SPORTSWEEK Also Religion and Classifieds AUGUST 20, 2015

FOOTBALL

Mount Tabor, Reagan JV football teams ready to rumble

BY CRAIG T. GREENLEE FOR THE CHRONICLE

Mount Tabor and Reagan needed a game to complete their junior varsity football schedule, so they have agreed to play each other twice this year.

These two rivals face-off today (Aug. 20) in the season opener for both teams.

Kickoff is set for 6 p.m. on the Spartans' home field. They will play each other again in five weeks (Sept. 24) at Reagan.



Today's match-up promises to produce its share of fireworks. Mount Tabor ran the table last year to finish undefeated at 10-0.

All during the preseason, coach Tiesuan Brown has placed heavy emphasis on being mentally ready to compete.

"Everybody is going to be looking for payback when they play us," he said. "So, we have to be ready. We know we're going

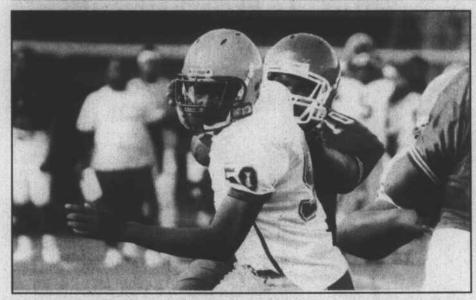


Mount Tabor wide receiver Qumar Price protects the football after making a catch against West Stokes.

to get every team's best effort in every game we play.'

The Spartans have a big-play offense spearheaded by quarterback Thomas Brabham. The Legrande brothers - De'Vante and Je'Vante - will get their share of carries as runners. Both have the speed to score from anywhere on the field. Defensively, Mount Tabor's front line

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Trayvez George of Carver rushes the passer during a recent scrimmage against Lexington.



Glenn's Timothy Hairston breaks free from East Davidson defenders for big yardage.



BY CRAIG T. GREENLEE

build on."

Carver has speed and quickness on both sides of the ball as usual. The backfield is

Coach Alonzo Winfield believes Carver will make amends for last season's disappointing 4-6 finish. That crew was made up mostly of freshmen. But now, those former rookies are seasoned sophomores who have a much better handle on what it takes to win at the high school level.

Winfield isn't talking specifics when it comes to wins and losses. Yet, it's clear that he's seen enough during the preseason to convince him that better days are coming. The Yellowjackets gave a good account of themselves in scrimmages against Lexington and Reagan at the NewBridge Invitational Jamboree last week.

There was some good and there was some bad at the Jamboree," said Winfield. "More than anything, I was pleased that we got maximum effort from everybody. We didn't quit and we didn't lay down. Not only did we hustle and move well, but we showed that we really wanted to get to the ball. It's good to know that we have a solid nucleus to

well-stocked with Keontre Meyer, T.J. Boyce and Phillip Legette. On defense, lineman Trayvez George and cornerback Nikel Johnson are solid contributors.

It won't take long for the Yellowjackets to get a good sense of where they are as a team. Today's (Aug. 20) road game against powerful Greensboro Dudley (7 p. m. kickoff) should provide some answers for Winfield and his staff.

"Dudley is always tough," he said. "We're going to give it our very best shot and see what happens."

Meanwhile, Glenn, under first-year head coach Stephen Herring, is looking to make some noise over the next few months. The Bobcats have quick-strike capability with quarterback Tavis Garlington and sure-handed receiver Christen Wilson.

The Bobcats' operate from the spread formation, and will attack in multiple ways.

See Season on B2



Polite leads the way for Rams' trench crew

BY CRAIG T. GREENLEE FOR THE CHRONICLE

Jac'que Polite usually wins his man-on-man match-ups in the trenches. Still, he's far from being satisfied. His prime objective on every down is to get past the line of scrimmage and put the next would-be tackler on the ground.

Polite, who plays offensive tackle for Winston-Salem State, has proven himself as a top-tier performer. As a transfer last year, he switched from the defensive line to the offensive line and eventually became a mainstay on a unit that paved the way for 35.7 points and 442.9 total offensive yards per game.



Polite

Look for more of the same this season. Polite, a junior from Ridgeland, S.C., was named to the CIAA's pre-season All-Conference team. His return is one of the reasons why the prognosticators view the Rams as the most likely to bag a conference crown in November.

The fact that Polite plays on the left side of the line is a good indication of his value. Left tackles are prized commodities because they protect right-handed quarterbacks from taking vicious hits from their blind side. At 6-feet-5, 300 pounds, Polite has the body mass to keep sack-happy defenders at bay.

"It means a lot to play the position and handle everything that comes

See Polite on B2

WSSU invites public to meet student athletes

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

The Winston-Salem State University (WSSU) Department of Athletics, WSSU Campus community and surrounding areas, as the WSSU Rams hold their annual Meet The Rams Day, Saturday, Aug. 22, from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. at K.R. Williams Auditorium. The WSSU fall sports coaches will address the

crowd and WSSU's cross country, volleyball and football teams will be on hand to sign autographs and meet and greet those who attend.

Meet the Rams is also WSSU's media day for football, and all media is invited to participate by coming out and interviewing select players and coaches. The Meet the Rams Day is free and open to all.



Reserved Season Parking \$60