

Sportsviews

Bill Russell Earns MVP Award For Leadership

by Ray Duckworth

On October 30, 1980, the Professional Basketball Writers Association of America named Bill Russell the greatest player in the history of the sport. Russell, a cog in the Boston Celtics for 13 pro seasons, was given the award in honor of the NBA's 35th Anniversary.

Many followers of professional basketball feel that Wilt Chamberlain deserved the presentation. If the panel had gone by statistics, Chamberlain would have won the award hands down.

In his 14 year career, Chamberlain, known as "The Stilt," compiled a record total of 31,419 points. On March 2, 1962, Wilt became the only player in NBA history to score 100 points in a single game. He went on to average a record 50.4 points per game for that season. He is first on the rebounding list with 23,924 for his career, and he also holds the record of the number of rebounds in one game, 55, against the Boston Celtics.

In the June 8, 1970, edition of Sports Illustrated, Bill Russell says, "No one has ever been sure what I valued, and where I was really vunerable. This made me especially effective against Wilt Chamberlain. I confused him. On the other hand, Wilt has really been the victim of an informal conspiracy ... Wilt got tricked; he fell for the statistics game the way most fans and writers do. They emphasized points, so Wilt went out and got points. More than anyone. Then they said rebounds, so he went out and got the most rebounds. He was doing everything the statistics conspiracy told him to do, but he was an also-ran. So wait a minute, it must be assists. Wilt went right out and got the most assists for a center."

However, the writers did not get fooled by the statistics. They read between the lines as they looked for the man who had been a dominating force and a leader for his team. When they did this, they realized that Russell did deserve the award.

Russell, while playing for the Celtics, helped lead the team to 11 championships in 13 years. He is second to Chamberlain in rebounds with 21,620. Also, Russell's supporters call him the most outstanding defensive player and shot blocker in the history of the NBA.

The October 31st edition of the Asheville Citizen quotes Red Auerbach, Russell's coach at Boston, as saying, "He was one of the brightest, smartest players ever. You might fool him once, but you could never fool him twice — never. He always made the big play. He developed the blocked shot into an art form. And he was team oriented — all he wanted to do was win ... He was the greatest player to ever play the game of basketball."

The panel also made other decisions at a luncheon honoring the presentation. It named Red Auerbach the greatest coach of NBA history. The writers named the 1966-67 Philadelphia 76ers the league's greatest team.

Also it named an eleven player team including centers Russell, Chamberlain, Kareem Abdul-Jabbar and George Mikan, forwards Elgin Baylor, Bob Pettit, Julius Erving and John Havlicek, and guards Oscar Robertson, Jerry West and Bob Cousey.

John Havlicek sums everything up when he says, "Everyone on this list was a great player. I think what made this group stand out is that everyone of us here had fun playing the game."

Clarion Forecast			
Saturday, November 22			
Home		Away	
Clemson	16	South Carolina	26
UNC	24	Duke	15
Florida State	23	Florida	15
Ohio State	25	Michigan	22
UCLA	20	USC	21
Sunday, November 23			
Atlanta	21	Chicago	17
Tampa Bay	18	Detroit	21
Philadelphia	24	Oakland	20
Buffalo	20	Pittsburgh	23
New England	26	Baltimore	21



Randy Ward, Ronnie Treadway, and John Delaney are Brevard's three All-Americans.

Three Named All-American

Cross Country Team Is Second Nationally

by Ray Duckworth

Coach Norm Witek is trying to rearrange his office, for he now has three more Cross Country All Americans, which is the most Brevard has ever had, and nowhere to place their plaques. These three All-Americans, Ronnie Treadway, Randy Ward, and John Delaney, helped lead the team to a second place finish in the nationals on November 8.

Treadway, who was the only returning All-American from last year to repeat, finished in eighth place. He was followed by Randy Ward, 17th, and Delaney, 19th. Other Brevard finishers included Roger Saltsman, 42nd, Ed Fore, 44th, Eric Daye, 52nd, and Mark Kennard, 79th.

Brevard had a 0:44 split between Treadway and Fore. Pima College, which finished first, had only a 0:33 split between its number one and five runners.

Coach Witek said about the team's finish, "I was very pleased. Pima ran exceptionally well. It would have taken an exceptional run for us to have beaten them."

This second place finish is the highest finish for Coach Witek, and it is the first time since 1967 that Brevard has finished that high.

The Harriers end their season with 34 consecutive duel meet victories over the past four years. They finished fourth in the state

and won the Region X Championship for the 11th straight year. The team won the Jackson Invitational for the first time. Incidentally, three of the top four finishers in the nationals, Brevard, Southern Michigan, and Jackson, were in that meet. Also the team was ranked second nationally for the first time.

Coach Witek sums up this year's squad by saying, "It's been one of the greatest group of kids I have ever had. We had no discipline problems. A coach couldn't have asked more of his kids. They would pick up the slack if someone had trouble. These guys may have run beyond their own feelings to pick up the slack."

Brevard Loses To Hiwassee

by Gregg Largen

The Brevard men's basketball team was defeated by a score of 90-80 by a tough Hiwassee Junior College team Saturday, November 8 in the Tornado's season opener.

Hiwassee jumped to an early eight point lead nine minutes into the first half and by halftime had extended its lead to 16 points while making the score 47-31.

In the second half Brevard's troubles continued as Hiwassee put 10 unanswered points on the board until a basket by guard Mel Melton gave Brevard its first points of the half. Hiwassee extended its lead to 29 points. However, at the 7:30 mark, Brevard's Skip Long recovered a loose ball and took it in for two points. From this point on Brevard outscored Hiwassee 34 to 17, showing a lot of hustle and enthusiasm in the final ten minutes of the second half.

The Tornados were led by Trent Westmoreland with 22 points. Mel Melton followed closely with 14.

Brevard's coach Sam Lewis summed up his feelings on the game, "I was pleased with the enthusiasm and hustle, and I feel that everyone gave 100%. I think what hurt us most in the game was our lack of experience at the

college level." He continued saying, "I am still confident though that by the end of the year we will have reached our potential."

Brevard travels to Hiwassee Saturday for a rematch with the Tigers. The team's next home game will be Wednesday, December 3, when it hosts Spartanburg Methodist.

Green Dorm Leads In Flag Football

By Brian Gillespie

At the halfway point of the Intramural flag football season, Green Dorm has a perfect 3-0 record

In the first week, Taylor beat Ross Hall 22-6 and Green shut out the Day Students.

The second week saw Beam split a couple of games, a 28-8 win over Taylor and a 28-20 loss to

Green. Ross Hall evened its record at 1-1 with a 20-6 win over the Day Students.

In the third week of the season, Green won a controversial 12-10 game over Taylor to keep its flawless mark, and Beam came from behind to hand the Day Students an 18-14 loss, when Beam scored a touchdown in the last five seconds of the game.