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## Martins End Coastal Plain Season Today; Ready for Play-Off

### Ayden's Chance To Play In Semi-Finals Blasted by Martins Yesterday

The close of the regular season in the Coastal Plain baseball league today finds Williamston just five games out of first place, the Martins having clung to that position since June 10 with only a slight interruption. Good baseball has feature the past few games in the tail-end of the season, and the team is in great shape to start the semi-finals with Tarboro here tomorrow. The Martins have their batting eye functioning a little better, and Skipper Hauger states he is ready for all comers.

New Bern's Bear and the Martins battle to a 7-run tie here Tuesday afternoon, the umps calling the game at the end of the ninth on account of darkness. Strunk started for the Martins, but turned the pitching work over to Wade in the fourth inning, and errors let in two runs in the ninth and knotted the score.

Over in New Bern Wednesday, the Martins really played ball. Strunk held the Bears to 8 well-scattered hits and Pappy Deim added color to the contest with some red-hot third-baseing, the combined forces doing a good job to hold the Bruins scoreless. Timely hitting netted 3 runs for the Martins, one each in the first, seventh and eighth innings.

Ayden, holding on to a clim chance for entering the semi-finals, lost that chance here yesterday afternoon, when Fields and Wade held the visitors to 9 hits and 4 runs, while the Martins were making their 10 safeties count for 5 runs. The Aces took the lead in the fifth inning, but the Martins got together in the eighth to score three runs and win the game by a 5-4 count, Wade getting credit for the win.

Tomorrow, Skipper Haugers plans to start Big Jim Rollins against Snake Henry's Serpents, and a strong bid will be made to take the first contest.

## Several Are Slightly Injured When Cars Crash Here Tuesday

### Garland Woolard Painfully Bruised When Struck by Auto Wednesday

No one was badly hurt but considerable property damage followed when two cars driven by W. B. Coppersmith of Elizabeth City, and Andrew W. Faulkner formerly of Virginia but now of Plymouth, crashed at the Main and Haughton Street intersection here last Tuesday night about 10 o'clock. Coppersmith, driving his Dodge coupe down Main St. suffered a minor cut on his forehead and others in his car and in that of Faulkner's were slightly bruised.

The two drivers entered the intersection apparently without careful watch, and the Coppersmith machine plowed into the side of the Ford driven by Faulkner who was accompanied by his wife. Neither car was traveling fast, and witnesses to the crash were of the opinion that both drivers could have stopped after entering the intersection and avoided the accident had they been more careful.

A second main street accident followed Wednesday afternoon when Garland Woolard, local furniture man, stepped from between two cars into the path of another driven by D. C. Butner, representative of Swift and Company with headquarters in Greenville. Mr. Woolard was thrown on top of the hood, but suffered no broken bones. He was badly bruised, however, and doctors state that he will be confined to his home for a few days.

## Teachers Offer Their Resignations

One or two teachers in the county schools this week offered their resignations, the board of education office stating today that release requests entered at this late hour are subject not to be granted. Resignation after resignation has been accepted and the local committees have filled the positions made vacant up until additional ones were tendered this week, and the school authorities are now said to be in no mood to continue the practice of releasing teachers under contract at this late period. The names of the teachers offering their resignations were not released, but it was learned that they were members of the rural school faculties.

## *Estimated 9,000 People Here For Opening Sales Yesterday*

Visitors, numbering well over 8,000 by conservative estimates, crowded Williamston streets main and business districts all day yesterday, observers claiming it was the largest crowd to attend a tobacco opening here in several years. Overrunning the warehouse and business districts, the crowds wearing very happy smiles for the most part, went into the residential areas, their cars forming solid rows that extended several blocks away from the center of things. Parking lots were crowded and Washington Street, the main artery leading from the tobacco area, was crowded to capacity during a greater part of the day.

A large attendance upon Downie Brothers at the fair grounds failed to thin the crowds on the streets to any great extent, for as fast as sales were completed on the market farmers would gather on the sidewalks and shops to discuss the price trend. The movie theatre was crowded from early morning until late last night, and quite a number saw the baseball game.

The day was marked by the absence of accidents of any kind, and no reports of any "skin" games were received by police. Traffic was congested at periods, but some how and in some way it untangled itself, and the business and entertainment schedule moved off smoothly.

It was a great day all right.

## Plans Go Forward for Big Fair Here This Fall

### Return of "Lucky Teter" Assured by Operators of Event

#### Continental Revue Booked As a Feature Attraction For 1937 Exhibition

Arrangements for holding the Williamston fair on October 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9 are going forward rapidly, Manager Harvey Walker said today. Contracts have been virtually completed with some of the best grandstand attractions ever seen in the South, Mr. Walker stating that Norman Y. Chambliss, general manager, had made arrangements to center his attention on the Williamston exhibition this year and that he was going to book the leading entertaining artists.

Lucky Teter and his daredevil drivers will make their return appearance here on Friday of fair week, the management explaining that the contracts for Teters return had been signed. One of the main features on the grandstand program each evening will be the Continental revue, an elaborate production with 20 girls in the cast. The revue was produced by Geo. A. Hamid, of New York, internationally known showman. The evening performance will be climaxed by a spectacular display of fireworks, Manager Walker stating that the budget carries an appropriation of several thousand dollars for the fireworks program alone.

Frank West's World Wonder shows, one of the largest shows traveling in the South this coming season, will be on the midway. There are 15 modern rides and 20 novelty shows, General Manager Chambliss stating this week that "no offensive shows or concessions would be allowed on the midway."

Offering a total of $2,500 in cash premiums, the management is stressing more than ever the agriculture side of the fair, and greater exhibit displays are promised by agricultural leaders in this and adjoining counties. A feature that has received little attention in recent years at the fair will be a livestock show of some size. Increased premiums are being offered in the livestock departments, and more interest in the exhibits is expected, Manager Walker said.

### REGISTER PUPILS

**One hundred and twenty-five pupils registered yesterday and today for courses of instruction in the local high schol, Principal D. N. Hix stating that the 70 or 75 others planning to enter school this term could see him any morning during the first three days of next week and get their registrations handled.**

**The high school carollment is expected to show no change from that of last year, the school man said.**

## Change in Set-Up of W.P.A. Organization Effective Next Week

### Not Known How Many Are To Be Transferred from Williamston Office

The elimination of the five Works Progress Administration district offices in this State will be effected next Wednesday in accordance with plans announced some time ago by State Administrator Coan. Complete plans for the purported economy move have not been made public, and it could not be learned today how many employees would be removed or dropped from the administration rolls here.

At the same time the district headquarters are abolished, Federal WPA authorities will have established 12 area offices, including one here for the counties of Martin, Nash, Pitt, Beaufort, Washington, Hyde, Tyrrell and Edgecombe. Under the newly proposed set-up, Williamston will serve as headquarters for Area Two and will be responsible directly to the state office in Raleigh.

Although the names of those who will be dismissed from the pay rolls will not be made public before tomorrow or Sunday, Administrator Coan said that among those to be dropped are a number receiving salaries "in the higher brackets."

The district offices were opened here a year ago next Wednesday at a cost of several thousand dollars to the town and county. It is believed that many of the workers now employed in the district office here will continue their work under the area set-up. It is also understood that the State Employment service will need several of the offices now occupied by the WPA group for its personnel of 10 to 16 workers.

## Several Fire Calls; Small Damage Done

Very little damage resulted when fire, starting from a spark, burned a small hole into the roof of the Central cafe in the C. O. Moore building on Washington Street here last Tuesday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock.

The spark fell on some bags used as packing around a skylight and burned them, the fire spreading to the attick. Firemen, called to the scene, usel a small line of hose to put the fire out.

Wednesday midnight the fire department was called to Sparrow's filling station in the warehouse district. An oil stove went out of control, caught a floor mop and a few old papers, but other than smoking up a small cook room, very little damage resulted.

About three hours later the firemen were called again to the same station, a new fire breaking out in the back of the building. It is believed that a careless smoker fired the building with a lighted cigarette.

## Free-for-All Fight Here Early Today

Not at all particular in selecting their grounds, several young white men stopped near the home of Sheriff C. B. Roebuck on East Main Street here this morning about 1:30 o'clock nad set out to settle an argument with their fists and any weapons they could muster in a hurry. The sheriff and neighbors went to the scene, and when the smoke cleared two Oakley boys from Cross Roads were arrested and jailed. One of the boys was painfuly beaten on the head, the officer stating that apparently the young men did not know who they were fighting or why.

When the sheriff called for arrests, neighbors, unable to determine identity in the dark, grabbed each other and started to jail. Charlie James finally established his identity and Bill Abbitt turned him loose.

The Oakley boys are scheduled to appear before Mayor Hassell this evening and answer in the case charging them with an affray. The mayor will also have before him Newton Agebright, white man, on a charge of being drunk and disorderly.

## Call Three Criminal Cases In Recorder's Court Last Monday

### Remand One Case To Oak City Mayor for Trial And Judgment

Judge H. O. Peel disposed of the criminal docket in the county court on Monday in a brief time but spent considerable time hearing a civil action. There were only three criminal cases scheduled for trial and one of those was remanded to the mayor of Oak City for trial and judgment.

In the case charging Lonnie Whitfield and Booker T. Teel with an assault with a deadly weapon, Whitfield pleaded guilty and was fined $10 ,the court taxing him with the cost. Teel pleaded not guilty, but the evidence was against him and the court imposed a $25 fine and added one-half the case costs.

Charged with violating the liquor laws, Edward Coffield was fined $15 and taxed with the cost. Coffield was also sentenced to the roads for sixty days, the sentence to begin at the direction of the court.

The case charging Roy Lanier with breaking and entering and larceny was remanded to Oak City's mayor for trial and judgment. Lanier, said to have been drinking at the time, is the man charged with wandering into the Chesson home at Oak City about two weeks ago and who started helping himself to food.

## Some Large Peppers Grown Near Here

There'll be a hot time in this section this year if all the farmers grow peppers the size of the two placed on display here yesterday by Farmer Alexander Lilley. Measuring 15 inches around, one of the peppers weighed just a few ounces under a pound. Both were about the same size, Mr. Lilley stating that there were five other peppers pulled from the same stalk but none was quite so large as the two he brought from his home near the fair grounds.

## Change In Farm Life Faculty Announced

Wilton Kilgore, young man of Newberry, S. C. yesterday was appointed to fill the position made vacant in the Farm Life School faculty by the resignation of Earl Livingston, of Prosperity, S. C. School authorities explained that Livingston had been offered the principalship of the school in his home community and that they released him from his contract.

### *Trick Rider Breaks Leg In Circus Yesterday Afternoon*

Charles Poplin, trick rider with Reb Russell in the Downie Brothers circus, broke his leg while performing before 3,000 people under the "big top" here yesterday afternoon. After receiving first-aid treatment in the offices of Drs. Rhodes, Eason and Winn, Poplin was removed to a Rocky Mount hospital, where it will be necessary for him to remain several weeks. The large bone in his leg was broken, spectators hearing it crack from the other side of the tent.

### *Local Boy Recovering In Hospital from Injuries*

John Fleming Thigpen, young Williamston boy who was badly cut in an automobile accident near Tappahannock, Va., last Saturday afternoon, is improving in a Richmond hospital. It is not known just when he will be able to leave the hospital, late reports indicating that his discharge is not expected within several days.

More than 100 stitches were necessary to close the cuts on his face, and he was on the operating table for three hours, it was learned here today.

### *New Town Defeats Old Rivals 13 To 0 In Wednesday Game*

After being defeated last week, New town came back with great force Wednesday morning to set Old Town back again 13-0. Edmondson pitched three hit ball, while the New Towners collected twelve hits. C. Roberson led at bat for New Town with 3 for 4. Edmondson pitched while C. Roberson caught for New Town. Mobley and Cunningham and Godwin formed the battery for Old Town.

# Local Tobacco Market Has One Of Most Satisfactory Opening Day Sales in History Yesterday

## *Martins Start Play-Off Here Saturday With Henry's Club*

**Completing the regular season today over in Ayden, the Martins will go into the semi-finals against Tarboro here tomorrow afternoon at 4 o'clock. Snow Hill and New Bern will battle for a place in the finals, but it has not been decided where they will start the series of three out of five games.**

**Haus Stanley, keeper of the left garden, will desert that position today and take the mound against Ayden, giving the Martins' pitching staff a rest in preparation for a hot time with Tarboro in the five-game series. Brice McCay and Ace Villepicque, the other two outer gardeners, have also requested Skipper Hauger to let them take a turn in the box, and it is possible they may get a chance this afternoon.**

**Manager Goodmon explained that the receipts from the semi-finals would be pooled and divided, and for that reason all passes honored during the regular season would be withdrawn for the series.**

## Many Farmers Are Not Participating In Soil Program

### Out of 526 Farms Reported, 122 Forfeit Claims To Diversion Payments

That Martin County farmers are not participating in the soil conservation program to as great an extent as they did a year ago is indicated in a report released by County Agent T. B. Brandon yesterday. A complete report on the program participation is not available just at this time, the agent explaining that activities of 526 farm operators had been reported, giving a fairly good idea of what may be expected in the way of benefits this fall.

Of the 526 farms reporting, 122 or a fraction over 23 per cent, have failed to qualify for any diversion payments under the soil conservation program. The operators of the 122 farms planted their bases and in some cases are thought to have exceeded them, the action eliminating their hopes for sharing in the soil conservation diversion of benefit payments.

A study of the preliminary reports show that the 404 farmers included in the list of 526 whose farms have been surveyed will receive approximately $31,975.75 in diversions payments, the amount being 62 per cent of the total possible to be received in such payments under the soil program.

As to individual crops, the 404 farm operators are diverting 28 per cent of their cotton base to other crops falling in the soil building group. Farmers had the opportunity to receive benefits for diverting 35 per cent of their cotton base acres to other crops, but the early estimates show that they will fall short by 7 per cent of gaining the maximum payments. The 404 farm operators had a cotton base of 1,543 acres the report showing that 432 had been diverted.

Having the opportunity to divert 25 per cent of their tobacco base acreage and draw diversion payments, the 404 farm operators, as a whole, elected to participate only to the extend of 16.3 per cent. In other words the 526 farms covered by the report had a base of 3,549 acres and the group planted all but 579.6 acres to the crop.

Peanuts hardly found their way into the program, the farm operators participating only to the extent of 5.2 per cent out of a possible maximum of 15 per cent of their bases. There are 4,569 base peanut acres, the farm operators electing to reduce the crop by only 242 acres.

Complete reports are expected to cause a variation in these percentages, but it is quite evident from the preliminary figures that Martin farmers are deserting the soil conservation program.

These figures do not necessarily mean that there is going to be a great big surplus of cotton, tobacco and peanuts, but they do indicate that it was the combined will of the farmers to produce big crops. Before any definite idea can be gained as to the size of the crops, the boll weevil damage is to be recognized. Much of the late tobacco now in the fields is subject to ruin and never find its way to market, thereby affecting a reduction. Despite the large peanut acreage there is much doubt if the crop will be as large as it was a year ago. There are good prospects for a great hay crop on top and a world of pops on the bottom.

## Reb Russell, Cowboy Movie Star, Gets Big Kick Out Leaf Sales

### Youths Crowded Around the Cowboy by the Hundreds Here Yesterday

Reb Russell, movie star from out Pawhuska way in Oklahoma, had a big time yesterday when he came here with the Downie Brothers circus and looked in on his first tobacco auction sale. And the kids—some grown-ups, too—had a big time crowding around the screen idol who willingly shared his autographs with every youngster who could find a scrap of paper.

Describing himself as just a plain ordinary countryman, Russell, one-time all-American football star, jammed the activities on the local tobacco market for a few minutes yesterday morning when he attracted hundreds of youth there. Police had to help him break through his admirers and scatter the crowds that activities on the market could be carried on.

Asked what he thought about the tobacco sales, Russell said he got a big kick out of it and added that the Indians with him did, too. "But I didn't get the meaning of it all. The man (auctioneer) would cry 'yimme' or 'gimme' and, gee, I just couldn't ever tell what the score was," Russell, one of the real ranch-born cowboys, said.

Russell stated that he certainly liked Williamston even though it took him nearly an hour to find a place to sleep after arriving here from Elizabeth City. The kids were not long in forming a friendship with the man, and his visit added to the opening of the tobacco market here.

Accompanied by his 11-year-old daughter, Miss Bettie, Russell left here for Rocky Mount. His daughter will leave him there and return to her home in Oklahoma to start school soon.

## Mattress Factory Starts Next Week

Williamston's newest enterprise, a mattress factory, is scheduled to start operations next week under the direction of Guthrie Strawbridge, manager of the Good and Bad Furniture Company. W. H. Summerrell experienced mattress maker, will be in charge of the plant which will be located in the building formerly occupied by the Clark Candy Company on the railroad just off Smithwick Street.

Operating details are being arranged this week, the management stating that the new enterprise will employ about six people at the start.

### *Circus Plays To Crowd of 7,000 People Yesterday*

Downie Brothers Circus played to approximately 7,000 people here yesterday, 3,000 in the afternoon and about 4,000 last evening, the management stating it was well pleased with the short stay here and planned to return in the future.

The circus was well received here yesterday by people from over a large territory, almost everyone speaking very highly of the program.

Today the circus is in Rocky Mount and from there it goes to Wilson and then on to Raleigh, Charlotte and several large towns in South Carolina.

## Average Price About 22 Cents; Expect To Clear Block Today

### Nearly 400,000 Pounds Of Golden Leaf Placed On Floors for Initial Sales

Satisfactory sales marked the opening of the Williamston Tobacco Market yesterday, prices, while not high, being considered fair by the farmers. The opening here was one of the biggest in the history of the market, and attracted a record-breaking crowd, estimated by some to number between 8,000 and 9,000 people. There were fewer complaints heard here yesterday than on any other opening, including the one in 1919, when prices averaged around 50 cents a pound. "The prices are not high, but they are fair, and we have no right to complain," one prominent farmer from around Jamesville said, and he expressed the opinion of possibly a big majority.

Official figures are not available for the opening sales in their entirety, but it was reliably estimated that the price average was around 22 cents, or about 2 cents below the opening-day average a year ago.

There was no high-priced tobacco on the floors. One pile brought 44 cents a pound, but the top figures seldom went above 35 cents. Possibly the prices for the medium grades were stronger than they were a year ago. There was a considerable amount of inferior quality tobacco offered for sale, and one farmer averaged less than 2 cents, and many sold their offerings for an average of less than 15 cents. Their tobacco was harvested during that dry season in July, the farmers pulling it to keep the sun from burning it up. A number of averages ranged around 30 cents and a few were reported in excess of 32 cents a pound.

The size of the break yesterday exceeded all expectations, and everyone was surprised late Wednesday, when it became evident that block sales would follow the next day. High prices down on the border spured the marketing activities, and close to 1,000 farmers placed approximately 375,000 pounds on the three warehouse floors. Sales were handled smoothly and approximately 225,000 pounds were sold during the day. The block is being cleared today, reports from the market stating that prices were holding their own, as warehousemen and buyers settled down to another day of hard work to clear the floors for big sales next Monday. Farmers are working long hours to get their crops ready for sale, and it is generally believed that they wil make every effort possible to market the leaf within a record time.

Judging from reports reaching here, Williamston had, in proportion to its size, the biggest break of tobacco in the belt yesterday. Observers visiting on the big markets explained that prices here compared very favorably with those throughout the belt. There was some keen competition in the buying on the local market, and the buyers proved the claim that they are the best set in the belt by sticking close to their jobs during the long hot hours.

Without a doubt, Williamston has the strongest market in all its history, and a great season is assured. The warehouse personnel is recognized far and wide as being the most progressive and among the most experienced in the belt.

## Car Damaged But Driver Is Not Hurt

George Harrison, jr., escaped injury yesterday morning about 2:30 o'clock when a tire on his car blew out and the machine jumped the sidewalk and skidded into the front yard of H. M. Burras on West Main Street. The rear end of the car was smashed in, but it was not damaged beyond repair.

### *Let Contract for New Home On Simmons Avenue Here*

A contract for the construction of a new seven-room brick home for Mr. and Mrs. V. J. Spivey has been let, and the builders will start work on the two-story structure some time next week. The new home will be located on Simmons Avenue.