

Sports Spots

by Frank Bullock

With the football season over and basketball just around the corner, let's preview the 1956-1957 hardwood campaign in the high school circles.

There is a new setup in District III this year with the addition of three new conference members. The new teams are Garner, Cary and Fuquay. Other members of the conference are Oxford High, Oxford's John Nichols, Roxboro, Henderson, Chapel Hill, Hillsboro, Graham, and Durham's Northern and Southern. This makes a twelve-team conference. Under the present rules the top eight teams will compete in the district tournament which is to be held at Southern High this year. The rules governing the N. C. High School Athletic Association state that each high school team in the state which is a member may play a maximum of twenty games. This necessitates each conference school dropping one opponent and playing twenty conference games, two with each of the ten other teams. Oxford High will not meet Hillsboro this season.

WILDCAT CAGERS OPEN DECEMBER 7

The Oxford Wildcats open their basketball season December 7, playing cross-town rival John Nichols.

Seven boys back from last year's squad, which finished the season with a .500 overall percentage, are Ven Burwell, Russell Barlowe, Neil Yeargin, Dan Averett, Frank Bullock, Buddy Norwood, and George West. Lack of height, which hampered the team last year, may not be such an important factor now, with the addition of the twelve-foot foul lane.

The general feeling around the conference is that Henderson, Roxboro, and possibly Chapel Hill will be the teams to beat. Look for the Wildcats to give a good account of themselves, however. These boys will be anxious to recover the conference crown which several of them helped win in 1954-'55.

KITTENS SEEK THIRD TITLE IN ROW

The girls' basketball team of O. H. S. will be seeking their third conference championship in a row when they open December 7. Under the coaching of Mrs. Kiraly, the girls should have another successful season. Jo Ann Daniel and Calla Ann Raynor are the co-captains this year. The girls will compete in a tournament this year, which will be held in Roxboro.

Lose To Northern High 28-0

Oxford High lost to their host Northern High 28-0 October 25.

The two teams spent the first quarter in a punting duel. Northern scored once in the second quarter, and at the half the score was 7-0 in favor of the Knights.

In the third quarter Oxford almost scored when they got to the 8 yard line, but they drew a 15-yard holding penalty that put them back on the 23.

The Knights made 14 more points in the third quarter, and one touchdown in the fourth.

Lose To Henderson

Henderson High won the Eastern Class AA District Three championship November 9 by defeating Oxford Wildcats here 27-0.

Only once did the Wildcats get past midfield, and that was when Yeargin in the last quarter dashed 38 yards to Henderson's 35.

This loss was the seventh for Oxford in conference play. Earlier the Wildcats tied Chapel Hill in a conference game, and won over Garner, in a non-conference encounter.

Freshmen on Varsity



Ray Williford and Charles Belcher

Freshmen on Varsity

Pictured above are two freshmen who have earned their first wings in varsity football this season. They are Ray Williford, left and Charles Belcher.

Ray took over starting offensive center position in the Hillsboro game, replacing Captain Ven Burwell, who was injured in the first game of the season. Ray played strictly offensive and did a fine job. His blocking and tackling improved so much that he will probably be starting as a two-way performer next year.

Charles Belcher, nicknamed "Wristbone", has played defense in Burwell's place all year. He got his start when Captain Tommy Steagall was injured preparing for the Northern game. Racking hard, he is called by Coach Smith "one of the best men in the line, the hardest tackler on the team."

Deadlock With Chapel Hill 6-6

Oxford High tied Chapel Hill 6-6 on a muddy field here Oct. 19.

During the entire game there were only six penalties, all against Chapel Hill Wildcats. Chapel Hill hit paydirt only once in the first quarter. At the end of the first half Oxford was behind 6-0.

In the second half ace fullback Neil Yeargin hit paydirt to tie the score 6-6. The boys who saw action were Dan Averett, Richard Morris and Jack Overton, ends; Tommy Steagall and Richard Breedlove, guards; Alfred "Tank" Sherman and Zack Mitchell, tackles; Ray Williford, Charles Belcher, centers; Frank Bullock, Buddy Norwood, William Watkins, Neil Yeargin, John Hall, Don Knott, Don Oakes, George West, John Williams, backs.

Last year Oxford High tied the Wildcats of Chapel Hill 13-13. They are coached by Coach Bob Culton, who preceded Coach Roy Smith here at Oxford.

J. V.'s Win Over Garner

Oxford High J. V.'s beat Garner J. V.'s 12-0 Oct. 25, here.

The first touchdown was set up by a run by Billy Adcock for 15 yards and then Fielding Walker passed to Mark Stamatakis for the touchdown. The second was on an interception by Billy Adcock who went 40 yards for paydirt, to end the game 12-0 in favor of the Junior Wildcats.

In The Spotlight

This month, which marks the close of football season, brings into prominence these players who have played their last game for O. H. S.

Tommy Steagall . . . co-captain . . . guard . . . 190 lbs. . . 5 ft., 9 ins. . . has played 4 years varsity and two years J. V. . . member of Monogram Club and annual staff . . . plans to go to Carolina.

Ven Burwell . . . co-captain . . . center . . . 160 lbs. . . 5 ft., 9 ins. . . a Wildcat for 4 years . . . J. V. 2 years . . . Monogram Club and Chorus . . . plays basketball . . . plans to attend Duke.

Buddy Norwood . . . 130 lbs. . . 5 ft., 8 in. . . quarterback . . . editor of OXONIAN . . . on team 2 years . . . plans to go to Darlington School for Boys.

Frank Bullock . . . quarterback . . . 155 lbs. . . 5 ft., 10 in. . . O. H. S. team 4 years . . . J. V.'s, 2 . . . plays basketball and baseball . . . is going to college.

Don Knott . . . halfback . . . played on team 2 years . . . 140 lbs. . . 5' 7" . . . member of Chorus . . . often seen on Linden Ave. . . plans to go to college.

Alfred Sherman . . . "Tank" . . . tackle . . . 210 lbs. . . 6' 2" . . . has been a Wildcat for 4 years.

Richard Morris . . . end . . . 2 years varsity . . . 3 years J. V. . . 165 lbs. . . 5 ft., 10 ins. . . Student Council member . . . plans to work in tobacco company or enter service.

Johnny Williams . . . the "Shadow" . . . halfback . . . 130 lbs. . . 6 ft., 2 in. . . has played football 3 years . . . hopes to study commercial art at California Art Center in Los Angeles.

Donald Oakes . . . halfback . . . 155 lbs. . . 5 ft., 11 ins. . . plans to stay at home next year . . . has played two years . . . bus driver.

J. V.'s Tie Orphanage

Oxford High J. V.'s tied Oxford Orphanage J. V.'s 6-6 there October 18.

The touchdown was set up by a pass from Billy Adcock to Mark Stamatakis after which Fielding Walker went 1 yard for the touchdown.

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Oxford Bows To Southern 28-7 in Homecoming Game

A large homecoming crowd saw the Oxford Wildcats trounced 28-7 by Southern High here November 2.

Although Oxford employed a new backfield combination, it failed to halt the visitors who scored once in the second quarter, once in the third, and twice in the fourth.

Oxford's lone touchdown came in the first five minutes of the game when Neil Yeargin scored from the one. Yeargin also gained the extra point.

The victory marked Southern's first win in sixteen contests.

Billy Adcock Voted Tops by J. V. Squad

Billy Adcock, co-captain, was voted by the squad the outstanding football player of the season for the J. V.'s.

He is five feet, six inches tall, has black hair and brown eyes. His favorite pastime is practicing football and being with "Beth."

He played in all six J. V. games and scored four touchdowns in the six games. He also played with the varsity on defense.

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