



THE PILOT



Gardner-Webb College

November 20, 1987

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

BOILING SPRINGS, NORTH CAROLINA

By Burt Wilson

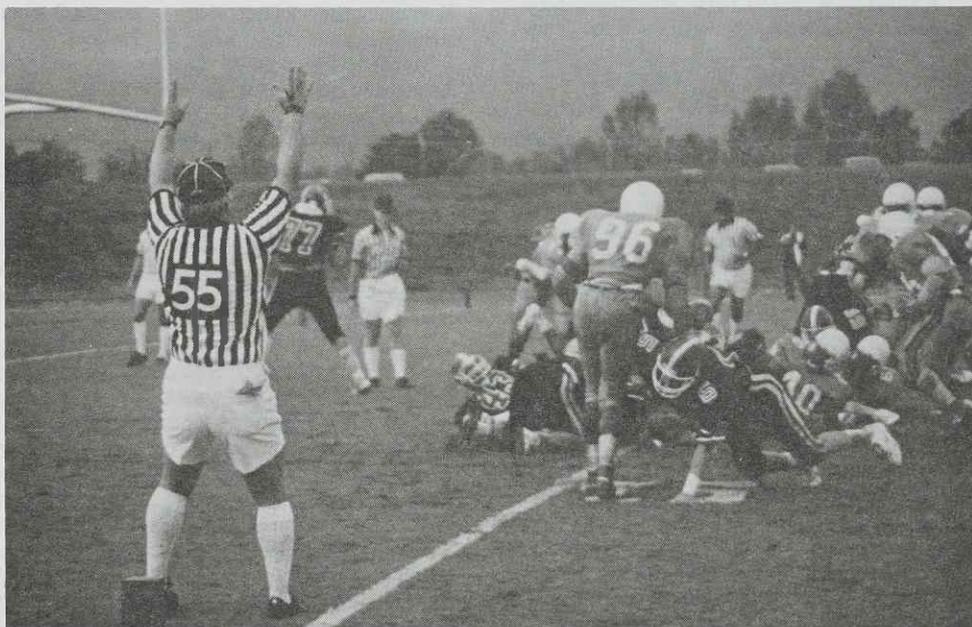
With a 7-1 record, a number eight national ranking, and SAC-8 championship on the line the Gardner-Webb Bulldogs fell behind 20-0 in Saturday's Nov. 7 championship showdown against Presbyterian. But Gardner-Webb fans didn't panic. This was not anything new for the Bulldogs. Just a week ago they fell behind 14-0 before rallying for a 49-28 win over Elon. That victory set up this year's "main event" in the SAC 8 between the surprising Bulldogs and Blue Hose.

Presbyterian had scored on its first three possessions but failed to convert on their third extra point. At the time, the failed attempt seemed minor as the Blue Hose led 20-0 with three minutes remaining in the first quarter. But its significance would weigh heavy in the final minutes of the game.

As the first quarter ran down, a fake punt attempt finally woke the sleeping Bulldogs. On fourth down-and-eight, up-back Curt Pressley took a short snap and broke away for a 36 yard touchdown run to make the score 20-7. On their next possession, the Bulldog's Jeff Parker added a 25 yard field goal to close the Blue Hose's lead to 10 points.

After Warren Choice intercepted a Presbyterian pass at the 41 yard line, quarterback Jesse James hit wide receiver Frank Cunningham on a 24 yard touchdown pass. Parker added the extra point and the Bulldogs went in at halftime trailing 20-17. Then

SAC 8 CHAMPS!



to open the second half, Parker connected on a career best 50 yard field goal knotting the score at 20 all.

Presbyterian would answer with a pair of field goals from Chris Wingo and close out the third quarter with a 6 point lead. Gardner-Webb then began its winning drive. Their march of 68 yards in winning plays was capped off with a Chris Poston plunge into the end zone to give Gardner-Webb a 27-26 lead.

But Presbyterian had their chances to win the game in the final minutes. The Blue Hose

twice got inside the Bulldog 25 yard line, only to have crucial penalties negate the gains. Wingo's last chance field goal attempt from 41 yards missed wide to the left and with 2:49 remaining the Bulldogs had secured their victory.

THE PLAYOFF GAME IS CLINCHED!!! On Saturday, November 14, the Bulldogs defeated Mars Hill in a stunning come-from-behind victory to secure at least a tie for the SAC-8 championship. The victory also means the first-ever playoff bid for GWC.

Moderates Win BSC Elections

By Robyn Lindsay

On Tuesday, November 10, a crowd of delegates gathered in Greensboro Coliseum for the presidential election of the Baptist State Convention in which liberal (the label attached by opponents), Rev. Leon Smith of Goldsboro, was elected. Smith won by the majority of 62% of the votes. Ned Mathews (labeled "fundamentalist" by opponents), pastor of Parkwood Baptist Church of Gastonia, was his opponent. He came away with 36% of the votes. The small percentage of remaining votes went to Ted G. Stone of Durham who claimed neither side, but described himself as a "grass-roots Baptist--part of the vast mainstream tied with neither extreme."

Also elected at the convention was Eugene Watterson, pastor of First Baptist Church of Shelby, as First Vice-President. Helen Cashwell of Ral-

eigh N.C. was elected second vice-president.

This year's Baptist State Convention boasted one of the highest attendance records ever, with a total of approximately 6,000 people. This high attendance was due in part to the many people who came because their interest and investment in the division was significant.

The election came less than a month after the resignations of Randall Lolley and Morris Ashcraft as the President and Dean of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. Their resignations came as a result of the board of trustees voting to give itself full control over the selection of the seminary's faculty. Such control, in the hands of a fundamentalist board, could lead to reductions in the freedom of present and future faculty.

The New Right fundamentalist take-over of Southeastern

and the fear of the same happening to the Baptist State Convention are what provoked the enormous voting response at the election. Gardner-Webb is tied in to this issue in that it is one of six Baptist liberal arts colleges whose destiny will be determined by the make-up and philosophy of its governing boards.

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