

ARE THEY BOMBS OR BUSTS? CONCORD TO DO WHAT DAYTONA COULDN'T, TELL T-BIRD STORY?

By MAX MUEHLEMAN
Charlotte News Sports Writer
Despite its incredible speeds and storybook finishes, Daytona Speedway failed to give the answer to one of stock car racing's biggest questions — will the Thunderbirds be bombs or busts?
It is almost amusing that the answer is what Bill France's sparkling four million dollar layout could not provide may be supplied by Concord Speedway,

a comparatively tiny half-mile dirt building tucked away in a patch of North Carolina woods less than 20 miles north of this city.
But if the ousted T-Birds don't show their stuff in Sunday's 100-mile Grand National there, the sleek little jets will be well on their way to becoming the biggest disappointment since Adam listened to Eve.
WHEN NASCAR refused to



Plotting for Lowell... are West Meck Coach Kent Moseley (l) and ace Tommy Helms

'Cats May Defend Two Big Firsts

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
Kentucky's Wildcats may find themselves in the unenviable position of having to defend two firsts when they begin play in the 1959 NCAA basketball tournament.
Kentucky, which finished its regular season with the best record in the Southeastern Conference and a tie for second place in the Southeastern Conference, will begin its NCAA title defense in the Midwest regional at Evansville, Ill., March 13. The Wildcats got in because Mississippi State, the Southeastern Conference champion, wouldn't play in a tournament where other teams had Negro players.
Kentucky not only will be defending the CAA title, but likely will go into the tournament ranked as the No. 1 college team in the Associated Press poll. This week's voting again put Kentucky on top by a margin of over 100 points over runner-up Kansas State.
Kansas State (22-1) has two more games to play, however, and these could lead to stronger support in the voting of sports writers and broadcasters in the AP poll. Third-place Kentucky also has some key games left in its schedule.
On the ballots of 104 writers and broadcasters, Kentucky edged K-State by only 32-28 in the first place voting but retained first place on points 838 to 750. Cincinnati, with only seven firsts, drew 703 points.
Since The Associated Press poll was inaugurated in 1949, Kentucky has finished on top four times but won the NCAA title in only two of those years—1949 and 1951.

Tournament Opens

Two "outside" teams, hailing from neighboring counties, pose a serious threat to the two local teams in the Class AA regional basketball tournament opening tonight at the West High gym.

NORTH, WEST ACE SERIOUS CHALLENGE FROM 'OUTSIDERS'

NORTH'S attack centers around Heath Whittle, who was selected to the All-Mecklenburg team, but has capable hands on other positions, such as Vic Knox, Barry Poole, Billy Ray Hager.
The winner of this tournament will advance into the Class AA district playoffs in Winston-Salem next week.
Hoping still working on at regular season, whipped Raker Hill, 22-24-47, on the latter's court last night.
Gary Williams scored 31 points and shared 17 rebounds for the Rams. Bill Russell added 13 points and Fred Stewart got 14. Tommy Crump had 18 for Rock Hill, followed by George Lyons with 11.

AP POLL

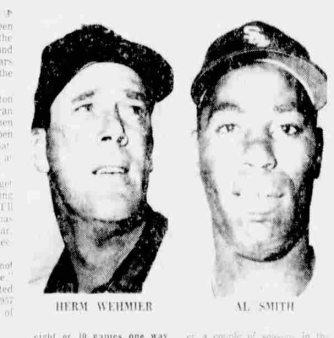
The top ten teams with first place votes and total points through March 2, 1959, in the Associated Press poll.
1. Kentucky 787 (1st) 828
2. Kansas State 770 (2nd) 808
3. Cincinnati 767 (3rd) 793
4. Michigan State 750 (4th) 807
5. North Carolina 747 (5th) 811
6. West Virginia 744 (6th) 811
7. Baylor 737 (7th) 811
8. New Carolina 734 (8th) 811
9. Duke 727 (9th) 811
10. St. Louis 724 (10th) 811
The second tier, California (11) 785, St. Louis (12) 785, Texas Christian (13) 785, Iowa (14) 785, Wake Forest (15) 785, Iowa State (16) 785, North Carolina State (17) 785, Iowa State (18) 785, Iowa State (19) 785, Iowa State (20) 785.

Tri-State Open Gets Under Way

ALBANY, N. Y. — A 1957 National Amateur champion headed a field of 123 golfers teeing off today in the Tri-State Open Invitational Golf Tournament.
The two-day, 36-hole medal play tournament over the Aiken Municipal course has drawn 45 professionals and 80 amateurs.

NOTES FROM SPRING TRAINING SNIDER CAVORTING; THE HUSH ON PERRY

VERO BEACH, Fla. — Duke Snider has been changing baseballs with the fervor of a worried rookie, and his delicate left knee appears to be standing up under the exercise just fine.
But Manager Walt Alton still may keep the veteran outfielder on the bench, since the Los Angeles Dodgers open their exhibition schedule Saturday against Philadelphia at Sarasota.
"I don't want him to get banged up sliding or diving for a ball," Alton said. "I'll admit he looks the best he has in more than an entire year, but I hesitate to take unnecessary chances."
To sum it up, "I'm not anxious to get him in there."
Snider's knee was operated on during the winter of 1957 and it bothered him much of last season.
LAKELAND, Fla. — Herman Wehmer's sore arm is acting up again, and the Detroit Tigers are afraid the big right-hander may not be able to see much duty this season.
Wehmer's right elbow, began to swell after he tossed his first four pitches in the Tigers spring training camp. The ailing joint had been operated on for removal of calcium deposits during the off-season.
Tiger Pitching Coach Willie Hedin said:
"He might be able to shake it off, but you don't like to see this with a fellow who might win you



HERM WEHMER AL SMITH DUKE SNIDER

eight or 10 games one way or another."
Wehmer was purchased last year from St. Louis on a gamble that his arm would heal.
WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. — The A's play their final two games today and Thursday.
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TAMPA, Fla. — A frisky Al Smith, showing no pain from an ankle injury that plagued him last year, managed Al Lopez's team in the training camp.
Smith, an outfielder who was acquired from Cleveland in 1957, batted a lackluster .252 with 11 home runs last

year. The injury handicapped the 25-year-old Smith.
Smith's spring performance brought this approval from Lopez yesterday:
"He looks like the ball player he used to be before he was hurt. Smith is snapping the ball again. Last year he had a lazy bat and wasn't stinging the ball."
Lopez is hoping Smith approaches the 1955 Cleveland level, when he batted .306 and hit 22 home runs.
PHOENIX, Ariz. — Giants Manager Bill Rigney agrees that \$90,000 bonus pitcher Gaylord Perry looks

sharp in his training camp camp yesterday.
"But neither he nor his coaches will risk an opinion this early on the rookie who won nine and lost five last year for St. Louis, Minn., in the Class C Northern League.
"I'd like to see Rigney and his coaches talk to me about Perry's performance in the 1958 campaign."
"There are still several weeks of training during which we'll take a look at everyone in camp," he added.

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. — Manager Casey Stengel, brought up from New York Yankees Jack Reed.
The 26-year-old outfielder, brought up from New York Yankees, was named to the roster of the Southern Assn. produced the first hit of spring in the inaugural intracamp game yesterday.
"Reed is the farthest advanced new fielder around here," said Stengel. "He's nearest ready for the big leagues in all around out fielding."
Reed hit .309 last season with 100 hits and 29 RBIs.
He was in military service the previous two years and before that hitted .288 for Birmingham.



OLLIE MATSON IS A RAM

Coach and Captain of the Los Angeles Rams puts a helmet on the head of griddle Ollie Matson during a bit of horseplay at news conference when Matson officially became a Ram. The tremendous running back was swapped by the Chicago Cardinals for EIGHT players, plus a high draft choice.

Ev Happy With Draw

Casey Furedi, who drew the 2 o'clock starting 14-15 for the fourth consecutive year, Carolina runner Clemens at 4:30 and Maryland and Virginia took the nightcap.
Friday semifinals will send the Wake-Deer winner against the Clemson winner at 7:30 and the other two winners at 9:30. The title game, which will be televised, the conference representative in the NCAA playoffs, is set for 8 o'clock Saturday night.

CASE, BONES ADD THEIR VOICES, FAVORING UNC

When a team beats you twice it gives them confidence.
MCKINNEY joined Case in laying the favorite's mantle on the shoulders of the Tar Heels at the Atlantic Coast Conference tournament opening in Raleigh Thursday.
Speaking to a Raleigh Tri-Ord club luncheon, the Gray Fox said victory should get the road, if they play the basketball they are capable of playing they should be the favorites.
"There are all attempts to turn aside any lingers relating toward him as the runner favorite," he added. "But whoever wins I will have to give three games of good basketball."
CASE FEELS he will walk off a square lead in the draw. He said he wouldn't count on getting South Carolina as its opening round foe.
"I'm going to get beaten in the first round," Case later said. "I'll rather play South Carolina than a lot of teams. We wanted to get the number one seed."
Carolina's opening round foe will be Clemson. Maryland battles Virginia and Duke plays Wake Forest.

Basketball Scores

Table with columns for Conference, Team 1, Score, Team 2, Score. Lists scores for various teams in the ACC, SEC, and other conferences.

Joe Harris Picks

Table with columns for Player, Team, Position, and other stats. Lists picks for various players.

—CONLEY—

Continued from Sports Page
manager of the 1958 Yankees. The 34-year-old pitcher has been named to the roster of the Southern Assn. produced the first hit of spring in the inaugural intracamp game yesterday.
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THE BILLBOARD

A New Name For The Ends

By Larry Harris

PLANS are in the fire for an all-star basketball game, featuring seniors from the Big Four and North State Conference at High Point on March 14. The sponsoring Junior Chamber of Commerce said over the weekend the game had been approved by both commissioners and plans are already under way. The four team would be coached by a Big Four coach and the N.S. stars would be directed by a N.S. coach, possibly Western Carolina's Jim Guder.

THE PROCESSION of the game would go to the "Top" Home of North Carolina at Lake Waccamaw. If successful, the game would become a permanent fixture. And there's no reason to doubt it. It would be interesting to see how the conference would stack up against each other, although playing only the seniors would not really be a true comparison.

HULEN'S NEW phase for the long-term end, as coined by South Carolina's Publicity Man

ONCE AGAIN, a reminder that the Carolina publicists have the executive vice president for the Waccamaw River, Inc., to establish the team as the "Senior National League" game.

NO PAIN, no strain for Herb Scarce, the hard-kick Cleveland infielder with so much talent. Scarce reports he fell in with when he threw hard yesterday, saying much relief to his arm officials. But Scarce (Mike "The Bear" Garcia) was another Clevelander who reported everything well.

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Big Bob Pettit of St. Louis

Big Bob Pettit of St. Louis, who was named most valuable player in the NBA scoring race. He ends only a 13-point average in his 30 remaining games as regular season champion. With no chance of overtaking him are Cincinnati's Jack Twyman and Philadelphia's Pat Attin, who led a heated battle for runner-up honors. Pettit's new scoring average is 34.5, with Twyman at 25.5 and Attin at 25.8.

Canton's Pat Powell Signs With Wolfpack

Pat Powell, a 205-pound guard who had just every honor possible during the past season, has signed a grant-in-aid with North Carolina State College.

Diehl Begins Handball Defense

George Diehl, club member defense of the citywide spring handball championship tonight at the YMCA, championing Harold Haley.
Other matches, with the first getting underway at 5:30, sent Max Price against Ralph Shamp, Paul McConnell against Harry Wolfe and John Gumble against Peter Anderson.

Lamoureux Gets 24 For Eastway

Wes Lamoureux tied in 24 points and the Anderson 15 to lead their Eastway Junior High team over a 50-30 victory over Piedmont Monday.
The win made Lamoureux's record 114 for the season.

Fight Results

NEW YORK (AP)—The following are the results of the fights at the Madison Square Garden, New York, Saturday, Feb. 28, 1959.

WANT A DANCE DATE SATURDAY NIGHT?

ARTHUR MURRAY

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Sat. 10-11 pm