

Basketball Team Elects Gardner And Hobson Co-Captains

Baseball Team Has Started Practice Out Doors

Rambling

With YOCK MALLOY

The beat of the basketball on the gym floor has ceased; the maroon uniforms have been tucked away; the first robin has been sighted. What does this mean? Only one thing: BASEBALL is here.

The sound of bat cracking against the white pellet splits the air and, America's favorite past time is once more in the spotlight. The basketweaver's gripe of blistered feet changes to the pitchers' moans of sore arms.

The fans talk changes from baskets and high scorers to batting averages and chatter on the new playing field in Comer stadium. And Coach Hendrickson no longer prays for Hank Lusettis and George Tomack; he will settle now for two left handed batters, one with the agility of a ballet dancer to cover the initial sack, and the other, with no sense of smell, to room right-field (near the pig sty).

PANTHERS IN OPENER

High Point will provide the opposition for the Christians as the season opener. The Panthers will come here on March 28, weather permitting; to take first crack at the Conference Champs.

Now to take the Cannonade apart and see what will make them tick this season. We hop on our trusty old tricycle and travel to Comer Field where the team is holding daily sessions. Starting with the batterymen we have on the receiving end Ed Potter, Joe Tomanchek and Bernie Askins. We expect Potter to take over the regular duties with Askins as the chief substitute. Tomanchek, if his injured wrist responds to treatments, will be seriously considered as a candidate for the first base job.

Holdovers from last year's team in the pitching department are Captain Roland Longest, Tal Abernethy, Molly Craft, R. D. Apple and Bev Rogers. We believe Longest, Abernethy and Craft will be assigned to the starting roles with Apple and Rogers taking over the relief duties. Coach Hendrickson will probably use the freshmen rookies in the easy games to give them much needed experience.

LIKE THE MORNING AFTER

We now come to the big headache position, the place that will make or break the Christians. Yep, you guessed it, first base in the spot. Big Emo Showfety held down this sack last year, but Emo has thrown over his school duties for a tryout with the Boston Red Sox. Coach is thinking of Hub Laws, a converted hot corner man and previously mentioned Joe Tomanchek, an ex-catcher to fill in this vacancy.

The other three infield spots are well taken care of by experienced men. W. L. Hobson at second, Johnny Clayton at short and Bernie Daher at third should be out there on opening day. For reserve infielders we have Steve Castura, Frank Roberts and a few untried freshmen.

Leaving well enough alone, we will now hop on our tricycle and journey out for a brief visit with the men who patrol the distant fences. In left field we have veteran Stanley Yonkoski. Stan tied with Showfety last year in the home run department and hit well over the 300 mark. If his throwing arm should improve we should have no worry in left.

Moving over to center we meet up with the teams leading hitter, Jack Gardner. The only worry we have here is whether Coach Hendrickson should want to try Jack at the already mentioned first base job. Gardner had played some at the initial sack in his freshman year here.

OPEN FOR FRESHMEN

We now find ourselves at the other sore spot in the line up, right field. This space was covered last year by Co-Captain Joe Hardison, who last June. The likely candidate would be Charlie Massey, the only left handed batter on the squad. Charlie is fast and a good fielder, but unless his hitting improves over last year, we expect to find a freshman in the starting role here. The two likely candidates are Warren Burns and Chink Spivey. Both are of unknown quality, so a prediction here is entirely uncalled for.

MANAGERS BILL AND PUD

Now a word for the managers, the boys who do the hard work. Bill Clayton, head manager, has dropped his basketball duties and has taken over the job of getting the field marked off. Richard Rinaldo (Pud) D'Antonio, baseball manager, will take over the job of retrieving balls. We only hope that he will do half as good a job of chasing balls as the Greeks have done in chasing his countrymen in Europe.

We will now put the time cherished tricycle back in storage until opening day, when we will be out with the rest of you to hear the man in blue yell, "Play Ball."

Spring Practice Comes To An End

Spring football ended earlier this year than ever before, but more work seems to have been done, as stated by Coach Hendrickson. This was because of the good weather and the hard work of all the boys.

Elon had planned to play the University of Richmond this Spring but because of difficulties the game was cancelled between the two schools.

There was very little tough work in spring practice this year because Coach Hendrickson spent most of his time in teaching the

fundamentals of the game. There was a great deal of work in learning plays and running them on the field.

There were some new faces in the spring drills and these boys showed up good for being only freshmen. Joe Hughes, a back who is a triple threat man, showed up good in practices and from all indication Joe will play plenty of football for Elon next year.

Cecil Yoke, another guard from West Virginia, showed up good in spring practice and will see plenty of action next year.

Herb Spivey from Portsmouth, Va. stood out at guard position. He is a little man but he can give and take it.

Team Reported To Be In Excellent Condition

Coach Hendrickson gave the call for all baseball players to be on the field last Monday. A very large number reported, but there still seems to be a shortage of good reserves.

This year's edition of Elon's baseball team has a very high mark to shoot at if they hope to make a record any where near as good as did last year's North State Conference Champions. Elon's team won 20 out of 21 games last season, which was the best record of any college team in the nation.

Lose Five Players

Five of last year's players are not back in school. Hardison and Fuller Co-captains of the team last year were taken away by graduation. Lee Fones did not return to school, and Showfety "flunked out". Al Progar, who did most of last year's catching, did not enter school the second semester.

Stiff Competition

With most of last year's regulars returning there doesn't seem to be much competition for third base, short stop, second base, left field and center, but there is plenty of competition for first base, catching and right field.

Regulars Hold Their Own

Bernie Daher seems to have third base well taken care of and Clayton will have little competition for his short stop position. W. L. Hobson has second base well in hand, and Jack Gardner and Stanley Yankosky will take care of two of the old field spots. Potter, Castura and Askins are having it out for the regular catching assignment, while Huo Laws and Joe Tomanchek are fighting it out for the first sack job.

Pitchers Look Good

The pitching situation looks very bright. Captain Roland Longest, Tal Abernathy and Mollie Craft will carry most of the burden, with Rifton Apple and Beverly Rogers doing most of the relief work.

New comers to the pitching staff that may prove helpful are Claude Comer, Dan Barker, Max Zivyth, Preston Towns, Francis Bohensky and Carlyle Bowden.

BULLETIN I. T. K. WINS

In the final game of the intramural basketball season, I.T.K. Fraternity took the measure of the North 'A' team to capture the league championship. The final score was 48-26.

Girls Complete Play In Basketball Tourney

The Girls' Athletic Association completed its basket ball tournament last Thursday. Green, Fowikes, and Morgan took the championship title of the two, three, and four o'clock gym classes by defeating Crowe, Hamrick, and Daniels. Each team played eight games and the title was decided in the last few games.

Now they are playing volleyball and they have also started work on the May Day program, which will be given the first of May.

CONGRATULATIONS



JACK GARDNER



W. L. HOBSON

Lettermen Elect Jack and Hobby For next Season

Jack Gardner, forward from Portsmouth, Ohio, and W. L. Hobson, forward from Ramseur, were elected co-captains for next year's basketball team at a meeting held last Tuesday.

The two will succeed John Henry Pearce, of Suffolk, Va., center, who led the Christians during the past season.

In addition to electing co-captains, Coach Horace Hendrickson announced award of varsity letters for basketball to 12 men, these including Pearce, Gardner, Hobson, Max Zywith, Ed Potter, Preston Towns, Ray Cessna, Tal Bean, Warren Burns, Douglas Moss, Yock Malloy and Johnny Clayton.

In giving the letters Coach Hendrickson briefly reviewed the past season of the Christians. He pointed out that the team finished first in the regular North State conference season with a record of 12 games won and two lost, and that the entire schedule was completed with a record of 20 victories and four defeats.

In the 24 contests the Christians scored 1,295 points and including two contests in the North State conference tournament had a total of 1,376 points, one of the highest team totals ever compiled in the loop. The Christians averaged approximately 54 points per game.

CRUISING

With Crutchfield

Americans are a sports loving people—sports loving to a degree which no people have reached since the days of ancient Greece when an Olympic champion was a national hero.

We have baseball, football, basketball, swimming, boxing, wrestling, hockey, track, tennis, horse racing, hunting, steeplechases, field trials and many other forms of athletics which claim their devotees. At one time or another any one of these forms of athletic competition can attract thousands of spectators—spectators who pay for the privilege of watching.

As in old Greece, modern day athletes spend many hours conditioning themselves so they will be able to turn all their talent toward the goal of their sport. Expenses, time and trouble are disregarded. A standard which many will never attain has been set up, but, nevertheless, all strive to reach the ultimate.

It is to see these finely trained athletes or animals attain their goal that the American public pays its way into stadia, gymnasiums and other athletic emporia a public that numbers millions every year.

There are several compelling forces back of the urge that sends these millions to watch these sports.

Many Forces at Work

Psychologists say that deep in the heart of practically every individual lies the desire to excel in some field, and that in many this desire is directed toward the realm of physical achievement. However, it is an impossibility for everyone to be outstanding in athletics. There are physical handicaps which cannot be overcome. Some do not have the muscular co-ordination and sense of timing required of every athlete who is to rank above the average. Certain mental qualifications, especially split second judgment, have not been endowed to all of us. Some who would make good athletes have not received the training and encouragement to develop latent ability.

Some come for curiosity. Perhaps they have read of an outstanding individual or race horse or hound, and a desire has been kindled to see the person or animal in action. Others are curious about the game or team or a hundred other things. There are some who enjoy getting out doors or who enjoy being among a crowd and who attend for that reason. Loyalty claims its share among any gate, especially in the collegiate sports and baseball. The home team spirit gets them.

Competitive Spirit Secret

But, the urge which draws a majority of fans to games is the spirit of competition, and it is here that athletics makes its greatest contribution to the American way of life. This was true of Greece when the games in the shadow of Mt. Olympus drew the whole nation together for a period of play.

Nothing is certain in athletics. Daily reports from the sports columns of newspapers prove that a team with a perfect record can be and often is upset by a group of players who have been beaten time and again. The greatest individual performer is capable of being overshadowed by some unknown.

The sports experts seldom take into consideration the mental attitudes of teams. They consider only past records, but the American sports fan is drawn and is intrigued by the idea that the favorite will be beaten by some underdog. Any coach will tell you that a team with the proper mental attitude and a fair amount of ability stands a chance against the most powerful group of athletes ever assembled. Records can count for nothing.

If there were no upsets, if every contest ran true to form with the favorite finishing first every time American sports would lose much of their appeal, but the sportsman knows that this will never happen. No ball game is won or lost until the last man is out, and it is through this uncertainty and love of competition that sports have completely won the love of the American public.

Quickies

BASEBALL: Well it's about time for another season of the old National past time to start. All of the Major league teams are rounding into shape fast down in the warmer climates.

Babe Dahlgren being sold to the Boston Bees should be a lesson to young hold outs. The front office of the New York Yanks said that he was sold because he wanted more money. They sold him to the Boston Bees for \$7,500, the well known waiver price for old run down baseball players. We wonder if he will get as much from the Bees as he was getting from the Yanks on his old contract.

"Andy" Fuller Co-captain and pitcher for Elon last year, got a nice write up in the Sporting News last week. The topic of the article was about his going into the army because of the "Draft".

The season that W. L. Hobson and John Clayton spent playing for Sandford sure did improve their fielding plenty. Last year with Elon they were a little bit slow on double plays, but watch them go this season.

Remember Ed Sauer the former Elon baseball and football player? He has a younger brother back home that plays plenty of first base, and it is reported that Elon tried to get him to enter school here, but no luck.

BASKETBALL: Those unpredictable Duke Blue Devils did the unbelievable once more when they won the Southern Conference basketball championship. Remember two years ago when the "Never a Dull Moment" boys from Duke did the same trick.

BOXING: Gates Kimball, University of North Carolina heavy weight has been offered \$10,000 to turn professional. If Kimball had made up his mind to turn pro before he fought in the Southern Conference tourney we expect that Mr. Wilson from Clemson College made him change his mind a little bit. Wilson knocked Kimball out cold in the third round of their fight. Gates had to be revived.