

## KEN HOKE FROM THE CLASS OF 1954.

THOSE WHO ATTENDED AMA RIGHT AFTER WORLD WAR TWO THROUGH 1952 SAW OUR FOOTBALL TEAMS WIN SEVERAL STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS AS WELL AS WINNING THE ORCHID BOWL PREP NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP GAME TWICE. THROUGH THE 1952 SEASON, COLLEGES SENT RECRUITS TO AMA TO PLAY ONE MORE POST HIGH SCHOOL YEAR BEFORE COMING TO COLLEGE. AND AMA PLAYED TOUGH TEAMS, NOT ONLY AREA MILITARY ACADEMIES, BUT THE FRESHMAN TEAMS FROM VIRGINIA, VIRGINIA TECH, VMI, WASHINGTON AND LEE AND WEST VIRGINIA.



THEN CAME THE 53-54 SEASON AND THOSE SAME TOUGH TEAMS WERE STILL ON OUR SCHEDULE. BUT OUR FOOTBALLERS WERE WHAT KEN

CALLS "JUST REGULAR CADETS." AND WE GOT THUMPED, AS KEN PLAYED QUARTERBACK ALL SEASON IN SPITE OF A BRAIN CONCUSSION AND A TORN LIGAMENT WHICH STILL AFFECTS HIM TODAY. HE WAS VOTED THE OUTSTANDING ATHLETE ON THE TEAM.



KEN, PLAYING DEFENSE, BREAKS UP A PASS INTENDED FOR THE MILLER SCHOOL RECEIVER

KEN WRESTLED FOR FOUR YEARS AND WAS TEAM CAPTAIN HIS SENIOR YEAR. HE CAME IN SECOND AT THE STATE FINALS IN CHARLOTTEVILLE AND CONTINUED WRESTLING AT NORTH CAROLINA PLACING SECOND IN THE ACC CHAMPIONSHIPS. HE WAS CAPTAIN OF THE UNC WRESTLING TEAM HIS SENIOR YEAR.

KEN HOKE ALSO WAS ON THE STARTING FIVE ON THE AMA GOLF TEAM.

AT HOME, KEN HELPED TO FORM A WRESTLING PROGRAM WHICH MORPHED INTO THE BEST HIGH SCHOOL WRESTLING IN NORTH CAROLINA.

KEN PLAYED HIS HEART OUT WHEN THE ODDS WERE LONG... AND WHILE HE DIDN'T WIN A LOT OF GAMES, HE WON THE BIGGER PRIZE: THE PRIDE IN KNOWING HE HAD DONE HIS BEST.