

# The Lions' Den

by Leon Rooke

## It Only Makes the Pain Last a Little Longer

You know, it is rather tiring to continually view the Lions in defeat. It makes us all a little unhappy. It makes this writer unhappy for two reasons. One reason is pride and the other, even more human, is that it resents hardships. No man loves failure (unless the price is right) and what is more and worse, no man likes to write of failure. Writing about a game your team loses is like brushing a tooth when it is aching. It only makes the pain throb a little longer and a little harder, and it takes a few more nerve cells at the same time.

It is difficult to say whose nerve cells this will strike but for sure it will hit someone. Mars Hill lost the eleventh of its past twelve games when it lost two weeks ago to G-W, 14-0. They came back the following week and pulled an upset tie with Lees-McRae, the conference kingpins, 13-13. Mars Hill is the largest college in the WCJC conference yet it loses constantly to schools of 200 students or thereabouts. One might say something is amiss. It may not matter to some people that their team does not win at least occasionally. But the old Saxon proverb which teaches that it isn't "Who wins the game but how it is played that counts" is hard to swallow and believe game after game. It only makes the pain last a little longer.

### Now Let's Get Preachy

No true player likes defeat and no coach likes the taste of defeat. Mars Hill is fortunate in that its coaches do not have to produce a winning team year after year to keep their jobs. The absence of this assurance, I daresay, is pleasant. But, on the other hand, it must be as much unpleasant for a coach to watch his team fall regardless of all he can do—fall because for one thing, the football guys he has, kick football but don't play it.

Certainly, there are some good ball players on the Lions' squad—both in the line and in the backfield. No coach would ask for a runner with more "guts" and more willingness than Mike Miller or Jackie Powers, to mention a couple, but there are a lot of others out there who are not really taking the game seriously. They couldn't be, when they are let down or give up as some do when the first break goes against them. When they give up, this leaves the others with two jobs—their own and the fellow's own. And they can't do both. Then on goes the opposition.

You guys out there on the field have got to fight. You've got to give it your all. For what—for the pure love of the game. If you don't love the game enough to fight your heart out, then you're not a football player—you're just a creaky old machine that will not work. A lazy ball player is not much good to anyone. He pays off in TDs for the other team.

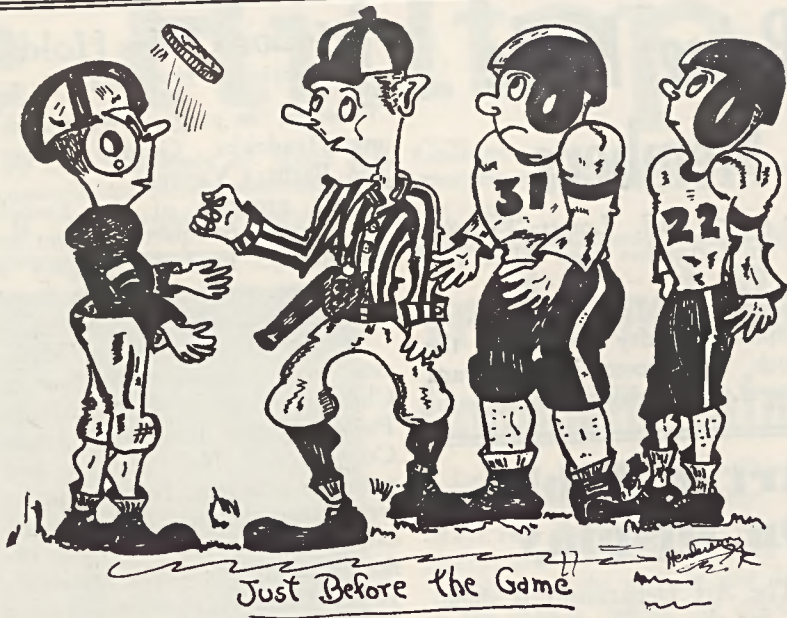
Some men on the Lions squad fight relentlessly. Some men, in sincerity, plead to be left in the game even after they have suffered a broken rib or a cracked skull. They love the game that much. These are the men that are football players—not the broad-shouldered ignoramuses who walk proudly around the campus saying, "Yeah, I play football, four-year letterman in high school—I'm great."

## Tournament Closing Out

The fall tennis tournament is now coming to a close with only three contenders for the championship remaining out of 17 entrants. They are Jim Simmons, Todd Kittrell, and Harris McGirt. Tab Clevenger had to pull out of the tournament, but will probably be ready for action in the spring.

McGirt will play the winner of the Simmons-Kittrell match to decide the championship for the singles. No doubles play will be held, since the singles are late in finishing.

Coach J. V. Howell is getting a pretty good idea of what the MHC squad will look like in the spring. Although fall competition does not finally decide the membership of the team which will represent Mars Hill in next spring's intercollegiate schedule, it has a big bearing on the selections.



# Mars Hill Upsets L-M With 13-13 Tie

Halfback Mike Miller was the man of the day at Banner Elk, October 30, as he led Mars Hill College to a 13-13 deadlock with Lees-McRae, top man on the totem pole in the Western Carolina Junior College Conference.

Miller scored both touchdowns for the Lion squad with TD jaunts of 25 and 11 yards. He also pulled the longest run of the affair with a 70-yard jaunt that set up one of the scores.

The Bulldogs scored twice in the first half to gain a 13-0 half-time lead. But the Lions came roaring back in the near freezing weather of the third quarter with a TD and added the clincher just before the final gun sounded.

Quarterback Bobby Robinson threw an aerial to end man Fred Bibb which carried the ball to the enemy 25 yard marker. Then Miller showed his stuff. He plowed around end and broke through the secondary to paydirt. Jackie Powers added the extra point.

The Lions final score came late in the game. Lees-McRae was forced to kick after they bogged down in mid-field. Miller received the punt on his nine-yard line and, behind good blocking, returned the ball 70 yards before he was finally brought down on the Bobcat 11.

Then before the screaming fans could settle themselves after that run, he broke over tackle on the next play for the game-tying touchdown. The Bobcats rallied to block the all-important extra point.

### Statistics

	MH	L-M
First Downs	10	10
Yds. gained rushing	217	188
Passes attempted	8	6
Passes completed	3	1
Yds. gained passing	70	10
Punting average	24.4	26.3
Yds. kick returned	22	18
Opp. fumbles rec'd	3	0
Penalties	40	35

### Score by periods:

MH	0	0	7	6	— 13
L-McR	7	6	0	0	— 13

play room. The W. A. A., with the help of the M-Blem Club, are working hard to make this project worth while for every girl in the dormitory. Plans are still under way for the intercollegiate play day which will be held the latter part of November.

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# MHC Grid-men Meet Bulldogs In Return War

A return scrap between the Mars Hill Lions and the Bulldogs of Gardner-Webb College will be fought tonight at 8:00 on the G-W field at Shelby, with the home team rating a slight edge.

The Lions presently are situated firmly in the WCJC conference cellar with an unenviable 0-3-1 record. Mars Hill has scored one win thus far this season, that being a 32-7 victory over Hiwassee.

The Bulldogs are one spot above them. They sport a 2-2-1 mark.

In the previous engagement between the two teams this season Gardner-Webb won 14-13. They were saved from destruction in that game when the clock ran out with Mars Hill knocking on the TD door—two yards from paydirt.

Lees-McRae is conference kingpin and has already clinched the crown with a 4-1-1 record.

Mars Hill head coach, Don Henderson, will probably stick with his starting combination of George Seel and Fred Bibbs at ends, Tolley Roberts and George Krueger at tackle positions, Paul Shaw and Shag Hughes at guard, and Sonny Stillwell the center man.

Mike Miller and Jerry Crowe will be running from the halfback slots, and Jackie Powers at fullback. Bobby Robinson and Harry Johnson will work alternately as quarterbacks.

# G-W Edges Lions 14-13

The jinx of the Mountain Men of Mars Hill seems to hold over from last year. The Mountain Men have lost 7 straight home games. The Gardner-Webb Bulldogs dealt them their last loss by a 14-13 squeaker. The ball game appeared to be a runaway for Mars Hill as Mike Miller ran 75 yards for a 6 pointer on the first scrimmage play. The Bulldogs fought back to score two touchdowns and take a 14-7 lead, Jackie Powers went 43 yards in the fourth quarter for the touchdown but his try for the tying point was blocked. Miller almost broke the game wide open on the last play as he ran 28 yards before being pushed out of bounds on the 8 yard line.

Dean Upton led the Bulldogs, scoring both touchdowns on runs of 10 and 2 yards. He scored one extra point on a plunge and McCarron kicked one. Reid and Long led the line play for the visitors while Paul Shaw, with 32 tackles, and George Krueger played a fine game for the Lions. Mike Miller had 196 yards for the night on offense, Jackie Powers ran well as did Jerry Crowe for Mars Hill but they did not have quite enough.

## Chowan College Braves Host To Mountain Men

The Mountain Lions of MHC will journey across the hills to the coastal plains section of eastern Carolina on November 13 to do battle against the Braves of Chowan College at Murfreesboro.

The Lions, sporting a 1-1-4 record this year, and that win the only one in the past 14 games, will enter the contest as the underdog.

The Braves are undefeated in 14 games though they were held to a 6-6 tie by Gardner-Webb early in the season. Much of

Chowan's power lies in the persons of two fleet-footed halfbacks, Jook Crenshaw and Dan Deaton, and end man, Jim Gravely.