

# Faithful Morehead Fans Include 'Characters', Prominent Citizens

By NICK GALANTIS

There is much more to watching a football game than seeing who has the ball or which player made the last tackle. The fans along the sidelines are more interesting (sometimes) than the game.

A few loyal fans never miss a Morehead City game—at home or away. Things wouldn't look right, for instance, if Dom Femia weren't sitting on the bench beside the coach. Dom's tan topcoat and brown hat are trademarks of the cheering section just like Coach Norman Clark's baseball cap is a trademark of the Eagles.

Mayor George Dill, though not as conspicuous as some of the others, is one of the most regular fans at the games. The mayor was a member of Morehead City's first high school football team in 1922.

### Who Runs Fastest?

Dr. Russell Outlaw, a died-in-the-wool fan, wants to know who runs the fastest—Gerald Jones or Skip Willis. When Gerald took off through the Massey Hill team for a 75-yard run last year, Skip kept pace all the way and was standing behind the end zone yelling his head off when Jones crossed the goal.

Everyone appreciates the job done by Bernard Leary and Jimmy Wallace as they operate the public address system for all the home games.

Warren Beck got his reputation for being a "die hard" at the Morehead-Beaufort game year before last. It rained so hard that night he was the only man left in the bleachers. He said he didn't want to watch that game through the windshield of a car pulled up along the sidelines.

### Principal Backs Team

School principal Lenwood Lee is behind the team 100 per cent. He even rides to many of the games on the same bus with the players and coaches. Mrs. Lee goes along with him on most of these jaunts.

Basketball coach Gammon Talbert is one of the most faithful faculty members at the games. He did everything from take up tickets during the play-off games to giving impromptu pep talks to the fans. At the Mount Holly game he was overheard to say, "I'll be glad when the Eagles win the championship—I don't even have time to get my nerves back to normal before basketball season starts."

Parents of the players are always in evidence along the sidelines. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Oglesby don't hesitate to leave their seats when the Eagles are knocking on that touchdown door.

James Guthrie's dad takes things pretty well, but even he can't hide his excitement when his boy

breaks away for a long run. Now that "Little Tony" Seamon has graduated, Ted Garner has taken Capt. Tony's place in the stands.

Ralph Wade and the Morehead City band are some of the noisiest fans at the game but when it comes to yelling everybody has to take a back seat to Jimmy Smith and Wade Bell.

There is always at least one doctor in the stands just in case one of the boys gets hurt. Dr. Brady, Dr. Hatcher and Dr. Barnum are usually on hand for every game.

Malcolm Reid and Headon Piner are a pair of the faithful "play followers" who walk up and down the sidelines following the action. The Jaycees, as a club, are always evident at the home games—selling tickets, working the concession stands and distributing programs.

Other faithful fans include George Wallace, Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Edwards, Clarence Pelletier and former football stars like Kemp "Baby" Wickizer, Kent Brown, Danny O'Neal and Horace Willis.

Not everybody can get out to the games, but if they can read there is always an account of the action in THE NEWS-TIMES. For those who can't read, there are always the pictures!

## James Fodrie Assists Coach

James Fodrie, Seadog assistant coach, is one of the best athletes to be graduated from Beaufort High in the past 10 years. In high school he played basketball, baseball and football.

A graduate of Atlantic Christian College, Coach Fodrie has a major in physical education. In addition to taking courses at ACC, he studied at the University of North Carolina and East Carolina College.

Fodrie's college education was interrupted for two years while he was in the service. In the Army he was in special services, coaching baseball and acting as manager of the post football team at Camp Henford. He played on the district championship basketball team while he was at the camp.

Back in college, Fodrie played semi-pro basketball with the Thurston Motor Lines team that won the Eastern North Carolina championship.

This is Fodrie's first year as a coach and teacher. He will teach the seventh grade. He is the son of Mrs. Grace Fodrie, Beaufort.

## Eagles

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the goal line. The Eagles missed their attempt for the extra point and Wallace-Rose Hill left the field with a 14-13 lead at the half.

A fourth-down pass from Glancy to Guthrie was good for the final Eagle touchdown. It came with less than two minutes remaining in the game.

This was the nearest the Eagles came to tasting defeat during the long trail to the state title.

They slaughtered Massey Hill 31-7 in a game played at Wallace-Rose Hill the following week. Jones and Guthrie scored three and two touchdowns respectively and Glancy scored the extra point.

The Eagles won the eastern championship with a 33-12 romp over Fuquay. The Eagles rolled to a 33-0 lead in the first minutes of the third quarter and Coach Clark began to substitute freely.

Fuquay managed to push two last-quarter touchdowns across, but it was too late then to stop the Eagles from taking the eastern championship.

Scores of loyal fans drove to Mt. Holly (near Charlotte) to see their Eagles play the Mt. Holly Hawks for the state AA-C championship. It had rained so much that water was standing on the field when the game began. It was turning to ice by the time the game was over.

Eagle fans kept plenty warm, though, as they yelled for their team to pull the game out of the fire. The Hawks were holding a 13-7 lead at the end of the first half.

They scored on a 70-yard run by fullback James Helton on the first play from scrimmage and scored on a 20-yard pass play.

James Guthrie had scored all seven of the Eagle points on a short plunge through the line and an extra point.

In the second half the Eagles roared back to score 20 points and wrap up the victory going away. Co-captains Richard Powers and Gordon Patrick were presented with the state AA-C trophy by Hap Perry executive secretary of the North Carolina High School Athletic Association.

More than 2,000 fans greeted the Eagles when they returned from

down each last season. Both men have graduated.

The other two touchdowns scored by the Eagles were scored by Craig Willis, another senior last year, and Johnny Baker, who is fighting for a first string job this season.

Coach Norman Clark says his backs were terrific last year but that they had superb blocking for most of their scoring runs. "With Richard Powers, Lynwood Durham and Linwood Swinson up front, a play nearly had to go," the coach declared.

"Center Gordon Patrick was one of the best men on the line, along with Jackie Simpson, Sherman Salter and Russell Guthrie. The boys on the left side of the line didn't get the credit that was due them last year but I really miss them now," Coach Clark concluded.

## Bucket

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The Eagles turned the tables the following year, winning by scores of 6-0 and 25-7. Since that time the Mullet Bucket has remained in Morehead City.

Because of that, the Mullet Bucket ran into hard days. While everybody talked about the "battle of the Mullet Bucket", no one seemed interested in the ceremony involving the bucket. When the idea was new, the captain of the losing team would bring the bucket to the first chapel program of the winning school after the game.

The custom now is for members of both teams to go to Dom's for their free hamburgers and drinks after each game. The bucket, in the custody of THE NEWS-TIMES, is brought out to be filled with hamburgers and autographed by members of the two teams.

Scores of the Mullet Bucket games after 1952 follow: 1953, 32-0; 1954, 7-0; 1955, 34-0; 1956, 25-7; and 1957, 47-6.

Mount Holly. The team was met at the race track west of Morehead City.

The bus was escorted into town by police cars, a fire engine and decorated cars. In front of Chalk and Gibbs, on Arendell Street, the parade stopped and formal welcoming ceremonies took place.

Jimmy Wallace, master of ceremonies, introduced Jasper Bell, Morehead City town commissioner who took the place of Mayor George Dill. Commissioner Bell praised the team for its sportsmanship and spirit of cooperation.

The crowd gave loud rounds of applause to the team, its coach and to the coach's wife, Mrs. Norman Clark.

Bernard Leary and A. B. Copper were in charge of the welcoming arrangements.