

Sports

Pirates blank Wildcats in Columbia Friday night

Secondary shines as Perquimans cruises past opponent

By **SUSAN R. HARRIS**
Editor

Tough defense has become a Perquimans trademark, and Friday night was no exception as the Pirates blanked home-tanding Columbia, 31-0.

"The secondary did a tremendous job," said Pirates head football coach Andy Hunt. "As far as the secondary is concerned, we had a terrific game."

Perquimans tallied four interceptions, two by David Lake and one each by Mark Clinkscales and Tykinsten Wood. Another defensive standout according to Hunt was senior Jason Browning.

"We were happy with him," Hunt said.

It wasn't the defense, but the offense that had some people concerned going into Friday's contest. Starting quarterback A.J. Miller was hospitalized Tuesday with appendicitis. With halfbacks Tavarus Ferebee and Travis Chapman sidelined due to injuries, Hunt couldn't afford to substitute Miller with his back-up, Carson Stallings, who



PHOTO BY SUSAN HARRIS

The Perquimans High School varsity cheerleaders are doing all they can to cheer their Pirates team on to victory. Last year, the squad took first place in the conference competition hosted by Perquimans. This year's squad is looking to repeat that performance.

also serves as halfback.

The coaching staff decided to go with junior varsity quarterback Cliff Stallings. Hunt said Stallings had looked good in the position at a pre-season scrimmage in Manteo, and the coaching staff felt he could do the job for Perquimans.

"He did a real good job," Hunt said. "We felt that going in, Cliff would do the job. He looked good in Manteo. We felt using Cliff at quarterback and Carson at halfback was making the best use of the personnel we had available."

The confidence in Cliff

Stallings was well-placed. The sophomore passed for 90 yards, didn't hesitate to run the ball and handled himself extremely well under pressure.

Senior Clinkscales had a night to remember. He caught two touchdown passes, a 23-

yarder and a 62-yarder. Wood also had a good night on offense, rushing for 85 yards, including a 23-yard touchdown run. Wood also returned an interception 35 yards to hit paydirt.

Sophomore Calvin Hurdle also had a good performance on the ground, rushing for 61 yards. DeMadre Jennings gained 44 yards; Carson Stallings, 28; and Cliff Stallings, 12. Carson Stallings also caught a 5-yard pass.

In addition, Clint Eley booted a 20-yard field goal in addition to four PATs. Eley also had one of the night's best heads-up plays for the Pirates. Eley grabbed a high snap on a field goal attempt and got off a punt under tremendous pressure.

Hunt said he used all available personnel during the game, gaining valuable experience for his younger players for the nine games to come.

If there was a negative to the game, it was the number of penalties incurred by the Pirates. Perquimans lost 95

yards on 12 penalties, a problem Hunt wants to work on.

"We can't afford to make those mental mistakes," Hunt said.

This week will be used to brush up the defense and insert some additional pass plays.

"Defensively, we're still behind where we want to be," Hunt said. "We're still trying to be prepared for conference."

Hunt is still confident that the team will fare well in the Albemarle Conference.

"We're going to be competitive," he said. "We're going to be in the mix of play-offs."

Ferebee and Chapman will be back in the line-up within the next couple of weeks, and barring other injuries, Hunt feels good about his young team.

The Pirates host Northwest Halifax Friday evening at 7:30. Perquimans travels to Edenton on Sept. 8, then takes a week off before hosting Weldon in the conference opener on Sept. 22, the annual homecoming game.

Out-numbered JVs take Currituck, 12-0

Jacobs does the job at quarterback on one day's practice

By **SUSAN R. HARRIS**
Editor

It was definitely a case of David vs. Goliath when 15 Perquimans junior varsity football players defeated about 35 Currituck Knights, 12-0, in the season opener in Hertford last Thursday.

"It was a terrific effort," said Pirates head coach Andy

Hunt. "They made a real good defensive showing."

The Pirates employed a swarming defense to hold Currituck to 49 yards total offense. Brian Jacobs tallied seven tackles; Zery Skinner, five tackles and a leaping interception; Anthony Thatch, four tackles and a fumble recovery; and Mason Noordsy, a blocked punt.

Another stand-out for perquimans was Arno Vanzyl. Hunt said the coaching staff was impressed with his performance.

Offense was a big question

mark going into the game. When varsity quarterback A.J. Miller was hospitalized with appendicitis early last week, J.V. quarterback Cliff Stallings was called up to varsity, leaving a hole in the junior varsity line-up. Brian Jacobs, who had not practiced at quarterback until last Wednesday, rose to the occasion, moving out of his tight end slot to fill in for Stallings. Jacobs completed a 10-yard pass to Skinner under pressure, and was 1-for-3 in the air.

"Brian came in and did the job for us," Hunt said.

The Pirates got on the board in the first quarter when Thatch took it in from the 20. Skinner added six in the second stanza on a two-yard run.

Adriel Felton gained 61 yards on the ground for Perquimans. Thatch collected 39; Skinner, 27; Donald Stepney, four; and Noordsy, two.

The team's next game is in Hertford on Sept. 7 at 7 p.m. against Edenton. Admission to junior varsity games is \$3. Season passes are honored at J.V. games.

Hunter safety is no longer a school sport

School board vote makes hunter safety community youth organization

By **SUSAN R. HARRIS**
Editor

Hunter safety is no longer a sport in Perquimans County Schools because of a school board action on Aug. 21.

Accepting the recommendations of a study committee headed by assistant superintendent Jake Boyce, the board moved that hunter safety, also called the marksmanship team and the shooting team, will become a community youth organization sponsored by parents, citizens and civic clubs under the auspices of the Division of North Carolina Wildlife Enforcement in cooperation with the sheriff's department.

The board gave the superintendent the authority to include in his annual community youth services budget funds for hunter safety training. The middle and high school principals will be charged with approving expenditures within budget parameters. Organization sponsors must meet with the superintendent prior to the start of each school year to present financial requests.

The board did agree to allow the teams to retain the school names for the purpose of competition eligibility, providing that use of the name does not imply liability on the part of the school system. The schools will also announce meetings,

practices and competition results, and will allow awards for the teams to be presented during school programs.

Hunter safety has been shifted around several times during the past few years. Prior to the 1992-93 school year, the high school shooting team was sponsored by the school's Future Farmers of America. Hunter safety was taught at the middle school during health and physical education classes during the 1990-91 school year. A shooting team, supported financially by the middle school and parent-organized fundraisers, was formed.

During the 1992-93 and 1993-94 school years, middle school health and physical education teacher Roger Morgan was paid a yearly stipend of \$520 to coach both the middle and high school teams. Practices were moved from the middle school to the county's law enforcement firing range.

Athletic Director Harrell Thach monitored the program during the 1994-95 school year. All coaches were volunteers.

The study committee issued a statement of beliefs central to the board decision. The statement said hunting is a tradition among many local families, with hunting supporters desiring training for their children. The group also acknowledged that hunter safety classes teach responsible use of weapons. In addition, parents and volunteers were commended for "modeling the responsible attitude toward ownership and use of firearms, and sacrificing personally to assure the program's success."

The committee listed sever-

al reasons why hunter safety should not be sponsored by the school system.

The reported stated that including hunter safety in the regular curriculum was inappropriate because some parents are opposed to recreational hunting and do not want their children to participate in firearm training, and hunter safety is not part of the North Carolina Standard Course of Study.

Because marksmanship is not recognized by the North Carolina Athletic Association as a competitive sport, the committee said the program should not be listed as a sport.

Thirdly, because the system is committed to providing a safe and orderly environment and teaches peaceful conflict resolution, the system does not want to convey that it supports training in marksmanship for any purpose other than legitimate and responsible hunting.

Included in the report was a financial statement indicating that the schools system had

provided almost \$2,000 to the hunter safety teams last school year.

Members of the committee submitting the report were William Byrum, Harrell Thach, Sid Eley, Elaine Pritchard, Dwayne Stallings, Henry Felton and Boyce. Attending a meeting to review the committee's recommendations were G. C. Jennings, Richard Winslow and Ray Winslow, parents of hunter safety team members and volunteer coaches; John Blanton, Wildlife Resources; Jon Shultz, Perquimans County deputy; Edgar Roberson, Booster Club co-president; Pritchard, Byrum and Boyce.

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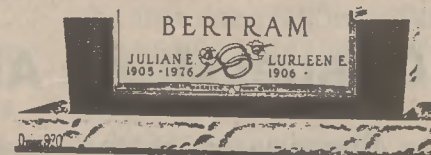
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