

Talbott, Clayton Receive Awards For Outstanding Football Records

Danny Talbott and Butch Clayton, two fine reasons why the Rocky Mount Senior High School won its first 4-A state football championship this year, have recently been honored for their outstanding achievements this season.

Talbott received the "outstanding back of the Shrine Bowl"

trophy, while Clayton was the recipient of the "Billy Smith Trophy", as the Blackbirds most outstanding interior lineman.

Talbott, a tremendous quarterback who continues to prove that he cannot be stopped when a victory is needed, won his top honor by leading the North Carolina All-Stars to a 14-7 victory over

South Carolina in the annual Shrine Bowl, held in Charlotte.

The many-talented Rocky Mount star guided the Tar Heels to a fourth period score that provided the winning margin, and also had a hand in every other point the N. C. team tallied, to run away with the games top honor.

In the final period with the score tied 7-7, the Tar Heels drove to score behind Talbott. Doing just what he did all season, when he led the RM Blackbirds to the state crown, Talbott started the drive with a fine 31-yard run and capped the drive with a seven-yard touchdown scamper.

Besides booting both N. C. extra points and playing a terrific defensive game, Talbott's passing set up the first Tar Heel score and aided in the other.

Clayton, and outstanding guard on the Blackbird championship team, was recently honored at a Sportman's Club Banquet as the team's "lineman of the year".

Clayton, who was a defensive terror in the RMHS line and a fine blocking guard, passed all the requirements necessary to win the honor. The requirements are being a fine student, a fine football interior lineman, and a fine young man, in general.

Frank Figments

By MIKE FLOYD

Losing the first basketball game of the season is tough on a team. But Rocky Mount's defeat at the hands of Kinston should prove to be more good than bad.

The game proved several things. The most obvious, by far, was that the team needs practice. Six of the eight boys that played in the Kinston game are members of the state championship football team. Their football season ended only two weeks prior to the opening basketball game. Three out of the nine practice days were for the coaches to decide who would make the team. Danny Talbott had only one week between football and basketball. The Tuesday before the game was the first day of practice for him. That day he hurt his ankle and sat out most of the practice. The next day, he pulled a muscle in his other leg and was still showing signs of it in the Kinston game.

Harold Earnhardt, veteran center of last year's state runners-up, sprained his ankle and probably won't be in shape for any games prior to the Christmas holidays.

These may sound like excuses, and they are to some degree. If you have any condolences for the team, you should offer them

in the near future. For once the Blackbirds start rolling in good style, you won't have any such chance.

Besides having veterans that are sure to come through with key plays, Coach Bill Lundy has found another strong point on the team. He is a sophomore, and in the Kinston Game, (his first varsity contest) he looked as good as anybody on the court. Henry Strickland is his name, and I'm sure you'll hear the name a lot in the next few years. Strickland grabbed 10 rebounds in the Kinston game and played all around heads-up ball.

Bill Russell of the Boston Celtics owns a rubber plantation in Liberia.

Larry Henry, a member of the UNC track team, who runs without shoes, comes from Horse Shoe, N. C.

The UNC tennis team won its fifth straight ACC tennis championship last spring. The team ran up a 22-1 record, and will have every member of that team back again this year.

The sophomore fullback of the University of Pittsburgh ran the ball 103 times this season without a fumble. He lost only two yards rushing and he gained a total of 454 yards.



GRIDDERS HONORED—Danny Talbott, with his Shrine Bowl trophy, and Butch Clayton, with his Billy Smith trophy, admire trophies won by other outstanding Senior High teams and individuals in past years. (Photo by Killebrew)

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