

SPORTS WEEK

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West overpowers 'Stangs

BY CRAIG T. GREENLEE
FOR THE CHRONICLE

West Forsyth's early barrage was too much for Parkland to handle in junior varsity football action last week. The visiting Titans scored three touchdowns in the first quarter, then cruised the rest of the way in a 37-8 victory at Deaton-Thompson Stadium.

It didn't take long for this Central Piedmont Conference opener for both teams to get out of hand. Aidan Batalia and Drew Latham ran for two touchdowns apiece to lead the way for West Forsyth, which led 23-0 at the end of the first quarter.

Dimitri Hondos added an eight-yard scoring run midway through the second quarter. Minutes later, Latham rushed seven yards for a touchdown to close out the scoring for the Titans.

Parkland scored its only touchdown on a five-yard run by backup quarterback Casey Wilkins late in the fourth quarter. Tre Barnes ran for the conversion. Wilkins threw a 42-yard pass to Deparis Linton to set up the score.

Due to the one-sided nature of the game, West Forsyth emptied its bench so that everyone got playing time. Coach Jared Eure is pleased with the win, but realizes his team must sharpen its game as the Titans go deeper in conference play.

"Regardless of what the score is, our players have to execute the plays that are called," said Eure, whose team improved 3-2 and 1-0 in the CPC. "We need to do that whether it's our first-string or our fourth-string. Defensively, it's all about wrapping people up and putting them on the ground. So far this season, we've had bad special teams play and too many turnovers. That's because we're playing so many young pups (freshmen), but they are coming along."

In defeat, Parkland quarterback Gianni Smith showed flashes of promise, as did wide receivers



West Forsyth's Dashawn Hamilton (2) returns a kickoff as Parkland's Elvin Delarosa (4) makes the tackle.



Jared Eure

Andrew Grant and Linton. On defense, Juwan Huey recovered two fumbles and made a touchdown-saving tackle at the goal line to keep the Titans from scoring in the third quarter.

Inconsistency on both sides of the ball is the prime reason why Parkland is 0-5, 0-1. It's not that the Mustangs have no talent on the roster. It's more about their inability to significantly reduce turnovers, penalties and missed assignments.

West Forsyth, in the meantime, hasn't fully recovered from losing

its best player. Zach Brinkley suffered a fractured tibia in late August and is out for the season. Prior to his injury, Brinkley played well as a break-away running back and hard-hitting linebacker. He also punts and returns kicks.

For the remainder of the season, Eure looks for Mitchell Berry and Latham to set the tone for their teammates. Berry, a sophomore inside linebacker, is the heart and soul of the defense. Latham, a freshman quarterback, has continued to improve with each outing.

"Mitchell is an up and coming talent," said Eure. "He's our leader on defense and I trust his judgment. That's why we give him the freedom to make his own (defensive) checks as he sees fit. Drew has gotten more comfortable with the offense and he makes good decisions."

Both teams will be back in action today (Oct. 2). West Forsyth plays host to Mount Tabor; Parkland squares off against Reynolds at Deaton-Thompson Stadium. Kickoff time for both games is 6 p.m.



Senior receiver Desmond Lawrence scores on a 49-yard touchdown pass at Greene Memorial Stadium.

First MEAC win for the Aggies

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

North Carolina A&T put the ball in the hands of a true freshman Saturday afternoon and then relied on its defense to secure an important 38-22 conference win over Howard at Greene Memorial Stadium in Washington, D.C.

A few Bison dropped passes – 11 to be exact – helped along the way. The Aggies (4-1, 1-0) will take what they can get after winning without the nation's sixth-leading rusher in sophomore Tarik Cohen and playing the entire second half without starting quarterback Kwashaun Quick who left due to injury.

Instead the Aggies turned to High Point, N.C., freshman Marquell Cartwright to carry the ball in place of Cohen, while freshman Hasaan Klugh took care of the quarterbacking duties for Quick. Cartwright finished with 135 yards and two touchdowns on 33 carries. In only two quarters of play, Quick threw for 200 yards, two touchdowns and an interception on 14-for-23 passing. He also caught a 3-yard touchdown pass in the first half.

But it was the Aggies defense that remained steadfast despite watching a 28-7 lead dwindle into a 28-22 lead with three minutes, 25 seconds remaining in the third quarter.

Cartwright gave his defense a boost by bursting through a humungous hole on the left side to score on a 16-yard touchdown with a minute left in the third quarter to put A&T ahead 35-22.

"I'm so proud of our guys because they just keep overcoming a lot," said A&T head coach Rod Broadway. "Tarik couldn't play today. Our quarterback only played a half, but guys just keep rising up and playing for us. That's a good sign to have as a football team."

The Aggies return to Atlanta for the 26th annual Atlanta Football Classic at the Georgia Dome on Saturday. They will take on the Bulldogs of S.C. State, who beat them at the event last year.

"We're glad to come up here and get out of here with a win but it was costly," said Broadway. "We have a number of injuries, so we just have to go back and prepare for South Carolina State the best way we know how."



Broadway

ECSU hires interim coaches

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Elizabeth City State University has announced their head basketball coaches for the 2014-2015 school year.

Coach Ron Woodard will be at the helm of the Lady Vikings' program, while Coach Alico Dunk will take over on the men's side.

Woodard brings a wealth of knowledge to the Lady Vikings' program. He compiled a 120-92 record 11 seasons as the head men's basketball coach at Claflin University (Orangeburg, SC). He guided the program from the NAIA ranks, where Claflin won the Eastern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference title in 2005, to Division II where in their first season of eligibility, the Panthers won the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference regular-season title (2009). During their transition year from NAIA to NCAA Division II (2007-08) Woodard's club posted the best record of any HBCU team with a 24-2 mark.

"I'm happy to be here and am thankful for the chance to be a head coach in the CIAA," says Woodard. "I look forward to an exciting year of Lady Viking basketball keeping in mind that our athletes are

students first. Making sure that we stay focused in the classroom is very important to the overall success of our program."



Dunk



Woodard

best record in school history – 24-4 and 15-1 in the CIAA.

After five seasons and a record of 83-56 at the helm of the Lady Viking program, Dunk will assume head coaching duties for the Vikings. Previously, he spent six seasons as an assistant coach for the ECSU men's basketball team, including 2007 CIAA Tournament Champions.

"I would like to thank athletic administration for this great opportunity," Dunk said. "It is an honor to build on the solid foundation that has made ECSU one of the top programs in the CIAA. Our student-athletes will be equally dedicated to both success in the classroom and competitiveness on the court."

During his five year stint as coach of the women's team Coach Dunk built an impressive résumé. Under his guidance the Lady Vikings won the CIAA Northern Division twice and he was tabbed as the 2013 CIAA Coach of the Year after leading ECSU to the

WSSU Athletics re-ups with Modern Automotive

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

The Winston-Salem State University Department of Athletics has signed a new three-year contract with Modern Automotive that will extend through the 2017 academic/athletics season.

Modern Automotive will become the Official Automotive Supplier of WSSU Athletics and the presenting sponsor for the WSSU Homecoming Football game. Terms of the deal have not been released but it is believed to be valued at over \$140,000.

As part of the deal, WSSU Athletics will receive three newly-leased vehicles from Modern, including a new 2015 Chevy Suburban and the new 2015 Nissan Altima.

Modern will have a notable presence with supporting academic excellence as the student of the game sponsor for both Winston Salem State Athletics home Football and Basketball games, awarding a \$100 bookstore certificate to a student who has exhibited great work in the classroom and in the community.



Modern's Fred Fowler hands keys to AD Tonia Walker as coaches (from left) James Wilhelmi (men's hoops), LaTaya Hilliard-Gray (softball), Kienus Boulware (football) and A.G. Hall (women's hoops) stand by.

"Everything we do is about relationships, partnerships, and sponsorships, and we are happy today to embark upon a new opportunity with Modern Automotive and we look

forward to a long lasting relationship," said WSSU Director of Athletics Tonia Walker.

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