

Babybirds Absorb First Loss, 7-0, On Opening Kick

Jimmy Iraggi ran back the opening kickoff of the game last Thursday night to score the only touchdown in the Jayvees loss to Enloe of Raleigh, 7-0.

The fourth quarter of the defensive struggle was a real heart-stopper for the Rocky Mount fans. Rocky Mount blocked an Enloe punt with six minutes to go in the game. Putting the ball in play on the 45-yard line, the RMSH jayvees, moved to the Enloe nine due to an 18-yard pass from quarterback Joe Swaim to end Ronald Barnes. With a first-and goal on the nine, three plays brought them to the one yard line with only a very few seconds remaining in the thrill-packed contest. Froggie Ricks tried to run off-tackle but was met head on by one of the tremendous Raleigh linemen and fell short of the goal by less than a foot. Before he could even get up, the referee blew his whistle to end the game.

The loss was the first for the Senior High Babybirds and gives them a fine 3-1 season slate. The Enloe team continued its unblocked path to a perfect season, scoring its fourth straight win. This was the roughest game that Enloe has encountered in the season.

In the first half, other than the kickoff return, there was only one serious threat by either team. Enloe blocked a RM punt on the Babybirds' own 20 yard line. They drove for a first-and ten on the ten but then the tough defense of the jayvees dug in an Enloe handed over the ball on the nine-yard line, gaining only one yard in four plays.



Ace to Return—Rocky Mount ace, Wrennie Pitt, in action just before an appendicitis operation put the star out of action. Pitt is expected to return soon, and may see some action against Durham. (Photo by Killebrew)

WRENNIE PITT HAS APPENDICITIS; MAY SEE ACTION IN DURHAM GAME

Wrennie Pitt, star Blackbird halfback, underwent an emergency appendectomy three weeks ago and has missed the last two football games.

Before this operation, Wrennie led the conference in points scored and in rushing yardage. He is averaging 11.2 yards per carry.

Wrennie took with him to the hospital a talented pair of pass-catching hands in addition to his swift feet. During the Fayetteville game in particular were his talents sorely missed by the Birds.

In four games, Wrennie scored 36 points. He was on the receiving end of seven passes, two of which went for touchdowns. He was leading the conference with 382 yards rushing in the Blackbirds first four games.

The doctors said that Wrennie would be out for at least six weeks but the determined speedster is well on the way to a complete recovery.

He is often seen during his spare time limbering up, running,

and getting weakened muscles back into shape.

Wrennie has high hopes of being able to see action in this Friday night's contest with the surprising Durham Bulldogs. If he is unable to see action against the Bulldogs, he will be on the bench rooting for his teammates.

\$5 For Talent

These are twelve collegiate weekend games listed below. The first to pick twelve winners wins \$5. Anyone who picks ten correctly wins \$1. All entries must be in rooms 116 or 117 by 3:45 p.m. Friday or in the hands of Mike Floyd or David Lamm that night

- Duke-Clemson
- California-Southern Cal
- Auburn-Georgia Tech
- LSU-Kentucky
- Maryland-Miami(Fla.)
- Ohio State-Northwestern
- North Carolina-South Carolina
- N.C. State-Mississippi
- Southern Tennessee-Alabama
- Penn State-Syracuse
- Virginia-Wake Forest
- Southern Methodist-Rice

Frank Figments

By MIKE FLOYD

The Rocky Mount-Fayetteville was tabbed "game of the week" in the state. By virtue of the tie, Fayetteville rose from number three to number one in the state: Myers Park dropped a notch to second, and Raleigh to third; and the Blackbirds held their number four spot. Of these four teams, three are in the Eastern 4-A Conference; and the Blackbirds do battle with the top three. It's a rough road to travel, but the Birds will try to fly over the ruts.

After the rm-Fayetteville deadlock, there were many ideas as to how the Eastern Champions would be determined if both teams won the rest of their conference games. The Eastern coaches will vote for the team they think will best represent the conference in the state playoffs.

My hypothesis (notoriginal, but mine nevertheless) at this time is that the coaches won't need to vote, because the RM-Raleigh game will decide it. Raleigh plays Fayetteville on the Friday before they play the Birds. The Capitals will have a smashing victory over 3-A Jacksonville freshly under their belts and will be up for the game in Fayetteville. The Caps will be casting a wishing glance at a second consecutive state title. The two teams are big and bruising, and will beat each other to death. They are the top two teams in defense and are second and third offensively. However, I'll pick Raleigh to win it. Fayetteville will then be eliminated.

Then comes the RM-Raleigh

game, and it will be close, to say the least. The Birds will have an added advantage in playing Raleigh this particular week, for the Caps will still be hurting from their struggle with the Bulldogs.

Whether it turns out this way or not, those last two Raleigh games will produce the Eastern 4-A Conference Champions.

The Blackbirds completely dominate the Eastern 4-A Conference in offensive statistics, while stars Wrennie Pitt and Danny Talbott are among the leading individuals.

The Birds, second in rushing offense and passing offense, lead the conference in total offense, leading Fayetteville by 26.2 yards.

In rushing offense, Rocky Mount is second only to Raleigh, while the Birds' passing attack trails the Wilmington Wildcats.

Talbott holds the conference's scoring lead, having tallied 61 points in six games. Austol Youmans of Raleigh and Sammy Vinson of Goldsboro hold down second and third places, while Rocky Mount star Wrennie Pitt is fourth, having played only four games.

Pitt, who has missed the last two games due to an operation, has the highest rushing average a brilliant 11.2 yards per carry mark. Talbott is also among the conference rushing leaders.

In the passing department Talbott is the leading passer, having passed for nearly 400 yards. He is second in touchdown passes, having thrown four.

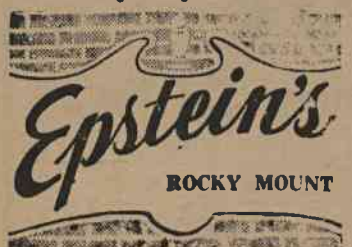
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