

Sporting Views

By Clifton Barnes

Coach Jerry Carter's baseball squad began play Tuesday. The team looks good, although a few are upset because they stay at home Easter to host a Holiday Tournament. If they want a home field advantage, they'd better play at the beach. That's where half of RMSH will be.

Because Wilson is such a powerhouse in tennis, Coach Bill Wallace realistically believes our chances are not very good to capture the title. Tennis is an individual game, anyway. Right now it looks as if the top four will be Jimbo Thorpe, Olin Wilson, Paul Mayberry, and Mike Williams, not necessarily in that order.

Many students have been asking why our basketball players didn't practice dunk shots in pre-game and half-time drills. The answer is simple: It's against the rules. Here's the explanation by the rules committee "... Some of the squad members who were not adept at dunking caused considerable damage to the basket ... and there were times when the start of the game had to be withheld until a legal basket could be installed. Because of this experience (although dunking during a game is now permissible again), the rules do not allow any dunking during the pre-game practice, intermission or anytime while the ball is dead." The penalty for stuffing is a technical. So stick to stuffing your face.

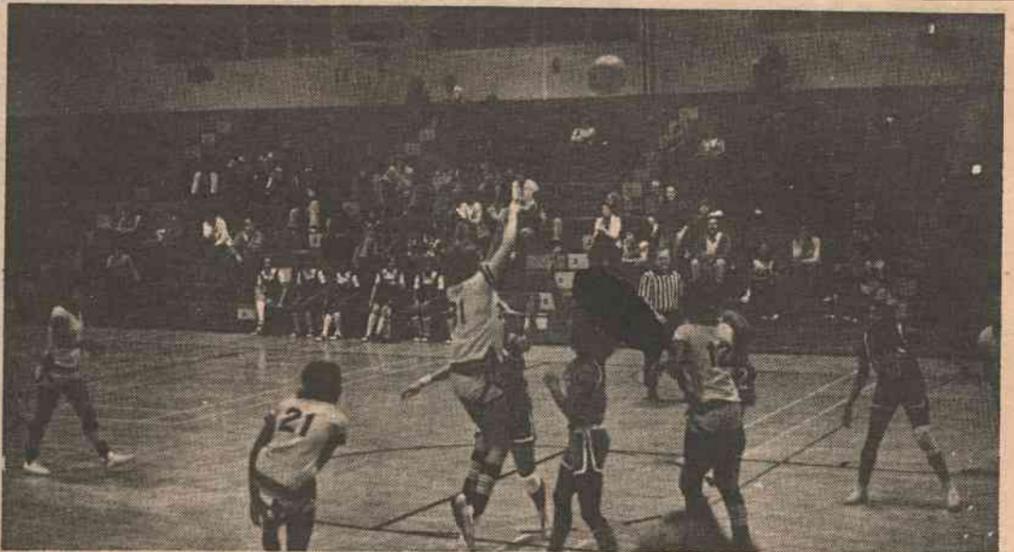
Basketball Coach Reggie Henderson should be commended for his outstanding job as head coach. O. K. Coach Henderson, I commend you for your fine job as coach and hereby name you CB's District I "Coach of the Year." I know that means a lot to you!

Gryphon wrestlers finished fifth out of 20 teams in the district wrestling tournament. This is remarkable for a seven-man wrestling team, due to the fact that a complete squad consists of 13. Jeff Jones and Ricky Sharpe qualified for the state playoffs.

In the girl's basketball playoff with 51-28 over Wilson-Fike, a technical foul was assessed on Fike. The officials gave the ball to Charlotte Ward to shoot at the wrong basket. The officials would have never realized it if the players hadn't yelled out. The officials were really "on the ball," so to speak.

The slack turnout at the Greenville-Rocky Mount playoff game was partially due to the \$2 admission fee for everyone. This price set up by the North Carolina Athletics Association is entirely too much. Why all season we have paid one dollar and when playoffs start it's double? The association should reassess their purpose.

The NCAA finals and professional basketball finals are rapidly approaching. I feel that if an ACC team doesn't win; it will be Michigan or Tennessee. I also believe the Boston Celtics will repeat as NBA champs. Staff members John Smith, Keith King, and Robby Noble disagree and want their opinions aired. Fine. But not in my column.



CHARLOTTE WARD SHOOTS FOR TWO: Charlotte puts up a jump shot over defenders in the Wilson Fike game. Watching are Cynthia McKnight, 21, and Bonnie Powell, 12. [Bulluck]

Lady Gryphs End Third

The Lady Gryphs finished their season ranking third in the conference and 12 to 5 overall.

The tournament with North-eastern was a big disappointment for the girls as they had played a winning game with Wilson. The girls were not aggressive enough and overall it was a bad defensive game. Halftime was tight and even though Rocky Mount had at one time a five point lead the Lady Eagles pulled the game away to a leading score of 39 to 33.

In the first round of Divisional playoffs the Lady Titans of Wilson were defeated by Rocky Mount. The final score was 51 to 28.

The girls ran a 10 to 0 lead over Wilson at the start of the game and at halftime the girls

had a 26 to 14 lead. Jennifer Cherry and Charlotte Ward helped pile up the lead at halftime. The game was safely put in the Gryphons' favor as they had good defense and strong rebounding.

The fourth quarter score was 40 to 20. The Lady Gryphs were winning and gradually built up the lead to 49 to 26. With only three minutes left in the game, the girls pulled it through.

As the boys lost their game with Bertie so did the girls. The Lady Falcons won with a score of 48 to 36. The girls had won their other three games with Bertie.

Jennifer Cherry and Patricia Gray led the girls to a one point lead at halftime. The score was

24 to 23. Towards the end of the game the girls led by 28 to 27, but as the last six minutes came, the Lady Falcons had it all the way to the end.

In the game with Greenville the Lady Gryphs whipped the Lady Rampants with a score of 55 to 36. The Gryphs outscored Greenville at the beginning of the game with a score of 16 to 0. Their lead was built on a full court press. The overall game was played well according to Coach Bradshaw even though the girls fouled too much on defense.

The game with Northern Nash did not go along as the girls had hoped. The game was similar to the one played with Bertie. The final score was 50 to 43, their way.

Jayvees End Season 13-9

The Rocky Mount Senior High Jayvees ended the season 13-9 and finished third in the conference race.

On February 1, the Jayvees travelled to Wilson where they handily defeated Wilson Fike 98-78. Ray Williams a new-comer from ninth grade led the Baby Gryphs with 34 points.

The team defeated the Greenville Rampants 91-59. Bobby Peele scored 24 points

and Kelvin Hart scored 22. Coach Roscoe Batts called this the Baby Gryphs' "best game." Steve Cantrell snared 18 rebounds.

A rally by the Baby Gryphs forced Northern Nash to go into a delay game to win. The Knights held a 16 point lead until the rally began in the fourth quarter. Steve Cantrell scored 23 points as the Jayvees were beaten 72-66.

Earlier in the season, the Jayvees lost a conference game to Northeastern 63-58. The Baby Gryphs shot a torrid 43 per cent in the first half but shot only 25 per cent in the third.

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