

# Black on Sports



Robert Eller  
Sports Editor

The Winston-Salem Baseball League can add another feather to its cap now that the summer professional baseball draft is over.

Again this year the league will contribute another player to the pro ranks in Phil Baskerville. The young outfielder who turned a number of heads with his speed and defensive skills last year with the Greensboro All Stars was selected in the recently completed draft.

The Elon College Star now joins the likes of Al Holland, Stan Smith and Mike Hicks who did duty in the semi pro league before moving on to the greener pastures of the pro ranks.

Baskerville has the tools the pro scouts look for in speed and a good arm. Those must have been the things they noticed in Baskerville who, while having a fine season, never challenged for the WSBL batting title.

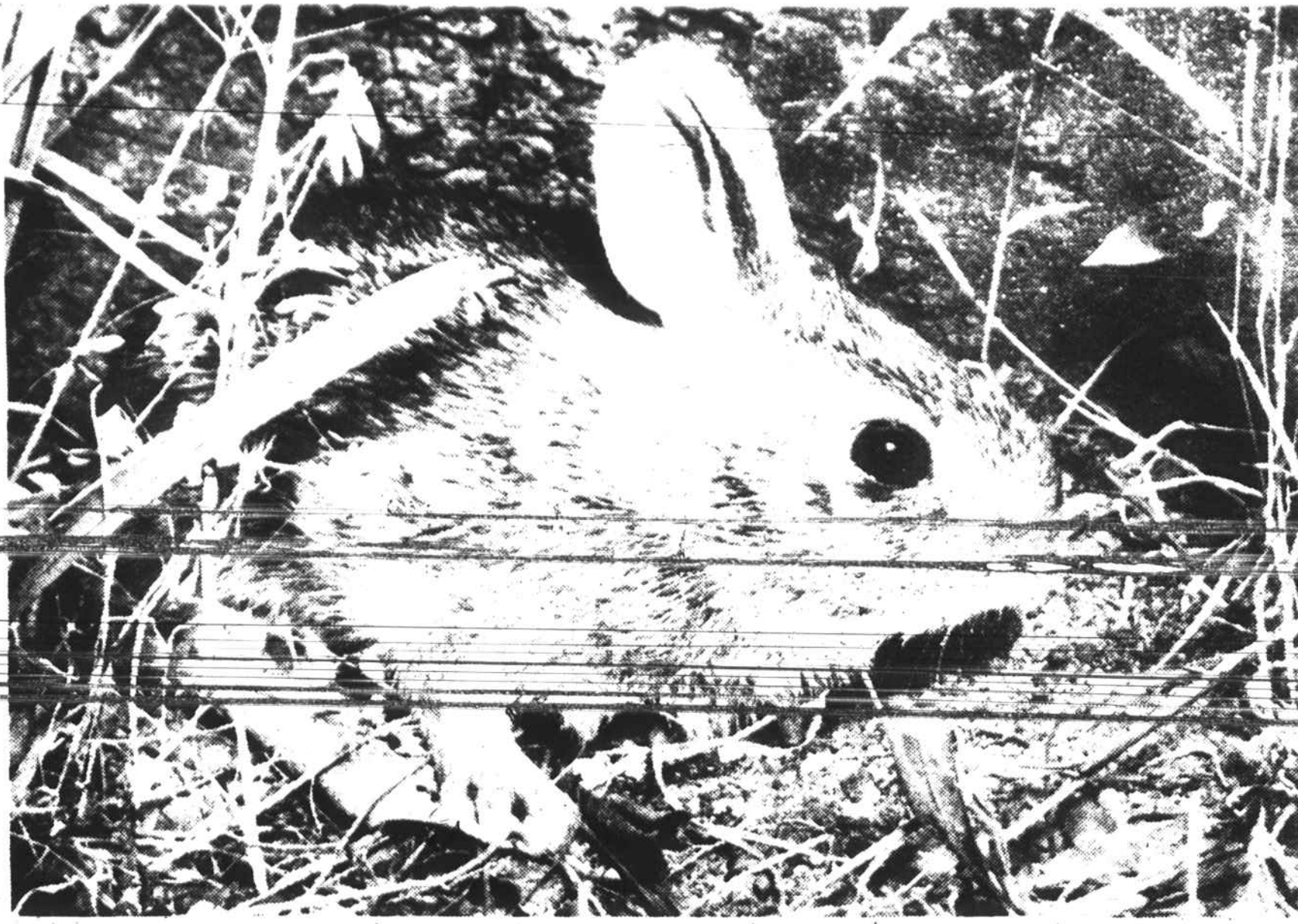
Look to see more WSBL players going in the draft in the future as the league continues to attract more fine young high school and college players.

This year the league is dotted with Wake Forest, East Carolina, Western Carolina and other outstanding college players as well as Forsyth County's best high school talent.

The teams that really started the influx of the youngsters to the league were teams like Bud Cromer's Astros who came out of nowhere last year to make a run at perennial league powers the Pond Giants and Indians and John Barney's Warden Motors MG's. Barney has gathered some fine young talent from area high schools and colleges and like Cromer's Astros, are mounting a serious challenge to the Pond Giants and Indians again this year.

Not to be left out, Nelson Petree and Rip Wilkins have now gotten into the act. Petree has grabbed a number of Wake Forest Players including Scott Austin who threw the league's first perfect game ever last week and Rad Brown who has become a fixture in the outfield. Recently he added Mark Speaks of Western Carolina to the team to add pitching depth in the stretch run.

Wilkins has gotten an outstanding keystone combo in East Carolina's Rod Johnson and Mike Osborne and lured Appalachian State's Rick Broadstreet from the Astros.



Young Wildlife may look lovable, but it's best left in the field. Anyone finding young wildlife that appears to be abandoned should usually be left as is. Chances are the animal's mother is hiding nearby waiting for the human intruder to leave.

## Youth Disturb State's Wildlife

During the next several months, youngsters are likely to come home with various wildlife species. Still, anyone attempting to raise a young wild animal to adulthood isn't doing themselves or the animal any favors.

"Most wild animals that appear to be abandoned usually aren't," said George Smith, assistant chief of the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission's Division of Game. "The animal's mother is usually hiding nearby, waiting for a human intruder to leave so she can go on about the business of raising her young."

There are several excellent reasons for people not to take in young wild animals, besides the fact that it is illegal.

It takes a tremendous amount of work to properly care for a wild animal. It also takes a specialized knowledge of that animal's specific needs and life habits. A wild animal that is raised as a pet and released to fend for itself alter in the natural world will not have the skills it needs to survive. Youngsters will soon tire of the work that goes into caring for a wild animal, and both will be worse off.

Another good reason for not picking up wild animals is that they often become unmanageable as they grow older. Many small mammals like to gnaw on things, and will destroy every stick of furniture in a house as they grow older. As animals mature, they will often turn mean and injure their keeper. Larger animals can be especially dangerous. There are numerous cases of tame, captive deer seriously injuring or killing their owners.

A final sad fact of life is that nature keep wildlife populations in check through natural mortality, and this means that a large number of animals die naturally at a tender age.

It is also illegal to hold wild animals in captivity in North Carolina without a special permit. These permits are usually given only to people who can demonstrate that they have the facilities and the knowledge to care for a wild animal properly.

If you find an animal that you believe is abandoned, the best thing you can do is leave it alone. The chances are its mother will turn up to take care of it.

## NSC Star Attracts Pro Interest

Professional scouts are keeping their eyes riveted on Norfolk State shortstop Run Dillard, a 5-10 sophomore infielder from Tabb, Va.

Norfolk State College baseball team closed out its 1979 campaign with a 17-17 record in 34 starts and its third straight NAIA District tournament appearance.

Coach Marty Miller said "the thing we worry about most with him is being able to keep him all four years. He has all the tools at the plate and in the field and the pro scouts want him now."

average of .402, he produced a .377 average in 130 trips to the plate, with 26 runs scored, 49 hits, five doubles, five triples, three home runs, 25 RBIs and 13 stolen bases.

Junior outfielder Donnie Luster, sophomore first baseman designated hitter Jeff Jones, senior catcher Emanuel Upton and sophomore outfielder Larry Saunders trailed Dillard in the scramble for individual team honors.

As a team Norfolk State has scored 174 runs, registered 262 hits in 987 at the bats, hit 30 doubles, 13 triples and 30 home runs, stole 69 bases.

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