

Here And Yonder

The Sportscope

By BOB CONWAY

Although there were no big surprises in last week's Haywood County basketball tournament — with favorites winning as expected — the annual event was, nevertheless, an interesting one.

In the girls' championship, the third meeting of the season between Bethel and Waynesville, which figured to be a hard-fought battle, turned into a rout for the Belles.

Although the Mountaineers have what it takes to beat the Belles, the Waynesville girls last Saturday night — to use an old phrase — couldn't hit the side of a barn and probably couldn't have won with the aid of a stepladder.

All three of Waynesville's scorers — Agnes Roberson, Myrtle Fitzgerald, and Tulan Carver — have poured in a lot of points this season, but they experienced one of their worst nights in the finals at Bethel. It was a tough one to lose, but the very best of basketball teams have their off nights.

The boys' game between Waynesville and Bethel didn't disappoint anyone and provided more excitement than a lot of people like in one ball game.

The Blue Demons caught fire late in the first half and continued hot through the third quarter and it appeared that the Mountaineers were doomed to defeat in their third attempt to turn back the Pigeon dribblers. However, Jordan and Co. bounced back with a fourth-quarter rally that carried them through to victory and Waynesville's first boys' basketball championship in many a year.

At the end of the tournament at Bethel last Saturday night, we were accosted by two irate fans (both female), who accused us of losing the game for their team by setting off photographic flash-bulbs in the faces of their players.

It didn't do a bit of good to tell these unhappy women that we took pictures of all four teams in the tournament finals that night — and flash bulbs go off just as brightly for one team as they do the other.

However, since other people may wonder about taking pictures of basketball games, we might say a few words on the subject.

First, we ought to point out that flash bulbs will "blind" a person temporarily, but ONLY when he looks directly into the camera. If you aren't staring right at "the birdie," flash seldom bothers you.

If we were to stand directly under the basket when photographing games, a flash shot might possibly bother a player's aim at the basket, but since we always stand well off to one side, we take pictures of shooters looking away from the camera and toward the basket.

In the noise and excitement of a modern-day basketball game, flashbulbs seem to have very little if any effect on players. If anything, they have seemed to help Waynesville this year because the Mountaineers lost only one game in the WTHS gym (to Enka), which was covered by a Mountaineer photographer, but didn't do nearly as well on the road.

We have been taking basketball pictures for three years now and never heard a peep until the other night. Flash and strobe light shots are taken of games all over the country every night and if there has ever been a complaint anywhere, we haven't heard of it.

However, if by chance any player suffers from having a flash-bulb set off in his vicinity, all he has to do is to notify the referee or his coach, and we'll be glad to stop taking pictures immediately.

Canton Only County Team In Blue Ridge Tourney

The Canton Black Bears, the only Haywood County team entered in the Blue Ridge Conference tournament at Enka tonight, Friday, and Saturday, will play the winner of the Brevard-Christ School game at 8:45 p.m. Friday.

The Canton Jayvees are scheduled to see action against Ben Lippen at 7:30 p.m. tonight.

The Jayvee championship game will be played at 7:30 p.m. Saturday and the varsity championship at 8:45 p.m. Between halves, a tournament queen will be crowned.

Canton has won the Blue Ridge Conference tournament for the past two years.

The tournament pairings were:

They Want Reichow

DETROIT (AP) — Iowa's Jerry Reichow is one of the few college players to sign a professional football contract before being drafted by a National Football League team.

The Detroit Lions, anxious to bolster their quarterback slot, signed Reichow and then made him their first draft choice at the NFL meetings in Los Angeles.

made by a committee made up of George Cathey of Enka, Dick Faysoux of Christ School, Charlie Johnson of Reynolds, and C. C. Poindexter of Bethel.



THESE FIVE MOUNTAINEER CAGERS brought Waynesville High its first boys' county championship in many years by beating Bethel, 52-47, in the finals of the Haywood tournament last week. Coach Bill Swift holds the title trophy, flanked by (on left) Tony Davis and Bobby Ballance and (on right) Captain Don Jordan, Carroll Hooper, and Tom Sparks. (Mountaineer Photo)

Mountaineers To Meet Swain High In District AA Playoffs On March 1

Baker Makes All-State Junior College Cage Five



Jayvee Team Topples Enka In Final Game

Coach Bruce Jaynes' Waynesville High Jayvees got revenge for an earlier loss to the Enka Juniors Tuesday afternoon by noosing out the Little Jets, 69-58, on the WTHS floor.

With five seconds to go, the game was tied 58-58, but Johnny Wright sank two foul shots for the margin of victory.

Waynesville was ahead at the first quarter, 16-13, at the half, 29-27, and at the end of the third quarter, 48-40.

Mehaffey paced the Little Mountaineers with 20 points, while Johnny Wright hit 12 and Jim Hall 11. Redmond was tops for Enka with 17.

This game was the final one of the season for the Waynesville Jayvees.

Gerald Baker, 1954 graduate of Waynesville High School and a sophomore center on the Brevard College basketball squad, was named this week to the all-state junior college team, one of the two Western Division schools to place a player on the select group.

Baker, who stands 6-8, averaged 22 points per game this season and finished second in the conference rebounding battle.

The Brevard College Tornados still hold second place in the Western Carolina Junior College Conference.

Baker also was elected to membership in the Brevard Monogram Club this week and received a varsity basketball letter in an assembly program at the college.

Wild Rabbits To Be Distributed In This Section

Sixty wild rabbits are scheduled to arrive in Canton soon for stocking purposes in some of the so-called "rabbitless areas" of the county, Gurley Robinson, secretary-treasurer of the local Wildlife Club, has announced.

These rabbits, the regular cotton tail species, are being shipped from Rago, Kansas, and will be released as soon after arrival as possible.

Rabbit hunters interested in stocking these rabbits should contact either Robinson or Charles A. Smith, Jr., club president, immediately.

In the District 4 Class AA basketball playoffs—to be held at Bryson City February 29 - March 3—Canton will meet Franklin in the second game on February 29, and Waynesville will face Swain High of Bryson City in the second game on March 1.

The first game on February 29 will send Hendersonville against Sylva, while Brevard will tangle with Murphy in the opener on March 1.

Semifinals will be played March 2, and a consolation game and the finals on March 3.

In the Class A playoffs, to be staged either at Enka or Waynesville, Bethel will meet Robbinsville in the third game on March 5. Other pairings are:

March 5
6:30—Cullowhee vs. Mars Hill.
7:45—Cherokee vs. Rosman.

March 6
7:30—Henderson County champ vs 6:30 winner of March 5.
8:45—Other two winners play. A consolation game and finals are slated March 7.

Pairings for both the Class A and Class AA playoffs were made Monday night at Bethel by a tournament committee made up of C. C. Poindexter of Bethel, chairman; Bill Swift of Waynesville, and Norris Jones of Swain High.

Michigan To Play UCLA

EAST LANSING, Mich. (AP)—Rose Bowl opponents Michigan State and UCLA may sign up for a home-and-home football series in 1959 and 1960, says Athletic Director Biggie Munn of MSU.

"We want to keep on playing one coast team a year," says Munn.

Michigan State concludes a two-year pact with Stanford this year, then plays California in 1957 and 1958.

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Bowling

WAYNESVILLE MIXED LEAGUE

Results of Feb. 15
Guttersnipes 2; Alley Cats 1.
Happy Four 2; Pinbusters 1.
Screwballs 2; Keglers 1.

HIGH TEAM SERIES
Guttersnipes 1678
Screwballs 1668

HIGH TEAM GAMES
Alley Cats 607
Keglers 588

HIGH INDIVIDUAL SERIES
Ila Jean Yount 513
Joel McCreary 498

HIGH INDIVIDUAL GAMES
Jules Riggins 201
Joel McCreary 193

TEAM STANDINGS

	W	L
Guttersnipes	2	1
Happy Four	2	1
Screwballs	2	1
Alley Cats	1	2
Pinbusters	1	2
Keglers	1	2

INDIVIDUAL AVERAGES

Men
1. J. McCreary 166
2. T. Atkins 165.6
3. J. Riggins 163
4. G. Moody 161.6
5. J. Jackson 150.6
5. M. Penley 150.6

Women
1. I. Yount 171
2. A. Wyatt 153.3
3. C. Elliott 141.3
4. E. Gragg 122
5. W. Woodruff 121

Results of Feb. 22
Guttersnipes 3; Screwballs 0.
Pinbusters 2; Alley Cats 1.
Happy Four 2; Keglers 1.

HIGH TEAM SERIES
Happy Four 2139
Pinbusters 2029
Alley Cats 2013

HIGH TEAM GAMES
Happy Four 765
Guttersnipes 700
Keglers 699

HIGH INDIVIDUAL SERIES

Men
Charles Woodruff 508
Tom Atkins 500
Gene Moody 495

Women
Cecil Elliott 475
Maxine Knight 421
Ila Jean Yount 408

HIGH INDIVIDUAL GAMES

Men
John Jackson 212
Mark Hipps 183
Tom Atkins 178

Women
Cecil Elliott 181
Geneva Atkins 154
Ila Jean Yount 153

TEAM STANDINGS

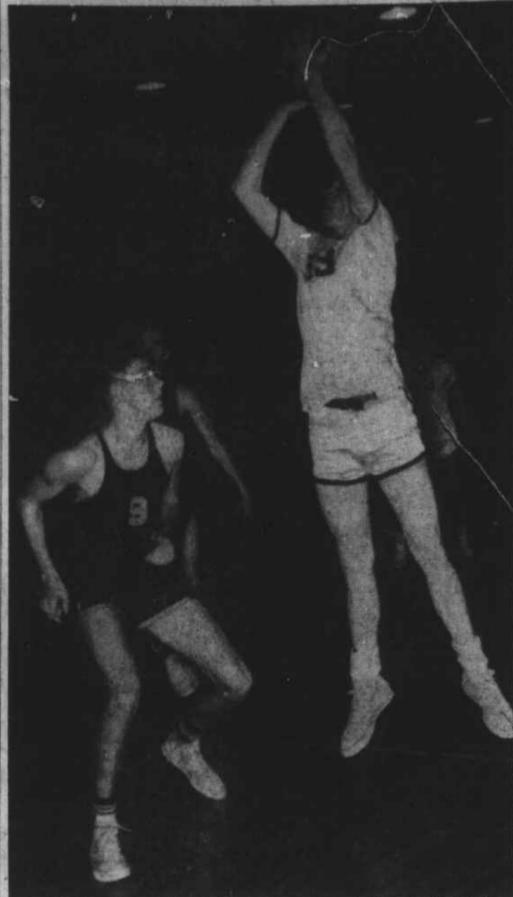
Men
Guttersnipes 5
Happy Four 4
Pinbusters 3
Screwballs 2
Alley Cats 2
Keglers 2

Women
I. Yount 153.5
A. Wyatt 153.3
C. Elliott 149.8
M. Knight 140.3
E. Gragg 127.3

Schedule for Feb. 29
Guttersnipes vs. Pinbusters.
Alley Cats vs. Keglers.
Happy Four vs. Screwballs.

Perfect Score

HELENA, Mont. (AP) — With a muzzle-loaded Kentucky half stock rifle, Helena hunter Jim Jennings killed a two point buck deer with one 50-yard shot. Jennings said it was his first big game kill with the old style weapon which has a trajectory about the same as a modern .22 caliber rifle.



JOHN RUSSELL of Bethel took to the air for this push shot during the torrid second half in the boys' finals of the county tournament Saturday night. At left is forward Tony Davis of Waynesville. (Mountaineer Photo)

Girls' Cage Championships Old Story To Poindexter



C. C. POINDEXTER

Coach C. C. Poindexter of Bethel has been winning girls' basketball games so long he has lost count of his victory total — which began back in the 20's.

However, he does know how many victories he has won in coaching girls' basketball at Bethel High for the past five seasons. His highly regarded Belles reached the 100 marks against Waynesville February 3 and finished the season with a total of 105—counting the Haywood County tournament, which his girls won for the fourth straight time.

This year, the Bethel lassies won their second straight Blue Ridge Conference championship, finished No. 1 in the Asheville Times ratings of Western North Carolina girls' teams, captured the regular season county championship and the tournament.

In his first year at the Bethel helm, the season of 1951-52, he captured the state championship and was runner-up the following year. Last year, the Belles also won every honor in sight in this part of the country.

Mr. Poindexter also has coached girls at Western Carolina College, Leaksville, Waynesville, and Canton, and won several championships with both Haywood County teams.

Although he has seen many of the state's outstanding girls' teams come and go, Coach Poindexter picks the 1929-29 team of Waynesville as the best of all.

Forwards on that WTHS team, he recalls, were Hilda "Nig" Leatherwood (Mrs. Fred Howell), May Crawford (Mrs. Howard Jennings), sister of All-American football player Freddie Crawford, and Rebecca Reeves (Mrs. Ernest Carver).

Guards were Babe Welch (Mrs. Jack Felmet), Grace Campbell (Mrs. Wilson Fisher), and Gladys Justice (Mrs. James Duval).

That year, Mr. Poindexter also coached the Waynesville, boys, who won the WNC championship in the boys' division.

That famous five included Fred Campbell, Lock Howell, Jack Phillips, Freddie Crawford and George Washington — the latter a Cherokee Indian.

Fielding Improves

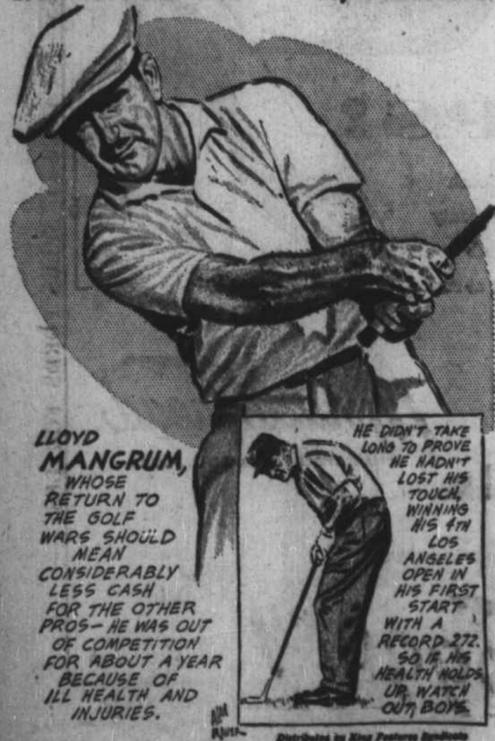
CINCINNATI (AP) — National Leaguers were better fielders in 1955. The 1,135 errors made by the eight teams in the circuit are going on record as the fewest ever made in a season.

Good-Sized Quintet

SANTA CLARA, Calif. (AP) — Bob Feerick's Santa Clara basketball team is fairly well fixed in height. His starting five includes Rich Montgomery (6 feet 7), John Boudreau (6-5), Dick Harrison (6-5), Gary Gillmor (6-0) and Danny Ball 5-11).

WNC League, while the girls have won the championship as the result of beating Beacon last week.

BACK ON THE BEAM - - By Alan Maver



LLOYD MANGRUM, WHOSE RETURN TO THE GOLF WARS SHOULD MEAN CONSIDERABLY LESS CASH FOR THE OTHER PROS— HE WAS OUT OF COMPETITION FOR ABOUT A YEAR BECAUSE OF ILL HEALTH AND INJURIES.

HE DIDN'T TAKE LONG TO PROVE HE HADN'T LOST HIS TOUCH, WINNING HIS 4TH LOS ANGELES OPEN IN HIS FIRST START WITH A RECORD 27. SO IS HIS HEALTH HOLD UP, WATCH OUT, BOYS.

Cone's Toe Will Be Missed

MILWAUKEE (AP)—The Green Bay Packers may be hurting for a kicker of field goals and extra points next season if Fred Cone sticks to his guns and retires.

Packer backers say Cone was about the best in the National Football League, or surely in a class with Cleveland's Lou Groza, often rated tops.

Cone led the league in field goals in 1955 with 16 out of 24 attempts. George Blanda of the Chicago Bears was next with 11 out of 16 and then came Ben Agajanian of the New York Giants with 10 out of 15. Groza made 11 out of 22. In extra points, Blanda and Cone went through the league season without a miss. Blanda booted 37 and Cone made all 30 placements.

Holmes Hit .302

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — Tommy Holmes, the new manager of the Portland Beavers in the Pacific League, compiled a .302 lifetime batting average for 10 years in the National League. He was a standout for nine years with the Boston Braves as a batter and right fielder. He filled out his 10th year as a player with the 1952 Brooklyn Dodgers. In 1,320 league games he made 1,507 hits in 4,992 trips to the plate.



ST. JOHN'S CAGE SQUAD this year is made up of (left to right) Hooper, James Kirkpatrick, James Miller, and Robert Henry. Ronnie Arch, David Green, Ronnie Plemmons, David Jeter, Pete (Mountaineer Photo)