

Out Of Bounds

By Mike Steadman

UNC-C proved to be the Cinderella team of the NIT last week in more ways than one when they beat State 80-79 in the semi-finals. During the telecast the other night, Nick Pond, Sports Director of WRAL-TV, indicated that UNC-C was hoping for a victory so that they could be labeled the best team this season to come out of North Carolina. This kind of assumption would be unfair considering the talent that was evident over the season. Just think about the talent and teams that didn't make it to any kind of playoffs. One thing is for sure-it was not State's year. It's hard to play one man (Carr) against five in any game situation. Maybe State should be congratulated for going as far as they did. If anything, State is a team of the future, but certainly not of the present. They seemed to fall apart in the latter part of the season and could not pull back together.

A good solution for post season basketball play would be to let the first round losers of the NCAA Tournament compete in the NIT. This would surely produce an interesting field of teams to battle it out for the crown.

Since the NCAA expanded to 32 teams, there has been slim pickings for the NIT.

It was good that State swallowed their pride and decided to participate in the NIT and maybe if Maryland had done the same, some prestige could have been saved for the ACC this year.

This is not to take anything away from Kentucky, NIT champion, or from other teams like UNC-C, Oregon etc., but to in all probability make the NIT as good if not a better tournament than the NCAA in most cases. Just think how good it would have been if UNC, Maryland, Tennessee, VPI, St. Johns, and others had been involved in the NIT wars this year. Oh yes, let's not forget Virginia. Carolina and the rest of the ACC won't.

Something even better would be to postpone the NIT until the NCAA Tournament is over and send out invitations to all the good teams.

A possibility of the same team being the NCAA and the NIT champion would come up. If that was the case, there would be no doubt as to who would be number one in the nation.

It seems that tournament basketball has too much pressure and too much hinges on one game.

Take UNC for instance; they played the worst game of their season in the first round of the NCAA. Could Alabama beat UNC that bad again? Very improbable.

The NCAA field is narrowed to four teams. UCLA, Indiana, Michigan, and Rutgers.

Don't count the Bruins out. They are not the same team that was thrashed by the Hoosiers earlier this season and will probably prove it this weekend.

Rutgers won't be just standing there while this is going on either. They are for real.

Michigan is a good bet for the dark horse team. They lost a game to Indiana earlier in the season in overtime, but were playing the Indiana five and two officials. Maybe it won't be like that this time around.

Was Marquette really the number two team in the nation and is Indiana really that good? Maybe they are, but they have a real chance to show the basketball world how many chicken bones they have been eating.

In the finals Monday night look for UCLA and Michigan and watch the Bruins receive the roses.

The baseball Bucks are looking as good as expected with the small exception of a 11-0 loss at the hands of Richmond County.

Coach Grier has worked wonders with the baseball program here and everyone is looking for it to grow even more as time goes on.

We don't know who the next football coach at Hoke High will be yet, but whoever it is he will have players going onto the gridiron with nice looking new uniforms.

There is one sure thing about Hoke High School, it does not "cut the butter" as far as facilities are concerned.

This is something to be proud of and deserves all the support it can get. The school cannot do all of this on its own however, and all are invited to join the Booster Club next year and help support the Bucks.

All will find out that this type of support is very rewarding in many ways. There is a feeling of warmth and pride that comes with a membership.

Now is the time to start thinking about it.

Schedules

UPCHURCH "EAGLES"
Girls Softball Schedule 1976

DATE	TEAM	PLACE	TIME
March 29	Maxton	Home	3:30
April 1	Hoke High (9th gr.)	Home	3:30
April 5	Wicker	Away	3:30
April 8	Maxton	Away	3:30
April 12	Peachland	Home	3:30
April 15	Jonesboro	Home	3:30
April 26	Hoke High (9th gr.)	Home	3:30
April 29	Hoke High (9th gr.)	Home	3:30
May 4	Jonesboro	Away	3:30
May 6	Wicker	Home	3:30

Location of field: Armory Park in back of Old National Guard Armory and Business 401 downtown Raeford.

Softball Coach: Pat Scott

Roster: Debbie Baker, Janice Blackshear, Cynthia Bratcher, Brenda Graham, Rochelle Gray, Cynthia Kershaw, Jacqueline King, Monique McClinton, Cheryl McIntyre, Amanda McLaurin, Sharon McMillan, Myra McNeill, Doris Maynor, Carolyn Monroe, Marian Monroe, Cathy Sappenfield, Angela Thomas, and Wilma Riggins.

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UPCHURCH "EAGLES"
BOYS BASEBALL SCHEDULE 1976

DATE	TEAM	PLACE	TIME
March 29	Maxton	Home	3:30
April 1	Elizabethtown	Away	3:30
April 5	Wicker	Away	3:30
April 8	Maxton	Away	3:30
April 12	Peachland	Home	3:30
April 15	Jonesboro	Home	3:30
April 26	Elizabethtown	Home	3:30
April 29	Peachland	Away	3:30
May 4	Jonesboro	Away	3:30
May 6	Wicker	Home	3:30

Location of field: Armory Park in back of Old National Guard Armory and business 401 downtown Raeford.

Principal: Earl H. Oxendine

Phone: 875-2384 or 875-4292

Athletic Director: W.K. Morgan

Baseball Coach: Parnell Miles

Roster: Lamont Adams, David Blue, Richard Blue, Anthony Brown, Timothy Clark, Ricky Cobb, Ralph Currie, James Galberth, David Horne, Rusty Huff, Maurice Hurst, Mack Lewis, Dennis Lomack, John Moses, Michael McDougald, Marvin McKoy, Bobby Posey, Wayne Wilkes, and Perry Worley.

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Girl's Track Team Takes Two Meets

The Hoke High girl's track team added two wins to their record recently as they were led by Olympic hopeful, Kathy McMillan.

McMillan posted three individual wins in each meet and aided the team to wins over Pinecrest and Sanford Central Wednesday, March 17, in Southern Pines and over Seventy-First of Fayetteville and Red Springs here Monday.

The Bucks total for the first meet was 86, compared to 32 points for Pinecrest and 27 for Sanford Central.

The Hoke team racked up 91 points Monday, compared to 45

points for Seventy-First and nine for Red Springs.

McMillan jumped 21'-2" in Southern Pines and 20'-8 1/2" here Monday in her specialty the long jump.

She also won the 100 and 220 yard dashes in both meets.

In the meet against Pinecrest and Sanford Central, the Bucks took first place in eleven of 14 events with McCormick and Davis taking wins in the 440 and discus respectively to aid McMillan's performance.

Hoke won all the relays but one in the meet.

The Bucks captured eleven of the 14 events here Monday as they swept all relay events and McCall took the high and low hurdles for the locals.

The Bucks next meet was Wednesday at Richmond County where they met Bowman and the Raiders.

Merchant Bowling

McNeill's Cops Four

By Larry Long

McNeill's slowed down the leaders from Oakwood Laundry last week by taking all four games, but at the same time the second place team, The Moose Lodge, had their troubles also as they dropped three games to Webb's Tire. The tiremen remain in the third spot by three games this week.

Hunt's Bonding picked up four wins from the Guard, Gentry's recapped the barbers four games, and Kennerty's turned back Earl's Electric three games to one.

The high 200 last week went to Jesses Taylor for Hunt's Bonding, a 224. The high series went to Howard Hendrix for Hunt's, a 572, and that included a 223 game. Others hitting the 200 mark last week included Henry Bundy for the Guard a 214, Leon Burton for McNeill's a 213, Mackie Carter for Oakwood a 212, Gerald Lupo for Gentry's a 210, and Ronnie Taylor for Kennerty's a 204.

STANDINGS

	W	L
Oakwood Laundry	75	33
Moose Lodge	67	41
Webb's Tire	61	47
Hunt's Bonding	58	50
Hollingsworth	53	55
Earl's Electric	52	56
Kennerty's	50	58
McNeill's	47	61
Gentry's Tire	47	61
National Guard	30	78

TOP TEN BOWLERS

Jesse Taylor	178
Mackie Carter	174
Bob Canady	173
Leo Schulerburg	173
Ted Pulhamus	173
Harold Campbell	171
Bill Hendrix	170
James Gay	170
Thad Marks	170
John Canady	170

This week's schedule: The battle of the week features the Oakwood crew taking on the second place Moose Lodge. Webb's meets Kennerty's, Hunt's faces Gentry's Tire, McNeill's battles it out with the barbers, and The National Guard will tangle with Earl's Electric.

Ladies League

Helpers Holding Lead

With only four weeks to go, things are still not settled with the Raeford Ladies League.

The Helpers are still out front with a three game lead. They found the Odd Balls were bowling oddly, taking three out of four games from them last week.

The Dynamites are holding second place, taking two out of four games from the Upsetters. One of the games was lost by only one pin. The Wonders and Travelers split two games each.

Next week the Wonders will try their luck with the Helpers, the Odd Balls will try to cut the Dynamites' fuse, while the Travelers and The Upsetters will battle it out.


Standings

	W	L
Helpers	45	31
Dynamites	42	34
Travelers	40	36
Odd Balls	37	39
Upsetters	36	40
Wonders	28	48

Top Six Bowlers

Linda Chason	156.3
Debbie Hutson	153.8
Barbara Odom	151.2
Sybil Freeman	145.6
Donna Cannon	138.5
Jean Schulerburg	137.5

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