

RICE

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touchdown, giving him 1320 total yards during the regular season.

However, his slow start cost him several starts during the season in the Yellowjackets' backfield.

While the rest of his teammates were bracing for a blowout against the 7-4 Vikings, Rice was gearing himself for his best showing of the season.

He went into the game after having his best week of practice during the season.

And what better time to come to the Yellowjackets' rescue after they came out sluggishly and fell behind Kinston 7-0.

Rice didn't even touch the ball in the first quarter. He felt snubbed. "Something had to change and it had to be right now," he told himself.

It did. The first time he touched the football Rice broke loose for a 57-yard touchdown. It was one of his best runs of the season. He broke to the outside, stiff armed a would-be tackler, tight roped the sideline, cut back against the grain and outraced two defenders to the end zone.

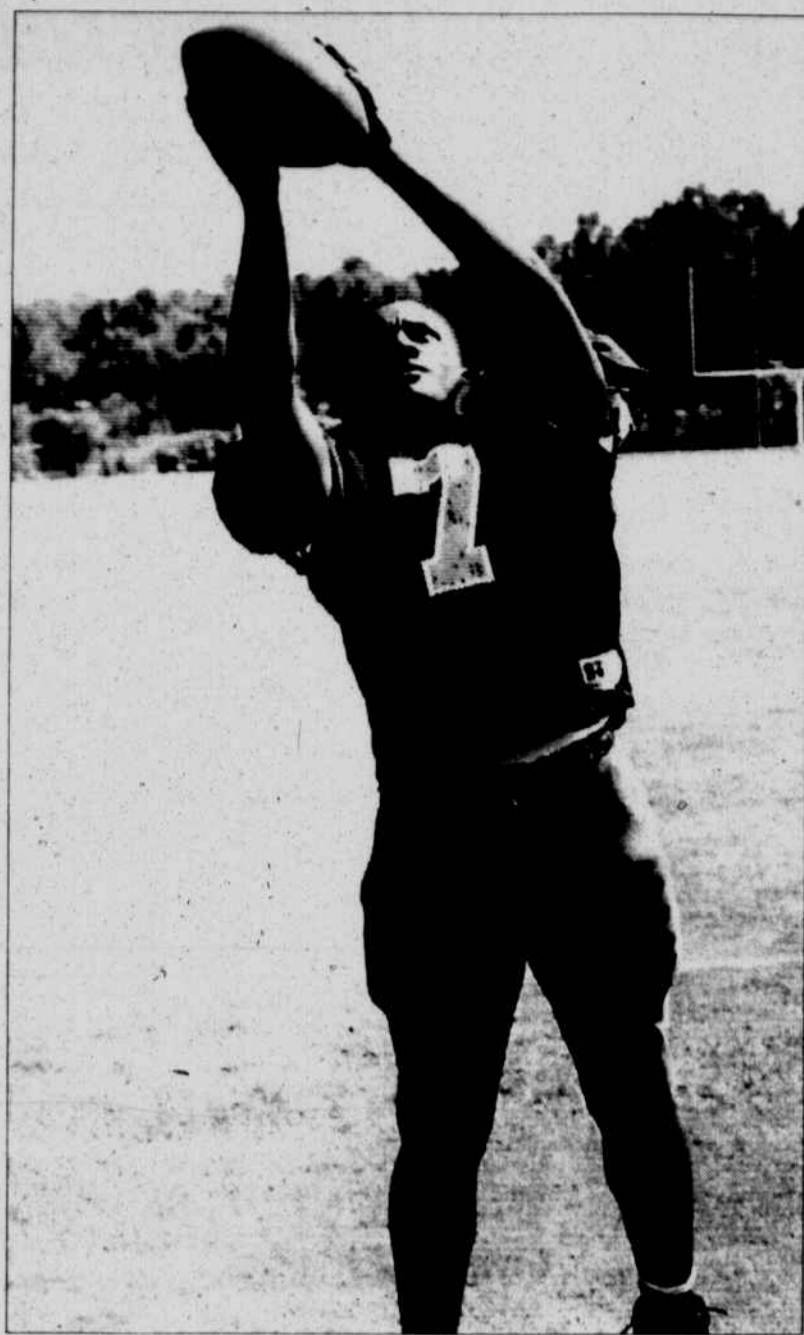
That run got him going and he finished the game with a team-high 124 yards on 10 carries. He also returned a punt 31 yards to give him 155 total yards for the game.

Coach Keith Wilkes of Carver said Rice picked a good time to step up his game.

"That's probably the best game that Rice has played all season," Wilkes said. "We all know what kind of talent he has, but for one reason or another we hadn't been getting it every game."

Rice said he needed to get more touches.

"I'm the kind of back who gets better the more I touch the football," he said. "I know we have a



Tauric Rice

lot of good backs and the number of times I carry it is going to depend upon the situation. But I still need to get it consistently."

Rice just might get his wish this week. The Yellowjackets play host to Greensboro Dudley in a second-round game at Carver. Carver defeated the Panthers 41-12 during the regular season, but both Rice and Wilkes say they expect Dudley's best effort this week.

"I think they'll come over here

with something to prove," Rice said. "They probably think that they didn't play up to their potential the first time and they're going to be out for revenge."

But both also said the Yellowjackets will be ready to play.

"We know they are a very capable team," Wilkes said. "They're going to be up for the game. After last week, we know we can't take anyone for granted."

Mount Tabor gets top seed in Mary Garber Tournament

By SAM DAVIS
THE CHRONICLE Sports Editor

Winning produces its share of rewards.

For Mount Tabor's girls basketball team, winning last year's Mary Garber Tournament has put a bulls' eyed on its back.

The Spartans have been voted as the favorite to win the 1997 edition, which tips off next Monday, (Nov. 24) at Herman Bryson Gymnasium at Reynolds High. The semifinal and final round will be held at the Coliseum Annex.

Mount Tabor will square off against No. 8-seeded Carver in the tournament opener. Glenn, seeded second, will face No. 7 Parkland at 4:30. North Forsyth, the No. 4 seed will battle No. 5 East at 6:30 and the nightcap will pit No. 3 Reynolds against No. 6 West Forsyth.

Coach Marty Stanley of Glenn said Mount Tabor deserves its top billing.

"Usually early in the season you base things on how you did the year before," Stanley said. "They have some people returning from a good team so you can understand why they're the top seed."

Mount Tabor probably deserves the top see, but I think the surprise will be Reynolds," Stanley added. "Jeff (Fallon) does a great job there. I think they will be the team that could be the dark horse."

Stanley's team might have the most talent of any team in the field, however.

The Bobcats return two players who were among the top

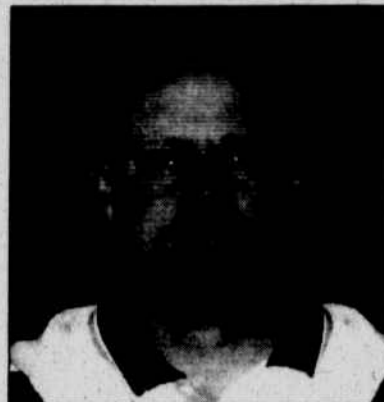
players in the area last season. Sophomore forward LaShanta Johnson made a name for herself last season when she finished among the leading scorers in the conference. Johnson

points per game and also was the team's floor leader.

The Bobcats will also look to get a boost in the middle from Mary Lazenby, a 6-2 sophomore, who saw considerable action last season. But she will have big shoes to fill in replacing versatile Crystal Smith, who was the team's best inside defender and rebounder.

Also Deidre Riffe will move into the starting lineup in the position that was occupied by Destiny Gentle last season. Riffe, a senior, played a backup role last season.

"I think we're going to be okay," Stanley said. "I think we'll be better offensively for the simple fact that we have some people who can score. But our big question mark is defense. The key is playing defense. Whoever wins the tournament has got to be a good defensive team."



Marty Stanley

averaged more than 18 points per game. Point guard Tasha Harris also figures prominently into the Bobcats' plans. She averaged 13

Boo's defeats Hypetime

In one of the best and most exciting morning league games "thus far", Boo's Ballers nipped the previously undefeated Hypetime team 77-76 behind the scoring of Barry Chunn who had 30 points and Rod Phillips who had 21 points. The game was "nip tuck" all the way through with both teams applying "full court pressure."

Ronald Edwards and Lavar Douglas has the "hot

hands" early for Hypetime. Edwards who had 18 points and Douglas who finished with 17 led the way for Hypetime early in the game!

In the 2nd half, Donald Baker and Charles "Iceman" Minor gave "Hypetime" a boost, but Boo's Baller's behind the inside play of Chunn, Phillips, Charles O'Neal and Dean Baity "hung tough" to hand Hypetime it's 1st loss of the season.

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