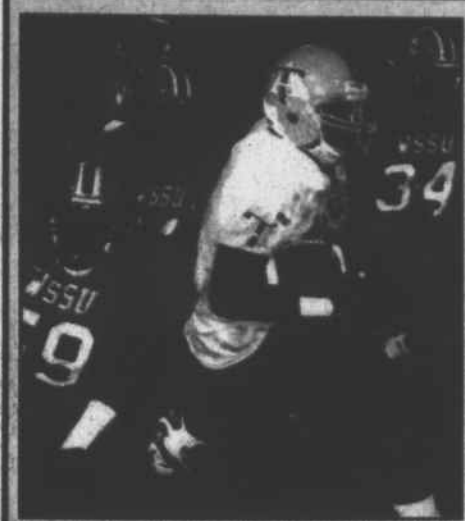


SPORTS WEEK

B SECTION

OCTOBER 14, 1999



Rams' defense leads WSSU in 34-0 win over Livingstone

WSSU hopes offense gets in gear for Midway Classic battle against NCCU

By SAM DAVIS
THE CHRONICLE

Question marks galore abounded three weeks ago when Winston-Salem State's football team hit the road for the

first of three consecutive games away from home.

Most of those question marks are long gone now after three shutout victories. The Rams, 3-2 overall and 3-0 in the CIAA standings, are playing their finest football since coach Kermit Blount came to town seven years ago.

The Rams will return to Bowman Gray Stadium on Saturday for a battle against North Carolina Central. The Rams, who have outscored league opposition 95-0, are putting together not only the CIAA's stingiest defensive units but also one of Division II's toughest defenses. WSSU has yielded only 37 points in

five games (7.4 points per game).

The defense has set the tone in each of the Rams' wins. But in the 44-0 win over Fayetteville State and last Saturday's 34-0 victory over Livingstone, WSSU's defense has been its best offense.

The Rams came through with eight turnovers against Fayetteville and added four more against Livingstone.

Linebacker Robert Mackey played his career-best game against the Blue Bears, coming through with two sacks, intercepting a D'Andre Hopper pass and returning it 72 yards to set up a Ram touchdown. His performance was one of several outstanding efforts by the Ram

defense. Linebacker Carnell Brown added 10 total tackles and Thomas Washington was named the game's most outstanding defensive player.

Both Blount and defensive coordinator Andrew Faison said WSSU's defense is the key to the team.

"The defense is playing tremendously well right now," Blount said. "Defense wins ball games."

We knew we had a good defense going into the season. They've given up some yardage outside of the 20s, but they've kept them out of the box."

See Rams on B3



Photo by Bruce Chapman
Maryland's Lamont Jordan breaks free on a touchdown run.

Broken play costs Deacs in 17-14 loss

By SAM DAVIS
THE CHRONICLE

One busted play might have sealed the fate of Wake Forest's football team for the 1999 season. The Deacons appeared to have a win within reach after taking a 14-7 lead over Maryland last Saturday at Groves Stadium. But a missed tackle on a play inside Deacons' territory cost Wake a touchdown and the Deacons never recovered.

The Deacons, who went into the game with a 3-1 record, could have earned another conference win and put themselves in position to become eligible for a bowl berth. Instead, Wake dropped its second ACC loss and fell to 3-2 overall.

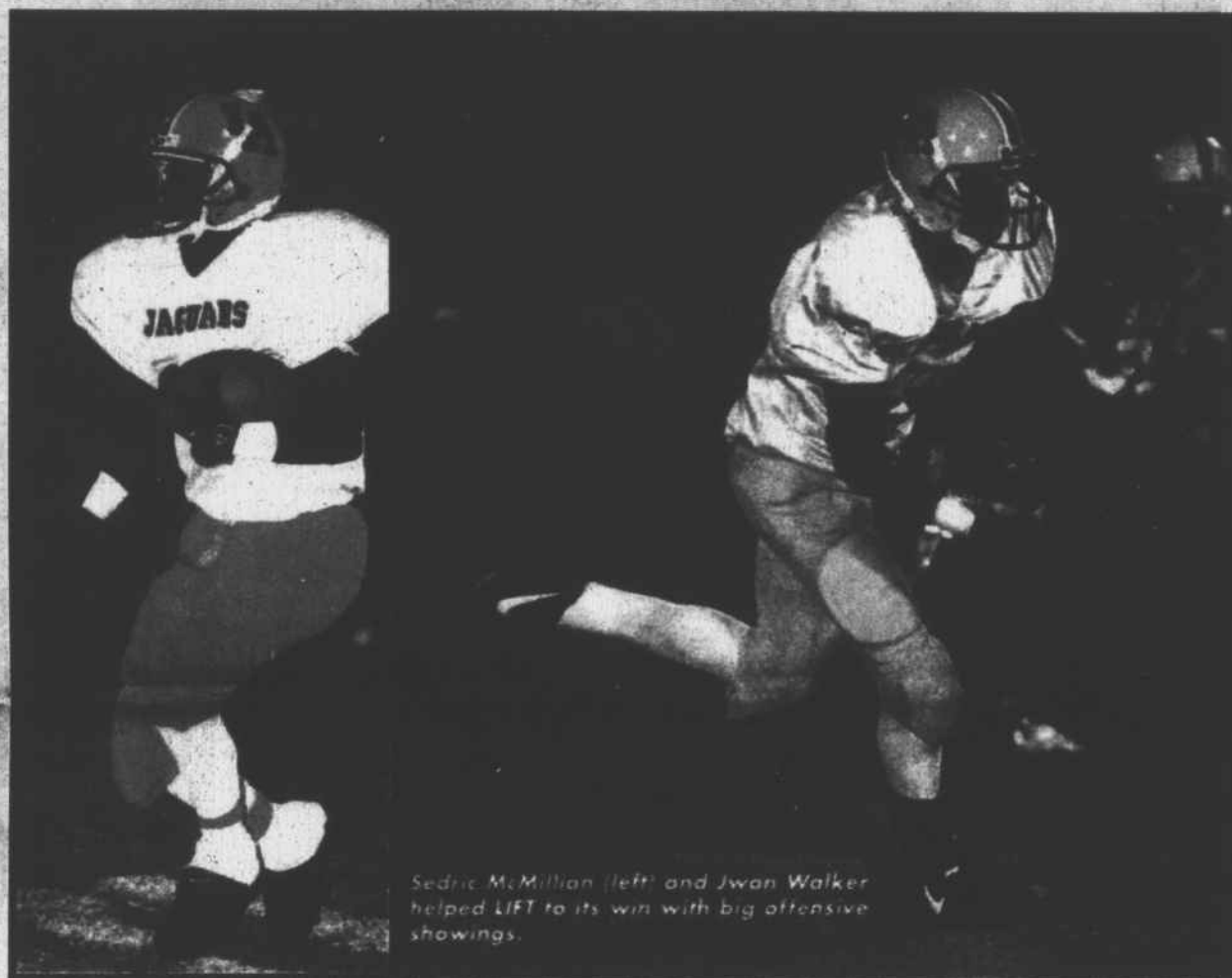
For the better part of four quarters the Deacons were up to the challenge against the Terrapins. Maryland jumped out to an early 7-0 lead on Lamont Jordan's burst down the sideline for a touchdown. But Wake had the answer and was able to even the score at 7-7. The score remained that way until the start of the second half when Wake Forest mounted a drive to take the lead at 14-7. Quarterback Ben Sankey came through with several key plays on the drive and went the final 3 yards for the touchdown. Matt Burdick added the second of two extra points.

Wake's defense didn't shut down the Terrapins completely, but they did well enough to keep Maryland's offense off the field for most of the third quarter. The Deacons' defense also played at a high level to start the fourth quarter.

The Deacons were in good shape midway through the fourth quarter when quarterback Calvin McCall dropped back to pass. Kelvin

See Wake on B6

Game breakers!



Sedric McMillian (left) and Jwan Walker helped LIFT to its win with big offensive showings.

Walker, Conrad put on offensive show; LIFT Academy now 6-1 after 26-6 win

By THERESA DAVIS
FOR THE CHRONICLE

LIFT Academy celebrated early during its first-ever homecoming football game. The Jaguars got their high-octane offense going by scoring on their first three possessions and never looked back in a 26-6 victory over The Blue Ridge School last Thursday night at Carver's David Lash Stadium.

LIFT, which had 434 yards of total offense in the game, took the opening kickoff and marched in for its first score of the game with less than three minutes off the first-quarter clock. William Conrad threw a short pass to Chris Green and the speedy halfback raced down the left sideline for a 35-yard touchdown and a 6-0 Jaguar lead to get things started.

Blue Ridge came back to even the game at 6-6 on the strength of a 72-yard kickoff return. However, LIFT retook the lead on Jwan Walker's 50-yard reception for a

touchdown. Conrad then passed to Isiah France for a two-point conversion and a 14-6 lead. They were all the points the Jaguars would need after their defense stepped up to stifle the Barons the rest of the way.

However, LIFT added another touchdown to go up 20-6 at the end of the first quarter and increased its margin to 26-6 with a defensive score early in the second period. The Jaguars then had five touchdowns wiped out by penalties after the game's outcome had been settled.

Coach Sam Davis said his team came out focused and that was the key to the victory, which improved LIFT's record to 6-1.

"I thought we were very focused early in the game on offense," Davis said. "I was concerned after our first loss of the season against Union Pines, but we didn't show any effects of it."

"When I looked at Blue Ridge's roster, I was very con-

See LIFT on B3



FROM THE PRESS BOX

Sam Davis

McLendon was pioneer for black college basketball

The final curtain closed on the life of one of the nation's top contributors to the sport of basketball last Friday morning.

John B. McLendon, one of Black College's basketball pioneers, passed away at age 87 at his home outside of Cleveland, Ohio.

Many people who met McLendon in his latter years during CIAA Tournament's six-year run in Winston-Salem talked about the gentlemanly way in which he carried himself. Even those who played for and against him during his 60-plus years in basketball admired him for the same qualities.

However, those who knew him best were aware of the fire that burned within him that helped him elevate the programs that he was affiliated with over the years to the top levels in their respective leagues.

McLendon was not just a legend in African-American sports history, but in mainstream America as well. A native of Hiawatha, Kan., McLendon learned basketball as a student at Kansas University under Dr. James Naismith, who created the game of basketball.

And even though he was banned from playing on the team at Kansas, McLendon credited Naismith for teaching him much about the game and being a major influence

See Press Box on B4

North Forsyth JV takes step backward in 26-0 loss to Page

By SAM DAVIS
THE CHRONICLE

After watching his team make great strides in recent weeks, coach Gene Bowles figured his North Forsyth junior varsity football team was ready for its showdown with Greensboro Page last Thursday night.

That wasn't the case, however. The Vikings, who have either won or shared the conference championship in each of the previous three seasons, took a turn for the worse and dropped a 26-0 decision to the Pirates in their Metro 4-A Conference opener.

The Vikings played well offensively in the early part of the game, marching inside the Pirates' 20 after blocking a punt. But North couldn't get into the end zone.

See North on B3

Spartans' JV shows improvement but drops 21-7 decision to Demons

By SAM DAVIS
THE CHRONICLE

Going the first six games of his career without a victory wasn't actually the way coach Doug Blackwell envisioned starting off as Mount Tabor's junior varsity football coach.

But Blackwell, who succeeded Lonnie Pulley as head of the Spartans' junior varsity program, said his team is making strides and improving.

"That's all I can really ask of the team," Blackwell said. "I feel like the guys are getting better and we're playing a lot of kids who have never played before. The kids are stepping in and learning the game. The effort is good and their spirits are high. Now they are expecting to win games."

The Spartans managed a tie with North Forsyth, but have lost the remainder of their five games. That



Mount Tabor's line, shown here in a previous game, has improved markedly since the start of the season.

included a 21-7 loss to Reynolds last week. But Blackwell said he saw some positives in the loss to build

See Spartan JV on B6

Glenn's Evans blazes his own path with 227 yards, 5 TDs in 41-3 win

By SAM DAVIS
THE CHRONICLE

The facial resemblance to his father is enough to make a lot of people immediately call Angelo Evans "a chip off the old block." But it's when he takes off with the football that the point is really driven home.

Evans' father - Mark Saunders - was a standout football player during his high school days and one of the most powerful runners in Forsyth County. With the statistics Evans has compiled lately, he is drawing comparisons to his father's heroics even more.

Evans had the kind of game last Friday night, in a win over Southwest Guilford, that not only landed him in the Bobcats' record book, but also helped Glenn turn the corner in its rebuilding program under coach Richard Kemp. Evans rushed for 227 yards on 13 carries and scored a school-record five touchdowns. But more important, he helped the Bobcats (who started the season 0-3)

improve to 3-3 overall and 2-0 in the Piedmont Triad 3-A Conference.

There is little doubt that Evans has supplied much of the impetus for the Bobcats' improvement. Kemp made the decision several games ago to go exclusively with the I-formation with Evans at tailback, and it has been a godsend for the Bobcats. In their three wins, Evans has rushed for some 500 yards. For the season he has 700 yards of rushing and 10 touchdowns.

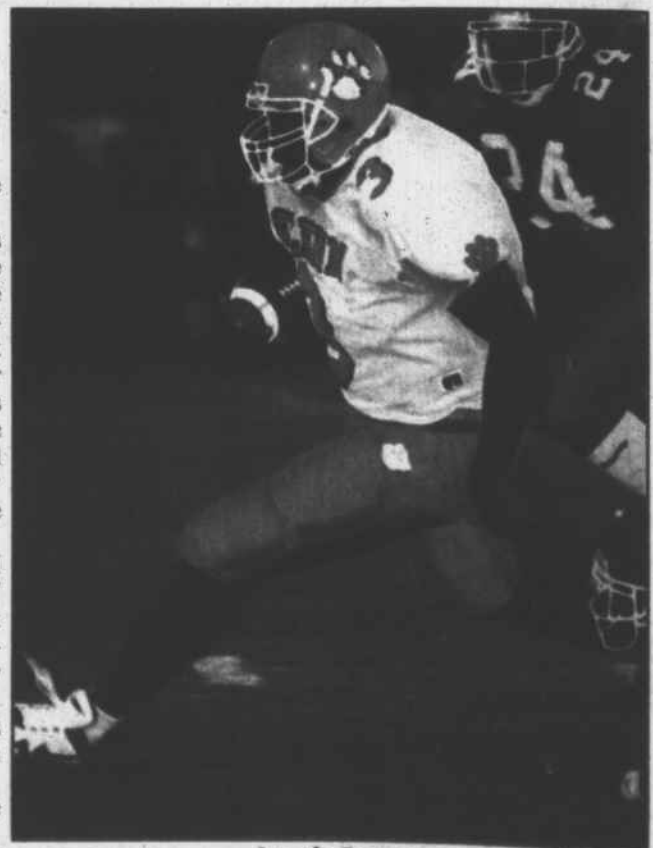
Glenn's turnaround might surprise some people, but not Evans.

"We have so much talent here that I knew we could have a good team," Evans said. "It just took a while to work our talent in with what the coach wanted us to do. It's just coming together now for us."

Evans credits his offensive line for its work in his 227-yard, five-touchdown game against Southwest Guilford.

"The key was the offensive line

See Evans on B4



Angelo Evans