

# School Success Comes

As all local sports fans know by now, Warren County has already established itself as one of the best prep athletic programs around.

The football and basketball teams won conference titles last season, the basketball team won the state 3-A championship, and the girls' basketball and baseball teams were good and chalked up some impressive wins along the way.

This success is due to many factors. Good coaching and good talent are the most obvious reasons for all those wins. The teams have the support of the Eagles' Club, a booster organization that raises money for the programs at the schools. Fan support has been fantastic. The football and basketball teams drew large crowds, both at home and on the road. When the Eagle football team played Tarboro and Ayden-Grifton — both on the road, more fans were at the games from Warren County than from the other schools.

The state championship basketball game drew a crowd of 6,000 at Greensboro, with about a thousand making the trip from the county. Student support for the teams couldn't be better either.

But with all these 'plusses' going for it, a successful program needs leadership. This year, the duties of athletic director have been assumed by Bob Ross, who previously served as jayvee basketball coach at Norlina; and last year, was the Eagles' baseball coach.

A native of Conway, Ross brings a positive type of leadership to a budding program. He is a hard worker, a stickler for detail, and has the easy-going personality needed to make a program coherent. Ross is well-organized. For instance, he has the bus schedules for all the road football games already worked out and distributed — even the games in November.

With Warren County moving into their modern gymnasium this year, and with a foundation of winning already engrained in the school — all that was needed was someone to coordinate the county-wide athletic programs. Ross has always been a winner in coaching, and he is proving to be an equally good athletic administrator as well.

And speaking of the new gym at WCHS, it is something else! The bleachers are far and away the most modern and comfortable this writer has seen in a high school gymnasium. The basketball court is impressive, as well as the offices and other facilities in the complex. There is no finer in this area.

## Two Overdue Honors

The trophy case in the lobby outside the gym is the only thing that appears to be outdated. While the case may be large enough to fit the needs of many schools, it is already becoming too small to handle the hardware won by the Eagle teams.

Along with football and basketball trophies won last year, the Eagles also won the conference's trophy for sportsmanship — and this was as important as the state championship basketball plaque!

Another impressive plaque is the one donated by the Rotary Club in honor of the basketball squad. It was a nice gesture from that club.

A recent addition to the case is a large picture of David Henderson and a list of his accomplishments and records (which are many). Henderson, now at Duke, was truly a "one in a million" person. All-America in basketball, good student, class officer, and best of all — a nice person.

Henderson deserves to have his jersey number, no. 32, retired by the school. This should have been done last year and was not. It's this writer's hope that this oversight will be remedied before too long. A needless delay would spoil the honor of having the number retired. A case for this could also be made for the Eagles' All-East tailback of last season, Joe Greene. Greene was a three-sport star and is now starting at Chowan.

Ross calls Greene, "the best all-around athlete I've seen in high school." While Joe's football and basketball achievements are documented, Ross believes if Greene had played baseball all his life he would have been best in that sport. The Eagles will miss the man who wore no. 49 in football.

Seldom does a school begin its athletic endeavors with this caliber of athletes. The Eagles had some terrific players last year, but Henderson and Greene just seem to stand out a little more than the others. The Eagles should not forget these young men, and chances are they will be starring on the college scene the next few years. The honor of having their numbers retired is one that both earned and now deserve.

**AGGIES AND VOLS ARE UNHAPPY:** Johnny Majors won the national championship in football at Pitt in 1976, then scurried off to Tennessee, his alma mater. Majors was hired by the Volunteers after the school unceremoniously fired Bill Battle as coach, in spite of Battle's excellent record. Tennessee thought Majors was the saviour of their program and would produce national championships.

Majors' successor at Pitt was Jackie Sherrill, and

## Lew Hege



he had a better record than Majors, 33-3 in the last three seasons. When Texas A&M waved the megabucks (about 2 million of them), at Sherrill, he left Pitt for the big time life in Aggieland.

Seems like two chapters of a fairy tale — right? Wrong, all is not well in Camelot. First, Majors has been less than spectacular at Tennessee. After several losing seasons (Gadzooks!) UT finally won a minor bowl game, (the now defunct Garden State Bowl), last year.

Tennessee rebounded from 44-0 and 43-7 losses to Georgia and Southern California in their first two games to post a 8-4 mark. But a funny thing happened on the way to Oz, a team named Duke knocked off the Vols last Saturday night, 25-24. And it wasn't a fluke.

Part two of this saga takes place in College Station, Tex., the home of mighty Texas A & M, and their millionaire coach, Jackie Sherrill. Texans have always been noted for doing things in a big way, and giving a man who has won just 53 games as a college coach more than \$2 million was big.

Even J. R. Ewing must have let out a "wow-wee" when he heard that figure. Well, just as the proud Aggie fans were preparing for their trip to Camelot last Saturday night — another funny thing happened. Unheralded Boston College came down to the plains and belted their Aggies, 38-16.

Like Tennessee, A & M had fired a good coach, Tom Wilson, so they could get a big-timer like Sherrill and start winning all the marbles.

Would anyone care to bet how many four-letter expletives were uttered in Knoxville and College Station, Tex. after Saturday night's games? Tennessee and Texas A & M deserve whatever they get. They fired two able coaches and spent all those bucks to try and buy a championship. So far the investment has been nothing more than a tax write-off.

**GREENE OFF TO GREAT START:** And speaking of Joe Greene, he is off to a great start as Chowan College's tailback. After starring in a Braves' scrimmage game, Greene shined in Chowan's opening game of the year, a 7-7 tie with the ECU JV's. Joe scored Chowan's only touchdown — on an 11-yard run — to gain the deadlock.

## Local Chapter Being Formed

A local chapter of Ducks Unlimited, the international waterfowl conservation group, is being formed. A preliminary organizational meeting will be held by a group of local sportsmen. Don Manley, Regional Director for DU National Headquarters, will be at the meeting to assist in the formation of this new Warren County chapter.

Ducks Unlimited is a non-profit membership organization of over 400,000 members, dedicated to the conservation of waterfowl as a valuable natural resource. Funds raised in the U. S. and Canada through tax-deductible membership contributions are utilized to construct and rehabilitate waterfowl nesting habitat north of the U. S./Canada border, where four out of every five ducks and geese are hatched. Hundreds of species of wildlife including fish, furbearers and other mammals call DU water control projects home.

By law, our government cannot expend duck stamp funds outside the U.S., thus DU stands as the only organization which can spend private funds where they really count — to perpetuate our waterfowl populations by improving the vital breeding grounds in Canada. Over its 45 year history, DU has spent over 100 million dollars — and has created or stabilized nearly 3.5 million valuable acres of habitat. The organization buys no land, receiving free leases from governments,

landowners, industries and municipalities. A large percentage of the DU effort has been made in the duck-rich Prairie Provinces of Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba; expansion programs are continuing in the Maritime Provinces, Quebec and British Columbia.

Last year North Carolina conservationists contributed a total of \$1,043,000 to Ducks Unlimited. The formation of this new Warren County chapter is expected to help raise more dollars and to give local sportsmen a chance to join DU. All sportsmen - conservationists who would like to join Ducks Unlimited or want additional information are invited to contact Brad Carroll at First-Citizens Bank in Warrenton.

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### WHAT'S NEW



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New heat-resistant plastic cap purges air from cooling system, won't crack, warp or corrode. The cap uses an O-ring design that allows steam and superheated coolant to vent through the overflow tube when cap is turned to the safety position. Called C.R.S. Cap and found at most auto outlets.



The dove hunting season opened on Saturday, September 4, at 12 noon, and wildlife biologists are predicting a good hunting season.

## No Dove Shortage Found

There's no shortage of doves in North Carolina this year, according to biologists with the N. C. Wildlife Resources Commission. With the weather gods smiling on the Tar Heel state, there was excellent dove hunting on opening day. The season opened on Saturday, Sept. 4, and runs through Oct. 9, then opens again on Dec. 13 and runs through Jan. 15. During the first half of the season, hunting will be allowed from 12

noon until sunset. In the second half of the season, hunting will be allowed from one-half hour before sunrise until sunset. The daily bag limit for doves is 12 daily with 24 in possession.

"We estimate that there are about 27 million doves in North Carolina in late summer," said Carl Betsill, a Wildlife Commission biologist from Elm City. "This is about average for the past 10 years,

which shows that populations are fairly stable."

Dove populations are estimated by call-count surveys. In early summer, wildlife biologists cruise selected routes, stop at 20 sites on each route, and note the number of dove calls heard in three minutes at each site. These routes are run in all states, and the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service uses the information to estimate

dove populations and develop frameworks for regulations. Since doves are migratory birds, individual states select seasons, shooting times and bag limits from the federal framework for each region.

An abundant supply of doves is only one of the ingredients needed for a good dove hunting season. Weather also plays a major role in the life cycle of these birds.

"Weather conditions (Continued on page 11)

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