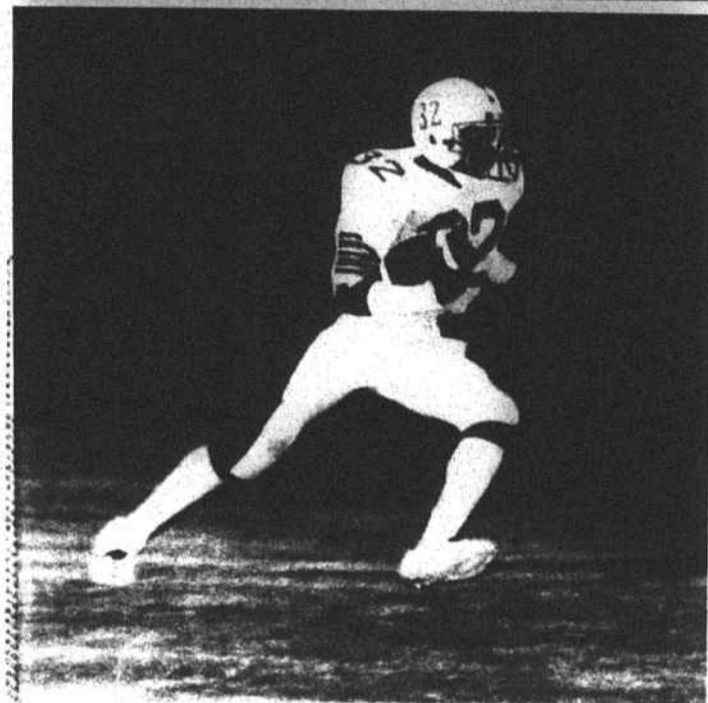
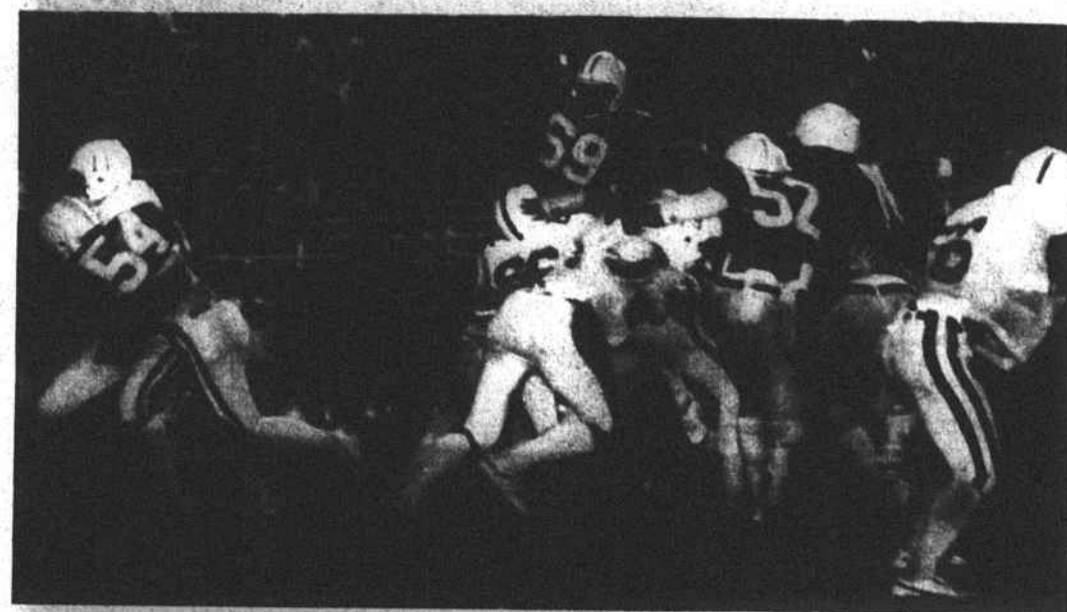


Sports



Agony and Glory
Richmond defenders sack Buck quarterback John McDuffie (above) despite good blocking efforts by Hoke's offensive line, and tight end Gary Stephens (32) heads for pay dirt after receiving a McDuffie pass (below) for the Bucks only score Friday night.

Freshmen Bucks Win Opener 20-6

The Hoke High Bucks freshman team capitalized on mistakes and good defense to stop Rohanen Junior High in Rockingham Thursday and win their opening game of the season 20-6.

After a sloppy first half, the Bucks took a 6-0 lead into intermission. The score came on a five yard run from halfback David Jacobs.

Jacobs added another six in the

third quarter after Buck defenders recovered a Rohanen fumble on the 25 yard line.

Late in the third quarter, the Rockingham team got their only points following the recovery of a Buck fumble around the 20 yard line.

Patrick Gray picked off a Rohanen pass in the fourth quarter, which quarterback Ricky Chavis later turned it into points on a 10-yard run.

Jacobs brought his total for the afternoon to 14 with a two-point conversion following the Chavis TD.

The Freshman Bucks will take on Hamlet Junior High today at 4 p.m. in Hamlet.

Their first home game of the season will be September 28 against Rockingham.

Karate Class

The Parks and Recreation Commission is offering a Tae Kwan Do Karate class for ages 7 and up on Tuesday and Thursday nights 7-8:30 p.m. The class meets at the J.W. Turlington gym at present, but starting October 5 will begin meeting at the old National Guard Armory. There is a \$20 per month fee plus a \$5 insurance fee for ages 7-18 and a \$10.00 insurance fee for ages 19 and up. Contact the Parks and Recreation office for more information, or to enroll.

Bucks Play Tougher But Lose 4th Quarter

Although out manned and out weighed, the Hoke High Bucks held on for three quarters Friday night before losing 21-7 to the Richmond Senior Raiders.

"There's not a whole lot good that can come out of a defeat, but I think that Friday night a lot of our young men learned that they can play football against a good team," Buck Coach Tom Jones said.

In the past some Buck teams have been intimidated by just the names of some of the state's power houses on the schedule. Those past teams tended to fold before the opening kickoff, Jones said.

"I think Friday they learned that there are just other folks on these teams. We took a giant step mentally," the coach added.

After dropping behind in the first period when a Raider pass that covered 20 yards connected for a touchdown, the Bucks hustled back and tied the score 7-7.

The Hoke score came on a 39-yard pass from quarterback John McDuffie to tight end Gary Stephens.

The score stayed knotted until the final period, when the Buck defense, which had been led all night by Lee McNeill, wore out.

"All the defense needed was a little help from the offense," Jones said.

During the second half, the Bucks failed to make a first down and only had three during the entire game.

Buck punts averaged 26.3 yards, and the defense had to meet the Raiders each series within the 50 yard line.

The bigger offensive linemen for the Raiders wore down the smaller Buck defense, Jones said.

"It was just a physical thing. They had more mass," Jones said.

The Bucks will face Terry Sanford Friday night in Fayetteville for the first conference game of the season.

"I think that victory is within reason for us," Jones said, adding that the Bucks do some things well that Sanford will not be able to handle.

However, Terry Sanford played a better first half against 71st, than the Bucks did a week ago, he added.

The lesson learned against Richmond might pay off this week, Jones is hoping.

"We know now that we are not playing a name, or a group, just other young men," he added.

McNeill, Thompson Named Hoke Athletes Of Week

The Hoke High coaching staff has named Lee McNeill as Male Athlete of the Week and Jackie Thompson as Female Athlete of the Week for the week of September 13-17.

Lee is a 6'11", 185 pound senior defensive end on the varsity football team. Lee is co-captain on the Bucks team. He was nominated for his excellent defensive play in the Richmond County game on Friday night.

Lee led a defensive charge which kept the Bucks in a 7-7 tie with the Raiders for three quarters of the game before finally going under by a 21-7 final score.

Lee registered 12 solo tackles and assisted in 5 more for a total of 17 hits during the game. Coach Roger Edwards, defensive coordinator, praised McNeill's efforts after the game. "Even though the team went down to defeat, surely Lee displayed all the qualities of a winner Friday night as time and time again he rallied his teammates to stop the Raider charge."

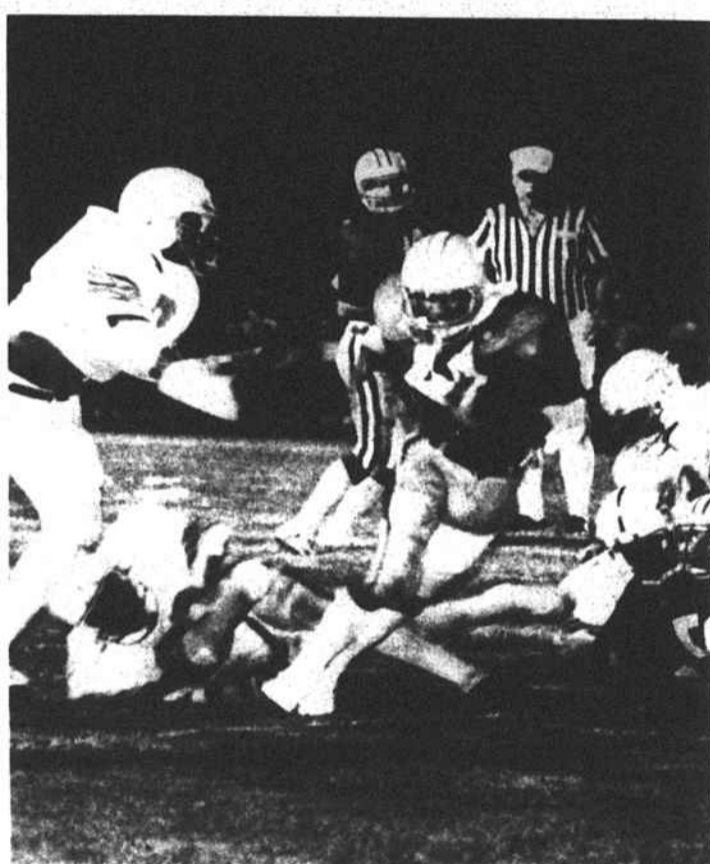
Lee has been very active in sports throughout his high school career. He has played football all four years. He has also played center on the basketball team for three years. Lee also ran track his freshman year in high school.

Lee is involved in other aspects of extra-curricular activities as well as athletics. He is a member of the Spanish Club, the Monogram Club and the Art Club.

Lee's future plans are incomplete but he does plan to attend some college to play football and major in art.

Lee is the son of Annie McNeill of Route 3, Raeford.

Jackie Thompson, a 17-year-old junior, was nominated as Female Athlete of the Week for her outstanding contributions in the Volleyball match against E.E. Smith on Thursday. Jackie served for 17 points, 12 of them consecutively, to help lead her team to victory.



Lee McNeill (42) zeroes in on a Richmond ball carrier during Friday's contest. The Buck defenseman made 12 solo tackles during the evening. [Photo by Joe Gonzales].

Jackie is involved in three sports at the high school. She has played volleyball for three years. She played basketball in the 9th and 10th grades and ran both the half-mile and mile on the girl's track team last season.

Jackie is a member of the Monogram Club and tentatively plans to further her education in the field of cosmetology upon graduation from high school.

Jackie is the daughter of Ruth Thompson of 1515 Moore Street in Raeford.



Jackie Thompson



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