

BULLDOG BARKS



Mark Them Up Two or Three

This has been a colorful sports year at A. H. S. From the opening kick-off that saw Albemarle gain revenge for a four-year losing streak to Boyden high to the final out in the ninth inning of the Bulldog-Concord Spider baseball game May 14, it has been a year that has not only brought good records in all four of the interscholastic sports in which the Bulldogs participate, but which has also gratified a good many followers of the Blue and White.

No less colorful than the records and accomplishments of the year, however, were those who participated. Among them are a number of Seniors who were playing their last games under the Blue and White. To them we wish to offer our heartiest congratulations and extend to them the welcoming hand to legendary "Hall of Fame" of Albemarle High.

With a natural love for the game and the heart of a true sportsman, and diamond for six colorful years. It isn't for us to relate here his deeds, but to show forth his spirit, a spirit of a true sportsman. Last fall in one of the early games Buck received an injury to his side. An operation was necessary, and Buck was advised by the doc to take it easy for the remainder of the season. But that wasn't Buck. In spite of the pain and trouble, Buck came back last fall to add to his other colorful laurels. Erratic, temperamental—anything you want to call him—he's still got the stuff that makes a real man, and we salute him.

One of the most consistently fine, dependable players in all three of the major sports is one William Moss Furr. For the past four years Bill has been a three-letter man. In addition to this he has been captain of both the football and basketball teams, and president of the Varsity club. Likeable and friendly, Bill is truly another great sport.

Taking her place along with the boys is Josephine Whitley, singles champion of the South Piedmont Conference tennis tournament last year, and co-captain of the basketball team. Due to illness, Phenie was not able to defend her tennis crown this year, but she was one of the consistently good members of the basketball team all season.

Others of the athletes have mainly confined themselves to supremacy in one or two sports, but they, too, have been no less colorful. Jack Castevens and Max Fesperman have both played brilliantly on the gridiron, Jack placing at one of the guard posts on the all-conference eleven last fall. Others who are deserving of this nomination because of their excellence in football are Creel Lowder, scat back, and Thomas Hatley, range end.

Keith Almond, coming from a championship Endy team, broke into the Bulldog quintet early and paced the scoring of the team with a season's total of 197 points. J. P. Mauldin and J. W. Lisk came into the limelight somewhat more recently, but they both turned in good performances in leading the Bulldogs to their high conference rating in baseball.

The Saga of an Athlete

We ought not, in taking post-glances at Field Day, to fail to mention the performance of one contestant in particular.

Four years ago John Auten entered high school. For his first three years he tried athletics, but he never rated the varsity in any of the three major sports which he tried. Then came this year, and the basketball season in particular, following on the heels of an outstandingly successful football campaign. The cagers were not to share this limelight, however. The squad had been hit rather hard by graduation, and good replacements weren't too numerous.

Though the team made only a fair season's record as shown by the conference ratings, there were times when Auten, Almond, Furr, and several others looked really good. Throughout the season Auten was a consistent starter, and his scoring record was among the leaders.

It remained for Field Day to display his talents fully, however. Representing an eleventh grade, which has somehow failed to get very enthusiastic, Auten captured the most first places of the day! Winning in all of the four events he entered, he accounted for twenty points of the six grade's sixty-odd points.

No, even with this one-man team the eleventh didn't win. They came in a none-to-close third, but here's hats off to a brilliant athlete of their number, Bud Auten!

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They Can Really Swing' Em.....The Tennis Team



Netters Close First Season Under Direction of Tillotson With Five Victories As Against One Loss

Gaskin and Shankle Are Undeclared In Regular Match Play

Paced by Reid Gaskin and Hod Shankle, both undefeated in regular match play, the Bulldog netters won five of their six scheduled matches, losing only to Concord.

Highlights of the season were three shutout victories, two over Kannapolis and one over Monroe. Also during the current season a major improvement was made with the resurfacing of the tennis courts with clay.

Opening the season at home, the netters eked out a 5-4 victory over the Spiders of Concord. Playing in the number 2 position, Shankle distinguished himself by his 6-0, 6-0 victory.

Down Monroe Twice

A two-match series with Monroe was next on the slate, with the Bulldogs victorious in both by the scores of 7-0 and 8-1. Attention was focused on the center court in both matches as Gaskin outsteaded Jones, staging rallies which sometimes lasted for minutes.

Overconfidence took its toll in Concord when the boys came away on the gloomy end of a 7-2 score, Gaskin and Shankle saving a remnant of the team's shattered prestige by winning their singles matches.

The boys had a chance to pick up a few pointers from the superior players of the local racquet club in a late-season practice match with them. The matches, however, were closer than the 6-0 score would indicate.

Apparently using this experience to good advantage, the courtmen rolled into high gear for the final two-match series with Kannapolis, which they swept without the loss of a match.

'Gaskin Good' - Tillotson

Reviewing the season, Tillotson was enthusiastic over the steady improvement of Reid Gaskin, who was upset in the finals of the South Piedmont Conference tournament in Concord, May 10-11.

"Given some competition," he declared, "Reid should develop into one of the finest players in the state. He has sound form, a good competitive attitude, and the all-important will to work."

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Mabry, Lisk, Furr Hardest Sluggers

Sluggers extraordinary—that describes Buck Mabry and J. W. Lisk who led the batting averages of the Bulldogs this year on the diamond. Mabry got 13 hits for 31 times at bat to lead with .402. He was not out for the entire season. Among those who led for the entire season were Lisk and Furr, with averages of .368 and .333, respectively.

Others in the top five were drew with .315 and Little with .258. The team average was .258.

Bill Furr led the mound staff with four victories to his credit against one loss. Lisk divided his evenly three and three, as did Skin Mauldin with two against two. Swanner trailed the quartet with one loss chalked up against him.

Lisk is a newcomer to the square having transferred to the twelfth grade from Richfield. Furr and Mauldin are veterans on the mound, having seen duty for the past two years. Swanner is a talented underclassman. He will be counted for future use on the diamond.

Let's Go, Bulldogs.....So Say the Cheerleaders



The cheerleaders shown above, working with Miss Laws and her Boosters' Club, have made a large contribution to the spirit at athletic events this year. Outstanding among their activities was an enthusiastic pep meeting and parade staged just before the Homecoming day game with Marium Springs. They are: Ila Knotts, Josephine Whitley, Marie Deese, Deward Lefler, and Maria Ehringer.

Athletic Association Elects Merritt Head

The Girls' Athletic association met in a called meeting Thursday afternoon to elect officers for next year.

The following officers were elected: president—Evelyn Merritt; vice-president—Nell Mason; secretary—Idell Mauldin; treasurer—Helen Russell; publicity manager—Eunice Smith; hiking manager—Lois Underwood; sergeant-at-arms—Joyce Ellis.

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