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HERALD **SPORTS**

By TONY TOMPKINS

Every year about this time, I kind of get sentimental and get in the Christmas spirit and all of the things happening around me just seem to be a little bit better. This year is certainly no exception.

There is only one exception this year and that happens to be the passing away or my entor's mother. Sine was a wonderful woman and I know the good Lord will

Christmas is a time for giving and sitting down to our meals with thankfulness in our nearts. I sat down last night and thought of the many blessings that the Lord has bestowed on me and just like the record, I for the championship Saturday wondered "Why me?".

I sa't down and thought that it was time for me to write old Santa a letter. This is it.

I am blessed with a wonderful family of a wife, three sons and three daughters, a mother, a brother, a mothern-law and two dogs, so I really don't need anything else his Christmas, but I would appreciate it if you could find it possible to help some of my friends in the coming

For all my friends and co-workers at the Herald, give them all happiness and a prosperous new year.

For the Gardner-Webb Bulldogs, a few championships.

For Kings Mountain's Bobby Jones, a SWC championship and many new faces for next year's team.

For Carl Champion, another slowpitch state cham-

For Butch Blalock, a scholarship to an ACC school and many scoring records. For Roy Pearson, a better recreation program in the

years to come. For Dean Smith and Carolina, many more ACC

championships in all sports. For my fellow sports editor at the Mirror, Gary

Stewart, lots of news items to make him happy. For the citizens of Kings Mountain, make all of their

wishes come true. For my wife, Nell, give her a love for athletics. And for my dog Bo, just toss him an old bone. He'll

think it is a new one.

Herald Sports Editor

The Wolfpack basketball team could have fallen into a deep depression following its loss to UCLA in St. Louis, but according to coach Norm Sloan, that wasn't the re-

"We came out against Georgia (the next game) and ayed a strong game. In fact we got stronger as the 13. me went along, and that's the first time we have done that the entire year. We played with a good attitude and consant enthusiasm," Sloan explained. That's something the squad will need as it heads into the Sugar Bowl and Big Four tournaments the next few weeks.

Wolfpack football coach Lou Holtz, always in demand as an after dinner speaker, may not be on his feet as much in the future, and his wife, Beth, and four children can thank the governor for the added togetherness.

"This new 55 mile per hour speed limit is taking me off the banquet circuit soon," said the Wolfpack mentor. "It took me five and a half hours to get back from Asheville one morning, and that's just too long. It looks like I'll be forced to say at home. But when you look at the end result, it's really a nice problem to have."

"We got into the best bowl game we could have possibly gotten," said coach Lou Holtz in the aftermath of the Wolfpack's 31-18 win over Kansas in the Liberty

At least 33 million people must have seen us on stone conege's (sansoury, N. C.) ents comes to use from a fourth their 69th year of competition, work nurturing other life. A material results of the first control of St. cards and letters so far," Holtz joked.

"One thing's for sure-I'm glad it's over. It's nice to be able to spend Christmas at home with the family and have good memories instead of big problems. Of course bowls are only fun if you win, so I'm not sure how much Kansas' coaches and players are enjoying their Holidays."

Who are the surprise teams in the Atlantic Coast Conference basketball race at this stage of the season? It has to be Wake Forest, Clemson and North Carolina. The Demon Deacons and the Tar Heels are still unbeaten, while Clemson is off to a rousing start at this time of the

We watched Dean Smith's Tar Heels play Virginia Tech in the Charlotte coliseum last Thursday night, and altho the Heels didn't play one of their better games,

they still did a real fine job. Bobby Jones is destined to be an All-American this year and he just keeps getting better all of the time.

Speaking of coach Dean Smith, he lis to be rated as one of the nicest men to interview that I have ever met. The man has more patience with newsmen and people, that I wonder if he ever goes to sleep at night. You can ask him ten questions at one time and he will patiently answer all of them. No wonder that he is a winner.

Butch Blalock is almost a sure bet, barring any in juries, to walk away with the area scoring crown. Butch has to do just about everything for the Mounties, and that takes in quite a bit of territory, but he never seems

I think that he would make some ACC team, or any team for that matter, quite a guard. He is quick, a very good jumper, and can shoot and dribble the ball with anyone. Best of all, Butch gives it his all when playing

John Blalock, Butch's dad, is a very fine person and he has instilled a lot of pride and desire in his son. But most of all, John takes a back seat when Butch is playing the game. He sits very quietly in the stands and waits until everyone else is through talking to Butch, before he ambles his way over to the boy and gives him a pat on

I'm sure that Butch will do well wherever he chooses to go to school, but, then again, he has been taught very

Well, the eve of Christmas is here, and in closing this week, I want to personally wish all of you readers the spider webs were turned that is, it shouldn't be either Classic, 1964 West Virginia Cenference champion Davidson and very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

KM's Butch Blalock Leads Area Scoring Race

State To Play In Sugar Bowl Tournament

ed basketball opponent when R competes in the Sugar Bowl tournament at New Orleans Friday, facing the Villanova Wildcats in the evening's second game alt 9:30 p.m. (CST).

The opening game at 7:30 pits good nationally-ranked Memphis State host against LSU-New Orleans. Win- tournament last year. ners of the initial round cominge at 3:15 o'clock following the bat-tle for third place at 1:15.

nova have cangled on the hardseries at 14-11. The two clubs last met in 1961 with Villanova taking the decision, 72-63.

top might basketoan team, says State ceach Norm Sloan, "and although their record was year is only 3-3 so far, I'm sure they'll Elon college, has 7-2 record

gia 94-60.

A new State star may have been born in the game as sophomore Pail Spence came off the beach to corral 15 resounds and core 11 points.

"Thil certainly was impressive," said ceach Sloan in the game's

Wol.pack's leader in scoring despite an off-day against the tourney.

fore departing for New Orleans game. later that evening.

G-W Awaits Holiday Tourney

beth City, Norfolk State and Fayleague battles.

Virginia State is second with tributed to St. Nicholas. a 2-0 league record and St. Augustine's also is unbeaten in the

lowed by Hampton and Virginia Union at 0-2 and St. Paul's at

On January 10, Livingtone Col-

Christmas Tinsel Legend Is Told

as she was able to gather, most- about Santa Claus. ly cerries and nuts and such odds and ends as she had managed to save up during the year. She labored far into the night trying to

came and crawled froh branch to branch trailing their lacy within the November - March webs behind them. To reward the woman for her devotion, the ditions are favorable. For exame championship in its history. Previous nation's toughest, and Duke disconst toughest toughest, and Duke into gleaming silver.

G-W, Livingstone Duke-W. Ky. To Play In KM

wide-open affair with any team Bowl Classic RALEIGH — North Carolina State meets an old and respect-Holiday basketball tournament set for Friday and Saturday, Le-cember 28-29 on the campus of Gardner-Webb college. Gardner-Webb college.

> Each team seems to have a good case for being the event- their semester break, but Bulldogs who won the

In the tournament opener, Elon will meet Lenoir-Rhyne at 7 o clock Friday night a n d Gardner-Webb will play Presbywood a total of 25 times with the night at 7 o'clock and the cham-Wildcats owning an elge in the pionship game will tonow.

old nursing student, from Win- concluded McGeachy. "Willanova always fields a ston-Salem will be crowned as The Elue Devils' four games to the Holiday Tournamer.t Queen date have been highlighted by just prior to the tip-off the first the spir.ted play of the entire game on Friday night.

be ready for us. It seems like including wirs over Belmont everyoody is gunning to knock us Abbey, Campbell, and High everyoody is gunning to knock us Abbey, Campbell, and High Point. The Christians have one The Wolfpack, which recently of the linest players in the Carsaws is 29-game winning streak olinas conference in hig Diffy shattered by No. 1 ranked UCLA, Ross a 6-7, 225 pounder, who is bounced back to begin a new averaging 24 points per game one last week by defeating Georgian dewn 15 rebounds a game.

A new State store.

ing won five of eight games, but scoring and rebounding categor-they do hold a 78-60 win over less. Hodge is scoring at a 14.3 clip Elon. The Bears have also de- and has averaged 6.8 rebounds feated Campbell college and per game. Three more Blue De-Belmont Abley. L-R has one of vils are averaging in double figaftermath, 'and there's a strong possibility that we may use him as a starter against Villanova. John Lentz, who has been a erman (11.8), senior Chris Redtough customer for the Bulldogs ding (11.0) and freshman guard We feel that he has tremented to handle for the past three buildings and the potential."

David Thompson, an authentic of honors and will bring a 24 from forwards Pete Kramer (8.3) ali-America, commues as the point average into the holiday and Bill Suk (0.8) and guards

ave age, hosting a high mark of 5-3 record, but the Blue Hose tion than in the first four games have a scoring average of 86 based on a stellar performance Little Monte Towe, who gain points per game. They have

Villancya, which starts four streak including two big wins toughest opponent to date in Chase Acesimen and a senior, is led by over Belmont Abbey, 102-75 and that respect," said McGeachy. and guard Joe Rogers.

The Wolfpack, which currently

Sophomore, John Drew, is lead-bounding and cur team defense for the season. The wolfpack which currently sophomore, John Drew, is lead-bounding and cur team defense for the season. is enjoying a 5-day holiday ing the Bulldogs scoring with a if we are to have any further theak, returns to the practice 25 point average, but junior success. I am pleased with the Christmas night. Coach Jim Blanks, is close behind with areas that don't show in Sloan will also work his charges 23 points per game. The Bulldogs satistics. I'm very pleased with twice the day after Christmas beaveraging 93 joints per the morale and attitude of the

Hew Santa Became Tradition

The tradition that Santa Claus SALISBURY, N. C. — Living is the giver of Christmas pressure.

Salisbury, N. C. — Living is the giver of Christmas pressure.

Salisbury, N. C. — Living is the giver of Christmas pressure.

991 and still counting! Now in ic place in the CIAA with them for the Christmas holidays. Coach Morris Wiggins' Bears, who will be idle until January 7, occupy first place in the conformacy chase with a perfect 3.0 ference chase with a perfect 3-0 their father was too poor to reord. They have whipped Eliza-provide them with a dowry, he eth City, Norfolk State and Fay-filled three lags with gold one night and drew them into the league battles.
The Bears will return to action on Jan. 7 against Fayetteville windows of the rooms of the young women. Soon after, they were all happily married. Unexperience of the company of the rooms of the young women. posted gifts were thereafter at-

ustine's also is unbeaten in the cop at 1-0.

The myth that Santa Claus who is averaging 19.5 points per Eastern Regionals in post-season descends the chimney to fill the game and 13.5 recounds per tourneys.

Fayesteville State, Johnson C. Smith and Winston-Salem State are 2-1. Norfolk State and Shaw are 1.1. Elizabeth City is 0-1, foldess Hertha appeared in their players chosen. happiness and good fortune.

Dr. Clement Clarke Moore, a On January 10, Livingtone College will play the Gardner-Webb gical Seminary in New York, put Eulldegs at the Kings Mountain tht myth in the form of a poem, "The Visit of St. Nicholas." He Gametime is 8:00 p.m. and ad-invented the sleigh and the rein-deer and his description of St. 12 years free with a paid adult. Nicholas was suggested by the appearance of a German manof-all work in his employ. The throw percent with a 78.5 ave sleigh bells were suggested by the bells on the brace of his own horse. He wrote the poem According to an old legend, a read it to them or Christmas oor peasant women, with many Eve of that year. This poem has than compensated for their drop Jacksonville is the detending children, decorated a Christmas become the foundation of our tree with such humble trimmings own rich American tradition

WORKABLE SOIL

make her tree as beautiful as she could.

The dormant season is the tensive start since 1956 when best time to transplant sarubs they scored over 80 points in While she was asleep, spiders and trees, but the experts sugther first six games.

The dormant season is the tensive start since 1956 when ever won the Classic, that being they scored over 80 points in Clemson in 1955.

Although Duke had a losing

Meet In Gator

DURHAM, N. C. baske ball team, idle for 15 days due to exams, will swing back

the 23rd Gator Bowl Classic. The Blue Devils chalked strong point which gives it a three wins and a loss before must start anew after the long layed. "The period between our last game with Appalachian State on December 10th and the Gator Bowl Classic on December 26th concerns us," said new head Over the years, State and Villa-ic, a nave cangled on the hand-losers will play on Saturday I realize it is necessary for the exam period and I was pleased that the team voted to go to the Gator Bowl on Christmas Eve to Miss De bie Smith, a 20-year- prepare for the tournament,"

> The Blue Devils' four games to squad and the excellent individual play of junior center Bob Fleischer (6-8). Fleischer, who averaged 11.0 points and 8.5 rebounds per game last season, has lifted these figures to 19.5 points and 13.5 rebounds this year. His

Lenoir Rhyne does not have 6-9 sophomore Willie Hodge, is the record that Elon has, hav- Duke's next best in both the

Dave O'Connell (3.5) and Tate bruins. Through four games, the peerless Thompson owns a 23.0 Gardner-Webb followers, has a average, hasting a high mark of 5-3 record, but the Blue Hose based on a stellar performance agains: Appalachian State.

UCLA, follows Inompson in the game. The Host most discovered by the Host most scoring department with an 11.8 wins this season over Mars Hill average while Moe Rivers is next. It is also all UNC-Asheville

at 11.3 and Tommy Bucleson at the Bulldogs are riding the over the eighth ranked Proving R. S. Central over the eighth ranked Prov

rer the morale and attitude of the

ern Kentucky game will play trees in millions of American the winner of the Jacksonville homes. After the two-week holi-Florida game the following night day season, they are discarded. at 9:00 p.m., the losers will meet

Duke basketball is on its way to chine known as a wood chipper achieving a major milestone in instantly reduces them to valu collegiate basketball — the 1,000 able garden mulch. exilegiate basketball — the 1,000 victory plateau. The last 45 years
This mulch retains soil moisure and can be applied on top of in succession Duke has produced 10 wins (or more) every seasonnation. Forty-three of those for-ty-five seasons have been winning ones, a record surpassed proving traction on ice driveonly by Kentucky. Duke's 31 record brings their total ledger to 994-506, thus 994 and still count- Duke has won four ACC Cham

Bob Fleischer, Duke's center

ment championship came in the softball great and is listed in 1968-69 Sugar Bowl Tournament. the Softball Hall of Fame. To win that tournament, Duke had to beat Western Kentucky the Blue Devils in scoring the (with Jim McDaniels and Clarence Glover) in the first round (73-72). The Blue Devils defeated Big Ten runnerup Iowa in the

Duke led the nation in free throw percentage last season with a 78.5 average, but the Blue Devils are only hitting "72.1" this season. Jacksonville was last year's national runnerup hitting. his children in 1822 and vear's national runnerup hitting pearance in this the 23rd renew-dit to them on Christmas 77.9%. However, Duke has more all of the Gator Bowl Classic. in free throw percentage by can-champion. Duke's Neill McGeaning 139 of 234 field goal at- chy will be one of three new tempts for a record pace 52.5%. coaches in the Classic (others be (School record — 51.1%, 1962.63). ing Florida's John Lotz and If Duke scores 80 points or Jacksonville's Bob Gottlieb), Flor-more in the opening round it ida leads the Classic with six will be the Blue Devils' best of- titles - only one ACC school has

tennial and the 1969 Sugar Bowl. Far West power Santa Clara.



BLAINE FRONEBERGER — His girl's team is off to a fast start and are challenging for the league crown.

GIRLS' DIVISION

GIRLS' DIVISION		Artist Rockwell
Teams W. L. Uct.	GBL	WHIST BOCKMEIL
Burns 5 0 1.000		T 1
South Point . 4 0 1.003	1/2	Inspires Typical
E. Gaston 1 .800	1	
K. M 3 2 .600	2	Yule Nostalgia
Shelby 3 2 .600	2	rese sangenian
Chase 3 3 .600	4	
Crest 3 2 ,600	2	Noran Rockwell is perhaps be
R. S. Central . 2 3 .400	3	ter qualified than any other a
Lincolnton 2 3 . 250	31/2	tist to portray a typically Ame
Bessemer City 1 4 .200	31/2	can Christmas scene. In this
E. Rutherford . 1 4 .200	4	lustration of a trio of quain
North Gaston . 1 4 .200	4	looking musicians playing care
Cherryville 0 4 .000	41/2	in the street he has cantured t

W. L. Pet. GBL mas in a small town.

Trees Recycled To Balance Economy

Each year whole forests of team, but concerned with the young spruce trees are chopped down in their prime and display-The winner of the Duke-West- ed with decorations as Christmas

But Christmas trees can now in a consolation game at 7:00 be recycled. They can be given a seconr life in which their organ

> snow to protect bulbs and stems of young trees and shru's. Also,

pionships, five Scuthern Conference Championships and three

fireplaces and brought with her The Blue Devils' last tourna- the Year in 1971. He is a former

Senior Chris Redding, who led past two seasons, hopes to finish in Duke's Top Ten all-time career scorers by notching 423 points this season. If so, he would join the likes of 1963 NCAA Play-

Duke is going for its fifth reg- season last year (12-14), the Blue

Blalock, KM Girls **Team Are Riding** High In SWC

The preseason favorites in the ing up to their ratings. Last season's leaders in both divisions are currently leading the way a-

And while the Shelby and Crest boys teams and the Burns and South Point gals teams continue along their unbeaten merry Kings Mountain senior for ward Butch Blalock continues to set a tornid pace in the scoring race. In fact, no one is even near

After seeing 205 points in his first five conference games, Blalock is making a bid to become Kings Mountain's third top scorer since the loop was organized. He has ar average of 41.0 for the

Elalock finished second to Cherryville's Jim Graves in last year's point race and should be continue his present pace, he'll lass the totals p leaders George Adams (now with the ABA's San Diego franhise) and David Thompson (an

off to a very fast start and cur-rently are tied for fourth place in the league. Coach Blaine Froncberger's glds' are paced by all-conference guard Kathy Ledford, center Sandra Byers and forward Joanne Proctor. Ledford is fourth in the conference in

The Kings Mountain teams will ect play again until January 4th when they travel to East Gaston to meet the Warriors.

LOOP SCORING Individual Scoring

(Conference games only) Girls qualified than any other ar-to portray a typically Ameri-Christmas scene. In this il- Cynthia Brannon, S. Point tration of a trio of quaint- Pat Boyce, Crest oking musicians playing carols the street, he has captured the Kathy Ledford, K. Min. flavor of an old-fashioned Christ- Sue Carlton, E. Gaston Debra Wilkerson, Chase Melinda Faires, Cherryville It is the authenticity in this

painting as in all Norman Rock-well's work that inspires such Linda Wright, Shelby man Rockwell never fakes a de- NAME Butch Elalock, K. Mtn. posed for the three musicians in Melvin Watkins, E. Ruth.

Mack Green, E. Gaston clothing that had been carefully selected from Mr. Rockwell's from Mr. Rockwell's James McKissick, Shelby huge wardrobe of costumes. The Craig Gentry, Crest lantern and musical instruments Tim Whinehart, N. Gaston were garnered from antique Jim Stowe, S. Point hops across the countryside. John Borders, Burns The pointing shown was origin. Paul Gash, Shelby shops across the countryside. ally commissioned by Hallmark Charles Young, R-S Central Tim Martin, R-S Central

Ronald Tyndle, Burns

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