

Clinton Edges James Kenan In Baseball Opener, 1-0

East Central 2-A Baseball Schedule Opens March 24th

The Clinton Dark Horses scored on run in the first inning on a single by Mickey Walker a stolen base and an error to defeat Pat Draughan's James Kenan Tigers in their 1964 base ball opener, 1-0. Walker scored the only run against James Kenan. This same Mickey Walker was an outstanding Little League in Warsaw some few years ago. Walker pitched and batted the Warsaw team to the state finals in little league. In fact he hurled a no-hitter in the Eastern finals in Tarboro the same year on the way to the state playoffs.

How did we let this fine young athlete get away from us... just think that could have been a James Kenan victory today.

The Dark Horses picked up only two hits off Scotty Lockamy, the other a single by Ed Newman in the fourth inning. Lockamy struck out seven and walked two.

Walker hurled four innings for Clinton, McCallahan two and Blanton one. James Kenan left seven men stranded and Clinton four.

Coach Draughan was pleased with the team since they had only a few days before the opener with Clinton. He stated that freshman Mickey Davis looked good at short and Larry Cooke a sophomore was looking real good at third. Catcher Billy Byrd, regular shortstop, did

a fine job behind the plate. Other members of the Tigers that fit in Draughan's plans are Paul Britt, M.H. Barr, Lynn Hill-ton, Bill Taylor, Terry Quinn Boone McNeil, Harry Lee Thigpen, Jimmy Medlin, William O'Quinn, L. E. Stroud and Lin-wood Taylor.

The Tigers lost by graduation their sparkling second baseman Bobby Batts, Johnny Pirdgen, Jimmy Dixon, Mickey Benton, Larry Dunn.

Draughan declares that these boys will be one of the big winners in the East Central because of the spirit and hustle. The Tigers had an overall 5-4 record last season. The team has one of the best managers in the business in Arthur Minshes. "LET'S hope he will be able to play soon."

Coach Jerry Thigpen's East Duplin Panthers open the 1964 season next Tuesday playing host to the Wildcats on their new field. Of course the Panthers will be without their fine standout pitcher, outfielder Jerry Simpson, also their regular catcher Ricky Simpson will be gone along with Braxton Smith, Gary Harper, Earl Brown, and Jackie Creech.

Coach Thigpen said, "We have got 33 boys out and the spirit is good." He went on to say, "I believe we will be able to improve that 3-9 record of last year."

It looks like this in the Panther baseball camp at the pre-

sent time. Tony Whaley will be backed up at first by Lonnie Thigpen. Ted Brown and DEM PSEY Alphin at second, Earl Sholar and Ronnie Kennedy at short. Harry MILLER and Prentice Herring AT THIRD, AND Harold Lanier backed up behind the plate by Joe Byrd.

These three will be backed up by Douglas Williams, Ronnie Turner, Shelton Harden, and L.C. Hunter.

Thigpen stated that our pitching staff will be well under control with eight boys out for that position. It looks like BIL-ly Hall, Jimmy Snyder, and David Sholar will form the big three. Others backing up these are Lake Howard, Billy Kennedy, Don Mercer, Bennie Mobley and Sammy Harris.

Up in the North Duplin baseball camp Coach Richard Kaleel will open the season against Burgaw or Mt. Olive. Understand the Red Devils from Burgaw may not have a baseball team this season. If not Kaleel will play host to ubbs Field.

In talking with Coach Kaleel it was interesting to find out that in the eight years since North Duplin has been consolidated the baseball team has never lost a conference game. In other words in eight years the Rebels have compiled a 64-0 East Central 1-A record. Of course the teams have stepped up 2-A classification and the Rebels record will stand forever in the halls of the green and white. In the same period of time Kaleel compiled an outstanding record winning 114 games and only losing 14. That may be a state high school record.

Of course Kaleel was quick to state "That's all in the past and now we have a much better conference with more teams. I don't expect to continue winning because our material is not as experienced as I would like for it to be".

The Rebels lost one of the best pitchers ever to hurl in the old ECC. Speck Byrd won 21 straight games without a loss to set an all time North Duplin record and also in the conference. The Rebels also lost Doug Guy the regular catcher and third baseman Tommy Tucker and Byrd are on scholarship at EMI. Guy will be playing for East Carolina this spring.

As to this year the material looks something like this. Oje Dixon will do much of the pitching and hold down first base. Leslie Jernigan will be Dixon's understudy at first. Gerald Sutton and Jimmy Pate will scrap for second. Tinker Hilton will be at short, Bobby Holland and Stoney Waters at third. Tommy Taylor will back up John C. Rouse behind the plate.

It will almost be a "king" outfield with Gerald in center and Charles Lee in left. Tommy Taylor or Brodgen will fill in the rightfield post.

Backing up Dixon on the pitching staff will be Donald Brodgen and Sammy Wilson.

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GAMES COMING UP:

March - 24th. Mt. Olive at Wallace - RH James Kenan at Jones Central Richlands at East Duplin Burgaw at North Duplin March - 25th. James Kenan at Clinton March - 26th. Mount Olive at North Duplin



SENIOR WINNERS - Senior public speaking contest winners were Gloria Merritt of Beaver Dam and Anthony Westbrook of Woodland. They received a scholarship for club week from Elwood Maready and donated by Warsaw Motor Co. The seniors will represent the county at the district contest on June 9.

FRIENDSHIP

Mrs. Ida Wagstaff and Brenda Matthews of near Kenans-

ville spent the weekend with Mr. and Mrs. Frank Langston.

Visiting Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Whaley Sunday was Jessie Whaley and family of Beaulville; Mary Anderson of Mt. Olive; Mr. and Mrs. Corbett Lanier and Faye of Albertson; Annie Brock of Warsaw; Mr. and Mrs. Jimmie Rackley and Janette and Mr. and Mrs. Dan Wallace and children of Albertson.

Miss Margaret Swinson and Mrs. Ren Swinson were in Leland, to bring her mother, Mrs. Emma Potter, home.

Mrs. Bill Grady and children visited Mr. and Mrs. Tom Grady of Pink Hill on Tuesday.

Friends of Odell Brock were sorry to hear he was operative patient at Duplin General Hospital last week.

Visiting Odell Brock at the hospital on Thursday and during the week were Mrs. Eva James, Mrs. Ben Swinson, Miss Margaret Swinson of Durham, Mr. and Mrs. Glenwood Sanderson, Lottie Whaley and Ron Houston, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Brock, Mrs. George Pridgen, Mrs. Bill Grady and Mrs. Frank Langston.

Mrs. Cecil Sanderson and Mrs. Johnnie Johnston and children of Charlotte spent several days with Mr. and Mrs. Glenwood Sanderson and Mrs. Bessie Sanderson and Beasley. Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Langston of Rocky Mount, Mr. and Mrs. Jimmie Rackley and baby and Mrs. Annie Brock of Warsaw, visited Mr. and Mrs. Odell Brock and children Sun. night.

Mrs. Bill Grady and Mrs. Frank Langston, Mrs. Odell Brock and Mrs. Annie Brock all attended the funeral of Mrs. Theresa Brock at Dobbersville on Thursday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Glenwood Sanderson and Mrs. Bessie Sanderson and Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Jones attended the funeral of Everette Jones at Pink Hill on Monday.

Mr. C. C. Ivey, Sr. was lay speaker at Friendship Church Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Glenwood Sanderson visited relatives in Wilmington Sunday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. George Pridgen and Mack were Sunday dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Wade

Matthews of Warsaw. Mrs. Nellie Pridgen spent Sunday afternoon in Calypso with relatives. Miss Judy Williams of Mt. Olive spent Friday and Saturday night with Mrs. Ruth Wil-

liams and Mr. and Mrs. Wilbert Pate. Mr. and Mrs. Alton Wrench from Roseboro and Mr. and Mrs. Dallas Weaver of Kenansville visited Mr. and Mrs. Henry Outlaw.

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