

With James Cuthbertson



# Prep Chatter

James

**Hickory** - James Crawford scored his second touchdown of the night with 2:45 left in the game to lead Lenoir-Rhyne to a come-from-behind 13-9 win last Saturday at Wofford.

Crawford, a sophomore from Charlotte who played at Independence High School, capped a 14-play, 80-yard Bear drive late in the fourth quarter with a two-yard scamper around left end. Crawford carried the ball nine times in the final drive and finished with 104 yards on 31 tries.

He now has 230 yards rushing on 67 attempts for a 76.7 per game average and four touchdowns.

The victory was L-R's first over the Spartanburg, SC, school since 1982 and leaves the Bears with a 2-1 record entering the SAC-8 Conference schedule. Wofford fell to 1-2.

Crawford joins Terence Steward (Davidson) and Wayne Motley (Guilford) as Centel Players of the Game so far this season. Centel is sponsoring the players of the game in conjunction with the broadcasting of Bear football by WHKY-AM radio in Hickory.

## PREDICTIONS

**Friday, October 3,**  
Ashbrook at Crest

Junior Hall is one of the leading runners in the state. The Green Wave should be all right in this one and the next one. They are at home with Garinger on October 10. Looks like another state playoff appearance for them. The big game comes October 17 when they visit Independence in a game that will likely decide who wins one of the three playoff spots allocated to the Southwestern 4A. Ashbrook 24, Crest 6.

**East Gaston at Olympe**

The Trojans have shown that they are an improved version over last year. They have a great defense and have generated some offense to go with it.

Olympic 20 East Gaston 6.

**Independence at Hunter Huss**

The Patriots have a big one tomorrow at Hunter Huss. They face the Huskies in a big game. The Huskies are better than last year. Look for the locals to win. Hunter Huss 17 Independence 14.

**South Mecklenburg at East Mecklenburg**

Roman Phifer and company graduated and the state's largest school has one of the worst football teams. Coach Linwood Ferguson is a very knowledgeable man and I am sure he is trying his hardest, but the Sabres are a team without an awful lot of talent.

The Eagles seem to have found their destiny with a win over the Harding Rams, then the number one team in the area. East Mecklenburg 24 South Mecklenburg 6.

**Garinger at Myers Park**

The Wildcats with Dale Rainey as quarterback are a lot better than they look and better than most people think. Look for them to win over Myers Park. This used to be a big inner-city game. Now it is just a game. Garinger 14 Myers Park 13.

**Harding at North Mecklenburg**

The Rams have too much of an aerial show for the Vikings. Harding 24 North 14.

**West Mecklenburg at West Charlotte**

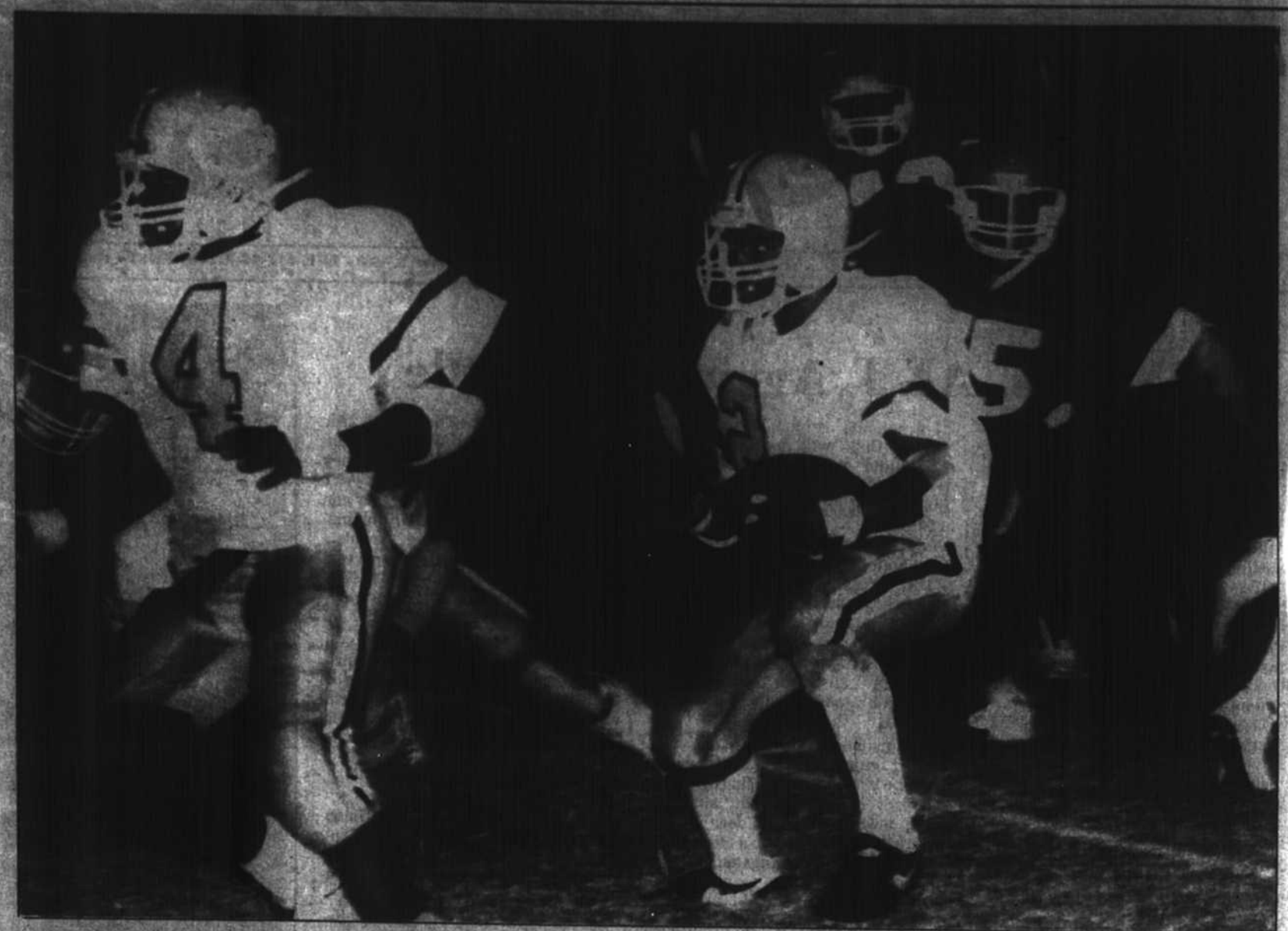
This is a big one for coach Jim Hambacher's squad. The Indians have a great unit evolved around the leadership of quarterback Derrick McGowan and featuring the talented running duo of Luther Holder and Ray Hughes. The Lions have emerged into their own with Clay Overcash and Kenneth Patterson. UPSET!!! West Mecklenburg 18 West Charlotte 14.

## IN OTHER GAMES

Catholic 24 Piedmont 14; Christ School 7 Gaston Day 6; St. John's 14 Country Day 7; and Providence Day 17 Ravenscroft 14.

## THE RANKINGS

1. Gastonia Ashbrook: The Green Wave is beginning to look like a title wave.
2. Harding: The Rams can be beat. Last year, they won all the close ones. This year, East Mecklenburg sneaked up on them early.
3. West Charlotte: The Lions have quietly slipped back to the forefront again. Credit that to Bruce Hardin's ability to motivate.
4. East Mecklenburg: Rudy Abrams has his Eagles acting like vultures again. Look for a race to the wire.
5. Independence: The Pats are still in the running.
6. West Mecklenburg: The Indians have finally gone on the war path again.
7. Olympe: The Trojans' horse looks like it is filled with goodies this year.
8. Hunter Huss: The big game between Huss and Ashbrook at the end of the season could decide a playoff spot in the conference.
9. Charlotte Catholic: The Cougars lost a toughie to powerhouse Concord, but so did Kannapolis. They will win the Rocky River 2A Conference.
10. North Mecklenburg: The Vikings are sharpening their spears and lances.
11. Garinger: The Wildcats have put a sturdy bunch together.
12. Crest: The Chargers may not have it this year.
13. Myers Park: The Mustangs used to be a powerhouse.
14. South Mecklenburg: Maybe the South will rise again.
15. East Gaston: Great in track, but not much in football.
16. Providence Day: Reggie Clark is a great one.
17. Latin: The Hawks are flying.
18. Country Day: The Buccaneers have one of the toughest private school schedules in the nation.
19. Gaston Day: The poor neighbors from across the river are having a hard time.



Gastonia Huss' tailback Kevin Armstrong follows teammate Eric Kendrick's lead to gain extra yard. The Huskies went on to win in overtime.

## M.E.A.C. Round-up

By Chase Vance  
Special To The Post

Delaware State at Jackson State in Philadelphia, PA. If the Hornets were in Mississippi, I would go Jackson State, a formidable opponent in their own right. The Tigers are tough. They belted North Carolina Central 49-35 earlier in the season.

Look for the locals to prevail in a well-played game. Delaware State missed the NCAA playoffs last year, but are looking like a shoo-in in 1988.

Delaware State 24, Jackson State 21.

N.C. A&T at Johnson C. Smith.

The Aggies are traveling to Charlotte for a throw down with the Golden Bulls. The Bulls always get up for the Aggies and the stadium is packed when A&T comes

to town. The Aggies are better than last year when they beat the Bulls 25-7 in Greensboro.

ARRIVING

"Where no wood is, there the fire goeth out: So where there is no tale-bearer, the strife ceaseth."  
Proverbs 26:20

"As coals are to burning coals, and wood to fire; so is a contentious man to kindle strife."  
Proverbs 26:21

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