

# SPORTSWEEK

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## Yellow Jackets

▲ Team will be hard-pressed to live up to last season's success

By SAM DAVIS  
Chronicle Sport Editor

Carver will have a tough act to follow after winning the North Piedmont 3-A Conference Junior Varsity championship and claiming last year's mythical City-County JV championship.

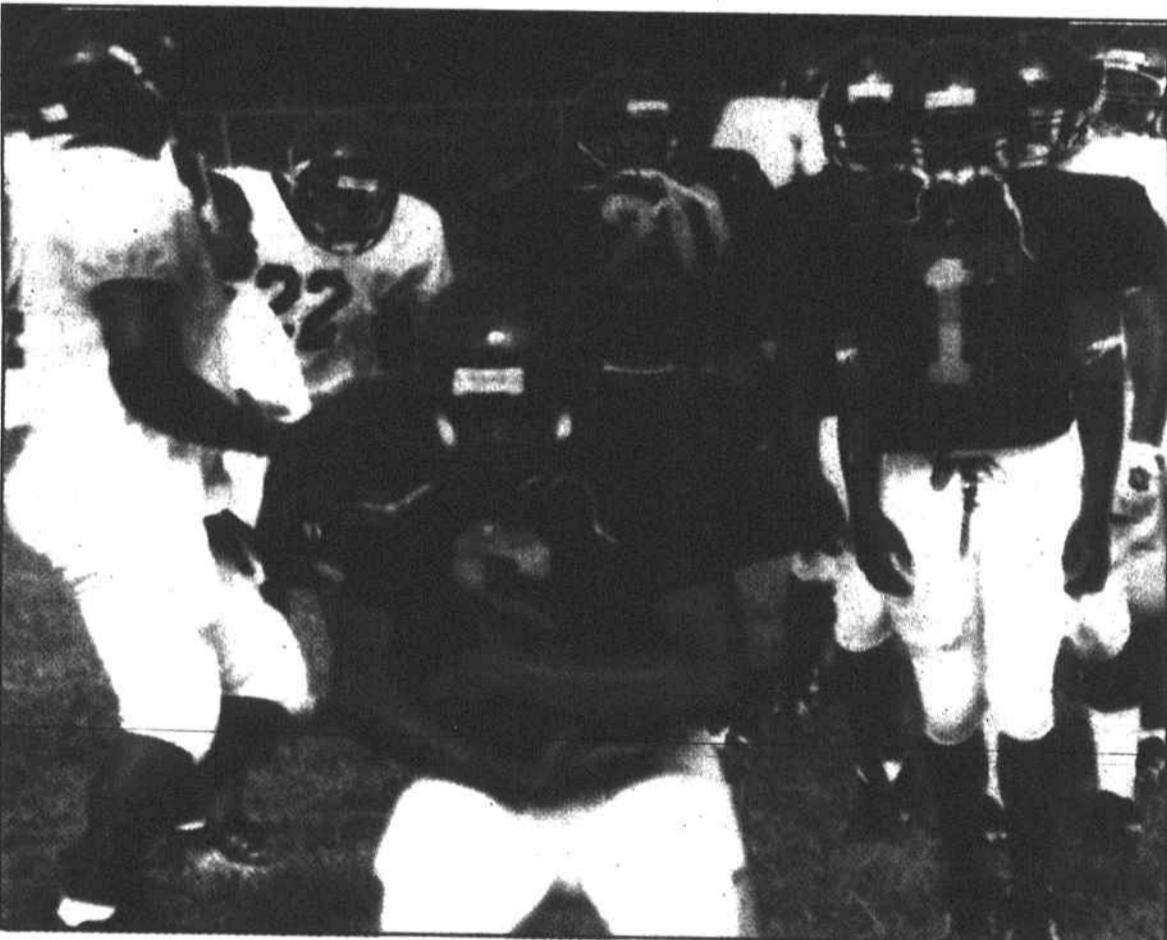
First of all the team lost its coach, Darryl Hall, who decided to step down from the junior varsity to spend more time coaching the Yellow Jackets' varsity defensive backs. As of now, Keith Wilkes the varsity coach, hasn't announced a new coach and all of Carver's varsity coaches are pitching in to help get the '96 season off the ground.

Secondly, the entire nucleus of last season's junior varsity has moved up to the varsity level.

Perhaps the most noticeable absence is that of Tauric Rice, who was a finalist for the Winston-Salem Chronicle's Player of the Year Award. Rice, who rushed for more than 1,000 yards as a freshman, is in the hunt for the starting halfback slot on the Yellow Jackets varsity team. The team's fullback in last year's ground-oriented attack, Mike Rucker, is currently the projected starter at fullback on the varsity.

Wilkes says the team is in a quandary, but has some talented young players who

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(Pictured above) Kevin Eaton, one of Carver's few returning players will be counted upon to carry a lot of the load for the Yellow Jackets early in the season. Eaton, who started at nose guard last year, should see action at fullback this season. (Pictured left) T.J. Gregg, a freshman fullback, carries the football during a recent practice at Carver. Carver coaches say Gregg has a lot of ability but no game experience for the Yellow Jackets. Gregg is battling Kevin Eaton for the starting fullback slot.

Photos by Reginald Campbell

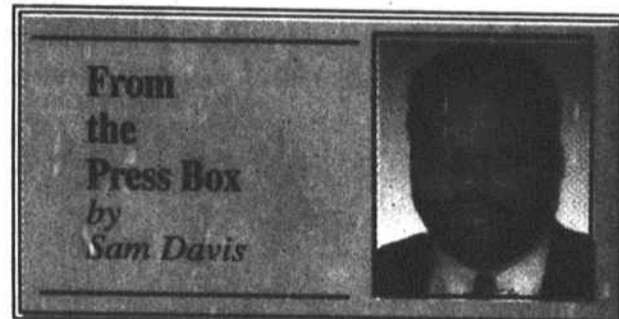
## Tiny Indians

have come long way since segregated days

As I passed the football practice field at Kennedy Middle School recently and saw the hundreds of African American children participating in POP Warner Football, I couldn't help but think about my first experiences in the Northwest Midget Football League with the Indians (or Red Shield Boys Club as we were called then).

It was 30 years ago when my oldest brothers, Matthew and Isiah, got a paper route in the Waughtown Street section of Winston-Salem. That was in 1966, when everything in this area was segregated.

One day, during the course of their work, they ventured onto Stadium Drive. As they proceeded north on that street they noticed a building where white boys descended in groves each day. Finally, they got the nerve



up to go and find out what was inside the Red Shield Boys' Club. They were surprised at what they found - a place where boys could come and play games all day once they paid membership dues, which at the time was only \$1.

Not only that, they were encouraged to participate alongside their white counterparts. Having been raised in the segregated community of Happy Hill Gardens, they were taken aback by all of this. However, Dave Rickard, the director at that time, told them they were welcome to join. So Matthew and Isiah Davis became the first African-Americans to join the Boy's Club.

A few days later, I followed my brothers to check out this "Boys' Club." It was unlike anything I had ever seen before. Games to play, even craft courses were offered. There was a swimming pool that was open year-round and they also took trips to visit places. But more importantly for me, there was a

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## Eagles hope to get out of blocks early during '96 season

### ▲ Weeks, Brayboy, Barber could help East fly high

By SAM DAVIS  
Sports Editor

The overall approach has changed at East Forsyth, where varsity Coach Joe Bill Ellender is taking a hands-on approach to getting his young players ready for the junior

varsity season.

The Eagles are young, but talented and Ellender says that he wants to make sure that all of his junior varsity players learn the same technique that is being taught on the varsity level.

"We're all coaching both the varsity and

the jayvees together this year," Ellender says. "We want to get them going through the same kind of practice as the varsity players. I think this is going to be best for our program."

Last year the Eagles started slowly but gathered steam during their conference season and finished with a .500 record. This year, Ellender says he hopes to improve upon that record and keep the program moving in a positive direction. The 40 or so players that turned out for the start of preseason drills has the Eagles optimistic that they can get their program back to the top of their conference.

"Right now we're kind of an unknown quantity," Ellender says. "Last year we lost some early that I thought we could have won. But then late in the season we beat some real good teams."

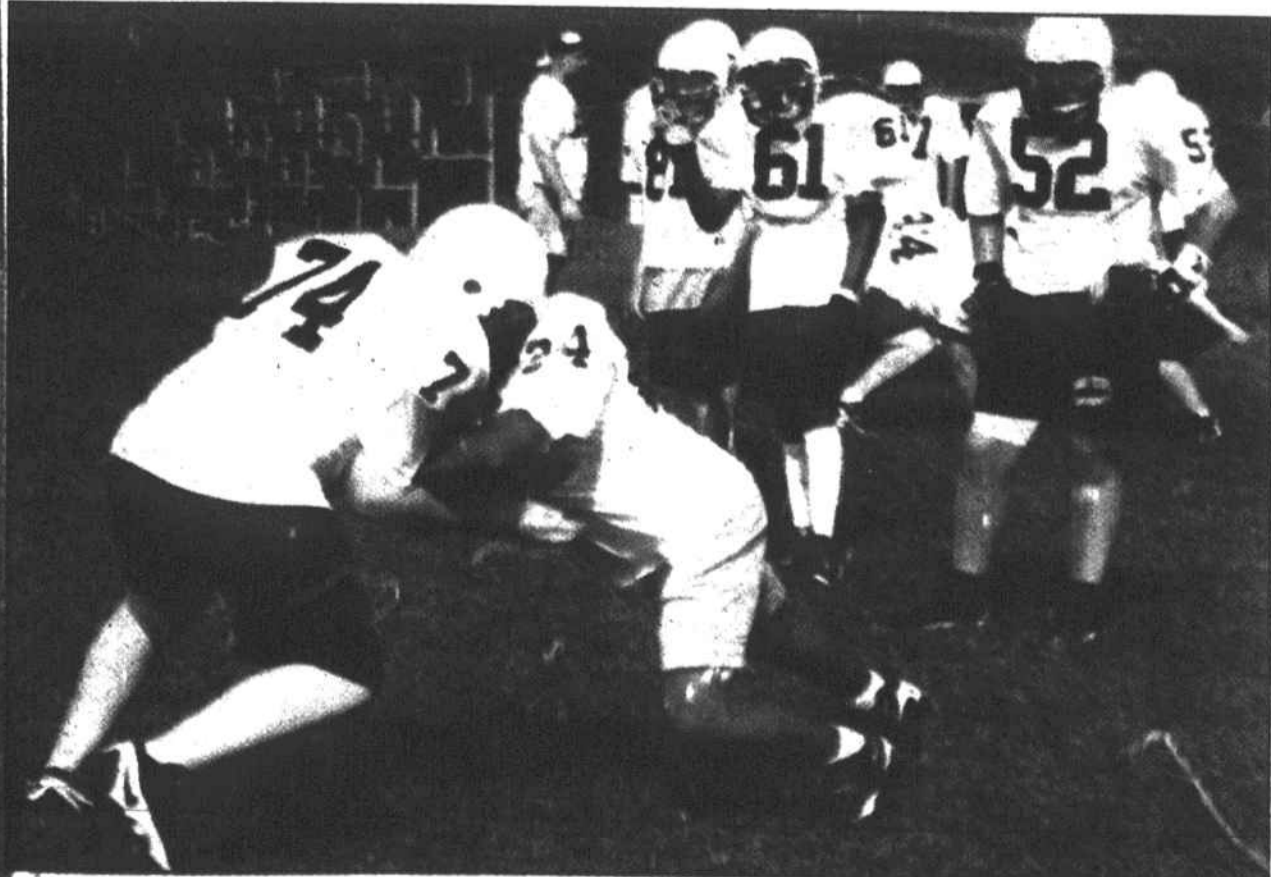
This season Ellender says he hopes to get out of the blocks early.

On offense, the Eagles have several outstanding players returning. The most intriguing might be Courtney Weeks, who will line up at several positions.

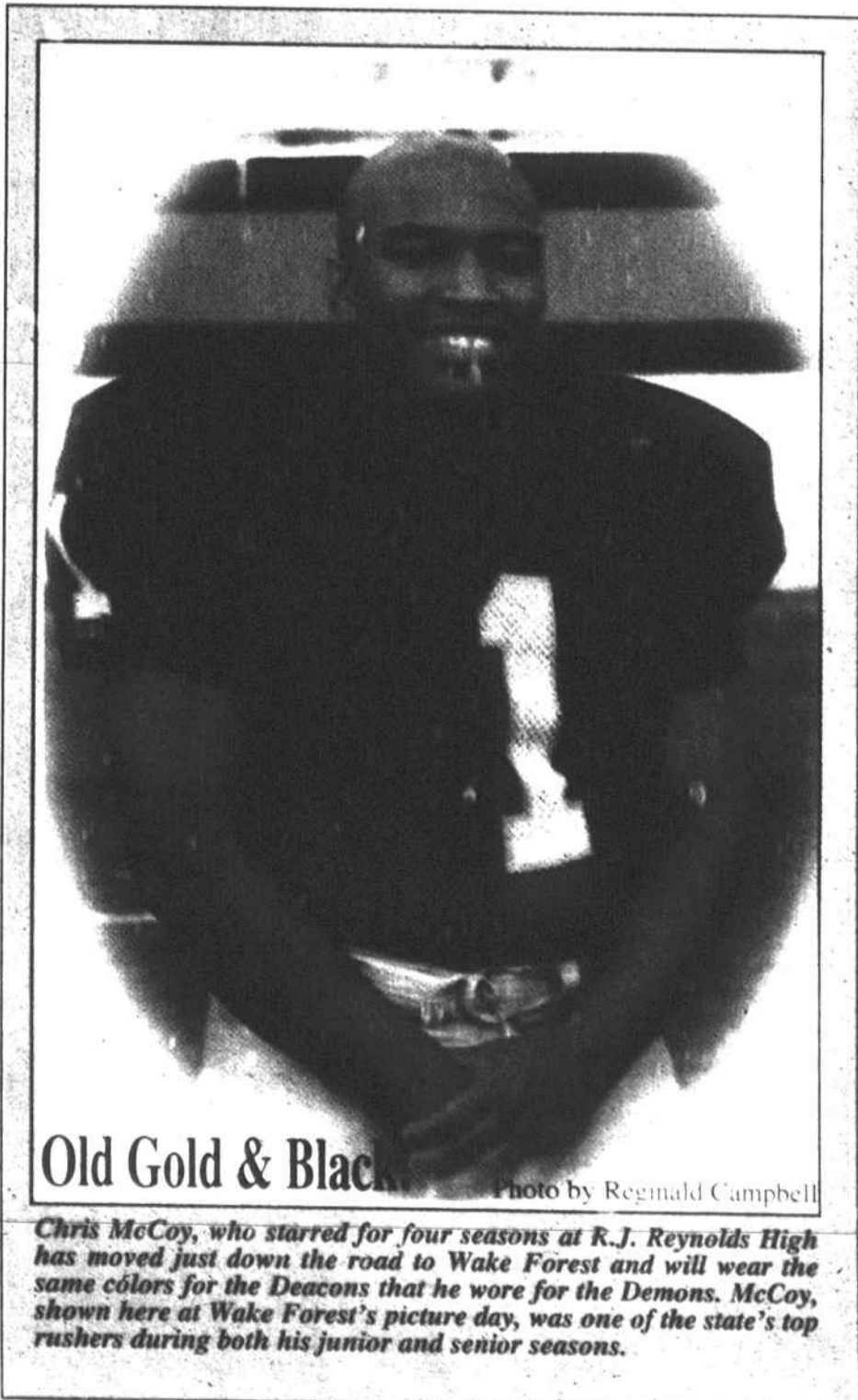
"Courtney is a young man with a lot of talent," Ellender says. "We're going to try him at several places to see where he works out the best."

At the start of preseason drills Weeks was working at both halfback and quarterback. A lot will be determined by the development of Jason Brayboy, a freshman, at

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Coach Joe Bill Ellender, East's varsity coach, has spent extra time with the junior varsity linemen this season to make sure the young Eagles learn the intricacies of the Wing-T offense. The Eagles will rely on fundamental football, especially early in the JV season. Photo by Reginald Campbell



Old Gold & Black

Photo by Reginald Campbell

Chris McCoy, who starred for four seasons at R.J. Reynolds High has moved just down the road to Wake Forest and will wear the same colors for the Deacons that he wore for the Demons. McCoy, shown here at Wake Forest's picture day, was one of the state's top rushers during both his junior and senior seasons.