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# Skirt-in' Sports

By Mary Garber



## Minor Sports Need Help

Several high school track coaches are concerned over the week's delay between the sectional track meets and the state track meet.

Sectional meets were held May 7-8. The state meet will be at Raleigh, May 21.

"That's a lot of time to wait," said one coach. "If they found we couldn't have the state meet on May 14, the week after the sectionals, why didn't they move the sectionals back a week? That would have given us an extra week to have another meet. There was nothing to do with our boys who had qualified for the state this week."

Some schools tried to add a meet, but it didn't work well. The kids who did not qualify for the state were ready to quit. There weren't enough left over to have much interest.

There has been a growing feeling among coaches of the so-called "minor" sports that the North Carolina High Schol Athletic Association should appoint someone to look after the "minors."

A suggestion was made at the NCHSAA annual meeting that soccer be added on a state-wide basis. L. J. (Hap) Perry, executive secretary, reported there had been a tremendous increase in participation in golf, tennis and wrestling. Track had its big growth a few years ago, but is still increasing.

Coaches, who deal with track, cross country, tennis, swimming golf and wrestling feel that if someone in the NCHSAA had these sports as his major concern, there would be better organization and promotion.

At least one of the cross country coaches complained about the handling of the state meet last fall. He claimed the records weren't kept carefully. Plans are already under way for sectional cross country meets next fall to cut down the state entries.

Track has grown from one state meet to six sectionals before the state. Wrestling has added sectionals and more probably will be needed.

Golf will have to go to sectionals next year. Tennis already has them.

Swimming hasn't kept pace. But, it must be remembered, that swimming operates under a tremendous handicap. There isn't a usable swimming pool in a high school in North Carolina. Swimming needs encouragement and support by the NCHSAA. But the state meet comes at the same time as the basketball tournaments and usually gets only a passing glance from NCHSAA offi-



L. J. (HAP) PERRY  
... minors growing ...



cials. If there was a minor sports leader, this wouldn't be true.

One thing that would help the growth of the minor sports is for the colleges to concentrate more on training coaches.

North Forsyth is looking for a track and cross country man, but there don't seem to be many available. Good wrestling coaches are hard to find. Dedicated swimming coaches are even tougher to discover.

With the spread of consolidation, it's not going to be enough for schools to stick to the usual football, basketball and baseball. These programs do not reach enough boys.

In addition, these larger schools should offer cross country and soccer in the fall; wrestling, swimming and possible gymnastics in the winter; tennis, golf, track and perhaps softball in the spring.

But, if these programs are added, they should have coaches who are enthusiastic and trained in the sport, support of the school administration so the "major" sport won't over-ride the minor and backing from the NCHSAA with well organized state playoffs.

All this is easier said than done. But it's time now to start working on it.

## *Wrestling, Track on Program*

Wrestling and track will have a part on the North Carolina High School Coaches clinic at Greensboro this summer. Jim Kehoe of Maryland, coach of the ACC champions, will talk on track. Bill Martin of Gramby High School in Norfolk will be the speaker on wrestling. Marion Crawley, Lafayette (Ind) High school will talk on high school basketball.

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Winston-Salem did quite well in the state high school tennis meet. Clark Wilcox and Cliff Pearce of Reynolds won the doubles title. Fred Rawlings, whose dad, Bill, is a former Winston-Salem resident, went to the singles semifinals. Andy Phillips, whose dad is Craig Phillips, former Winston-Salem school superintendent, was part of the Charlotte Myers Park doubles team that lost to Wilcox and Pearce in the semifinals. Phillips is superintendent of Charlotte - Mecklenburg schools.

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Three former Winston-Salem high school football players are bidding for jobs on Davidson's team but haven't nailed down their spots.

Dave Sprinkle, a defensive back, didn't get a chance to play in the spring game because of an injury.

End Phil Hightower was handicapped by a heavy cold.

Joe Gaddy, a guard and linebacker, will concentrate on the linebacking spot. Gaddy will get contact lenses for play next fall. Coach Homer Smith thinks Joe will do much better when he can see the players.