

Thrilling Blackbirds Continue Undefeated

TERRIFIC DEFENSE GIVES BIRDS VICTORY IN CONFERENCE OPENER

SPORTS

DANNY TALBOTT RUNS, PASSES RM TO 25-6 WIN OVER WILMINGTON

The Rocky Mount Blackbirds opened their 1962 Eastern 4-A Conference play here September 21, taking a thrilling 14-12 victory over arch-rival Goldsboro.

The Birds put up a terrific second half defense, along with a winning touchdown pass from quarterback Danny Talbott to end Bob Sides, to pull out the close win.

The Talbott-to-Sides pass play covered 29 yards, with Sides legging out the final 12 yards for the TD.

The Birds, not used to a single wing offense, found the going rough in the first half, when the Quakes from Goldsboro scored both their touchdowns.

But in the second half, the tables were turned, as everything Goldsboro tried was completely stopped by Rocky Mount's powerful defensive unit.

Goldsboro broke the scoring ice in the second period. Eddie Wyatt found blocking back Rick McLawhorn alone in the end zone and hit him with a three-yard toss.

Talbott, whose golden toe kicked the Rocky Mount extra points, that meant victory for the Birds, tallied Rocky Mount's first touchdown, driving 17 yards for the score.

Holding a 7-6 lead with only 55 seconds remaining in the first half, Goldsboro's Wyatt threw his second touchdown pass, this one to fullback Sammy Vinson that covered 49 yards.



A KEY BLOCK AND HE IS GONE—Rocky Mount Blackbird running ace Wrennie Pitt (22) receives a key block from end Dennie Newell (lying on ground) in the third quarter of the Rocky Mount-Goldsboro clash. Billy Warren (to Pitt's right) leads interference for RMSH while John Alexander (76) comes in to aid Pitt. Rocky Mount won the game 14-12.

Birds Romp Over Kinston 33-0, With Mean Defense, Flashy Offense

A tremendous defensive unit and an explosive offense that produced touchdown runs of 85 and 65 yards gave the Rocky Mount Senior High School Blackbirds their second straight win, an impressive 33-0 grid victory over the Red Devils of Kinston, September 14, in Municipal Stadium.

Senior halfback ace, flashy Wrennie Pitt, dashed 85 yards for one RM score, while All-State quarterback Danny Talbott got off a 65-yard TD punt return. These exciting runs along with a ground attack that

produced 328 yards rushing gave RMSH its second fine offensive showing of the season.

Rocky Mount started fast, scoring two first period TD's. Talbott scored the first on a 12-yard sprint.

Pitt, who scored two touchdowns and averaged 23.7 yards per carry, dashed to Rocky Mount's other first quarter score.

The Blackbirds pushed the halftime score to 20-0 as they tallied in the second period on a two-yard plunge by Bill Bonner.

Pitt scored his second TD of the night early in the third period, going 85 yards for the score. A key block by Dennis Newell highlighted Rocky Mount's fine blocking on Pitt's run.

Talbott ended the scoring for the Birds in the fourth quarter returning a punt for 65 yards. A tremendous wall of blocking kept Talbott untouched by Red Devil hands.

Danny Talbott ran and passed undefeated Rocky Mount Blackbirds to their fourth win of the season, and second straight conference victory, here Friday night as the Birds continued their wild football rampage, romping over the Wilmington Wildcats 25-6.

Talbott received a punt early in the first period and returned it 80 yards to give the Birds a 6-0 and a start to a terrific night of high school football. After Talbott's brilliant run, the riled up Blackbirds continued to march and complete left the Wildcats somewhere in the dust at Municipal Stadium.

Defensively the Birds were great, allowing Wilmington's only touchdown in the final two minutes of the final period after the victory was sewed up.

Offensively the Birds were great also, as their total offensive gained 310 yards, 227 on the ground.

Talbott, an all-state quarterback, finally broke his passing slump, as the talented senior was successful on six of eight attempts in the air. One of his passes was good for 25 yard touchdown.

Weenie Pitt, a 165-pound senior, who seems destined for all conference honors, couldn't be stopped, as the flashy back came through numerous times in getting the first down. He also scored a touchdown.

The scoring started with Talbott's 80-yard punt return. Talbott received the punt on the 20 yard line and fumbled

the ball. Recovering the ball just in time to avoid several Wilmington tacklers, Talbott raced back, just out of reach of tacklers, and finally broke loose, after receiving a terrific block from Tom Parrish. After Parrish's block, it was clear sailing for Talbott, who raced the length of the field.

In the second period it was Talbott to Pitt for 25 yards and a touchdown. The pass play capped a 34 yard drive and Talbott booted the extra point.

Holding a 13-0 halftime lead the Birds came back in the second half more determined than ever and quickly ran the score to 19-0, as Wayne Daughtridge climaxed a 60 yard drive, plunging over from four yards out.

Talbott scored Rocky Mount's final touchdown in the fourth period, sweeping right end for five yards and the score. The touchdown capped a 62 yard march.

	RM	W
First Downs	18	10
Net Yards Rushing	227	117
Net Yards Passing	83	76
Passes	6-8	4-13
Total Yards	310	193
Passes Int. By	0	0
Fumbles Lost	2	0
Punts	1-17	5-30
Penalties	25	25

Over the years, West Virginia has the best football percentage in the Southern Conference. In 12 years the Mountaineers show 35 victories, 12 setbacks, and one tie for a .739 percentage.

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