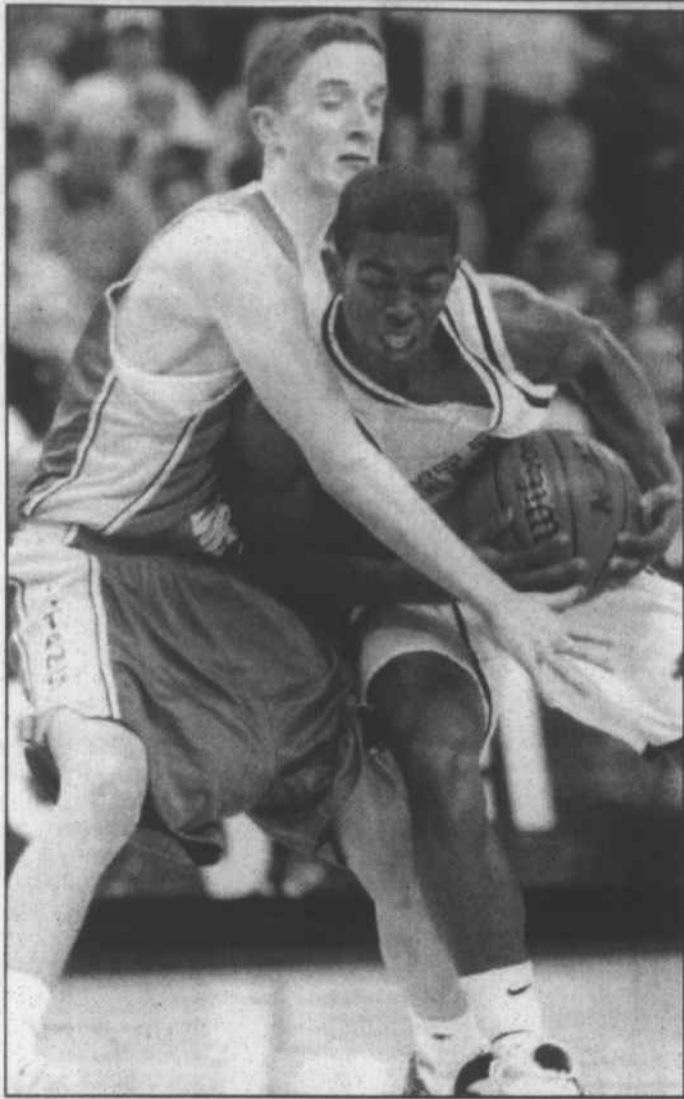


# SPORTS WEEK

SECTION B

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OCTOBER 2, 2008



File photo  
Mt. Tabor senior point guard Mike Grace Jr., recently committed to Yale University.

## SMART CHOICE

Mt. Tabor's Grace to play for Yale

BY ANTHONY HILL  
THE CHRONICLE

Mt. Tabor's senior point guard Mike Grace has been hounded with questions and opinions about which colleges he should attend ever since teammate C.J. Harris announced his decision to play for Wake Forest a few months ago.

The talented point guard made up his mind on which school he wanted to attend and play basketball for last weekend. Grace chose to commit to Yale, which is an Ivy League institution.

"Everyone has been telling me I should go here or there ever since C.J. committed," Grace said. "After my official visit to Yale, I decided that was the place for me. I'm happy to get that off my shoulders. I think I've also set myself up for a definite future after basketball with this decision. I don't ever want to stop playing basketball. But everything comes to an end one day."

Mt. Tabor head coach Andy Muse added: "Mike Grace just made one of the best decisions of his life. He has a tremendous work ethic and athletic ability that helped him take his game to the next level. Mike's biggest asset is his ability to be a leader. (He) has developed as a person and a player over the past four years."

Grace chose Yale over schools like Colgate, Davidson, Buffalo, Rice, Dartmouth, Charleston-Southern, Cornell, Penn, Winston-Salem State and American University. Grace seemingly shocked a few people with his decision to play for a school that's better known for their scholars than NBA prospects.

"This decision kind of surprised people," Grace said. "They

See Grace on B2

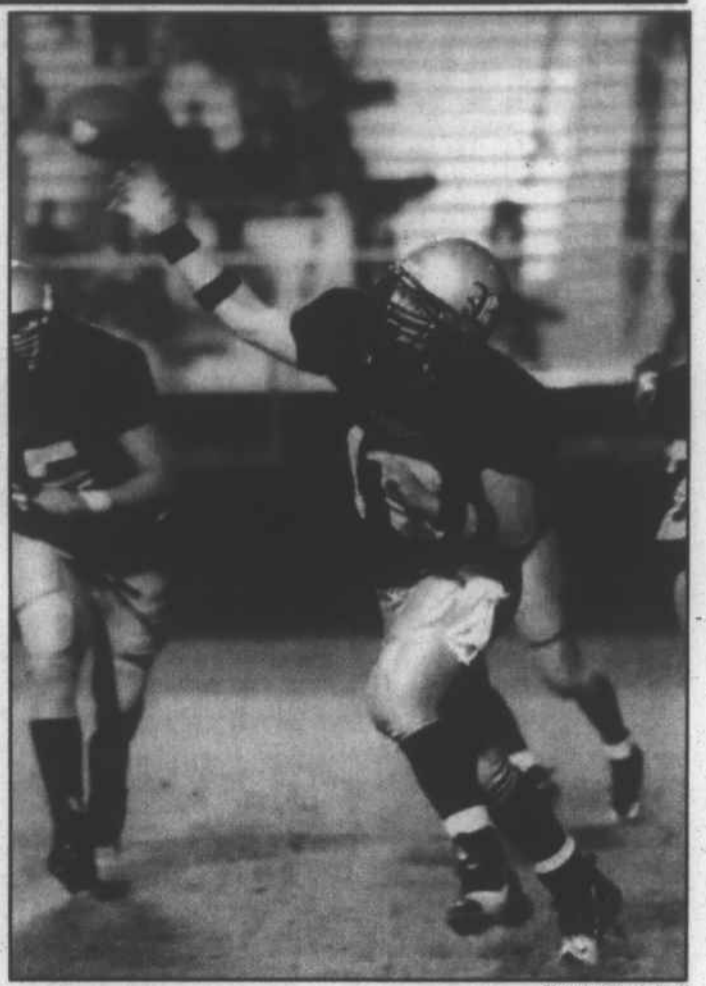


Photo by Charlie Pfaff  
Reagan quarterback Carson Smith launches a pass during a game earlier this season.

## Reagan hopes to shake things up this season

BY ANTHONY HILL  
THE CHRONICLE

The following story is the tenth of a series on some of the high school football teams in Forsyth County. Fans will get a look at what's going on with their favorite team.

The Reagan football team could easily be enjoying a 4-2 record rather than trying to correct areas that led them to a 2-4 overall record during their bye week. The Raiders are also nursing a few injuries in hopes of being in good shape when conference play begins next week when they travel to play Parkland (Oct. 10).



Coach King

"Our record could definitely be 4-2 compared to being 2-4 right now," said Reagan head coach Greg King. "We've had a couple games that could've gone either way. We lost to North, 13-7. I think Atkins beat us 12-7. You can always say that if we would've made one or two more plays — or if we would've gotten a call or two, things would've been different. But they didn't. We're 2-4. But our kids have fought through some adversity."

"It's been a struggle," King continued. "But we're still working. We're going into our open week with a

victory (over Ashe County) last night. Again, we're not happy with where we are as far as the win, loss column. But we understand that we could be in a worse situation. And we're pleased with our effort."

The Raiders' record doesn't really give justice to the improvements the team has made since its inception four years ago. Reagan was almost a guaranteed win for other teams. Now, squads have to really strap up and bring it when playing the Raiders.

"We absolutely see improvement each year," King said. "We see improvement each week. We were just trying to survive during our first year. Now we're very competitive."

Reagan is still looking for its first conference victory in school history. The squad battles schools like Carver, Andrews, Parkland and S.W. Guilford every season in hopes of slipping into the playoff mix.

"We know it's a tough conference, but we're hoping to get a few more wins," King said. "We want to become the first team to make it to the playoffs in school history. We feel good about that because we know that we can compete now. It's hard to judge our league

See Raiders on B2



Photo by Anthony Hill

Ila Mumford, who's a sixth grade Paisley student, has been doing well in tennis, track and basketball.

## Mumford excels in several sports

BY ANTHONY HILL  
THE CHRONICLE

Ila Mumford, 11, seemingly has bright future in tennis.

She would like to someday accomplish similar heroics as tennis stars Serena and Venus Williams, whom she idolizes. From the looks of things, she's on track to being a very successful tennis standout. She played in her first tournament of the year two weeks ago at the Burlington Junior Futures Tournament. That was also her first USTA tennis tournament.

Mumford dropped a tough match to nationally ranked Joelle Fuchs, from Oak Ridge. Mumford dropped a two-set thriller in the semifinal round.

"She did well in her first tournament," said tennis coach John Worsley. He's trained Mumford for the last two years. "She won two matches in her first tournament. She really played well."

Mumford added: "I had fun in the tournament. I like playing tennis very much. I like playing against other people."

Mumford has been playing tennis

since she was 6. Not only does the young Paisley sixth grader idolize the Williams' sisters. She also feels like she does some of the same things they do on the tennis court — especially Serena.

"Venus and Serena are my favorite athletes," Mumford said with a smile. "I think I play sort of like Serena because I have a lot of quickness and a little bit of power."

Worsley added: "She reminds me of Venus and Serena at her age. At her age.

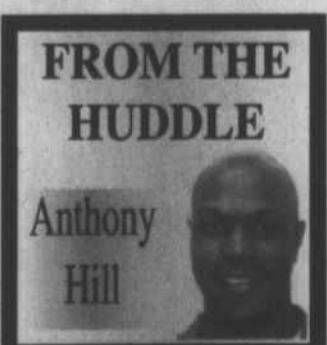
See Mumford on B4

## Will WSSU win this year?

I talk about a number of sports related issues with a number of people. One of the things we like to talk about is whether the Winston-Salem State football team will pick up a win this year or not.

I don't think I've ever doubted the Rams would win a single game in a season. This year I'm almost guaranteeing they won't win a game, though. Well, it's a toss up whether they will beat North Carolina Central because they've also been having a hard time winning this year. But that Nov. 15 game will be played in Durham.

So, I'm assuming the Eagles will have a good chance at winning that game. I guess



FROM THE HUDDLE

Anthony Hill

we see how important a Monte Purvis, William Hayes and Jed Bines were to the team last year.

I'm not trying to sound like I'm bashing Winston-Salem State. I think it's a great school, from what I see. But this is not going to be a good football

season. That was evident after the losses to N.C. A&T and Savannah State — especially Savannah State. I told one of the reporters in the press box that WSSU probably would n't win a game after I witnessed that loss to Savannah State. I'm sorry, but I believe that West Forsyth could've beaten Savannah State at home.

The Rams are now 0-4. According to a release, WSSU hasn't started a season with four consecutive losses since 1975. That same year, a first class stamp was only 10 cents, former President Ford escaped two assassination attempts in the span of 17 days, and current WSSU head football

See Hill on B4



Photo by Garrett Garner

Winston-Salem State is still fighting to earn its first victory of the 2008 season.