

JV FOOTBALL

It's too early to tell who might emerge as top team in county

BY CRAIG T. GREENLEE
FOR THE CHRONICLE

After six weeks of play, here's a look at the state of affairs for two junior varsity football teams. Due to the editorial deadline for SportsWeek, this outlook does not include results for the games that were played on Monday night.

Even though the season is at its mid-point, there's still no clear pick as to which team will finish up as Forsyth County's mythical JV football champions. The coming weeks will surely separate the pretenders from the contenders. Here are some observations about West Forsyth and Mount Tabor — two teams who are most likely to contend for the title.

West Forsyth (4-0) was the only undefeated team going into the final week of September. The Titans have been tough to deal with because of their ability to score points in a hurry. West Forsyth has a nice

offensive balance and enough weapons to break down any defense. When Kenyar McPhatter and Mack Duke aren't doing damage as a lethal running back tandem, quarterback Drew Latham has two prime receivers in Kallai Buyna and Jamon Brown.

The defense, led by Clifton Mack and Sean Wells, shows signs of being formidable, but tends to be too porous. In three of their games, the Titans allowed 83 points. The key to West Forsyth's season could come down to how well the defense is able to limit opponents in a tightly-contested game.

Mount Tabor, on the other hand, hasn't shown itself to be nearly as balanced offensively as the Titans. The Spartans get the job with suffocating defense and a crunching ground game.

The defense rates among the best, with linemen Timar Jackson and Cole Foley holding down the fort up front. Je'Vonte

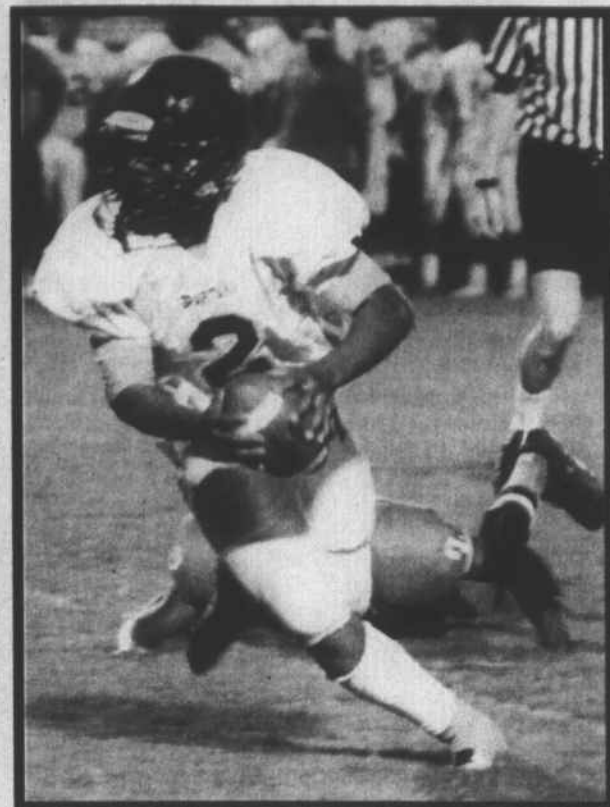


Kenyar McPhatter of West Forsyth slips a tackle on an end sweep.

Legrande continues to deliver strong performances as one of the anchors of the secondary.

Offensively,

Spartans rely on another Legrande brother — De'Vante, a slasher who runs well between the tackles, but who also has the



Photos by Craig T. Greenlee

Thomas Brabham (2) is a dual threat at quarterback for Mount Tabor.

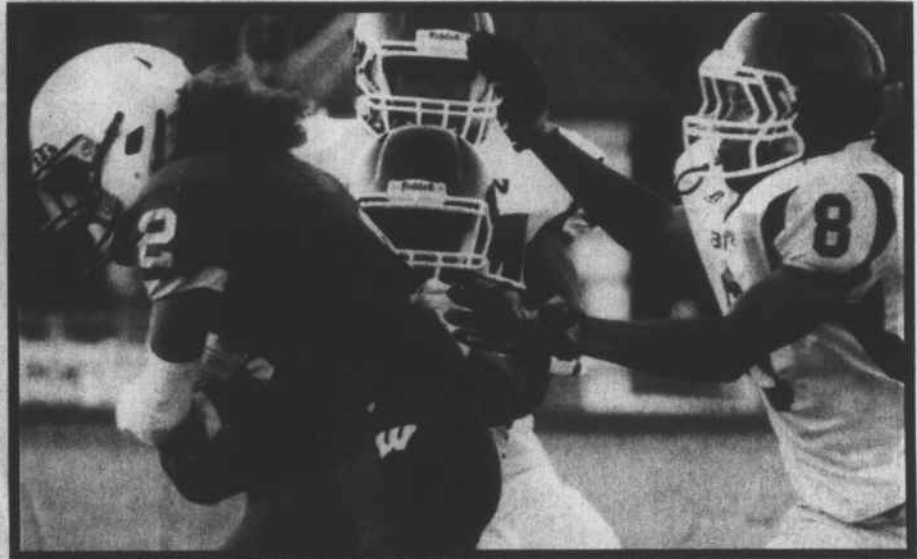
run-away speed to score from anywhere on the field. The one possible issue with this team is how well the offense will function if the rushing attack is slowed down. That's exactly what transpired in the Spartans only loss of the season so far (6-0 to Carver).

In the coming weeks,

Mount Tabor is sure to face opposing defenses who will stack the line with eight and nine-players, fronts designed to nullify the run. To counter that, look for quarterback Thomas Brabham to employ more play-action passes to wide receiver Kumar Price.



Cole Foley (59) is a key contributor on Mount Tabor's defensive line.



Safety KeAndre Buyna (2) is surrounded after coming up with an interception against High Point Central.

Kiplagat places fourth at 32nd annual Greensboro Cross Country Invitational

SPECIAL TO
THE CHRONICLE

GREENSBORO — The Winston-Salem State University Rams men's and women's cross-country teams continued their strong seasons with some impressive performances at the 32nd Annual Greensboro Cross Country

Invitational at Hagan Stone Park on Saturday, Sept. 26.

For the second week in a row, WSSU freshman Domtilla Kiplagat broke the 20-minute mark when she ran a 19:24.9 to place fourth in the women's 5K run.

The effort capped a strong effort by the Rams

women's team that saw three runners place in the top 30 of the meet that featured several quality programs. WSSU junior Phyllis Cheryuiot placed 25th in her season debut with the Rams at 20:47.8. Senior Danisha Wiggins continued her great career when she placed 27th with

a 20:50.5.

The Rams men's team also saw some great efforts in the men's 8K run as well. Rams junior Harold Blakely led the way for the team with 32:42.9 to place 115th at the meet. Senior Lewis Benjamin also had a strong day when he placed 120th with a 32:55.9 at the

meet. Rounding out the Rams' top three was sophomore Julian Massey, who placed 130th with a 33:37.7.

The Rams' men's and women's cross-country teams will return to action this weekend when they return to Cary to take part in the Robert Shumake

HBCU Cross Country Championships at the Great American Cross Country Festival.

For more information on Rams cross-country, contact the WSSU Office of Athletic Media Relations at 336-750-2143 or log on to www.WSSURams.com.

Gaddy

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the arrival of EMT's," Walker said.

The freshman from Mallard Creek High School in Charlotte is one of a number of freshmen earning playing time on a Rams team that was still looking to earn their first win of the season going into last week's showdown with Elizabeth City State University.

To show their support for Gaddy, the Rams' Athletic Department decided to add his number to all the helmets. The decals were worn on the back the Rams newest helmet that features a Ram on one side and an outline of the state on the other. The Rams will wear the decals honoring Gaddy for the remainder of the season.

During the match up with Elizabeth City State University, the Rams got

off to a slow start but were able to regain their footing in the second quarter and didn't look back. The final score was 34-19.

After the game, the team's hearts and minds were still with their teammate. Kienus Boulware, head coach of the Rams, said he was glad to get the victory but the game had a different feel.

Boulware kept the game ball from Saturday's victory to give to Gaddy.

On Sunday, the family released a statement thanking WSSU and the community for all the support they have received over the past few days. According to the statement, Gaddy is now performing physical therapy.

This week, the Rams will continue conference play when they face off against Chowan University at Bowman Gray Stadium on Saturday, Oct. 3.



Submitted photo

Shown in photo are (Front Row, L-R) Neil London, Bryson Whitt, Nathan London, Mariah M. Adams, Jessica G. Adams and Alexander H. Ryan. (Back row L-R) Trovin Anthony and Darian L. Thompson. (Not pictured: Aquilla Boyd)

Winston Lake Senior Golf Association awards scholarships

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

The Winston Lake Senior Golf Association directed the short program honoring the Blaylock scholarship award recipients and families. President Von Roberts briefly discussed the criteria for the program.

The presentation was held Aug. 7 in the Winston Lake Golf Course banquet room.

Charles Butler, scholarship committee chairman, and Reginald Blaylock, scholarship sponsor, awarded nine \$1,000 scholarships to the students.

Blaylock gave remarks about the importance of education, hard work and determination to succeed. He informed the scholarship recipients that receiving the

scholarship recognizes the hard work and achievements they have made thus far.

Blaylock encouraged the students to continue their chosen curriculum and "make us proud."

He said his family started the scholarship because they wanted to give back to the community and help develop future leaders.

The scholarship recipients are: Neil London, Bryson Whitt, Nathan London, Mariah M. Adams, Jessica G. Adams, Alexander H. Ryan, Trovin Anthony, Darian L. Thompson and Aquilla Boyd.

The Winston Lake Senior Golf Association is a 501-3C nonprofit organization.

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