Birds Drop Season Opener

JV's Face Kinston

After 58-54 Victory

Plagued By Bad Shooting

On December 1, the final Tony Bossolono. The sopho-pressure, accuracy in shooting, roster for the 1965-66 varsity mores were Bill Griffin, Dickie defense and ability to play as basketball squad appeared on Berry and Tim Ballou. the boys' locker room door. These were the boys that Twelve names were listed and Coach Lundy thought would do

were as follows: seniors, Woody the best job out of the boys Webb, Bill Robbins, Warren that tried out. During those two (Shorty) Broughton, Mike weeks that the players went Colombo, Robert Edwards, and through numerous exercises, Don Holt. The juniors were Lundy paid particular attention Chuck Ball, Tony Davis and to such things as coolness under

a team. The Blackbirds started off the

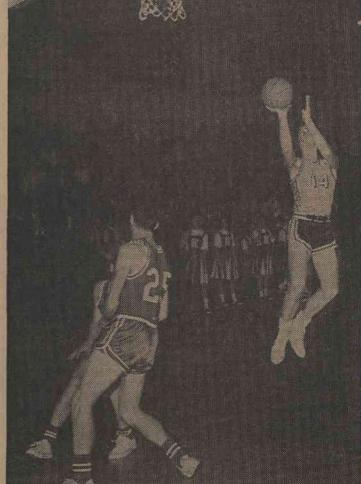
1965-66 basketball season against Kinston here on December 7 losing to the Red Devils 54-40. The Birds just couldn't hit the basket either from the floor or from the free throw line as Kinston raced into a 30-9 lead over the Birds with three minutes left in the first half.

Going into the third quarter, Rocky Mount clamped down with some heads-up defense, better shooting and began to control the ball better. The Birds then came within nine points of the Red Devils at 25-34. But going into the fourth quarter, Kinston began to once again pull ahead with great shooting accuracy and a scrappy defense. One of the main set backs was the cold shooting from the free throw line as Rocky Mount hit only 12 out of 36 attempts.

Lundy commented that Kinston's tough pressure defense caused our inexperienced team to make as many mistakes as they did. After that first game, the boys will begin to blend together and play good basket-

Rocky Mount didn't have any players in the double figures but Warren Broughton had nine Bill Robbins with six, Mike Colombo, Chuck Ball and Woody Webb each putting in five, Tony Davis and Robert Edwards both scoring four and Dickie Berry for two totaling-up the 40 points for Rocky Mount.
Tonight the Blackbirds are

traveling to Kinston to once again take on the Red Devils in a non-conference battle. With the experience already gained from Kinston plus the game with Wilson, our Birds should really give a good showing.



R. M. ACTION-Bill Griffin goes up for a jump shot against Kinston here on Dec. 7. Kinston won the game 54-40. (Photo by Killebrew)

the Jayvees of Kinston by a have a winning ball club. Three boys, who would ordin-

score of 58-54. Before the game Coach Ray Durham was a little concerned over the lack of height on the team as compared to that of Kinston, but as the game progressed, Rocky Mount put out an outstanding effort to command the boards for most of the game. Coach Durham said later that rebounding, along with continuing hustle and strong desire, were the strong

points of that game. He also pointed out that missing 19 free throws, lack of consistent good defense and overall poor shooting were among the weak points. Improvement through the season will make a big difference in future games more patient in their offense is not the most "feared" team and with nearly all the boys that we will play.

On December 7, the Jayvees having fine potential, diligent won an impressive victory over work along with the desire already shown, our Jayvees will

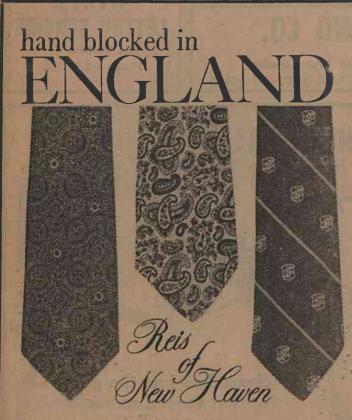
arily start for the Jayvees, were brought up on the varsity. These are Dickie Berry, Tim Ballou, and Bill Griffin. The Babybirds have only one boy who is over six feet, Mike Viverette, 6'1" center.

The outstanding offensive players were Steve Battle with 19 points and Steve Broughton hitting 15. Leading the defensive efforts were Rob Pitt and Mike Viverette, who pulled down 14 rebounds.

Tonight the Babybirds will travel to Kinston to play them again, but Coach Durham believes that Kinston will be more than ready to play us on their because the team is becoming home court. However, Kinston

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Senior League Basketball

There seems to be quite a season ahead. Persons, either lot of enthusiasm concerning as a team or by themselves, basketball on the voluntary can go to the Y.M.C.A. and scale for those who like to spend an afternoon sharpening play but just can't seem to be up. able to find the time or aren't good enough to play on the is not only to hand over a ball school teams.

This year, the Y.M.C.A. is once again sponsoring a league for the boys in senior high to accomodate the number of boys who wish to participate. Also, the Optimist Club, in conjunction with the Rocky Mount Recreational Department, will again sponsor a senior league helping the boys out in finding a place to get together and play basketball.

Practice games have already been scheduled and are in the process of being played to get the boys in shape for the long

The purpose of these leagues to some boys and let them have a good time but also to teach self-discipline and to practice teamwork as well as striving for individual recognition. The games are not conducted in a haphazard manner but are supervised by competent adults serving as coaches and as referees.

Some of the boys participating in the leagues are Danny Williford, Ronnie Bell, Butch Thompson, Bobby Gunn, Tom Jones, Henry Amerson, Rem Powell, David Williamson, and Brack Godwin.

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