

HERALD SPORTS

By TONY TOMPKINS

The wacky world of college football is just about over for this season and most of the bowl games are just around the corner. But, that isn't all, because the world of college basketball opens up this Saturday night in full swing for us.

Take, for instance, the Army-Navy football game comes on at one o'clock this Saturday afternoon; the Alabama-Auburn football game will come at 6 o'clock and then on Saturday night at 11:30, it will be a basketball game of great importance on television. The Maryland Terps will meet the UCLA Bruins in the best opening game in many years.

Just how good is the ACC in basketball this year? Well, there are three teams down here who will finish in the Top Ten teams in the country. They are Maryland, North Carolina State and North Carolina. Which one is the best? Nobody knows for sure, but I think it will be a real tight race.

I pick the Wolfpack of N. C. State to finish first, the North Carolina Tar Heels to finish second and the Maryland Terps to finish third, but don't bet on it. The finish of N. C. State and North Carolina could cause a few problems this year.

Because it is the host school for the NCAA Eastern Regionals this season, N. C. State's basketball team can't go to the NIT. That is not what the Wolfpack has in its mind, anyway. North Carolina is the host team for the NCAA finals and can go to the NIT, since the NCAA takes a more active role in running that event. But, that's not what the Tar Heels have in mind, either.

So, you can readily see that the Wolfpack and the Tar Heels will have a decided advantage in that they will play these games in the friendly confines of Reynolds Memorial Coliseum in Raleigh and the Greensboro Coliseum. Anyway, with all of the ACC games on television this year, it sure is going to be a very pleasant winter.

Well, the predicting business wasn't too bad last week as I was lucky enough to hit 18 right, 5 wrong and 1 tie for a .783 percentage which brought my season record to 171 right, 52 wrong and 3 ties for a .767 percentage. This will be my final week of predicting the football games. I will also start predicting the basketball games this week.

FOOTBALL:

NAVY OVER ARMY: I think the Middies will get up for this one and stop the Cadets.

ALABAMA OVER AUBURN: Bama (My school) is number one now, and they want have any trouble getting up for the War Eagles.

BOSTON COLLEGE OVER HOLY CROSS: BC should take this one pretty easily.

BRIGHAM YOUNG OVER TEXAS, EL PASO: No contest.

FLORIDA OVER FLORIDA STATE: The Gators will roll right along.

GEORGIA OVER GEORGIA TECH: The Bulldogs will want this one too.

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HOUSTON OVER TULSA: Only one team has beaten Houston this year, and Tulsa has the material to do it.

IOWA STATE OVER SAN DIEGO STATE: The Cyclones are roaring now.

L.S.U. OVER TULANE: Tulane fell apart the latter part of the season, and LSU will help matters any.

NOTRE DAME OVER MIAMI, FLA.: The Irish are headed for the Sugar Bowl. Enough said.

OKLAHOMA OVER OKLAHOMA STATE: The Sooners are too tough for the State boys.

RICE OVER BAYLOR: The Owls found out how to win, so Baylor had better watch out.

SMU OVER TCU: This will be a good one, so watch out for the upset.

TAMPA OVER RUTGERS: Tampa is having a real good year, thus a victory over Rutgers.

UTAH OVER HAWAII: A close game, but the Utes will win it.

TENNESSEE OVER VANDERBILT: The Volunteers will take it out on the Vandy boys this year.

BASKETBALL:

KENTUCKY OVER MIAMI (OHIO): KU will open the season on fine fashion with a close victory.

SOUTH CAROLINA OVER TOLEDO: The Gamecocks play a weak schedule, but they are winners.

SOUTHERN CAL OVER ARIZONA: This will be a real close one between two tough teams.

UN LAS VEGAS OVER TEXAS TECH: Las Vegas will win this one, but not by too many.

UCLA OVER MARYLAND: They say the Bruins will win by 14, but I say it will be real close.

VIRGINIA OVER WASHINGTON & LEE: This will be just a warm up for the Cavaliers.

N. C. STATE OVER ATHLETES IN ACTION: Strictly no contest.

DUKE OVER EAST CAROLINA: The Blue Devils have been picked to finish in the ACC cellar, but EC still isn't that good.

LOUISVILLE OVER CINCINNATI: The Cardinals are still very tough.

NORTH CAROLINA OVER HOUSTON: The Tar Heels open a new season and will unveil a sensational team against a good Houston team.

December 5th: NORTH CAROLINA OVER CALIFORNIA: The Heels will down the PAC-8 team. PURDUE OVER CLEMSON: The Tigers will make a fight of it all the way.

December 7th: N. C. STATE OVER VERMONT: I pity poor Vermont cause the Tar Heels are next on their list. SOUTH CAROLINA OVER MICHIGAN STATE: The Gamecocks will sneak by in this one. VIRGINIA OVER DUKE: This will really be a good one, but I think the Cavs will slip by.

December 10th: DUKE OVER APPALACHIAN STATE: I'll take the Blue Devils all the way. NORTH CAROLINA OVER KENTUCKY: The Heels have too much depth for the Wildcats. That's my predictions for this week. Maybe I can have better luck at basketball than I did at football.

Some very interesting names on the North Carolina

Mountaineers Split With Bessemer City

BOWLING ...right down your alley...

The Kings Mountain (Mixed) Duckpin League bowled again in Kannapolis, N. C. last week, and the two leaders kept pace with each other.

Ranny Blanton's team captured 4 wins over the Bob Herndon team when Herndon's group failed to show up.

Jim Hardy's team won over the John Dilling team by 3 to 1. Ronnie Culbertson had a 138 game high and a 370 series to lead the Hardy team and Jim Hardy chipped in with a 322 series. For the Dilling team, Jerry Oates had a game high of 116 and a 320 series.

Albert Brackett's team turned back Rod Houser's team 3 to 1 also. Brackett led his team with a 127 game and a 369 series. Gerald Hipps had a 322 series and Betty Wells also had a 311 series to help the Brackett team. Jennings Culbertson led the Houser team with a 110 game high and a 299 series, while Rod Houser chipped in with a 298 series.

STANDINGS table with columns: Team, W, L, Pct, GBL. Rows include Brackett's, Hardy's, Houser's, Herndon's, Blanton's, Dilling's.

Second Baptist Leads League In Volleyball

Second Baptist has taken over the lead in the Church Volleyball League standings and is beginning to open up a little bit of daylight in the race for the volleyball crown.

The Second Baptist team defeated Macedonia 15-9, 15-11, before losing 15-13 in the final game. They also defeated Bethlehem 15-3, 16-14, and 15-12 to vault into first place in the league.

El Bethel kept pace with Second Baptist by defeating Macedonia 15-10, 15-10, before losing 15-13 and last night El Bethel lost the opening game to Bethlehem 15-2, before rallying to win 16-14 and 15 to 4.

STANDINGS table with columns: Team, W, L, Pct, GBL. Rows include Second Baptist, El Bethel, Bethlehem, Macedonia.

Greene, Wright, Short Are Contest Winners

Danny Greene of 503 Battle-ground Avenue won first place and a check for \$15.00 in the football contest last week. Danny lost two games (the North Carolina-Duke game and the Oregon-Oregon State game, plus the tie game) but came the closest in the tiebreaker, thus enabling him to win first place.

Arlen L. Wright of Route 4, Kings Mountain, also lost the same two games and finished in second place, thus getting a check for \$10.00 and second place.

Ken Short of 304 Amhurst Drive, had the closest tiebreaker, but lost a total of three games, thus he won a check for \$5.00 and third place in the contest.

Shrine Bowl team are Larry Eberhart of Shelby, Jimmy Stowe of South Point and especially Johnny Evans of High Point Andrews.

Evans is one of the most sought after high school players in the nation this year and he has already narrowed his choices down to Clemson, Duke, Tennessee, Wake Forest and North Carolina. I'm just wondering who will finally get him.

The coach of the N. C. Shrine team is none other than Gerald Allen of Shelby High. Coach Allen is truly an outstanding gentleman on and off the field. Here's wishing him lots of luck in his game this year.

The next time that you feel that the world has done you in, just remember the Vermont basketball team. Those poor devils are coming down here to play N. C. State and North Carolina on successive nights (December 7th and 8th). It will really be known as the slaughter on Tobacco Road.

I listened to the Carolina Cougars-Kentucky Colonels bloodbath on the radio last night and I was very surprised that the Cougars were able to win. I am convinced that the Cougars are the better team. They sure have the Colonels number this year.

Our congratulations are in order to the Gardner Webb Bulldogs who are headed for the Poultry Bowl on December 8th, at Gainesville, Georgia. Here's hoping that the Bulldogs really chew up Stephen F. Austin College of Texas.

City Basketball League To Open In December

The Men's Basketball League will get underway on Monday night, December 17th, starting at 7 o'clock in the Community Center.

There will be three games each night in league play and the games will be played on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Teams returning from last year will be BVD Textiles, Oxford Industries and Kinder Manufacturing. They will be joined by three new teams, which are Bessemer City Machine Shop, Southern Excavation and Carolina Throwing.

It should be a very exciting race for the crown this year. BVD Textiles is the defending champion of the league.

CITY LEAGUE SCHEDULE 1973-74 SEASON

Schedule table with columns: Date, Opponents, Time. Rows include Dec 17, 18, 27, 31, Jan 3, 7, 8, 14, 17, 21, 24, 28, 31, Feb 4, 7, 12.

LAST WEEK'S CONTEST SCORES

Score table with columns: Rank, Team, Score. Rows include Rice 14-9, Duke 27-10, Michigan 10-10, W. Va. 35-23, Pennsylvania 31-20, Oregon State 18-14, Penn State 38-17, S. Carolina 31-20, Maryland 49-7, Atlanta 28-20, N. Y. Jets 11, Denver 14-10, Kansas City 12, Buffalo 24-17, Baltimore 13, New England 32-0, Houston.



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GW Bulldogs Will Play In First Poultry Bowl

Gardner-Webb College's Bulldogs and their head football coach, George Litton, are riding on "Cloud Nine" this morning after officially accepting an invitation to take part in the first annual Poultry Bowl, Saturday night, Dec. 8, in Gainesville, Ga.

The Bulldogs, who finished their regular season, 7-4, with a 22-20 win over Lenoir Rhyne College Thanksgiving afternoon, first got wind that they were under consideration Monday morning when Litton received a telephone call from the Gainesville, Ga., headquarters.

G-W will oppose Stephen F. Austin, Nacogdoches, Tex., which owns an 8-3 record in the contest.

Litton, athletic director Eddie Holbrook, Gardner-Webb President Dr. Eugene Paston and others at the G-W campus were in a whirl this morning as they expedited plans for ticket sales and other particulars.

Bob Smallworth, executive director of the Poultry Bowl Association, was in Boiling Springs last night to work out details.

Dr. Poston, in accepting the invitation, said, "It's a great challenge to us. But we always welcome such challenges here at Gardner-Webb. They have a lot more students than we, but can put only 11 men on the field at once."

Holbrook said, "It's a shot in the arm for us. It should help our recruiting for athletics overall. It is an opportunity we couldn't afford to pass up."

Dr. Robert Litton, president of the Bulldog Club, which contributes much to the success of Gardner-Webb athletics, said this morning, "It's really great." Litton, who hadn't heard the news, said, "We'll likely be making some plans for special transportation. But, I haven't had a chance to talk with anyone yet."

Reserve tickets are at \$7 and general admission for \$5 are on sale at the Gardner-Webb athletic office and in Shelby at Smith's Drugs, Loy's Men's Shop and Suttle's Drugs.

It was also learned that a special train could be arranged through Southern Railway out of Gastonia to avoid the fuel shortage and problem of not being able to obtain gas late Saturday and Sunday. This possibility was mentioned by a number of Bulldog Club members at last night's dinner meeting.

The G-W coaching staff is expected to iron out plans today for the pre-bowl practices. Both teams report Friday, Dec. 7, to Gainesville.

Aged Leather Can Be Restored

RALEIGH. — It may be possible to restore to beauty some of the old leather items found in antique and junk shops.

"Leather that has dried will be helped by a treatment with a mixture of two parts of alcohol and three parts of castor oil followed the second day with a dressing of pure castor oil," observes Mrs. Edith McGlammy, extension house furnishing specialist, North Carolina State University.

She also points out that weak and rotten stitching can be replaced with thread impregnated with beeswax.

"If the leather is very dirty, it can be washed, provided the job is done carefully and the stain does not run," adds the specialist. "Test before doing the whole job as washing may melt adhesives. Use pure soaps, not too much water and wipe the leather carefully."

If the leather has dried with age, shrunk and is crumbly, Mrs. McGlammy notes that it will sometimes respond and become supple again if it is treated with saddle soap.

"Wipe the soap on with a small, almost dry sponge and

Blue Devils To Open Season On Saturday

DURHAM, N. C.—New head coach Neil McGeachy will lead his first Duke cage squad onto the court this Saturday at 8 p.m. when Duke plays host to Southern Conference title contender East Carolina.

The Blue Devils, coming off a 12-14 record of a year ago, are expected to employ a faster tempo of play and a more aggressive defense under McGeachy. "I was fortunate enough to play a fast tempo of basketball as a player at Lenoir Rhyne and I hope we will be able to incorporate that type of play into our game. I think the players like the up tempo game, the fans like to watch it, and I like to coach it."

Three starters return from last year's Duke squad, including the leading scorer of the past two seasons, Chris Redding of Bethesda, Md. Redding (6'10") averaged 16.9 points per game last year and led the conference in free throw percentage with a school record 84.4 per cent.

Last year's top rebounder, junior Bob Fleischer (110 ppg, 8.5 rpg) of Youngstown, Ohio, also returns to bolster the frontline. Fleischer (6-8), who ended last season with a flurry, averaging 13.5 ppg and 12.0 rpg over the last eight games, will be counted on to keep that pace after a good pre-season practice.

Third starter, junior captain Kevin Billerman (6-2) of Bricktown, N. J., will become the floor leader and quarterback replacing All-ACC guard Gary Melchiorri. Billerman averaged 8.2 points per game as a soph and was the team's second leading assist man.

Pushing Fleischer and Redding in frontcourt for starting berths will be junior Pete Kramer (6-5) of Camp Hill, Pa., and soph Willie Hodge (6-9) of San Antonio, Texas. Kramer, who started a number of games as a soph, will probably get the starting nod at the short forward slot. He averaged 5.7 ppg last year in mostly a reserve role. Hodge could be soph sensation of the ACC. He displayed unlimited potential in brief varsity appearances last season, while averaging 5.3 ppg and 3.4 rpg. Additional help at forward should come from 6-5 Bill Suk of Middletown, Ill.

The guard position opposite work it into crevices with a soft brush," she recommends. Sometimes parts of old leather items have deteriorated to a state where nothing can be done to restore them. However, restoration may still be accomplished by replacing the unrestoreable portions with old leather that has a similar color and finish.

Randy Green, leading scorer for last year's junior varsity, and touted freshman Otis Birdson, add strength to the Houston cast. "Rebounding will be the key to victory in this game," Smith says. "In order for us to win, we

Billerman is still undecided between freshman Edgar Burch (6-2) and sophomore Dave O'Connell (6-4) of Cincinnati, Ohio. O'Connell is recovering from a summer knee injury after showing flashes of brilliance last year as a freshman. Burch, a highly recruited high school player from Pontiac, Mich., has played well this fall. Freshman Tate Armstrong (6-3) of Houston, Texas, should also see action.

ECU coach Tom Quinn looks for improvement in his team although senior Nicky White (6-8) is the only returning starter. "We will be quicker and will maintain pressure on both defense and offense. We will have a lot of new faces," says Quinn. Some of the new players to watch will be JC transfers 6-6 Robert Geter, 6-3 Gregg Ashorn and 6-1 Donnie Owens.

Tar Heels Meet Houston In Greensboro

CHAPEL HILL, N. C. — One of college basketball's top early season games comes up in the Greensboro Coliseum Saturday night when North Carolina and Houston clash in a battle of nationally ranked teams.

Game time is set for 8 p.m. and a banner crowd is expected to be on hand. The North Carolina junior varsity team meets Lees-McRae Junior College in a preliminary game scheduled for 3:30.

Coach Dean Smith's Tar Heels have been ranked fifth nationally in pre-season polls while Burch, coached by the veteran Coach Lewis, is rated 14th. Carolina had a 25-8 record last year while Houston raced to an outstanding mark of 23-4 and was in the NCAA Tournament.

Smith regards this game as the toughest opener any of his Tar Heels teams have faced. "Houston is one of the tallest teams in America," Smith said, "with outstanding personnel overall. An indication of the team's great height is the fact that Louis Dunbar, who is 6-9, has been playing in the backcourt for Houston."

Dunbar is a bonafide all America candidate. He averaged 21.1 points a game in 1972-73 and was voted to the nation's "rookie all-America" team.

Also returning to the Houston cast from last year's great team is 6-10 center Maurice Presley. Other top lettermen are 6-9 Sidney Edwards, 6-8 David Morris, 6-2 Donnell Hayes and 6-2 Ed Ricks.

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Blalock, Byers Lead Scoring In Loss To BC

Kings Mountain "Mountaineers" traveled to Bessemer City last night to play the "Yellow Jackets" and the results came out the same as they did last week. The Mountie girls won and the boys lost another close game to Bessemer City.

Coach Allen Dixon's boys lost another heartbreaker to the BC boys, this time by the score of 75 to 69. Bessemer had held a slim margin of 31 to 26 at the half, but lost the lead to the Mounties at 62-59 before rallying to win 75 to 69.

Guard Thomas McNeil, who led all scorers in the game with a total of 25 points, was the leading scorer for the Yellow Jackets. Teammate Goldie Byers also chipped in with a total of 23 points.

The Mountaineers were led by Butch Blalock with a total of 20 points and he had help from Dennis Byers, who chipped in with 18 points.

It was the second victory of the season, as Bessemer City has now beaten the Mounties in two consecutive contests. The Mountie girls are also 2 and 0 on the season.

In the girls game, the Mountaineers blasted Bessemer City by the score of 42 to 10. The KM girls led at the half by 26 to 3. Sandra Byers, with a total of 16 points, and Cathy Ledford, who chipped in with a total of 12 points, led the Mountaineers. Greta Setzer and Brenda Reynolds led the Yellow Jackets with 3 points apiece.

GIRLS KINGS MTN. (42) — McGinnis 2, Byers 16, Ledford 12, Proctor 3, Williams 4, Brown 2. BESS. CITY (10) — Setzer 3, Hughes 2, Doll 1, Brakefield 1, Reynolds 3.

BOYS KINGS MTN. (69) — Blalock 20, Byers 18, Falls 8, Bell 9, J. Thompson 4, W. Thompson 2, Johnson 8. BESS. CITY (75) — Byers 23, Eary 10, Gains 2, Brown 8, McNeil 25, Franklin 4, Bradley 3.

must hold our own on the backboards." The Tar Heels have a lot of strength up front, too, but will be hurt in this game by the loss of 6'10" freshman Tommy LaGarde. He has an injured foot and has been counted out of the game.

The chief returnee in the frontcourt is Bobby Jones, 6-9 star of last year's team. He, too, is a top all-America candidate and is sure to be a team leader of the Tar Heels.

Joining him up front will be such returnees as 6-10 Ed Stahl, 6-7 John O'Donnell and 6-9 Mitch Kupchak. Darrell Elston is the only returning starter in the backcourt. The Tar Heels have the big problem of trying to replace last year's senior leader, George Karl.

It appears that Ray Harrison, who missed most of last season because of illness, will start at Karl's position as the "quarterback." He will be backed up by Ray Hite and Brad Hoffman.

A promising newcomer who is sure to see a lot of action in the opener is Walter Davis, 6-5 player who could play either in the front or backcourt.

Smith has not yet announced a starting lineup and said he probably will not settle on the starters until close to gametime Saturday.

The last time these teams met, Houston toppled the Tar Heels by 84-62 in the battle for third place in the 1966-67 National tournament in Los Angeles.

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