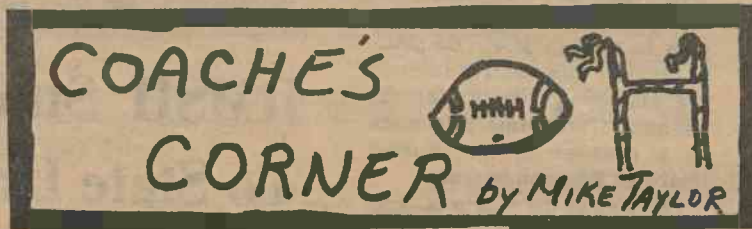


### Mini-Gryphs Bow To Baby Knights In Season Debut

Death Valley and Northern Nash proved too much for our Mini-Gryphs as they were handed an 8-6 loss Thursday Sept. 2nd. The outcome was not decided until time had officially expired. The first quarter was scoreless as both teams were plagued by mistakes and penalties. In the second half, however, the Knights stunned the Gryphs secondary with a 30-yard scoring punch. Northern gambled for a 2 point conversion with an end sweep. The gamble paid off as this was the deciding factor in the game. The Gryph's chance to score didn't materialize until the time had run out. The horn sounded but offsetting penalties merited the Gryphs one more play. The J.V.'s capitalized as quarterback Tommy Warrick connected with end Jimmy Weeks for a 6 pointer. The Junior Gryphs tried their luck with the 2 point play but were not so fortunate as Warrick was dumped as he attempted to pass.

Standouts on offense and defense were Jimmy Weeks and Delasio Bartley.



"They are a good bunch of boys--with discipline and lots of 'savvy'! I'm satisfied with the team as a whole." So said coach Richard Hicks of his RMSH Jayvee Football squad. However, the conversation turned to a more critical note when questioned about the Northern Nash game. "I think that the game was typical of most season openers. There were plenty of mistakes and many expensive penalties. Our mistakes, coupled with our offense's inability to move the ball, cost us the game. Our offense was very ragged--not smooth at all. We would like to consider our defense to be our best asset in that game. They did a good job."

The average football team, after a loss, feels down. Often the second game will pick a team right back up. However some teams stay in their mental

slumps. We hope we will be able to pick up our spirits after our game with Wilmington! This Gryphs reporter thinks that a 46-0 win over Wilmington should be a big enough boost to keep their morals soaring! Keep up the good work, fellas!!

### J.V. Schedule

- Sept. 2 Northern Nash
- Sept. 9 New Hanover (H)\*
- Sept. 16 New Bern(H)
- Sept. 23 Sanford
- Sept. 30 Greenville
- Oct. 7 Fike (H)
- Oct. 14 Goldsboro (H)
- Oct. 21 Greenville (H)
- Oct. 28 Kinston
- Nov. 4 Fike

\*Denotes home games

## No Glory For Managers But Pride Runs High

There are three young men at Senior High whose efforts have, and probably will, for the most part, go unrewarded. They wear no shoulder pads, helmets, or uniform, yet are as important as any man on the football squad. They are our football trainers.

Bruce Anderson, Sam "Pug" Davis and William Smith comprise his trio. Bruce is a Junior and this is his second year as manager.

A football star last year, Sam "Pug" Davis has turned to managing this year. Last but not least is the head trainer, William Smith. This is William's third year as a trainer for football, baseball, and basketball.

Duties of a trainer range from fixing equipment to repairing football players in general. At football games you can see them doing odd jobs, such as giving the players wat-

er, bandaging knees, repairing hip pads and helmets and tending to injured players. However, their season starts before the first game. They come out in August with the football squad and spend the next thirteen weeks with them. They attend every practice and usually spend three hours after school Monday through Wednesday. On Thursday, the trainers take care of J. V.'s at their game and Friday is spent with the varsity. The field house on Saturday morning is a collection of moans, and groans. William and the gant attempt to alleviate some of the pain, but often to no avail.

In closing, William Smith commented, "We enjoy our work. We are proud to be part of the team and we don't mind spending our time with them. It's great being with a team like the RMSH Gryphs."

## After Opening Defeat Things Begin To Look Up

Rocky Mount Senior High School Gryphs played the Northern Nash Knights on Friday, September 3, 1971. The Gryphs did not play to their potential in losing 14-8. Coach Wiggins stated that 'we were out fought, out hussled, and out played.' The Gryphs were hurt this year by graduation and RMSH's inexperience was shining brightly. This is expected to be eliminated during the course of the season.

The Gryphon's offense is geared by the quarterbacking of Roscoe Batts. Batts has been a

three year letterman in football. After quarterback, the rest of the back field is inexperienced. George Jones, fullback, was a defensive tackle last year. This year Coach Wiggins is using his size and speed to excel the running game. Alvis Battle, halfback, a letterman last year, has game breaking speed. Wingback Gary Knight is also a letterman from last year's team. The ends are also inexperienced. Gerald Costen and John Dinan hold these positions.

The Gryphon's defense is led by all conference linemen George 'Deacon' Jones. He is flanked by David 'Little Deac' Jones Wayne Freeman and James Davis. The linebacking is solid with Don Griffin and Woody Incoe. The defensive backfield could be a nice surprise this year.

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