Coach Bud Metheny’s recollections about the “Monarchs” name

Interviewer: In 1961 how and why was the name of the school’s athletic teams changed from Braves to Monarchs? Why were the new school colors of blue and white selected?

Well, you remember that we became so large that the state of Virginia separated us from William and Mary and they gave us the name of Old Dominion University. We then wanted to stay with the history of the institution of William and Mary, and so we came up with the name of Monarchs. Now I scouted all over the country, and there’s only one other college that I know of that has the nickname of Monarchs and that’s King’s College in Pennsylvania. Next, when it came to the colors, we were looking for some colors that were different from other schools. And at the time North Carolina University was the only one that had light blue and white or Columbia blue and white. And so this is the reason that we selected these colors. Now this was put before the student body, and the reasons why, and they agreed to it. This wasn’t just done on an arbitrary basis. (pg. 22-23)

Full interview May 22, 1975 at: