

Balance Is the Key

Balance is the key to the ultimate success or failure of this year's basketball team. Through 11 games, the Woodmen had five players hitting in double figures. Bob Gibson was leading with a 14.8 points per game average. He was followed by Randall at 12.3, David Webster at 12.2, Bill Kenney at 12.0, and Bill Gibson at 10.9.

Coach Harrell Wood stated that he is pleased with the progress the team has made since the Christmas break, losing only one game through 1 Feb.

That one loss since Christmas came against Pembroke on their home court 27 Jan. The Lions got off to a slow start, and Pembroke jumped off to a 17-2 lead. The Lions fought back, but were down 43-31 at the half. The second half was played on fairly even terms with the visitors outscoring the hosts 50-49, giving Pembroke a 92-81 win.

Kenney led the Lions in scoring with 19 points. He was followed by George Scruggs with 13, Randall with 12, and Webster with 10. Joe Gallagher led all scorers with 30 points. Pembroke hit 82 percent from the free throw line.

The Woodmen had to come from behind to defeat the St. Andrews Knights 28 Jan. In the opening minutes of the game, St. Andrews hit everything they threw at the basket and held a 45-41 half-time lead. Mars Hill fought back in the second half to overcome St. Andrews and take a 102-85 win.

Bob Gibson led the visitors with 18 points. Also in double figures were Randall, 14; Webster, 13; Bill Gibson, 12; and Kenney, 10. Droudy led the Knights with 29 points. This win gave the Woodmen a 5-6 record on the season.

On Thursday, 2 Feb., the Lions traveled to Emory, Va., to face the Wasps of Emory & Henry, and were defeated 104-89. This greatly hurts Mars Hill's chances for a winning season.

Tonight the Lions are at home against Maryville College. Following this game, the team plays powerful Wofford College Monday, 6 Feb., and the Bulldogs of Asheville-Biltmore the following night, 7 Feb. Both games are scheduled at home. The Woodmen will be out to avenge an earlier 84-64 loss to Asheville-Biltmore.

Saturday, 11 Feb., the Mountain Lions invade Pikeville College. Pikeville has lost only two

games this season and is ranked fourteenth in the NAIA. A return game is scheduled against Wofford 14 Feb. at Wofford. The Lion's next foe is Maryville, 18 Feb. on the road. The final game of the season is scheduled here against the Wasps of Emory & Henry.

That last game with Emory & Henry, originally scheduled for Saturday, 25 Feb., has been rescheduled for Thursday, 23 Feb., in the Mars Hill High School gym, Coach Wood announced Wednesday. This change is being made because Emory & Henry refused to play MHC in McConnell Gymnasium. E & H Coach Tony Mandeville said they would play the Lions anywhere except McConnell.

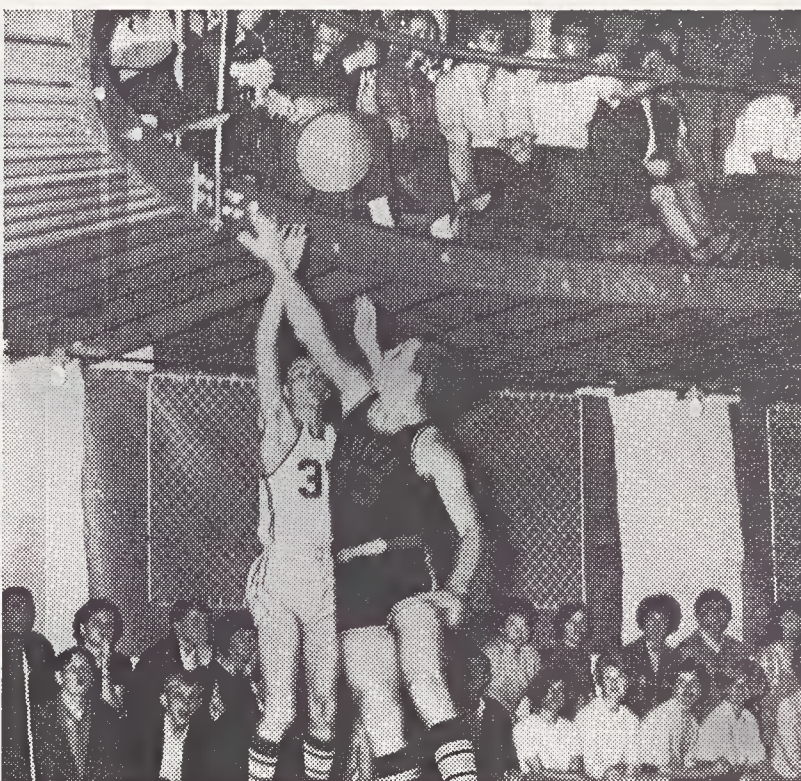
WRA Planning Banquets

The WRA, a campus athletic organization for women, is presently making plans for the two upcoming basketball and football banquets. The association has also voted to present cups to WRA standouts this year during the spring banquet.

Basketball intramurals began recently, and anyone interested in playing should contact a PE major. The times individual teams play will be printed in "The Announcer." Slimnastics and gymnastics meet Fridays at 6:00 in McConnell, and Arts and Crafts meet Tuesday at 4:00 in Fox. Anyone interested may attend.

Girls who have participated in intramurals are asked to keep a record of points earned throughout the semester. Copies of the point system will be distributed in the dorms. Those needing additional information should contact Caroline Pond.

A concession stand, sponsored by the WRA, will be operated in the lower gym during basketball games. Copies of blue books containing information about the team and individual players will also be sold. These books help in sponsoring WRA trips and activities.



Freshman Donald Suggs attempts a shot from the corner in Mars Hill's recent game with the Milligan Buffs, only to have it blocked by a Milligan player, as dumbfounded Mars Hillians look on.

Intramurals Bustling

Intramurals welcomed the new semester with a pick up in activity. Recent or near future action includes basketball, volleyball, ping pong, and free throws.

In the basketball semi-finals, 25 Jan., Myers II defeated Myers I, 39-38; and Commuters I defeated Treat I, 51-48. In the battle for the intramural basketball championship, 26 Jan., Commuters I eked out a 50-45 win over second-place Myers II. In the consolation game, Myers I had an easy time of it, defeating Treat I, 55-35, for third place. An all-star team is being formed to play the faculty.

Volleyball action is slated to begin Wednesday, 8 February. There will be two leagues with free substitution and "sudden death" overtime in the event of a tie.

There will be five ping pong awards this year. They are men's singles, men's doubles,

women's singles, women's doubles, and mixed doubles. Play is best two of three games, single elimination. Players are to set up their games at their own convenience. The first round must be completed by 8 Feb., the second round by 13 Feb., and the third round by 16 Feb.

Two free throw contest awards are being offered this year—one for the most shots made of 30 taken and one for the most consecutive free throws.

Letter . . .

To the Sports Editor:

In recent home basketball games I have been distressed by the behavior of the student body in general. Apparently, few fans realize that cheering or not cheering at the proper time can make a difference in the team's performance.

The most glaring of these deficiencies occurs during free throws. When an opponent shoots, the gym reverberates with shouts. It is a fact that silence will unnerve a player more quickly than wild shouting. Try it the next home game—be utterly silent when our opponent shoots. Chances are he'll miss more than usual.

Another failing on the part of our fans is coordinating cheering with the action. When we have the ball, "go-go-go" is all right but when the opposition has "get that ball" is more appropriate.

We've got several home games coming up, so let's go out and support our team.

—Name withheld by request

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