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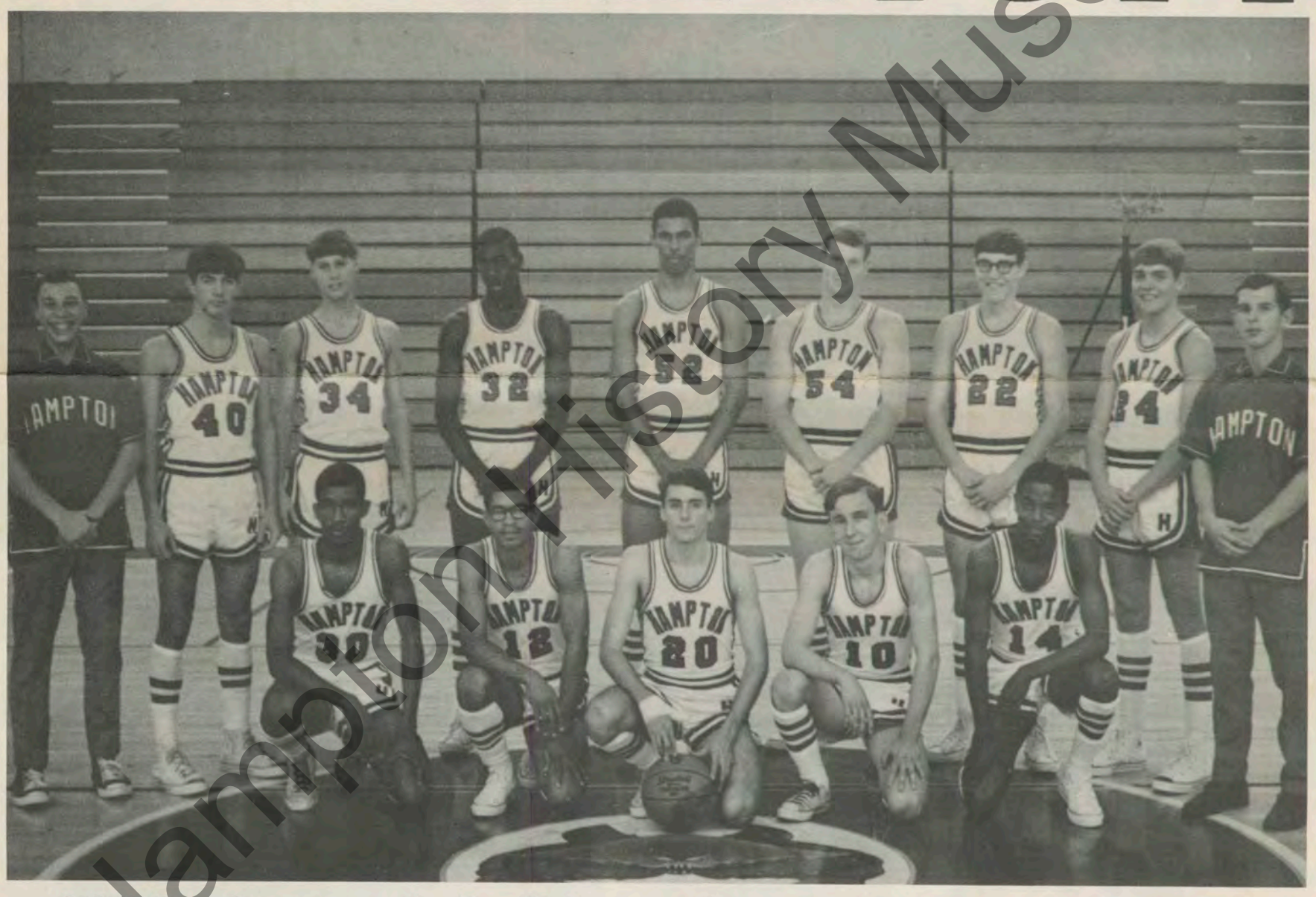
THE KRABBA HIGHLIGHT

Special Edition | Published by Students of Hampton High School, Hampton, Virginia | March, 1969

WE'RE NO. 1!



The 1969 State 1-A Champions- Hampton Crabbers

WE'RE THE MIGHTY CRABBERS AND WE HAVE NOT BEEN MOVED—Hampton High School's Crabber Basketball Team has captured the 1969 State 1-A Championship. After rolling over Maggie Walker of Richmond in the semifinals, Hampton went on the following night to beat Jefferson Senior of Roanoke, 49-43, and win the State title.

The Crabbers invaded the State tournaments at Charlottesville determined to "bring it home." The entire school was 100% behind their boys as they sent them off Thursday with a successfully spirited pep rally held on the front lawn of the school. On Friday, March 14, the Crabber entourage into Charlottesville began. Slowly but surely the population of the town became 93% Hampton fans.

The team was up for the game Friday night, and even when the big men got into foul trouble, the highly disciplined team was able to pull through with a 49-38 victory. Ecstatic Crabbers met at the Holiday Inn and Mount Vernon after the game to celebrate, while the team caught up on their rest for the following night.

After a pep rally at the Mount Vernon Saturday afternoon, spectators began filling University Hall, waiting for the State finals to begin. The Crabbers were not disappointed as they watched their team fight for the 6 point win. Words cannot describe the feelings of both the team and the student body as the State trophy was presented to Coach Russell immediately following the game. The long awaited championship had been won — the State title was ours!

Thanks go to the basketball team, whose hard work and dedication won Hampton High one of its highest honors. No one player on the team can be singled out, as Hampton had one of the most balanced teams in its history of basketball. The big five—Pat Patrick, Dino Dunn, John Wheeler, Foley Jones, and Mike Anastasio — showed their strength both offensively and defensively. With Anastasio and Jones scoring highest throughout the season, Hampton had Patrick, called the best playmaker on the peninsula, Wheeler, using his height for bringing down the rebounds, and Dunn, one of the fastest and strongest on the team.

The bench was also a pleasant surprise to Hampton. They came into action with speed and strength when needed.

With a season record of 22-2, the Peninsula District Championship, the Eastern Regional Championship and the Virginia State Championship—there can be no doubt about it — **Hampton is no. 1!**

Hampton History Museum

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