

Girl's Tennis Team Raises Rackets

This year's Rocky Mount Senior High girls tennis team is a very young squad consisting of 13 netters. There are eight returning racketeers among whom are Charlotte Ward, Lynn Hodges, Gaye Shearin, Mae Jackson, Allison Aldridge, Ginny Riddick, Georgianna Holding and Amelia White, all juniors. But only Charlotte Ward started last year.

Here are Coach Judy Bradshaw's evaluations of this year's team members: Charlotte Ward: "Strongest, she has the potential to be a good player. The change from #6 to #1 this year has been a big step which will require much practice and hard work in order to win this year." Lynn Hodges: "She is most consistent, needs to be more aggressive at the net." Denise Ward: "She is a senior

playing for the first year. Denise makes beginner's mistakes. Gaye Shearin is the most improved since last year, has good serve, is a good net player. Georgianna Holding needs to be more aggressive but has potential to be a good player. Allison Aldridge has good served, good backhand. With practice Allison will develop into a good tennis player. Amelia White and Ginny Riddick are a good doubles team but need to concentrate more on strategy. Wim Braswell, a sophomore, has potential to be a good tennis player with experience and practice, has done well in doubles even though inexperienced." Other members of the tennis team are Mae Jackson, Pam Parker, Debbie Bulluck, and Dorothy Steadman.



1976 GIRLS TENNIS TEAM — Coach Judy Bradshaw fields a young girls tennis squad. [photo by T. Bulluck]

Skiing Fun For Everyone

Water skiing — the sport of adverse conditions. Man is not supposed to stand upon the water. Yet, for many people, their sole objective in life is to be able to achieve this and to be good at it.

Admittedly, for the average person, getting up on two skis is not outstandingly difficult. However, most people cannot be satisfied with skiing behind the boat for hours upon hours doing nothing but skiing in a straight line. After a while they get inventive. They will try many new things such as

jumping the wake of the boat and "whipping" when the boat turns around.

After awhile through, this even gets old and soon another step needs to be made. Usually this means going to "slalom" or one ski. Usually, the challenge is this phase of skiing comes when a person tries to make the biggest "rooster trail" possible without falling.

From here it's a person's own game. A skilled skier can jump on a ski jump, ski barefoot (no skis) or even join the tournament trail.

Lottery Could Endanger Sports

Delaware recently became the first state to institute government run betting on National Football League games. This will not necessarily deter illegal gambling, but more than likely increase illegal gambling in every aspect of sports.

Now that one state has ventured into legalized gambling, other states are sure to follow suit by passing similar laws. These will probably be expanded to allow gambling in baseball, basketball, and other sports.

Legal gambling also broadens the bettor's knowledge, and he soon learns that he can acquire better returns on a winning wager from illegal bookmakers. Another reason for resorting to illegal gambling is one can bet by telephone, doesn't have to pay a federal excise tax on his wagers, and can avoid federal income taxes on gambling winnings.

Not only will legal gambling cause more illegal gambling, but will also induce problems

within football itself. If legalized gambling disseminates to other states, will games be fixed or arranged for gambling purposes? This is a big question for bookmakers and National Football League officials alike. The bookies positively want games to be fixed because their net gross would enlarge. But football fans, officials, players, and owners obviously don't want speculating to interfere with the games. Fixed games would amplify and enhance gambling and diminish the excitement and flare of profes-

sional football. Fans would lose interest and enthusiasm completely.

Most fans look up to these outstanding athletes, and if gambling were legalized, all respect would be lost for the individual's talent. Nobody wants to see, for instance, a team's halfback adroitly fumble three times in a ball game for fifty thousand dollars from the syndicate.

Legalized gambling has no place in professional sports! What player wants to be bet on like a horse?

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