

MERCER

SPORTS

SCENE

THE MERCER CLUSTER

Running Runts Prepare For Another Campaign

by Cliff Hendrix
Cluster Sports Editor

The Running Runts will be back on the scene this year as Mercer's Bears employ their age-old 'run 'em to death' tactics to offset the lack of team height.

With a team that averages 6'2" and with the tallest starter 6'3", the Bruins will need all the speed they can muster when they come up against some of the taller teams on the schedule.



The Bruins' practice sessions put the emphasis on speed from the word 'go'. After shooting drills, Mercer hoop stalwarts begin the roadwork that lasts for the rest of the practice.

Three on two drills, with the offense forcing the action all the way, keep the boys on the move until the scrimmage starts. This too, consists mainly of speedwork with a little basketball thrown in. Rebounding changes the direction of the running from horizontal to vertical. Keeping the boards clean in this pleasant little game, the object is to beat the opponent at picking loose shots off the backboard. This gives the boys another opportunity for moving around and keeps them up in the air more than on the floor. Twenty laps around the gym round out the day.

In theory as well as basketball practice, the Mercer system is geared to speed and designed for teams lacking height of the sky-scraper variety. The Drake shuffle, employed by the Bruins in the past campaign is designed with Mercer in mind and aimed at spreading the defense out over a wide area and thus gives the shorter lads a chance underneath the boards.

Ace starter Norman Carter, in pointing out some of these deep facts to some of the unenlightened observed that taller teams will play tight under the backboard, using the height to advantage in rebounding. Mercer's shuffle hopes again this season to make the taller lads spread out and give the Bruins room.

One of the best things that can be said about Mercer's speed demon operation is that it works.

Henry Drake, former University of Georgia hoopster, pointed out some interesting facts on this topic.

Henry, a guitar playing graduate student at Mercer this year, allowed as how Mercer's speed and tremendous desire permitted the Bruins to take many contests away from what on paper looked like a superior Georgia basketball squad.

"Speed," Henry commented, "is indicative of desire to play ball. Hustle, which Mercer has shown often against Georgia, gives them a big edge over other teams who have what looks like a greater potential."

Running is becoming such a habit that when two cars got involved in an accident up at Edgewood and Adams the other day, some of the boys went out to investigate. They were seen running full speed up Edgewood Avenue dribbling as they went. And they probably dribbled back and went on with practice without missing a step.

Thus as a new season draws ever closer, the Bruins rely once more on the ancient weapon of speed and endurance. An ancient philosopher once said, "The race is not to the swift or to the strong, but to the one that wins."

It is with such an outlook that the Bruins face the onrushing '58-'59 basketball campaign.

Intra-Mural Football Scores

Snakes	7	Willards	0
Atoms	16	Togas	0
Leos	26	Big L's	0
Leos	19	Atoms	0
Willards	6	Crescents	2
Snakes	26	MIMA	0
Ministers	46	Togas	0
MIMA		Crescents	
Willards	13	Big L's	0
Willards	6	Atoms	0
Ministers	11	Leos	6
MIMA	14	Big L's	12
Snakes	20	Crescents	0
Atoms	20	MIMA	6
Ministers	27	Willards	25
Leos	26	Togas	0
Snakes	35	Big L's	0
MIMA	7	Ministers	0

Snakes 33, Ministers 13

By Jim Beeland

The Snakes of Sigma Nu overwhelmed the second-placed Ministers with a deluge of passes to take the Tuesday intra-mural game, 33-13.

The Ministers, after taking the opening kick-off launched several fruitless drives and then were out-classe dthe rest of the afternoon by the snakes.

The Snakes drew first blood with quarter back Marvin Tarpley passing to Snuffy Smith for the score. The conversion was good and the Snakes led at half-time, 7-0.

The Preachers' lone tallies came with QB Harold Scoggins throwing to John Hunnicutt for both scores. Jerry Vines took a Scoggins pass in the end zone for the only successful conversion attempt.

MIMA WINS

The Big Red of MIMA rolled to their fourth victory Tuesday as they dropped Kappa Alpha, 21-7. Sammy Letson threw a TD aerial to Jim McKinney for the initial independent score. The PAT was no good.

The Lone Toga tally came with a Bill Williams pass to Henry Drake. A moment later, Drake caught another Williams aerial for the PAT.

The final Independent score came by way of the now-familiar Letson to McKinney combination. This time, the conversion was successful and the final score was MIMA, 21-KA 7.

CRESCENTS EDGE ATOMS

In a real thriller Tuesday, Kappa Sigma stopped the Atoms of ATO by a narrow 20-19 margin.

With the Atoms in scoring position, deep in Crescent territory, the Sig defensive backfield intercepted and ATO pass as the game ended.

SN Swamps ATO, 53-0

Sigma Nu's Snakes went wild Monday piling up touchdowns galore to stop ATO, 53-0.

Led by Marvin Tarpley, Snake quarterback, the Sigma Nu's marched to the Atom goal line time after time and in the end had crossed the ATO paydirt marker eight times.

The highlight of the game came in the third quarter with the Snakes leading by a score of 34-0. With ATO in possession of the ball, Tarpley intercepted an Atom

aerial on his own 10 yard stripe. Running broken field through the ATO defense, Tarpley finally lateraled to Snuffy Smith who raced the rest of the way for the score.

Work horses for the Atoms were Russell Archer, Noel Osteen and David Bailey.

This win increased the Snake winning streak to five and left them still the only unbeaten team in the league.

Ministers Lose Their First, 7-0

With Sammy Letson completing 16 out of 42 pages and with the brilliant playing of Richard Davis who scored the only TD and intercepted three passes, the MIMAS were able to slip by the previously undefeated Ministers, 7-0.

The only touchdown came in the first quarter with a long pass from Letson to Davis and the extra point was racked up by Don Langford on a Letson pass.

Dominating the game for MIMA was end Richard Davis. Outstand-

ing on both offense and defense Davis made many crucial plays. He snatched many passes to lead in the yards gained.

By picking off three of the Ministers' passes one of which was in the last minutes of the game he helped cap the game.

Harold Scoggins, the flashy little quarterback for the Ministers, played his usual fast game by completing 10 out of 34 passes. This was the first time the Ministers have bowed.

IM All-Star Clash Is Set For Nov. 17

by Rabun Matthews

The intra-mural football All-Star game will be played Monday, Nov. 17, Coach Claude D. Smith said this week.

"Barring any unforeseen delays, such as ties or playoff games, or even rain, the league championship should have been determined by the 17th," he said.

The regular season will end Nov. 10, but with the race as close as it is, the coach wanted to allow plenty of time to get any ties or leadlock played off before the All-Star game.

The team will be selected by a vote of the team captains. Each team will submit a list of three names to The Mercer Cluster. These names will be placed on a ballot and the ballot submitted to the team captains who will select a first and second squad from the list of nominees.

At this time, the captains will vote on their choice for the winner of the Cluster sportsmanship trophy awarded each year to the player whom the captains feel best exemplifies good sportsmanship.

Last year, the All-Stars defeated the championship Phi Delt Willards, 25-7. The sportsmanship trophy was awarded to Furman York.

This year for the first time, the intra-mural program will provide the referees for the All-Star classic.

Female Athletes Plan Meet Here

Mercer University Women's Athletic Association will be hostess to the Georgia Athletic Federation of College Women Friday and Saturday.

Students from some 10 Georgia schools will meet to discuss topics of athletic interest and will exchange ideas concerning the women's athletic program on the various camps.

The weekend program will include forums on intra-murals and sportsmanship; demonstration of judo by the Mercer department; modern dance by the GSCW physical education department and a fencing demonstration by the Wesleyan representatives. The program will also feature a general meeting which includes a speaker and election of state officers for the coming year. The host school for next year's meeting will also be selected.

Schools represented are: Agnes Scott, LaGrange, West Georgia, Tift, Georgia Teachers' College, GSCW, University of Georgia, Wesleyan, Emory, University and North Georgia.



HERE'S HOW—Mercer basketball starters Norman Carter (1) and Bill Finch explain the finer points of the game to two interested co-eds. Listening in are Marian Sheppard (1) and Helen Henderson. photo by John Robinson

MICA Wins Tennis Crown

MICA emerged as girls' tennis champs last week by stopping ADPi in the final round of the girls' IM tournament.

Represented by Salley Harley in singles competition and Beverly Belk and Rosalyn Tuggle in doubles, the independents stopped all comers to take the title. In the first round, MICA dropped defending champion Chi Omega. The second frame saw the new champs stop Phi Mu in three sets.

Defending titlists Chi Omega placed second. The Chi O's had previously copped the trophy in seven out of the last eight of competitions. Phi Mu finished third, followed by ADPi in fourth place.

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