

BIRDS TRAVEL TO DURHAM



Fayetteville Tally—Big fullback Tommy Bradford plunges over for the Bulldogs' only touchdown. This third quarter score ended the game's scoring as the extra point attempt was blocked and the two grid teams battled to a 6-6 tie.

(Photo by Killebrew)

Blackbirds Stop Arch-Rival Wilson 34 to 0 To Continue Torrid March

Rocky Mount's undefeated Blackbirds rolled up their fifth win of the season against one tie, as they romped over arch-rival Wilson 34-0 with an outstanding offensive show.

The Birds, who sent four different players across the goal with touchdowns, had two long scoring plays called back due to penalties. Danny Talbott, who led the Eastern 4-A Conference in scoring before the game, tallied for a total of 16 points, to increase his league leading total to 61.

While all eyes were on the great passing of Talbott and the running of halfbacks Darrell Johnson and Craig Quick and Fullbacks Robert Bridges and Wayne Daughtridge, the Birds put on a terrific defensive performance, holding Wilson without a scoring opportunity.

After a scoreless first period, the Birds went wild, scoring three touchdowns in the second quarter to take a 21-0 halftime lead. Bridges tallied Rocky Mount's

first TD, plunging over from inside the five yard line. Talbott's kick was good for the point after.

After forcing Wilson to punt the Birds came back to score again, this time Quick racing over from about 40 yards out. Again the golden toe of Talbott produced the extra point.

The Blackbirds ended the first half scoring just before the half, as Bob Sides received a pass from Talbott and dashed about 70 yards to hit pay dirt. Talbott added the point after.

The unbeaten Birds didn't waste any time in getting started in the second half as they received the kickoff and returned it deep into Wilson Territory. Talbott scored the touchdown from short yardage and also kicked the conversion.

The Birds didn't tally again until just before the end of the game. Wilson was forced to punt with only 18 seconds remaining and Talbott took the kick and raced home, going nearly 50 yards to score.

This Friday night, the Rocky Mount Blackbirds venture into dangerous territory as they travel to Durham for a game with the hungry bulldogs. Last year's struggle between the two teams ended in a 14-14 deadlock.

Even though the Blackbirds are boasting a 5-0-1 record, the Bulldogs are a much-improved team. At the beginning of the season, Durham's football coach said that he did not expect any improvement whatsoever over last year's poor record. In the first game of the season, however, the Bulldogs knocked the wind out of the Grimsley (Greensboro) Whirlies 21-6 and won a ranking in the top five of the state's 4-A teams. Coach Henry Trevathan, assistant football coach and chief scout, said that Durham was the most surprising team in the conference. Durham was predicted to finish last in the conference, but now has a chance to finish much higher.



Rocky Mount Victim—Fayetteville quarterback Bobby Robinson (No. 10 in white) is a victim of two Birds, Danny Talbott (dark 10) and Marvin Pike (No. 70), as he is stopped in the fourth period of the important conference clash with Fayetteville.

(Photo by Killebrew)

Rocky Mount, Fayetteville Struggle To Brilliant 6 to 6 Gridiron Tie

The Rocky Mount Senior High School Blackbirds met the state's number one team in Fayetteville on September 5 and with great desire and determination the fighting Birds came out with a 6-6 tie to remain in the ranks of the unbeaten.

Although Fayetteville dominated the game statistic-wise, it was the Bulldogs who had to come from behind to tie the Blackbirds.

Quarterback Danny Talbott scored Rocky Mount's lone touchdown, sweeping left end for three yards. A great catch by end Dennis Newell set up Talbott's sprint. The vital extra point attempt by Talbott was blocked.

Trailing 6-0 at the half the Bulldogs of Fayetteville High School came back in the third quarter to launch a touchdown drive that ended with brusing fullback Tommy Bradford going over from two yards out. Fayetteville's much needed extra point attempt was blocked by Talbott, who dived over Rocky Mount's line to deflect the ball.

Rocky Mount only gained 15 yards on the ground, but the hustling Birds took advantage of every Fayetteville mistake, and there was a numerous amount of them.

Defensive play was led by Talbott, Marlon Barnes, Allen Wester and John Alexander.

BULLDOG LINEUP

The Durham linemen from tackle to tackle, tip the scales at an astounding 200 pounds. They are 211 lb. tackle Randy Mason 200 lb. tackle Stanton Strother; 201 lb. tackle Sammy Brockwell; 200 lbs. tackle Larry Lewis; 200 lbs. guard Stan Walters; 200 Lb. tackle Mike Emory; 195lb end Charles Alford and 200 lb center Mike Richardson.

With all this beef up front, it is easily understood why the Bulldogs have a powerful rushing offense. But just to keep their opponents' defense honest, Durham maintains an above average passing game. The favorite targets of 170 pound quarterback Charles Hackney are Alford and 165 lb. end David Hill.

RUNNING GAME

The principal ball carriers are a small but speedy crew.

The halfbacks are: Walter Hannen, 165; Barry Smith, 165; Joe Hedrick, 160; and Kinwood Grady, 167. The hefty fullbacks are Bryon Morris and Jimmy Pope.

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