



Sports . . .

EDITOR: MICHAEL BLAGG



Out of the Woods and into the Gym

By Marshall Riggins

The Albemarle Bulldog sports teams have now wrapped up their fall seasons and posted respectable records in each. This should help the school in the running for the Wachovia Cup.

The AHS football team posted a season record of 5 wins and 5 losses, which just missed qualifying them for the regional playoffs. The team had a very strong start, going 4-0 in the first four games of the season. This gave the team a lot of hope going into the tough part of the schedule, but some missed opportunities and some bad breaks proved to be costly in the end.

Overall, the season was good as the team did better than the past few teams at Albemarle have done. It was also a success in that Coach Eanes was able to lead the team to an even record, as many first year coaches find themselves with a losing record at the end of the season. This gives hope for next year's team and a foundation for the rising players.

A few players who played consistently all season long and helped the team are Mike Kendall, Jeff Hogan, Mike Furr, Michael Blagg, Andre Ridenhour, Tim Ridenhour, T.R. Russell, Ron Quarles, Corey Ellis, Jarvis Watkins, K.K. Lawrence, Ward Surratt, Frank Lilly, Randy Springer, Chris Smithing, Elliott Parker, and Chris Rorie. Cam Colvin did an exceptional job at the position of kicker.

The AHS Cross Country teams had a very successful season, sending both teams to the regionals and the girls' team to the state. Strong running put the team in the top two or three at each meet.

Consistent runners throughout the season were Travis Morehead, Courtney Brown, Chad Sullivan, John Sokes, Brian Snyder and Brian Smith, Angie Bowers, Kim Smith, Pepa Burns, Missy Cline, and Courtney Rogers.

The girl's tennis team had a very good season also, splitting their record at 4 wins and 4 losses. They played well as a team all year and Courtney Owens qualified for the state playoffs by placing second at the regional tournament.

The season as a whole was a learning experience and the girls hope to build on it with a very strong team next year. This is a definite goal as they only lose one senior in Meonne Blalock. This may be tough, though, as she and Paige Newton formed a solid doubles team that consistently played well.

So looking back at the season past, one sees that AHS again proved that they have the "stuff" it takes to have a successful athletic program. We all hope that this success will continue in the near future.

Fall Sports - In Conclusion



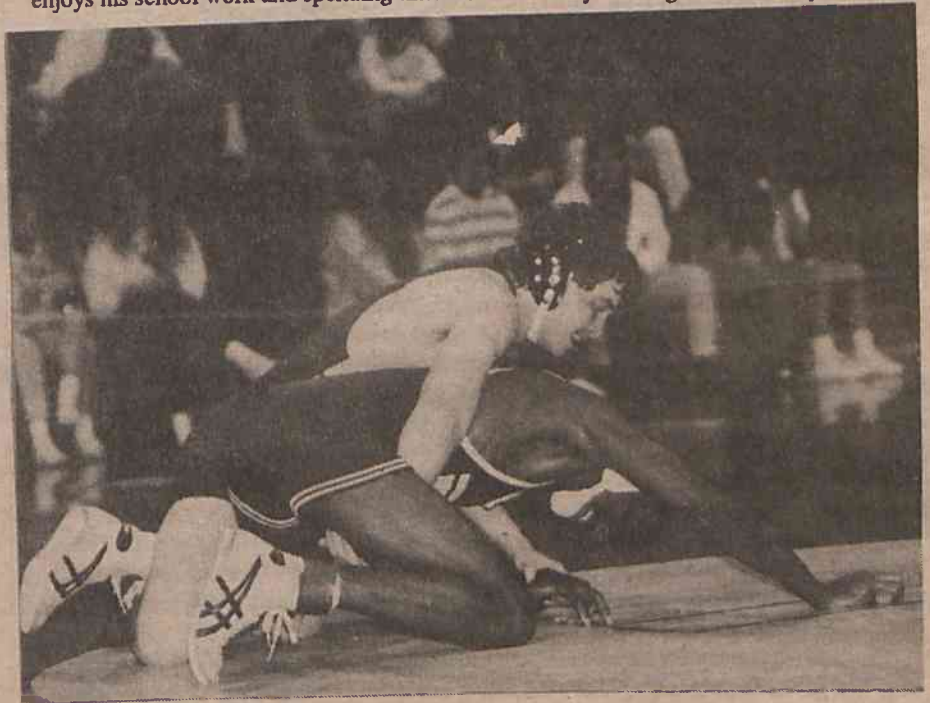
Alumni Athlete: Bill Scell

By Shelly Austin

Bill Scell wrestled for Albemarle last year and did an outstanding job. He is now at Gardner Webb wrestling on a \$8,000.00 per year scholarship. Last year, as a senior, Bill led the team. He won in the Regional Tournament and the State Tournament. His record during his senior year was 39-1. Bill won over 100 matches in his entire high school career, and this year at Gardner Webb he is expected to have a productive season.

Bill's first tournament was the Winston Salem open on Saturday November 3. At this tournament he wrestled in the 158 pound weight class. There were sixteen teams in the tournament, and he finished fourth in his weight class. Also at this tournament wrestling for Campbell was Bobby Rushing. He is also doing well in his season. Unfortunately he was injured in his first match and was not able to finish the tournament.

Bill is looking forward to the remainder of the season. He is excited about traveling to Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Florida for different tournaments. The Gardner Webb team is expected to be fairly strong and do very well in the S.A.C.-8 conference. The team is primarily made up of guys from the North and the state of Georgia. Bill is only one of two wrestlers on the team from North Carolina. Coach Wince says, "Bill is one of our best technique wrestlers, and he will probably start at 150 pounds or 158 pounds." Bill misses Albemarle wrestling practice and the hard conditioning that came with it. Bill says that college wrestling is tough, but he does not have a lot of free time. Outside of wrestling he enjoys his school work and spending time with his newly found girlfriend, Patty.



Bill Scell shows the form that won him a scholarship to Gardner Webb.

200 M.P.H. - Are You Kidding?

By Bill Aldridge

Waltrip, Petty, Martin, Wallace. Do these names sound familiar? To most people here, these names have no meaning. But to millions of fans here in the Carolinas, every Sunday, these are the guys that are on the tube or out on the track battling each other for the checkered flag. This sport is NASCAR. It is one that involves ultimate speed and precision. Though it may not be very popular here among teenagers, it is a sport which has definite roots in the older fans who enjoy it the most. There are some who even remember the days when they used to race along the sandy shores of Daytona Beach in the 50's and 60's.

Racing since then has changed in many ways, some say for the better while others say for the worse. One definite improvement is the speed, which increased dramatically until the restrictor

plates were placed on the carburetors. The drivers handle these cars at speeds exceeding 200 m.p.h.

This year, just as any other has been no different for the driver's and fans of NASCAR. The speed and enthusiasm is as great as it's ever been. It looks as if Dale Earnhardt might win the Winston Cup Points Series, but not before fighting off Mark Martin one last time at Atlanta. Here the championship will be decided as Earnhardt only has a six point lead. Earnhardt likes this track and blew away the competition last year. All eyes will be watching and anticipating a great finish to the season.

Until next time, keep your car on the road and your speed at a minimum.



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