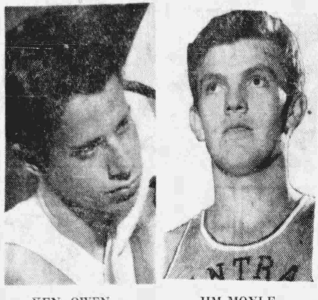


Height Features All-Mecklenburg Cage Team



KEN OWEN

By RONALD GREEN
Five tall boys, averaging six feet, three inches in height, won berths on the Charlotte News' All-Mecklenburg County basketball team, which is announced today.

Five schools are represented on the first team, reflecting the closeness of the competition in this area this season.

Named to the all-star team were Phil Swaringen of Harding, six-two; Ken Owen of Myers Park, six-four; Jim Moyle of Central, six-six; Doug Pressley of East, six-three; and George Rogers of North, six-one.

The pre-game scoring average of these five aces, individually, is a fat 19.7 points, well above the average of All-Mecklenburg players of the past several years.

The second team lists Lewis Carpenter of East, six-two; Bobby McClure of Myers Park, five-eleven; Rick McInnough of Central, six-four; Harry Jones

of Myers Park, six-five; and George Hart of Harding, six-two. Players were not chosen by position. Of the two teams, Moyle and Jones are the only centers and McClure is the only guard. The remainder are forwards.

Rogers, an all-round ace with a heavy thatch of hair, led the city scoring race with a 24.3 average, one of the fanciest figures ever hung up in this area.

He was a winning player on a losing team, topping the oft-beaten Rebels in rebounds and defense as well as points.

Moyle is second in scoring with a 22.1 average, most of those points coming in the tough Western AAA Conference.

Like Rogers, Junior Jim was Central's ace rebounder. The Wildcats' attack revolved around him.

The departure of Moyle this season ends a colorful era. He started popping baskets at a fast clip as a ninth-grader at Tech High and has always been at or

near the top in scoring since. He is one of the highest scorers ever to play for a local school.

Swaringen follows in third place in scoring with a 19.3 average. Regarded by many as the best college prospect in town, Phil used his cat-like agility, good aim and aggressive spirit to key Harding to a successful season.

Owen's 16.7 scoring average reflects his value to a Myers Park team that is easily the best school ever produced.

As a seasoned veteran with the necessary height and a tigerish spirit, Owen was a main cog in the Mustang machine. His rebounding equalled his scoring as a major weapon.

Pressley, with a 16.4 scoring average, was the heart of the Cinderella Eagles of East High. The club revolves around his shooting and rebounding. Behind his play, the Eagles capped the season with a 19.7 average.

Continued on 2nd Sport Page

SPORTS

BOB QUINCY, Sports Editor
Sandy Grady — Ronald Green — Bob Saunders

4-B SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1956



Red Smith

The Well-Dressed Man

MIAMI, Fla. — At breakfast a man said to Bill Vecek, "I will pay any fair price that you are hardly ever mistaken for the president of the Giants, but whenever I see you I am reminded of Horace Stoneham. It was in St. Petersburg the day after the battle of the Tampa terrace, when the American League turned you down on moving the Browns to Baltimore. Horace had come on for a National League meeting on Lou Pini's plan to move the Braves to Milwaukee and he said, 'If Lou really wants to move, I'll vote for it. But can you imagine trying to sell the Milwaukee Braves in New York?'"

"And," the man said, "need I remind you of the Milwaukee story?"

"You see this suit?" Vecek asked. Between thumb and forefinger, he held the material in his dark blue trousers. He wore no jacket over his white sports shirt, open at the throat. "I've got ten just like this. I won 'em all that night in Tampa, before the Braves' switch was approved. I bet you would go to Milwaukee and outdraw the Yankees the first year."

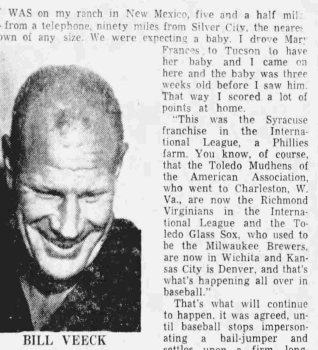
"Outdraw the Yankees! Strangers were leaning over tables to take my bets. I could have cleaned out that section of the state if I'd had any guts."

"Bill Vecek has the guts of a burglar, is the somewhat restless character whose efforts to get the Browns into Milwaukee forced Pini to move out there and make a fifty fortune. Meanwhile Vecek ran out of potatoes in St. Louis, was pushed out of the major leagues when the Browns did go to Baltimore. Now he has returned to get an International League franchise started in Miami."

"I have no financial interest in this at all," Bill said. "There are three other friends of mine, Sid and Elliott Stein, who were in with me on the Browns and were wonderful. In early December Sid telephoned me and said, 'I'm afraid I've bought a baseball team.'"

"A rab of the green," I told him. "It could happen to anybody."

"Well," he said, "if the deal goes through will you come and help us get started?" I said of course, and so here I am.



BILL VECEK

I WAS on my ranch in New Mexico, five and a half miles from a telephone, ninety miles from Silver City, the nearest town of any size. We were expecting a baby. I drove Marjorie to Tucson to have her baby and I came on here and the baby was three weeks old before I saw him. That way I scored a lot of points at home.

"This was the Syracuse franchise in the International League, a Phillies farm. You know, of course, that the Toledo Mudhens of the American Association, who went to Charleston, W. Va., are now the Richmond Virginians in the International League and the Toledo Glass Sox, who used to be the Milwaukee Brewers, are now in Wichita and Kansas City is Denver, and that's what's happening all over in baseball."

"That's what will continue to happen, it was agreed, until baseball stops impersonating a half-hammer and settles upon a firm, long-range program of expansion and relocation. Chances are what's needed is a plan to increase the membership of each major league to ten clubs and then to twelve, with a view toward splitting them into three eight-club leagues eventually."

"That's the soundest plan," Bill said, "except for one thing. If an elected official in, let's say, Montreal were to put over a project to spend the voters' millions on a big league stadium and then the town didn't get a big league franchise after all, why, he would cease to be an elected official very suddenly."

"Now, every major league team has at least a couple of players it would be glad to unload for a proper figure but doesn't dare to, for one reason or another. Where the club couldn't sell these men to an established rival it would be something else to make a grand gesture of helping new clubs by letting them have these players at a good high price."

"We drew up such lists. Try it some time, and you'll be surprised. With the best players from the Coast League and a couple of the sort I've described from each of the ten big leagues, you could create a new team that I'd guarantee would not finish last."

Even if that answered the question of player supply, it was observed, other problems would remain. For instance, could a major league team operate in San Francisco, where daylight baseball is dead and summer nights are too cold?

"Certainly," Vecek said. "There's no reason why you can't heat a ball park."

His mind works like that.

PHIL SWARINGEN DOUG PRESSLEY GEORGE ROGERS

Duke Damaged By Soph

Kearns Was Clincher--McGuire

Tar Heels Rip Duke In Wild One By 73-65

By LARRY HARRIS
Special to The News
CHAPEL HILL. — Among the pinheals and skyrockets of a pinball, a dark, snaky, crotch who cast 31 points through the hoops in spite of all two and three defenders could do each time he touched the ball.

But the Tar Heel tutor kept coming back to Kearns, who earlier this year lost his starting job to veteran Tony Radovich.

"Kearns came in late in the first half," recalled McGuire, "and played a great game. He was better than he has been all season."

"In the way he came through for me, I will have to say that I am satisfied with my team now."

Kearns' value can't truly be found in the box score, unless you credit the victory to him. He scored 12 points, 10 big ones, but it was what sports writers call his "floor play" that paid off.

Duke Coach Hal Bradley, recalling that his Blue Devils had led by 24-28 at halftime and held a 10-point edge at one time, said, "You've got to win both halves. We didn't."

"When Junior Morgan fouled out early in the second half that hurt us more than anything. We missed his height under the boards."

The game developed a side war early when Rosebluth and Mayer started ripping the cereals from all angles. Mayer hit his first four shots and stayed warm to spare. Rosebluth wouldn't yield, though, collecting six of UNC's first seven field goals, and he and Kearns finally turned the tide.

The victory gave the Tar Heels possession of first place in the ACC standings with an 11-3 record and shoved Duke down into third with a 10-4 mark.



UNC HOPES THIS BRAIN TRUST PAYS GRID DIVIDENDS
This is the football brass at North Carolina who hope to pull the Tar Heels out of their football slump. Out for a sunny stroll now, they will get down to spring practice with the squad, March 5. Head Coach Jim Tatum, who assembled the new staff, is on the right. Others are Emmett Cheek (L), Ed Kensler, Fred Tullai, Jim Hickey, Pat Preston and Eddie Teague.

MP Grapplers Set For Windup

Myers Park High School's wrestling team, which has won three matches and lost four, will conclude its season Monday afternoon at 3:30 at Myers Park.

Coach Johnny Guyton's Mustangs will be going for a 500 record when they meet Statesville, a team that holds a 2-4 win over them.

Bill Suttle and Graham Allison will be trying to protect their perfect 7-0 marks for MP and Wayne Hallman will be after his fifth win against no defeats.

Elon Favored

Christian Crusade: Convert LR's Wells

By BOB SAUNDERS
Charlotte News Sports Writer
LEXINGTON — You ask a pointed question, you get a pointed answer. A tourist inquired of Elon Coach Doc Mathis:

LR TOPS POINT MARK; BELLO USES OWN BLAST

"How do you feel about Lenoir Rhyne against you in the finals?"

"I feel terrible," said Doc, who obviously missed his apple for the day.

"The tourist pressed the point: 'Why terrible Doc?'"

"I can tell you a lot of reasons," said Doc, "but it can all be summed up in two words—Raeford Wells."

Raeford Wells, in case you didn't read the sports pages, is a basketball player who has, all 235 pounds and six feet, six inches of him, written a new North State record book.

If you don't like statistics you can listen to the words of Jack McComas, a young citizen of Elon, a basketball knowledge. He knows about Wells, he should—Wells and Lenoir Rhyne disposed of McComas' Atlantic Christian team last night, 119-96, for a new tournament scoring mark.

"Wells," said McComas, "can do everything on a basketball court. He can shoot (he hit 28), he can defend you, and he can clean the backboards. He's rough, tough, and he's agile for a big man. He killed us tonight."

"This is what Mathis fears most going into the finals. His agents had little trouble jamming up East Carolina last night, 82-64, but the 8 p.m. event tonight leaves him feeling like a pitcher who must face Duke Snider and the Dodgers."

Wells is favored, but that doesn't do much to soothe Doc. Not that you can blame him. Wells not only leads the loop in scoring with a 25-point average—but he's resilient.

With LR leading ACC last night by a scant 73-67, Wells got knocked colder than a refrigerated hamburger. There was still 13:11 left in the second half.

Wells under the boards, bounced slightly and lay still. Several minutes later he brushed off assistants and ran groggy back into position.

"That's the kind of kid he is," said Hamilton. "He shows the desire, the courage, he's the greatest."

This was all that Lenoir Rhyne needed. They picked up from there and went on a shooting spree that completely saturated the nets. ACC was lost in the wild flood of points.

"I knew we had it when Wells came up off the floor," said Hamilton. "The team needed a lift just then and they got it. Atlantic Christian couldn't keep up with us."

And that is what Doc Mathis is worried about.

AG Jayeyes Cop 10th Straight

Alexander Graham Junior High School's Jayeye team notched its 10th win without a loss yesterday to wrap up the city junior high Jayeye crown.

AG topped McClintock, 24-17, at East High.

Mike Lennond, Frank Victory, Richard Griffin and Mickey Kirkley have been the most prolific point producers in the winning streak. Griffin was high yesterday with 10.

In other games yesterday, Bain Junior High's boys, led by James McWhorter with 14 points, downed Matthews, 43-16. Bain's girls topped Matthews, 38-16, as Mercedes Davis scored 17, and Central High's girls best Harding for the first time in six years, 46-40, led by Marjorie Davis' 17 and Jeanette Vandenberg's 18.

Says Greason: 'We Will Make It Interesting Game'

But the Deacons' head coach, Murray Greason, says he's not conceding State an inch. We are working better as a team now and I think we've proved we can make it interesting for any team that walks on the floor."

The Deacs have been troublesome to the nationally-ranked powers that populate the ACC. They upset 11th-ranked Duke twice and split a pair with North Carolina, the nation's No. 9 team.

Wake has lost twice to Coach Everett Case's sixth-ranked Wolfpack. State defeated the Deacons 70-58 in the Dixie Classic and dropped them 90-81 in conference action.

Wake Forest, winner of nine of its last 10 games, was to have played tonight without the services of reserve Bill Tucker.

But Commissioner Jim Weaver announced last night that the suspensions will not become effective until a complete report of the investigation arrives at the schools, presumably Monday morning.

Four other ACC teams step into the conference tonight to wind up the season. Duke enters tonight flanked by a pair of all-conference players, center Ronnie Shaik and guard Vic Molodtsov, goes into tonight's action a 14-point favorite.

Weatherly Looks For New Luck Middlecoff Clipped

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — Late model convertibles took over in the long weekend of stock car racing today and Joe Weatherly of Norfolk, Va., hoped for better luck than he had in the sportsman and modified competition.

Weatherly was running third in yesterday's 125-mile sportsman and modified race when his car cooked out after about 70 miles. Tim Flock of Atlanta, who led from the start, won with an average speed of 83.41 miles an hour.

Flock, one of the nation's leading stock car drivers, didn't enter the convertible race, resting up for tomorrow's big Grand National for late model stocks. Both races are 160-mile affairs sponsored by the National Area for Stock Car Automobile racing over a 4.1 mile beach road course.

Weatherly won the pole position with top qualifying speed of 112.29 M.P.H. in his 1956 Ford convertible. The cars were out on top but with a padded steel "roll bar" to protect the driver in case of a flipover.

HOUSTON (AP) — Ted Kroll and Jerry Barber shared the lead in the \$30,000 Houston Open today but a dozen other golf pros began the third round no more than four strokes off the pace.

At the 72-hole tournament's halfway point yesterday, Kroll had a 7-0-67, and Barber with a 6-7-70, were both seven under par.

Jimmy Demaret and a newcomer, 23-year-old Jim Gustin of Charlottetown, Va., had 1383, Joe Jimenez had a 140.

Tied at 140 were Jimmy Clark, and Deen Wood.

A seven-way tie at 141 included Jackie Burke Jr. and Marty Furgol, two former Houston titlists; Jim Turnesa, the 1952 PGA champion, and long driving George Bayer.

Missing for the third round was Gary Middlecoff, the 2-1 pretournament favorite. The former Memorial winner scored a par 72 for the 71-127 — yard Memorial Park (Garden) last night. He shied handsomely in Castellan's dressing room.

"You gave me a good scare, Johnny," replied Rocky.

Hockey Results

PHILADELPHIA AT CHICAGO
Philadelphia 4, Chicago 2.

BALTIMORE AT JOHANNESBURG
Baltimore 3, Johannesburg 2.

NEW YORK AT WASHINGTON
New York 4, Washington 2.

BALTIMORE AT NEW HAVEN
Baltimore 4, New Haven 3.

CASTELLANI GONE
NEW YORK (AP) — One hour after Rocky Castellan battered out a 17 round decision over England's Johnny Sullivan in Madison Square Garden last night, the shock hands narrowly in Castellan's dressing room.

"You gave me a good scare, Johnny," replied Rocky.