

President Lilley May Surrender Local Ball Club Franchise

Directors of League Refuse to Change Player Classification At Meeting Held Here Monday

Local Club Head Says It Is Unfair To Oust Players

Various Clubs Have Signed Few Players, Presidents Declare

Mr. J. Eason Lilley, a bit disappointed when the Coastal Plain Baseball League directors in session here yesterday refused to alter the player classification rules adopted at a league meeting last month, stated following the meeting that he was considering the surrender of the local club franchise. Orders placed by the local baseball official just a short time before the meeting for stationery and other equipment were delayed at his direction pending a further study of the problem as it relates to player classification.

In the December meeting held in Wilson, the league directors adopted a classification schedule allowing each team four semi-pure rookies, eight limited service men and three veterans. The ruling will allow President Lilley to keep only two of his 1939 team players with the exception of Albritton, Thoele and Kimrey, reports stating that the Yankees had offered Albritton to Mr. Lilley for the coming season. By limited service men, the directors ruled that any player who has not played more than two years in organized baseball falls into that classification. With the exception of Albritton, Thoele, Sieminski and Kimrey, all the others have played more than two years in organized ball and fall into the veteran class. In addition to his manager, Mr. Lilley can select two players from last year's team, or two of the following men, Ace Villepique, Pap, Diem, Harry Swain, Howard Earp, Solly Myers or George Rimmer.

"It is unfair to oust all those boys in a single season," Mr. Lilley declared. "I hardly know what to do." He added.

While the meeting maintained that the new classification would mean the salvation of the league and place the smaller towns in the circuit on an equal standing with the larger ones, five of the clubs went on record as favoring a more lenient classification. But to change the classification a unanimous vote was necessary, Greenville, Tarboro and Kinston voting against any change.

Various proposals were offered, but the meeting, called by League President Goodman, held tight to the classification adopted at the December meeting in Wilson.

Turning to the plight of the local club, there is some consolation in the fact that other clubs in the league are without players. Several club officials are said to have paid high money for a few players early last fall and now find they are not eligible. Mr. Lilley realizes the merits of the new classification, but he hates to see all of his old players literally thrown out of baseball. The record shows that he fought the plan, that he did all he could for his players and others of the same classification in the league, but now that the change is made, local fans are earnestly hoping he will put Dixie Parker to work and do some furious battling for another championship in the circuit.

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SCHEDULE

A schedule for the Coastal Plain's 1940 season will be formally adopted at a meeting of the league directors in New Bern on Monday, January 22, President R. H. Goodman said today.

The tentative schedule was placed before a special meeting of the league directors here yesterday afternoon, and it received high praise. Prepared by Dave Moore, Thurman Vick, Ed Davis and John Morton, the schedule was recognized as one of the best ever prepared. It calls for the opening of the season on April 25.

Rocky Mount Y Falls Victim Of Martins In One-Sided Tilt, 49-24

"Big Leaguer" Beard leads local attack with 15 points.

Once again "Big Leaguer" Beard took over the offensive reins of the Williamston Martins, bagging seven field goals and one free shot to lead the locals to a 49-24 victory over the Rocky Mount Y here last night. After gliding along for three quarters, Beard put on the steam and scored five action shots in the final period. Grant and Wallace followed with 10 points each.

For Rocky Mount, Marshburn led the scoring power with four field goals.

Don Brock, who has not been in the Martin lineup for the past several games, will definitely play for Williamston on Wednesday night, when the Martins meet the House of David here. Brock has been sorely missed and his return to play will greatly improve the local quint.

Williamston	G	F	T
Wallace, f	3	4	10
Beard, f	7	1	15
Grant, c	5	0	10
Manning, g	2	0	4
Flack, g	2	0	4
Anderson, g	3	0	6
Totals	22	5	49

Rocky Mount Y	G	F	T
Marshburn, f	4	0	8
Walker, f	1	0	2
Felton, c	2	2	6
Cuthrell, g	1	0	2
Bullock, g	1	0	2
Sewell, g	1	0	2
Jackson, g	1	0	2
Totals	11	2	24

Approve Local Street Project

(Continued from page one)

essary and that the tax rate would not be disturbed. It was also pointed out that the sidewalk and street assessments will be held to within the 27 per cent, giving the property owners the lowest price sidewalks, curbs and gutters and street surfacing ever laid here.

It is estimated that the project will employ as many as forty men during several months. Plans are being advanced to start the work as early as possible, but it isn't likely that actual construction will get underway before late February or early March.

In the proposed program is the surfacing of Warren, Grace and Hassell Streets, Marshall Avenue and certain portions on Smithwick and Elm Streets. Curb and gutters are to be laid on each of these streets and sidewalks are to be constructed on Grace and Warren Streets and Marshall Avenue.

The sidewalks are to be of regular concrete, but street surfacing will be of asphalt and rock.

Messrs. S. T. Everett and J. H. Roberson, Jr., of Robersonville, were business visitors here this afternoon.

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Williamston Takes Win No. 20 From New Bern's Bears

Lefty Archer Plays Role of "Funny Man" With a Lucky Streak

The Williamston Martins won their 20th victory of the current season when the New Bern Bears fell before a terrific onslaught by the score of 61 to 47, here Sunday afternoon before a small but enthusiastic crowd.

The feature attraction of the contest was the bitter rivalry between "Big Leaguer" Beard and Lefty Archer of the Bears. Before the game both players loudly proclaimed their ability to score points, and although Beard made a brave effort, marking up 16 points, he was surpassed by Archer, who counted 26 points to lead his team.

Jeff Grant, along with Beard, both with 16, led the Martins in scoring, while Fenner Wallace followed close behind with 14.

The line-ups:

Williamston	G	F	T
Beard, f	8	0	16
Wallace, f	7	0	14
Grant, c	7	2	16
Anderson, g	3	0	6
Manning, g	4	1	9
Totals	29	3	61

New Bern	G	F	T
Stallings, f	1	0	2
Lupton, f	1	0	2
Archer, f	13	0	26
Flythe, c	6	0	12
Lewis, g	0	0	0
Tyler, g	1	0	2
Bell, g	1	1	3
Totals	23	1	47

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House Of David And Williamston To Play Here On Wednesday

Bearded Team Lists Number Of Best Players in Professional Circles

When the House of David basketball team appears in the local high school gym Wednesday night at 8 p. m. to play the Williamston Martins, fans who attend this game will see the world's most colorful basketball team in action for these bearded beauties are considered the greatest handlers of a ball to ever grace any basketball court.

The Davids play throughout the United States, Mexico and Canada, playing all the leading amateur, semi-professional and professional clubs and each year they play over 200 games with their record for the past five years being 1072 games played, winning 937 and losing 85, which is a pretty fair country average for any club and the more remarkable because every game is played on the opponents' court.

The bearded boys are studded with stars and first in line is bald Bill Steinecke, guard and veteran of ten years with the Davids. Steinecke is a former major league baseball player, having spent three years each with the Detroit Tigers of the American league and the Pittsburgh Pirates of the national circuit, as a catcher. Bill is now manager of the Jacksonville Tars of the South Atlantic league. Steinecke is the greatest long shot and clown in basketball. He stands only five feet six inches in height and with his comical dribbling, dancing and praying he keeps the audience howling with glee from start to finish. Bill, who is the coach of the David team when they need it, is a graduate of De Paul University and won the medal of being the greatest athlete from the school.

Ham-Hamilton, guard, stands six feet, and is a veteran of six years with the House of David team. Ham is considered one of the greatest passers to ever play professional ball and he is very adept at standing with one foot in the center circle and letting fly with the ball to the basket that invariably falls through with a swish. Hamilton and Steinecke start all the plays from the back court, also the comical stunts. One of Ham's favorite tricks is to run up in the stands and have a mate pass the ball to him, and then shoots a basket.

At the center spot will be Clyde "Slim" Mitchell, 6 foot 5 inch star, who is serving his fourth year with the Davids. Slim is one of the greatest backboard and rebound men ever to play the game and when he gets his hands on the ball it is a basket for the bears. Slim plays the pivot or line and feeds the ball to the fast cutting forwards, who use him for a block. Mitchell comes from Freed-Harden College, where he was captain and All Rocky Mountain Conference center.

Flash Garrison, 6 foot 5 inch forward, hails from Iowa, where he led the conference in scoring. Flash can really make baskets with his one-handed shooting from the corner spots.

Buster Kinard holds down the other forward position, being an

Four Are Arrested In Connection with Station Robberies

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Bill, he entered Bill Bullock's filling station in Everetts on October 2, allegedly stealing seven automobile tires and a number of cigarettes.

Four of the seven tires have been recovered, reports stating that possibly two of the tires are still in a Manteo filling station.

Bill Wynne, in his confession to officers, stated that he had planned to quit, but that he became excited when he saw so many nickels in an illegal slot machine in a Standard Filling Station in Plymouth on December 13 and that he had his brother arrange to rob the place of business that night. Accompanied by Wiggins and Pemberton, the two white men went down and made the haul, stealing several hundred nickels, a big truck tire, a watch, two one-arm bandits and two automobile tires and several cartons of cigarettes.

The Plymouth robbery case was broken when Officer J. H. Roebuck ran across the two slot machines in a woods near the Wilson Chapel church. Serial numbers were checked with Washington County authorities, and Dennis Wynne, once confronted with the evidence, admitted his guilt.

Late in the night of December 15 or early the following morning, the quartet broke into the Standard Filling Station on the corner of Haughton and Main Streets and stole nine automobile tires, four big truck tires, five batteries and a quantity of cigarettes and candy. The automobile tires and batteries were sold for \$60 to a filling station operator in Manteo. The four automobile tires were left on consignment. Dennis Wynne later put one of the batteries on his car and equipped two of his car wheels with new tires. Three tires were sold to a farmer by the name of Beach in Cross Roads Township, and oddly enough Filling Station Operator Bill Bullock placed one of the tires on the wheel for Beach. This incident served as one of the connected links for the officers in breaking the case against Wynne. Beach is said to have paid Bullock full price for the tire and surrendered the two others in his possession at the time. The filling station operator at Manteo readily surrendered the goods purchased from Wynne, and J. D. Harrison, purchaser of the truck tire stolen from Plymouth, returned it when he learned it was "hot" property. There are one or two tires still unaccounted for, but officers hope to recover them before they close the case.

Early on the morning of January 1, the two Wynne boys entered the Griffin filling station in Griffins Township and stole \$10.50 in nickels from a slot machine, a dozen handkerchiefs, a box of cigars and eight even six feet. He finished college at N. Y. U. Flash is the fastest cutting forward in the game, plays baseball in summer and was a track star in school. This boy is the rookie of the team and great things are expected of him as he seems to have what it takes. He is also a classy ball handler.

Farmers Mutual Ends Good Year

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sixty new policyholders to its list last year, the association is now rated among the strongest branches in the State. It has nearly a million dollars worth of insurance in force with nearly 600 active policyholders. Despite heavy losses experienced last year, the association still maintains a cash reserve of nearly \$9,000. According to the report filed at the annual meeting, fire losses approximated \$4,000 last year. However, assessments were held to a comparatively low figure during the period.

Recognized by the land banks as a creditable agency, the Martin County Branch last year laid the foundation for an increased business this year. Heretofore, the old line companies handled all the land bank business, often over the protests of the farmers. It is understood that a sizable block of that business will be handled by the mutual association.

Five years ago, the association started the new year with no balance in its reserve fund. "Fortune has been good to us, and today we are approaching the goal of \$10,000 set six years ago," Mr. Sylvester Peel, president of the local unit of the association, said following the meeting Saturday.

Mr. Benjamin Courtney spent the week-end in Raleigh with friends.

Sheriff C. B. Roebuck, Officer J. H. Allsbrooks were in Greenville and Washington yesterday attending to professional business.

The open season for stealing in Martin County has been brought to a close. Sheriff C. B. Roebuck commented as he and other officers slowed down their activities for a breathing spell yesterday afternoon.

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