

John Baker Shines In All-Star Play



PICTURED HERE IS LYON PARK entry in the Midget League. The League closed play for the season last Monday. The Lyon Park team finished last in the Western Division with a 6-9 record. The Parker and Garrett team defeated Chapel Hill for the city championship.

First From CIAA In Game; Md. Star 'Victimized'

By L. T. WALKER
Editor's Note: Leroy Walker, North Carolina College track coach, consented to analyze the play of the two CIAA entries in the College All-Star game exclusively for the TIMES. Although Maryland's John Sample did not play, Walker explains his failure to play.

As the 52 All-Stars moved along the sideline to assume their positions for the usual individual introductions before the battle with the Detroit Lions, more than 70,000 stood to hail the coming of what Paul Brown, coach of the Cleveland Browns, had identified as the finest of ALL-STAR squads. This was a routine procedure.

However, to some of us in the stands who had come for the occasion it was historic. The second All-Star in the line wearing jersey number 72 was John Baker of North Carolina College. The forty-third player in the line was John Sample of Maryland State College. These two CIAA performers were the first players from predominantly Negro Colleges to be selected to the All-Star squad.

Membership on the All-Star squad is the final achievement for the college player. Coaches H. H. Riddick and James Stevens of North Carolina College and Vernon "Skip" McCain of Maryland State must have felt an unusual kind of pride. These men and Baker and Sample would long remember the silver anniversary of the Pre-All Star spectacles.

Selection to the squad is a singular honor. Actual participation in the game is players' dream. After five minutes of play in the first quarter, John Baker realized his dream as he



CHAMPIONS OF THE DURHAM JUNIOR SOFTBALL LEAGUE, the White Rock Community Center team posed for photographer shortly after annexing title in tournament game. Members of the team shown are, bottom, left to right, Sonny Jamison, Charles Pettaway, Howard Toran, Purcell Davis, Billie Hayes and John Carmichael. Second row in same order are James Carter, Mack O'Neil, Alton Cheek, Nathan McCoy, Charles Matthews, and James White. Third row, left to right, are John Ellerbe, Curtis Carpenter and Joseph Amos.

Coaches See Big Future For NCC Lineman

"Coaches of the College All Stars were unanimous in the opinion that John Baker, Jr., has the potentialities for a really great professional football player," according to N. C. College football coach Herman H. Riddick.

Baker, 300 lb. all-CIAA star at North Carolina College for four years, played an important part in the College All Stars' 35-19 rout at Soldier Field in Chicago last Friday night.

Riddick, who returned to Durham over the weekend after visiting Baker at All Star headquarters at Northwestern University, talked to Otto Graham, head coach, and two of his assistants, Don Paul, former star linebacker for the Los Angeles Rams, and Pete Pihos, former Indian University and Philadelphia Eagles star.

Graham, according to Riddick, had this to say of "Big John": "He's one of the finest players on the squad, a perfect gentleman, and a young man whom



JOHN BAKER

we're glad to have on our squad. (Baker is the first player from a predominantly Negro college to get an all-star berth.)

Don Paul: "He's a rugged player with splendid potentialities. Give him a half season of pro play, and he'll be a real outstanding player. I'd say he's hardly half a season away from a top-flight player. Of course, there are things he still has to learn, but he has the basic skills and plenty of football know-how." Pete Pihos: "A real ball player, plenty of stamina, speed, and utterly without fear. He's well liked by his teammates and is an excellent team player."

Riddick attended the All Star game with Baker's father, John, Sr., a Raleigh policeman.

Also attending the game from NCC were James A. Stevens, line coach at NCC; L. T. Walker, track coach, and Charles A. Ray, sports publicist.

Several of Baker's Raleigh friends also saw the game: Cecil H. Flagg, Peter H. Williams, John Jr.'s high school coach, and V. C. Hamlin, Jr.

After the all Star classic, John Jr., boarded a plane for Los Angeles where he was scheduled to make his debut Saturday night with the Los Angeles Rams.

A Chicago sportswriter told Riddick the Chicago Cardinals had been trying to persuade the Rams to trade Baker to them. However, the writer said, after Ram scouts saw Baker in action in All Star practice, they turned deaf ears to trade talk on Baker.

Official line-ups listed Baker as a tackle, but Riddick described his function as that of a "middle guard." "If you noticed, Riddick said, it was Baker's vicious charging that highlighted the play of the center of the all Stars' defensive line. He was a big factor in nullifying Bobby Layne's passing efforts. Later in the game, Baker and his mates decommissioned Tobin Rote and the Lions' center, Charley Ane."

Riddick said he was proud of Baker's part as a member of the goal line defensive unit. "You no doubt saw that the All Stars held the Lions on the five yard line with a first and ten and ended up by taking the ball from them on the 14 yard line."

In a 40 yard dash race among Baker, Pete Pihos, and Otto Graham, the former Eagle lineman sped out front to win. "The all Star coaches realized that Baker

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Rebuilding Of Line Big Job For NCC Coaches

Herman Riddick's football problem at North Carolina College on September 1 will be to rebuild his first and second team forward walls.

As Riddick starts his 14th year at NCC he faces the tremendous problem of replacing these 1957 standout linemen: John Baker, Baxter Holman, Joe Allen, Charles Duke Sanders, Francis Roberts, Eugene Coleman, Thomas Stith, Deral Webster, and Charles Baron.

Eagle followers may get some comfort out of the fact that NCC is virtually four teams deep in the backfield. Only Ed "Magio Eye" Hudson, last season quarterback, is missed by way of graduation.

The big name on the NCC front line on the eve of practice is James "Buck" Forbes, 220 lb. guard from Norfolk, Va. Forbes has the unusual distinction of having been an All CIAA lineman during his freshman year in 1955. Hampered by injuries much of last season, he nevertheless rose to stardom in the Eagles post season finale with Florida A&M.

Tommy Faust, Burlington senior, is rated a good prospect to team with Forbes.

The three chief contenders for the starting tackle slots are James "Stem" Williams, 260 lb. Trenton, junior and James "Champ" Brewington, 270 lb. Greenville soph. These two are expected to receive plenty competition from Martin Clark, 250 lb. Reidsville senior.

Delaware Must Find Placements For 13 Gridders

DOVER, DEL. Delaware State College, which has catapulted into a football powerhouse among the small colleges, now finds itself facing a thorough rebuilding job for the 1958 season. Over the past four years, DSC has amassed an amazing record of 27 victories, 5 defeats, 1 tie, and a co-championship of the CIAA in 1956.

Thirteen players who helped ring up the great record during their collegiate careers bowed out last season, and others have been lost because of academic reasons. Those who bowed out were: Guard John Biggins, Chester, Pa.; Quarterback Donald Blakey, Wilmington, Del.; Tackle Earl Chism, Washington, D. C.; Guard Charles Brown, Charlotte, N.C.; Quarterback Thomas Griffin, Charlotte, N.C.; End William Jackson, Salem, N.J.; Fullback John Matthews, Philadelphia, Pa.

Also, Guard Howard McKenzie, Elizabeth, N.J.; Halfback William Murray, Philadelphia, Pa.; Fullback Carl Naylor, Washington, D.C.; End Emmette Pharr, Charlotte, N.C.; Guard William Thompson, Washington, D.C.; and Guard Elwood Watson, Houston, Del.

SPORTS TRAIL

By Wallace Dixon
The John Avery Boy's Club won 8-7 Monday afternoon August 4th. C. Schooler and A. Johnson got two hits. The pitchers included Alonzo Massey and Paul Roper. Jimmie Saunders was selected catcher.

The John Avery Boy's Club is now in third place. This week I would like to salute "Pee Wee" Boyd Recreation Director, who has worked harder than any other person to keep the Little League going. It would be hard to determine just how great a contribution "Pee Wee" as he is known to his friends, has made to youth of the city.

The Durham Bulls lose when they win. This sound like so much double talk. During the game while Lefty Johnny Aehl was blanking the Hi-Toms, thieves sneaked into the unlocked Durham Bulls dressing quarters underneath the Durham Athletic Park grandstand and rifled the players wallets of an estimated amount of \$275.00 in cash. This total amount was reported stolen to the detectives.

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Midget League Standings

Play in the Midget and Poney Baseball Leagues ended last week. Below are the final standings for teams in both leagues.

MIDGETS			
Team	Won	Lost	Pct
Eastern			
Parker and Garrett	14	1	.928
Cut-Rate Super Market	11	3	.761
Service Printing Company	8	8	.500
Mechanics & Farmers Bank	7	8	.480
Ebenezer Baptist Church	3	11	.153
White Rock Baptist Church	1	13	.077
Western			
Chapel Hill	9	6	.750
Mutual Savings and Loan	6	7	.461
Walltown	7	6	.538
Lyon Park	6	9	.400
Juniors			
Pepsi-Cola	6	1	.999
Lyon Park	5	2	.714
Walltown	3	3	.500
N. C. Mutual	3	3	.500
Chapel Hill	2	4	.333
Hillsboro	1	5	.166

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Morgan Opens 8-Game Slate With Eagles

BALTIMORE, Md. An eight-game schedule including a return meeting with Maryland State has been announced for the 1958 Morgan State College football Bears.

Coach Eddie Hurt, plotting now for the opening of his thirtieth year as Bear mentor, disclosed that Morgan will begin the season October 4 against the highly rated North Carolina College Eagles of Durham, N. C. The game will be played in Morgan's Hughes Stadium.

The Maryland State-Morgan Classic, inaugurated last season, will be played this year on Oct. 11 at Princess Anne, home nest of the Hawks.

The intra-state rivals fought to a 7-7 deadlock in the game's debut last season in Baltimore's Memorial Stadium to claim half-share each on the WEBB Classic Trophy, donated by Radio Station WEBB of Baltimore. Each team held the trophy for six months of this year.

Seven of the games on the Morgan schedule are conference tilts, with the lone exception the Bear-West Virginia State College clash, set for Institute, W. Va. October 25.

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