

Ninth Inning Tally Tops Locals

Birds Sport Seasoned Team Against Strong Diamond Foes

Rocky Mount high school's baseball boys have shown a big improvement over the past few years. Already with nearly half the season over, the Birds have topped last year's record. This year's starting group is made up of all experienced boys. Coach Cleetwood says that the same boys will probably carry the burden the rest of the season.

Clem Edwards is acting as the backbone of the team. He played last year and is doing an outstanding job in catcher's position. The mound staff consists of three dependable men, Manly Godwin, William Green and Addison Wimberly. Godwin is a junior and acts as the number one hurler for the Blackbirds. William Green, who is the team's number one hitter, has covered the short stop position but is pulled in to pitch when needed. Green is a senior. Wimberly, a sophomore, has shown real control and will be a big support the rest of the season.

Bobby is a junior and is one of the team's top hitters. He and George Pearce have worked into a classy double play pair. George, holding second, acts as captain. He previously was the captain of the school's cage team. George will graduate this year.

Green and Bobby Deans complete the infield. Deans, recently elected editor of the school yearbook, covers third, filling in at short when Green pitches. Bobby is a junior and has been outstanding in both football and basketball. Gordon Waters fills in at third. Waters has plenty of experience and is about the only replacement Coach Cleetwood is using. He is a junior and was a dependable ball carrier in junior varsity football.

Patterson Holds First Base

Robby Patterson, who has excelled in football, basketball, and baseball, is holding first base.

SPORTS SCHEDULE

- April 24—Goldsboro, Tennis; Greenville, Golf—there.
- April 28—Durham (There)—Baseball, Tennis, Golf.
- May 1—Wilson (Here)—Baseball, Tennis, Golf.
- May 4—Greenville (Here)—Golf.
- May 5—Fayetteville (There)—Baseball, Tennis, Golf.
- May 7—Wilmington (There)—Baseball, Tennis, Golf.
- May 11—Durham (Here)—Tennis.
- May 12—Raleigh (Here)—Baseball, Tennis, Golf.
- May 15—Goldsboro (There)—Baseball.
- April 24—Tennis, Golf.
- April 28—Baseball.

Outfield Protected

The outfielders are Raymond Highsmith, Edward Braswell, and Stan Still. Braswell, a senior, and Highsmith, a junior, are both known for their play on the varsity football squad. Gator, as Edward is known, also was a basketball letterman and has been outstanding in class leadership. Still, a junior, played varsity basketball. He is an exceedingly quiet boy but proves a sure team maker in the future.

Coach Cleetwood says that these boys make up the team this season. He will make no announcements about replacements until the latter part of the season.

RM Handed Third Loss In Conference Play

It was nip and tuck all the way until a ninth inning score on a nice bunt scored the winning run as Raleigh handed the Blackbirds their third conference loss 4-3.

Red Strickland, Raleigh's ace, pitched probably his best game of the season, holding the locals to three hits. Addison Wimberly, hurling for RM, nearly matched Strickland's feat holding Raleigh to three hits. Addison Wimberly, held his own eight innings but needed William Green's assistance in the ninth after allowing the winning scorer to reach base.

RM Ace Fields

Manley Godwin, Rocky Mount's ace hurler, covered left field, due to Raymond Highsmith's absence, and came through with the first Blackbird hit. He drove George Pierce home for RM's first tally. Clem Edwards singled Godwin home.

The Caps, after breaking the goose-egg in the third, scored two more in the sixth to take a 3-2 lead. Rocky Mount tied the score in the eighth at 3-3 setting the stage for the winning score for Raleigh.

Bad breaks highlighted the Bird's play. Stan Sill was caught stealing home in the sixth in a close play. In the seventh Rocky Mount loaded the bases with none-away. Lark was bad again. Raleigh's ace picked the man off third and struck out the next two batters.

Rocky Mount now holds a 2-3 record, the same as Raleigh's.



The golf squad, pictured bottom left, are, from the left, Stan Leggett, Weaver Wrenn, Fred Lee, Bill Toler, and Fred Sexton. Pictured top right are Sexton and Toler; left are Lee and Wrenn. Leggett tees off in the bottom right.

Photo by Barringer

Baseball, Tennis, Golf, Track Feature Sports This Spring

Spring sports—golf, tennis and track and of course, baseball—have started with a bang.

Forty boys are out for the track team this year which has a schedule of two meets with Greenville. Last year the Blackbirds defeated Greenville twice and represented Rocky Mount in the state meet at Chapel Hill.

The tennis team has opened the season with five wins, four of them conference matches. The Birds dropped Tarboro 10-0 in a non-conference match. They then met Wilson, Fayetteville, Wilmington and Raleigh taking these matches 7-2, 9-0, 7-2, and 6-3 consecutively. The team has 8

more matches to play.

The team suffered a setback when it lost Charlie Putnam who is unable to play anymore this season because of an afternoon job that keeps him from practice. This loss moves Dwight Hinton and George Burton up to the one and two spots.

The high school golf team got off to a slow start this season when they met Durham high and suffered an 8-0 defeat at the hands of the pros.

The golfers then went to Wilson where they defeated the Cyc golfers 15½-2½.

Things got tough when Fayetteville traveled to Rocky Mount to defeat the local team 9½-8½ and Wilmington followed up this defeat two days later by handing the Birds a 15½-2½ defeat. The team has 7 more matches to play and has been cut to five men and should start to get on the ball. RM's record dropped to a one-sided 1-4 when Raleigh handed them a fourth loss, 16½-1½.

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