

## Sports Scope

By  
**Sonny Cherry**



As school gets underway once more at RMSHS, one word can be heard louder and more often than any other — football!

This is no accident, however, as it looks like the year for the Blackbirds. Opening with an impressive 34-0 victory over Oxford Orphanage, the Birds played a promising offensive and a terrific defensive brand of ball.

This pattern was continued in the Salisbury game as the locals unleashed a devastating ground game to whip the Yellow Jackets 18-0 without throwing a pass. Halfbacks Harper and Bell consistently ate up yardage, and fullback Maples ripped off several long runs. The entire line looked very sharp, both on offense and defense, with Fred Harris playing an exceptionally fine defensive ball game.

The Wilmington encounter should prove quite a tussle as the Wildcats have looked good in their early games. However, it looks from here as if the Blackbirds should be too much for the Wildcats, (sticking my neck out,) I'll say by about 13 points in a low-scoring ball game.

### School Spirit

Being big (197 pound average on the line) and tough, the Birds could go a long way. Much of their success depends on the support of the student body, however, and it will give the team something to really fight for if they can feel this support. The cheerleaders are doing a fine job this year but need the support of everyone in order to keep the spirit high. Let's stay behind the team all the way.

# Rampaging Birds Beat Quakes



**HIGH FLYING BLACKBIRD** — Big Donald Stallings, 220 pound Blackbird tackle, toughens up for Wilmington encounter.  
Photo by Barringer.

## Win Third Game Birds Undefeated

Rocky Mount fought its way to victory Friday night over Goldsboro by a score of 13-0, a score which does not tell the true story of the game as the Birds played most of the time in Goldsboro territory.

All of the scoring came in the second quarter with Bunny Bell doing the honors. His first tally came on an 11 yard sprint around end. Adam Maples was true with the try for extra point and the Birds led 7-0.

Minutes later an intercepted pitch out set up the second TD. This time Bell went over from the three yard line. The extra point was no good.

### Birds Defeat Oxford

Blackbirds open season by soundly trouncing the outclassed Oxford Red Devils, an eleven who fought gamely but could not match the potent running attack and iron clad defense unveiled by the Birds.

Ray Harper started the fireworks in the first quarter by plunging over from four yards out. He scored again in the last quarter with Adam Maples kicking the extra point true the second time.

After a scoreless second quarter, the Birds roared back with three touchdowns. Scoring for the locals in that quarter were Bunny Bell, Bruce Ethridge, and Donald Birchfield.

Guard Paul Eilers played a tremendous game on offense and defense.

### Locals Outfight Salisbury

Bunny Bell with two TD's and Ray Harper with one led the Blackbirds to a well earned victory over highly-touted Salisbury.

Bell scored in the second and fourth quarters on runs of six and four yards. His first score was set up on a 60-yard sprint by Adam Maples. An intercepted pass by Ray Harper set up the second one.

In the third quarter Harper climaxed a 65-yard sustained drive by diving over from the three yard line.

The Birds showed tremendous defensive power with co-captains' Fred Harris and Pat Warren standing out magnificently.

## Blackbirds Have Eyes On Undefeated Season

"Three down and seven to go!" is what the Birds are yelling as practice begins for the Wilmington battle, which promises to be a close one.

The team then returns for an encounter with the Fayetteville eleven. They are expected to field a fast, hard-hitting team. Then Rocky Mount battles the Bears of New Bern there. This is one of the stronger AA clubs and will provide stiff competition for any-

one. Conference champion Durham follows New Bern and as usual they are the team to beat. The locals then travel to Washington for what the team hopes will be a breather. Raleigh will bring to town a much improved team and could spell trouble.

Rocky Mount closes the season with arch rival Wilson and will be out to revenge the upset of last year.

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