

Appalachian Basketballers Open 24-Game Schedule

Appalachian's '66-'67 basketball team, which includes six lettermen from last season's club which won 17 and lost 10, opened its 24-game schedule Tuesday against Presbyterian at Clinton, S. C., and will return to action on Thursday when they launch their home campaign against another Carolinas Conference foe—Pfeiffer.

Appalachian, which will play only one of its first seven contests in Broome-Kirk Gymnasium here, will meet each of the league's other 10 teams at home and away. In addition, the Apps will participate in the two-day Spindale Invitational Tournament, travel to Belmont Abbey and host Erskine.

Danny Beauchamp, Gilbert Sprinkle, Denny Key, Jim Hoffman, Don Sitton and Bill Sposato are the lettermen returning to provide ASTC with a fair amount of experience. Missing, however, will be three '65-'66 starters.

Coach Light, beginning his 10th year as chief of the Mountaineer cagers, will have difficulty in replacing James Wilcox, Tony Gray and Olin Shuler, who were stellar performers last winter as the Apps surprisingly fought their way to the finals of the conference's championship tournament by winning eight of their last 10 games.

Wilcox averaged 19.9 points per game, and Gray, who topped the rebounders with a 291 total, averaged 15.7 points to pace the Mountaineers' scoring a year ago. And Shuler chipped in with a 9.0 point per game average.

The ace of this winter's club is expected to be Sprinkle, a 5-10 senior from Salisbury. He averaged 10.5 points and hit over 50 per cent of his field goal attempts while playing in every contest last season.

Beauchamp, a 6-5 junior from Asheville, posted a 10.4 point average for 21 games in 1965-66. Key, a 6-3 sophomore from Winston-Salem, averaged 5.8 points per game and snared 145 rebounds in substitute roles last year.

Sitton, a 5-10 senior from Hendersonville; Hoffman, 6-2 senior from Thurmont, Md.; and Sposato, 6-0 junior from Northport, N. Y., saw limited action during the past season.

A couple of a flock of newcomers are likely to break into Light's starting lineup. David Autry, a 6-7 freshman from Stedman; Allan Price, a 6-6 Charlotte native who is a transfer student from the University of Georgia; and Preston Williams, a 6-0 sophomore from Lilesville, have performed well in pre-season practice sessions. Gary Cheveney, a 6-1 junior college transfer from Apple Creek, Ohio, and John Willard, a 5-9 freshman from Charlotte, are others currently making a strong bid for a place on the starting unit.

Rounding out the squad are Clarence Hart, 6-4 freshman from Lenoir; Ronnie King, 5-11 sophomore from Winston-Salem; and David Mullis, 6-5 freshman from Jefferson.

Coach Light, whose ASTC teams have won 132 and lost 96 over the past nine seasons, expects his 1966-67 team to have good scoring abilities,

fair defensive talents, and a lack of rebounding strength.

"We should have a pretty good team, one which would have won a lot of games in past years," the Mountaineer tutor says. "But we can't be too optimistic about this year because most of the teams on our schedule will have their lineups filled with experienced players."

The season opener will provide a supreme test for the ASTC cagers. Last winter, the Mountaineers drubbed Presbyterian by 83-32 in the meeting here. Later in the campaign, however, the Apps were upset by a 63-59 margin on the home court of the Blue Hose.

The schools have met in hardwood combat only two other times. ASTC gained a 23-22 decision in 1939, and

won by 84-56 in 1961.

Appalachian's 1966-67 schedule:

November 29 — at Presbyterian.

December 1 — Pfeiffer; 3 — Newberry; 12 — at Atlantic Christian; 14 — at Elon; 30-31 — at Spindale Tournament.

January 3 — Erskine; 7 — Guilford; 9 — Newberry; 12 — at Western Carolina; 14 — High Point; 18 — Pfeiffer; 21 — Catawba; 24 — Atlantic Christian; 28 — Presbyterian.

February 4 — at Lenoir Rhyne; 6 — at Guilford; 8 — Elon; 11 — at High Point; 15 — Western Carolina; 18 — at Catawba; 23 — at Belmont Abbey; 25 — Lenoir Rhyne.

March 1-4 — Carolinas Conference Tournament in Lexington.

Comment On Sports

BY PETE FRITCHIE

Washington, D. C. — The college bowl games, which provide sports color for the New Year, seldom answer the question of which team is best in the nation. That is because the bowl games are tied to conference teams, or by other limitations.

Notre Dame does not accept bowl bids, as is the case with several other institutions. Aside from this, however, a bowl which pitted the best two teams in the nation—as judged by AP and UPI ratings—would be a natural.

This would enable teams from all sections and conferences to meet and need not be played in the same location each year. It would probably be played in the southeast or southwest or far west—where the weather would not be grim.

But since there are more and more adequate stadiums in all parts of the country, a different site each year could be utilized—and the NCAA or some logical group could select the site and make the necessary arrangements.

Part of the profit from such a game could go to a fund to aid athletes injured in college sports — which would justify existence of the bowl. And the bowl game would decide the national championship in the field of college football. We have what almost amounts to several college basketball tournaments.

All colleges would be eligible to compete and thus democracy would be served. And after January 1st, most people would have a pretty fair idea

about the best college football team in the country.



LARRY FORD
Larry Ford Is Rotary Boy

Larry Ford, son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas B. Ford of Boone, was elected Rotary Boy of the Month for November. He and his father were dinner guests of the Boone Rotary Club last week.

In addition to his work as sports editor of the high school annual, Larry is serving as an alternate member of the student council. He has been engaged in a program of weightlifting for several years. In this area he has won the East Coast Championship, the Appalachian AAU Championship and the All-South Championship.

After graduation Larry will attend N. C. State University to study chemical engineering.



BOONE GOLF PROFESSIONAL JOE MAPLES is shown with Ben Hogan at a recent meeting of the Hogan Quality Design Board at Fort Worth, Texas. Hogan, one of the all-time golfing greats, was host to twenty-three members of the board from all over the country who won sectional qualifying events and the right to play in the national tourney at Fort Worth.

Maples Wins Tourney

Boone golf professional Joe Maples fired a five under par 67 over the Lan-Yair Country Club course last Tuesday (Nov. 15) to take top honors in the annual Carolinas Golf Course Superintendents Championship at Spartanburg, S. C. This was five shots better than the runner-up in a field of some 40 superintendents and pro-superintendents.

Maples started the round with a birdie on the first hole, followed by eight pars to make the turn one under. Birdies on 11, 14, 15 and 17 gave him 32 on the back nine for the 67 total.

The only trouble came on the 14th hole, when two under at the time, Maples hooked his tee shot into deep clover

ough. For awhile it looked like a lost ball situation until one of his playing partners stepped on it. The recovery shot left him a 15 footer for a birdie which he made to go three under par. So, what could have been a six, turned into a birdie three.

Maples will have possession of the silver CGCSA championship trophy for one year, plus a replica to keep, and also won a canned ham donated by Porter Brothers Equipment Company.

80% Of Yule Trees Used In State Shipped Into Region

BY M. E. GARDNER
N. C. State University

What do you look for when selecting a Christmas tree? Which species do you like best? Do you prefer a North Carolina grown tree or an imported one?

First, what do you look for when selecting a tree? Perhaps the first thing you should look for is freshness. Many trees are cut too soon and transported long distances to market. Frequently the leaves have dried out and are shedding before you buy it. Such handling lowers both quality and color of the plant. Fragrance is also reduced.

Which species do you like best? The Red Cedar has been a favorite for many, many years and still is. It can be grown from the Coastal Plain through the Piedmont. Due to the natural compact habit of growth, it requires little or no shearing. The fragrance is excellent. It should be used fresh as it has a tendency to dry out quickly after cutting—probably best adapted for local retail sales.

Other species adapted to North Carolina are: Fraser Fir, White Pine, Scotch Pine and Norway Spruce. Of these species, Fraser Fir and White Pine are, presently, the most important for commercial production in the mountains of Western Carolina.

Fraser Fir has good color, pleasing fragrance, strong branches and excellent needle holding ability. It likes the cool environment provided by the higher elevations and prefers a moist soil.

White Pine is a rapid grower, has good shape, and flexible branches. It requires proper shearing to produce a compact tree. The color is good and the popularity of this species is on the increase.

As I reported to you earlier, the growing of Christmas trees in North Carolina has developed into a full-fledged enterprise, backed by a lively Christmas Tree Association. While the industry is small, in comparison, it has an excellent potential and will grow as our people support it.

According to L. A. Hampton, forest management extension specialist, approximately one million trees are used in North Carolina homes each year, with 80 per cent of this number imported from Maine and other producing areas.

So you can see the opportunity we have to support a

home industry. Ask for North Carolina grown Christmas trees to brighten the Yule season for you and yours.

4-H Club Makes Plans For Programs In '67

The third meeting of the 194 4-H Club got underway Monday of last week at the Green Valley School.

The meeting was called to order by the president, Diane Clawson. Donna Jones led the pledges and Ben Jones was in charge of devotion.

Money was collected to buy a set of flags for the club.

Programs were planned for 1967, then refreshments were served by Ricky Cole and Randy Jones.

Seventeen members and two leaders were present.

Frank Robinson named most valuable player.

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We Express Our Sincere Thanks

to all Watauga County citizens who voted and worked for the Republican candidates in the General Election November 8, 1966.

We are especially grateful to those who served as election officials.

We extend our congratulations to the candidates who won and pledge our support to them in carrying out their expressed intentions of continuing progressive, sound county government.

"The war has not been lost, only one skirmish." We shall return.

Watauga County Republican Executive Committee

CLYDE R. GREENE, Chairman

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