



At this particular time of the year it seems that most of the boys in the local high are participating in one kind of sport or another. With tennis, golf, and baseball in full swing, there is plenty of reason for this.

So far the baseball team, under the Coaching of Clet C. Cleetwood, has won one game, beating Greenville by a score of 10-1. Altogether they have played four games. Ed Braswell is the big man with the stick this year with a batting average of .531. Following closely to Ed is George Pearce who is hitting .455.

Coach Lundy's tennis team is doing an exceptionally good job. They played two matches, one with Tarboro and one with Wilson and have won each.

The major league regular season play got its start yesterday.

Tennis Team Advances As Daughtridge Stars

With three games under their belts the Rocky Mount high school tennis team is now just about situated and can tell which man belongs in what position.

So far this year C. C. Daughtridge, a second year man, is playing the number one position while Wallace Johnson, who has been sick most of the season, is the number two man. Holding down the number three position is Charlie "Wally" Putman, a first year man. For the past two games Putman has been working at the number two post because of Johnson's absence. The rest of the squad consists of freshmen and sophomores, which might prove helpful in the coming two years.

Some real pitcher's duels were in hand as the New York Giants Sal Maglie boasting a 23-6 record will meet Robin Roberts (21-15), Philadelphias' best. Warren Spahn took mound duties for the Boston Braves face the Brooklyn Dodgers. The Dodgers will pitch Preacher Roe.

Local baseball fans got their first look at the Rocky Mount Leafs when they met Durham in the Municipal Stadium, Monday. The Leafs should have a good team this year under the direction of their new skipper, Paul Badgett. This game was the first exhibition game; the one with Danville last Friday was called off.

FORMER RM STAR WITH CUBS



Former 'Bird' Flying High

Gene Hooks, former Rocky Mount high school star, started off his second year of pro-baseball yesterday for the Springfield Cubs in Springfield, Massachusetts.

After spring training with the club in Clewiston, Florida, Gene recently played in Durham when Springfield met Durham in an exhibition game.

His athletic career began in RMHS when Caruso was head coach here. He started in baseball and basketball, then, and even though he played no football, he acted as manager.

It was a loss to Rocky Mount high school when in 1945 he graduated and entered an Air Technical School. After serving one year, he went to Wake Forest where he spent four years outstanding in sports and scholarship.

During this time this Eagle Scout from Rocky Mount was elected to the Collegian "Who's

Who" of the United States. He was also taped into the O. D. K. which recognized him for his excellent work.

Most outstanding was the fact that in his third year at Wake Forest he was put on the All-American-Collegian baseball team. It was that year that the team went to Witchitah, Kansas, where they proved themselves to be the No. 2 team in the Nation.

Graduating in 1950 Gene was bought by the Chicago Cubs and since then has been playing for farm teams of the Cubs. He was tried on second base and in outfield, but made third base his spot for Springfield.

The Red and Blue golf tournament scheduled for Carolina Country Club has been postponed because of the conflict with the Greensboro Open.

Blackbirds Drop Game In Ten Inning Thriller

Albert Farmer went all the way for the Blackbirds in a ten inning thriller, which saw the Fayetteville Bulldogs go ahead in the last of the tenth to take the game 6-5, Thursday.

The Birds took the lead and held a 5-run margin until the last of the sixth when Farmer weakened and the score was tied, 5-5. The tenth inning winning score was the only other tally of the game.

Leading hitters for the game were Bobby Patterson and Eddie Pennington with two hits each. Ed Braswell, although with only one hit during the game, was hot with the bat also. He knocked in three of the Birds' five runs.

Third Loss For Locals

This game marked the third loss for the locals, with only one win—against non-conference Greenville. Two of the three losses were by close scores. Against Durham the Birds were defeated in the last of the ninth inning on an error which broke up a 10-10 tie game. Wilson is the only team which seemed to have no trouble with the Birds. They whipped up a score of 19-8.

Although losing, the Birds have shown a lot of strength at the plate. Nearly everyone on the team is hitting well. Outstanding among them is Edward Braswell, who leads the team with a .455 batting average.

Coach Cleetwood made shifts on the squad, putting catcher Eddie Pennington on third base. Willie Green, former third baseman, went to the outfield to fill in for R. G. Capps, who dropped from the squad, and Bobby Owens took over the backstopping chores.

Yesterday the diamond-boys traveled to Wilmington with the golf and tennis teams to play their fourth conference game.



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