

Sylva Ties Mountaineers, 6 to 6, In Grid Opener

Black Bears Stay Unbeaten; Edge Forest City, 14 to 12

Canton Is Showing Up Strong

By DAN MATTHEWS
Mountaineer Sports Writer

The undefeated Canton Black Bears kept their record of 14-0 with a 14-12 victory over Forest City Friday night.

Playing in the presence of their star player, Bill Owens, and their coach, Coach Weatherby, the Black Bears were expected to win the game.

Forest City's Jim Abbott, 140-pound, scored the only touchdown for the team.

Pointing to the conversion, he put Canton ahead in the first minute of the game.

Two minutes to convert spelled defeat for the Forest City Golden Tornadoes when they were host to the Canton Black Bears Friday night.

The teams were evenly matched. The score was tied at the first yard line.

Rain fell in an hour before the game, but there were no more clouds or rain.

Despite the rain, the 1949 season has been one of the best in the history of the team.

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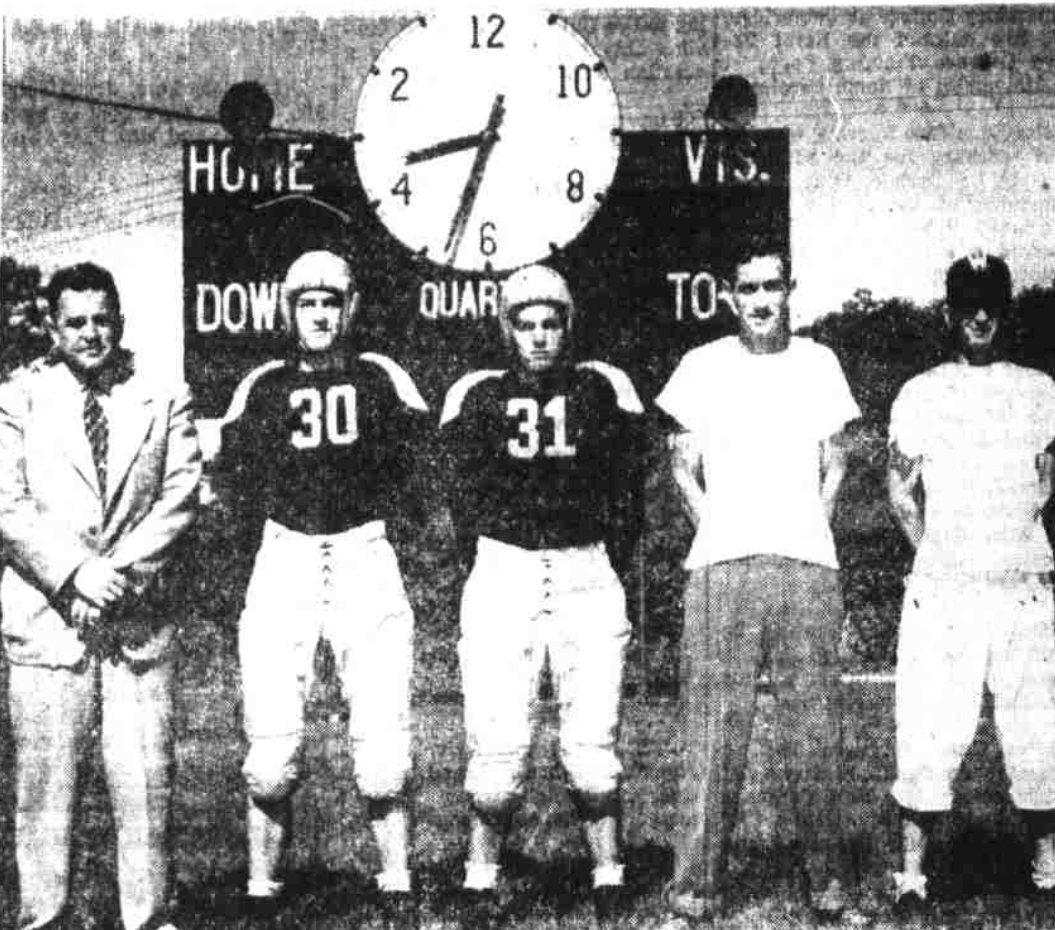
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Captains and Coaches Guide 1949 WTHS Grid Fortunes



These men make up the top brass for planning Waynesville High School's football strategy for this season. Left to right are: Head Coach Carleton Weatherby, Co-Captains Charlie Womack and Bill Owens and Assistant Coaches Carl Ratcliffe and Marshall Teague. Mr. Teague, ex-Western Carolina Teachers College athlete from Brevard, is in his first season with the Mountaineer coaching staff. Photo by Ingram's Studio.

300 Canton Citizens Honor Softball Team

Nearly 300 Canton citizens honored their first North Carolina softball champions Thursday night at a dinner in the Champion YMCA gymnasium.

The event, held by the Y's Men's Club of the YMCA, was to toast the Champion All-Stars who won their first state crown last August.

Since they entered the state tournament at Raleigh in 1939 for their first crack at a state crown, the All-Stars had been runners-up several times, but never champions.

They did it the hard way, but they did it. They were crowned champions at Champion Park last month.

They went on to play in the southern tournament at St. Petersburg, Fla., and finished third.

Third baseman Floyd Deweese, champion, had playing manager, stumped up the tournament, result: the way in his brief, good-natured address.

"I hope it doesn't take us 10 years to catch up with Preacher Doolittle and Buck Miller as it did for us to catch DeBerry."

Miller, Chattanooga pitcher, and Doolittle, Clearwater pitcher, contributed heavily to Champion's elimination from the regionals.

DeBerry, Roanoke Rapids Roanoke pitcher, accounted for much of Champion's troubles in the 1939 state tournament. The Canton boys whipped him in the semifinals last month.

The All-Stars were presented two mementoes of their first state title. Henry Michael, president of the Y's Men's Club who sponsored the state tournament at Canton, presented each player a framed photo of the championship squad.

Then each received a warm-up jacket bearing an emblem signifying the state championship from YMCA Athletic Director Jack Justice.

Before making the presentations, Mr. Justice told the audience: "Canton is now a Southern softball power."

This fact, he added, is due to the combination of the sponsor, The Champion Paper and Fibre Company; the promoter, the Y's Men's Club, the enthusiastic loyalty and sportsmanship of the fans of Canton; and the team.

"As athletic director of the YMCA," he added, "I want to express appreciation to all in Canton for supporting softball."

"All this," he said, referring to Champion's sports eminence, "was done by Canton people."

"None of the other teams in the tournament in Florida could claim a squad composed entirely of local boys."

"But every man on our squad came from Canton."

When he asked the members of the audience whether they would like to see the state tournament come back to Canton next year, a show of hands indicated unanimous approval.

Mountaineers Tie-Up In Opener Game With Sylva

By BILL LINDAU
Mountaineer Staff Writer

A heavier, hard-charging Sylva line and the mud combined forces Friday night to give the Golden Hurricanes a 6-6 tie with Waynesville's Mountaineers in their opening game of the 1949 grid season at Sylva.

For Sylva, it was the second deadlock in as many starts. Nearly 5,000 fans watched the battle between Coach Carleton Weatherby's deceptive double-wing formation and Jim Barnwell's seasoned T slug it out on the field made soggy by late afternoon rains.

As usual, the Waynesville gridgers had plenty of moral support on foreign fields.

More than 1,500 Haywood County fans made the trip to Sylva to help their boys get through the expected rugged opener.

The Mountaineers broke the scoreless duel 30 seconds before intermission with a lightning pass that covered 39 yards.

Right Halfback Bob Davis, bearing the punting duties for the injured Bill Sutton, engineered the lone Waynesville touchdown with a soaring 52-yard boot that set the Sylva gridgers back on their own three-yard stripe.

Hurricane Halfback Charlie Cunningham returned the boot on the next play, sending it out of bounds on the Sylva 39.

Then on the first play, Halfback Charlie Womack whipped a flat 10-yard pass to Davis who slipped through the Sylva defense and raced all the way.

The slick field cancelled the attempted conversion when the kicker slipped as he was attempting the placement.

The Hurricanes' dangerous T started clicking right after half time, and kept the Mountaineers in hot water throughout the last two periods.

Sylva capitalized on a break and a 15-yard penalty to set up the tying touchdown midway through the third quarter.

After accepting an offside penalty on a booming punt, the Mountaineers used up a third down trying to crack the middle of the tough Hurricane line.

Then Davis, back for a punt, had to run on the fourth down when the Mountaineers committed their only low pass from center in the game.

Sylva took over on the Waynesville 32, then advanced 15 yards on a rushing penalty.

With Cunningham and Halfback Kent Hoyle alternating, the Hurricanes smashed down to the two.

Then Cunningham plunged over standing up and the score stood the way it ended, Furman Dillard relieved Fullback Ernest Bumgarner for the conversion try, but his placement attempt was short and wide.

The Mountaineers' deceptive reverses drowned in the mud time after time as they were threatening to generate a touchdown, and they could not get a sustained drive going until the waning seconds of the game.

Then time ran out as they crossed the mid-field stripe after grinding out an advance from their own 25.

After intermission, the Hurricanes started a drive from their own 30, rolling up three straight first downs to the Waynesville 20.

But then Center Tom Boyd pounced on a Sylva fumble, giving the Mountaineers the ball on their own 31.

The Mountaineer defense stiffened after the tying touchdown and squelched the Sylva thrusts.

A pass interception early in the final period gave Sylva the ball on the Mountaineer 30.

But Waynesville's line, backed by the secondary, held the Hurricane attack to seven yards in four tries, and the Mountaineers took over on their own 23.

Davis was one of the Mountaineers' major defensive weapons, booting the slippery, soggy ball an average 43 yards on each of his four punts.

In the line, one of the strongest defensive blocks for Waynesville was Joe Hipps, who went into the game at guard to relieve a starter.

Womack completed five of the nine passes he tried, but the alert Sylva defense limited the Mountaineers to 47 yards through the air.

The Mountaineers, operating mainly off their reverses, could gain only 92 yards rushing against the tough Sylva forward wall.

HEADING FOR A RECORD



Mountaineer Assigns Special Sports Writer

The Mountaineer has assigned Dan Matthews of Canton as a special sports writer to help the paper offer complete coverage of Haywood County sports.

Dan, whose first by-lined story for this newspaper appeared in the Thursday issue, will keep Mountaineer sports fans up to date with detailed accounts of Canton High School's sports.

The season which what it is, of course, he's concentrating on Canton's football team, which started the season with a smashing 34-19 victory over Sand Hill and another victory Friday night over Forest City.

Dan will follow the fortunes of the Black Bears closely, both in practice and in games, keeping the readers informed with up-to-the-minute accurate coverage.

The Mountaineer photographer

WCTC Starts With 20-7 Win Over High Point

Western Carolina Teachers' Catamounts opened their bid for the 1949 North State Conference grid title last Friday night by rolling over a battling pack of High Point Panthers, 20-7, at Asheville.

On the same night, the race was left wide open when the Guilford College Quakers upset the defending champion Appalachian State Mountaineers, 13-12.

Four Waynesville gridgers figured heavily in Western Carolina's successful opening game of the season.

Center and Captain Hugh Constance played a beautiful game as a line-backer, while the 245-pound blocking back Big Jack Arrington, kept the paths cleared for the Catamounts' fleet set of backs.

Among the standouts in the forward wall were Tackles Bruce Jaynes and Jack "Pin-ball" Allison.

Peewee Hamilton, 130-pound Catamount backfield candidate for the Little All-America, scored the first touchdown on a 24-yard dash.

Joe Hunt plunged over for the second, and Tailback Tommy Selzer clinched the victory when he sprinted 47 yards on an end run.

The Catamounts will face a re-builing Appalachian State team at Boone next Saturday for their next big obstacle in the way of a conference title.

Another first down. After an offside penalty of five yards Canton moved ahead steadily for two more first downs to the Forest City ten yard line.

But Forest City took over the ball and kicked out.

Canton made two line attempts and then the whistle ended the game.

The line-up: Canton Center—Amos, Beaver, and Clark.

Guards—Brookshire, Ingle, Henson, Sutton, and Waldrop.

Tackles—Looper, Stiles, Dayton, Hall, and Mann.

Ends—Scruggs, Phillips, Medlin, Chapman, and Hardin.



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