

# Sporting Views

By Clifton Barnes

George Kelley will fill one of the vacancies as assistant head coach in Gryphon football. He probably will also coach track. The Hallsboro 2-A club that he coached won the conference a couple of years in a row. I hope the other choice is as good as this one. Tennis is a growing sport that needs more instruction, so maybe the unchosen coach will be a good tennis player.

Ten-year old Mike Corthum of Greensboro is ranked the No. 1 tennis player in the state, ten and under. In two years he's won 112 out of 116 matches. He is 4'3", left-handed, and has a two-handed backhand. He also likes to rush the net. I'd love to see Senior High's Bob Allsbrook play him. Then on second thought . . .

Jack Todd and Oie Osterkamp love softball. So what are they going to do? Jack says, "They don't offer boys' softball, so next year me and the "O" are going out for girls' softball. I'm serious!" Okay, but don't get scratched, struck out, or cut . . . from the team, that is!

The girls' softball team has been burning other clubs this season with fine pitching by Mary White and timely hitting by her as well as others, including Donna Barnhill and Julie Baldwin. But . . . once upon a time this burning team got burned . . . not just singed, burned! Northeastern wiped out the girls 30-10 with a bombardment of hits, walks, and errors. The big error for Rocky Mount was showing up.

Fishing is becoming increasingly popular. Over at Nags Head the Blues have been caught by Hopkins and Grubs. At Atlantic Beach they've gotten mackerel with all types of artificial bait and everywhere they've been catching kissing fish with Farrah-Fawcett posters.

Going into May Mike Upchurch was hitting at a torrid .477 and leading the baseball club in RBI's. After that only two players, Greg Clark and Dee Rich, were batting over .300. The squad was averaging only .238. Mike ought to think about baseball in college. And maybe even play it.

Everyone knows by now that Phil Ford was arrested after hitting the front of an unmarked police car. Some say he was intoxicated. I don't know myself, but I remember a commercial he did in which he said to the effect that he didn't need drugs to get high. Je sais pas. No lo se.' That's two ways to put it. Here's another: "C' est la vie."

Former Rocky Mount Phillies' catcher now with the mother club, Bill Nahorodny, said when asking for a three-year contract totalling \$225,000: "There is no reason to squabble. I've done it all. It's not my fault that it hasn't been done in the big leagues."

## Biology Trip

(Continued from page four) problems and controls, the modern fire equipment was shown and forestry methods were discussed. A special attraction was the wild life biologist.

Also at the farm they raise catfish to be sold to people who wish to raise them in a pond.

The students were given the opportunity to see the fish being fed and they were also able to observe them closely in small tanks.

Mrs. Mae Batts' and Mr. Bill Wallace's classes went to the farm on May 10. Mrs. Julia Kron's and Miss Story's classes went to the farm on May 11 and Mrs. Christina Tripp's and Miss Nancy Farmer's classes travel to the farm today.



SAINT-ARMAND SWINGS: Champ takes a vicious cut at a pitch in a recent game at Municipal Stadium.

(Photo by Bulluck)

# Gryphons' Slump Snapped With Win

The Gryphon baseball team had a rough time in the Breakfast Optimist Invitational Tournament, winning only once to Millbrook and losing to Garner and Northern Nash. The host team was hurt by a hitting slump. Players could get on base, but nobody could hit them home.

### RM vs Garner

In the early innings the Gryphons played well enough to hold a 1-0 lead after three innings, but in the next three innings, they fell apart on the mound, at the plate, and in the field. Garner scored two runs in each of the next three innings that moved them on to the winner's bracket.

Walter Stevens, Garner pitcher, only allowed three hits. Two of those hits were struck by Mike Upchurch. Both hits were well hit doubles, one in the third and the other in the fifth. Dee Whitley beat out a drag bunt for the only other Gryphon hit.

### RM vs Northern Nash

The Gryphons fought Northern Nash to the end but lost an exciting game in the ninth inning. The Knights moved into the loser's bracket by losing to Raleigh-Sanderson 4-1.

The Knights won the contest when Jean Worthington scored in the ninth after Willie Lucas's grounder bounced off Timmy Tucker's glove into right field. The Knights had threatened earlier in the seventh and eighth

inning, but Jess Ebert held them off.

The Gryphons were again hurt by poor and ineffective hitting, as they only had three hits.

### RM vs Millbrook

After five straight losses the Gryphons finally decided they liked to win better as they trounced Wildcats from Millbrook 14-3.

The Gryphons exploded for 12 runs in the first four innings of the game. Phillip Bunn and Lee Cooper held off the Wildcats by allowing only six hits for the game.

The Gryphons only had six hits but were able to score as Millbrook walked 13 batters. Keyed by Mike Upchurch's single the Gryphons scored three runs in the first inning. Two more runs were added in the second even though the Gryphs didn't have a hit. Dee Whitley and Dee Rich had the only two hits of the fourth inning, but the Gryphons still snatched four runs from Millbrook, Whitley and Rich scored in the fourth on Billy Luther's single. Luther then scored on Jake Lassiter's pop out to left. Jess Eberdt and Jake

Lassiter scored in the sixth inning to complete the scoring for the Gryphons.

The Garner Trojans won the first annual Breakfast Optimist Invitational Tournament by defeating Rocky Mount 6-2, Sanderson 6-0, and Vaiden-Whitley 4-2.

### RM vs Greenville

The Gryphons started out as though it was spring practice, but in the third there was no fooling around as the Gryphs scored three runs to pull even with Greenville and eventually win 5-4.

Sluggish start would be an understatement as the Gryphons had seven errors that gave Greenville a 4-1 lead in the third inning. Then in the third inning, Clark got on base and went to third after Upchurch's single. Willis then singled to score Clark and Willis himself scored on Whitley's double to left.

Clark scored the winning run in the sixth inning after stealing a base. Upchurch pushed Clark home on a grounder between first and second base. Bunn then sealed the victory for the Gryphs giving him his fifth win of the season.



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