

SPORTS

PHOTO BY DAVID WACHTER

Lions Split Final Home Games

By KEITH WHITAKER

The Lions came home to Mears Stadium to face Wofford and Lenoir-Rhyne in their final two home games.

In the Homecoming game against Wofford, the Lions quickly took advantage of a fumble recovery by Larry Holding at the 50-yard line. Q.B. Sean Bowles passed to Tracey King at the 16-yard line and from there Tony "T.D." Dawkins scored the Lion's first touchdown. Shealy's PAT was good and Mars Hill led 7-0.

The Terriers punted on their next possession, but got the ball back after interception. After three plays, Craig Best plowed over the goal line for the score with the conversion tying the game at 7-7. Wasting little time, the Terriers picked off another Lion pass, giving Wofford's offense the ball at the Mars Hill 48-yard line. Q.B. Estridge picked up 21 yards on an option run and then gave the ball to running back Tim Best on the third play of the series for the touchdown. The PAT was stopped and Wofford led 13-7 going into half-time.

In the second half, both teams played excellent defense, with Chris Pierpont keeping Wofford in bad field positions with a 45-yard punting average. The Terriers were able to come away with two additional field goals however, and picked up a 19-7 win.

On November 5, Lenoir-Rhyne came up against a fired-up Lions football team. Mars Hill received the opening kick-off and drove the ball down to the

L-R 29-yard line where the drive stalled and David Shealy's field goal attempt was wide left.

The Bears took over and went nowhere before Todd Reeves knocked the ball loose from L-R Q.B. Brian Dalen. Darrin McNeely recovered the ball at the Bear's nine-yard line and only two plays later Q.B. Sean Bowles hit Tony Dawkins for the score. David Shealy's conversion attempt was good and Lions led 7-0.

Shealy booted field goals of 28 and 37 yards to conclude all the scoring for the day. As usual the Lions' defense displayed "the bend but don't break" style. Lenoir-Rhyne drove constantly between the 29's, but six turnovers killed all hopes. Todd Reeves led the effort with three fumble recoveries, McNeely had one. Tony Compagna and Kevin Barnette added interceptions for the defense.

Mars Hill is now 4-4-1 with two away games remaining on their schedule. Before the season started the Lions were predicted to finish last in the South Atlantic Conference and many writers said they wouldn't win a single game.

Coach Gilstrap and his excellent staff should be commended for a job well done. The players have played above average and the team deserves better support than was shown at the Lenoir-Rhyne game. Keep up the good work and hopefully the student support will pick up.



Tracy King is brought down from behind by Lenoir-Rhyne defenders after a reception that moved Mars Hill into Lenoir-Rhyne territory.



PHOTO BY DAVID WACHTER

Hail the Queen! Dr. Bentley crowns Mary Beth Miller, the 1983-84 Homecoming Queen, as Homecoming King Bo Caldwell looks on.

Volleyball: Lady Lions End Season

The Mars Hill College Lady Mountain Lions began the 1983 season without four seniors including Academic-All-American Susan Mann. In the first few matches, the team was also minus the services of All-District Player Lavonda Wagner, 6'3" Robin Lucas, Kim Henson and Terri Beverly. Beverly missed the whole season while the other three players returned at various stages during the season.

In the early stages of the season, Coach Pat Sams had only four experienced players - Sophomore Denise Groh, Seniors Susie Mathis and Shelia Minter, and Junior Transfer Sandy Robertson. The three freshmen gained valuable experience during this period of time. Sandy Greene of Asheville became the leading setter. Jackie Moody of Boone developed fast enough to be a starter for the entire season while 6'1" Nancy Oliver of Waco, Texas was valuable as a substitute on the frontline.

After a 2-9 start, Captain Wagner returned to lead the team to a 6-0 sweep of the Concord College, West Virginia Tournament including winning over two teams who had previously beaten Mars Hill. The team then played well on a trip to Florida in which they lost to several strong NCAA opponents.

However, it was after this trip that the team really "came of age." On Thursday, October 20, they started a 13 game winning streak against Wofford Queens and continued that on the Friday against Tusculum and a strong Tennessee Temple team. Saturday, the streak went to five as Mars Hill was beaten at home. NAIA District opponents were the next victims - UNC at Asheville, Catawba, and Milligan. The UNC at Asheville match was one of the most exciting as Mars Hill took the deciding game 15-13.

The team then traveled to Milligan to defend its tournament championship from last year. Four straight wins extended the streak to thirteen, but Mars Hill overcame the Lady Lions in the semifinals.

The final 28-18 record was second to the 41-11 of last year. The 9-3 District Record was one of the best, but it did not qualify the team for the playoffs to a weighted point system.

Coach Pat Sams is optimistic about next year since he only had two seniors to lose. With Wagner, Lucas, Groh, Moody, Robertson, Henson, and Beverly returning, he should have an excellent team. However, he hopes to recruit some excellent freshmen.

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Soccer Wra

PHIP KILEY
Mars Hill soccer team... first season with los... and Catawba college... Lions traveled to... second half of a back... the Lions lost 8-0. ... played well by both te... defense" holding... goals. This was o... all season. The of... was plagued by positio... was unable to sc... second half proved t... as they gave up... early on to seal the... was "yellow card... in front of the Lin... during one of the g... Hill's final game w... of Catawba. The... enthusiastically, but... down by a 13-0 fin... few chances to sco... and wide shots left the...