

Tennis, Golf, Baseball In Season

Veterans Compose Net Team; Golfers Lack Experience

With five of the the top six men on last year's strong tennis team returning, netters are looking forward to one of the finest seasons ever, while the golfers have only one letterman returning.

Pre-season postholders for the "racquetees" are expected to be **Reed Nelson**, junior, first; **Blarney Tanner**, junior, second; **Russ Clack**, senior, third; **Bob Carr**, senior, fourth; **Ed Dunn**, junior, fifth; and **Butch Jones**, junior, taking over for graduated **J. B. Williford**, sixth.

Players, Schedule Listed

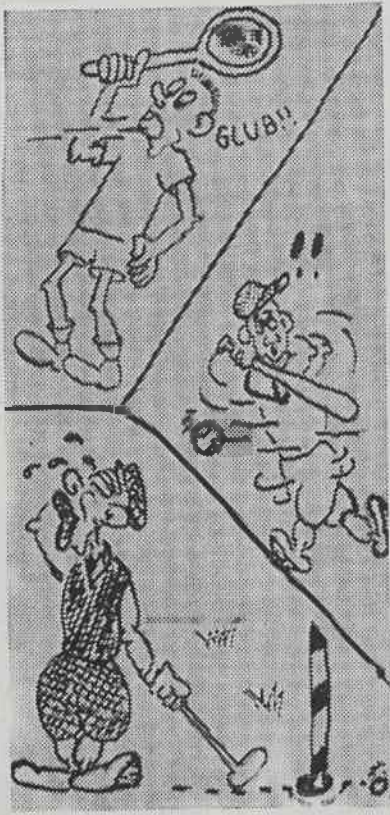
Other players on the squad who are expected to give the top six a fight are **Henry Hinson**, **Randy Vick**, **Harry Felton**, and **Phil Harris**.

This year's tentative schedule is as follows:

Date	Opponent	Place
March 28	Durham	There
April 1	Wilson	Here
April 8	Wilmington	There
April 11	Raleigh	Here
April 15	Goldsboro	There
April 24	Wilson	There
April 28	Durham	Here
May 2	Wilmington	Here
May 6	Raleigh	There
May 9	Goldsboro	Here

Golf Features Youth

Golf team features a young and untried squad to do the job of last year's team, which was fourth in the state, with **Haywood Evans**



being the only returning letterman.

Those wishing to fill the shoes of **Adam Maples**, **Ed Justa**, and **Don Harris** are **Pat Thurman**, **Alan Cronenberg**, **Dan Robbins**, **Henry Waters**, **Kit Ellington** and **John Tullous**.

Practice for the green team began yesterday and the boys will start playing for position the weekend of March 22.

Baseball Tryouts Show Fair Team For This Spring

Baseball practice started March 3 with only a few hopefuls trying out for the team, but, the general opinion of these is that if they work hard at least fourth place is theirs.

Sandy Dalton, junior pitcher, said, "This year's teams look as good as last year's, even if we did lose several of our best players. I expect the sophomores to be the bulk of the team and will see a lot of action."

Alton Oakley, senior letterman, will be the top pitcher and is expected to repeat the same fine performance he did last year. **Bill Dunn**, letterman outfielder, and **David Harper**, secondbase letterman, are two more seniors who are expected to help form the nucleus of the team.

Kenneth Phelps, junior pitcher, predicts, "Hard work and sophomores will determine our conference standing this year. I choose Wilmington to lead the league. Hitting will make or break us," he added.

Transfer student **Chuck Short** from Ronoake, Virginia, where he lettered last year at shortstop, will give the team a boost. **Chuck** maintained a high hitting average all last season for his school.



The Dim View

By Russ Clack

Bird Cagers wound up with a respectable 6-6 record in AAA Conference play and are to be congratulated. The boys worked hard and made the season a fine one ending with the triumph over Wilmington.

Next year's team should be better as this year's team was composed mostly of juniors. Seniors playing their last game were **Bob Moore**, **Jimmy Parker**, **Russ Clack**, **David Harper**, and **Tommy Reese**.

With spring sports starting their schedules at the end of the month, teams have started practicing. Baseball got a jump on tennis and golf starting on March 3, with the

other two starting March 10.

On the tennis courts, whenever weather permits, **Reed Nelson** is being seen swinging away at the little white ball; **Blarney Tanner** and **Ed Dunn** have also done their share of practicing.

Golfing takes the attention of **Haywood Evans** and **John Tullous** who are often seen perfecting their putts and such strolling around the golf course.

It has been heard through the grapevine that we may have a track team. If so, it will be a worthy addition to RM's list of sports activities.

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Has Successful Year Cage Drama Draws Curtains

Birds were rated as a darkhorse in State AAA Tournament as a result of their win over Wilmington, but this didn't help as they lost to Greensboro Whirlies, 64-47.

Local hoopsters displayed their abilities as they defeated the Wildcats of Wilmington by 67-54, February 18. Three men scored in double figures for RM. **Haywood Evans** hit for 22, **Ed Dunn** dropped in 16 and **Bob Moore**, who ended his high school basketball career



Ayers

with a fine showing, racked up 17 tallies and pulled down 14 rebounds... **Bobby Joe Ayers** led the fine defensive effort.

Whirlies Defeat Birds

Whirlies defeated the Black and Gold in the first round of the tournament, February 26, as they bottled up **Evans** holding him to 12 points, which also defeated his chance of breaking the RM school scoring record. Other Birds were free but just couldn't get their shots to fall. **Evans** secured 10 rebounds and **Moore** came through with 13 points for high



Moore

scoring honors and 7 rebounds.

Rocky Mount kept within striking distance of the Whirlies up to the latter part of the third quarter when the lead was stretched to 14 points. At the close of the last quarter it had been increased to 17.

For the Birds it was (all-around) a night of poor shooting as they hit 14 for 54 shots, giving them a low 25.9 percent. After hitting 4 out of 5 charity throws in the first quarter, they missed 17 in the final three quarters.

Evans Paces Cagers

Blackbirds were paced this year by 6-0 forward, **Haywood Evans**, who also lead the league in scoring and free throw shooting. **Haywood** finished with a 19.3 average, 231 points in 12 games, as opposed to 151 points in 9 games, 16.8 average by center **John Key** of Durham. At the charity line

Evans led again as he hit 81 of 103 attempts for a 78.6 percentage with **Key** again holding the second spot with 77.1 percentage.



Evans

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