



DENNIS COIT SHOOT: Dennis, a senior, was recently named to the All-State Football Team. He has shown his versatility by playing basketball and football.
[Photo by Murray]

Coit All-State

Just recently, Dennis Coit a Senior at Rocky Mount Senior High School, was named to the all-state football team.

"Being named to the all-state football team is a great honor for me because I have always wanted to be named to the team since I was in the tenth grade. It really made me happy when I was told that I had made it," Dennis said.

Of course, in order to make the all-state team Dennis had to work very hard. "I have worked real hard the past three years, and the coaches have helped me

a lot; especially Coach Roscoe Batts in the past year," he said.

Dennis was awarded an athletic scholarship to North Carolina A&T at Greensboro. "A&T offered me the classes I wanted to take, and I just felt that it was the best place for me to go."

Dennis is a versatile athlete as he has demonstrated at Senior High by playing both football and basketball. When he goes to North Carolina A&T, he hopes to play basketball as well as football in his sophomore year.

Baseball Springs

Now that basketball season is over, another spring sport, baseball has begun. The Gryphons are a young and inexperienced team but could have a fairly good season if some new-comers can perform well for Coach Carter.

The Gryphons still have several returning lettermen including Philip Bunn (P), Greg Clark (OF), Billy Luther (3B), Mike Upchurch, (C), Linden Willis (P), Mike Matthews, (SS), Champ Saint Amand (2B).

"Returning lettermen and JV players should provide a good nucleus for this year's team," said Coach Carter. Last year's JV players include Robbie Coats, Jess Ebert, Freddie Proctor, Dee Rich, Lee Cooper, and Bob Horne who compiled a 13 and 0 record.

Coach Carter commented that we could have a good team if we eliminate mental errors. He also stated, "The coaches hope some of the players have a good year with the bat." Carter pointed out Bunn, Willis, Eberdt and Cooper as being capable of doing a good job at the pitching position.

Tournament Scheduled

The Breakfast Optimist Club of Rocky Mount is sponsoring a spring high school baseball tournament at Rocky Mount

Municipal Stadium April 9, 11, and 12. Eight teams will be competing with Rocky Mount as the host team. The other teams include, Northern Nash, Vaiden

Whitley, Wake Forest, Roseville, Sanderson, Millbrook, and Chapel Hill. Game times for each day will be 11, 2, 5, and 8 o'clock.



JIM THORP PREPARES: Jim prepares for a serve during tennis practice.
[Photo by Murray]

Tennis Swinging

The boys tennis team will begin their season March 8 with the game being played at home.

Coach Wallace said that the team's best four players from last year have left and this will be a "rebuilding season." Jim Thorpe, Olin Wilson, Paul Mayberry and Mike Williams are four of the players returning and will probably be filling the

top four places on the team.

"Wilson Fike will be the hardest team for us to beat this year and we hope to finish at least second in the conference," stated the coach.

The final schedule for the team has not yet been completed but the season will probably end during the middle of May.

Thinclads Start Season

With the start of spring other sports, track and field, begin. Coach Harris is very "optimistic and enthusiastic," about this year's track team.

Even though the team does not have a returning runner the outlook is fairly good. This year's team consists of about 35 guys, some of whom are getting in shape for football next year.

Coach Harris pointed out David Jones, Oie Osterkamp, and Julius Jones as good contenders for long distance races due to their experience in cross country. Coach Harris said

"As of yet we don't have any real speed, but we'll make it up with endurance." Coach Harris also noticed Bob Harris as a pretty fair shot put and discus thrower.

Coach Harris stated that Bertie will probably be the strongest foe in the conference because of their speed and experience after winning the state championship two years

ago. He also said that Northern Nash and Northeastern have good speed runners. Wilson should be good in the distance events and has an excellent triple jumper.

If the new members of the track team can perform up to par, the Rocky Mount Track Team should have a fairly good season and be a contender for the conference title.

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