

Bruins Smash Florida Southern In Frantic Play Last Week

By Rabun Matthews

Led by the shooting of high scoring forward Norman Carter who seems to rise to his best performances against Florida Southern, the Mercer Bears took a frantic 99-82 decision from the men from the Sunshine State.

Carter, in two outings against the Moccasins this year has scored an aggregate of 67 points, hitting 33 the first time and 34 Saturday night when he found it hard to miss.

Mercer scored first on a field goal by Carter this lead was never relinquished, although on one occasion the Floridians managed to tie the score at 15-15. From then on the outcome was never in doubt.

Despite Bill Finch and Donny Veal, out with the flu, the Bears attack suffered none, as they hit

an unbelievable 57% of their shots through-out the game.

Although Florida Southern played the Bears a tight game, the pace set by Mercer was enough to wear down even a top-notch ball club.

Carter hit 20 points the first half and 14 more in the second to push his average back up above 20 points per game.

The game was of the true race-horse variety, with a lot of racing and an equal amount of horsing around. Mercer came out on top

due to the Bears phenomenal shooting average which made the difference.

The Bruins had 4 more players in the double figures beside Carter, to give them their highest point total of the season. The other four who scored 10 points or better were Tommy Johnson 17, and Doug Harris, Olaf Bergwall and Woody Richardson, 13 each.

The game was attended by only a sparse, holiday crowd.

This action closed out the Mercer home games and left the Bears with an over-all record 13-5. The Bobby Wilder coached quints have a fine record at home winning 10 and losing 1, a 72-60 to Rollins last week.



Beyond This Place Of Wrath, Tears

by Willard Clutchmyer

Like the old Indian Scout Cochise, alias Jeff Chandler, it has long been my custom to keep my ear to the ground, and last Wednesday afternoon was no exception. My ear had been on the ground less than five minutes when a crowd of fraternity men began to gather, throwing rocks and making sport of me.

Before the crowd became bellicose, my friend Maynard Grunch, boy bookie, came up and put a stop to the merriment by telling the frat men that they were missing an I. F. C. devotional which was being held to honor the Atlanta Gas and Light Company.

"Well Willard," Maynard smiled helping himself to a generous bite of my Healthy bar, "you look a little cross today."

"Yes," I admitted, "last night late hours were mine to have and hold."

"Oh..." he smirked as he took my last Picayune, "didn't get to sleep 'til 9:30, I bet."

"On the contrary," I replied, making a note, "the fellow in the room next to mine was beating on my wall at two o'clock in the morning."

"No," I said, "luckily I was already up practicing on my tuba." But enough of this prattle, amigo, how have you been?"

"Bad day today lad," he moaned, "had three pop tests... same class." He went on to explain that he would have flunked miserably had he not had the sagacity and foresight to write the answers on his glasses with Flagen.

While we were engaged in this scintillating tete-a-tete, one of Mercer's stella athletes approached us. It was Tarver C. Cyclops, a transfer student from the University of Madagascar, who had come to M. U. on a full scholarship. Tarver was very unhappy at Tattall Tech however upon finding out that M. U.'s definition of a "full scholarship was a one hour P. E. course, Shin Splints 11, a room in the basement of the gym and scraps from the dining hall.

He was also unhappy because the coeds refused to date him. I failed to see why the girls shunned Cyclops. He was a muscular lad, with dark hair and fine straight teeth and had only two noticeable physical defects... he was eight feet tall and had one green eye... in the center of his forehead.

Misfortune seemed to be his lot. As a small child white attempting to sneak into a circus by crawling under a tent near his home he found himself in the middle of a revival. This threw him into a traumatic shock from which he never recovered.

"Willard," Maynard screamed, "we've got to get this lad a date. He has only had one in his whole life... a Wesleyan hun... took one look at him and headed for the mountains with an Edsel salesman... got snowbound... hasn't been heard from since."

"Say no more!" I exclaimed, brushing away a tear, "Modine Gunch has flunked out of Barber's College and is back in school this quarter. She'll date anyone." I nodded tactfully toward Tarver.

"What??" Maynard roared, "That Pig??" "She looks like the creature from the Black Lagoon. Do you realize that she was Miss Pathetic for three years in a row during the war... the Spanish American War!!!"

But the three of us rushed to M. S. P. and gave Modine a buzz on the intercom. She drug into the date parlor garbed in the usual coed costume which consisted of a raincoat and sneakers.

"Hi Modine," I said cheerfully, making a low courtesy.

"Shhhhhh," she said, "The dorm council may be listening." Coming closer and speaking in subdued whisper she said, "They're cracking down over here. Strict discipline is the new order."

"Pray tell me more!" I begged.

"Things are tough all over... girls have to use date privileges to leave their rooms."

"Surely you jest." I said, unbelieving.

"Jest!" she laughed wildly, "Three girls on my floor used up their date privileges for the next three weeks going to the bathroom. And that's not all... the Dorm Council sees that no girls take baths after 11:30."

"Ah so," I said, "perhaps that explains the renewed popularity of the Wesleyan girls."

As we talked a horde of uniformed matrons rushed in and charged Modine.

"The Dorm Council!!!" she screamed as she bolted through a nearby window.

Catching one of the leaders of the council by the arm I asked "why are you after Modine??"

"We have it on good authority that she bought a Coca-Cola after 11:30 last night in direct violation of Handbook supplement 27001 paragraph 3," she shrieked gleefully.

"What is the purpose of a rule prohibiting the purchase of Cokes after 11:30?" I asked, ashamed of my ignorance.

"Simple," she replied snarling at a large group of coeds leaving for other schools. "It keeps girls from buying Coca-Cola after 11:30." One of the girls who was leaving with the large group of transferring coeds shouted "... We're leaving for a place with less restrictions and more freedom!"

"University of Georgia??" I asked.

"A convent," she replied.

Bears Drop Last Game

DUE WEST, S. C. Feb. 25— Mercer's Bruins closed out the 1958 basketball campaign by dropping an 84-61 decision to the Flying Fleet of Erskine College. This left the Bears with an overall season's record of 13-6. Mercer had stopped the Fleet in Porter Gym earlier in the season 89-78.

It was guard Ernie Rice who paced the Erskine win, dropping in 22 points to beat any one on either side. Rice had led the Fleet in their last outing, scoring no less than 31 points in Macon in January.

Erskine jumped off to an early lead and managed to keep a good 10 point distance ahead of the Bears most of the evening, playing a tight zone defense and shooting with fair accuracy. The Bears on the other hand were hampered by an inability to hit from the floor. By half-time the Fleet had accumulated a 35-24 advantage over the Mercerians.

The second half was practically a repeat of the first until the last five minutes when the Bears had closed the gap down to 6 points. Here Mercer began to press the Fleet and the boys from Erskine found this an opportunity to pull away and go on to win the game.

Mercer was minus the usual services of guard Bill Finch who saw only limited action because of the flu. Freshman Donny Veal was also sidelined due to sickness. Both expect to be ready to go against GTC Friday night.

Woody Richardson paced the Bears in the scoring department with 18 points. Second was Doug Harris with 17 and Norman Carter with 12.

MERCER (#1)	G	F	P	T
Richardson, f	9	4	5	12
Carter, g	8	2	2	12
Harris, c	1	2	4	4
Banks, c	0	2	3	2
Johnson, g	1	1	1	3
Finch, g	2	0	1	4
Harris, g	8	2	1	12
Totals	26	19	19	61
ERSKINE (#4)	G	F	P	T
Harben, f	5	5	0	15
Hilanton, f	2	3	3	7
Ohlendorf, c	3	1	0	7
Wolff, c	6	8	5	20
Keenan, g	0	1	2	1
Johnson, g	6	0	1	12
Rice, g	10	2	0	22
Totals	32	20	11	84

Score at half: Erskine 35, Mercer 24.

Rifle Team At North Ga.

The Mercer R.O.T.C. rifle team travels to Dahlonga today for a shoulder-to-shoulder match with the North Georgia rifle team.

In a previous match on the Mercer range, two weeks ago, the North Georgia Cadets defeated Mercer, 930-883.

Lt. W. K. Oglesby, manager of the Mercer team, says his boys have not had a very successful season. He added that most of the riflemen are firing competitively for the first time this year.

The two remaining matches are with the University of Georgia here next weekend and Florida State in Tallahassee.

BEAR EXISTENCE

by Cliff Hendrix

The quarter draws rapidly to a close. Soon finals will be with us again, then the bliss of spring vacation.

As we put the finishing touches on the old quarter that soon will be no more, it might be well to scan the sports scene before departing, to see just what lies ahead for Mercer athletic-wise in the quarter to come.

First and most obvious, of course, is the basketball situation. The Bears wound up the regular campaign this week with Erskine, completing their first winning season in several years.

The success of the Bruins was due to several factors, among them the fortunate arrival of transfer talent to replace that lost by graduation.

Supposedly, the Bears were going to have to devote this year to rebuilding a team, somewhat weakened by the loss of four of five starters. But Norman Carter, Olaf Bergwall and Bill Finch were invaluable in plugging the gaps left by Bobby Graham, Melvin Kinslow and Roger Bolton. Then too, this was Coach Wilder's first full season at Mercer, having taken over from Jim Cowan who resigned last winter to go into business.

Certainly, despite the fact that this was his freshman year as MU mentor, Robert Wilder's ability and basketball know-how was essentially in piloting the Bruins along during the '58 campaign.

In addition to a capable coach and assistance from other schools the Bears were also aided immeasurably by the old standbys who rounded out the circle of talent that went into the make-up of the '58 version of the Bruins. Captain Woody Richardson, the only starter returning from last year, Ray Banks, Tommy Johnson and Doug Harris, up from the '57 B team, fresh talent in the form of Donny Veal and W. L. Shepard, Lanier Poets who bear watching in the years to come, all combined to give the Bears whatever it was they needed to come up with a successful season.

The next obstacle that the Bears face is the district NAIA tournament in Statesboro. The boys are slated to open tonight against first seeded GTC and, if successful, will meet the winner of the Rollins-Stetson tussle in the finals Saturday night.

A trip to Kansas City hangs in the balance. It is reported that a little student support down Statesboro way Friday would harm nothing. Players and other perspicacious commentators on the athletic situation reveal that the "tumult and the shouting" has been a big factor in the Bears' winning so many close ones this year. And Statesboro is lovely this time of year, what with the weather and all.

Turning briefly to other forms of athletic diversion, we may see fragments of this year's baseball team leaving Porter Gym these afternoons, in lieu of the '58 campaign which opens March 25 against Presbyterian.

Head coach Claude Smith has an inter-squad game slated for Saturday, but says he can't really tell anything about the team until next quarter, when some of the doubtfuls will be able to report. These early practice sessions have been confined to pitchers and catchers mainly, of whom such returnees as Furman York, Doug Skelton, and Robert Norton have already reported.

Newcomers to the diamond ranks include pitchers Jim Myers, Douglas Fullington and Clay Bailey, catcher Richard Davis and John Taylor.

Other so-called news around the sports scene concerns the tennis and golf teams which will be organizing soon against the coming campaigns. In the tennis department, basketball mentor Bobby Wilder will assume the coaching slot left vacant by the departure of Coach Mel Layfield. Sam Daniel, Tom Johnson and Don Lash constitute the bulk of returnees from last year's squad.

Mercer golf sees the season open against Robins Air Force Base on March 25. Coach Ben Griffin says he expects Benny Woodall, John Thomas, Jerry Joiner, and David Shiplett to report for practice shortly.

The captain of the ship came up to the young sailor and asked him if he had cleaned up his part of the ship. The recruit reported that he had: "Did you mop the deck?"

"Yessir."

"Did you polish all the chrome?"

"Yessir."

"Did you clean up all the trash?"

"Yessir. I even swept the horizon with my telescope."

REGARDLESS of the terrible jokes, we have had a brief look at the condition of the various facets of MU athletic life as will be evidenced in the coming weeks. What more can you say?

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