning," said Wade, "is not

falling off a level when you make substitutions."



Bob Wade's Terrapins have already matched last season's nine victories.

The Terps are even setting records. Against Arkansas, they made 13 of 15 threepoint shots to set an NCAA field-goal percentage record of 86.6 percent.

"The main thing is not to get overconfident or cocky," said Lewis. "We're playing well, the chemistry of the team is going well. We just have to not get jealous of each other. Sometimes you have a team with as much talent as we do, and everyone has to sacrifice. You can't have one star."

If the stars haven't come out, the fans have. Cole Field House, which seats 14,500, is sold out tonight and was also full for the Arkansas and Wake Forest games. Last year only the North Carolina game was a sellout.

"People in this area will turn out to see good basketball, and we have been offering a good brand of ball," said Wade. "We're giving the customer something to see."

serving a one-year probation and

Virginia Tech two. The Hokies

won't be allowed to play in the 1989

Metro tourney. . . . Cal-Berkeley

swimmer Mary T. Meagher, who has

held world records in the 100- and

200-meter butterfly since 1979, was

named winner of the Broderick

Cup, awarded annually to the na-

tion's most outstanding female ath-

lete. Georgia basketball player Ka-

trina McClain, who was among the

10 finalists for the award, did not

attend the Broderick banquet be-

cause she was playing in a tourna

ment in Japan.

would have eliminated a date be- 1988 Metro event. South Carolina is

Attorney general of Tennessee looks into Abernethy's dealings

By Chris Mortensen Staff Writer

NASHVILLE, Tenn. - Tennessee Attorney General Michael Cody met with two representatives from the Alabama attorney general's office and an NCAA official here Wednesday to discuss former sports agent Jim Abernethy's dealings with college athletes.

Abernethy, of Atlanta, was indicted in Alabama Monday on three misdemeanor counts stemming from his dealings with Auburn football player Kevin Porter. Cody is interested in the case because two Memphis State basketball players, like Porter, lost their eligibility after signing contracts with and accepting money from Abernethy.

"It was more of an informational meeting than anything," Cody said. "We're seeing if there is any way to tie this thing together."

The possibility of asking U.S. Attorney Robert Barr of Atlanta to begin a federal investigation into Abernethy's dealings with college athletes has been discussed, according to one person who attended Wednesday's meeting.

No investigation is currently under way by his office, Barr said Wednesday But "if anybody has evidence of interstate fraud, wire fraud, mail fraud, money changing hands and student-athletes being paid in this manner, we would certainly look into it," Barr said.

For 10 months, a federal grand jury in Chicago has been looking into the dealings of New Yorkbased agents Norby Walters and Lloyd Bloom with college athletes. That grand jury is considering charges of fraud, extortion and violation of the RICO (Racketeering Influenced Corrupt Organizations) Act against the agents and charges of fraud and tax evasion against numerous college athletes.

The Chicago case centers around the alleged conspiracy of Walters and Bloom and more than 50 athletes to defraud universities, according to sources close to the investigation.

One source who attended Wednesday's meeting in Nashville said Abernethy wired money from Atlanta to the two Memphis State

players, Sylvester Gray and Marvin Alexander, on at least three occasions. Abernethy has admitted paying the players.

Gray, Alexander and Porter were among nine athletes identified last month as having signed contracts with Abernethy in violation of NCAA rules. All nine also received money from the agent. Two of the players already had completed their eligibility when exposed. The others were quickly declared ineligible.

Cody said Tennessee does not have laws similar to those on which Abernethy was indicted in Alabama. Abernethy faces misdemeanor charges of tampering with a sports event, deceptive trade and commercial bribery.

Cody's office is the legal representative of Memphis State, which is considering civil action against Abernethy.

NCAA executive director Dick Schultz has encouraged institutions to sue agents and athletes who break NCAA rules. However, Memphis State athletic director Charlie Cavagnaro said the school is not interested in suing Gray or Alexander.

Rick Evrard, the NCAA legislative director who attended Wednesday's meeting, said the NCAA "will help in any way we can" with investigations by law enforcement

Evrard also said Schultz recent ly has met with the commissioners of the NFL, NBA, NHL and majorleague baseball to discuss developments of the past year, in which 14 college athletes have been declared ineligible because they signed with

"He (Schultz) has met with all the commissioners to negotiate — a better word might be orchestrate a situation where all the pro leagues get a handle on the agent issue in a unified sense," said Evrard.

Evrard said the NCAA Pro Sports Liaison Committee hopes to encourage consistent state legislation pertaining to agents.

"We are trying to develop prototype model legislation where the states would have a consistent writing of the law," said Evrard.

ACC, SEC, Big Eight agree on key issue — lunch

fore which bowl invitations could

not be extended was withdrawn

Bowl officials, who favor such a

date, are lobbying for related legis-

lation that would be backed by the

Council and introduced at next

year's convention in San Francisco.

... The Metro Conference an-

nounced Wednesday that effective

with its 1989 basketball tournament

member teams on probation will not

be allowed to participate. The Met-

ro has two teams on probation this

season, but both South Carolina and

Virginia Tech previously were given

permission to participate in the

By David Davidson College Editor

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — The ACC, SEC and Big Eight conferences seem like strange bedfellows, so why would they schedule a 90-minute noontime meeting at the NCAA

convention here Wednesday? "Lunch," said Georgia Tech faculty athletics chairman Bill Sangster. "We've been doing this for years."

Because nearly 2,000 delegates are at the convention, getting into the hotel restaurants, much less being served lunch in 11/2 hours, is nearly impossible, so various conferences reserve meeting rooms and have the hotel prepare a banquet

In the case of the ACC, SEC and Big Eight, the conferences take to provide expense money above OPEN DAILY turns each year picking up the tab.

* * *

Delegates approved a resolution that calls for the NCAA Council to come up with legislation creating a I-AAA division for football. The resolution was sponsored by schools such as Dayton, Butler and Evansville which have Division I basketball programs but do not have the resources to compete either in I-A or I-AA in football, and thus are forced to drop to Division II or III. Lower divisions aren't particularly interested in competing against those teams in football since their resources are enhanced by their basketball income. The resolution represents another step toward the federalization approach favored by new NCAA executive director Dick Schultz.

What a change Schultz is from retired executive director Walter

NCAA NOTEBOOK

Byers. At past NCAA conventions, Byers was a veritable recluse, except for closed meetings with the Council and a last-day media briefing. Schultz, on the other hand, is one of the most visible figures here, and the delegates appreciate his accessibility. . . . Several measures pushed by Schultz to provide the NCAA more flexibility in dealing with athletes' problems on an individual basis were approved

Wednesday. Among the measures: ■ Allowing athletes to appear in [promotional activities for charitable or educational purposes.

and beyond normal scholarship expenses for such things as transportion to and from home for an athlete in the event of a death in the

Allowing the Council to grant exceptions to bylaw 5-1-(j) to qualified students such as volleyball player Tracy Graham at Iowa State, whose more-than-sufficient ACT score was disallowed because she did not take the test on a date designated by the NCAA.

Giving the Council authority to make common-sense decisions consistent with legislative intent, regardless of what the letter of the bylaw says.

However, delegates defeated a proposal that would have allowed athletic departments to pay for supcourses, such as computer discs, video cassettes and laboratory sup-

As expected, a proposal that

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