



(Upper) The Lions ready for the offensive attack against the Newberry line. (Lower) Team members congratulate fullback James Miller for his 29-yard touchdown run.

Photos by Sam Tunstall

Scotty Miller Lions Top Newberry; Break Even for Season

Coach Claude Gibson and the Lions ended the 1976 season on a winning note and in so doing, spoiled the Homecoming for the Newberry Indians. When the smoke had cleared, Mars Hill had claimed a very hard fought 7-0 victory. It was an especially satisfying win for the Lions, who faced the prospect of a losing season for the first time in three years. Mars Hill concluded her season with a 3-3-1 SAC-8 conference record and an overall 4-4-1 slate.

The Lions' entire offensive attack consisted of running, and their ability to move the ball and eat up the clock constantly pressured the Newberry offense. The key to the game though, was the Lion defense. Erratic all season, they came into their own the last two games of the season by holding Catawba's high powered offense to 15 points and by shutting out Newberry. Twice the Indians had the pigskin inside the Lion ten yard line, and twice Mars Hill stopped them on fourth down situations. The Lions forced three drive stopping turn-

overs, one on a fumble recovery and two on interceptions by Danny Miller and Scotty Bubash.

For the second game in a row, the most outstanding offensive standout for the Lions was freshman fullback James Miller. The Spartanburg, S. C. native rushed 26 times for 130 yards, including the game's only touchdown, a 29 yard second quarter scamper. The score came with 1:55 to go in the second quarter, and resulted from Miller's pass interception. That one touchdown proved to be enough as the Indians were shut out the rest of the contest. For the Indians, wide receiver Jerome Williams had a great afternoon. He caught eight of quarterback Leon Williams' passes for a total of 109 yards.

Coach Gibson commented that it was a "great win for the guys." "We started the season 1-3 and it would have been easy for the guys to quit, but they came back to have a good second half of the season." In the last five games of the season, the Lions finished 3-1-1.

Lady Lions Grab Second at Milligan

On October 29 and 30, the Mars Hill Lady Lions went to Milligan College in Tennessee for the Milligan Tri-State Volleyball Tournament. After the games were all over, the team came home with second place, winning the first trophy ever for volleyball here at Mars Hill.

The Milligan contest, an invitational tournament covering North Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia, included a total of nine competing teams. The final outcome found the team from Carson-Newman in first place.

On Friday night, the Lady Lions posted their first victory against Emory and Henry. As winner, they then advanced to play Maryville, a team which dealt them their first loss. Because of that loss,

they didn't have to play again until Saturday, when they once more faced Emory and Henry. After another win, Mars Hill then proceeded to defeat Milligan and avenge their first loss to Maryville. Their final and most important match pitted them against Carson-Newman to whom they lost.

The team's success at the Milligan tournament was due to the co-operation of each team member. With Esther Hollingsworth spiking, Brit Brittain setting up, and the rest of the team working together, the Lady Lions could hardly be stopped. Such a finish could not have been possible without much ability and one hundred percent dedication.



The Mars Hill Lady Lions brought home the school's first tourney trophy from action at the Milligan Tri-State affair. Members of the second-place-winning volleyball team are: Second row (l-r)--Dr. Veronica Melton (Coach), Endia Foster, Phyliss Scott, Esther Hollingsworth, Joanna Queen, Maria Musante, Sheila Walker; First row (l-r)--Kathy Simmons, Anita Finger, Karen Barnett, Wendy Balm; Not pictured--Brit Brittain, Donna Huckaby; Catherine Smith, Terrina Hendrix (Managers).
Photo by Kirk Hall