

SPORTSWEEK

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 1995

Carmichael Perseveres Despite Objections of Others

▲ West Forsyth kicker just wants to be a football player — no more, no less

By JEROME RICHARD
Chronicle Sports Editor

Paula Carmichael strolled behind the massive wall created along the sideline by her West Forsyth High School teammates as they stood shoulder pad to shoulder pad like sardines watching the Titans' season opener with Carver High School. Every few feet Carmichael would stop and try to find a crack in the wall of white and green uniforms in order to catch a glimpse of the junior varsity football game.

It was difficult for the diminutive 5-2, 101-pound kicker to see what was happening on the field, but it didn't seem to matter. Carmichael was happy just to be on the team. After all, this was her first taste of organized sports, and though some people made it plain they didn't think a girl belonged on the squad, Carmichael nevertheless persevered through the arduous August practices and ignored people's snide remarks to crash through the banner and run onto the field with her teammates for the season

opener against Carver. She didn't play against the Yellow Jackets, and she hasn't seen action in West Forsyth's subsequent games, though she came close in the Titans' 33-0 victory over East Forsyth two weeks ago.

"If we had scored again, she would have been called upon to kick the extra point," West Forsyth coach Randy Pope said, noting the Titans don't cut players.

Having a girl on the team created some minor problems early in the season for West Forsyth,

but once were ironed out, things have sailed smoothly for the Titans.

"There may have been a comment or two early in the season by some of the teenagers being macho, but we nipped that in the bud real quick," Pope said. "The only disruption has been separate dressing rooms, obviously, and that is just because I have to remember to lock it and unlock it. Other than that there have been no problems, and that isn't a big one."

Though Carmichael has yet

to appear in a game, she has maintained a positive attitude, persevered, and done what has been asked of her, according to Pope.

"She has stuck it out and been to all the practices," the coach said. "The effort is definitely there. She has a good work ethic. She is a good kid who has been where she is supposed to be at practices and games."

Carmichael, believed to be

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Paula Carmichael

Last-Second Touchdown Lifts Elizabeth City Past WSSU, 22-19

▲ Loss deals severe blow to Rams' title chances

By JEROME RICHARD
Chronicle Sports Editor

Elizabeth City State drove 86 yards in five plays to score with four seconds remaining as it handed Winston-Salem State a 22-19 loss in the Rams' CIAA Conference opener Sept. 16 at Bowman Gray Stadium.

The loss was a severe blow to the preseason-favorite Rams' conference championship hopes and a crushing jolt to their confidence, especially after it appeared they had the game won when Richard Huntley's 11-yard touchdown run and Milton Mooya's extra-point kick gave them a 19-16 lead with 54 seconds left to play.

Elizabeth City took the kickoff after Huntley's touchdown and drove for the victory, capped by a short Kenny Crump-to-Aaron Murchison pass that Murchison turned into a 30-yard touchdown with four seconds to play.

Crump got the winning drive started with a pass to Malcolm Mackey and WSSU was flagged for a personal foul to move the ball to the Viking 49. Another WSSU penalty moved the ball to the Ram 45 before a 10-yard completion to Murchison and a facemask penalty got the ball to the 30, setting up the game-winning pass.

For the Rams, 1-2 overall and 0-1 in the league, it was another defensive collapse.

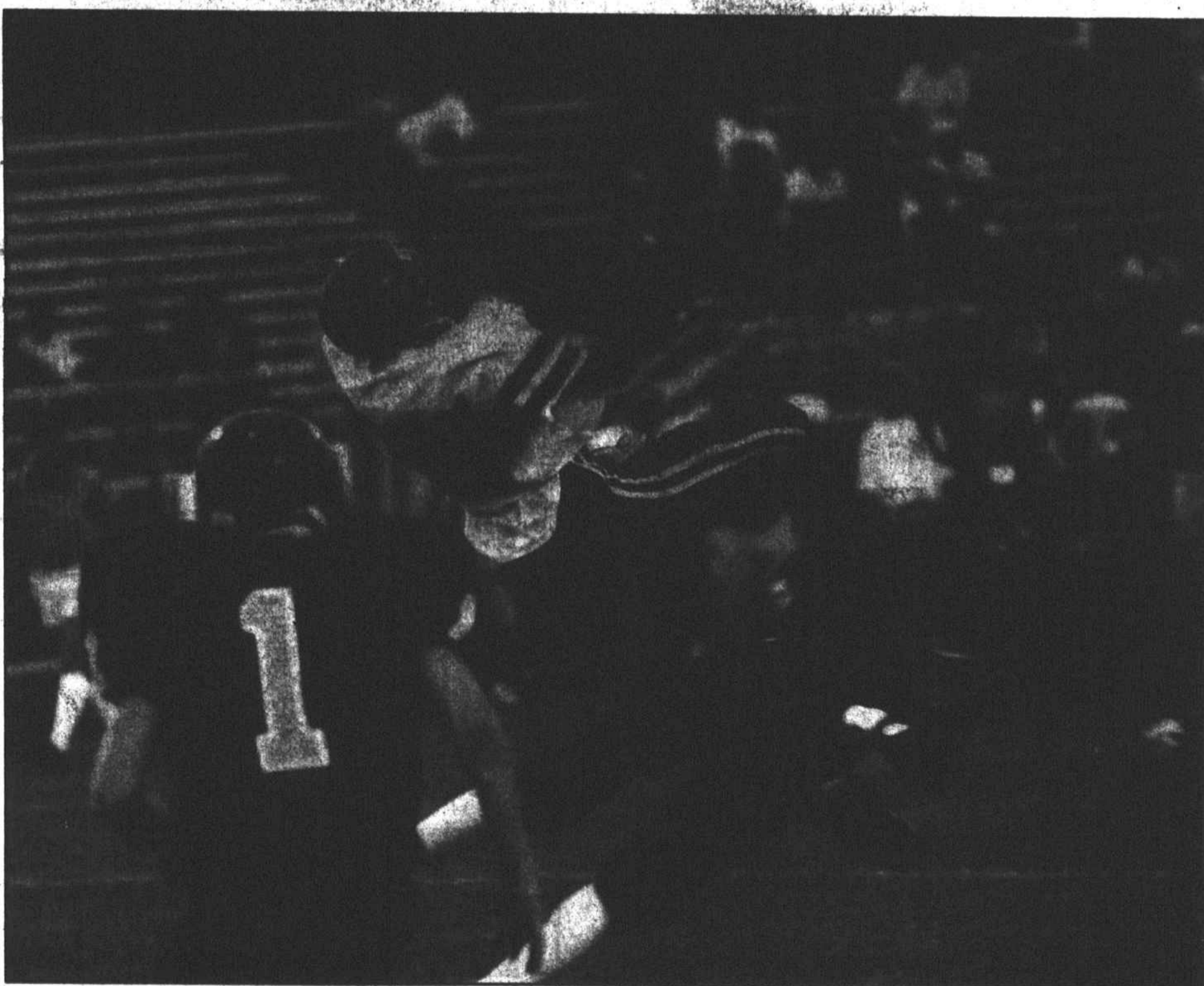
"We got caught on the wrong side of the field," WSSU coach Kermit Blount said. "We did not recover and make the play."

The Vikings lit up the scoreboard first with a 10-play, 77-yard drive, capped by Lamont Avent's 1-yard run. WSSU pulled within 7-6 on a 36-yard pass from D'Andre Hopper to Randall Carter as Mooya's PAT kick was blocked. Elizabeth City took a 9-6 lead to the locker room when it scored on a safety with 1:08 to play in the half.

Avent scored on a 2-yard dive in the second half and Huntley hit paydirt on a 1-yard run to set up the last-minute fireworks.

The Vikings outgained WSSU on the ground, 323 to 237, as Murchison carried the ball 17 times for 121 yards.

Drummond Fullfills Contract



Parkland receiver Camden Banner is upended on a crossing pattern by Mount Tabor's Brian Shipp as Jason Muldoven (1) is ready to pounce.

▲ Speedster rushes for 136 yards, two TDs against Parkland

By JEROME RICHARD
Chronicle Sports Editor

Eugene Drummond's contract with Mount Tabor High School has six more weeks to run, and after last Thursday's rushing performance against Parkland, it is obvious he is living up to its terms.

The sophomore ran for 136 yards on 16 carries and two touchdowns as Mount Tabor won its third consecutive junior varsity football game by beating Parkland 27-15 Sept. 14 at home.

No one would have predicted Drummond's spectacular performance based on his preseason practices. During the sweltering days of August, Drummond had the habit of running wide and being more concerned with individual performance than the team concept, a felony in the eyes of Mount Tabor coaches. It took severe measures to get Drum-

Eugene Drummond

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Reynolds Staves Off East in Battle of Winless

▲ Demons pick up first win behind Evans, Booth, and defense

By JEROME RICHARD
Chronicle Sports Editor

Reynolds High School scored right off the bat and twice staved off East Forsyth deep in its own territory late in the game to record its first junior varsity football victory of the season, 14-0 Sept. 14 at Deaton-Thompson Stadium.

Reynolds improved to 1-3 on the year. East Forsyth fell to 0-3.

The Demons scored on their first offensive possession when Dennis Evans bolted 44 yards to the end zone for a 6-0 lead as the two-point conversion was nullified by a penalty.

The teams waged a defensive struggle the rest of the first half as the Demons headed to the locker room on top 6-0.

They increased the margin to 14-0 near the end of the third quarter when A. J. Booth rammed over from the 3-yard line and added the two-point PAT.

Reynolds dodged two bullets in the fourth quarter after turning the ball over to East Forsyth deep in its own territory.

The Eagles took possession at the RJR 30-yard line the first

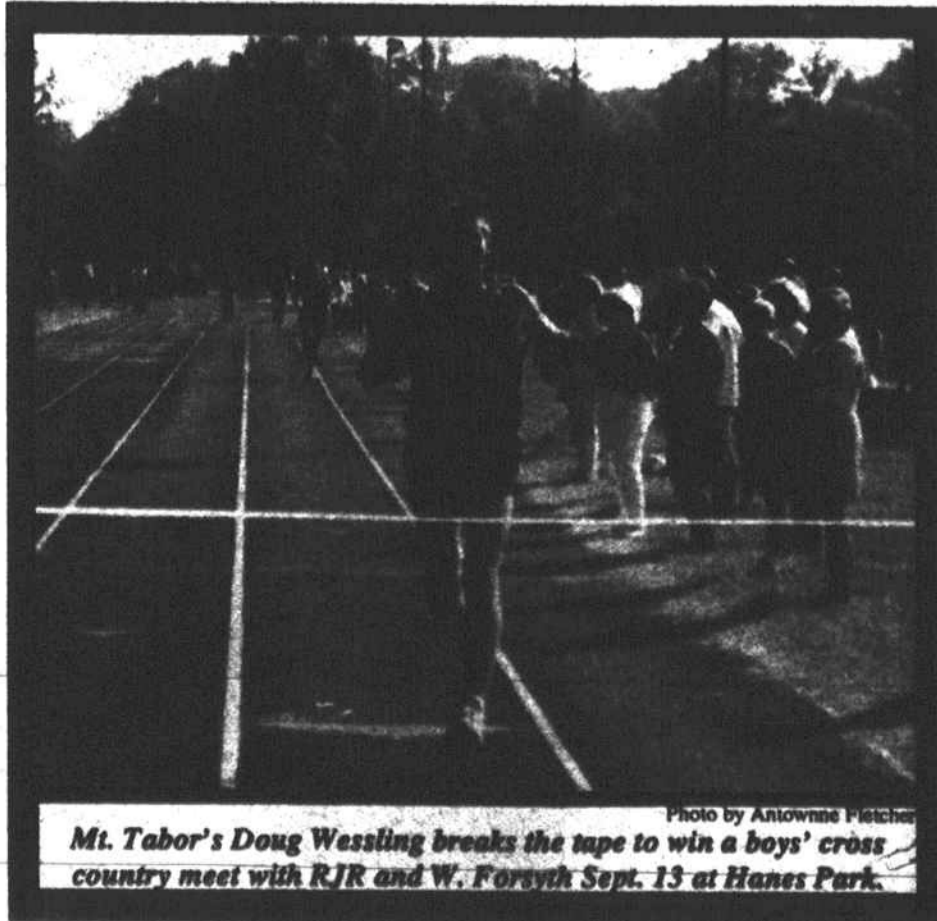
time and at the Demon 20 the second time, but couldn't punch the ball in either time.

"Defensively, we felt as a team we did a much better job, and offensively we moved the ball the best we have all season," said Reynolds coach James Alexander.

He credited nose guard Lewis Jackson and linebacker Carlos Summers with good defensive games.

"Offensively, this was the most prepared we have been this year.

"We feel we are making progress every week. We feel we are in for a much better season from here on out."



Mt. Tabor's Doug Westling breaks the tape to win a boys' cross-country meet with RJR and W. Forsyth Sept. 13 at Hanes Park.