



**BILL CURRIE**

# Mouth of the South

## McMillan's Puzzle

Now behold Tom McMillan, the purported best high school basketball player in the whole rosy-jawed world. At this writing, Tom is sulking in seclusion somewhere, unable to make up his mind whether he will attend North Carolina, Maryland, Virginia, Kentucky or any one of the several hundred other colleges and universities which have stomped to his door offering a scholarship.

By the time you read, he may have signed, since the slaving herd of coaches and hangers-on has been waiting for the momentous event for weeks. But the fact remains that his case is a textbook illustration of what is wrong with college athletic procurement.

Recruiting, as the frenzied pursuit of the blue chip player is called, is a ridiculous rat race run by otherwise intelligent men in the hope that they can enhance their job security by snaring a big one.

It involves not only selling the boy in question, but also his mother and father, brothers, sisters, family priest and heaven knows who else. McMillan, they say, wants to go to North Carolina. His father wants him with Lefty Driesell at Maryland, and his mother wants him in the sequestered vales of the University of Virginia.

## Kid Should Make Own Choice

Of course the parents have the right, even the obligation to guide a boy, but it is utterly ridiculous when an education is free and the competing institutions are virtually identical that the kid shouldn't make his own choice.

What we have seen from the McMillan tribe is an extension of the wild and asinine antics of the typical Little League parents. How terribly barren a life must be when one gets to the place all one has to think about is what a child can do.

No teenaged boy can possibly handle the solicitous idiocy fostered upon him as Tom McMillan has endured. No matter how strong his character may be, and regardless of how well grounded he may be in good sense, a wet-eared kid cannot get all that attention without being adversely affected in that his evaluation of his own worth must, of necessity, be inflated.

There is another aspect of recruiting a real blue chipper which bugs all coaches. If you are the successful bidder for his services, then there is every possibility that one of the losers will call down the NCAA for an investigation of your recruiting practices.

You may be as pure and unsullied as the snow on a convent roof, but when the NCAA wolves begin to bay, you never know what sort of far-fetched conclusions they will reach. Worse, if you are under the evil eye of the NCAA you never know who blew the whistle on you.

It would be so much easier and better if each conference would conduct a draft of the eligible college players. This would then reduce the number of schools which would be in pursuit of a player. Then, under NCAA supervision, each school could be allotted an hour in which to present its case.

## College Drafts

The boy could then elect to visit three schools, and then have a week to make his choice. Failure of the boy to choose in a week would make him ineligible for basketball at any NCAA school. If any school were to cheat and attempt to see him before or after the authorized meeting, then that school would automatically lose all opportunity to sign him.

There would be no policing problems, because the losers would turn the cheaters in faster than a Ku Kluxer will burn a cross.

The result of such a plan would be to bring the expense of recruiting down to a reasonable level, help keep the boy's head within a reasonable size, and speed up the whole dreary process.

Yeah — these would be the results, but there isn't a chance in the world of it. Every coach worth his salt thinks he can win as it is, and as long as they are competitive, then the McMillan saga is a continuing story of juvenile pursuit.



**ROUNDING FIRST** — Donnie Davis rounds first after banging out a hit for the Davie County baseball team. Davis is

one of the top hitters for the Rebs, who will invade North Stanly on Friday. (Photo by Barringer).

# Rebs Travel To N. Stanly

Davie County's Rebels will travel to North Stanly this Friday for a North Piedmont Conference baseball game.

The Rebels will be pinning their hopes on a starting line-up that will consist of Randy McDaniel, Craig Ward, Arny Riddle, Harold Latham, Steve Blackwelder, Danny Correll, Paul Beaver, David Poplin and John McDaniel.

Davie missed a gold opportunity to pull into contention for the NPC lead when it lost, 5-2, to East Rowan's Mustangs last Friday.

The Rebels scored two runs in the bottom of the seventh, and left two base runners stranded as the Mustangs' star left-hander Donnie Basinger came to pitch in relief of C. M. Yates in the inning.

Jake Cauble started East's

big second with a walk. Mike Williams followed with a double to score Cauble. Cecil then hit a 3-2 pitch into the trees in left-center for a 3-0 East lead.

John McDaniel relieved Donnie Davis and struck out Bill Cruse, but Johnny Yarbrough followed with a single. Yarbrough stole second then Rick McBride tripled to score Yarbrough. After C. M. Yates struck out, Donnie Basinger doubled in McBride for a 5-0 lead.

The Rebels broke up starter Yates' shutout in the seventh inning. Davis opened the inning with a single to left, then Danny Correll hit a grounder to Williams at second. First baseman Cruse also attempted to field the ball, and Yates was given an error for not covering first base. The runners advanced to sec-

ond and third on an infield grounder by Arnie Riddle, then Paul Beaver grounded to third base. McBride's throw to the plate was too late to get Davis. David Poplin followed with a single to score Correll.

East Rowan	abr	h	D. County	abr	h
Yarbrough,ss	4	1	R. McDaniel,ss	4	0
McBride,3b	4	1	Ward,2b	3	0
Yates,p	4	0	H. Latham,cf	3	1
Basinger,lf	3	0	Davis,p	3	1
K. Brown,cf	3	0	Correll,rf	3	1
J. Cauble,c	3	1	Riddle,lf	1	0
Williams,2b	2	1	J. McDaniel,p	2	0
Cecil,rf	3	1	Beaver,3b	3	0
Cruse,lb	3	0	Poplin,c	3	0
Totals	29	5	10	Seafood,pr	0
				Blackwelder,lb	2
				Anderson,ph	1
				Totals	28
					2
					5

Score by innings:  
 East Rowan.....050 000 0—5  
 Davie County.....000 000 2—2  
 Errors — Yates 2, 2B — Basinger, Williams, 3B — McBride, HR — Cecil, RBI — Cecil 2, Williams, McBride, Basinger, Beaver, Poplin, SB — Brown, Yarbrough, Cruse, Williams, Strikeouts — Yates 2, Basinger 1, Davis 2, J. McDaniel 3, Walks — Yates 0, Basinger 0, Davis 1, J. McDaniel 0, W — Yates (4), L — Davis.

Thanking You For Your  
Vote and Support

In The Democratic Primary, May 2nd..

**James A. (Jim) Eaton**

Democratic Candidate  
For County Commissioner



"I urge everyone to use their American privilege and vote May 2nd for the candidate of choice."