

SPORTS

LIONS WIN OPENER 13-8

By **ROBBY PARHAM**
Sports Editor

The Mars Hill Lions opened their 1984 Gridiron campaign with a 13-8 victory over the Concord Mountain Lions last Saturday at Meares Stadium in Mars Hill.

The Lions won this game with great defense and specialty team play. The Mars Hill defense held the Concord rushing game to 12 yards. The defense and special teams forced five Concord fumbles. All three Mars Hill scores came after fumble recoveries. Punter Chris Pierpont kept Concord bottled up in their own territory all afternoon booting 10 punts for an average of 46.7 yards a punt, two of which were fumbled by Concord's Leon King and recovered by Mars Hill's Darrel Saucier to set up David Shealy field goals.

Mars Hill got on the scoreboard first, midway through the second quarter, with Todd Camp's 1 yard plunge for Mars Hill's lone touchdown. Camp's score culminated a 9 play, 43 yard drive that was set up by a Tony Campagna fumble recovery. Tony Garland set up Camp's run with a 19 yard jaunt.

On the first play of Mars Hill's next possession fullback Freddie Biggers fumbled at the Lions own

26. Concord then moved the ball inside the five before tailback Leon King fumbled and Mars Hill recovered on the seven, spoiling Concord's scoring chance with 5:02 remaining in the first half.

Mars Hill made the score 10-0 at 11:26 mark of the third quarter on a 30 yard David Shealy field goal. Shealy's field goal was set up by Darrel Saucier's recovery of a Concord fumble on a mishandled punt return by Leon King on the Concord 19 yard line.

Mars Hill's final score came with 3:04 remaining in the third quarter on another David Shealy field goal. Again the Lion scoring drive was set up by Concord's Leon King fumble of a Pierpont punt and Darrel Saucier's recovery.

The five play, 34 yard drive was aided by a 12 yard Sean Bowles run. Mars Hill was now up 13-0.

Concord then came right back on the next possession moving the ball to the Mars Hill 20 yard line on a 75 yard Mark Ryhanych pass to wide receiver Todd Baker. But on the next play, Concord fullback David Malay fumbled and Mars Hill linebacked Todd Reeves recovered.

Concord finally got on the scoreboard with 3:20 remaining in the game on an 11 yard Mark

Ryhanych pass to wide receiver John Pate. Ryhanych then threw to tight end Ed Zappi for the two point conversion. This finalized a 14 play 80 yard drive that included a roughing the punter and pass interference call against Mars Hill.

Concord stopped Mars Hill on their next possession on four plays and got the ball back at their own 32 after a 48 yard Chris Pierpont punt with 2:12 left in the game. Mars Hill then forced four Concord pass incompletions to get the ball back and run the clock out.

GAME NOTES

Senior linebacker Todd Reeves had an outstanding game, making 8 tackles, assisting 4 tackles, 1 sack, recovered a fumble and broke-up four passes... Mars Hill's win was the 5th straight season opening win... Mars Hill quarterback Sean Bowles was sacked five times for -39 yards, while Concord's quarterback Mark Ryhanych was dropped three times for -32 yards... After next Saturday's game against Catawba the Lions go on the road for the next three games... After Saturday's performance against Concord, punter Chris Pierpont has to be considered an All-American candidate.



Defensive tackle, Jeff Blanchard (#92), takes down a Concord back in last Saturday's victory over Concord College. MHC's defensive performance was instrumental in the 13-8 win for the Lions.

Mars Hill 13 Concord 8

Concord	0	0	0	8	-	8
Mars Hill	0	7	6	0	-	13

MHC - Camp run (Shealy Kick)	7:48
MHC - Shealy 30 FG	11:26
MHC - Shealy 35 FG	3:04
CC - Pate 11 pass from Ryhanych (Zappi pass from Ryhanych)	3:20

Concord Mars Hill

First Downs	9	8
Rushes-Yards	30-12	51-60
Passing Yardage	258	61
Return Yardage	21	10
Passes	14-33-0	2-11-1
Punts	9-39.8	10-46.7
Fumbles	6-5	1-1
Penalties	7-60	10-72

RUSHING -
Concord, Johnson 12-23
King 4 - (-2)
Mars Hill, Calhoun 11-4
Camp 13-41, Garland 9-

PASSING -
Concord, Ryhanych 33-14
Mars Hill, Bowles 10-2-0
Garland 1-0-1-0

RECEIVING -
Concord, Pate 3-45, Zappi Baker 4-113
Mars Hill, Similton 1-50
Camp 1-11



PHOTO BY DAVID WACHTER

After a loss to UNC-A the week before, the MHC Booters came home to the Meares Soccer Stadium to face Wingate. The Lions fell to Wingate 6-1 despite a tremendous effort by the defense. Above, defender Jeff Morgan cuts-off a Wingate opponent, while below, goalie Chip Kiley makes a save.



PHOTO BY DAVID WACHTER

MHC BOOTERS FALL IN OPENING TWO

By **EMILY GILL**
Sports Dept.

The Lion soccer team played the Wingate College on September 7th at 3:00 p.m. The score was 6 Wingate and 1 MHC. Two goals slipped by the MHC defense in the 1st half, but play remained at center field. The 1st half of the game was predominated by penalties for both teams.

Wingate scored 4 goals in the 2nd half, 2 on corner kicks.

Mars Hill's big moment came in the 2nd half when a hand ball was called in the penalty box on a

Wingate player. Mars Hill striker Jose Copa made a clean shot into the corner of the goal.

All these statistics look disheartening, but our soccer team improves with every practice. Coach Tom Coates and player-coach Jose Copa work together to bring skill and strength to our rookie team. Coates says, "We play with what we have, each of our starters are important. Nine seniors (on the team) will affect our play next year."

Scholarships would certainly affect the level of play for our team,

but there have to be seasons of disappointment before the program is stabilized.

Coates says, "They are playing more as a team, the little experience from last year is showing."

Coates and Copa work together on skills and offensive-defensive drills. They analyze the progress of the team after each practice, and sight areas for improvements.

"They enjoy playing, they endure pain, they believe in the sport," says Coates.



PHOTO BY DAVID WACHTER

Returning this year, quarterback Sean Bowles, the 1983 SAC-8 leading passer.

LION FOOTBALL '84

By **ROBBY PARHAM**
Sports Editor

The Mars Hill Lions enter the 1984 football season very optimistic. They look to improve on last year's 4-6-1 campaign and 5th place finish in the South Atlantic Conference.

There are, however, problems facing the Lions this year. The offensive line will have to improve for Mars Hill to be able to successfully move the football. Returning to anchor the offensive front is Tim Power at tackle, Jim Riner at center, John Hensley at tackle, and moving from starting noseguard on defense to offensive guard, Bernard Steadman.

Returning to direct the offense will be the SAC 8 leading passer in 1983, Sean Bowles (1492 yards and 10 touchdowns). Joining Bowles in the backfield will be Todd Camp (306 yards, 4.9 avg. yards per carry) at fullback and Tony

Garland (280 yards and 1 touchdown) at tailback. Also seeing considerable playing time will be Pete Calhoun at tailback and Freddie Biggers at fullback.

The receiving corps welcomes the return of flanker Dale Similton who broke his leg midway through last season. Before he was hurt, Similton caught 10 passes for an incredible 23 yards per catch average and five touchdowns. Also returning at flanker is Tracy King (19 catches for 261 yards and 2 touchdowns) and split end Danny Jordan (16 catches for 316 yards and 1 touchdown). Filling the tight end position will be newcomer Lance Roland.

The Lions defense will again be strong. Last year the defense was third in the nation in pass defense. All-American candidate Kevin Barnette returns at safety, along with rover Greg Bailey and corner-

backs Tony Campagna, Lambert and Kerry England. The defensive front is Jonathan Williams, Owens returning at the end positions. Mike Cross at defensive tackle and McNeely at noseguard.

Leading tackler last year, Reeves returns at linebacker with Mark Burch, who is back to linebacker after a year in 1983.

The kicking game is very strong with punter Chris Pierpont and placekicker David Shealy. Pierpont tied for the nation last year in punting with a 40.9 yard average per punt. Mars Hill is scoring points.

All-in-all, Lion football should be an exciting season. Mars Hill fans will not miss.

VOLLEYBALL SEASON OPENS

By **DENISE GROH**
Managing Editor

The Mars Hill Lady Mountain Lions Volleyball Team returns this year with a strong line-up. Losing only two graduates, the team is largely composed of experienced players. Those returning are: seniors Kim Henson and Sandy

Robertson, juniors Denise Groh, Robin Lucas, and Lavonda Wagner, sophomores Sandy Greene and Jackie Moody. Completing the roster are sophomore transfer Carol Loftin and freshman Cindy Hodge and Kim Longhouser.

The combination of experienced players and talented newcomers in-

stills confidence, enthusiastic optimism in both team and players. The season began Monday at Gardner-Webb with a tie-of-five match. Thursday, travelled to another dual with Elon. Deadlines prohibit printing of the scores at the time but they will follow in the next issue.