

Along  
The  
Sidelines

BY TOM HIGGINS



Football practice began in the Atlantic Coast Conference Monday. Bob Quincy, North Carolina's excellent Sports Information Director, appropriately summed up the situation thus: "Right now everyone is unbeaten and untied. Spirit has never been better."

Even Wake Forest is enthusiastic. The Deacons know that even if they win only one game they will be improving on 1962's record.

I'm enthusiastic about the coming season, too... and a little "homesick." This is my first season in six years away from the ACC football world's axis.

During those years I worked as a sportswriter for three N. C. dailies. I'll get back each Saturday to cover a game for one of the state's dailies this season. But it won't be the same. A "Saturday Only Man" is never able to pick up those incidental little stories that turn covering sports from a job into a delight. Stories such as...

Colorful Frank Howard, the coach who has become an institution within an institution (24 years on the job) at Clemson College, bounced onto the practice field, where assistant coaches already had the Tigers at work.

Spying two mammoth tackles in a one-on-one head-banging drill, Howard roared: "Hit harder! If you play for me you have to be a mean S.O.B."

Then the coach spied a group of women, probably players' wives, standing nearby. Blushing, he roared again: "Well, you might not have to be a S. O. B., but you shore do have to be mean!"

Last season North Carolina's Tar Heels flew to the new Spartanburg-Greenville Airport en route to a game at Clemson. A bus which was to meet the plane and transport the team to its hotel had inadvertently gone to the old, abandoned Greenville airfield.

Just as the players settled in the lobby for a long, annoying wait on the bus, a loudspeaker blared: "You Tar Heels will be interested to know that the Blue Angels (the Navy's precision flying team) will be landing in five minutes."

The players rushed to the observation platform, and sure enough the Navy jets roared over in tight formation. Informed by the tower that the UNC team was watching, the sailors went through virtually

their entire act before descending. (The Blue Angels were in Greenville to perform at dedication ceremonies at the new airfield). The bus finally arrived and everyone swarmed on. Moments after it was underway, Bob Bradley, Clemson's Sports Information Director who had met the Tar Heels at the airfield, stood and solemnly asked for attention. "Gentlemen," he said, crumming his tongue into his cheek, "the aerial act which greeted you is another example of Clemson's famed hospitality... courtesy of the athletic department."

He was given a wild ovation... Each year sportswriters from the ACC area charter a plane and visit each of the league's eight grid camps on a whirlwind tour known as "Operation Football."

Last year at N. C. State the writers were interviewing affable Coach Earle Edwards. Edwards was bombarded with questions, some of them utterly ridiculous, but he politely attempted to answer each one. The session drug on and on. Finally someone queried: "Coach, who'll be doing the kicking this year?"

Edwards couldn't resist. A sly grin creased his face. "The alumni and sportswriters," he replied.

Following a loss many coaches clam up and all the poor writer assigned to obtain a post-game interview can get a "yes," a "no," or a "no comment."

To his credit, Maryland's Tom Nugent does not fall in this category.

Nugent, who is famous for the "I" formation and his feud with Clemson's Howard, is always gracious in defeat, and he gives the writers the colorful comments they crave.

Last fall after absorbing a heart-breaking 10-7 loss at Duke that knocked his Terps out of the ACC championship, Nugent was in the midst of his post-game press conference when a nearby phone rang. Another Maryland coach answered and said: "It's for you Tom. WTOP in Washington."

Nugent, excusing himself, explained that he was committed to give the D. C. radio station a few brief comments each week about the just-completed game.

The fellow on the other end of the line asked Nugent how he felt about the next Saturday's game.

"Well, we play Clemson next week," said Nugent, "and we expect a good game, despite the fact that the Clemson team is coached by Frank Howard."

Panthers Win Opener

Cane River To Face Spruce Pine;  
East Yancey To Meet Mars Hill

BY TOM HIGGINS  
Record Editor

East Yancey and Cane River begin their quest for Appalachian Conference football honors Friday night when they tangle with two respected league rivals.

Coach Bruce Peterson's Cane River Rebels open their season by playing host to Harris High School of Spruce Pine.

Meanwhile, the East Yancey Panthers, coached by Bobby Thomas, go after their second victory when they meet Mars Hill at Mars Hill.

Both games are scheduled to begin at 8 p. m.

The Spruce Pine contest will be the first of six consecutive conference games for Cane River, and East Yancey will be playing the first of four straight loop games.

Both Spruce Pine and Mars Hill were beaten in their opening games last week.

Spruce Pine stepped out of its "A" classification and was beaten by 3-A North Eucombe, 27-6.

Mars Hill, which figures to be a contender for Appalachian Conference honors, was defeated in a mild upset by Hot Springs, 27-14.

The Panthers kicked off their

campaign last Friday night with an impressive 27-6 victory over Happy Valley, Tenn., at East Yancey.

Junior quarterback Gordon Banks set the pace, running for two touchdowns and passing to end Harold Bennett for another. Halfback Bob Anderson scored the other East Yancey touchdown.

East Yancey did all its scoring in the first half and then, after allowing the Tennesseans a third period touchdown, turned to defense and coasted in an easy winner.

The Panthers took only five plays to score, marching 55 yards with the opening kickoff. Anderson swept left end for the final 35 yards with slightly less than three minutes gone. Fullback Norman Ray then smashed across for the first of three successive extra points he scored on plunges.

East tallied again the next time it had possession, Banks culminating a 60-yard drive by sneaking over from the two.

The Panthers turned it to a rout with another 60-yard touchdown march in the early stages of the second period. The payoff this time was a seven-yard, first-down pitch from Banks to Ben-

nett that obviously caught Happy Valley with its pass defense down. East Yancey swept 50 yards for its final score later in the second period, Banks covering the final 15, on a run around right end.

Happy Valley got its running attack going midway the third period and averted a shutout when Jim McKay skirted end for a touchdown. East Yancey stopped a running try for the extra point.

The Tennesseans, after throwing only one pass through three periods, took to the air in desperation in the fourth quarter and quickly moved into East Yancey territory with three straight completions.

The Panthers brought the threat to a jarring end, however, when they discovered that Happy Valley's protection for its passer was virtually nil. Chuck Chrisawn, a 235-pound tackle, and guard Bryon Zuver led a "red-dogging" attack that upset the visitors' hopes for a comeback and assured a sad night in Happy Valley.

East finished with a whopping statistical advantage. The Panthers had a 13-5 edge in first downs, 215-138 yards rushing and 120-45 yards passing.

Their execution of plays was excellent for an early-season game (when mistakes are usually prevalent) and their repertoire good.

Most consistent gainer was an end sweep with either Anderson or fellow halfbacks Gary Ray or Dudley Robertson carrying. Banks' pin-point passes to Bennett and end Charles Will's accounted for much valuable third down yardage.

The Panthers' blocking was unusually sharp in the first half, especially for an opening game. Linemen turning in above average performances included center Benson Tyner, tackle Steve King, linebacker J. D. Silvers and guard Basil McDougald.

Happy Valley 0 0 6 0-6  
East Yancey 14 13 0 0-27  
EY-Anderson 35 run (N. Ray, run)

EY-Banks 2 run (N. Ray, run)  
EY-Bennett 7 pass from Banks (N. Ray, run)  
EY-Banks 15 run (run failed)  
HV-McKay 10 run (run failed)

STATISTICS

	HV	EY
First downs	5	13
Yards rushing	138	215
Yards passing	45	120
Passes	3-4	7-14
Passes intercepted	1	0
Fumbles lost	1	1
Points	2-43	4-39
Yards penalized	50	65

The Great Outdoors

BY ROD AMUNDSON  
N. C. Wildlife Commission

The next time you feel like cussing our somewhat complicated system of hunting and fishing licenses, game and fish laws and regulations, you would do well to bear this in mind: In Bavaria, the minimum age to qualify for a hunting license is 18 years. And before you can buy this license you have to have successfully completed a six months course in hunting laws, customs, identification of game and nongame species, plus fundamentals of game management.

On completing this bit of technical education you have to go before a board of qualified German jaegers (qualified hunters) for an examination. If you come up from this little inquisition smelling like a lily and feeling like a wrung out dishrag, you can buy a license for 50 Reichsmarks (twelve bucks). But you can't go afield until you have bought an insurance policy covering \$35,000 in personal liability and \$3,500 in property damage liability.

Now, are you on your own? Not quite. You have to secure permission to hunt on the land, employ a guide, and wait for him to give you the high sign before squeezing off a shot at game. Hell to Bavaria, but give me Tarheel!

That bigger bag limit on ducks this year is downright encouraging to many a Tarheel wildfowler. Although a scaup is mighty hard to tell from a ringnecked duck, the bonus of two scaup a day brings the potential daily bag of ducks up to five birds with a possession limit of ten—more than we have had for many a year.

Apparently the long range weather cycle in the Canadian and northern United States has

changed for the better. Cycles of wet and dry seasons in this region run over a period of about 12 to 15 years, and apparently we are in for the wet phase of the cycle during the next few years. This will be reflected in liberalized seasons and bag limits. The formula is quite simple: no rain, no marshes; no ducks.

With canvasback and redhead ducks completely eliminated from the bag limit this year, and because scaup are hard to distinguish from ring-neck ducks, it might be worthwhile to spend two bits on some insurance against getting caught with a boo-boo bird in the bag. The U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service has already sold some 100,000 copies of a book (at 25c each) entitled "Ducks at a Distance." This little number tells why duck identification is important, and show what to look for and how to tell one species from another by flight pattern, action, color, shape and voice.

If a duck clams up on a dark, foggy day you will still have identification trouble. But this book is worth the money. Write to Government Printing Office, Division of Public Documents, Washington 25, D. C.

Sign of the times: the fact that the State Wildlife Commission is holding nine public hearings to consider antlerless deer seasons in small portions of 15 counties indicates that in general deer populations have reached generous proportions. There is only one reason to hunt deer: to reduce herds to a point where they will not do serious damage to agricultural activities or to keep them from destroying natural deer range.

Ol' Luke Guppy figures the world owes him a living, but all he has to work is mighty hard to collect.

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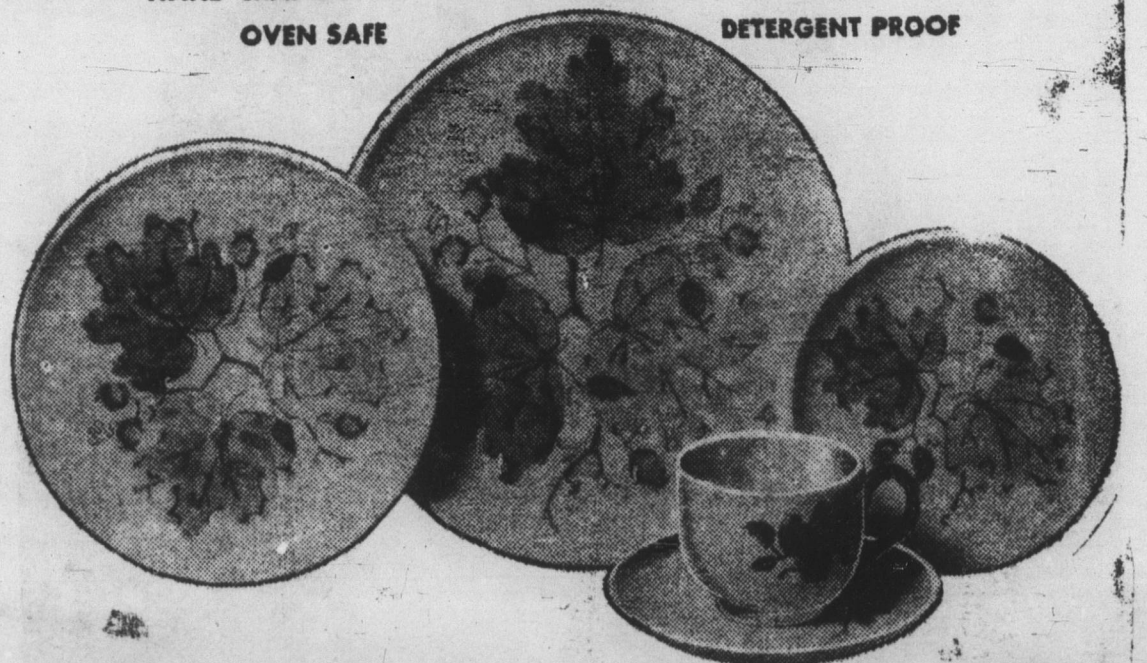
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The Yancey Record