

Bulldogs, Lions Vie In Finale Tonight

Win Would Give Lions 2nd Place

The Lions close out their 1961 grid campaign against strong conference foe and arch-rival Gardner-Webb at Shelby tonight.

A victory would give the Lions a respectable 4-2-2 record for the season and place them second in the tightly knit Western Carolinas Junior College Conference race. The two losses were to Wingate and the ties were with non-conference opponents Ferrum and Marion.

In their first encounter with Gardner-Webb the Lions emerged victorious by a slim 13-12 margin. Since then the Bulldogs have tied Lees-McRae and Wingate.

A key change in the Mars Hill starting lineup last week was made necessary by quarterback Mickey Ottley's withdrawal from school. He was replaced by freshman Harry Sprouse of Simpsonville, S. C., who performed like a polished veteran at the signal-calling post against Marion. Sprouse flipped key passes to end Richard Famiglietti and halfback Scott Conner and reeled off several nice runs from the quarterback slot.

Other new faces in the starting lineup are linebacker Mike Randleman, who came into his own during the last two ball games with his aggressive tackling and brilliant punting, and Ron Stewart, who performed well at offensive tackle and defensive guard.

Loss, Tie Mark Last Two Games

The Lions were nipped by Wingate, 14-6, on Oct. 21 and battled a strong Marion (Ala.) Institute team to a 0-0 draw here last week in the closing home game.

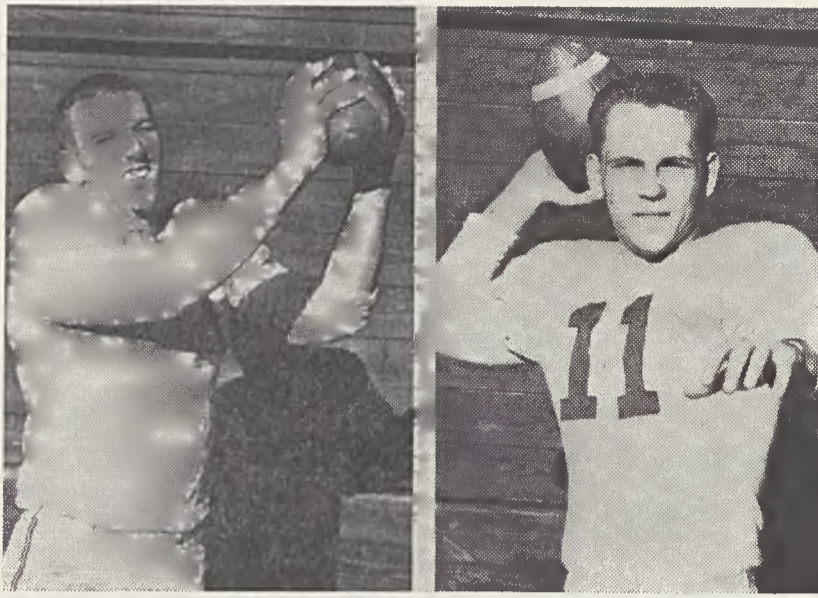
The Wingate game was largely a defensive battle and featured guards Sonny Rice and Buddy Ware and linebacker Bill Loneberry as mainstays. FB Gary Hammonds led the ground attack while glue-fingered end Richard Famiglietti led the aerial attack by snaring four passes, one an 18-yard touchdown toss from HB Larry Honeycutt.

In the last quarter a 20-yard scoring jaunt by Honeycutt was nullified by a penalty and the Bulldogs added a final 7 points in the last 10 seconds to widen the margin from 7-6 to 14-6.

In the Marion game both teams moved the ball well between the 30's, but each could muster only one scoring threat, both in the second half.

A corps of fleet Marion backs drove to the MH 5 but lost the ball on downs when "Scooter" Conner batted down a pass in the end zone. The Lions, led by Honeycutt, Conner and QB Harry Sprouse, marched to the Marion 11 before losing the ball.

Ends Larry Bruce and Barrow Carter sparked the defensive wall while center Larry Phillips led the offensive charge. Famiglietti caught three of five passes and accounted for most of the Lions' 104 yards passing.



The new aerial attack of the Lions includes Richard Famiglietti (left) on the receiving end and quarterback Harry Sprouse on the pitching end. The pair accounted for most of the team's passing yardage against Marion last week and will have an opportunity to try their hands again tonight as the team winds up its season in a conference game against Gardner-Webb at Shelby.

Basketball Tryouts Begin Mon., Season Starts Dec. 1

Competition for positions on the varsity basketball team will begin Monday, Coach Wood has announced.

Some candidates have been practicing for several weeks, but this has been only on an individual basis the coach explained.

A 20-game schedule, including the two games with each of the other seven teams in the Western Carolinas Junior College Conference, will be launched Dec. 1 at Banner Elk against the Lees-McRae Bobcats. Lees College of Kentucky, Ferrum and Bluefield of Virginia and Anderson (S.C.) will provide the non-league competition.

Only three lettermen return from last year's squad which finished with a 7-12 record: diminutive guard Scott Conner, a flashy ball handler and sharp outside shooter who had 221 points last season; starting pivotman Mackie McLendon, 6-3, who was sixth high scorer on the '60-61 squad; and

reserve forward C. J. Goodman, 6-2.

Sophomore newcomers hoping for a place on the team are Dave Beamon, Carl Conley, Gary Tucker, Bill Eure and Manly League. Freshman prospects include Jerry Perkins, Bill Loven, "Jabbo" Bennett, Kermit Eller, Harvey Gordon, Tom Moncrief and Dale Henson.

The full 1961-62 Lion schedule is as follows: Dec. 1, at Lees-McRae; 4, Anderson (S.C.) here; 6, at Lees (Ky.); 7, at Ferrum; 8, at Bluefield; 14, at Gardner-Webb; 15, Wingate here; Jan. 8, Asheville-Biltmore here; 9, at Anderson (S.C.); 26, at Wingate; 27, at Spartanburg; 30, at Brevard; Feb. 1, North Greenville here; 2, Lees (Ky.) here; 5, Lees-McRae here; 8, Spartanburg here; 10, at Asheville-Biltmore; 13, at North Greenville; Brevard here; 17, Gardner-Webb here; 21-24, Conference Tournament.

Coach Optimistic Over Tennis Team

Varsity tennis, approaching the conclusion of fall practice as winter weather nears, was viewed with decided optimism this week by Coach Virginia Hart.

Currently the top 10 men on the tennis ladder are Bill Mariner, Charles White, Woody Hart, Ken Murray, Bob Glover, Frankie Garrett, Jim Bone, Hugh Burrows, Paul Patterson and Jim Thomas.

Miss Hart indicated these will continue challenge play as long as the weather permits. Spring practice will begin as soon as the weather warms.

Last year's MHC netmen suffered their only setback at the rackets of a national junior college championship Wingate team and, for the first time in eight years, failed to capture the league title.

Harriers Face Brevard Next

Mars Hill's cross country team, currently battling Wingate for the conference championship, will hold its last regular meet of the season at Brevard Monday.

The team kept its record unblemished in its last two outings by knotting Wingate 18-18 on Oct. 21 and overrunning Brevard 20-35 on Oct. 24.

In the Wingate meet Ralph Ebersson captured second place, followed by Nat Coffin and C. J. Goodman, fourth and fifth. Don Martin, hobbled by a leg injury, took seventh.

Against Brevard, Ebersson, Coffin and Goodman clipped the first three places. Bob Johnston took fifth and Martin, ninth.

Mars Hill and Wingate, which have tied twice, will put forth special effort in the conference meet here Friday. A win would mean valuable points toward the conference All-Sports trophy.

The Lion's Den

By JOHN BASKIN

Major colleges are overlooking a virtual paradise by not viewing the junior college football scene more closely. Even the inadequate athletic facilities coupled with lack of publicity on a larger scale fail to dim the performances given by the Mars Hill football squad.

Several of the key Lionmen have had scholarship offers to major colleges before choosing Mars Hill. Two of the most sought after players were Richard Famiglietti and Neal Gruetter. Richard, while playing at Miami (Fla.) Edison High School, had offers from the University of Georgia, University of North Carolina and the University of Kentucky. Neal, as a prepster at Lee Edwards High in Asheville received offers from the University of Georgia, the University of Cincinnati, and Western Carolina.

Jim Epps had offers from Furman University and Presbyterian College, and Bo-Bo Dishman received one from N. C. State and Fredericks College. Bill Lineberry received a scholarship from the College of Louisiana, while Buddy Ware had one from Southeastern Louisiana College.

There are other Lionmen who could very easily play for major colleges. Power-driving halfback Larry Honeycutt, with the proper breaks, could write his own ticket to any of the ACC schools. Center Larry Phillips and guard Sonny Rice could also play major college football.

It is discouraging to hear people talk of junior college football on a high school level. The high caliber of ball played in this junior college circuit is evidenced by the Lion team, which fails to let the afore-mentioned lack of proper facilities, stadium, publicity, etc., become a barrier to their love of football.

Coach Wood's basketball outlook is greatly improved by the new floor in the gym — the team will be able to dribble this year! To give those of you who were not here last year an idea of how badly a new floor was needed consider this comparison: if grass grew on the court, it would have looked like the football field and been just about as good for dribbling.

Seriously, we really are proud of this improvement and wish Coach Wood and his cage team an undefeated season.

PEOPLE WE KNOW: Clarence Maxey is "red-shirting" on the VPI football team. The 6-1, 210-pounder was on the basketball and baseball teams in addition to being an outstanding wingman on the football team here last year. Dave Beck ended fall baseball practice as the Number 1 second baseman at Furman. Ron Henderson, rugged all-conference guard in football here last season and a former letterman at Western Carolina College, is currently living in Asheville with his wife and baby. Ron plans to re-enter Mars Hill next year and join the grid squad as the Lions begin senior college work.

Our compliments to the coaching staff of the Marion (Ala.) Institute Keydets. The team members were among the most well-mannered athletes to visit our campus in recent years.

Animosities of the game were turned into topics of friendly conversation during post-game "bull sessions" at the Cub. Later, members of both teams talked on the third floor of Myers until the Keydets were called to bed by their coach's curfew.

The game was one of the hardest-fought but cleanest played here recently, and players from both squads required some "patching up" afterward.

Best of luck to the Marion Keydets as they close out their season today against Florida Military Institute.

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