

SPORTS WEEK

B SECTION

OCTOBER 7, 1999

Upstart Vikings pull off another upset, knock off Reynolds

By SAM DAVIS
THE CHRONICLE

Before the start of the 1999 football season the challenge for Darrell Hall, North Forsyth's first-year head coach, was to get his team to learn his system and understand what he wanted it to execute on the football field.

Through the preseason that seemed like a bit much for Hall to ask. However, in recent weeks Hall's team has done a complete about-face. The Vikings have knocked off favored teams in consecutive weeks and are on a roll as they enter play in the Metro 4-A Conference this week.

Hall was all smiles after his team

knocked off Reynolds 14-13 last week. His team goes into the conference season with a 3-2 overall record.

"Honestly, I didn't know what we'd be at this point," Hall said. "I didn't have any goals set for nonconference games. As long as I saw improvement and the kids grasped and understand what we were trying to teach them I said I'd be satisfied."

"At this point I think we are where we should be," Hall added. "We're still going to grow and come together as a team. We're going to get better, but I have to be pleased at where we're at now because we know where we've come from."

The Vikings started the season off

unimpressively. They struggled offensively in two scrimmages and did little well in a season-opening loss to Carver. That's when Hall decided to go back to the drawing board and redefine his offensive and defensive schemes. The result was a victory following a week off. Since then the team has made great strides. None was bigger than last Friday night's win at Deaton-Thompson Stadium.

"Offensively we had our best game of the season," Hall said. "That first drive gave us confidence. We drove 60 yards and self-destructed, but it meant a lot to us. Our kids were hyped from the very start. They

See North on B4



North's defense converges on a Reynolds runner.



Justin Masencup takes off during one of his five receptions against Reynolds.

Running of Sankey, Kane key Deacons' win over Rutgers

3-1 Deacons set for key ACC battle with Maryland on Saturday

By SAM DAVIS
THE CHRONICLE

Jim Caldwell might not be able to hang his hat on Wake Forest's running game for the remainder of the 1999 football season, but his Demon Deacons have found the going smoother on the ground than through the air so far.

The Deacons, who improved to 3-1 for the first time under Caldwell, struggled with their running game early against Rutgers but got in gear in time to pull out a 17-10 victory last Saturday night at Groves Stadium.

"We certainly feel good about where we are," Caldwell said after the game. "We've been 2-1 before but we haven't been in this position."

The most important thing was that the Deacons didn't panic after falling behind 10-0. Neither did they get away from their game-plan despite the double-digit deficit.

Instead they hunkered down and came through with an impressive second-half offensive effort. The Deacons simply got better as the game went on and wore down the Scarlet Knights. Wake's running game put its signature on the win with an 18-play, 83-yard drive that consumed 8:46 of the fourth-quarter and culminated in a 29-yard field goal by Matthew Burdick with 4:19 left that sealed the victory.

On the drive, the Deacons passed only once and relied mostly on the legs of Ben Sankey and Morgan Kane. Sankey played perhaps his finest overall game thus far, rushing for 49 yards on 15 carries and completing 14 of 25 passes for 167 yards and a touch-

See Wake on B5



Ben Sankey runs for yardage on the option.

Breaking away!



Photo by Bruce Chapman

Lashun Peoples of Carver uses a stiff arm to free himself of a Mustang defender.

'Jackets sting Mustangs early, hold on for 17-7 win

By SAM DAVIS
THE CHRONICLE

Carver's 17-7 victory over Parkland last Friday night wasn't the dominating performance that coach Keith Wilkes was hoping his team would produce, but it was enough to allow the Yellowjackets to move toward their team goals this season.

The Yellowjackets, who won the 1998 Class 3-A state championship, started fast - scoring 17 points in the first quarter - but sputtered through the remainder of the game on offense.

"In the first quarter we played outstanding," Wilkes said. "After that things started going downhill. We had a lot of long runs called back and penalties really hurt as the game went on."

"We have to keep on working on (cutting the number of) penalties," Wilkes continued. "This was the first game that penalties have hurt us this season. We really have to limit them if we expect to accomplish our goals."

Carver's goals are indeed lofty. First they have their eyes on a conference championship and next another

state championship. To get there, Wilkes said his team has a lot of work to do.

"I thought Parkland came to play and put up a good fight," Wilkes said. "But we showed in the first quarter what we could do. After that, we kept hurting ourselves. It hurts your offense when you have to call plays on first-and-20 or second-and-25."

Conversely, Wilkes said his defensive unit never allowed Parkland to get within striking distance.

"Our defense was outstanding," Wilkes said. "Our defensive staff did a good job of shutting down Parkland's offense. The defense was the mainstay of the game. Wilkes pointed to the play of Ronald McRae at outside linebacker and the defensive line play as the keys to the strong effort."

While the offense lacked intensity, Wilkes said there were some players who continued to play consistently.

"Rod Jones did an outstanding job blocking," Wilkes said. "He's been doing that all season for us. He gives us a lot of leadership along the offensive line."

See Carver Varsity on B5



FROM THE PRESS BOX

Sam Davis

Rams sitting pretty atop CIAA standings

Could this be the year of the Ram in the CIAA?

After last week's 44-0 trouncing of Fayetteville State, Winston-Salem State's football team is sitting pretty atop the CIAA standings alongside Virginia State with a showdown with the Trojans two weeks down the road.

However, with the most difficult part of their season ahead of them, the Rams can't afford to sit back and take anything for granted. The first big test for the Rams will come Saturday night in Statesville, when the Rams take on Livingstone.

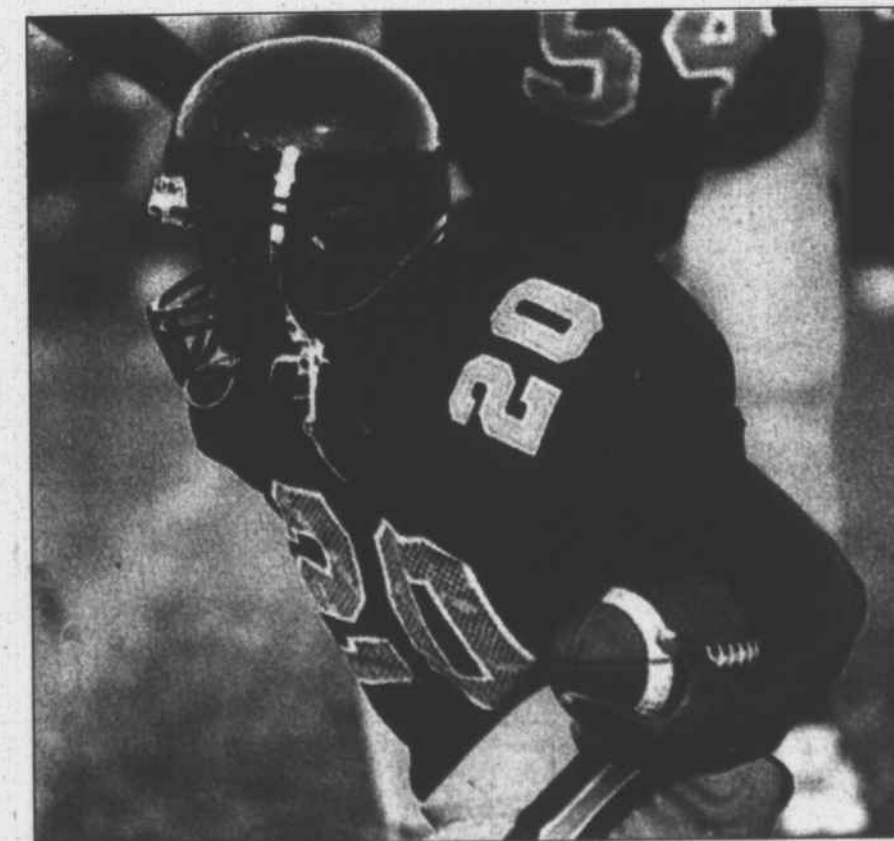
Livingstone has been one of the Rams' biggest nemeses in recent seasons. Last year, former WSSU quarterback D'Andre Hopper came back to haunt the Rams, rushing for more than 100 yards in a 38-33 victory over WSSU. That victory proved to be the difference in deciding the CIAA title in 1998. Both teams finished the season with 5-2 conference records, and Livingstone was declared the league champion by virtue of its win in head-to-head competition.

Hopper and his running back tandem of Carlton Jones and Ray Chambers haven't provided enough scoring to get the Blue Bears off to a good start during the 1999

See Press Box on B2



Tory Woodbury



Princeton Scott

Scott leads way as Carver JVs shake off offensive woes

By SAM DAVIS
THE CHRONICLE

Scott, a freshman fullback, rushed for 136 yards on 13 carries to lead the Yellowjackets' offensive attack in a 34-8 victory over Parkland last Thursday at Deaton-Thompson Stadium.

Scott helped the Yellowjackets sting the Mustangs on their first possession of the game. He rushed for 38 yards on his team's first possession, including a 15-yard burst up the middle to lift Carver to a 6-0 lead. With that start, the Yellowjackets were able to improve to 4-1 overall and 2-0 in the Piedmont Triad 3-A Conference.

Coach Kerry Taylor of Carver said the difference in the game was the play of the offensive line.

"The offensive line has stepped up," Taylor said. "They've had a little more special attention from coach (Keith) Wilkes (the varsity head coach and offensive line coach). That's really

made a lot of difference in the way we've played the past two weeks."

With the offensive line providing seams in the Mustangs' defense, the Yellowjackets were able to rush for 308 yards on 31 carries.

"Today the offense showed up," Taylor said. "We had a couple games where we just weren't ourselves. But the last two weeks (including a 42-18 win over Western Guilford) the offense has really been clicking."

Monte' Anthony also had a big game for the Yellowjackets. Anthony rushed for 63 yards on nine carries, caught one pass for 29 yards, threw another for 45 yards and ran back an interception 35 yards for a touchdown.

Quarterback Koryell Williams also played well, rushing for two touchdowns and directing a smooth offensive attack.

See Carver JV on B5

Cheers to you!



Jalisa Yountz of Vikings Mighty Mites is all cheers during last Saturday's homecoming game against the Falcons. Please see Page B6 for Pop Warner roundups and standings.