



# The Lion's Den

by BILL FREEMAN

**THE BASKETBALL SEASON** has come, and with its advent much discussion starts about each school's chances of a good season. For Mars Hill, playing as an independent team, the prospects look both good and interesting. At the time this is being written, three games have been played, one was snowed out, and the Lions are 1-2. There are 15 games on the schedule now, and the season promises to be a good one, if the present indications hold as correct. The Lions dropped their first contest at Tusculum, but did so only by a heartbreaking two points. They next opened the home season with an edgy, but high scoring 106-92 victory in the Barn. Prevented their meeting with the East Tennessee frosh, they sought, but failed to gain, a second victory. After tying Brevard in the regulation contest, they were stopped in overtime play. Their last pre-Christmas game was to be a home game with Tusculum, whose narrow defeat they intended to avenge.

**THE MILLIGAN GAME** was a Lion victory almost from the first, but was hardly ever a runaway. Both teams showed some early season wildness, giving the rebounding the look of a volleyball game, sometimes with the same accuracy. The Milligan team seemed to use radar on the charity line, but still was outplayed. The fouling was fairly regular, due in part to the early season. There were a few obviously intentional fouls, something which I hope won't become a habit. No names mentioned now, but I hope that example of poor sportsmanship won't happen again. It is an insult to the name of the college.

**AFTER THE FIRST THREE** games, the scoring race is developing between **Bill Eure** and **Bill Loven**, with 44 and 42 points respectively. Back in third is **D. J. Hughes** with 36 points. These three average 14.7, 14.0, and 12.0 points respectively. Coach **Harrel Wood** felt that the best developing players are **Bill Loven** and **Don Martin**, who has 28 cumulative points for a 9.3 average. In the opening games the Lions scored 233 points to their opponents' 232. Coach Wood said simply, "They can do better than they've done so far." We think they will, too.

**WITH CHRISTMAS SO NEAR**, our thoughts naturally turn toward gifts, so I have been trying to think of some of the things we would like to see at Mars Hill in the coming times. An honest-to-goodness athletic field with a genuine track is probably the foremost wish of Coaches **Henderson** and **Ezell**. Fortunately it is supposed to be under construction now. In spite of that fact there has hardly been any noticeable work done during this school year. I certainly hope the intention is to have the field in actual use at the open of the 1963 football season. There is no reason under the sun why it should not be in use by that very late date. We certainly want to also keep Coach Wood happy, so why not wish for a modern gymnasium befitting a growing college of today to replace our far out-dated, antiquated, COLD Box? It is hardly fit for a school a small fraction the size of Mars Hill, and it is dangerous to those who attend or take part in events there to boot. It is truly fortunate that no spectators have yet fallen upon the basketball players; however, just you wait. It would be very nice to have this dream come equipped with, besides classrooms, rooms for weight training and corrective exercises, gymnastics, wrestling, handball and recreational pool. A pool certainly would not hurt, though we mean an indoor one.

**TO GIVE COACH FISH** a Merry Christmas and an unusual New Year, we would hope for the development of a greater student interest in personal participation in athletic activities. Probably only an act of God could accomplish that, though. Just remember girls: it is much easier to work off that extra baggage than it is to starve it off. It does NOT always add muscle either; just look at the boys in p.e. The greatest lack in the area of individual athletics is lack of equipment. The school should begin NOW to build a collection of athletic equipment for all sports which could be borrowed by the students just as they borrow books from the library. Perhaps when more of these dreams are realized Mars Hill can bring its athletic programs and facilities into the modern times.

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MERRY CHRISTMAS

# Guys hitch ride for basketball



An eight-foot-high net was no obstacle to these volleyball enthusiasts as they participated in the volleyball intramurals last week. Next on the I-M agenda is basketball as preliminary practice sessions are slated to begin next week.

## King College next for Blue and Gold squad

The Mars Hill hoop squad opened the 1962-63 basketball season in an away game with Tusculum. After fighting their way through a tight contest, they were forced to capitulate, 62-60.

Leading the Lions in the scoring column was **Bill Loven** with 15 points. Rounding out the Lion tally marks were **Don Martin** with 14, **Bill Eure** with 12, **Steve Young** with 8, **D. J. Hughes** with 6, **Jabbo Bennett** with 3, and **Dave Beaman** and **Doug Pickard** with one each. The Tusculum netters kept the race close by having three men in the double figures; **Bud Beedie** took game honors by hitting for 19 points, followed by **Stan Wilson** with 17 and **Skip Bishop** with 10.

The Hillians hit 70% of their charity shots, to 51% for Tusculum. The Lions led 30-26 in

the first half, but finally succumbed to the pressure of their opponents to drop the game.

Three days later, on December 30, The Lions initiated their home court action with a fast-breaking 106-92 victory over Milligan College, supported by a full house of Lion lovers. The Lion attack was again led by **Bill Loven**, closely followed by **Bill Eure** and **D. J. Hughes**, with 19, 18 and 16 points respectively. Also hitting the double figures for the Hillians were **Doug Pickard** with 12 points and **Scott Connor** with 10.

Mars Hill returned to the road on December 7 for a contest with former WCJCC rival Brevard at Burnsville and returned after dropping the game in overtime, 78-67. Brevard led 39-34 at the half, but the battling Lions fought back to end the regulation time in a 63-63 deadlock. With the game locked at 63-all, the Lions tried for the single shot, but missed it and a tip-in opportunity.

The MHC hoopsters return to action on Friday night (Jan. 5) after the holidays in a home game against King College of Bristol.

The scene will shift from basketballs to basketballs preliminary practice sessions for the newly arrived intramurals. If the schedule of the players may hamper the semester registration ride on a passing Monday, Jan. 14, less, Coach Fish's enthusiasm towards the sport as one of the season's popular sports.

The onslaught of shooters and rebounders end of the volleyball. As the HILLTOP to press amidst the Weaverville and Alexander and the Cotton the volleyball ladder of sugar plums and heads. Brown and white, show practicalings; but, in a double tournament, anybody

In the overall state leads the intramural the most points, after the football champions would like to win a tournament and championship football hangs in the roof Alexander, house dormitory.

## Girls go to

All active members are invited to go in front of the gym

Three new members added to the WRA Ormsby and Charles freshman representative **Rosa Pittman**, co-Lioness. **Becky Y** recently named by represent MHC at the Athletic Association

Treat, which will softball tournament honors in the volleyball tournament teams in both selected. The player; **Glenda Morgan**, **Lois Dunlap**, **Sue Antho**, **Sara Sellers** and

The all-star volleyball team includes **Nancy Morgan**, **Glenda Mary Ann Welter**, **Jo**

## Athletic turkey-fest "It ain't what it went art

The annual Mars Hill sports banquet will be held Monday (Dec. 17) at 7:00 p.m. in the Coyte Bridges Dining Hall. The guests will include the Lion athletes, their dates, the cheerleaders, members of the college health and athletics committee, and members of the administration. The theme of the turkey-fest will be "It ain't what it used to be."

The banquet, sponsored by the health and athletics committee, is given for the 1962-1963 athletes. These include the members of this year's football and basketball teams, as well as the members of last spring's track, tennis, golf, and baseball teams.

Most of the preparations for the annual event is done by the council.

Master of ceremonies **James Thomas**, invocation by **Harrel Wood** toast by **Harrel Wood** sponse by **Mack** The program will be by **Diane Yelton** the theme title, written by **Jones** and the program and starring **Jo Morgan**. The award by **Don Henderson** followed by the speaker **Montgomery** of benediction will be **Yelton**.