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Serving as hosts during recent days to Tom Van Waay, 26, and his 24 year old brother, Bill, was no problem for members of the New Bern Lions Club. The two young men from Zoetermeer, Holland, fitted right in everywhere they went. Here, and in the other six Tar Heel towns they are visiting--Greenville, Goldsboro, Jacksonville, Wilmington, Kinston and Smithfield--the Van Waays are fast losing their homeland conception that all Americans are wealthy.

Discovering the average North Carolinian has troubles making ends meet, when it comes to paying his bills, was reassuring rather than disillusioning. Tom and Bill--far from native surroundings--felt a common bond with folks who aren't too adept at staying within their income.

For our part, we found the pair witty enough to cope with a small-town editor's wisecracks, and very much like our own young people. They have traveled more and seen more, however, and you can tell this quickly in casual conversation.

In school, the two youths learned four languages--Dutch, German, French and English. Most of us in America have the impression that English is a hard tongue for foreigners to master, but the Van Waays say it is much easier than other languages they studied.

Contrary to what you may have heard repeatedly, Bill and Tom say Americans are well liked in Europe. The ones they've seen abroad, and they have been around, were, they insist, well mannered and a credit to this country.

The two have been deeply impressed by the Carolina brand of hospitality that has been their lot. "I've never seen anything to compare with it before," Bill told us, and you could detect his sincerity.

Reminding the visiting Dutchmen that Americans have their share of faults, we pressed Tom for criticism. Smiling, he said, "Over here everybody rushes. You eat too short, sleep too short, and walk too fast."

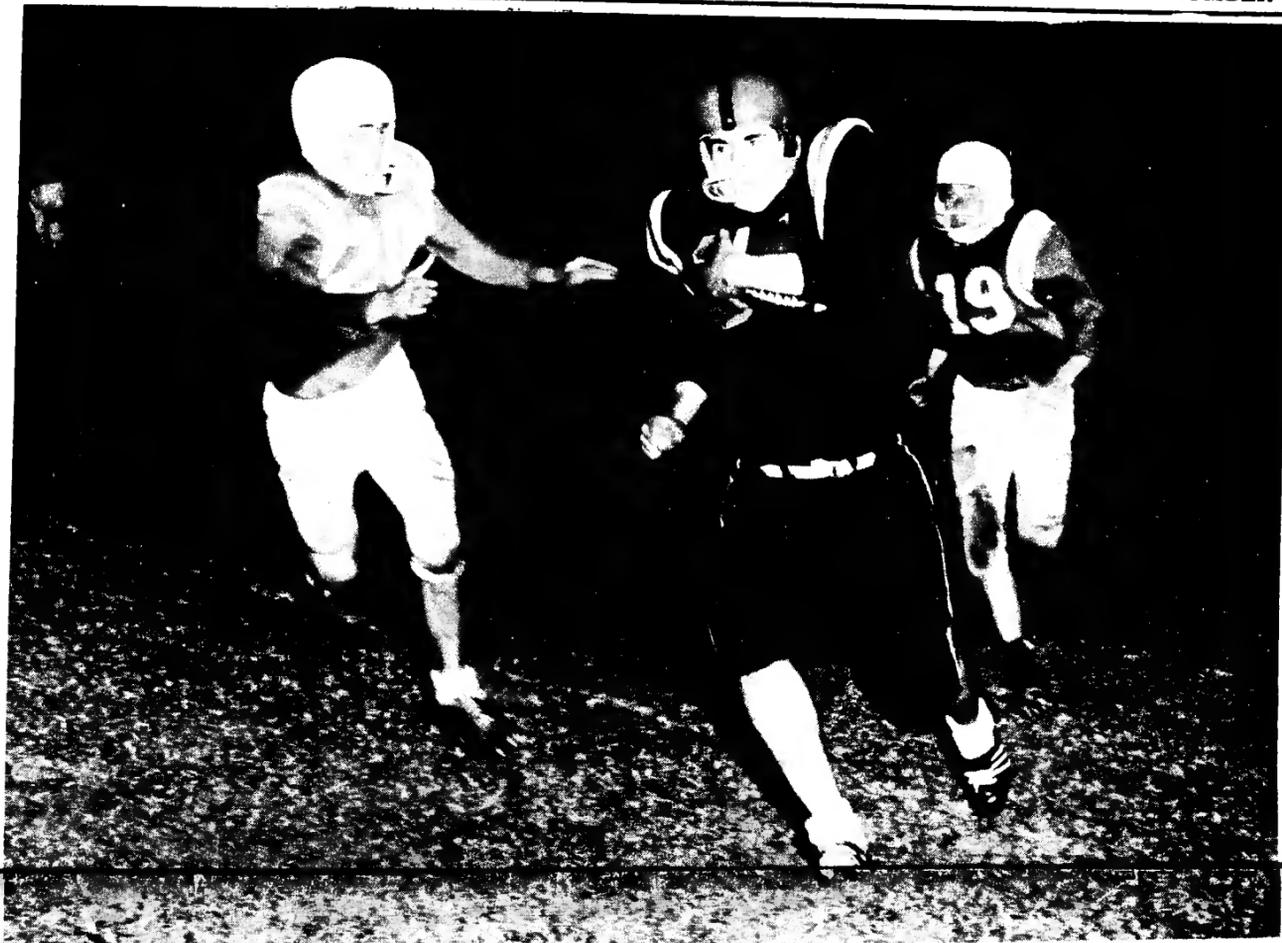
Bill told us that virtually all of the movies they see in Holland are products of Hollywood. He and Tom are Frank Sinatra fans, and when it comes to feminine screen stars they are partial to Sophia Loren and Bridget Bardotte.

In the land of wooden shoes, you may be sure, Elizabeth Taylor is well known. Her sensational affairs of the heart have been heavily publicized, and the Dutch are looking forward to the showing of "Cleopatra" there.

All television in Holland is government sponsored, and radio is non-commercial. TV is limited to three hours a day, but viewers are treated to their favorites--Perry Como, Dina Shore, Father Knows Best, and last but by no means least, the Flintstones.

When we asked Tom and Bill about Dr. Kildalre and Ben Casey, they responded with a blank expression. To our surprise, television epics that deal with the innards of mortals, under manipulation within the four walls of a hospital, haven't captivated the Dutch.

There are no watermelons in Holland, although other
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BRUINS COUNT ON HIM—Ashley Smith, with added poundage picked up during summer construction work, is the All-Northeastern back who must carry the brunt of the attack for the New Bern High School Bears this

season. If he duplicates such 1962 touchdown runs as the one seen here, the locals are apt to get ample revenge against seven opponents who made them bite the dust unhappily a year ago.



THEY WILL BE MISSED—Although Coach Bill Klutz has seven of his regulars returning for the 1963 campaign, quite a few familiar faces won't be present when the Bears take to the gridiron for spirited action a few

weeks from now. Graduation took its toll, but the New Bern High School mentor will be scanning his squad for satisfactory replacements. Klutz, like every coach, hopes for the unexpected star.