









SPORTS

The Duke Chronicle

SPORTS

Bue Devil Football Team Captures Season's Opener, 6-0

ports

idelines

By "Scoop" Roberts

THE RESULT OF THE GAME at Greensboro last Saturday came as no surprise to Blue Devil followers. The team performed exactly as advertised—putting up an unusually strong defense, but showing the loss of George McFae in its offense. The Devils are now without their usual superlative broken-field runner—a constant threat to an enemy team. Two years ago it was Ace Parker, last year it was Honey Hackney, and this year it was to have been McFae.

Nevertheless, it cannot be said that Duke's offense is terribly weak. Irish Bob O'Mara seems to be in for the greatest year of his career, and while he does not specialize in snake-hipping, he carries the mail in a plugging powerhouse fashion, carrying would-be tacklers on his giant frame for a maximum number of yards before the odds become so great as to bring him down.

However, the most important offensive weapon is, of course, good blocking. Duke is strong, or potentially strong, in this department. In Jay Davis, the hulky sophomore, and Easy Hove, and even Bob Spangler, who was a blocking back for two years, Duke has a fine trio of "mopper-uppers," and should the blocking live up to our expectations, O'Mara, Tipton, Robinson, et al will find plenty of holes to drive through.

**Duke Line Strong**

THE V. P. I. GAME POINTED out at least one factor, and that was the strength of the Duke line. Coach Wade, using Dan Hill and Fred Yorke as a nucleus, has modified a forward wall that can rank with any in the South. This applies not only to the first team but also to the reserves.

Biggest and most pleasant surprise was the work of Frank Ribar at tackle. Going down under punts with astonishing speed for his size, he gave the Gobbler safety man little chance for run-backs, practically holding him in his arms as the ball came down. Of course the rest of the line was unusually strong, but Frank Ribar is wasting little time in making himself a candidate for a first string job.

During the past two years, the Devils demonstrated a decided early-season weakness in pass defense. Each season, however, they overcame this as the weeks wore on. It is not so evident now, however. Although the Gobblers only attempted 3 passes, two of these were intercepted, which shows that Duke may have shaken off its usual September weak spot.

**Strong Fresh Net Team**

SHORT SHORTS: Don't be too surprised when you see some members of the freshman team take many a set from the varsity members. It will be the BEST fresh net squad in history, and will probably beat Carolina. . . . No rest for Coach Jack Coombs this summer. He and Tra Thomas, scout for Philadelphia's Athletics, were in charge of a vast baseball program throughout the city with an estimated number of 15,000 players participating. Coach Jack lectured all day every day until he was all talked out. . . . And if you're interested to know how baseball is really played Coombs' baseball book is a "must" on your list.

Congratulations are in order for Ted Mann, Duke sports publicist, and his invaluable assistant, Ann Penfold, Duke '46, for their 17-page brochure on the Duke football team. . . . A beautiful job, boys!

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Begin Fall Workouts

Distance Team to Face Four Big Opponents In New Schedule

Led by coach "Red" Lewis, the Duke cross-country squad is again kicking the knicks out of its legs every afternoon at 3:30 o'clock on the freshman football field.

Red has high hopes of a much more successful season than last year when the team won only one meet, dropped three and finished fourth in the Southern conference meet. All three lettermen of last year's squad will be on hand to seek greater laurels in distance running. Men returning are Harold Johnson, Ed Hauser and Ralph Jones.

Coch Lewis has already scheduled four meets and is angling for a fifth to round out the schedule. The following meets have been scheduled: Davidson here on October 16; N. C. State here on October 23; Carolina here on November 12; and the Conference meet at Chapel Hill on November 19. These meets have been definitely scheduled. There are about 14 men out so on both the freshman and varsity squads, and Coach Lewis is hoping to double that number.

M'Lady in Sports . . .

by Bobby Ryan

At the Neridian open house Wednesday night Noel Johnson, Sybil Paynter, Bobby Marshall, and Zonia Douglas looked as though they will be doing some swimming for their class this year.

Last year Doris Colah nosed out Thes Conger, 41, in the fifty yard event and helped the class of '46 win the swimming meet, but Thes has done a lot of practicing this summer and she and her classmates plan to beat the juniors. If possible.

The juniors lost a good swimmer when Jo Collins decided to go into the nursing school. Jo's specialty was the back stroke and now Thes Conger will probably take the backstroke unless a freshman star appears.

The best of the past few days brought a lot of the co-eds out to the tennis courts and judging from the improvement in their playing a good many of them had evidently had a summer of practice.

The W.A.A. board held its first meeting Saturday and made plans for its coming membership drive. They hope for more members than ever this year.

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**SAMUELS' GRIDIRON SYSTEM**

By IRVING SAMUELS

With this system placed in first appearance of the correct season, a word of explanation is in order. The system is based on the theory that the true strength of a team is its defense strength. The great majority of plays in this work's rating had some making their first start of the week. But the defense in the system is also important and changes are indicated. In two weeks time, the teams should be playing sufficiently smart for the system to present an accurate picture of their average strength.

1. Pittsburgh—76.0	19. Vanderbilt—40.0
2. Minnesota—75.0	20. Boston College—40.0
3. Alabama—72.0	21. Auburn—39.2
4. Mississippi—65.0	22. North Carolina—38.0
5. Dartmouth—64.4	23. Oregon—38.0
6. Texas A&M—62.0	24. Tulane—37.8
7. Purdue—52.0	25. Tennessee—38.8
8. Texas Christian—52.0	26. Idaho—36.4
9. Army—51.2	27. Bucknell—35.2
10. California—51.0	28. Ohio State—35.0
11. Arkansas—48.0	29. St. Mary's—35.0
12. Kentucky—46.8	30. Southern California—35.0
13. Clemson—46.8	31. Washington—35.0
14. Holy Cross—44.8	32. Western Reserve—33.0
15. Michigan State—44.8	33. Wake Forest—32.8
16. DU—42.0	34. Tulsa—32.0
17. Southern Methodist—42.0	35. Rutgers—32.0
18. Navy—41.6	36. Tampa—32.0

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40 Candidates

Report for Duty On Soccer Squad

Coach Jerry Gerard Builds Formidable Team Using Veterans as Nucleus

Entering its second season as an organized sport on the Duke university athletic program, the Blue Devil soccer team began practice for the 1938 campaign yesterday with approximately 40 men reporting.

With ten of the fifteen men on last year's squad returning, the team, undefeated in the past two years, stands an excellent chance of having another record season this fall. Dick Lewis, Harold Fray, John Lytle and Curtis Jones are starting their third year on the squad, while Johnny Morrissey, Jack Ingram, William Riley, Wallace Olson, James Rodgers, Robert Flinn and Herman Wenzel are second-year men.

Last year the bookers marked up five wins in five starts. In the opening encounter, the Davidson Wildcats bowed 5-0 at Charlotte. Catawba met the Devils twice in a row and each time tasted defeat, 6-0 and 5-0. A match with North Carolina and a return game with Davidson were next on the Duke schedule. The Tar Heels lost 2-1 and the Wildcats came out on the short end of a similar score.

The schedule for this year, not completed as yet, is expected to include about ten games. There will be two contests each with Davidson, Appalachian and UNC. Possible frays with Catawba and Clemson have not yet been confirmed.

Varsity Net Practice Will Start Tomorrow

Tennis gets under way this week at Duke with all varsity candidates asked to report on the varsity courts tomorrow at 2:00 p.m. Those out for the position as freshman manager are requested to be on hand at the same time while those seeking a berth on the freshman team or scheduled to report on Thursday at 3 p.m.

This year's tennis prospects appear bright. From last season's varsity only Robert Doyle, number six singles men, is gone and the players from the 1937 freshman team, one of the best in the school's history, will be seeking varsity berths.

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O'Mara Smashes V. P. I. Line For Two Tallies

Straitfoot Football Used To Screen Future Devil Trickery

Coach Wallace Wade's cloak of opening-game secrecy was wrapped tightly about his Blue Devils Saturday night when they uncoiled the 1938 grid season under the arms at Greensboro but the Devils triumphed, 16-0, over VPI by unleashing straight-forward power football against the Gobblers.

The two Bobs, Spangler and O'Mara did a good job of making the 15,000 fans in Memorial stadium forget that George McFae, triple-threat back, was out for the season. O'Mara, who scored two touchdowns and set the stage for the other plays, was spark and consistently drove through the Gobblers' defense for large gains. Spangler did excellent work at the quarterback post and looked exceedingly fast on punt run-backs. It was Spangler who drew first blood for the Devils when he crossed the goal line in the first period after O'Mara's scoring thrust had been called back by a penalty.

True to propogations, the O'Mara defense was impenetrable. In the first quarter the Gobblers' offense gained only five yards through the Duke wall, and 32 yards were the most that VPI could garner throughout the evening by rushing. The line work of Ribar, Hill, and Yorke was outstanding.

The backfield gave the service of a host of new men who may help keep Wallace Wade's hair from falling out. Jay Davis, who succeeded Spangler at blocking, performed exceptionally well, and Frank Killian, although stopped cold on running plays, got off some noteworthy boots including a low quick kick.

The Devil A-1 defense took them in. In good stead during the only Gobbler thrust which came in the third period after a VPI lineman broke through to block one of Tipton's punts.

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