



# Pat's Peckings

By NEALE PATRICK

## Hitting 'Homers', Football-Style

Roger Maris and his record 61 and Mickey Mantle's near-season-long bid for the same honor left sports fans homer-conscious during the baseball season, and vaulted the Yankees into the World Series.

Now comes football, and a couple of gridiron-style "home runs" played opposite roles in deciding a pair of grid games on our schedule last weekend. It was singular that both the Kings Mountain-Shelby game here Friday night, and the Carolina-State scrap at Chapel Hill on Saturday provided somewhat similar situations of football-homers playing their part in the outcome of the tussles between the bitter rivals.

The two long runs (54 yards from scrimmage and 45 on a punt return) by sophomore Charlie Peeler of Shelby broke open the otherwise-tight defensive struggle at City Stadium. Those two "homers" marked the only difference in the two teams.

But in Kenan Stadium the next afternoon, two "homers" by State sophomore backs in the early minutes were wiped out by a flock of "singles" by the Tar Heels during the rest of the afternoon. Soph Mike Clark returned the opening kickoff for 83 yards and a TD, and another first-year back, Tony Kozarsky, scampered 37 yards with a punt to set-up a field goal and a quick 10-0 lead for State.

The quick "homers" worked in reverse, however, as Carolina smashed out enough "singles and doubles" for the 27-10 win, the first time in seven years that the Tar Heels have kicked off a campaign with a victory.

Draying a parallel on the two games is a bit far-fetched except for the somewhat-similar long runs and their part in the game. But the situations struck a cord of similarity.

Yardage and first downs came hard for both the Mountaineers and the Lions until Peeler, the early "goat" as result of his fumble on the one-yard line, setting up the KM touchdown, kicked up his heels. The teams were tied at 7-all and each had three first downs when the soph half-back made his first long journey, with a "late-inning homer."

Things never were the same for the Mountaineers after that, and they became worse a few minutes later when Peeler, again, caught our side with his defenses down on the punt return.

The Mountaineers had one big opportunity after that, following Alton Stewart's 61-yard run, longest of the game here, but an interception halted that threat. But, in truth, our side was far too spent by that time, two touchdowns back and time running out.

## Pitching 'No-Hitter' In First Downs

The situation at Chapel Hill was similar . . . only in reverse. The Wolfpack belted its "homers" in the first inning. But the Tar Heels took over the middle frames, and State didn't get another turn at bat until the "last of the ninth". And that was too late.

The battle of the brothers provided the strangest set of circumstances one could dream-up for a football game. Just consider the incredible series of events in chronological order:

— State led 10-0 after five minutes of play. Yet the Wolfpack had run only three offensive plays and had a minus-two yards rushing.

— At the end of the first quarter, State still led 10-0, but did not have a first down and zero yards rushing. Carolina had six first downs and 65 yards rushing.

— Halftime saw State still leading 10-7, but still without a first down and only eight yards rushing. Carolina had 11 first-in-tens and 127 yards rushing. The Tar Heels ran 48 scrimmage plays, State 14, in the first half.

— Finally, Carolina took the lead on the scoreboard, as well as in the statistical columns. The Tar Heels hiked their advantage to 27-10 in the fourth period, and also led in first downs by 21-0. It was suggested that Carolina was "pitching a no-hitter", but had allowed a "couple of runs."

## Tar Heels Hogged The Pigskin

Probably the most amazing thing about the strange goings-on was that Roman Gabriel, tabbed as the number one pro prospect in college quarterback ranks, did not complete a pass for the first 47½ minutes of the game. He tried nine times, all in vain. Finally, with 12½ minutes to play he completed his first pass, and in so doing helped the Wolfpack to their first first-down.

In fairness, it might be pointed out that Gabriel and his friends seldom had a turn at bat.

Carolina simply hogged the pigskin until it assumed a 27-10 lead, one minute and 40 seconds into the fourth quarter. In those first 46 minutes and 40 seconds of the game, the Tar Heels ran 81 plays from scrimmage, compared to only 19 for State.

The Gabe had his opportunities after that, and took advantage of them, scoring a TD and passing for another, and having the Wolfpack on the move at the end.

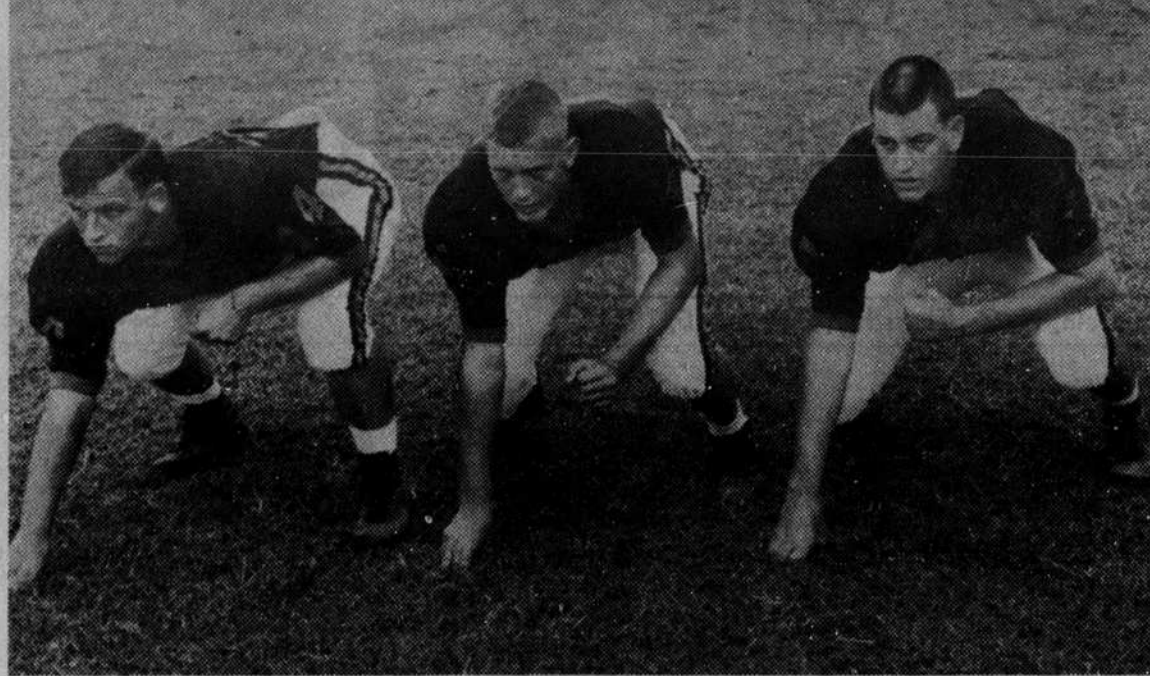
Until those waning minutes, the Tar Heels, in general, and guard Jack Tillery, in particular, gave Gabriel all he could handle . . . when he had the few opportunities to handle the ball. Tillery, a 185-pound guard from Wilson, was the Gabe's chief tormentor, slicing by blockers to hawk the big quarterback unmercifully on every pass or option situation.

The final story of the game, however, was written in the ball control and the Tar Heels refusal to lose their poise in the face of the two early "homers."

Carolina simply kept the pigskin to itself, running 9 plays from scrimmage, against State's 42. It's interesting too, that exactly half (45) of the Tar Heel plays were consumed on four touchdown marches, ranging from 43 to 75 yards. The Tar Heels not only held onto the ball, but kept the ball as a means-to-an-end.

Coach Jim Hickey admitted to "surprise" that his team maintained its poise after the early deficit.

"When State ran back that opening kickoff, I said to myself, 'oh my, here we go again.'" he said later, "And I was afraid that the boys would fall apart, but when we got our offense moving, I felt we could come back, and I was confident at halftime that we could win."



THREE-POINTING FOR BESSEMER CITY — A trio of husky Mountaineer tackles take aim on Bessemer City's Yellow Jackets for the non-Conference game here Friday night at 7:30. Left to right, the Mountie tackles are Jerry Rikard, James Hope and Eddie Ross.

# Peeler's Long Jaunts Break-Open Another Close KM-Shelby Contest

## Mountaineer Gridgraph

YARDSTICK		
	KM	Shelby
First Downs	4	6
Yards rushing	97	168
Yards passing	2	4
Passes Attempted	11	4
Passes Completed	2	1
Passes had		
intercepted	2	0
Fumbles lost	1	3
Punts-average	9-32.2	7-38
Yards penalized	22	35

## SCORE BY QUARTERS

Shelby	0	7	7	6	—20
Kings Mountain	7	0	0	0	—7

## Scoring

For Kings Mountain

Touchdown — Allen Stewart (1-yard run). Extra point—Wally Harris (run).

For Shelby

Touchdowns — Charles Noggle (1-yard run), Bill Pernel (1-yard run), Charles Peeler (45-yard punt return). Extra points — Joe Roberts 2 (placements).

## INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Kings Mtn. Rushing		
Name	Carries	Net Yds.
Alton Stewart	15	39
Wally Harris	10	25
Tommy Hope	5	23
Butch Harry	3	10

TOTALS	33	97
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Kings Mt. Passing				
Name	Att.	Comp.	Intcy	Yd
Harris	11	2	2	2

Kings Mtn. Receiving		
Name	Caught	Yds
Alton Stewart	2	2

Shelby Rushing		
Name	Carries	Net Yds
Charles Peeler	9	78
Johnny Greene	9	35
Charles Noggle	10	35
Bill Pernel	9	25
Ronnie Wilcox	2	5
Sonny Dockery	1	3
Don Patrick	1	-1
(Bad center snap)	-	-12

TOTALS	41	168
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Shelby Passing			
Name	Att.	Comp.	Yds.
Noggle	4	1	4

Shelby Receiving		
Name	Caught	Yds.
Bill Pernel	1	4

## Stewart Second In Area Scoring

Alton Stewart is seeking to duplicate the scoring feat of Funch Parker last year . . . that of being the leading point-maker in the Gastonia area.

At the moment, the Mountaineer halfback ranks second in the scoring tabulation compiled by The Gastonia Gazette of prep football teams in Gaston County and the Southwest Conference clubs from Kings Mountain and Lincolnton. Parker won the scoring cup last year with 122 points.

Stewart has scored five touchdowns and two points after for 32 points to date, rating second behind Reggie Ballard of Mt. Holly with 36 points.

Charles Goodson also ranks with the top ten scorers, with 14 points, on two TD's and two points - after.

Stewart has also been cited by The Gazette as a "back of the week" for his two touchdowns and two extra points in the recent win over Chase.

A couple of long runs broke open the close-score series between the Mountaineers and Shelby here Friday night.

The pair of county rivals were engaged in one of their typical hard-hitting, close (tied 7-all at the time) affairs when 155-pound sophomore halfback Charles Peeler went on a pair of long jaunts in the last half to fracture the tight-knit series.

The speedy youngster with whom the Mountaineers and other Conference teams must contend for the next two years sped 54 yards from scrimmage to set-up the go-ahead TD in the third quarter, then he hauled back a punt for 45 yards for an insurance score in the final period.

Until Peeler showed his heels, the rivals had swapped identical "breaks" in the first half for the 7-7 tie and they appeared well on their way to another in the series which has been decided by the grand-difference of one point in five games.

The Mountaineers had a couple of opportunities of their own in the second half, but flubbed both.

The first one came on a fumble recovery of the second half kickoff. But the offense couldn't move from the Shelby 36.

The other "final" chance came following Shelby's pair of go-ahead TD's. The Mountaineers struck back with Alton Stewart making the longest run of the game, a 61-yard jaunt of a kickoff. He was in the clear, but a diving and desperate lunge by Johnny Greene tripped him from the rear at the Shelby 15.

Wally Harris' second down pass was intercepted in the end zone by the same Greene in a controversial play which left local fans in a fury. They felt the Shelby fullback interfered with Steve Brown, pushing him in order to intercept.

The game was strictly a defensive struggle until Peeler began his scampering. The halftime deadlock of 7-all resulted from alert defensive recoveries of fumbles, both teams playing the role of opportunists scoring after the recoveries.

Halftime statistics showed just how close the teams were battling, Shelby having three first downs and 54 yards rushing, compared to the Mountaineers two first downs and 65 yards net rushing. Neither team had completed a pass, and Shelby had drawn the only penalty, of five yards.

Kings Mountain received the first "handout" and took advan-

## Little Mountaineers Lose, 6-0, Play Chase Here Thursday Night

The Little Mountaineers will be seeking to give home folks their first taste of victory when they meet Chase in a Southwest Junior High Conference game at City Stadium Thursday night at 7 o'clock.

Kings Mountain lost its home opener, 6-0, to Belmont last week, a blocked punt giving the Raiders the opportunity to score a first-quarter touchdown which held up through the rest of the game.

The loss left the Little Mountaineers with a record of one win and one loss on the season, the local lads having won their opener, 19-0 at Forest City two weeks ago.

Chase won its only start in the league to date, defeating Cherryville, 6-0.

An early series of penalties, followed by the blocked punt, wrecked the Little Mountaineers' hopes for victory against Belmont last Thursday night.

They started off moving the

tage of it for the early-minute 7-0 lead.

After Harris raced 24 yards on the first series, Shelby braced and the KM quarterback punted. The ball bounced wildly near the goal, and Peeler decided at the last moment to field the ball. He immediately bobbled it, and Sammy Houston pounced on it at the one yard line.

Stewart sliced off the right side for the touchdown and Harris went over the same spot for the extra point.

That lead held-up most of the period, with neither team able to move the ball.

Late in the period, Butch Harry fumbled a Charles Noggle punt at the KM 19 yard line and Johnny Greene (yes, him, again) recovered. Six plays later Noggle sneaked through the center for the score and Bob Roberts kicked the extra point for the 7-7 deadlock which held-up until after intermission.

The Mountaineers' big chance of the second half came on the kickoff. Noggle fumbled, and Charles Goodson recovered at the Shelby 36. An illegal procedure penalty of five yards put an extra burden on the Mountaineers and Harris was forced to punt on fourth down.

Still, both teams were having trouble moving the ball . . . and in fact neither team made consecutive first-downs until Shelby managed it in the fading minutes.

That set the stage for Peeler to redeem himself as the possible Shelby "goat", he having been the one who fumbled to set-up the Mountaineers touchdown.

On third down at the KM 45, Peeler went off the right side and streaked to the one yard line, where Stewart overtook him. Peeler was stopped on first down, but Pernel scored on a smash and Roberts again booted the point.

A couple of series later, Peeler had regained his "breath" and took a Harris punt all-the-way for 45 yards and the other TD. He ran behind good blocking and used a good change of pace to avoid the last couple of Mountaineers who had a crack at him.

Then came Stewart's long (61-yards) kickoff return, but Shelby's Greene kept getting in the way of another possible score for our side. He tripped Stewart, then made the interception in front of Brown in the end zone. Brown and Mountaineer folk insisted that Green pushed the end, but the official didn't see it that way.

# Mountaineers Try To Regain Winning Ways Against B. C.

Seeking to shake off the effects of the loss to Shelby last week, the Mountaineers take a two-week "vacation" from Conference competition meeting a pair of outsiders, starting with Bessemer City's Yellow Jackets here Friday night.

Game time, as usual, is 7:30 at City Stadium and is the fourth home game of the campaign for the Mountaineers.

The local lads came out of the loss to Shelby without any new injuries and hope to have some of the earlier injured members fit and ready to go, again.

Halfback Henry Raines and ends Steve Brown and Robert Whisnant saw some action last week and should be ready for more duty this time. Halfback Mike Huffsticker, however, still is out with a knee injury.

The Mountaineers are all square on the season as they reach the midpoint of their ten-game card. They have won two games, both in the SWC, and have two losses, the one to Shelby being the first on the Conference ledger.

Bessemer City, actually, comes to town with a better record, two wins, a loss and a tie. The Yellow Jackets defeated Hartsell of Concord and Cramerton, tied Dallas and lost to Mt. Holly.

Mountaineer scouts have watched the Jackets in several games and bring back the report that it is rated as one of the better Bessemer City teams in recent years.

Quarterback Bobby King heads the backfield and is one of the top scorers in the area, with 31 points on the year. He also is a good passer, with end George Hook his favorite receiver. Fullback Theo Lynn is a hard-driving 190-pound fullback.

A pair of 215-pound tackles head the line delegation. They are John Costner, a transfer from a Tennessee high school, and Johnny Oates.

Kings Mountain defeated the Jackets 39-7, last year, but the current BC outfit is more experienced and larger.

King, Costner and Tommy Millward are the tri-captains for the Bessemer City team, which is coached by Jack Parker, with assistance from Ronnie Kincaid.

## Starting Lineups For Game With B. C.

BESSEMER CITY		
Pos.	Name	Wgt.
LE	George Hook	160
LT	John Costner	215
LG	Jerry Warren	150
C	Harold Short	155
RG	Johnny Green	155
RT	John Oates	215
RE	Tommy Millward	175
QB	Bobby King	155
LH	Jimmy King	140
RH	Bobby Martin	130
FB	Theo Lynn	190

KINGS MOUNTAIN		
Pos.	Name	Wgt.
LE	Charles Goodson	165
LT	Jerry Rikard	185
LG	Tom Armstrong	150
C	Mike Dixon	160
RG	Sammy Houston	160
RT	Eddie Ross	205
RE	Curtis Floyd	160
QB	Wally Harris	160
LH	Henry Raines	160
RH	Alton Stewart	158
FB	Tommy Hope	182

## The Records

KINGS MOUNTAIN		
Year	Opp.	Score
14	Forest City 0.	7-0
15	York 26.	27-0
16	Chase 6.	27-0
17	Shelby 20.	27-0

BESSEMER CITY		
Year	Opp.	Score
13	Hartsell (Concord) 6	19-0
15	Cramerton 0.	6-0
16	Mt. Holly 43.	39-7
13	Dallas 13.	39-7

## Southwest Conference Football

CONFERENCE STANDINGS				
Team	W	L	T	Pct.
Shelby	3	0	1	1.000
R. S. Central	3	0	1	1.000
Kings Mountain	2	1	1	.667
Lincolnton	1	1	1	.500
Chase	1	1	1	.500
Cherryville	1	2	3	.333
Forest City	0	3	0	.000
Chase	0	3	0	.000

## SEASON'S RECORD

(For all games played)				
Team	W	L	T	Pts
Shelby	4	0	89	20
R. S. Central	4	1	79	26
Kings Mtn.	2	2	57	52
Lincolnton	2	2	62	35
Cherryville	2	3	44	110
Forest City	2	3	44	53
Belmont	1	3	31	86
Chase	0	4	19	86

## SCHEDULE FRIDAY

Bessemer City at Kings Mountain.

## Steve Goforth And Wayne O'Dell Spark East And West Midget Wins

Undeclared East made it three in a row as the midget football league rounded-out the first half of the season Saturday night.

Steve Goforth punched over a pair of one-yard touchdowns to pace the loop-leaders to a 13-6 victory in one of the games of the double-header at City Stadium.

West won its second game to remain in second place in the standings in the other contest Saturday, defeating South, 12-6.

South tangles with North at 7 o'clock and East meets West in the battle of the top two of the circuit in the pair of games this Saturday night.

East scored its pair of TD's in the second and fourth periods of last week's game, Goforth plunging over both times. He also added the extra point after his first score.

Philip Wright scored for North, in the first period, to give his club a brief lead.

East led in first downs, ten to four.

In addition to Steve, other offensive stars for East were Tommy Goforth, Rick Hamrick and Phillip Gladden. Wright was the big offensive gun for North.

Tommy Gladden of East, and Paul Gaffney and Phil Wright of North were the defensive stars for the game.

Wayne Odell ran 85 yards in the last quarter to provide the winning margin for West over South, by 12-6. Fred Clary scored the first TD for the winners, in the first period, but Jerry Bumgardner matched that for South.

Quarterback Bobby King heads the backfield and is one of the top scorers in the area, with 31 points on the year. He also is a good passer, with end George Hook his favorite receiver. Fullback Theo Lynn is a hard-driving 190-pound fullback.

A pair of 215-pound tackles head the line delegation. They are John Costner, a transfer from a Tennessee high school, and Johnny Oates.

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Shelby and Central also pace the league clubs in points scored and in fewest points permitted opponents. Shelby has tallied 89 points and Central has racked-up 79 for one-two honors in that department. The Lions have been the stingiest, allowing only 20 points and RSC has given up 26.

Central defeated its county neighbor, Forest City, 13-6, for its third straight league triumph last Friday night. Edward Fisher scored on a 12-yard jaunt and Allen Moore passed to Bud Tanner for ten yards and the other Hilltopper score. Forest City picked up its lone marker on a pass, from Steve Stallcup to Don Harris.