STUDENTS EDIT NEWSPAPER

By Jim Garrett

This is the initial edition of the LBC Leader for the 1976-77 school year. What do you think? The staff wants your support but we give a lot of credit to our editor-in-chief Kevin Wright for the work he's done to get started.

We had hoped to publish before Christmas, but time caught up with us. We are learning a lot! But bear with us. Let us hear your comments and criticisms. Keep us going with your encouragement and prayers. I'm sure we'll all end up with exactly what LBC wants and needs.

“Lack of participation and concern is what caused us to lay “The Paper” to rest last year. Hopefully, the “LBC LEADER” will be more of a newspaper than “The Paper.”

Unfortunately I was unable to attend LBC’s thrilling basketball game with Bluefield College. Even more unfortunate was the fact that we came up single point shy in the final few seconds.

I talked to a few of our players after the game. They took this loss hard. It wasn’t just the fact they had taken a heartbreaking last moment defeat, but that they had done it in front of the home crowd. They’ve just come off four tough games against some of the best small college talent in this part of the country.

They displayed some fine basketball, but unfortunately they came up short. It was a tough, tough loss and you could see it in their faces.

People don’t realize what athletes go through during a period of struggle like this. No one sees the many grueling hours of practice, the anguish everyone has to put up with on long overnight trips, the half-time strategy sessions, coaches meeting, encouragement, criticisms and prayer. All these things go into each one of our athletic teams. The players, coaches, managers, and statisticians eat, sleep, and drink their sport, wrapped up in the goal of being a champion, to bring glory to our Lord. When success slips through their fingers, the emotional letdown can wear down an athlete. It’s a very trying time.

So why am I saying all this? Because I’ve been hearing a lot of very unpleasant commenting and blatant criticisms from people who just don’t know! Some from those who don’t know a basketball from a football and who don’t care, but are glad to throw in their two cents worth of cutting remarks to anyone they think deserves it.

What the team needs right now is concern, encouragement, and prayer. James Robinson once said his “real” friends were the ones that shut themselves up in a closet, got down on their knees. People don’t realize what athletes go through during a period of struggle like this. No one sees the many grueling hours of practice, the anguish everyone has to put up with on long overnight trips, the half-time strategy sessions, coaches meeting, encouragement, criticisms and prayer. All these things go into each one of our athletic teams. The players, coaches, managers, and statisticians eat, sleep, and drink their sport, wrapped up in the goal of being a champion, to bring glory to our Lord. When success slips through their fingers, the emotional letdown can wear down an athlete. It’s a very trying time.

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