

On the Sidelines

From Page B1

well disciplined. This year is no exception.

With nine coaches in all, not counting the junior varsity, the Wonders appear to have an adequate blend of quickness, size and a soft schedule that will lead them to the top of the heap in the CPC. The toughest teams the Wonders will have to visit, will be Davie County and Reynolds. A split there and a clean sweep at home should be enough to boost Kannapolis into the playoffs yet another year at 6-1 in the conference and 8-2 overall.

Screamin' Demons

They're big and have decent speed, and the Demons are screaming to be heard in the CPC. Reynolds lost four straight with a young team last year, but the Demons put together a run late in the year, winning five out of their last six and losing out on the playoffs by a mere flip of the coin.

Coach Doug Crater has been around the block a few times and should strike a little fear into CPC opponents with a dreadfully large Dred Booe at fullback. Booe was a key for the Demons during his sophomore season, and only Mark "Fuzzy" Dunlap at Parkland will be able to grind out more yards in these parts.

If RJR can get by West in their season-opener, then the Demons shouldn't have to worry about coin tosses this season, finishing 5-2 in the CPC and 7-3 overall. A quick loss to the Titans, though, and the Demons might be screaming heads or tails.

Big as a Barndoor

Coach Doug Crater of Reynolds calls Davie County, "big as a barndoor" and rightfully so. Last year the War Eagles had enough guys over 200 pounds to eat a country restaurant right out of business.

This year is no exception, as Davie uncovers a few more tobacco spittin' good ol' boys and will run straight at everyone in the CPC.

The War Eagles simply wear out opposing defense by hogging the ball for 40 or more running plays a game. The result usually end up in a low scoring decision in their favor.

If the DC secondary can stave off the pass from West Forsyth and a couple of others, then the War Eagles might very well be hunting someone's hide in the playoffs at 6-4 overall and 4-3 in the CPC.

Zeiter Zone

Welcome to West Forsyth. The world of the strange and the unusual -- no, it's not the Twilight Zone -- it's Zeiter zone. Head coach Denny Zeiters, defensive coordinator Dave McConnell and JV coach Tom Henson have transformed West Forsyth from the bumbling of the Three Stooges to smoothness of an Eddie Murphy.

Last season the Titans rode the shoulders of Herman McKinnie and the arm of Derrick Byers all the way to Charlotte, where the playoff ride ended along with their hopes of a state title, in a 7-6 loss to Charlotte Harding.

McKinnie is headed to Norfolk State, but the cannon of Byers still remains, and that is enough reason not to write off the Titans despite losing 34 seniors.

Call me crazy if you like, but that's what they called Zeiters while he was in the playoffs and every-one else was at home last year.

Led by the passing of Byers, a solid defense and a soft schedule with six home games the Titans should be a definite factor in the playoff picture with a 7-3 record overall and 4-3 in the CPC.

Fantastic Fuzzy

Chalk another one up for the Silver Fox -- a tailback that is. Head Coach Homer Thompson and his Mustangs always seem to have the great tailback, and this year is no exception, with Mark "Fuzzy" Dunlap gaining 26 pounds and returning for his senior season.

Can Dunlap lead the Mustangs to the promised land? Will McDon-

alds sell a million hamburgers between now and Christmas?

Dunlap will be the horse for the Mustangs, but will he have anyone to block for him? Will Parkland be able to pass the ball on third down?

The Mustangs are one big question mark. But a straightened question mark becomes an exclamation point. Thompson picks his small ponies to finish last in the league,

but that's just what he wants every-one to do -- forget about them.

Forgetting the Mustangs would be a dangerous mistake as long as Dunlap stays healthy. He has a host of unknown potential to back him, and a defense that always knows what's going on under the leadership of Coach Drew Buie. The Fuzz should provide Thompson

with an outside shot of post-season success at 5-5 and 4-3 in the CPC -- and a few more gray hairs.

South of the Border

South Rowan is another interesting story. A successful junior varsity program and a handful of returning starters should

bring them respectability.

They are well-coached and well-funded. They like to run the option and are usually pretty fast on their feet.

Away ballgames are sometimes a problem for them though, and with five road games, South Rowan will have to prove themselves to me and everyone else.

A stab in the dark says the

Southern boys will finish 6-4 overall, but only 3-4 in the league and out of the hunt. I could be wrong, though.

Temperate Tabor

For the last couple of seasons, Mount Tabor has been like a

Please see page B16

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