

Start of Pro Baseball, Page 2  
Old KHS-CHS Rivalry, Page 6

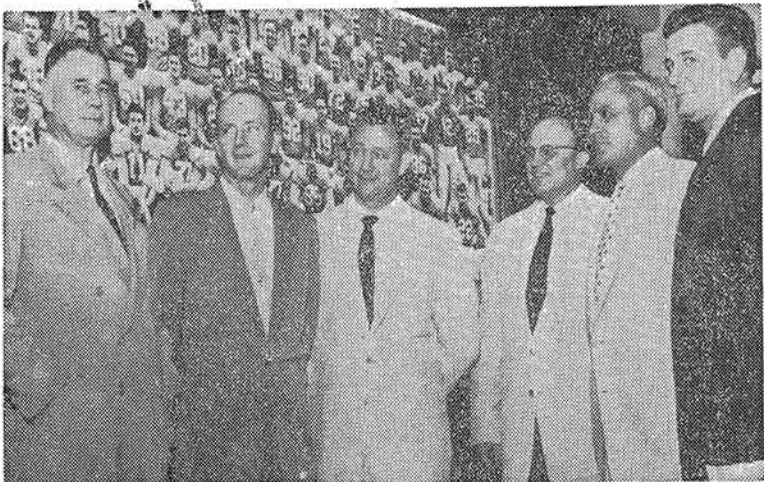
# The Knoxville News-Sentinel

Pioneer Bowler, Page 4  
Depression Football, Page 8

Section F

KNOXVILLE (2), TENNESSEE, FRIDAY EVENING, AUGUST 18, 1961

## 35-Year Tennessee Record Is Football's Best



NEYLAND AND SOME 'STARS'—Gen. Neyland here is pictured with some of the stars he produced at U-T. From left to right: Neyland, Harvey Robinson, Murray Warmath, Phil Dickens, Dewitt Weaver and Billy Meek.

### '48 NL Manager-of-Year

## Top Knox Baseball Name: Bill Meyer

By MARVIN WEST

"He would have been proud to know the stadium was named after him. Bill Meyer loved baseball and Knoxville . . . both dearly."

For more than 45 years . . . from March to October . . . baseball was life to William Adam (Bill) Meyer. It took him on a grand cross-country tour stretching from Lakeland, Fla. in 1909 to honor, admiration and record-book fame with the Pittsburgh Pirates.

But no matter whether the season ended in Oakland, Calif., or Binghamton, N. Y., when the last pitch was thrown, Bill Meyer headed home . . . to Central Avenue Pike, maybe to Blaufeld's and to U-T football games on Saturdays . . . but mostly just to home.

Mrs. Madelon Waters Meyer, for 25 years Bill's best fan, was recalling the career of Knoxville's greatest name in baseball. Her account has the same sparkle as her late husband's success as a player and manager.

"It was a wonderful life in baseball," said Mrs. Meyer as she replayed those pennant-winning years in Kansas City. "Yes, I went along each summer, wherever Bill's job took him. There were times when I would want to stay after the season ended but we always packed up and came back."

Perhaps the high spot was 1948 when easy-going Bill pushed and petted a strange mixture of tired men and fuzzy-cheeked rookies toward the National League pennant. Pittsburgh lived on Cloud 9 all summer but the Pirates finished fourth, trailing off in the closing two weeks.



BILL MEYER  
'Owned' the minors

But Meyer's masterful job didn't go unnoticed. Billy Southworth and the Boston Braves won the flag but Knoxville's only major league skipper was named "Manager of the Year."

"It's the finest honor . . . but I'm kinda knocked out about it," said Meyer when the announcement came out. "I always felt that the fellow who won the pennant should have it. Since we didn't win, I think it's an even greater honor."

The big plaque went well with another won in 1939 at Kansas City. The first one said: "Minor League Manager of the Year."

three-year stay with White Sox farms and finally to the Philadelphia Athletics.

Defensively, Meyer was an outstanding catcher. He just didn't hit enough. But he cashed in big as a manager. In 22 years, he won eight pennants in four different leagues . . . three at Kansas City, two at Binghamton and singles at Springfield, Newark and Louisville.

Perhaps Bill's best job was done for an organization which never put him in the big leagues . . . the New York Yankees. He developed the double-play combinations of Phil Rizzuto and Gerry Priddy, Eddie Miller and Eddie Joost, Albie Glossop and Billy Hitchcock and Bill Johnson and George Stinewiss.

In fact, Meyer turned down major league jobs to stay on the farm with the Yanks. And, in 1946, he became one of the rare few who declined to manage the Bombers themselves. Joe McCarthy had just quit and Larry MacPhail offered the job to Bill. But a mild heart attack caused the old Knox High athlete to deal himself out.

Two years later, he didn't refuse the Pirates. This generous, friendly leader, who probably had as many friends in baseball as any all-time great, took the reins of Branch Rickey's bonus baby brigade.

The youth movement failed to incubate and Meyer's Pirates ended up last in 1950. Even Bill's almost magical combination of psychology and know-how couldn't perform miracles.

But Meyer never lost his place. See MEYER, Page 2

### 'Neyland Era' Placed Volunteers on Grid Map

Early-Century Teams 'Fairly Good,' But Big-Time Got Started in '26

By TOM SILER

News-Sentinel Sports Editor

Tennessee football, now running into its 70th year, falls naturally into two parts . . . pre-Neyland and Neyland.

Football at Tennessee in the carefree years between 1890 and 1925 added up to a 111-76-19 record.

From 1926 to 1960 the record reads 258-71-18, which just happens to be the finest won-lost record in the country for this 35-year period.

Statistics, of course, do not tell the story.

In the first place, football was of small moment back in the old days. There was no paid coach. You might run into a ringer here or there, but the team was made up of students and they played if they wanted to, or quit, as the whim hit them. The late Uncle Charley Moran once told the writer that he played halfback for Tennessee in 1896 under an assumed name. But that was the exception in those days.



Siler

one of his most studious proteges, took the Tennessee reins when Neyland went back into service in 1941.

Barney served brilliantly. When Neyland came back in 1946 Barnhill moved on to Arkansas. Four more bowl teams, two more championships rolled off the assembly line before Neyland decided to hang up the whistle in 1952, one year after he won the national championship. He had just turned 60. By that time he was generally recognized as the soundest defensive coach that college football had ever known.

Harvey Robinson got the thankless task of trying to follow Neyland. After the 1954 season in which the Vols lost four straight to traditional rivals Robinson passed the challenge on to Bowden Wyatt.

Wyatt started brilliantly, dipped a bit in 1958-59, and now appears to be coming along with another strong team in 1961. Neyland remained to guide the athletic department. His crowning achievement off the field comes in 1962 when the west stands

Football was mildly big stuff in the East before 1900. But the game was a formless sort of thing, gradually evolving from Rugby. For instance, the touchdown itself counted two points in 1884, later moved to four, then five and finally in 1912 it became worth six points.

Tennessee fielded some fairly good teams in the first decade of this century. Walker Leach, a Knoxville boy, was a bright running star. Roscoe Word was good, too. So was Nathan W. Daugherty, who was to serve almost 40 consecutive years as chairman of the U-T athletic council. Sam McAllester was a strong fullback and Claude Reeder was a good runner.

Tennessee's first title team was developed in 1914 by Zora G. Clevenger and Miller Pontius. The Vols won every game, the high point being a 16-14 victory over Vanderbilt, the first such conquest in history. The 1916 team was tied but also undefeated.

Then the sport settled back into a sort of amiable twilight area. John Bender gave it a try and stepped down to a high school (Knox High) job. M. B. Banks did the same thing, moving from U-T to Knox Central High after the 1925 season.

At that time the school's strong supporters could look back on some thrilling times and recall some brilliant players . . . Farmer Kelly, Fred Thomason, Mush Kerr, Russ Lindsay, Graham Vowell, J. G. Lowe, Pap Striegel, Roe Campbell, Hunter Lane, A. M. (Goat) Carroll, and many others.

But the alumni were getting restless. Football was going big-time . . . the trend was toward the big stadium, aggressive recruiting and all that . . . Tennessee had defeated Vanderbilt twice in a quarter century, had never had an All-American player, had had a few All-South stars . . . the fans had no delusions of grandeur but they did want a better team to represent Tennessee.

Neyland arrived from West Point, a 33-year-old captain who was to teach ROTC and coach the ends in 1925. He succeeded Banks in 1926 and the Neyland era began.

The athletic department had netted about \$50 in 1925. The stadium grew from 3200 seats as the Volunteers grew. First, Neyland chased the Vanderbilt jinx. Looking back, the record shows that Vanderbilt has won only five games from Tennessee since the day Neyland took charge.

After the 1932 season the old SIAA was broken up. The Southeastern Conference was formed. And the rivalry between Bob Neyland and Alabama's Frank Thomas generated terrific tension until World War II. Thomas held the upper hand from 1933 to 1937.

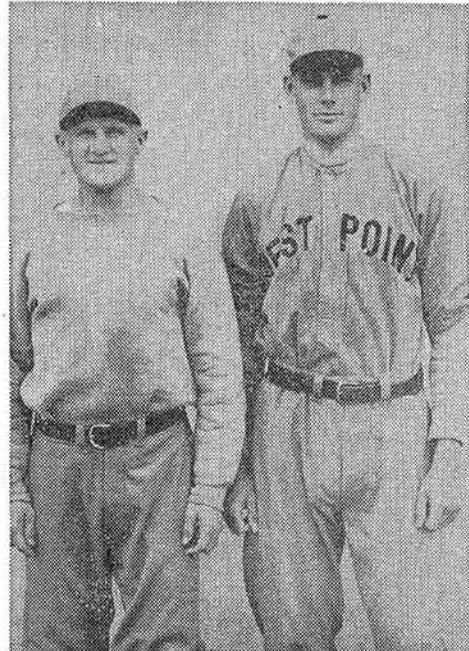
Neyland gave up his job in 1935, going to Panama on the usual foreign assignment among Army personnel. He quit a year later, accepting partial retirement pay and came back to relieve a harassed Bill Britton from the job.

Power teams in 1938-39-40 established Neyland as one of the great coaches. Meanwhile, his disciples scattered to all parts of the nation and Tennessee football became more than a label; it was a cult. John Barnhill,

### Vols Who Made All-SEC Team

Here are Tennessee football players who made All-Southeastern Conference, 1933 through 1960:

(First Team Selection Only)	
1933 Sheriff Maples	Center
1933 Beattie Feathers	Back
1934 Murray Warmath	Guard
1936 Phil Dickens	Back
1938 Bowden Wyatt	End
1938 Bob Suftridge	Guard
1938 George Cafego	Back
1939 Ed Molinski	Guard
1939 James Rike	Center
1939 Abe Shires	Tackle
1939 George Cafego	Back
1939 Bob Fox	Back
1940 Abe Shires	Tackle
1940 Bob Suftridge	Guard
1940 Bob Fox	Back
1941 Don Edmiston	Tackle
1942 Al Hust	End
1944 Bob Dohelstein	Guard
1944 Buster Stephens	Back
1945 Bob Dohelstein	Guard
1946 Dick Hoffman	Tackle
1948 Norman Messerell	Tackle
1949 Bud Sherrod	End
1950 Ted Daffer	Guard
1950 Bud Sherrod	End
1951 Doug Atkins	End
1951 Ted Daffer	Guard
1951 Bill Peerman	Tackle
1951 John Michels	Guard
1952 Andy Koser	Back
1952 John Michels	Guard
1952 Francis Holohan	Guard
1952 Doug Atkins	Tackle
1952 Mack Franklin	End
1954 Tom Tracy	Back
1955 John Majors	Back
1956 Buddy Cruise	End
1956 John Gordy	Tackle
1956 Bill Majors	Back
1957 Bill Johnson	Guard
1957 Bobby Gordon	Back
1959 Joe Schaffer	Tackle



WEST POINT BATTERY—This often has been classed as West Point's most famous battery. At left is Elmer Oliphant, the catcher, with young Bob Neyland, the pitcher.



SIDELINED GENERAL—Here's a picture typical of Gen. Neyland since his retirement. Sitting in a straight-backed chair he watches the Vols, spring and fall, go through their practice paces on Hudson Field.

### Bob Wilson Was 'Driving Force'

## From Half-Column of Type to a Section—That's Sports

Sixty years ago Knoxville newspapers devoted possibly a half column to news of the sports world.

There was no sports editor. Later, when that office came into being, the lucky stiff was known as the "sporting editor."

And 30 or 40 years ago the sporting editor usually doubled in about a half dozen other categories, too. Checking The Knoxville News files of 1922 one discovers the sports section just beyond the editorial section and just in front of the financial news. Big league baseball was limited to one short roundup story and the line scores. Art in the section was almost wholly devoted to big league baseball with cartoons in great favor.

There was almost no local art. Bobby Jones and Perry Adair, for instance, played at Cherokee that summer of 1922, teaming against Dick Gibson and I. L. Graves. Jones shot a record-tying 72, Adair a 73, but the event was wrapped up in a modest three paragraphs.

In that same year of 1922 no

notice was taken of the beginning of U-T football practice. The section carried a four-paragraph story the day before Tennessee opened the season against Carson-Newman.

Bob Wilson, sports editor until his death in 1958, was a beginner back in 1922, handling the sports items as a sideline. He was one of the few general reporters on the small staff.

The first byline noted on the sports page that year was that of L. W. Miller, now the editor of The News-Sentinel, over a football story on the eve of the game with Maryville.

On the old Knoxville Sentinel the sports man was Nathan Dougherty, longtime chairman of the U-T athletic council until his retirement in 1957.

After the merger of the News and Sentinel in 1926 Wilson became sports editor in fact as well as name. But the budget was painfully small. He had but one assistant for many years.

Yet Wilson became the strongest driving force in Knoxville sports. Bob developed the amateur baseball program in this area, sponsored dozens of basketball leagues, did the same in softball, bowling and many other sports. In addition, he began to give U-T the careful attention needed as Tennessee

mushroomed into a football power in the late 20's.

It was just 30 years ago that the newspaper permitted the sports editor to take out-of-town trips, spent money on local photographs and otherwise began to build sports coverage that has grown with each passing year.

Wilson was allowed a second assistant in 1932. Even then the young fellows in sports quickly discovered that the clock meant nothing. In those days the editorial workers went to work at 7 a.m. on Saturday and completed the Saturday-Sunday shifts at 2 a.m.

And there were no press accommodations. You covered high school games by walking up and down the sidelines with a notebook. And even at U-T there was no press box, and the one that finally appeared there was totally inadequate, even a dangerous perch in a high wind.

Wilson and his few aides worked from 7 to 80 hours a week and thought nothing of it.

Sports writing has changed. Newspapers now consider a big sports section a "must" but the oldtimers still remember in fond recollection the pioneering of Nathan Dougherty, Bob Wilson, Herb (Bones) Barrier, Bob Murphy and Frank Godwin.

### Over 75-Year Period--

### --in Knox Athletics

## The Best—Or Were They?

KNOXVILLE'S best? Over a 75-year period, who were they? In a highly controversial field here are a few nominations:

Top pro golfer, Jimmy Thomson, son of Wilfried, the Holston Hills pro.

Top native-born pro golfer, Tommy Wright.

Best club golfer, Charles H. Smith Jr.

Best woman golfer, Mrs. Lois Dinwiddie.

Best tennis player, Jack Rodgers.

Best race car driver, Pete Kreis.

Best baseball manager, Bill Meyer.

Best track man, Ed Gordon,

broad jumper, U. S. Olympic team, 1932.

Top football line man, Bob Suftridge.

Best broken-field runner, Pinkie Walden.

Best end, J. G. Lowe.

Most versatile back, Bob Fox.

Best high school basketball player—Bill Wright.

Best college player—Gene Johnson (Knoxville native).

Best high school football coach, tie, Harvey Robinson and Wilson Collins.

Best college coach, Bob Neyland.

In the field of superlatives the sports fan reflects quickly on the great stars who have performed for the University of Tennessee

and the Knoxville baseball club. Most of them, of course, were not natives of this city, hence are not on the list above.

In baseball the great ones included Leather Kelly, Bonny Hollingsworth, Sammy Boyd, Eric McNair, Snaky Moore, Bob Logan, Babe Young, Hoyt Wilhelm, Phil Sawyer, Jumbo Barrett, Tommy Taylor, Leo Moon, Clix Blethen, and that's only a few of the good ones.

In football, the arguments rise and fall through the years on who were the genuinely great stars on the Tennessee football field. Many insist that Beattie Feathers was a better runner than Gene McEver. To the fortunate ones who saw McEver play for three years

there hardly can be an argument.

McEver's great forte was relaxation. Thus, he never knew the tension and pressure that tightens up many a star. And he had power and elusiveness. He also was great on defense. Feathers, of course, was an amazing punter for distance. It is doubtful if Tennessee ever had a back who could run the power play off tackle better than Feathers.

Bobby Dodd was the headiest quarterback. But who was the finest tailback? This question almost defies an answer. In 1956 Gen. Bob Neyland asserted that John Majors, the All-American of that year, was the best of all.

Johnny may have been. He lacked the running power of McEver, George Cafego, and Bobby Gordon. He lacked Hank Lauricella's relaxed style in weaving behind blockers. John could not throw as well as Lauricella or Charley Vaughan. He could not kick with Feathers, or Lauricella, or Gordon. But, in all departments, he was very good.

All of the tailbacks above, plus Jim Wade, Walt Slater, Bob Cifers, Johnny Butler, Phil Dickens, Deke Brackett, Hal Littleford and Bill Majors, were superb at some phase, or maybe more than one phase of play. All had their big days and every one of them contributed heavily to Tennessee's fantastic record.

Of course, there were great athletes at other positions, too. And there's no agreement at all on who was the best. Some prefer Buddy Hackman over Bob Fox as wingback, some insist John Michels was a better guard than Bob Suftridge, a few prefer Abe Shires to Dick Huffman, and many look upon Bert Rechichar as the finest all-around player since World War II.

These are arguments that will never be resolved . . . they'll still be going on when this newspaper's 150th birthday gets here.



FANCY FRIENDS—Knoxville's Bill Meyer, seated at right, talks over Yankee youngsters with New York's baseball family, Larry MacPhail, Del Webb and Dan Topping. The picture was made in 1939, the year Meyer was minor league manager of the year.



## Pro Baseball Started Here in '94

By MARVIN WEST

In the summer of 1894, a young outfielder who had grown tired of the sandlots gave professional baseball its beginning in Knoxville. Perhaps Frank Moffett knew he was making history . . . or maybe he just wanted to play.

"Frank's first team was called the Reds and he played left field," recalls Hugh Moffett, Frank's younger brother who still lives in Knoxville.

"It was a professional team because Frank paid his players and brought in big-name clubs for exhibitions after their seasons had ended," said Mr. Hugh. "I remember it well. I was Frank's ticket taker."

"We had 3000 fans or so for one game. Admission was 50 cents with an extra 25 cents to sit in the grandstand. Frank's team made some money."

The earliest Reds played at Baldwin Park off Dale Avenue, now the site of a tobacco warehouse. Mr. G. P. Hale, an up-town businessman, sold tickets.

The best of Knoxville's early pros got out to \$100 a month but Manager Moffett often reclaimed part of this in fines, explained brother Hugh with a chuckle.

"The Reds made an occasional road trip by train," said Hugh. "Frank didn't drink and he didn't want any of players drinking but sometimes it happened and Frank took their money. A \$5 fine would keep a player following the rules for a long time."

Up until 1902, the Knoxville Reds played games wherever Frank found them. Cincinnati often visited Knoxville and Manager Moffett made one of his first player sales to the Ohioans, peddling Wiley Davis, a pitcher from Blount County.

"As I recall, Frank helped organize the first Appalachian League in about 1902," said Hugh Moffett. "Bristol, Greenville, Johnson City and maybe Asheville were in the earliest league. They played about four days each week."

In 1905, Moffett's Reds were charter members of the TAG (Tennessee, Alabama and Georgia) League. And in 1907, Moffett moved to Chattanooga and Am Gaines took over the Knoxville team.

"The Reds were more of a town team in 1907 but I remember a series here with Frank's Chattanooga club," said Hugh.

Old-newspaper files show Knoxville lost the series, 7-0, 5-0 and 2-1. The story said 1800 showed up for Ladies' Day and that street car service from the Chilhowee Park field to downtown was two hours behind schedule.

The spring and summer of 1903 provided big events for Knoxville baseball. The first night game was played with the Cherokees from Chicago bringing portable lighting equipment and white-washed baseballs. Knoxville lost 5-2, and made seven errors.

The big break-through came on July 1, 1909 when Gen. Cary F. Spence led a \$2500 purchase of the Charleston franchise and put Knoxville in the South Atlantic League.

For lack of a better name, the team was called the "Orphans" and their problems started with the new club only one day old. Dutch Wagner of Columbia pitched a no-hitter against the Orphans in their Knoxville debut and 4000 fans suffered through it.

Steve Griffin was manager of this Sally entry, moving with the players from Charleston. First baseman John Manning, catcher Phil Reisinger, shortstop Walt Morris and left fielder J. F. Keenan were the standouts. Will Baker, a baseballer from the University of Tennessee, joined the team late but it finished with a losing record, 24-27, and was forced out of the league that fall.

For the next three years (1910-12), Knoxville played in the Southeastern League with Moffett as the manager. The 1910 team nipped Morristown for the pennant and a Knox High youth named Bill Meyer was the catcher.

Conie Yoe, now a News-Sentinel printer, was the shortstop and big-leaguer-to-be Davey Crockett played first base. Sesh Silvers, Lou Womble, Z. G. Clevenger, Pete Donahue and Johnny Johns were other regulars.

Knoxville finished second in 1911-12 and dropped out. Bumped back to town teams for the next nine years, Knoxville re-entered the pro circuit in 1921 when Moffett, after a tour of Virginia, Alabama, South Carolina and Georgia, returned.

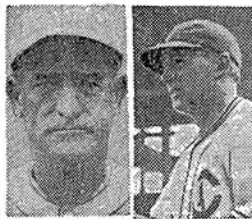
"Frank and the baseball people started meeting at Blaufeld's and Knoxville landed in the Appalachian League in 1921," said brother Hugh.

Frank Callaway, Pat Malone, Art Ruble and Baxter Williams played here as Appy pennants stayed in Knoxville in 1923 and 1924, but a year later the city went back into the Sally League.

Gabby Street, later to become manager at St. Louis, was Knoxville skipper in '28 and Goldie Holt, Sam Byrd and Johnny Brillheart got their starts toward the major leagues about the same time.

Joe Schepner was the '29 manager when Knoxville won a Sally championship by defeating Asheville in a playoff. Frank Moffett, by then, was coaching a college team (U-T or LMU) or running the baseball program in Alcoa.

Eric McNair hit .391 for the 1929 champs and John Walker and Johnny Bates combined for 45 victories. Elmer Myers,



Oscar Felber and Bill (Jumbo) Barrett were other Sally standouts.

What now shapes up as the dark ages of Knoxville baseball started in 1931 when the Southern Association came to town. Councilman W. N. Smithson led the successful push into the league and helped get a new ball park. But the team from '31 to '44 finished in the first division only once. Knoxville was last in 1932, '35, '37, '38, '40, '41 and '42 but the low spot must have been 1937. The Smokies won 42 games and lost 111.

The Allens (club owners) sent several players to the majors, including Dutch Meyer, Tom and Bud Hafee, Babe Young, George Myatt, Bill Norman, Frank Skaff, Bill Adair, Babe Minner and Alex Campanis.

But of all the Allen sales, the shocker came when both Smoky catchers — Andy Seminick and Bob Finley — were purchased by the Phillies in 1943.

Two years later (1946) Knoxville joined the Tri-State League and



Wilhelm and Seminick

Some major leaguers came down to Knoxville during the Southern days too. Dick Coffman, Fred Lindstrom, Earl Webb (who still holds the league record for doubles), Leo Moon and Bonny Hollingsworth played here.

In 1944, the Southern Association Smokies took a road trip and didn't come back. With Buddy Lewis the manager, the Allens moved the club to Mobile.

Two years later (1946) Knoxville joined the Tri-State League and



farmhands, Bill Reep put together a championship club, first time since '29.

The '50 Smokies lost 13 in a row to open the season but Manager Jack Aragon brought them to the front. Homer-hitting Al Neil, Harvey Gentry and Max Davidson made up an all-star outfield. Foster Castleman and Ron Sanford reeled off the double-plays and Tom Acker and Chuck Menke pitched to Dan Matthews . . . on one of the best Class B teams of the decade. Hoyt Wilhelm led the Tri-State grads to the majors.

A one-year venture in the Mountain States League in 1954 set a few records too. The team finished second behind Maryville-Alcoa and got on a national radio network with its plea for spare baseballs.

Back in the Tri-State League for the 1954 season and then out of baseball until June 16, 1956, Knoxville re-entered the Sally



League with John Duncan, now mayor, leading the drive.

Baltimore farmhands playing in Knoxville finished fourth and fifth but Smoky fans saw youthful Ron Hansen, Chuck Estrada, Jerry Walker and several others on their way to the Orioles.

Detroit and Johnny Pesky provided the high spot just two years ago when a sensational August drive netted the pennant. The '59 Smokies, with Jake Wood and Fred Gladding already graduated to the Tigers, lost three during the month and wrapped up the flag in a blaze at Charlotte.

Between Frank Moffett and Frank Carswell, big baseball names . . . Alexander, Lindstrom, Bartell . . . have come and gone. But much is still the same.

"I noticed the Smokies let Little Leaguers in free," observed Hugh Moffett. "Back in the early 1900s the Knoxville Reds let youngsters in free too . . . so they wouldn't tear down the fence climbing over."

## Ex-Vol Coach Reminisces

## 'Beat Vandy' Was Primary Object, Bill Britton Recalls

(Col. Britton was a Tennessee assistant coach for almost 20 years, the head coach in 1935. Few men are more qualified to reminisce on Tennessee football than Britton. He is now working with the Southeastern Civil Defense Headquarters in Thomasville, Ga. — THE EDITOR.)

By COL. W. H. (BILL) BRITTON

THOMASVILLE, Ga.—The News-Sentinel is taking quite a risk in allowing me to reminisce about my football years at the University of Tennessee. You're giving an "old pro" a captive audience and a chance to resurrect pet stories.

In November, 1925, Mrs. (Ellen) Britton and I stopped in Knoxville to visit the Neylands. Just before we left for Florida Bob said he might be the next head coach at Tennessee and wanted to know if I would be interested in joining him. I didn't give it much thought until a wire came asking the whereabouts of Paul Parker and asking us to join him.

There was something about Knoxville that hadn't pleased Mrs. Britton and me. When we decided it was only the difficulty of driving through Gay Street with all the street cars and traffic towers, the offer was accepted and on Sept. 3, 1926, we moved into the Fort Sanders Manor apartments.

The few days before practice began the coaching staff (Neyland, Parker and Britton) discussed problems and learned more about the system of offense and defense we were to use.

There was no question about the primary objective—it was to beat Vanderbilt.

A few weeks later I made my first scouting trip to see Georgia play Vanderbilt in Nashville. I don't remember much about the game but I do remember that I almost wrecked a good automobile trying to drive across the mountains.

We didn't make much headway on our objectives in 1926. Vanderbilt beat us, 20-3.

Nothing seemed to go right. We got a 15-yard penalty at a critical time because a local Vol supporter hung over the fence and blew a whistle at the referee. We had coached our team to tackle the ball and Dick Dodson was following instructions when the referee told him he would put him out of the game if he tried to do that again. A few plays later Kitty Carson tackled Roy Witt and came out of the pile with the ball. We naturally assumed the referee had two sets of rules, one for Tennessee, one for Vanderbilt.

We began a search for competent, unbiased officials. We came up with Lambert, referee; Maxwell, umpire, and Wessling, linesman, all from Ohio. The three along with Larry MacPhail were agreed upon for our 1927 game. There was a hassle almost immediately because MacPhail was telling his Nashville friends that he was going to referee. A friend called from Nashville to ask if it were true that MacPhail were to referee. He was concerned and we were, too, after hearing some of the loose talk that was going the rounds. Even though it was agreed later that MacPhail would be the field judge, we weren't too happy.

This game in 1927 was our first to use a telephone to the bench. Our stands were less than 20 rows high so we ran a line from the top floor of old Morrell Hall. It gave me a birdseye view, especially of the north end of the field. It was here that Creson took a pass in front of Elvin Butcher to score. Dick Dodson fooled everyone, especially Vandy's Bill Spears, by an abrupt change of direction to score the tying touchdown. Heretofore, Dick just race over the defense.

Directly under me were two controversial calls by MacPhail. The first time MacPhail signalled interference on Everett Derryberry, Lambert overruled him. The second time MacPhail called interference on Derryberry and the penalty put the

ball on Tennessee's 15-year line. On the next play Vanderbilt fumbled and from where I sat it appeared that Lambert didn't wait to see who had the ball but signalled Tennessee's ball.

My comment after the game was that Derryberry played the ball legally just as he had been coached to do and that, in my opinion, MacPhail didn't know the rules. Some of our supporters were not so lenient in their opinions about MacPhail.

We had suffered for two years from small squads. In 1926 and 1927 I had only three ends that I could put in a game. But in 1927 we began to attract better prospects. We got Paul Hug and Bobby Dodd from Kingsport. The headmaster at Greenbrier Military Academy sent us the late Hobo Thayer and Dutch Reineke. Fritz Brandt's brother, a U-T graduate, brought Fritz down to our first practice and said all Fritz wanted was a chance to play. Fritz weighed 150. He had no clippings and he wasn't very impressive.

Good recruiting is 50 percent luck. We had it with Gene McEver and Buddy Hackman. In early summer McEver visited us and left unexpectedly. He told Frank Callaway that when Neyland was ready for him to carry the "rock" to let him know. McEver spent most of that summer on the Wake Forest campus. We sent emissaries to see Gene but he was still at Wake Forest when the season began.

North Carolina opened the season with Wake Forest. I went over there to scout Carolina and also to see McEver, if possible. I sat high in the stands but never saw Gene. After the game I waited and watched. As I trailed the last few customers out a trio stopped in front of me. There was Mac with a Wake Forest coach on one side and a bigshot alumnus on the other. They told Gene they'd meet him at the Cadillac and hustled off toward the dressing room.

Then I spoke to Gene. He seemed glad to see me and to hear what I had to say. He listened and began kicking pebbles. He said then that he had decided he wanted to go to Tennessee. I tried to get him to go back with me, but he refused. He said he wanted to tell the coach of his decision. Mac said he'd be in Knoxville the following Monday morning.

Regarding Hackman, he wanted to come to Tennessee but didn't have the credits. At first they refused to permit Buddy to make up the credits he lacked in summer school. Finally, Dean Clyde Wilson helped me persuade the registrar to admit Hackman. Buddy took English and history and worked as if his life depended on it.

The 1928 Alabama game marked the beginning of a successful regime, but pre-season practice was hardly promising. Bull Elliott, a fine tackle, did

Worked for City, Too—

## Lon Mills Built Many of Area's Golf Courses

Lon Mills, retired city horticulturist, had a "hand" in the construction or renovation of every course in Knoxville.

Mills, now operator of Whittle Springs Golf Club, started his golfing career here as a caddy. He came here from Tate Springs to caddy for the late Greg Ashe and remained to make golf a career.

He worked with Don Ross in building Hills in 1926-27; helped renovate Cherokee in 1938-39 as "extra work" and

not come back. Howard Johnson, the other tackle, got hurt.

One week before the Alabama game our supporters were promising an undefeated season. We were knee-deep in gloom. We had no tackles.

We shifted Farmer Johnson, one of our three guards, to tackle, and sent out a call for Jake Johnston. He had played a little at end in 1927 but had given up football to work on his books. Jake agreed to help out. He played the entire game against Alabama and had not had a single scrimmage.

Tennessee fans remember, of course, this thrilling 15-13 victory over Alabama. That was the score at halftime. We went to the dressing room with Bobby Dodd, the star quarterback, on a stretcher. Thirty seconds before the half Dodd had one of the few dull moments of his career. Instead of making a fair catch, he fielded a high punt with Fred Sington, 220, and Motton Smith, 215, bearing down on him.

I thought we were done for with Dodd out of action. Reineke subbed for Dodd and did a great job of left-footed punting in the second half. Tennessee never had a chance to score in the second half, Alabama had many.

There was a minute to play and Alabama had the ball on Tennessee's 40. Neyland sent in Louis Roberts and told him to try our 5-51 defense and watch for a pass on the first play. This defense was new to the South. When Roberts signalled for it, Art Tripp, one of our many great guards, yelled, "No, get down here by me—they're going to spin through here." And they did and went about 20 yards.

Again Roberts signalled for the 5-51 defense. This time Tripp went wild. He grabbed Roberts and threw him to the ground. Alabama ran another spinner and Flash Suther looked as if he would score. Hackman came from nowhere and nailed him at the 12-yard line.

We knew time was about gone when the field judge, after conferring with the referee, turned his back on the line of scrimmage and began walking toward the goal line. Just as Alabama came out of the huddle the field judge threw up his hands, the referee blew his whistle and pounced on the ball. It was over.

No squad that I know of had bigger hearts than this team. They defeated four teams on a total of 10 points—Alabama, Florida, Ole Miss and Vanderbilt. Our supporters had something to say that winter besides, "We'll get 'em next year."

## 5 Vol. Hoopmen Gained AA Fame

Tennessee basketball has produced five All-American stars. Harry Anderson was the first back in 1936. Bernie Mehen won top honors in 1940, Gilbert Huffman in 1941, Paul Walther in 1948 and Gene Tormohlen in 1953.

In 1930 made several changes at Whittle Springs—working all 18 holes into city property. The city had been renting property for several holes.

In 1946 Mills designed and built Deane Hill and built the first 18 holes at Beaver Brook in 1957.

Mills says he has built over 25 golf courses in East Tennessee and Kentucky in addition to putting in 25 years with the city.

Lon was the pro division of what he believes was the first Open tournament held here—in 1936. The late Tommy Wright won the amateur division and Mills led the pros.

And he's still playing golf. You can find him on the course almost every day.

Up until 1902, the Knoxville Reds played games wherever Frank found them. Cincinnati often visited Knoxville and Manager Moffett made one of his first player sales to the Ohioans, peddling Wiley Davis, a pitcher from Blount County.

"As I recall, Frank helped organize the first Appalachian League in about 1902," said Hugh Moffett. "Bristol, Greenville, Johnson City and maybe Asheville were in the earliest league. They played about four days each week."

In 1905, Moffett's Reds were charter members of the TAG (Tennessee, Alabama and Georgia) League. And in 1907, Moffett moved to Chattanooga and Am Gaines took over the Knoxville team.

"The Reds were more of a town team in 1907 but I remember a series here with Frank's Chattanooga club," said Hugh.

Old-newspaper files show Knoxville lost the series, 7-0, 5-0 and 2-1. The story said 1800 showed up for Ladies' Day and that street car service from the Chilhowee Park field to downtown was two hours behind schedule.

The spring and summer of 1903 provided big events for Knoxville baseball. The first night game was played with the Cherokees from Chicago bringing portable lighting equipment and white-washed baseballs. Knoxville lost 5-2, and made seven errors.

The big break-through came on July 1, 1909 when Gen. Cary F. Spence led a \$2500 purchase of the Charleston franchise and put Knoxville in the South Atlantic League.

For lack of a better name, the team was called the "Orphans" and their problems started with the new club only one day old. Dutch Wagner of Columbia pitched a no-hitter against the Orphans in their Knoxville debut and 4000 fans suffered through it.

Steve Griffin was manager of this Sally entry, moving with the players from Charleston. First baseman John Manning, catcher Phil Reisinger, shortstop Walt Morris and left fielder J. F. Keenan were the standouts. Will Baker, a baseballer from the University of Tennessee, joined the team late but it finished with a losing record, 24-27, and was forced out of the league that fall.

For the next three years (1910-12), Knoxville played in the Southeastern League with Moffett as the manager. The 1910 team nipped Morristown for the pennant and a Knox High youth named Bill Meyer was the catcher.

Conie Yoe, now a News-Sentinel printer, was the shortstop and big-leaguer-to-be Davey Crockett played first base. Sesh Silvers, Lou Womble, Z. G. Clevenger, Pete Donahue and Johnny Johns were other regulars.

Knoxville finished second in 1911-12 and dropped out. Bumped back to town teams for the next nine years, Knoxville re-entered the pro circuit in 1921 when Moffett, after a tour of Virginia, Alabama, South Carolina and Georgia, returned.

"Frank and the baseball people started meeting at Blaufeld's and Knoxville landed in the Appalachian League in 1921," said brother Hugh.

Frank Callaway, Pat Malone, Art Ruble and Baxter Williams played here as Appy pennants stayed in Knoxville in 1923 and 1924, but a year later the city went back into the Sally League.

Gabby Street, later to become manager at St. Louis, was Knoxville skipper in '28 and Goldie Holt, Sam Byrd and Johnny Brillheart got their starts toward the major leagues about the same time.

Joe Schepner was the '29 manager when Knoxville won a Sally championship by defeating Asheville in a playoff. Frank Moffett, by then, was coaching a college team (U-T or LMU) or running the baseball program in Alcoa.

Eric McNair hit .391 for the 1929 champs and John Walker and Johnny Bates combined for 45 victories. Elmer Myers,

## Dean Thomason Recalls:

## 1914 Season 'Made' Tennessee Football

(Dean R. F. Thomason will retire Sept. 1 as Dean of Admissions and Records at the University of Tennessee. He was an outstanding halfback at U-T in the "early days" of football there and has been on the scene to watch its growth—The Editor.)

By DEAN R. F. THOMASON

As told to Red Boiles

Football without recruiting, scholarships and only limited coaching and equipment —

That was the game as I played it for the University of Tennessee in 1912-15—but it was football.

I have been connected with U-T's athletic program in some way ever since then—and for the past five years as faculty chairman of athletics.

It has been most gratifying to me to see our athletic program progress but I'll never forget the days I spent playing and learning to play football for U-T.

To begin with, I was never visited by a coach, scout or recruiter to attend U-T. My brother came to school here before me and when I finished at McKenzie (Tenn.) he wanted me to come here to study and to play football. Coaches didn't put a team together in those days as they do now. U-T had a head coach, Z. G. Clevenger, and an assistant, Miller Pontius, when I played.

They asked for volunteers from the student body — and even had to beg some to come out. They had nothing to offer in the way of scholarships or assistance. If they heard about a good high school boy, he had to be sold on the school. And then everybody worked for four years to keep them here.

I've heard a lot of talk down through the years about the old teams using ringers. Tennessee never used a player under an assumed name while I was playing or at any other time that I know of. But some schools did.

Coach Clevenger handled the backfield in my playing days and Pontius, an All-American tackle at Michigan, was the line coach. Our practice routine was somewhat at it is now—except that we didn't have a specialist to coach each position. We practiced from 3 p.m. until dark every day and sometimes had skull practice at night.

The big distinction between football then and now is that the coaches had to use drawings, notes and lectures to try to get across to us the things that our boys today get from the movies—and this makes a whale of a difference.

Our coaches never had an opportunity to scout an opponent or to see high school teams play. They had to rely on notes from friends of the school or former players. Today, scouting is an art and movies and scouting have played a major role in the advancement of football.

As for facilities, we had only the bare necessities. The playing and practice field was one and the same—and it was just large enough for a football field. It had no grass, just red clay and gravel and they kept us scratched up all the time.

We played at old Waite Field where the tennis courts now are—at the corner of 15th and Cumberland. One year they put saw dust on the field and that was some improvement.

There is a tremendous difference in equipment of today and my days in football. We had one uniform for the year. We played and practiced in the same suit. We had one pair of shoes and that hard ground was tough on them—but we had to make them last.

Our headgear and pads were felt—no plastics for the protection that footballers of today get. Our equipment was every scanty. The football travel squads of today more than double our squads. We would travel with 17 to 20 players. This meant that every player must know two or three positions. I played both half-



R. F. THOMASON  
U-T back in 1914

back spots and left end—offense and defense.

The linemen all played tackle, guard and center. The coaches never substituted by teams, but by individuals and in tight games only when forced to by injury. It wasn't uncommon for a man to play the entire game.

The 1914 Vanderbilt game stands out as the greatest game I played in for Tennessee. It was our first victory over Vanderbilt, 16-14, and that game changed the entire picture of athletics at U-T.

I think the 1914 season started Tennessee in bigtime college athletics. The entire community started supporting athletics after that season.

A strange thing about Tennessee's first win over Vandy was that Alonzo (Goat) Carroll, a Nashville boy who was raised in the shadows of Vanderbilt, scored

the winning touchdown. Beating Vanderbilt was the thing we had worked for all



R. F. THOMASON  
U-T Registrar

all 16 points—and the game was played at Nashville.

It was a hard football game. Vandy was bigger, faster—and deeper than our squad. But we were physically set, well-trained and well-coached. I think the score indicates a well-deserved victory for the Vols.

A fair catch played a big role in that victory. Late in the game a Vandy punt was partially blocked. We called for a fair catch and in those days you could put the ball in play anyway you wanted to, run, pass, kick, etc. The partially blocked kick put us in Vandy territory and the fair catch had us in a good position for a field goal. Carroll kicked it for the two points we needed to win.

We blocked another punt just before the game ended. The ball rolled to me at end and I was never as happy to fall on a ball and make a recovery as I was that one.

After that game our supporters "busted" the fence around the field and ganged us on the playing field. President James D. Hoskins, then a dean, lead a snake-dance celebration on the field. It must have lasted 30 minutes.

The team was honored at the school's Monday morning chapel exercises—the only time I can remember this happening.

Beating Vanderbilt was the thing we had worked for all

year. It was a great climax to an undefeated season.

When we speak of bigtime football, we're quick to point out evils of the game. I think we should remember what the game is doing for the individuals who're playing it.

Football is a great preparation for life and it provides many of those who play it with an honorable profession. When we speak of bigtime football, we should not overlook the fact that we're not over-emphasizing the game.

It has been a source of great satisfaction to me to note the success so many of our football players have made in their chosen professions.

Many of them have become school superintendents, high school and college coaches, college professors, college presidents, and outstanding leaders in various kinds of industry. Our graduates have certainly made their marks in the world of business.

I've watched with a great deal of interest the coaching staffs as they've progressed at U-T. Fortunately we've had Gen. R. R. Neyland at Tennessee. He's done more for football than anyone. I would like to pay my respects to Gen. Neyland not just for what he's done for U-T, but for athletics in the South and all over the nation. Anywhere you go today and talk about collegiate athletics General Neyland is known and respected.

It is fitting that he was made chairman of the national football rules committee in the twilight of his career. No better selection could be made.

We've had a great many excellent coaches at U-T. Today Bowen Wyatt is in command and I want to say that he's a great coach and a gentleman, and is associated with a fine staff of assistants.

As one who has been on the scene for 32 years, it is a distinct pleasure for me to see come into existence the outstanding athletic facilities at U-T—which are still growing.



# Pro Golfers Made Debut Here in '31

By FRANK (RED) BAILES  
Knoxville has had its "Big Days" in all sports—and that includes golf.  
The modern Big Day has to be June 28, 1938, when two Cherokee Country Club players, John Sterchi and Neil Ashe, battled in the finals of the State Amateur golf tournament on their home course.  
It marked the first time in the 48-year history of the tournament that two players from the host club advanced to the finals.  
Sterchi won the "battle of the Cherokees," 2-1, in a grueling 36-hole match which returned the State Amateur title to Knoxville for the first time in 23 years.  
Knoxville's first "look" at professional golfers in an exhibition match came in 1931.  
And according to veteran pro Joe Kennedy, "it really gave golf in Knoxville a big lift."  
The great Walter Hagen, near the end of his career, and Joe Kirkwood Sr., the trick-shot artist, played at Whittle Springs.  
The exhibition fee was \$400 and club officials sold 420 tickets at \$1 each to pay the famous pros.  
Kennedy and Wilfred Thomson, then pro at Holston Hills, played the touring pros. Kennedy won

But the biggest, and the best, was yet to come.  
The "Spaulding Foursome" came to Whittle Springs in 1938 and drew more than 2500 spectators.  
Horton Smith and Lawson Little played Jimmy Thomson, the long-knocking son of the Holston Hills pro, and Harry Cooper. Smith and Little won, 1-up.  
Thomson also tied the match at No. 8. He drove the green with a No. 2-wood—12 feet past the cup. He putted three inches short, however, took a birdie-3 and lost the match as Little almost holed out a chip shot from in front of the trap.  
Thomson, who awed Knoxville and golfing fans all over the country with the tremendous distance he got off the tee, never used a driver, according to Kennedy.  
"Jimmy didn't carry a driver in his bag," said Joe. "He used a No. 2-wood off the tee."  
Thomson hit the ball 300 yards consistently and the amazing thing was that he usually split the middle of the fairway.  
"Jimmy Thomson is the reason I still tell my beginning golfers to use a No. 2-wood," said Kennedy. "You can control it better and most people can get just as much distance."  
Those who saw him will never forget Jimmy Thomson's booming drives. He was the Mickey Mantle of golf in his day.  
Sam Snead and U. S. Open Champion Ralph Guldahl were brought to Holston Hills for an exhibition against the late Tommy Wright and Red Gann (of Chattanooga).  
"Gann got a par on No. 12, one of the hardest par-4 holes I've seen or played, and Wright and Gann won the match 1-up," Kennedy recalled.  
Snead and Gene Sarazen also played an exhibition over the lengthy Holston Hills course in the Thirties.

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Sterchi Ashe

Thomson  
Sarazen  
the first three holes from Hagen — but a great finish won the match for the visitors.  
"Hagen drove the 18th green," recalled Kennedy, "with a 3-iron and won the match with an eagle-2."  
"Knoxville really accepted its first big day in golf and I'm satisfied that this exhibition was the first real shot in the arm golf received here," said Kennedy.  
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## Racquet Club Tennis Hope

Tennis tomorrow, anyone?  
Knoxville tennis enthusiasts, from early city champs to today's juniors, feel the new Knoxville Racquet Club is the beginning of brighter days ahead for the sport.  
"The new club is the biggest boost tennis has had in years," said Roe Campbell, president. "It should be the beginning of tennis interest for entire families."  
The Racquet Club has selected one of Knoxville's most loyal tennis boosters for honorary membership. He's Ebb King, teacher, care-taker and ball boy at Tyson Court for years.  
"It's people like King that make tennis great," said Campbell. "Ebb will talk tennis with you from breakfast until dark."



King

## First on Pro Tour

Knoxville will never forget its first contribution to the professional golf circuit . . . Tommy Wright.  
Tommy, who died tragically in 1934, was raised on the "fringe" of Whittle Springs golf course. He was a caddy there, learned to play golf by watching others and worked on his game night and day.  
And it paid off.  
Tommy Wright, who was killed, at 33, when he fell under a truck near Dallas, Texas, is remembered as the poor boy who accepted golf as his first challenge in life—and conquered it.  
Tommy was a natural. He fashioned his first golf club from a crooked sapling when

## Poor-Boy Tom Wright Conquered Golf

only 7—when he was caddying and shagging at Whittle Springs.  
His first set of golf clubs was a lefthanded set, given to him by an admirer. The youngster was so proud of the clubs that he played the game lefthanded until he had worked and saved money to buy righthanded clubs.  
At 19, Tommy was medalist in the State Amateur tournament—in 1934.  
Two years later he became the first Knoxville to win the State Amateur championship, defeating Bill Norvell of Chattanooga, 6-3, in Nashville. This was Knoxville's only State Amateur title until 1958 when Cherokee's John Sterchi won it.  
That was the beginning of a



TOMMY WRIGHT First on the circuit

great year in golf for Tommy Wright.  
He went on to turn in rounds of 68 and 64 in the U. S. Open qualifying at Atlanta—leading the

## Dr. Gentry, Pioneer

# Fish Experts, TVA Gave E-T Anglers 'New Life'

By CHAMBLISS PIERCE  
Dr. Glenn Gentry raises salamanders for scientific research as a profitable hobby, always has a joke or two to start a conversation, insists that "grabbling" is the most exciting fishing method, and probably knows the history of Tennessee fishing better than anyone.



DR. GLENN GENTRY Still learning

Dr. Gentry is chief of the Fish Management Division of the State Game and Fish Commission. He has served in that capacity since the early 1950's when he succeeded Dr. Willis King, now with the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service. But Dr. Gentry has seen the progress of fish conservation in Tennessee since the program was first established and has played a vital role in establishing policies, laws and regulations during the period when the state has become one of the most popular sport fishing centers in the world.  
Understandably, the construction of TVA and Army Engineer dams starting in the early 1930's provided the great expanse of water. And the fish have been there for the taking. But behind

all the world record catches and bountiful limits, there is the all-important job of management toward preservation of the species.  
Although the first law pertaining to fish went on the Tennessee books in 1799 (an act to prevent the obstruction of East Tennessee rivers with fish traps), it was 1907 before the first law was passed to conserve fish. However, that was the first closed season—a practice which Tennessee later was to lead the nation in proving unsuited and needless on warm-water species.

As Dr. Gentry points out, "Before the 1940's, most fishing regulations were made on the basis of someone's opinion: all of them, of course, apparently aimed at improving fishing. Today, our fishing regulations are prepared and based primarily on research."  
"The Chinese had developed an extensive system of pond fish culture some 2000 years ago. But the first state hatchery in Tennessee (at Springfield) was not started until 1928. Now, we have rearing stations at Morristown (1933), Tellico (1939), Flintville (1942), Erwin (1949) and Humboldt (1955)."  
"In 1949, it cost \$1.09 per pound

to raise and stock trout. In 1959, the cost was reduced to 80 cents per pound.  
"We were able to transport only 80 pounds of trout on a one-ton truck in '49. Now, we can move up to 1250 pounds on one truck."

Although the Department of Game and Fish was established in 1915, the first trained fisheries technician was E. R. Kuhne, who was employed in 1938. He was followed by Randolph Shields, then Charles (Jack) Chance, now chief of TVA Fish and Game Branch. J. T. Conner, first hatchery superintendent employed at Morristown, served as acting fish technician after Chance left in 1948 until about 1950 when Dr. Willis King was employed. All of these were associates of Dr. Gentry and many still consult with him on fish management problems and progress.

Dr. Gentry says fish management was affected greatly throughout the country by the work of two men: Dr. R. W. Eschmeyer, on large impoundments, and Dr. H. S. Swingle at Auburn University on farm fish ponds.  
Dr. Eschmeyer, as many Tennesseans will recall, was an employee at the time of his major impoundment work on the staff of Dr. A. H. Wiebe at the Norris, Tenn., fisheries laboratory of TVA.  
"Eschmeyer's work resulted in elimination of closed seasons, size limits and eventually creel limits, or liberalization of fishing regulations," Dr. Gentry recalled. "Swingle's work showed that ponds and small lakes could be managed to raise more pounds of fish per acre per year by use of fertilizer and proper stocking with certain species of fish—plus fishing them heavily. Also, that usually not more than 50 per cent of the broodstock could be removed by angling."

Most of Dr. Eschmeyer's findings came about from his studies on Norris and subsequent TVA lakes. Later, he became executive director of the national Sports Fishing Institute.  
One of the major achievements under Dr. Gentry was Operation Poison on the Little Tennessee River in the reservoir of Chilhowee Lake. This was a joint operation involving the state, TVA, ALCOA, the U. S. Fish and Wild-

life Service and National Park Service.

It was designed to clean out, by use of poison, a 10-mile section of the river and all its tributaries prior to impoundment of the new lake as an experimental trout lake—the first of its kind in the Eastern United States. Price Wilkins, state trout biologist, directed the operation and the ultimate success of the experiment is yet to be determined although early indications point to an even greater success than anticipated.

Dr. Gentry lists other recent achievements in Tennessee:

- "1. Introduction of Rockfish (land-locked saltwater species) in Kentucky Lake.
- "2. Stocking Dale Hollow Lake with muskellunge.
- "3. The construction of 115 access areas on TVA reservoirs (one of our most successful achievements).
- "4. Sauger tagging at Pickwick."

However, the achievements all are dwarfed by the tremendous increase of recreation fishing provided in Tennessee. In 1937, less than 7000 hunting and fishing licenses were sold each year. Last year, the total sales were more than 800,000.

Nationally, Tennessee ranks in the top 10 in number of licensed outdoorsmen and ranks fourth in attracting out-of-state hunters and fishermen.

The 1955 Crossley Survey showed that Tennesseans spent approximately \$60,000,000 in pursuit of game and fish. Fishing is an important factor in the \$72,000,000 recreation business that is established on the TVA lake shores.  
However, the fisheries chief is modest in his appraisal:

"We still don't have enough know-how to manage storage reservoirs and warm-water streams. We need men with more biological training in our hatcheries and on state-operated lakes.

"Our fisheries work is handicapped because of poor salaries, which also means that we rarely have a fully staffed division.

"In particular, our laws concerning pollution of water and use of pesticides and insecticides need to be strengthened."  
But on that note, Tennessee has come a long way since fish traps were first outlawed in 1799 merely as "obstructions" on the rivers.

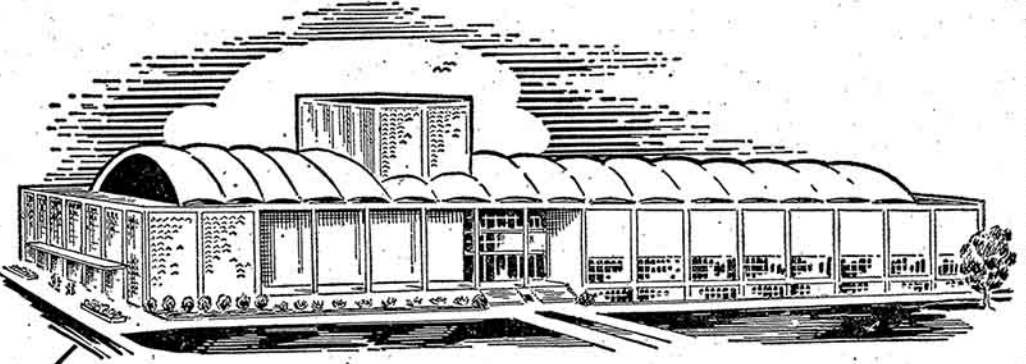
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## Sam Jones' Choice:

# Picks 1937 Trojans as City's Top Team

By TED RIGGS

Knoxville's greatest high school football teams, most observers maintain, were produced in the 1930s.

No fewer than six unbeaten, untied juggernauts — three of them claiming national championships — crossed the local scene during that decade.

"I'd have to pick the 1930 Knox High squad," said Pete Siler, former KHS coach now living in Morristown. "I've never seen a better high school team anywhere."

"My choice would be the 1937 Knox High team," Sam Jones, ex-KHS coach and present City co-ordinator of physical education, declared. "The 1930 and '33 clubs were great ones, but our '37 bunch played what I considered a tougher schedule."

Long-time Central High fans point to the Bobcats of 1933 as the strongest in a long line of powerhouses. Goliaths like Hall-of-Famer Bob Suffridge, Ray Graves (the Florida coach) and Burr West made this one of the most rugged squads ever assembled here.

The '30 KHS team won 13 straight while amassing 592 points and holding its opponents to only 12. These Trojans played two games the same day—polishing off Wheat, 38-6, in the afternoon and drubbing Kingston, 75-0, that night.

Other victims were Karns (56-0), Porter (86-0), Morristown (38-0), Etowah (30-0), Birmingham Phillips High (33-0), Chattanooga City (55-0), Bradley County (13-0), Chattanooga Central (46-0), Williamsburg, Ky. (46-0), Nashville Hume-Fogg (19-0) and Knox Central (37-0).

Ten of the 11 regulars went on to play college ball. Brightest star in the backfield was Sam (Red) Sharpe, a swift fullback who became one of Knoxville's all-time greats. His regular running mates included Pug Vaughan, Fred Moses and Milo Fisher, all of whom matriculated at U-T. Kenneth (Shorty) Needham and Jim Harris were the regular ends; Howard Bailey and Jack Luttrell played at tackle; Jim Constantine and Charley Allen were the guards and Jim Claxton the center.

Sharpe was still going strong in 1933 when KHS won 12 straight and laid claim to its second mythical U. C. championship in four years. After shutting out their first 10 opponents, the Trojans shaded Central 9-6, on Fenton (Goo) Field, a 10-hour field goal, then whipped Waite High of Toledo, 26-6, in a post-season game. The '33 KHS team piled up its biggest margin against Kingsport, 54-0.

Central fielded perfect-record teams in 1935 and '36. Pat Reno scored 60 points and Cy Whaley 56 as the Bobcats of '35 triumphed over Dayton (19-0), Bristol, Va. (19-0), Tennessee Industrial School (13-0), Kingston (21-0), Johnson City (21-6), Harrison (21-12), TMI (39-12), Newport (51-0), Nashville Hume-Fogg (32-0) and Knox High (8-6).

A year later, with nine regulars returning, the Bobcats lifted CHS grid prestige to the greatest heights ever. Vonore fell in the opener (26-0), then came victories over Dayton (13-0), Kingston (32-0), Bristol, Va. (32-0), Tennessee Industrial School (13-0), Johnson City (13-0), Harrison (68-12), Polk County (67-6), Murphy, N. C. (51-0) and Knox High (21-6).

Graves and Suffridge were the starting guards; West and Bee Stallings played at tackle; Cy Whaley and George Mathis opened at end; Oscar Wilhite was the No. 1 center and Kenneth (Red) Bailes, Charley Seiff, Charley Payne and Jay Gilbilly made up the regular backfield.

Central had its last unbeaten, untied team in 1933, when John Francis, Chan Caldwell and Dan Boring were among the standouts. After warming up in a 36-0 romp over the Milligan College freshmen, this CHS club mowed down Elizabethton (19-7), Everett (44-0), Greeneville (14-0), Young (28-0), Gaffney, S. C. (26-0), Bristol, Tenn. (45-0), Blue Ridge Military Academy (27-0), TIS (6-0) and Knox High (13-0).

Knox High's 1937 powerhouse overwhelmed eleven foes, including four which were defending state champs. The list of victims included Johnson City (25-0), Bradley County (43-0), Chattanooga Central (12-0), Morristown (33-0), Toledo Waite (13-7), Asheville, N. C. (32-6), Kingsport (13-0), Georgia Military Academy (25-12), Atlanta Boys High

guards, and Red Cross, center. Buster Ramsey, a 1938 All-Southern choice, was the No. 1 reserve.

Any fair appraisal of Knoxville's greatest also would have to include the KHS state championship squads of 1942-43-44; Young's 1948-49 powerhouses; the 1942-47 Central teams and a few earlier clubs which are now legendary.

(40-13), Newport, Ky. (14-0) and Miami, Fla. (25-0).

Johnny Butler, who went on to stardom at U-T, joined Tony Carper, Elwood Powers and Joe Fritts to form the prolific '37 Trojan backfield. Regular line men were Larry Partedre and Walt Gaines, ends; Park Standridge and Bob Broome, tackles; Bill Broome and Willis Tucker,

## Sterchi First Commissioner

# Early Softball Was 'Gas-House'

By ROLAND JULIAN

Some of Knoxville's first softball teams might have been composed somewhat—except for basic differences in equipment and size of the diamond—with the St. Louis Cardinals' "Gas House Gang."

"They were a merry and unpredictable lot. Because of this, they drew thousands of fans who loved lots of contact—usually a free-for-all bout.

From 1935 until World War II broke out, the softball crowds at Chilhowee Park and Winona Field rivaled that of the Southern League's Knoxville Smokies at nearby Smithson Stadium, often referred to as Caswell Park.

There was the night (June 28, 1937) when the old Land Building (Administration Building) burned at Chilhowee Park. Spectators who witnessed a game going on at the time saw that the game went on uninterrupted, despite the raging flames.

Knoxville Associated Amateurs was formed in 1935 with Tab Sterchi as commissioner. He held that post until 1937 when Harold Harris, News-Sentinel assistant sports editor, took over.

Sterchi's first major task was the lighting for Knoxville's first night softball game. The 1935 Knoxville tournament was played in right field at old Caswell Park. Sterchi had five spotlights mounted on the end of the grand stand.

Sterchi also had the unpleasant duty of suspending the B-T Ice Co. team (the Knoxville champ) in the state tournament at Memphis because Manager Dewey Blackstock ordered his team off the field after a disputed decision.

"A collection was taken up here before B-T Ice made the trip," Sterchi laughed, "to help take care of expenses at Memphis. It turned out to be \$13.28, and the players were glad to get it."

Many people and organizations had a hand in getting Winona Field built.

Sterchi and Jimmy Sheehy borrowed a tape measure and plotted the dimensions. Then they learned that the property belonged to the City School Board. At a Mid-South Softball Association meeting at the Andrew Johnson Hotel, a Knoxville group decided to seek subscription of \$1 each from the public to lease the field.

Meantime, Evans-Collins Field (football) was constructed by the WPA. At the Mid-South meeting, Sterchi recalled, two News-Sentinel representatives—the late M. G. Chambers, then business manager, and the late Jack Moorehead, then promotions manager—advised the group to see if the WPA would do the work.

How's This for All-Star Softballers?

If an all-time softball team of Knoxvilleans were to be selected, the entire state champ Booker-Davidson team would have to be set aside to itself.

Then another selection would have to be made. Booker-Davidson's catcher—Ott Shetterly, now assistant fire chief—had no peer. Then there were his batterymates, Al Thomas and Tommy Ford.

The infield read like this: Ray Cannon, (1st base), Luke Foster (2nd base), Ralph Radcliffe (shortstop), Bob Fox (third base and outfield) and Red Hawkins (infield-outfield). Outfielders were Howard Dew, Harvey Robinson, Leon Shamblin and Joe Foster.

Foes of Booker-Davidson who would be included:

Pitchers — Jimmy Tillet, Bill Mynatt, Claude (Red) McMillan, Herbert (Red) Bruce and Horace Long.

Catchers—Bob Price and Ledford Allen.

Infielders—Midge Drinnen, Tom Pearnan, Skeet Nelson, Pinky Doyle and George Lonas.

Outfielders — Cy Roberts, Cy Whaley, Rass Smith, Al Ludlow, Jimmy Leach, Bob Bell.

Knoxville's Top 2-Team Series

(1945 at Knoxville Bowling Center)

COX MOTORS

Ed Cook 219 233 173-625

Joe Ellison 203 213 203-619

Pete Montgomery 177 192 228-693

Ernest Brown 213 210 175-598

Bill White 252 197 191-640

TOTALS 1064 1051 970-3085

SUPREME FOODS

Johnny Johnson 162 224 176-594

High Shorp 161 235 165-651

Bill Hambree 192 218 245-655

Arty Vaughn 202 246 228-618

Walt Rybo 199 190 213-692

TOTALS 916 1165 1019-3100

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## Boom Sport Now

# City's Pioneer Bowlers Went To Redlight Area--To Bowl

By ROLAND JULIAN

Variety was the spice of life for the earliest of Knoxville bowlers.

Oldtimers—the real old ones—recall bowling alleys being on Central Ave., which was Knoxville's "Redlight District," prior to World War I. The lanes were located in the basements of buildings which also housed prostitutes and pool halls. It was not uncommon then for a participant to make the "rounds" of the building in a day.

In those days bowlers sometimes could be identified by the roughed up toes of their boots or shoes. There were no electric eye foul lines—just two-by-fours.

Among Knoxville's first lanes were two included in the original building of Cherokee Country Club (1907). A new building and lanes were constructed in 1928. Club members played coked hat (using only three pins and a ball smaller than bowlers now use) from then until three new 10-pin alleys replaced the old ones in 1933. The present four lanes were built in 1946. Pinboys are still in use there.

A pair of lanes on Clinch Ave. across from where Tennessee Valley Bank is now located and three on Gay St. in about the same area of Knoxville Sporting Goods' present location were busy about the time of World War I.

Bowling began to take an upswing with the arrival of Joe C. (Smoky) Ellison. He first opened a couple of alleys at Chilhowee Park in 1926, then built four lanes in the balcony of the old Land Building (about where the Chilhowee Skating Rink is now). The old building burned in 1931, Ellison recalled. He built Smoky's Bowling Alley in 1936. They burned two years later. He replaced them with six the same year.

Despite modernization of surrounding lanes in the past 10 or 15 years, Mr. Ellison still employs pinboys and has "no trouble getting them."

Jesse Miller, now a real estate dealer with Ed Schmid, opened up Commerce Bowling Lanes in 1932. Six were built on the ground floor in April of that year and a like number upstairs in the fall. One of Mr. Miller's managers was Carl (Rabbit) Yearwood, considered to be one of the best bowlers here through the years. The lanes and equipment were sold when the lease expired in 1944.

Yearwood left Commerce Lanes to take a like job with Knoxville Bowling Center, built at Broadway and Lamar St. by Dr. Ed Guyne (now in grave health) in 1939.

When Bowl-Land opened its doors in 1941, Yearwood was there as manager. It was located in the 1800 block of Cumberland Ave. Bowlitorium, under the management of George Stewart, opened up three weeks later. Each establishment had 10 lanes. Bowl-Land closed in 1948 and Bowlitorium, which was situated at 411½ Main Ave. (upstairs), went out of business in 1951.

Bill Guyne became manager at Knoxville Bowling Center upon the departure of Yearwood. Houston Hays took the managerial job there in 1948, then he and Dr. Edgar Grubb bought the lanes and equipment a year later and moved to what is now Magnolia Lanes. Two new alleys were put with the original 14 at the time of the moving. Hays sold his interest to Dr. Grubb in 1951. Paul Zwingle in 1951 succeeded Hays as manager. Bob Price took over the operation in 1954.

Price had Knoxville's first automatic pinspotters installed in March of 1956. Eight more lanes were added to Magnolia in 1957, running the total to 24.

Hays recalled that the opening of Magnolia was highlighted by J. W. Colinger's practice 300. Since that time Magnolia has been host to Knoxville's only Women's State tournament and the Southeastern Regional Young America Bowlerama.

Price rolled the town's highest series. He had games of 258, 277 and 300 for \$35 in a "pot" game at Bowlitorium in 1941 with Cameron Brackney, Johnson and Hays.

Knoxville women weren't long after KBA in forming their own association. The women's association first elected Eleanor Shattuck president in the 1939-40 season. Frances Butler was the initial secretary. Marian Granger Livingston was the one who



LOOKING BACK—The engraved stone in the wall at Winona Field brings back fond memories to Tab Sterchi, Knoxville's first softball commissioner. The field was built in 1939 when softball here was at its peak.

## N-S Helped Organize Play

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Knoxville's only state championship men's team — Booker-Davidson in 1937—was the best here in softball's "heyday."

The biggest brawl of all was recalled by Sterchi and Bob Price, who caught for Colonial Foods.

"Best I can remember," said Price, "Booker-Davidson's Al Thomas blocked Al Ludlow. I hit Thomas, he hit me and I was out of the fight. . . I think Bill Harper pulled him off me."

"I believe they were paired up like this. . . Tip Arwine against Ray Cannon (B-D), Ott Shetterly and Cliff (Spring) Burnett (Colonial), Leon Shamblin (B-D) and Mike Hazelwood and Skeet Nelson (Colonial) and Bob Fox."

Price laughed. "There were lots of others involved, too."

The players halted momentarily, recalled Sterchi, when four or five patrol cars drove up. When they left, the battle resumed.

"I was trying to get players apart," said Sterchi. "Cannon swung at Arwine and clipped me on the chin, instead."

Softball has faded rapidly since the end of World War II. Now slowpitch appears to be the game.

No, there aren't any pitchers like Bill Mynatt, Horace Long, Red McMillan, Red Bruce, Tommy Ford, Jimmy Tillet, Thomas and Tommy Ford. Slowpitch rules don't call for that kind of pitching.

However, slowpitch teams from here have had better representation in national tournaments. Knoxville teams have represented Tennessee every year since 1955. They are Police (1955), RBM (1956), Police (1957), South Knoxville Merchants (1958), Tennessee Electric Motor Service (1959) and Cantwell Home Improvement (1960).

Knoxville's women had some top-notch teams here, too. Starting off with the Nelson's Cafe team, which became the perennial local champion Pepsi-Cola outfit, some terrific female athletes pounded the base paths.

Some of the outstanding ones were Doris Sans, Mildred Doyle (now superintendent of Knox County schools), Barbara McBride, Worth Mabry, Ruth Maples Pike, Cartha Doyle Childress, Orpha Foust, Hattie Biggers and Retha Dalton Hanks.

Only the Cas Walker team, a carryover group from the strong Pepsi-Cola contingent, ever won the women's state. That was in 1949.

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"Well, the National Youth Association decided to take a hand in the project," Sterchi continued,

"and got permission of the school board to get started on the construction."

"The News-Sentinel donated the

lights as soon as the playing field was ready," he said.

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## Fans Remember

# Pinkie's Runs Still 'Alive'

By TED RIGGS

It was a cold, gray day in November of 1924. Roy (Pinkie) Walden, Knoxville Central High quarterback-safetyman, stood placidly near his own 40-yard line. At the other end of Shields-Watkins Field, Chattanooga Central, thrown back by a relentless Bobcat defense, prepared to punt.

Dutch Williams' boot was a high spiral which forced Walden to retreat a half dozen steps. His bare head tousled by a brisk headwind, Walden pivoted sharply, brushed back a lock of hair with his right hand and sprinted 62 yards to another touchdown—his fourth in less than 10 minutes as the Knoxville team romped to a resounding 40-6 victory.

Most of those who saw him play maintain that Pinkie Walden's ability as a broken-field runner never has been rivaled by a high school back hereabouts. There have been other great ones, they concede, but none to match the "Red Grange of Central High."

Walden, who went on to college stardom at Tennessee Wesleyan and Mercer, is a living legend in the annals of Knoxville football. The passing years have enlarged his stature, but even in '24, when Pinkie was a mere sophomore, his name was a household word throughout the county.

"Walden Has Gained Four Miles on Grid," a 1926 headline in The Knoxville News declared. According to the story, Central High statisticians were crediting him with 1500, 2282 and 2150 yards running for three varsity seasons.

Pinkie, who always wore a jersey with "O" on its back, weighed barely 135 when, as a sophomore, he climaxed one of Central's greatest seasons with the run that set up a 13-0 victory over arch-rival Knox High. He went 97 yards to score after faking a third-down punt.

Knoxville's finest football player? It could have been Pinkie Walden. But what about Sam J. (Red) Sharpe, Knox High's fabulous back of the early 1930s?

Sharpe, essentially a power runner, was often a sprinter. Against Kingsport in 1933, when KHS ran up a stunning 54-0 margin, he took a punt in his own end zone and raced 103 yards for a touchdown. At one stretch during the '33 season Sharpe scored 10 touchdowns in four games and averaged 174 yards rushing.

Toledo, O., Waite High came to Knoxville to challenge the Trojans after both had gone unbeaten in 1933. Against the Ohioans—who were bidding for a third straight state championship—Sharpe punched over two second-quarter TDs and averaged 11.2 yards per carry as his team gained a 20-6 triumph.

Those who revel in reminiscing about Knox High's long football reign can paint an exciting word picture of Sharpe's prowess by replaying the 1931 game with Chattanooga Central. The Pounders seized an early 13-6 lead but couldn't keep pace when the Trojans countered with their best weapon. Sharpe scored five touchdowns and KHS emerged with a 33-13 victory.

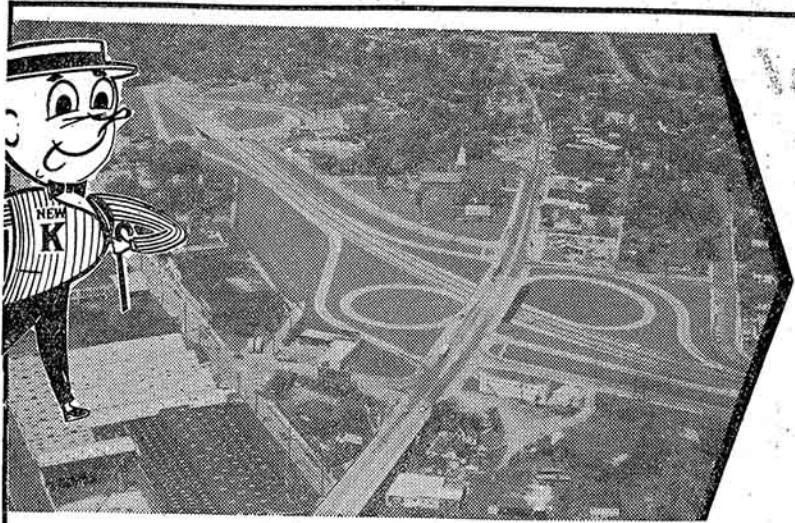
In 1930, when Phillips High of Birmingham came here seeking its second straight decision over Knox High, Sharpe, then a freshman, scored three times in setting up a decisive win. A year earlier, while the rugged youngster was still attending Park Junior High, he won the Henry G. Trent-Trophy—which went to the outstanding football player on Knox High's varsity.

Reflecting on the Walden era, veteran Central followers cite

ing Andrew Jackson, Fletcher, Robert E. Lee and Landon High squads for one quarter each. Orvis Milner and Henry (Slick) Fondev scored touchdowns for the Trojans.

Upsets and near-upsets have been plentiful over the years but few match the surprise of Young's 6-0 win over previously-unbeaten Central in 19





## Another Important Step in Knoxville's Parade of Progress: NEW EXPRESSWAYS ■■■ make Knoxville easily accessible

Knoxville's intricate system of new expressways, now under construction at a cost of more than \$43 million, is indicative of the progress and growth which is taking place in the Knoxville trading area. The series of interchanges and loops make it easy for the almost 1/2 million automobile owners in this area to come to Knoxville to shop from almost any direction. A network of 14 Federal super-highway links and expressways are now being built. Over 65 downtown parking lots provide parking space for almost 7,000 cars.

The firms listed on this page are proud of Knoxville's progress and proud to have been a part of it. Many of these firms have been active through long periods of years in the successful struggle for Knoxville's economic advances. Whether young or old, these merchants are dedicated to making Knoxville a bigger and better place to live and work.

<p><b>96 YEARS</b></p> <p>1865 1961</p> <p>Quality Apparel for the family</p> <p><b>HALL'S GAY STREET</b></p> <p>• 318 S. Gay • Western Plaza</p>	<p><b>96 YEARS</b></p> <p>Growing with Knoxville and East Tenn.</p> <p><b>Woodruff's</b></p> <p>Since 1865</p>	<p><b>95 YEARS</b></p> <p><b>SINCE 1866</b></p> <p>SHERWIN-WILLIAMS PAINTS</p> <p>Points for all purposes including interior, exterior, and all types of painting. Sherwin-Williams Co. is the only paint company in the world that has been in business for over 100 years.</p> <p>"WHERE TO BUY THEM" BRANCHES</p> <p>SHERWIN-WILLIAMS CO. We Deliver—Company Truck Free Parking Next to Building Hundreds of fashionable new colors available to choose from. Downtown Branch 700 Gay St. 523-1103 Broadway Branch 2804 Broadway NE 687-5650 Kingston Pike Branch 4427 Kingston Pike SW 588-8413</p>	<p><b>83 YEARS</b></p> <p><b>NEWMAN'S</b></p> <p>Knoxville's Oldest Office Supply House</p> <p>Est. 1878</p> <p>Complete Line of Office Supplies and Furniture</p> <p><b>S. B. NEWMAN &amp; CO.</b></p> <p>117 SOUTH GAY STREET - KNOXVILLE</p>	<p><b>79 YEARS</b></p> <p>Established 1882</p> <p><b>Knoxville Business COLLEGE</b></p> <p><b>SHORTHAND IN 6 WEEKS</b></p> <p>WITH <b>Speedwriting</b></p> <p>120 WORDS PER MINUTE</p> <p>209 W. Church Ph. 524-3043</p>	<p><b>77 YEARS</b></p> <p>1884 1961</p> <p>"DEPENDABILITY" SINCE 1884"</p> <p><b>Mann Mortuary</b></p> <p>• 414 W. Church Ave. Phone 522-1129 • 6200 Kingston Pike, S.W. (Bearden) Phone 588-8578</p>	<p><b>75 YEARS</b></p> <p>1886 1961</p> <p><b>SEARS</b></p> <p>ROEBUCK AND CO.</p> <p>DIAMOND JUBILEE</p>
<p><b>73 YEARS</b></p> <p>1888-1961</p> <p>The South's Yardstick for Furniture Value—43 Stores to Serve You</p> <p><b>Sterchi's</b></p> <p>IT COSTS LESS AT Sterchi's</p> <p>THE SOUTH'S LARGEST HOME FURNISHERS</p> <p>114 S. Gay Phone 523-4163</p>	<p><b>65 YEARS</b></p> <p><b>KRESS</b></p> <p>for 65 years... "Good Values for Satisfied Customers"</p> <p><b>KRESS</b></p> <p>417 S. Gay St.</p>	<p><b>64 YEARS</b></p> <p>1897 1961</p> <p>for complete insurance protection</p> <p><b>M. F. Flenniken &amp; Co.</b></p> <p>Burwell Bldg. • Ph. 522-4137</p>	<p><b>59 YEARS</b></p> <p>SINCE 1902</p> <p><b>PHOTOGRAPHY</b></p> <p><b>Thompson's Studio</b></p> <p>715 E. Church Ave. at Lowry St. Phone 522-2153</p> <p><b>Jim Thompson</b></p>	<p><b>58 YEARS</b></p> <p>1903 1961</p> <p>Complete Stocks of QUALITY MERCHANDISE</p> <p>For Over Half a Century...</p> <p><b>DICK WRIGHT HARDWARE CO.</b></p> <p>• FREE PARKING • FREE DELIVERY</p> <p>700 East Depot 523-6157</p>	<p><b>54 YEARS</b></p> <p>1907 1961</p> <p>"On Vine Ave. for 54 Years"</p> <p>Your <b>SPEED QUEEN</b></p> <p>DEALER for 26 Years!</p> <p><b>O. P. JENKINS FURNITURE CO.</b></p> <p>209 W. VINE</p>	<p><b>53 YEARS</b></p> <p>1908 1961</p> <p><b>Lynn Sheeley Co.</b></p> <p>53 Years Selling Fine <b>PIANOS</b> in East Tennessee</p> <p>• STEINWAY since 1922 • EVERETT • CABLE-NELSON • ALLEN ORGANS</p> <p>2358 Magnolia Ave. in Knoxville</p> <p>Morrisstown and Johnson City</p>
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<p><b>38 YEARS</b></p> <p>1923 1961</p> <p>38 Years of Dependable Service to the People of Knoxville and East Tenn.</p> <p>Sexton Bros.</p> <p><b>CITY LUMBER CO.</b></p> <p>2714 N. Central Phone 522-1121</p>	<p><b>37 YEARS</b></p> <p>1924 1961</p> <p><b>CAS WALKER Super Markets</b></p> <p>37 Years of Progress in Knoxville</p>	<p><b>37 YEARS</b></p> <p>1924 1961</p> <p>Have fun in '61 Need SPORTING GOODS? Need a BOAT, MOTOR, SERVICE? Need Fishing, Boating, Recreation? CALL OUR DOCK AT CONCORD <b>966-8381</b> OR PHONE <b>A 523-7188</b></p> <p><b>THE A HOUSE</b></p> <p>ATHLETIC HOUSE • 522 S. GAY</p>	<p><b>34 YEARS</b></p> <p><b>Knoxville's Photographic Store</b></p> <p>Since 1927</p> <p>Equipment—Supplies—Service Graphic Arts and Industrial Photo Supplies Verifax Office Copiers Eastman Color Film Processing</p> <p><b>SNAP SHOP</b></p> <p>3 Locations 615 Gay—Knoxville—Western Plaza Camera Center—Gallatinburg</p>	<p><b>30 YEARS</b></p> <p>We Try Our Best</p> <p><b>BLUE CIRCLE</b></p> <p>Est. 1931</p> <p>To Buy the Best... To Serve the Best</p>	<p><b>28 YEARS</b></p> <p>1933 1961</p> <p><b>ALL FOR 9.95</b></p> <p>BRAKES WHEEL BALANCE FRONT-END ALIGNMENT</p> <p>Let our trained men, using precision equipment, bring your car back to "like new" specifications.</p> <p><b>FIRESTONE!</b></p> <p>Magnolia at Gay Ph. 523-6101</p>	<p><b>27 YEARS</b></p> <p>1934 1961</p> <p><b>UNDERWOOD'S Men's Clothes</b></p> <p>34 E. Market Sq. on the Mall</p> <p>• Curlee Suits • Haggard Socks • Mallory Hats • Adams Hats • Truval Shirts • Wembley Ties</p> <p>ASK ABOUT FREE PARKING</p>
<p><b>27 YEARS</b></p> <p>1934 1961??</p> <p>KNOX-TENN RENTAL CO. WE RENT ANYTHING</p>	<p><b>25 YEARS</b></p> <p><b>Knoxville School of Beauty Culture</b></p> <p>One of the South's Outstanding Beauty Schools Est. 1936</p> <p>Special Low Tuition and Rates</p> <p>Write or Call for Further Information 405 Union Ave. Ph. 523-9826</p>	<p><b>25 YEARS</b></p> <p><b>HOME FEDERAL SAVINGS &amp; LOAN ASSN.</b></p> <p>Organized 1936</p> <p>25 Years Old</p> <p>and never missed a semi-annual dividend!</p> <p>NOW PAYING 4% ON SAVINGS</p>	<p><b>25 YEARS</b></p> <p>1936 1961</p> <p>Continuous Service... • Airport Transportation • Avis Rent-A-Car • Air Freight Pick-up &amp; Delivery Service</p> <p><b>KNOX AIRPORT TRANSIT SERVICE</b></p> <p>525-1122</p>	<p><b>25 YEARS</b></p> <p>1936 1961</p> <p>EAST TENNESSEE'S LARGEST, BEST and MOST MODERN <b>RUG CLEANER</b></p> <p><b>Swan Smith</b></p> <p>RUG AND DRY CLEANING</p> <p>MAIN PLANT 614 Sevier Ave. PH. 525-8114 For Free Pick-up &amp; Delivery</p>	<p><b>15 YEARS</b></p> <p>SINCE 1946</p> <p>East Tennessee's <b>OLDEST MERCURY DEALER</b></p> <p>ALSO: Hydrex Boats, Glassmaster Boats, Halcrow Trailers, Cushman Scooters &amp; Golfers, Lohr Industrial Equipment.</p> <p><b>Norris Marine Sales</b></p> <p>1134 Broadway Ph. 524-7418</p>	<p><b>15 YEARS</b></p> <p><b>FIRST STEPPERS</b></p> <p>Sure Comfort for Toddling Feet</p> <p>Sizes 2-5 \$5.50</p> <p><b>Bill's ORTHOPEDIC SHOE STORE</b></p> <p>1720 N. Central at Oakhill Drive in Parking BILL JONES MGR.</p>
<p><b>15 YEARS</b></p> <p>Your Oldest <b>EXCLUSIVE IMPORTED CAR DEALER</b> for all East Tenn.</p> <p><b>Snider Motors</b></p> <p>529 N. Gay 522-8117 213 E. Fifth Ave. 524-2727</p>	<p><b>14 YEARS</b></p> <p>1947 1961</p> <p>WE NEVER Cut Quality To Meet Competitive Prices!</p> <p><b>GATEWAY HARDWARE</b></p> <p>Furniture &amp; Appliance</p> <p>Clinton Highway—Norwood Phone 689-4443</p>	<p><b>11 YEARS</b></p> <p>1950 1961</p> <p><b>BRAND NEW SPARK PLUGS</b></p> <p>For All Cars <b>65¢ each</b></p> <p><b>RAYCO</b></p> <p>1111-1117 N. CENTRAL Seat Covers—Mufflers—Shocks—Tires—Trim</p>	<p><b>10 YEARS</b></p> <p>1951 1961</p> <p>South Knoxville's Most Complete <b>VARIETY STORE</b></p> <p><b>SEVIER HARDWARE &amp; VARIETY STORE</b></p> <p>1111 Sevier Ave. 523-1070</p>	<p><b>2 YEARS</b></p> <p>1959 1961</p> <p><b>LOWE'S</b></p> <p>5001 Rutledge Pike</p> <p>Only 2 years in Knoxville but <b>ALREADY</b> We're Knoxville's <b>LARGEST</b> Supplier of <b>BUILDING MATERIALS!</b></p> <p>Visit our store, see for yourself</p>	<p><b>1 YEAR</b></p> <p>Over 100 items for rent!</p> <p>• Hospital Beds and Mattresses • Wheel Chairs • Baby Beds • Roll-away Beds • Reducing Belts</p> <p>We rent most everything <b>United Rent-Alls</b></p> <p>What do you need?</p> <p>3644 Magnolia Call 525-8479</p>	<p><b>9 MONTHS</b></p> <p>1960 1961</p> <p>Only 9 Months Old...</p> <p>One of Knoxville's Fastest Growing Businesses—<b>NOW HAS 2 BIG STORES:</b></p> <p><b>FURNITURE FAIR</b></p> <p>Alcoa Highway at Lakemont and 119 W. Vine Ave.</p>



# Melville First Golf Pro

# Golf Began In McCalla Pasture

By FRANK (RED) BAILES

A cow pasture in East Knoxville was the beginning of golf in Knoxville. Today it has developed into one of the top area pastimes with five 18-hole courses and room for more.

Highlands Country Club, where East High now stands on McCalla Ave., was the area's first such club—and first facility for golf.

Several Knoxvillians, including the late Greg Ashe who has been called by many the father of golf in Knoxville, rented a cow pasture to build the Highlands course.

They graded out what were known as "skin greens" and set up a nine-hole course.

The greens, according to the History of Cherokee County Club published in 1943, were only 15 feet in diameter, were perfectly level and round with the cup in dead center.

Sand was spread over hard clay to provide the putting surface.

The club actually was a forerunner of Cherokee County Club. The Highlands was used for several years prior to 1907 when the members decided to purchase property in West Knoxville and organized Cherokee.

Saxton Crawford, the former Tennessee football star, conceived the idea of organizing a more adequate country club—and building a better golf course.

The 200 charter members of Cherokee signed up to pay \$50 initiation fee and \$2 per month dues.

In 1907 a nine-hole course was built, giving this section its first grass greens. In 1915 the club acquired part of the Smiley farm, adjoining Cherokee, added two smaller tracts and built the 18-hole course.

The club bought additional land in the Thirties and hired Donald Ross to design the present course. The renovations were completed in 1938-39.

Probably the first golf professional in the area was David Melville who was hired by Cherokee in 1907. He was replaced in 1910 by Jimmy Dickson who remained until his death in 1927.

Whittle Springs Country Club—now WNOX headquarters—was built in 1918 with part of the golf course adjoining the hotel.

Construction of Holston Hills, now considered among the best in the South, was started in 1926 with most of the Whittle Springs members switching to the East Knoxville club.

Holston was designed by Ross and gave the area its first best grass greens. The course was opened July 4, 1927.

Deane Hill joined the golfing family in 1946 and Beaver Brook in 1957.

Knoxville got its only municipal course in 1930 when the city bought Whittle Springs from the late Henry Blanc for \$100,000.



**HOLSTON IN EARLY STAGE**—Holston Hills' 16th hole, looking from tee to green, when the course had plenty of bare spots and few of the huge trees which now line the course.

**BOBCATS' BEST?**—Here's an action picture of the 1936 Central High-Knoxville High game at Shields-Watkins Field, won by the Bobcats, 21-6. The ball-carrier is Kenneth (Red) Bailes of CHS while bearing down on him from the right are Trojans Bill Luttrell (55) and Tony Randles. This was said by many to be Central's finest team.

## Series Was Colorful

## —Produced Many Champs

# City-County Games Had 'Light' Side; Referee Attacked After '31 Contest

By HAROLD HARRIS

Probably no high school football rivalry in the state ever provided as much color, drama, real head-knocking and, of course, amusing incidents as the old Knoxville High-Central High series that ended after the 1950 game.

The breaking up of the city high school system ended a series that dated back to 1906. And during that span the KHS Trojans won 24 times, Central High's Bobcats prevailed on 17 occasions. Five of the contests ended in deadlocks. So much for the vital statistics.

This writer can speak only in general terms of the series prior to about 1923 (only 14 years of age at the time), but from that time on, the writer either saw or played (1930-32) in all the games except 1933.

Earliest recollection this writer has of City-County rivalry was about 1926 when Roy (Pinkie) Walden was roaring up and down the gridiron for the Bobcats. I saw Walden at an early age but, even so, he left a deep impression with his tremendous broken-field running. Probably no back in Knoxville football history had the

broken field as did the flame-haired Bobcat.

Walden went on to Tennessee Wesleyan and later Mercer where he made an outstanding record.

**CONIE YOE**, a veteran printer on The News-Sentinel, played in that very first CHS-KHS game back in 1906.

"We played that first one at old Baldwin Park," Yoe recalled. "That was the very first game of football Central High ever played."

The field was so wet the game finally was called with the score tied at 5-5. They (the officials) were afraid somebody might get drowned on the bottom of a pile-up. A month later we played again and Central edged us out, 6-5.

Yoe recounted that in those days a touchdown counted only five points, a team was given only three downs to make five yards and the forward pass had not come into existence. The forward pass was legalized in 1912.

**N-S ADVERTISING**, man Greg Benson, an old KHS warrior, told of how the series really got to be "big time."

"In 1917," Benson recalled, "we played Central to a 0-0 tie. I bumped into one of the Central boys a few days later and he said 'Let's play off that tie.' It sounded good to me and to the other boys. So I went to Prof. Evans (W. E. Evans, late KHS and East High principal) and put the proposition up to him. He agreed, and so did the Central officials."

"That game drew a whopping crowd (about 4000 or 5000), each school made over \$2000 and it put the two schools in the 'black' ink, financially. That MADE the series, and it grew and grew until it ended."

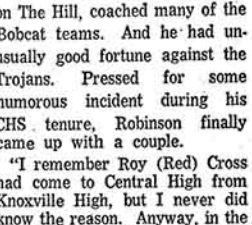
"Up to that time," Benson added, "every player furnished his own uniform. We bought Boy Scout shoes, put leather cleats on them. The school furnished only the greater (jersey). But that second 1917 game put an end to that. The schools furnished everything after that, and they even bought our letter sweaters at the end of the season."

Looking back over the years, Benson picks the 1930 Knoxville High team as the best of them all.

Most of the early games were rough-house and they usually ended in brawls between the student bodies and close followers. Often the fights moved to Gay Street and the theaters usually were raided by the wild partisans. Police often were



S. Jones



Robinson

called to halt the rollicking behavior. But in the late 1920s the rivalry took on a finer note of sportsmanship. It was no less hard-fought, but the brawls between the spectators to a large extent subsided.

**THERE WAS ONE** major exception. Probably the worst thing in the whole series happened in 1931, a game that the Trojans won 7-0 to take their second straight state championship.

Frank (Choppy) Jones, now a TVA engineer, was the field judge in that game. He vividly recalls what led up to the blow-up after the game.

"It was a real close one," Jones started off, "just as most of them were. As I recall, Central had the ball on about the KHS 30-yard line. The Bobcats moved into an unusual formation and a pass was thrown to an illegal receiver. The fellow went on across the goal for what must have appeared to everybody in the stands a touchdown. But the umpire (I've forgotten his name) and I both spotted the illegal receiver. We called Hod Giddens (now an executive of B-T Ice Co.) into a huddle, because he was the captain. We told him we suspected an illegal receiver had caught the pass. Being an honest, straight-forward fellow then just as he is now, Hod admitted that the receiver indeed was illegal. So we disallowed the touchdown. Knoxville High got the ball and went on to score the game's only touchdown."

"Before the game was over Clyde Wilson (late U-T professor), who was the referee, said he was going to stick around and explain to the irate Central High fans who were behind the fence on the West side of Shields-Watkins Field just what happened. 'I know they're gentlemen and they'll understand when I tell them the play was illegal,' Wilson said. But I told him he'd better go with me and the other officials because we had police protection

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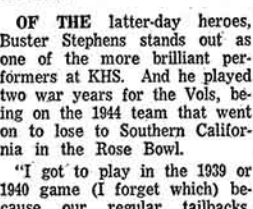
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Leach



Selby

the nose, rupturing a blood vessel. We thought he wouldn't get to play because he lost almost a quart of blood before the hemorrhage could be stopped. But he played . . . in fact a fine game. We won it, 21-6."

**SAM JONES**, who with the late Wilson Collins formed the most celebrated coaching staff ever at KHS, had to scratch his head and think quite some time before he came up with this one.

"We were getting ready for Central," Sam recalled, "for the 1931 game—or was it 1932?—and Coach Collins had put in a new series of plays designed especially for the Bobcats. The series was to be run in sequence, with the last one being a trick play that we hoped would go for a touchdown."

"Jimmy Leach (the quarterback somehow kept getting his wires crossed and ran the trick play first. Naturally, it didn't fool the second team because it hadn't been set up properly. Coach Collins kept saying over and over: 'What's wrong with that Leach?' Then the answer dawned on him. 'Now I know what's wrong with Leach—he just isn't thinking.' That probably doesn't sound funny to you or to anybody else, but it was to me and to the boys who overheard him."

**BOB SUFFRIDGE** was asked if he recalled anything "funny" in any of the KHS-CHS games in which he played. Suff mullied it over, then said: "Yeah . . . in the 1935 game I was playing right opposite Marion Creekmore (he now is dead). In trying to block me, he hit me in the mouth with his elbow. The blow knocked out half of a tooth. I was halfway up, still looking for my tooth on the ground. Old Creek said 'Don't delay the game, Suff, look for your tooth when it's all over.'"

**THE 1930 Knoxville High** team is conceded by many to be the finest high school team ever developed hereabouts. And on that

Men against boys? I'll take the men every time.

Men against boys? I'll take the men every time.

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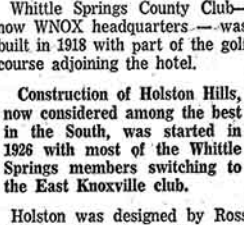
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Cross



Moses

team was a little guy named Fred Moses (now a lawyer and an ex-Vol). Let Fred tell you of an incident in that 1930 game which the Trojans won by a whopping 37-0 score.

"We were badly crippled for the County game," recalled Fred. "Red Sharpe was out with a knee injury, so Coach Collins started me at fullback, considerably reducing our power because I topped the scales at 132 and Ralph Brown who replaced me at tailback weighed only 138. On the first play after the kickoff I traveled 70 yards for a touchdown. Naturally, I felt quite the hero until next Monday morning in chapel when the program was turned over to Coach Collins. Coach told the student body that he'd seen only one perfectly executed play in his lifetime and it was that one on which I had scored. He said every man had executed his block perfectly and that anyone could have run with the ball the full 70 yards at a trot. That considerably deflated my schoolboy ego, because the truth was that Coach Collins was right."

"Incidentally, Pug Vaughan says that I am the only guy he knows who was cheerleader one year and first-string quarterback the next."

**OF THE** latter-day heroes, Buster Stephens stands out as one of the more brilliant performers at KHS. And he played two years for the Vols, being on the 1944 team that went on to lose to Southern California in the Rose Bowl.

"I got to play in the 1939 or 1940 game (I forget which) because our regular tailbacks, Tommy Vann and Lonnie Cooper, got hurt," Buster remembered. "About midway of the game I was tackled in a big pileup. Somebody's big foot swung around and kicked me in the head. It was not intentional, but it was a real wallop. In fact, it caved in my headgear and knocked me cold. I got up (they tell me), staggered and fell flat again. They revived me with smelling salts and I played the rest of the game. But it seemed as if I was playing in a shoebox because I was so groggy. Funny? Not then . . . but it's amusing now."

**THE WRITER** always has considered the 1930 KHS team the greatest of them all. This is not due to the fact that I was a third-string tackle who saw hardly any service. To me that team had everything—speed, raw power, a great passer in Pug Vaughan, the greatest all-around high school footballer of them all in halfback-fullback Red Sharpe, and a tremendously big but mobile line that was equally as good on defense and offense.

Best Central High team to me was the 1936 State Championship team led by tailback Charley Selby and an All-Southern guard by the name of Bob Suffridge. And Harvey Robinson concedes the 1936 team was his best. "The 1939 CHS team probably was better if you go beyond the starting team," Robinson said, "but overall, I'd have to say the 1936 team was the best we had in my tenure there."

They don't make football teams like those old Central and Knox High teams nowadays. Times have changed . . . they've split up the schools and the material is thin. But another major reason is that the average age of today's schoolboy footballer probably is about 16, whereas the age limit in those days was 21 and the age probably averaged out to about 19 or 20.

Men against boys? I'll take the men every time.

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## Doris Sams' Works Made Record Books

There have been some excellent women athletes from Knoxville—swimmer Reba Morton Kennedy, softball and basketball player Mildred Doyle, golfer Rose Boring, softball players Barbara McBride and Cartha Doyle Childress—but none have ever matched the peak performances of Doris Sams.

Doris, sometimes called Sambo by close friends, at 11 broke in as a top-notch softball player. After playing with the almost-unbeatable Pepsi Cola softball team, she went into women's professional baseball in 1946 with Muskegon, Mich. She later played with Kalamazoo, Mich.

The South Knoxville lass, who still lives at 715 Avenue A, was selected to the American Women's Baseball League all-star team five times and was voted most valuable twice.

In her first season of pro ball, Doris won the league batting title with .279 and broke the league home run record with 13 in 1932.

Doris shared the cover of Major League Baseball Magazine in 1948 with Ted Williams.

Since retiring from pro ball in 1953, Doris has been employed by Knoxville Utilities Board.

Best female athlete?

Best female athlete?

Best female athlete?

Best female athlete?

Best female athlete?

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Best female athlete?

## Charley, Cowan, Jack Were 'Names'

# Knox Tennis and Rodgers' Grew Up Together in 1890s

Knoxville tennis and the name RODGERS, from the 1890s on, have been synonymous. In fact, they've gone together like the racquet and the ball.

Charley Rodgers, and his younger brother Cowan, if not the founding fathers, were certainly the biggest tennis boosters this area has known.

Charley, born in 1876, started his younger brother playing the bounces off a barn door. And in later years, Mr. Charley started dozens of other young athletes in the sport at his semi-private West Knoxville Tennis Club.

"The early tennis club was mostly for businessmen who wanted some afternoon exercise but Mr. Rodgers often turned the courts into a classroom," said Allen Ware, Knoxville city singles champ for 10 different years.

"The Rodgers provided many a free lesson and lots of equipment for boys back then. In fact, Mr. Charley took tennis so seriously he got a little angry at me when I retired from the game," recalled Ware with a chuckle.

The Rodgers' brothers were Southern doubles champions in the early 1900s and Cowan won the South Atlantic States title. They developed the first tennis courts on record on West Cumberland, now the site of the University of Tennessee Law School.

The Rodgers' Memorial Tennis Tournament, an annual event in Knoxville, still honors the early Rodgers, Mr. Charley and Mr. Cowan.

Two generations later, another Rodgers, this one Jack, progressed from Tyson Courts to the big leagues of professional tennis. A graduate of Knoxville High and Rice University, Jack ranked among the country's top 10 pros for two years (1951-52) after an impressive victory in the National Championships at Forest Hills, N. Y.

Jack turned pro in 1947 and steered his career toward teaching rather than tournament play. He is now Georgia Tech's tennis coach and director of Atlanta's city program. For several years, Jack was tennis pro at Cherokee Country Club.

Three times Tennessee state champion and once winner in the Mid-South, Jack ranks as Knoxville's all-time top performer.

Ware, who grabbed Knoxville's city title first in 1914, still stands as the youngest player to hold the championship. He was 15.

"I still have that 1914 cup, it's a little bronze one," recalled Ware, now classified advertising manager for The News-Sentinel. "But I didn't take tennis serious enough then. I'd win a year or two, get lazy and quit. Then I'd start over. My last city title was in 1926, the year I got married."

"I never would play tennis with girls," said Ware with a smile. "But I did once . . . and helped win the mixed doubles championship."



JACK RODGERS  
No. 1 in Knox Tennis

Ware's reign as Knoxville tennis champ ended when A. C. Bruner took charge in 1927. Mr.

## Old Old 'Y'

# Basketball Hit in Knox 6 Years After Its Birth

By TED RIGGS

In 1891 Dr. James Naismith nailed two peach baskets on the YMCA walls at Springfield, Mass., tossed up an inflated "balloon ball" and sat back to watch the birth of a game.

Six years later, almost to the day, basketball came to Knoxville.

The first organized team here played its games in an undersized gymnasium which occupied the third floor of the old YMCA building on Wall Street (at the present Charles Store location).

Players included C. V. Bittle, Gaines Harrell, Tobe Russell, Matt Whittle, Newell Warner, Ed McSpadden and Dick Boyd.

In 1899, after two years of more or less informal scrimmaging, interscholastic competition made its debut here. Knox High, Tennessee School for the Deaf and Baker-Hemel (a private institution) were first to try the game.

W. P. (Buck) Toms, retired Knoxville businessman, was a member of the '99 KHS squad and also played on the school's first football team that same year.

"There was considerable contact in the game when I first played basketball," Mr. Toms recalled. "In fact, most of the basic rules were somewhat different then."

"After every goal, of course, there was a center jump. And you weren't allowed to shoot after dribbling; if a player bounced the ball even once, he had to pass off to someone else. Speaking of dribbling, it was then required that you bounce the ball with alternate hands—no one-hand stuff."

One of Knoxville's first non-playing coaches was Conie Yoe, now a News-Sentinel composing room employee. Among Yoe's standouts on the 1908-1909 Knox High team was Victor Klein, well-known real estate man here.

"I got my diploma in 1909," Mr. Klein reflected, "then went to California for a year. I came back to Knoxville in 1910 and returned to high school for some 'post-graduate' work. During the extra year, I played basketball and was manager of the football team."

The coach at that time was James Woodrow, nephew of President Woodrow Wilson.



## Bonny Hollingsworth

## Ryne Duren of Day

# Struck Out 25, Got \$2.50

By MARVIN WEST

When a rookie named Lou Gehrig struck out in his first time at bat in the American League, little did he realize that he was swinging at the fastest Knoxville of all-time.

J. B. (Bonny) Hollingsworth, who went from the old Manufacturers League up the long trail to the majors, was the Ryne Duren of the 1920s.

"I had a world of ability... perhaps as much as any pitcher of that day," recalls Bonny, now a 25-year-old man with Hutting Sash and Door. "But I couldn't throw strikes. They say Duren can't see home plate. I saw it all right but I had my troubles finding it."

Hollingsworth first made the headlines in 1913 when he hurled a no-hitter for Vestal against Mascot.

"I remember we rode up to Mascot in a hack... I struck out 25 and did well enough that for my second game I received \$2.50."

"I heard that some of the players were getting expense money for traveling," said Bonny with a chuckle. "I asked for mine and got 10 cents... enough for street car fare both ways."

Three years later Hollingsworth had a job with Mobile in the Southern Association, his first in professional baseball.

"I was so optimistic about the Mobile tryout that I bought a round-trip train ticket. I was so scared when I arrived in Mobile that I almost came back home without going to the ball park," says Bonny.

Had he backed out, Bonny Hollingsworth might have missed a career that included, besides the Southern, playing days in the Texas League, the International, the American Association, the Pacific Coast and both major leagues.

"I played with and against some of the greatest names in baseball," said Bonny, thinking back to lineups loaded with Hall of Fame heroes.

"I pitched against Bill Dickey and Mickey Cochrane, two of the best catchers the game has had. The leading first basemen I faced were George Sisler, Gehrig and Bill Terry... take your pick."

"Among the second basemen were Rogers Hornsby and Eddie Collins. My shortstop would have to be Honus Wagner... he wasn't still playing when I got there but I knew him well."

"I was on the Pittsburgh team with Pie Traynor in 1922... he's the best third baseman I saw."

"And then there were Ruth, Cobb and Speaker... that's the greatest outfield... and believe it or not, I got the 'big boys' out better than I did the others."

The early days in Mobile still stand fresh in Hollingsworth's memory.

"When I reported, without say-

ing one word to me, they gave me a pieced-up uniform of one blue sock and a red one... a green cap, a gray shirt and some faded, pin-striped pants... I know I was a sight."

Charley Schmidt, Bonny's first pro manager and a longtime "fighting friend" of the late Ty Cobb, dispatched rookie Hollingsworth into that first game.

"All our other pitchers were knocked out, I guess... anyway I went in after one warmup pitch. I went to the catcher to get the signals and walked out the path from home plate to the mound. The grass infield at Mobile was the first I had ever seen and I thought the path was there to keep players off the rest of the grass."

"I got out of the inning and walked back down the path... I guess everybody there thought I was crazy," said Bonny with a big grin.

The debut was such a success that Manager Schmidt took his new right-hander out for a steak after the game.

"He signed me to a contract calling for \$100 a month... I thought I had just struck gold."

Bonny was on the bench the day Johnny Dodge was killed by a baseball.

"Every team had a signal for a knockdown pitch those days but we stopped throwing it for a few days. I can remember Schmidt threatening opponents with me if they threw close to our batters."

Hollingsworth said this first manager must have been the roughest of a tough era in baseball.

"He would bet big men \$5 that they couldn't knock him off a newspaper," said Bonny. "And once, in Detroit, he bailed Ty Cobb out of a fight with four men. Schmidt knocked out three and

asked Ty if he could handle the other one."

Hollingsworth, while with Washington, had his locker next to the immortal Walter Johnson

and tells this story about his own best day in the big leagues and how the "Big Train" helped.

"I wasn't a very good pitcher in the majors but one day Johnson told me I'd get to pitch against Detroit... I thought he was just joking. But two regulars, just as Walter predicted, came up with excuses to keep from facing the tough Tigers."

"I got the chance and Johnson... who never worked in the bullpen back then, gave me an encouraging pat and said he'd be ready if I needed any help."

"Maybe just knowing the big guy would be my relief pitcher was enough. Anyway we won the game by a comfortable score and I went all the way. That was my best day."

BONNY HOLLINGSWORTH was just one of several Knoxville natives of an older generation who made it to the big leagues.

There was Jess and Carl Doyle, both pitchers. Jess worked with Detroit in 1925-27 and with St. Louis in 1931. Carl pitched for Philadelphia's A's, Brooklyn and St. Louis from 1935 through 1940.

Carden Gillenwater, a native of Riceville but claimed by Knoxville, arrived with the Cardinals in 1940. He hit .288 with the Boston Braves in 1945.

SUMPTER CLARKE, born in Savannah, Ga., but another Knoxville by adoption, replaced Tris Speaker in several games for Cleveland back in 1924.

"I remember Sumpter getting in a fight and landing in jail," recalled Hollingsworth. "He kept waiting for his teammates to come bail him out but they didn't show up until 10 or 11 p. m."

"When he asked what kept them so long, they answered 'we played extra innings'... Sumpter almost landed in another fight before he left jail."

FRANK CALLAWAY appeared with the Athletics in 1921-22 and Puss Hodge made it up with the Phillies briefly in 1942. Of course, in later years, Pat McGlothin appeared with the Dodgers in 1949 and 1950.

OF A different day is Ed Bailey, still very active with the San Francisco Giants. No doubt, before Ed is finished, he'll go down as Knoxville's greatest... but the old-timers don't want to count him yet because "he's still a boy."

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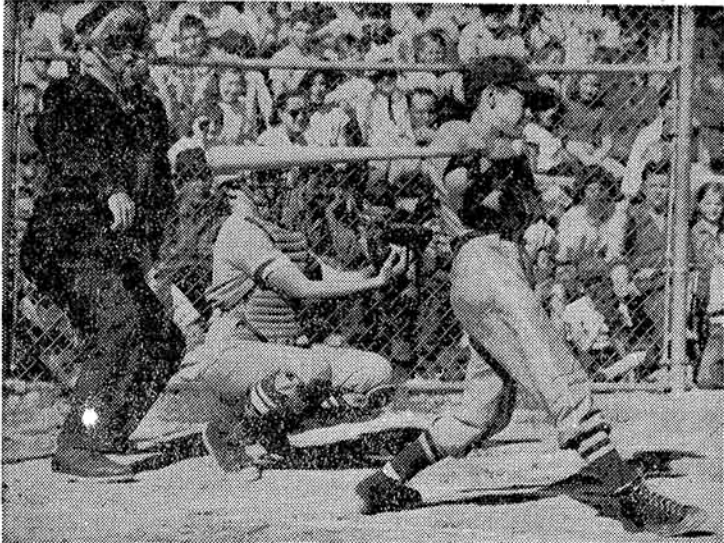
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**FIRST LITTLE LEAGUE PITCH**—Jimmy Ball swings at the first Little League pitch on June 5, 1950 at Chilhowee Park as Eagles' catcher Mickey Ellenburg makes the grab. Gus Manning, now U-T Athletic Association information director, is the umpire.

## 1000 Boys Play

# Little League Baseball Grows Amazingly Since 1950 Start

By ROLAND JULIAN

More than 1000 Knox County youngsters playing Little League baseball today can thank an unidentified diner customer for their opportunity to participate in an organized manner.

In the summer of 1949 a stranger happened to stop by Elmer's Diner, owned and operated at the time by Elmer Beets.

"That fellow showed me some pictures and an article on Little League ball in Saturday Evening Post," said Mr. Beets. "It gave me an idea."

"I went to see Gene Johnson (now supervisor of Knoxville's Little League program) and asked if we could get something like that started here."

"Gene told me it was too late in the season to organize but that a temporary league might be set up... and that we did. The teams were Elmer's Diner, Ramsey, Armstrong's Hardware and Mighty Miles," Mr. Beets continued.

"We used a makeshift diamond at Chilhowee Park the rest of that season. That Ramsey bunch was the only team we couldn't do anything with," he laughed.

In the meantime, Gene Johnson, Polk Crumbliss (the Bureau of Recreation supervisor at that time) and The News-Sentinel's Frank (Red) Bailes wrote Carl Stotz, the Little League founder, at Williamsport, Pa.

Mr. Stotz came here on April 15, 1950 to meet with the original interested group and outlined plans for organization. An organizational meeting was held 10 days later and two leagues—Little City and American Legion—were formed with four teams each.

First Little City managers were Mr. Beets (Eagles), Bill Fretwell (Lions), John Starrett (Civilians) and Frank Stansberry (Optimists). Original American Legion managers were Ray Chambers (White Sox), Dan Earl (Yankees), Ernie Holloway (Red Sox) and Leo Cogburn (Pirates).

The first Little League field was built at Chilhowee Park with a portable fence.

The first game?

June 5, a hot Monday afternoon, was the day of the first sanctioned Little League game. Jimmy Ball was the first batter. Mickey Ellenburg, who became a legendary home run hitter in Little Leagues and later played at the University of Florida, belted the first round-tripper.

Gus Manning and the late Denny Leahy were the first-game umpires.

It didn't take long for Little Leagues to spread throughout the county. Now there are 17 sanctioned teams in Knox County, not to mention the Minor Leagues associated with each.

The Eagles, Mr. Beets recalled, lost only three or four games in their first three seasons. The team also played exhibitions in Nashville and Atlanta, the latter in a battle with Marietta, Ga., at Ponce de Leon Park just prior to a Little Rock-Crackers game.

Mary Vestal Park was built in 1951 and the South Knoxville League was formed. The Southern was initiated at the same park the following season. The Elks League also got its start in 1952, using Westview Field.

Through the efforts of Claude

A 'Dark Night' for Football

Knoxville's first night football game was played Sept. 27, 1929, at old Caswell Park.

Central emerged a 6-0 winner over Chattanooga Notre Dame as, according to The Knoxville News, "about 1000 persons watched under the glow of 40,000 watts."

Forty bulbs and reflectors, mounted on four poles, provided the lighting.

An average lighting system for high school football today ranges from 80,000 to 120,000 watts.

Family Sport

There certainly must have been a friendly atmosphere around Knoxville's bowling lanes in the past.

Avid bowlers in more than one case became man and wife. Some top-notch bowlers who met at the lanes and eventually married:

Marjorie Colman and Charles Shultz, Irene Daniels and Carl Smith, Lois Kootz and Ed Seagraves, Frances Butler and Bruce Way, Louise Foster and Francis Allen, Ruth Beck and Arnold Burton, Carol Meigs and Bob Mims and Mary Ellen Wilson and George Hall.

In 1839, an act to encourage the killing of wolves in Morgan County probably was the first in a colorful and confused succession of "local" bills.

In 1842, the legislators amended the fish-poisoning law of 1833.

Ten years later, the scalp of a wildcat was added to the list of acceptable payments for poll tax—and the wolf bounty was increased in 1855.

On Feb. 23, 1870, the present State Constitution was adopted.

being in 1954 and Sequoyah

League got its start in 1955 at Sequoyah School playground. Now Sequoyah has a major league-styled park at the Polo Grounds, off Cherokee Blvd.



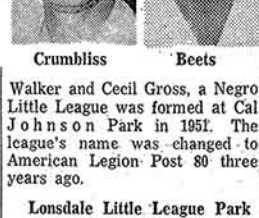
Johnson



Ellenburg



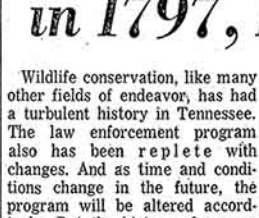
Stotz



Bailes



Crumbliss



Beets

Walker and Cecil Gross, a Negro Little League was formed at Cal Johnson Park in 1951. The league's name was changed to American Legion Post 80 three years ago.

Lonsdale Little League Park was built in 1953 and the Elks moved into their "new home." The Western League came into

existence in 1954 and Sequoyah

League got its start in 1955 at Sequoyah School playground. Now Sequoyah has a major league-styled park at the Polo Grounds, off Cherokee Blvd.

Inskip and Fountain City came up with teams in the county in 1953 and 1954. Both communities now have two leagues. Mascot, which had one of the all-time great players in Gerald Patterson, was sanctioned four years ago and Tri-County, Bearden, Rocky Hill, Powell and Hall's have sanctioned leagues now.

Holston-Chilhowee has its own recreation program for boys in the Little League age group and for Babe Ruth League-age players.

Three former Little League players now are in professional baseball. Ronnie Cronan, who played for the first Yankee team, is in the Los Angeles Dodgers' farm system at Great Falls, Mont. Bud Bales, a member of the White Sox in 1950, is with the Chicago Cubs' chain. Tommy Dukes, who pitched for Ray Chambers' Smokies, is with Auburn, N. Y., in the New York Pennsylvania League.

The South Knoxville All-Stars won the District, State and Southeastern Little League tournaments before bowing to Owensboro, Ky., in the Southern tournament. Owensboro lost to Monterrey, Mexico, the 1957 world champions. They were managed by Dale Hilton and Carl (Dutch) Reichling.

This brief history of Knoxville's Little League baseball only begins to touch on the many thrills, heartbreaks and joys felt by the thousands of parents and youngsters.

Concerning game and fish, it provided, "The General Assembly shall have the power to enact laws for the protection and preservation of game and fish within the state, and such laws may be enacted for and applied and enforced in particular counties or geographical districts, designated by the General Assembly."

The Legislature of 1870 passed a law making it illegal to take fish except with hook and line or trotline. This was the first protective measure—when the state was 74 years old.

The first closed season—on hunting deer with dogs in Benton and Humphreys Counties, was set at the same time. But it was repealed two years later.

In 1873, Stewart County was exempted from the state-wide fish law of 1870. This set the precedent for the local-option law—passed not for the protection and preservation of wildlife, but exempting a county from a protective statute.

In 1875, permission of landowners was required for hunting on enclosed lands and a state-wide closed season on deer was set from March 1 to Sept. 1 and a year-round season was closed on song birds.

During the following 64 years, chaos was to reign.

In 1881, legislators tried again to restrict fishing to hook and line. But two years later, trapping and netting were legalized again and nine counties were exempted from all provisions of any state-wide law. Specifically, fishing was authorized with gigs, spikes, guns, grab-hooks and snatch-hooks.

Thirty-eight more counties were exempted from the state-wide law in 1887.

In '89, a "state-wide" law was enacted to prevent the killing of deer for profit; netting of quail, or killing quail for profit. But 65 counties were exempted.

Nearly every effort to establish a sound state-wide wildlife program was thwarted by local exemptions.

In '91, the legislators went so far as to exempt Hardin County from a law which protected fish during spawning season.

The office of county fish commissioner was established in '93. The salary was \$25 a year. County Court and was to "inform himself as to the fish

conditions and to distribute fish received from the U. S. Government."

In 1903, a major milestone was reached in Tennessee. The Game and Fish Department was created. Wildlife was declared to be the property of the State and the office of the State Game and Fish Warden was established.

The first warden, although not receiving a salary, was allowed for his services a "nominal fee" which was the price of a hunting and fishing license. Deputies received the fines and costs from their conviction of violators.

The first warden appointed was Col. J. H. Acklen.

In 1905, the legislators decided to protect the forests from fire set deliberately or by accident—but 38 counties were exempted from these provisions.

The first hunting license of \$3 was established and the first closed season on fishing was set in 1907. In 1909, the hunting license was upped to \$5.

In 1911, a 4-year closed season on deer was declared along with a law prohibiting the sale of quail and robins.

The Department of Game and Fish was established in 1915, but the laws were cut up to such an extent by local laws that they became confusing and practically void. The result was more destruction of wildlife. Also there was a contested appointment of State Warden that went to the Supreme Court and added to the confusion when the incumbent Governor's appointment was overruled.

A new general law in 1921 messed it up further with more local exemptions and required another law in '23 with only five counties maintaining local law. And that was the year of the first limit of fish.

Gov. Prentice Cooper finally took a positive stand against local laws in 1939 and none passed on his threat to veto any such bill which came up for his signature.

Fishing was permitted for the first time on a year-round basis in 1945 and it wasn't until 1947 that authority to set seasons, creel and bag limits was given to the Game and Fish Department. And in '49, our present nine-man Game and Fish Commission was established and size limits were removed on all fish.

defeated and untied:

Professionalism. "I was so optimistic about the Mobile tryout that I bought a round-trip train ticket. I was scared when I arrived in Mobile that I almost came back home without going to the ball park," says Bonny.

Had he backed out, Bonny Hollingsworth might have missed a career that included, besides the Southern, playing days in the Texas League, the International, the American Association, the Pacific Coast and both major leagues.

"I played with and against some of the greatest names in baseball," said Bonny, thinking back to lineups loaded with Hall of Fame heroes.

"I pitched against Bill Dickey and Mickey Cochrane, two of the best catchers the game has had."

"The leading first basemen I faced were George Sisler, Gehrig and Bill Terry . . . take your pick



'25 Cents a Pair'

Depression Football Hard Life—Off Field and On

By FRANK (RED) BAILES  
There are a lot of ways to skin a cat.

Many of the University of Tennessee football players found this out as they battled the "black days" of the depression to stay in school.

Nickles were precious things those days—and dollars were as scarce as touchdowns in an Alabama game.

"Many of us experienced difficult times," said Kenneth (Shorty) Needham, a guard in 1932-34, "but we had just as much fun then as boys in college do now."

"Times were hard but it was the way of life and we accepted it as that—and many of the boys who went through U-T under these conditions are outstanding men today in many fields."

Needham recalled that every man had some kind of an outside job "to make ends meet" and everyone worked during the summer months and often dropped out of school a quarter to make enough to continue.

Shorty worked until 2 and 3 a.m. almost every night at Swan's Bakery, taking bread off the conveyor belt and sending it on its way to the slicer. Other jobs included cleaning dormitories, working on the Tennessee River and Norris Dam (clearing the way for the dam) and selling clothes.

Needham started selling trousers while still at Knoxville High—as an agent for Buddy Hackman. "Buddy gave me 25 cents for every pair I sold," said Shorty.

Shorty drew a "soft job" in his freshman year. He caught passes from Gene McEver all summer—and the Wild Bull became a passer the following season.

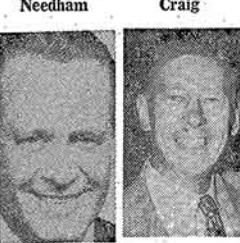
No one went hungry during the depression but several "scrambled" to keep from it.

U-T backfield coach Harvey Robinson has vivid recollection of the "good old days."

"We were all in the same boat," said Coach Robinson.

"The All-Americans scrounged for money the same as the rest."

"Actually, I'm glad I was at Tennessee in those days. We really learned the value of many things—including the dollar—and most of the boys I played with



Needham Craig

with me to eat," says Vaughan, an All-Southern halfback, "and we would really put the food away."

Vaughan also recalled that during his best season at U-T (1934) his father, W. O. Vaughan, a retired railroader, paid all of his school expenses.

Vaughan's jobs as a student included working on the river, stock room at McClung's, Kern's and Brookside Mills. "The temperature must have been 110 when I worked at Brookside," said Pug. He also served as a counselor at Camp Cherokee.

The fabulous career of H. D. (Breezy) Wynn, millionaire industrialist, started during his days as a fullback on The Hill.

Wynn's first business venture was a pickup station for dry cleaning and laundry—which later grew into the "Vol Cleaners." Breezy added the campus barber shop and a pool hall before his football days were over.

A teammate recalled that Breezy once got in trouble with then Maj. Bob Neyland before a big game.

Wynn was late for the pre-game meeting and when he arrived Neyland demanded to know where he had been.

"I've been collecting dry cleaning," was Wynn's reply.

Breezy's work day often started at 5 a. m. He went through the fraternity houses before breakfast to pick up laundry.

J. B. Ellis, a 1930-33 guard, says he depended on buttermilk many times to keep him going. It was a gift of Tommy Haddock.

"And we consumed a lot of cheese in those days," said Ellis. "We had a store that sold it to us two pounds for a quarter."

There was no athletic dormitory. Ellis, Carl McFalls and four other athletes lived in a house McFalls rented for \$6 a month.

"We called it the Love Nest," said Ellis. "The house was on 14th St., near Western Avenue Market, and that's where we got a lot of our food—we 'borrowed' the over-ripe vegetables."

Occupants of the Love Nest cooked on a kerosene stove and had no heat. Like most of the footballers, they often ate at boarding houses on Market St. for 15 cents—if they didn't eat meat. Mrs. Lucy Engert's was another favorite eating spot. She offered

breakfast for 15 cents—to all but Bob Stafford, a 260-pounder from North Carolina. "He ate so much she charged him a quarter," said Ellis.

"We were all big eaters but Stafford and Herman Hickman ate enough to kill a horse."

Herman would eat just to give people something to talk about."

Pete Craig, a fullback who moved up after Wynn suffered a broken leg, recalls waiting on tables at Mrs. Yon's Spaghetti House.

"I worked after practice until

about 9 p.m. for my meals and a place to sleep in my freshman year," said Craig.

Later, Craig and several other footballers were assigned rooms in hotels and a training table was established on campus.

"I had to walk from Atkin Hotel

to Mrs. Brann's to eat breakfast," said Craig.

"And that isn't all. I was an Ag student and I walked from Ayres Hall to the farm for classes—and hustled back to practice down by the river."

The well-dressed athletes were

the ones who were up earliest, Needham adds.

"I roomed with Phil Dickens and the one who got up the earliest got the cleanest—and best—clothes," said Needham. "We didn't have a lot of clothes to pick from then but we made them go around."

Joe's New Life at 40

Here's One Kennedy Happier Golfing Than in White House

By FRANK (RED) BAILES  
"Vaudeville went out and I had to go to work."

That, says Joe Kennedy, is how he turned to professional golf.

That was 31 years ago. Today, at 70, Joe is still teaching the game he loves by special appointment at the Forest Hills Driving Range.

Joe Kennedy's life has been a full one—in golf and out. He started in show business in 1908 as a roller skater and seven years later became a headliner when a member of a black-faced comedy team became ill.

Later he joined his brother, the late Martin Kennedy, with the routine and they headlined several years.

"We went all over the country doing shows," Joe recalled. "And in the summer I came home and played golf. I never had a lesson but I got to playing pretty good, shooting in the 70s."

In 1926 Joe won the club title at Whittle Springs, then a country club, and golf has been his game since.

With vaudeville losing out, Joe decided to turn pro in 1930 and accept an offer from Rex Wallace, then welfare director, to become pro at Whittle Springs.

"I never thought one bit about golf as a profession but I thought the offer from Mr. Wallace sounded good so I took it."

He remained at Whittles 11 years and returned in 1949 and stayed until the city leased the course to private operators.

What's the best round of golf he's played?

"It was at night," says Joe.

"In 1938 I set out to see how



JOE KENNEDY  
'Best at night'

far I could play at night, without lights, before losing a golf ball. I was given one golf ball, marked, and four caddies were sent ahead with large white towels as markers.

"That round was the best golf I've played—when I thought my shots were really perfect. I was never out of bounds and was in the rough only twice—and in only two sand traps."

Joe reports that he parred the last three holes to finish for a 79—and didn't three-putt a green.

Later Joe and the late Bobby Mills played a round at night—with the aid of candles on the tees and a car's lights on the

greens. Mills had a 78 and Kennedy another 79.

"Bobby Mills would have been one of the great professional golfers," said Kennedy. "He had everything and was only a youngster when he was killed in World War II."

Joe Kennedy is full of memories of Knoxville's early golf days.

"The courses were no comparison with our present layouts," said he.

In fact, everything in golf has made great improvement—the courses, equipment and the players. The greens were Bermuda and rye in the old days, most of the clubs had wooden shafts and the balls were almost like walnuts.

"The tees were little white square boxes—about a foot square and filled with sand. You teed the ball up with the sand, not wooden tees."

"When I first saw the boxes (at the old Highlands Country Club) I thought it was where they stored the golf balls."

Joe hopes they never quit making hickory-shafted putters.

"If a putter doesn't have a hickory shaft, it doesn't have the feel and the feel is the biggest thing in golf," said Kennedy.

"Golf is the best mental and physical tonic a person can take," says Joe.

"My only regret is that I wish some one had thought enough of me to get me started in golf years before I did."

Gave Life for Friend

Foxhole Death Ended Career of Bobby Mills

World War II ended a promising golf career of a young Knoxville—Bobby Mills.

The son of Mr. and Mrs. Lon Mills was killed in action in Germany in 1945.

In the closing weeks of the war.

But before leaving Central High as a junior in 1944 to fight with the infantry, Mills had won a raft of championship ships and dozens of trophies which still line the shelves of the Mills home on Valley View Road—just across the street from where most of them were won, Whittle Springs golf course.

Bobby was the City men's champion in 1940 and 1941—as a teenager. He won the state

high school title in 1943, at 16, and was the national children's champion at 12—among other major accomplishments.

A monument stands today near the 18th green at Whittle Springs, a memorial to a young man who had devoted his life to golf and his country.

An army pal from Texas revealed Bobby's heroism and devotion in a letter to his parents. "He died in the foxhole with me. He loved me so much that he actually gave his life that I might live."

Bobby, reportedly, was killed by a sniper's bullet as he (Bobby) crawled out of the foxhole to engage German soldiers who were penetrating the area.

"Bobby Mills would have been the greatest golfer ever developed in Knoxville," said Joe Kennedy, who played with him as a youngster and watched his game progress. "He would have been a great professional today."

6 Have Handled Vol Basketball in 40 Years

Tennessee has had six basketball coaches in the past 40 years. M. B. Banks, the football coach, also handled the basketball team for five years. Bill Britton, end coach, coached the cagers from 1926-35, during which period he had one team that didn't win a game.

Blair Gullion coached the Vols for three years, 1936-38. John Mauer was next, 1939-1947, leaving U-T for West Point. Emmett Lowery held the job from 1948 to 1959, quitting to go into the motel business in Florida. His assistant, John Sines, has had the assignment for two years.

5-YEAR LETTERMAN

Sam (Red) Sharpe is the only Knoxville athlete ever to win five letters in football and to be elected captain of the team twice. Sharpe played at Knoxville High from 1929 through 1933, captaining the 1931 and 1932 teams.

All-Americans Scrounged, Too



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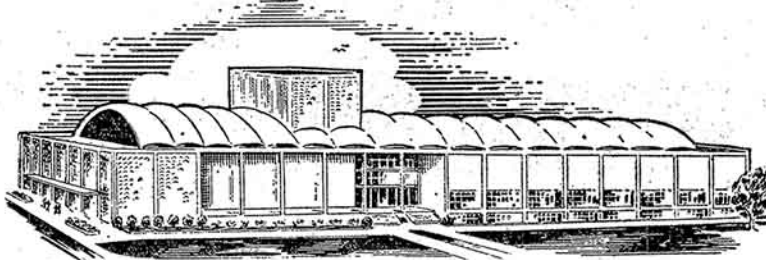
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