

Phil Ford Addresses Patriots

All-American guard Phil Ford of the University of North Carolina was guest speaker Tuesday night at Hawkins Junior High's athletic banquet. Ford was accompanied by John Virgil, a basketball teammate from Elm City.

Athletes of Hawkins were honored in the school cafeteria for their participation in athletics at the local junior high school.

The Patriots won the Tar River Jayvee conference football title and both basketball teams ended play with 6-3 records.

Assistant Principal John Hudgins introduced the guest speaker, listing some of the accomplishments that Ford has posted since entering major college basketball. Ford attended high school in Rocky Mount where he played all three major sports. In his freshman year at U.N.C. Ford was named most valuable player during the ACC Tournament. He has also been awarded a gold medal as a member of the United States basketball team which swept the Olympics last summer in Montreal.

The topic of his talk was "Preparation." He told the young athletes about his high school days when all he thought about was hitting a homerun, scoring a touchdown or scoring baskets. This was secondary to his

real purpose, he said. Ford noted that the majority of the professional ball players have other jobs during the off season.

Playing spots is "super," Ford said, but "you have to prepare yourself for other things in life also."

He closed by reminding his audience that "a stitch in time saves nine."

Following Ford's remarks, trophies were presented to the following athletes:

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| Shennia Kearney..... | Outstanding Cheerleader |
| Basketball [Girls] | |
| Sharon Dunston..... | Best All-Around |
| | Best Offensive |
| Tina Davis..... | Best Defensive |
| Basketball [Boys] | |
| Carson Jackson..... | Best All-Around |
| Melvin Robinson..... | Best Offensive |
| Melvin Alston..... | Best Defensive |
| Football | |
| Melvin Robinson..... | Best All-Around |
| Danny Pitchford..... | Best Offensive |
| Ricky Banks..... | Best Defensive |
| Ricky Banks..... | Most Aggressive |
| Larry Hamm..... | Best Blocker |



THOMAS

Warren Native's Daughter Among Top Sprinters

The granddaughter of a Norlina man has sprinted faster and travelled further than nearly any other 17-year-old girl in the United States.

She is Kim Thomas, a senior at Cardozo High School in Queens, New York who has sprinted her way to a place on the national U. S. A. track team and has received scholarship offers from at least eight universities.

She is the granddaughter of Floyd Thomas and the late Annie Mae Thomas of Norlina. Thomas is a long-time employee of Knight's Appliance and TV Center. Kim's father, Earl, was born in Warren County.

Because of her speed and ability on the track, Kim has already won \$750 to aid toward her college education. During the past indoor season she made the Senior national U. S. A. team which competed against the Soviet Union in Toronto.

Although she has been running track for less than three years, she has travelled throughout Europe, and in Illinois, Texas and California. In 1976, as a member of the Junior National team, she finished her speciality—the 440 dash—in second place in Russia and in third place in Germany.

She qualified for the AAU national finals this year with a fast 55.6 in the 400 meter dash.

When not on the road, Kim runs for the New York City Police Athletic League.

Pioneering high school track by trying out for Cordozo's boys' track team does not interest Kim. "I don't think I'd be able to go as many places, she said. "Anyway, the AAU has more and better competition than Cordozo's boys' track team."

In hopes of making the U. S. A. team again, Kim will travel to California for tryouts in June. Meanwhile, to keep in shape, she practices three times a week, mostly running 400 and 600 meters.

Birth

Mr. and Mrs. Willie Mack Davis of Warrenton announce the birth of a son, Patrick Demont, on May 13 at Duke Medical Center. Mrs. Davis is the former Shirley Hymon of Warrenton.



All-American guard Phil Ford congratulates Ricky Banks while teammate John Virgil [left] congratulates Melvin Robinson for being awarded trophies as outstanding players in the Patriots' football program last season. James T. Wilkerson, principal [center] is also shown.



Melvin Alston [left], Melvin Robinson, Larry Hamm and Ricky Banks received trophies Tuesday night for outstanding achievements in athletics at Hawkins.



Shennia Kearney [left], Sharon Dunston, Garson Jackson, Danny Pitchford and Tina Davis were given trophies at the banquet.

Fire Calls

(Continued from page 1) wood had "just called him" expressing his thanks for the work of the Warrenton, Macon and Littleton Rural Fire Departments.

Wood said that the fire was reported around 3:30 p. m. Tuesday and was extinguished around 5 p. m. He said that Warrenton sent three trucks and Macon and Littleton one each. About a dozen firemen from the three towns responded to the call, he said.

The Fire Chief asked that citizens be requested to be extremely careful in burning trash due to the extremely dry weather.

Earlier Tuesday, at 11:02 a. m., the Warrenton Rural Fire Company dispatched a truck and four men across the road from Powell's Superette at Inez in response to a call to a burning car.

The 1969 Gran Prix Pontiac, the property of William Alston of Route 3, Warrenton, ignited from the fuel line and was a total loss. Wood estimated the loss at \$1,000.

Three small fires were reported earlier, one of these being a brush fire at Greenwood Village at 4:30 p. m. on Thursday of last week, and two others being grass and woods fires on Sunday.

Eight men and one truck responded to the fire at Greenwood Village which was put out by the firemen with no damage reported. Cause of fire was reported as unknown.

Eight men and two trucks responded to a grass and woods fire at the home of James Gatling at Warren Plains at 2:50 Sunday afternoon. Burning trash was blamed for the fire which burned over one-half acre of grass and woods before being extinguished by the firemen.

The second Sunday afternoon fire occurred at 5:20 p. m. at the home of Jim Brinkley. Eight men and one truck responded to the call and extinguished a woods and grass fire, which originated from burning trash. Neither the extent of the fire nor damage caused was reported.

Bake Sale Set

The Providence United Methodist Church will sponsor a bake sale at the AAA Gas Company on Friday, May 20, beginning at 9 a. m. Pies, cakes, plate lunches and other dainties will be on sale.

Softball Tournament Planned At Norlina

The Norlina High School Athletic Department will sponsor a Women's Slow Pitch Tournament, June 11 and 12.

Entry fee will be \$35. and trophies for first and second place will be awarded. Deadline June 8. Persons interested are asked to call Carl Spragins, 586-4269, or Tom Evans, 456-2162 or 456-2996.

Dividend

The board of directors of Branch Corporation, meeting in Wilson on May 17, declared a quarterly dividend of \$.15 per share payable June 15 to shareholders of record June 1.

Briefs

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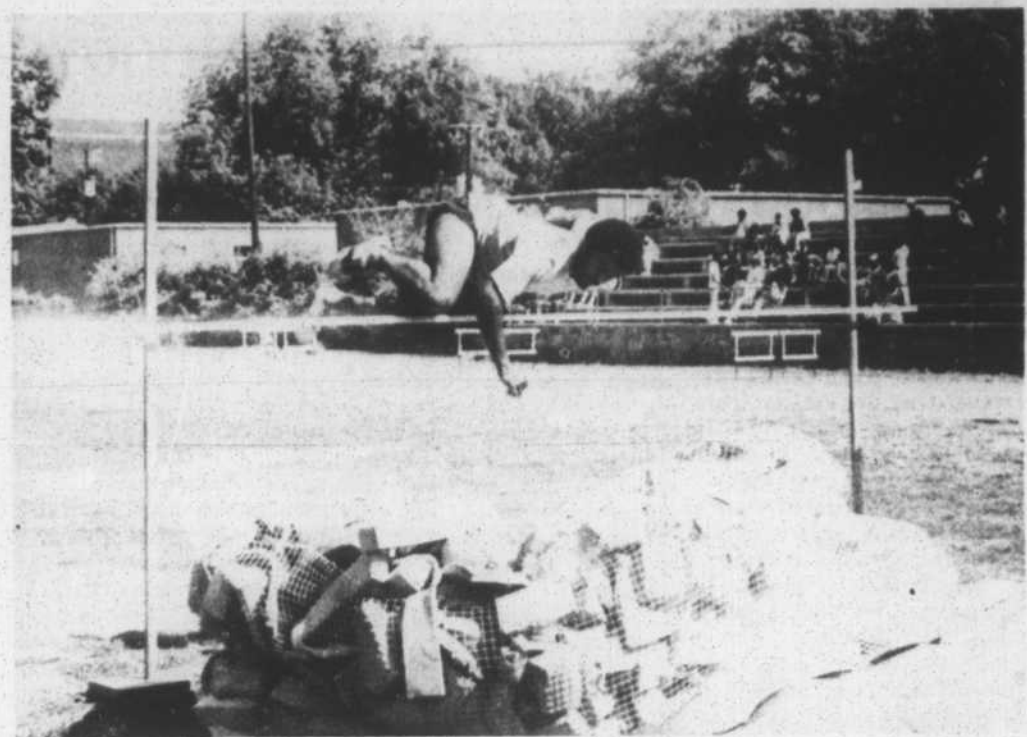
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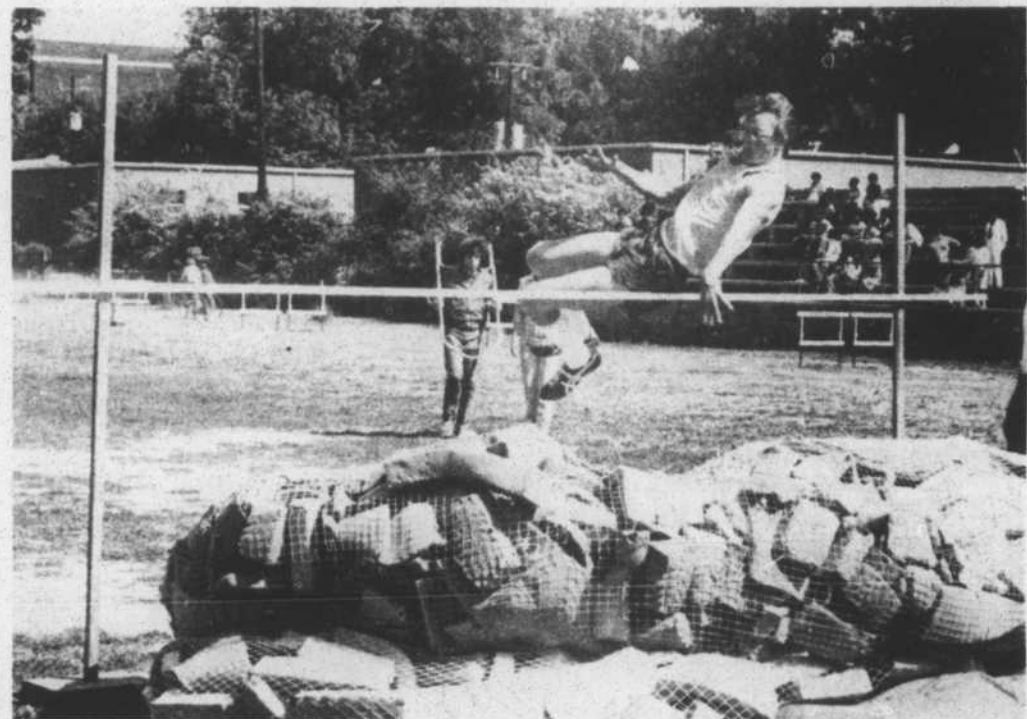
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Warrenton's Sam Alston [top] and Louisburg's Mike Lloyd soar over the bar in high jump competition seen here Wednesday afternoon as the Yellow Jackets hosted the annual conference track meet. John Graham won the meet over Louisburg 112-20. [Staff Photos by Don Stith]



Jackets Retain Track Crown; Find Field Is Not Crowded

John Graham High School retained its conference track title here Wednesday afternoon with a 112 to 20 win over Louisburg in the conference meet. Teams from Bunn and Norlina were not scheduled to compete. Franklinton had indicated prior to the meet that the Red Rams would compete but failed to show up.

For the second consecutive year and for the fifth time in the six years that the Tar River conference has sponsored a track meet, Warrenton's Yellow Jackets clinched the league title.

Felix Green was the top thinclad for Warrenton, placing first in four events against Louisburg competitors.

The Yellow Jackets were disqualified in the 880 yard relay event because a Warrenton runner bumped a Louisburg sprinter in the second leg of the four lap race.

John Graham had no entrants in the pole vault and Louisburg's Leonard grabbed first place with a leap of 10 feet. Mike Phillips won the shot put with a toss of 43 feet, 1 inch. Teammates Hardy Powell and Reggis Jones placed second and third. Sam Alston's hurl of 118 feet, 4 inches gave him top honors in the discus competition. Mike Phillips and Carlton Terry both of John Graham placed second and third.

The long and triple jumps were won by Felix Green. Gregg Lloyd of Louisburg won the high jump competition over Warrenton's Douglas Stiff and Sam Alston with a leap of 5'4". Other competitors in the long and triple jumps included Stephen Foster, Leonard Dortch, Hardy Powell and Sam Alston of John Graham.

R. Arrington, the Bulldogs only competitor in the 120 and 180 yard hurdles, placed third in the 120 yard high hurdles. Felix Green won first place in both events, while teammate Wayne Alston fell on his second hurdle of the 120 yarder and placed second in the event.

Victor Harrison's 10.9 run in the 100 yard dash was good for first place. Ronald Green finished in a close second at 11.0.

R. Green of Louisburg in the 100-yard dash. Harrison won the 100-yard dash but Ronald Green edged him in the 220-yard dash for first place. Harrison was clocked at 25.1 in the heat. R. Green of Louisburg again placed third.

The 44-yard dash was won by Ronald Green who crossed the tape in 55.33 seconds. Teammates Brownja Alston and Ben Sellers placed second and third.

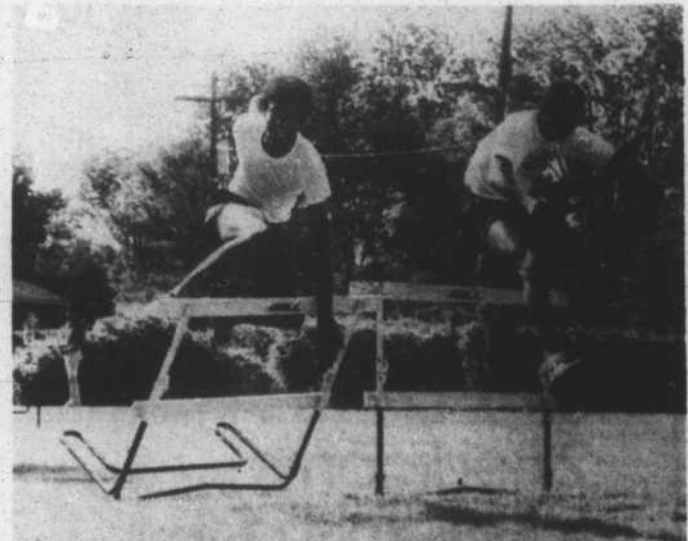
Douglas Stiff's time of 2:15.5 was the best in the 880 yard run, Nathan Cheek came in second place.

Michael Williams won the mile run for the Yellow Jackets. Williams was clocked at 5:11.3 for first place. Stephen Foster placed second and J. T. Perry

came in third for Louisburg. Foster ran this event last season, placing, and was favored to win this year. Williams set a fast pace at the sound of the gun and Foster was unable to catch him.

Warrenton's relay team won the mile run in under four minutes, 3:59.8.

Standouts for John Graham were Sam Alston, Ronald Green and Felix Green. Alston participates in both field and running events, placing in both categories. Green, the Yellow Jacket's pitching ace, kept Warrenton ahead in the short running events. Felix Green, who had qualified to represent John Graham in Friday's sectional meet at Northern Durham, dominated the hurdle and jumping events.



Wayne Alston [left] trips on his second hurdle during the 120 high hurdle race against Felix Green. Alston's fall caused him to place second in the event behind Green.

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