

Blackbirds Lose First After Six Straight Wins

Gridders Lead Defensive Play

Figures up to the Durham game place Rocky Mount the state's best defensive team, as the Birds yielded only 13 points in their first six games.

Offensively the local squad was almost as strong, ranking just behind Durham in Points scored — 105.

On a game-by-game account, the scorebook shows that the Blackbirds have scored an average of 17.5 points per game while holding their opponents to 2.6 points.

On Two Scored

In only two games have the opponents been able to score against the Birds. The strong Fayetteville Bulldogs and Wilmington Wildcats managed one touchdown each with Fayetteville getting the extra point.

Key factor in the strong defensive showing by the Birds so far is their heavy forward wall which averages 197 pounds per man. This line is equivalent in size to that of many college teams.

Statistics also show that almost all of the Blackbird scoring has come in the second half. The game with New Bern was a good example as the Birds and Bears were deadlocked 0-0 at the half. Final score was Rocky Mount 13-New Bern 0.

Ground Biggest Threat

Consistent ground yardage has been the Birds' biggest offensive threat thus far. Passing has been used also but very rarely. Halfbacks Ray Harper and Bunny Bell and fullback Adam Maples have been the big guns, all averaging over five yards a carry. Maples also does an accurate job of extra point kicking having kicked eight of 16 for a 50 percent accuracy mark.

Quarterback Jackie Williams directs the team from the T-formation and runs the ball occasionally himself. He has averaged over four yards a carry this year.



SPEED MERCHANT OPENS UP — Adam Maples, Blackbird fullback, heads for open territory against Fayetteville. Maples scored one of the Bird T. D.'s. Photo by Barringer.

Pigskin Preview

With Don Harris

With six straight victories under their belts, the Blackbirds vigorously prepared for the all important tilt against defending champion Durham, October 21.

Durham and Rocky Mount went into the game with identical 3-0 conference records and the winner expected to capture the lead honors.

"We can do it if we play like we have played and are capable of playing. We have the ability and spirit, but it's going to be close," replied rugged 240 pound tackle, Jackie Skinner, when approached on the situation.

Statistics showed the two teams to be about even. Both had decisive advantages over their opponents in scoring and yardage gained.

We'll take the Birds in a close one to end Durham's reign over the Eastern Conference, but don't

bet your lunch money.

Duke passed its first big obstacle with its victory over Ohio State, but the next three weeks will tell the tale. Pitt invaded Duke Stadium last Saturday to be followed on consecutive Saturdays by Georgia Tech and Navy. If the Devils are undefeated after these games, they will probably be the choice. But!

Durham edged Rocky Mount 14-13 in a close hard football game all the way. The local eleven led in statistics but in the end it was the talented toe of Paul McNeal that spelled victory for Durham.

One Point Marks Difference In Leading Conference Battle

After taking six straight wins Rocky Mount's hard charging Blackbirds boxed before Durham's Bulldogs 14-13 on October 21 in Rocky Mount.

Rocky Mount scored first on a driving ground march after receiving the opening kickoff. However, Durham managed to tie the score and go ahead 7-6 after a third down pass into the end zone.

The score at the half was Durham 7, Rocky Mount 6.

In the third quarter Durham scored on an interception to make the score 14-6.

Soon after, Rocky Mount put a scoring march together and Maples converted to make the score 14-13.

After Durham received the next kickoff they were forced to punt. Rocky Mount then began another drive with time running out. This drive was stopped by another pass interception and the score remained Durham 14, Rocky Mount 13.

Second Half Win

After being held to a scoreless deadlock at the half, the Blackbirds came back strong to take a close 13-0 win from New Bern's hard fighting Bears at New Bern, — October 14.

Although played off their feet during the first half by the underrated New Bern club, the Bird's

managed to put their hard charging ground game into operation, scoring fullback Jackie Evans on a drive through the line.

The final touchdown was scored by end Bruce Ethridge on a diving catch in the end zone. The pass was thrown by quarterback Jackie Williams.

Touchdown Margin

After a scoreless first half, the Blackbirds came back to defeat Fayetteville 14-7 in a bruising defensive battle played here October 7.

Fayetteville had little success against Rocky Mount's hard charging line and didn't manage to score until the closing moments of the game. The Bulldogs score was set up by a long pass play. Touchdowns for the locals were scored by Adam Maples and Ray Harper who with Bunny Bell were the Blackbirds' big offensive threats.

Fourth Straight

Defeating Wilmington 13-6, the locals won their fourth consecutive game, September 30.

Closeness throughout marked the game as Wilmington tied the score at 6-6 on a series of pass plays. Following this touchdown, the Birds stormed back to score on a series of powerful running plays.

ROYAL CLOTHING CO.

118 S. Washington St.

VARSAITY GRILL

Eastern Carolina's Most Complete Stock Of Toys

SPORTING GOODS

JOYNER'S

Sportsmen's Headquarters Rocky Mount, N. C.

Andy's Ezzo Servicenter

Cor. Church & Sunset Ave. Rocky Mount, N. C. Telephone 6-9909

SUNSHINE LAUNDRY

Sanitone Cleaning For Sweaters, Skirts, and Suits

BUNTING HARDY & MINGES

Ivy League Khakies \$4.95

Sec..... **WALKER - ROSS**

For All Your Job Printing.

Moore's Antique Shop

Upholstery and Refinishing Phone 2-3426 — 2-1298

JEAN'S

Beauty Salon

"The Smartest Thing You Wear Is Your Hair" 134 Sunset Ave. Phone 6-6716

JACK & FRANCES'

WALNUT SHOP

Short Orders Plate Lunches Curb Service

Rosenbloom-Levy, Inc.

Is The Place To Go For The Best In Clothes

Save On Quality

Merchandise At

PENNEY'S

Policy Holders' Agency, Inc.

"Mutual Insurance Sales and Service"

Willard E. Batts, President

Anita's Beauty Shop

The Home Of

Foundation

Permanent Waving

"When Better Autos Are Built, BUICK Will Build Them." Forty-Six Years Of Continuous

Sale And Service In Rocky Mount.

ROSE BUICK CO.

600 S. Washington St. Phone 6-6215 314 S. Church St Phone 2-3585

For The Finest In Hair Styles, It's — — — —

Kyser's Beauty Shoppe 135 1/2 S. Main St.

Fergusson's

Laundrette

You Bring it — — — — We Wash It

BLUE BIRD TAXI

Dial 6-8101 309 So. Main St. 24 CABS 24 HR. SERVICE

Borden's Ice Cream

213 RALEIGH ROAD Rocky Mount, N. C.



DAVENPORT MOTOR CO.

YOUR CADILLAC — PONTIAC DEALER

For The Best In Teen-Age Haircuts It's — — —

Draines Barber Shop

Across From The High School