

Prep Football

Byers engineers West's victory

By CHRIS MACKIE
Special to the Chronicle

"Air Byers" may not be an up-and-coming mode of transportation, but last Friday night it proved to be yet another way of keeping the undefeated West Forsyth football team flying high.

The Titan aerial assault, which was piloted by quarterback Derrick Byers, burned the previously unscored-upon Carver defense for two touchdowns and carried West to an impressive 21-8 victory in 4-A non-conference action.

"We figured we would have to pass effectively to beat Carver and Derrick just did a super job for us," said Titan Coach Denny Zeiters afterwards. "Really, I was surprised with the amount of poise that he showed because last year he got shoved around quite a bit in the jayvee game (against Carver)."

But this was a varsity matchup, and it was to be Byers' passing and strong defensive play (from both teams) that would highlight the inaugural game at the Yellow Jackets' recently-constructed stadium.

In the first period, neither team could muster an offensive threat and it appeared that the contest would live up to its billing as a defensive tug of war.

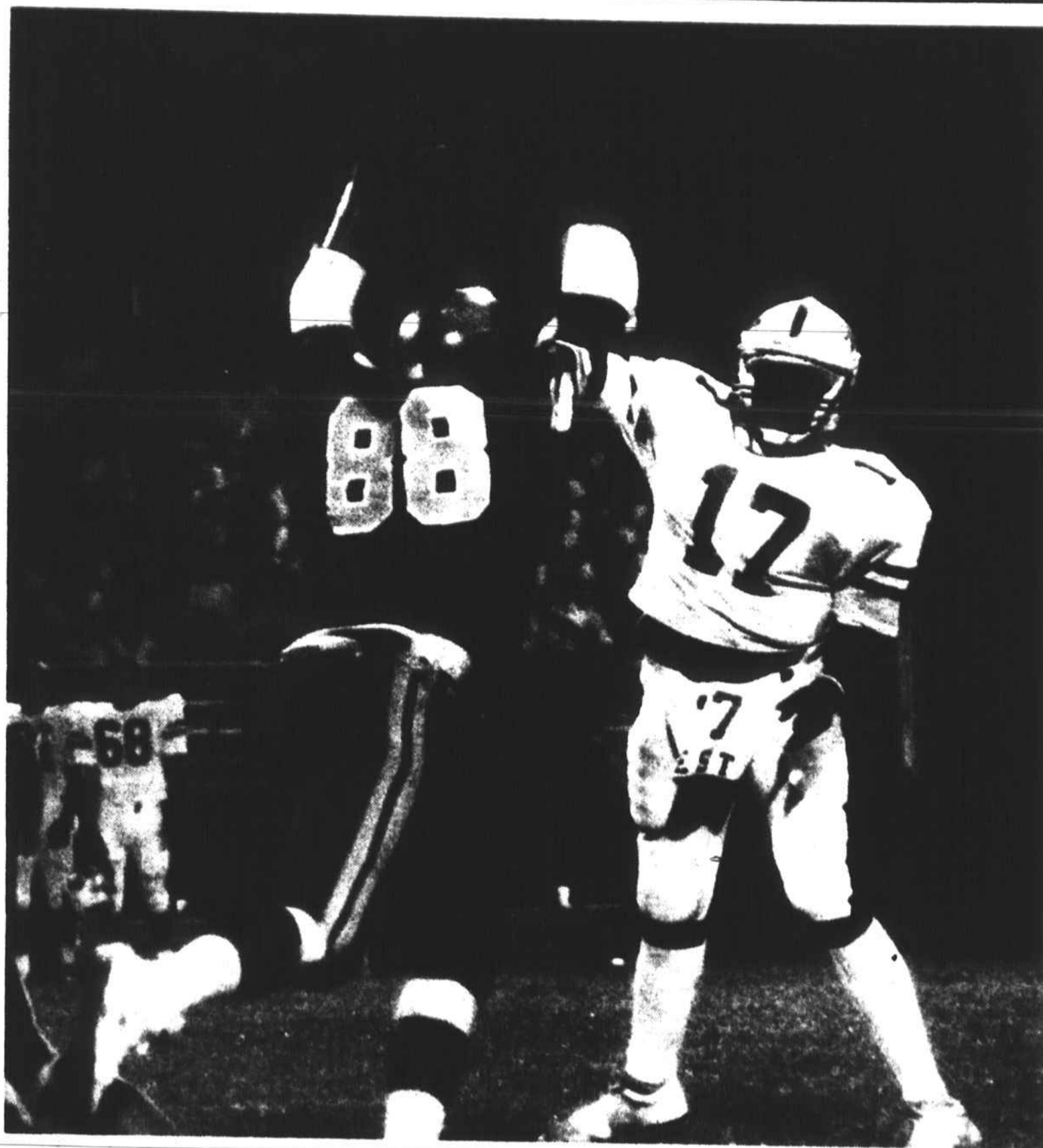
But in the second quarter, the Titans began unraveling their passing plans when Byers connected with flanker Jeff Ebert on a 36-yard completion that put the ball on the Yellow Jackets' 5-yard line. On the next play, Byers went up top again and found tight end Robert Wall alone in the end zone for a touchdown that gave the Titans a 7-0 advantage.

There was no further scoring in the first half, although the Yellow Jackets did manage to get to the Titans' 5-yard line when they recovered a fumbled handoff with 3:30 remaining.

But the West defense quickly took charge and pushed Carver back to the 15-yard line when Donald Carter sacked Yellow Jacket quarterback Anthony Joyner on a third-and-goal play. Carver Coach Jim Bovender then elected to go for six on fourth down, but Joyner's pass sailed out of the end zone and killed the scoring threat.

"I decided to go for the touchdown because our starting kicker (Richard Daniels) was injured and we didn't have anybody who could make it (a field goal) from that far out," explained Bovender.

"That was an important series and it hurt us because we needed to put some points on the board



Byers Ball

West sophomore Derrick Byers, left, unloads one of his 15 completions in the Titans' 21-8 win over Carver; Yellow Jacket defensive tackle Fernando Horn is a bit late for the sack (photo by Chris Mackie).

before the half ended."

In the third quarter, the Yellow Jackets did manage to finally put some points on the board shortly after they recovered West punt returner Bobby Paige's fumble on the Titans' 5-yard line.

It took just two plays before Joyner sneaked in for a one-yard touchdown and then tossed a pass to Rodney McCoy for a two-point conversion that gave Carver an 8-7 lead.

The Yellow Jackets maintained their narrow advantage for the remainder of the third period and

part of the fourth before Byers led the Titans to the go-ahead touchdown with just over five minutes left in the game.

During that drive, the 6-3, 220-pound sophomore completed five of six passes, including a crucial fourth-down flip to Paige and a four-yard touchdown pass to Ebert.

"We've been in some close games this year and I think the experience that they've given us helped us in this game," noted Zeiters. "We made some

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College Football

WSSU to face miserly Pirates

By DAVID BULLA
Chronicle Sports Editor

Bill Hayes is concerned about Winston-Salem State's game at Hampton University Saturday.

It's bad enough that the 12th-ranked Pirates have convincing wins over Johnson C. Smith, Cheyney State and Virginia Union. But Hayes is anxious about something else altogether.

"When you play Hampton now, you're up against two head coaches," Hayes said. "Mel Rose, their offensive coordinator, was the head coach at Livingstone last year. Fred Freeman is in his second year as Hampton's coach. So I'm really up against it."

Of equal concern is Hampton's stingy defense, which Freeman oversees. The Pirates' 52 alignment could give the Rams fits in Saturday's 1:30 p.m. game at Armstrong Field.

"They really have a good defense," said Hayes, whose Rams take a 1-1 record into the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association game. "Freeman does an excellent job."

"Even if their offense isn't quite as good their defense, good defense sets up good offense. So it will be a real challenge for us to come out of there alive."

It has been six years since the two teams last played. WSSU whipped Hampton 41-14 in 1979 at Bowman Gray Stadium.

But this meeting figures to be much closer. The Rams are two-time defending Southern Division champions in the CIAA. The Pirates, off to their best start since 1976, were runners-up to Norfolk State in the Northern Division last year.

"This will be a tough one," Freeman said. "We have to play as good or better than we did last week to win."

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Team	Points
WSSU	184
Hampton	124
North Carolina	82
Virginia State	81
Central State	72
North Carolina State	70
Wake Forest	68
Virginia Tech	44
Wake Forest State	32
Wilmington	31
Hampton University	18
Johnson C. Smith	14
Cheyney State	9
Virginia Union	8



Lester Kimber shows his championship form on this wood shot (photo by James Parker).

Local Golf

Kimber wins NAACP tournament

By DAVID BULLA
Chronicle Sports Editor

Lester Kimber, one of the most successful amateur golfers in Winston-Salem, is a relative newcomer to the game he has mastered so well.

The 37-year-old Kimber only began playing golf 14 years ago. Now a scratch golfer, Kimber added another championship trophy to his sizable den collection with a three-shot win over Gene Williams in the first NAACP Open last Sunday. The win at Winston Lake Golf Course

was Kimber's third tournament victory of the year after he won six in 1984.

Considering that he only learned "how to win in the last four or five years," Kimber's golfing abilities are all the more impressive, given his limited time in a game that is often picked up in childhood.

"I've played as well this year as last," said Kimber, a former semi-pro baseball player. "I have a couple of second places to go along with those firsts. My game's been very good."

"But I've had the ability all along. Early in my career I thought I should be doing better. I was second so many times that I thought I'd never win. Yet, golf is a little different from other sports. You can be lucky and win one tournament. But you won't be lucky and win every week."

Kimber has shown his winning ways are not the stuff of luck. He has been an outstanding player on a consistent basis. Some of his best efforts haven't resulted in victories. But he is equally proud

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Ram Report

Handsome run exposes backfield depth

By DAVID BULLA
Chronicle Sports Editor

Meet Calvin Handsome, No. 22 in your program and No. 1 in the hearts of Winston-Salem State fans after what he did in one quick play against North Carolina A&T two weeks ago.

Handsome ran through the North Carolina A&T defensive line as if it didn't exist when he bolted for a 50-yard third-quarter touchdown. The right halfback sprinted through Aggie territory so fast, and so easily he may as well have been out doing a little running back in his hometown of Tarboro.

His touchdown tied the game and epitomized the quickness with which WSSU mounted its 19-point comeback against A&T. Handsome's TD came with 7:07 gone in the third quarter. Seven minutes and 34 seconds earlier, his team had trailed 19-0. At that point, an Aggie blowout was not out of the question.

But beyond that game, the Rams' longest touchdown of the season expressed the strength of the team's running corps. Handsome shares right halfback with Leonardo Horn; Robert Simmons, James Johnson and Donald Evans split time at left half, and Ed Byers, Lonnie Pulley and Leroy Wonsley alternate at fullback.

Coach Bill Hayes believes in platooning as much as North Carolina basketball Coach Dean Smith once advocated the Blue Team. Last season, for instance, the Rams led the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association in rushing. But their leading rusher, Horn, was only fifth-best in the conference. Byers was the runner-up for team honors, but finished 13th in the CIAA.

Those rankings are off in part because WSSU uses the wing-T, in which the running load is shared with an extra back. Still, the use of eight or nine runners, not counting the quarterback, is unusual.

Despite the success platooning has brought the Ram program, Hayes is quite aware that his backs may be a little less than happy with platooning. Asked if it had caused any problems, Hayes responded: "It hasn't caused me any problems. But I'm sure they all think it's caused them problems. Each one thinks he's an all-America or a Heisman Trophy candidate."

"We'd teach them to lose themselves in the team."



WSSU sophomore Calvin Handsome is an elusive runner with world-class speed; the Tarboro native often works out with Kelvin Bryant in the offseason (photo by James Parker).

We tell them, 'Look, you all get to play. And if one has the hot hand, we leave him in there.'"

Handsome, a sophomore, said he accepts platooning.

"It's all right as long as it helps the team," the halfback said.

The 5-foot-9, 182-pound Handsome has helped downright handsomely. He has averaged 8.5 yards per carry in the first two games.

Handsome, who played sparingly last year as a halfback and kick returner, is seeing increased playing time because of an outstanding preseason.

"I came to preseason practice with a good attitude," he said. "I was ready to get to work."

Handsome had already been doing a bit of work

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