

Watauga Democrat SPORTS

Coach Preston Quits Post At Appalachian

Dr. W. H. Flemmons, president of Appalachian State Teachers College, announced last Tuesday afternoon that he had granted the request of Coach Pat Preston, recently hired as head coach of football, that he be released immediately from his commitment to the college. Preston resigned so that he might accept a sales representative position with the Tri-State Container Corporation of Elizabethton, Tennessee.

Dr. Flemmons—an offer like this just simply does not come to a man many times during his lifetime, and I felt that I must consider it because of the things it



PRESTON

would enable me to do for my family."

Dr. Flemmons stated that he regretted the resignation of Preston, but that the release was granted in line with a policy of the college not to stand in anyone's way.

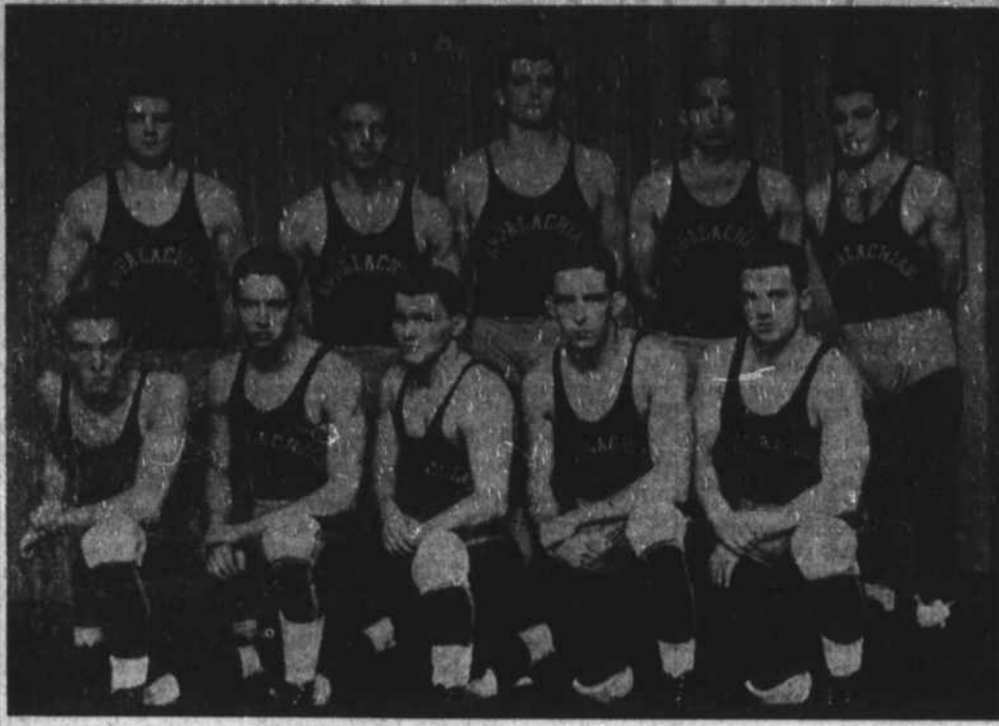
He said, when asked what would be done to fill the vacancy, that the matter had come to the college with such suddenness that there had been no time to give consideration, but that the Athletic Committee had been immediately notified of the vacancy.

The events which led to Preston's resignation were unexpected and the final outcome was known only late Tuesday afternoon.

Dr. Flemmons said that Preston came to his home late on Thursday, January 28th, stating that he had been offered a once-in-a-lifetime financial opportunity; that he felt he owed it to his family to give consideration to it; but that he was unwilling to consider the offer without the permission of the president. Dr. Flemmons granted the permission and Preston returned to his family in Chapel Hill to confer with them.

Preston returned to the campus last Tuesday to ask for his release, which was granted.

Preston stated that he felt embarrassment at requesting his release. "I felt that I was just beginning to be part of Appalachian," he said. "I have been quite happy here and I like the people I have been working with. The football men and I got along fine and I have enjoyed meeting the people of the community. I have been happy in my work here, but, as I told



UNBEATEN WRESTLERS.—Appalachian State Teachers College wrestlers, under the coaching of Joe Edmisten, have an 8-0 record. They have beaten VMI, Birmingham Southern, University of North Carolina, Emory University, Knoxville "Y," Maryville College, Millersville (Pa.), and High Point. Two more matches, both of them to be wrestled here, remain on their schedule—N. C. State on Friday (Feb. 12), and Lock Haven (Pa.) on February 27. Left to right, front row, they are, Tom Overby, Bill Cooke, Ken Shelton, Dwight Witty, Mike Lassiter; back row, Bill Harvey, Gale Speaks, Joe Bailey, Paul Brittan, Don Cox.—Photo Flowers Photo Shop.

AHS Drops 2 Mountaineers Take L.R. Out Of First Position

By BILL FARTHING

After resting through an open date Tuesday, February 3, the Blue Devils and Devillets proved quite unsuccessful in their attack on North Surry Friday. The Devils were swamped under by the Surry boys 71-54, while the Blue Devillets took a blistering 58-40 defeat by the Surry girls.

The District Seven basketball game was played in North Surry's new modern gymnasium.

The Surry boys were keyed by forward Larry Atkins, with a total of 18 points. James Dunbar followed Atkins with 17 points. With 13 points each were Bill Bowman and Larry Wood. Mike Midkiff tallied six points, Ken Amburn three, and Robert Atkins 1 point. James Wood played for North but was held scoreless.

Captain of the Blue Devils, Robert Gragg, led the scoring in the unsuccessful effort by the Devils with 16 points, just two points behind North Surry's high scorer, Bob Agle followed Gragg with 14 points. Buddy Ayers tallied 10 points, Bob Cook and Robert Matheson pushed in five points each, and Paul Bartlett and Bill Greer scored two points each. Benny Austin, Gene Howell and Jerry Henson played but were held scoreless.

Norhan of the Surry girls led the way for North by scoring 31 points in the victory against the Devillets. Hicks followed Norman with 20 points, and Moore rounded the Surry scoring out with seven points. Guards were Greene, Gentry, and Moore.

Dianna Watkins led the Devillette attack with 23 points. Rachel Rivers followed with 17, to round out the App scoring for the night. Mary Hayes, Carolyn Coffey, and Linda Mast were held scoreless. Guards were Mary Fletcher, Judy Greene, Geraldine Wilcox, and Jeanette Lyons.

103 lb. class—Ray Critcher (A) pinned Tucker (SW) 1:22 first period.

112 lb.—Austin Moretz (A) dec. Eddie Carter, 8-0.

120 lb.—Carl Smith (A) pinned Robert Smith :22, second period.

127 lb.—Jackie Boyer (SW) dec. Bill Cook, 4-3.

133 lb.—Southwest forfeited to Wendal Hampton.

138 lb.—Southwest forfeited to Doug Carson.

145 lb.—Blake Hampton (A) dec. Taylor, 5-0.

154 lb.—Tom Cook (A) pinned Don Bowman :40, third period.

165 lb.—John Buchanan (A) dec. Craver, 2-0.

175 lb.—Thomas Davis (SW) pinned B. J. Hodges, 1:10, second period.

Heavyweight—Dean Wilson (A) pinned Bud Hauser :44, second period.

103 lb. class—Ray Critcher (A) pinned Tucker (SW) 1:22 first period.

112 lb.—Austin Moretz (A) pinned Kenny Holtshouser (M), :58, 2nd period.

120 lb. class—Carl Smith (A) pinned Dennis Nantz (M), 1:30, 1st period.

127 lb. class—Bill Cook (A) dec. Steve Bently (M), 13-3.

133 lb. class—Ford King (A) dec. Neal Linker (M), 2-0.

138 lb. class—Doug Carson (A) dec. Allen Robertson (M), 3-1.

145 lb. class—Steve Mack (M) dec. Blake Hampton (A), 3-1.

154 lb. class—Tom Cook (A) pinned Robert Dyson (M), :53, 3rd period.

165 lb. class—John Buchanan (A) pinned Roger Mayhew (M), :35, 2nd period.

175 lb. class—Tom Sloop (M) pinned B. J. Hodges (A), :20 3rd period.

Heavyweight—Tom Brawley (M) pinned Jack Thomas (A), 1:00, 2nd period.

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Coach Bob Light's Appalachian Mountaineers knocked the Lenoir Rhyne Bears out of first place in the North State Conference Saturday night with a 73-71 victory. The win came on a basket by senior guard Kay Hiatt with only two seconds showing on the clock.

Hiatt had tied the game with two free throws just previous to his game-winning basket.

The first half was a close struggle with Appalachian emerging with a 31-30 half-time lead. The lead changed hands ten times in the first half and the game was tied six times. Big factor in the first half for the Mountaineers was the play of Jim Archibald, 6'8" sophomore starting his first varsity game. Archibald pulled down twelve rebounds during the twenty minutes.

Lenoir Rhyne started a drive early in the second half that threatened to turn the game into rout. The Bears quickly rolled into a 40-32 lead while the fans were still settling into their seats.

The Lenoir Rhyne lead eventually mounted to 61-45, a sixteen point spread with 9:45 left in the game.

The Apps scored 26 points to the Bears' 10 during the next eight minutes, led by Don King's 11-point spurge before fouling out of the contest with a little over three minutes to play.

The Bears, harrassed by charging fouls, allowed the Mountaineers to move from a 65-71 deficit into the 71-71 tie, setting the stage for Hiatt's winning basket.

Don King and Harold Oetting led the scoring parade for Appalachian with 18 points each. Bill Reece paced the Lenoir Rhyne attack with 17.

Scorers in the game were: Appalachian—Howe 11, Swift 15, Oetting 18, Kinney 3, Hiatt 8, King 18. Lenoir Rhyne—Norman 15, Bowman 6, Wise 10, Ladd 15, Goodnight 8, Reece 17.

103 lb. class—Ray Critcher (A) pinned Tucker (SW) 1:22 first period.

112 lb.—Austin Moretz (A) dec. Eddie Carter, 8-0.

120 lb.—Carl Smith (A) pinned Robert Smith :22, second period.

127 lb.—Jackie Boyer (SW) dec. Bill Cook, 4-3.

133 lb.—Southwest forfeited to Wendal Hampton.

138 lb.—Southwest forfeited to Doug Carson.

145 lb.—Blake Hampton (A) dec. Taylor, 5-0.

154 lb.—Tom Cook (A) pinned Don Bowman :40, third period.

165 lb.—John Buchanan (A) dec. Craver, 2-0.

175 lb.—Thomas Davis (SW) pinned B. J. Hodges, 1:10, second period.

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AHS Matmen Add Another

By BILL FARTHING

Appalachian High School's matmen added another win to their record Monday night at Southwest High School in Forsyth county by blistering the Southwest team, 44-8. This win gave the Blue Devils a 7-0 season record.

Southwest High's wrestling team has greatly improved and would have perhaps given the Apps a rougher time of it, if the flu bug hadn't had a hold on some of the Forsyth grapplers. Southwest forfeited to Appalachian in three weights.

The summary:

95 lb. class—Southwest forfeited to Mack Critcher (A).

103 lb. class—Ray Critcher (A) pinned Tucker (SW) 1:22 first period.

112 lb.—Austin Moretz (A) dec. Eddie Carter, 8-0.

120 lb.—Carl Smith (A) pinned Robert Smith :22, second period.

127 lb.—Jackie Boyer (SW) dec. Bill Cook, 4-3.

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TEN-PIN CHAMPS.—Coe Insurance bowling team was winner of the 18-weeks bowling league play, just ended. Members are, left to right, kneeling, Joe Maples, Horace Dowling; bending, Jerry Coe, captain, Lyle Cook; standing, R. D. Hodges, Jr., Ernie Lewis.—Staff photo.

App Matmen To Host State

Appalachian's unbeaten wrestling team hosts North Carolina State College Friday night in what is considered one of the outstanding attractions on the Appalachian winter sports schedule.

The Appalachian team, coached by Joe Edmisten, has won eight matches by impressive scores this season, the latest victory coming by a 34-0 score over High Point College Friday night.

Appalachian also holds wins over UNC, VMI, Emory University,

Knoxville "Y" (Tenn.), Millersville State (Pa.), and Maryville College.

The North Carolina State team is coached by a former Appalachian star, Al Crawford. The visiting team is considered a strong opponent by Coach Edmisten, and an exciting battle is anticipated.

Plan to release your cotton allotment this year if you do not plan to plant 75 per cent of it.

Appalachian Grapplers Manhandle Mooresville

By BILL FARTHING

Appalachian High's matmen proved unbeatable once again by handing the Mooresville matmen a blistering defeat, 32-18, Friday, February 5, at the Men's Old Gym on the ASTC campus.

The win gave the Blue Devils their sixth straight win of the season and added another win on the eight year winning streak that the Appalachian High matmen have held since wrestling was started by Steve Gabriel eight years ago. Wrestling is now in its ninth year at Appalachian.

The Mooresville grapplers proved to be quite hard to handle in some of the weights that Appalachian usually wins easily. Mooresville, having to pay to enter the state tournament, is a member of the Northwestern North Carolina High School Athletic Association and turns out some grapplers that usually place in the tournament of the NWNCHSAA. The teams that are members of this special wrestling conference have to pay a fee to enter the state tournament, while non-conference members do not.

The Blue Devils finish out their regular season February 8 and 11. The 8th the mountain matmen travel to Forsyth County to grapple a strong Southwest High

School team, and February 11, the mountain boys go to the big city of Charlotte to try their skill against a very strong Myers Park wrestling team.

Results:

95 lb. class—Bob Fesperman (M) pinned Mack Critcher (A), 1:10, 2nd period.

103 lb. class—Ray Critcher (A) dec. Bob Parker (M), 2-1.

112 lb. class—Austin Moretz (A) pinned Kenny Holtshouser (M), :58, 2nd period.

120 lb. class—Carl Smith (A) pinned Dennis Nantz (M), 1:30, 1st period.

127 lb. class—Bill Cook (A) dec. Steve Bently (M), 13-3.

133 lb. class—Ford King (A) dec. Neal Linker (M), 2-0.

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