

Gryphs Winning Streak Halted By Fired-Up Goldsboro Team

Coach Walt Wiggins guided the talented RMSH Gryphons to their sixth straight victory over Hillside on October 9. The offense was spearheaded by quarterback Roscoe Batts who accounted for the first six points with a 25 yard gallop on a quarterback sneak. The Gryphon defense stopped the Hornets cold during the entire first half. Senior tackle Darnell Kimble blocked a punt which set up a 3 yard TD plunge by tailback James Hargrove. As the Gryphon defense denied Hillside of but one first down during the first half, Batts was busy tallying six more points on a 28 yard bootleg.

With the score now 21-0 the Gryphons were not through scoring as the loose Hillside defense permitted an 18 yard TD pass from Batts to Gary Knight. Howard McCullough made four successful conversions.

The third quarter awarded the Hornets with a feeling that they had not experienced the entire year-a score. The six-pointer came on a 2 yard sneak by quarterback Tyrone Rowland. The Gryphons came storming back as Carson Robinson sparked a drive with several fine runs. Robinson bulldozed over from the four on a fourth down play to end the Gryphons' rout over Hillside.

Downed by Goldsboro

On this "Gryphon Day" and "Homecoming" Friday, the Gryphons seemed to be overwhelmed by these festivities and could not seem to get rolling. The crowd was electrified by the elusive running of Goldsboro tailback Bobby Myrick. After the Gryphons failed to spark a drive early in the first quarter, Myrick hit wingback Mike Hardy for a 30 yard gain which set up a 7 yard TD burst by fullback Danny Kepley. The Gryphons' counter attack was halted on an interception which set up a 37 yard touchdown dash by Myrick. The Gryphons' comeback power was evoked directly as RMSH fullback Carson Robinson romped 65 yards by out-racing the entire Goldsboro secondary. Myrick and company came storming back with a 55 yard TD bomb from Myrick to Gene Hagans. The Cougars attempted to turn the game into a debacle. They left the halftime score at 27-7 on a Myrick pass to Hardy.

The second half was controlled completely by the Gryphs, but they could muster but one score on a three yard run by Robinson, which left the Gryphs with a 27-15 defeat.

Over Durham

The first RMSH drive was stopped on the Durham 27 yard line, where Terry Leonard came on to boot a 27 yard field goal. The first touchdown was set up by passes of 13 and 12 yards from Batts to end Mike Ruffin for a first down. Batts increased the score on a 6 yard TD run. A 21 yard TD aerial to Pete Thompson left the halftime score at 17-0.

Upon receiving the third quarter kick-off, the Gryphs moved to paydirt four plays later. Batts scored on a one yard sneak after galloping 45 yards to the Durham one yard line. The game was climaxed on a TD plunge by Sherrod of less than a yard. With the score 31-0 the Gryphon reserves allowed Durham two touchdowns.



An enemy runner is nailed by Gryphons Wayne Mercer (50), Darnell Kimbell (holding on) and George Jones (73).

RMSH Gridders Honored As Season End Is Near

The "Gryphon of the Week" honor, sponsored by the Rocky Mount Sportsman's Club indicates to the football team that Rocky Mount is really behind then.

The Gryphons' 35-7 victory over Hillside left the "Gryphon of the Week" honor with senior guard Van McKinley and junior wingback Gary Knight. Both played instrumental roles in this victory. McKinley is a mini-defensive standout. He is quick and about the surest tackler on the team. At 5 feet 8 inches tall McKinley weighs 155 lbs. and hits exceptionally hard for his size. On practically all of the kick-offs, McKinley is in on the tackle. In this game he feasted upon the Hillside backs all night long. McKinley is, indeed a great competitor. Gary Knight came off his first varsity start to take such an honor. At 5 feet 6 inches tall, Knight is quick and a good hustler. He is a good extra-effort runner and a hard hitter on defense. In this game he scored on an 18 yard TD reception.

Our first losing cause provided this honor with senior center Craig Williams and senior fullback Carson Robinson.

At 5 ft. 7 in. tall Craig weighs 190 lbs. and executes the job of getting the ball to the QB beautifully. Carson Robinson is the power back on the team. At 5' 8" tall and weighing 205 lbs. Robinson runs with racking authority. He attacks the tackler with power to spare. In this game he scored a 65 yard TD.

Wayne Mercer and Mike McGee humbled this honor for their play in the Durham High victory. Mercer is a 5'10" linebacker who's business is clogging up holes. Durham backs often found themselves in his grasp. McGee is a strong defensive end. At 6'2" and 190 lbs. he contains well and hits hard.

Expectation Of Successful Season Revealed By Hicks

Coach Hicks, who is a very innovative coach states that there are seven returnees from last year's team of which three were starters. However, Coach Hicks admits that the team will be chosen through rigid competitive achievements. The head mentor expressed that the greatest improvement should come from the overall quickness of the team. He stated that the inconsistency of his guards to hit from outside last year, has kindled his innovative mind to go with the fast break. Hicks tells that Hardy at 6'5" and 190 pounds, and Long at 6'6" and 180 pounds should be more demanding on the boards. When asked what does he feel is his greatest loss from last year's team, Hicks registered that "The greatest loss to the team will be the loss of George Hamm. It is hard to find a player who comes off the bench and spark

the team when he is really needed, as did Hamm."

In view of the competition offered by other teams, coach Hicks is reticent to speak of whom he feels to be his most redoubtable opponent. He does; however, insinuate the strength of the Wilson Fike team as he alluded to the merger of a State Championship team in Wilson Darden. Hicks also extends his awareness of the mergers in New Bern and Kinston which should give each of them overall improvement. Goldsboro, who will have three returning starters will also be a strong contender.

As the season opens on December 1 against Southern Nash, Coach Hicks indicates that this team is by far a push-over. The GRYPHON Staff would like to extend a preliminary "Good Luck" to the basketball team of '71.



Surprise! Each Gryphon practice is tough and everybody stays wide awake.

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