

The Easy Part's Over...

Kings Mountain High's defense recorded its fourth straight shutout and the offense had its most consistent performance of the season Friday night at John Gamble Stadium as the Mountaineers rolled to their most lopsided victory in 21 years, a 50-0 romp over Bessemer City.

The 50 point spread represents the biggest victory point-wise for the Mountaineers since 1955, when KMHS opened its season with a 59-0 waltz past Bessemer City. That year, the Mountaineers went on to an undefeated season under Coach Shu Carlton.

The victory, aided by South Point's 18-12 victory over East Gaston, moved the Mountaineers into sole possession of first place in the Southwestern Conference standings. The Mounties are now 8-0 in league play and 4-0 against

all-comers. It was the fourth straight loss for the Yellow Jackets and their 33rd straight defeat over the past four years.

Kings Mountain's offense rolled up 228 yards rushing and 97 passing for its best overall effort since the Mounties' opening season 20-0 victory over Crest. The defense had its biggest night yet, holding the Yellow Jackets to 28 yards total offense.

The Mountaineers cut their pass interceptions down to zero, and their fumbles lost to one, but were still plagued by penalties. KMHS was taxed 130 yards in penalties with one of them resulting in a nullification of a 20-yard touchdown run by sophomore quarterback Jimmy Hall.

But, despite the penalties, the Mountaineers moved the ball at will against the Yellow

Jackets. Most of the scoring drives were short, however, as the strong Mountaineer defense time and again handed the offense the ball deep in BCHS territory.

KMHS had the Yellow Jackets down 22-0 before most of the 3,000 spectators got settled in their seats, and from the second quarter on Coach Bobby Jones substituted more freely than he's been able to in his previous five years as KMHS coach.

The Mountaineers got their first score with 10:30 left in the opening quarter

when Steve Laughter recovered a BC fumble at the three and Dennis Owens bucked over on KM's first play from scrimmage for a 6-0 lead.

Moments later, BC's Tommy Parker was backed up to the one for a punting attempt and defensive end Terry McClain charged past the BC blockers and blocked the punt out of the end zone for a safety and an 8-0 lead.

Bessemer City's free kick carried only 10 yards and two minutes later sophomore David Ray Robinson bulled his way

over from the three and Bruce Valentine added the point-after from placement for a 15-0 lead.

Richard Ross scored his first of two touchdowns with 2:42 left in the quarter and Valentine added his second PAT for a 22-0 cushion. Ross added his second TD from five yards out with 3:02 remaining in the first half and Valentine converted again for a 29-0 halftime lead.

Senior quarterback Mike Bumgarner, last year's top touchdown passer in the SWC, hurled his first TD strike of the season with 10:03 showing in the third quarter, a 41-yard toss to split end Peter Brown, who saved face after dropping two perfect TD passes in the first half. Valentine converted again for a 35-0 lead and for the most part after that Coach Jones and his aides turned the game over to the reserves.

Hall, who filled in well for Bumgarner a week earlier while the regular signal-caller was nursing an injury, scored from seven yards out early in the fourth period and Scott Ellis booted the point-after soccer-style for a 43-0 lead.

The Mounties closed out the scoring with 4:45 left following a fumble recovery by Al Eddins. Charles Jenkins criss-crossed his way 17 yards through the BC defense and Ellis added his second straight PAT.

Kenny Bell, KM's leading rusher but a non-scorer Friday, was the game's top rusher with 83 yards in only 12 carries. Owens added 49 and Ross 34.

Bessemer City managed only three first downs, 24 yards rushing and two passing against KM's defensive unit. Hall and (Please Turn To Page 2B)

SPORTS

Thursday, September 30, 1976

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...And The Hard Part Begins

Kings Mountain's Mountaineers begin the "hard" part of their football season Friday night when they travel to Forest City to take on a strong East Rutherford team.

The Cavaliers, 2-1 in the Southwestern Conference and 3-1 overall, were the pre-season pick to win the title but were upset by Chase, 15-13 two weeks ago to fall from the ranks of the undefeated.

The Mountaineers carry a perfect 3-0 SWC mark and 4-0 overall figure into the 8 p. m. contest. KMHS is the lone undefeated team in the 12-team league.

Kings Mountain becoming off its easiest victory in 21 years, a 50-0 smashing of winless Bessemer City. After losing to Chase two weeks ago, East Rutherford snapped back last week with a 21-7 victory over a strong Cherryville team.

Although KMHS sports a better record than the Cavaliers, the East team has played a tougher schedule thus far. East has beaten R-S Central 20-0, North Gaston 34-6 and Cherryville 21-7 while losing to the Trojans.

KM has beaten Crest 20-0, Chase 8-7, North Gaston 28-0 and Bessemer City, 50-0. The KM offense, despite the big scores, has been inconsistent and most of the KM scores have been set up by its unscored-on defensive unit.

Coach Bobby Jones of the Mountaineers says there is no doubt that Friday's game will be his team's toughest test to date.

"We're just going to have to play good, aggressive football," says the KM mentor. "I'm sure that's what East is going to do. I hope we can get another good defensive game and a good offensive

showing. We're going to have to move the ball on offense and not stay on defense all night."

KM's biggest problem thus far on offense has been penalties, fumbles and pass interceptions. The Mounties cut down on two of those three problem areas last week, but still

were assessed 130 yards in penalties.

"We can't afford to give up a lot of territory on our own mistakes," says Jones. "We've been playing aggressive and when you play aggressive football you're going to have some clippings and things of that nature. Too, we're really a young team and young kids sometimes make a lot of mistakes. But as long as they get after them, we're satisfied."

Looking back to last week's win over BC, Jones said he was pleased with KM's overall performance against a Yellow Jacket team which he said "was better than the Bessemer City teams we've been used to seeing."

Every KM player saw action in the contest "and that's real good for our team morale," Jones noted.

East, Jones said, is a solid football team all-around. The Cavs are strong in the running and passing departments, has a defense comparable to the Mountaineers and has a strong kicking game.

The Cavaliers are loaded with experience both on offense and defense and should be by far the Mountaineers' toughest test to date.

Coach Steve Curtis, in his second year as East head coach after serving as an assistant at Gardner-Webb College, has 19 lettermen back from last year when the Cavaliers finished 7-3-1 and missed a playoff berth by tying Crest.

Don Ingle is one of the league's top quarterbacks, both in the running and passing department, and tailback Clint Michalove is one of the SWC's top rushers, averaging over 100 yards per game.

Fullback Scott Padgett, a returning starter, is the Cavaliers' power runner and flanker Terry Miller is one of Ingle's favorite pass targets.

Up front offensively, the Cavaliers have Ricky Smith at tight end, Mick Davis at split end, Ricky Millwood and Jeff Bridges at guards, Tim Moore and David Philbeck at tackles and Keith Leach at center.

Padgett, at linebacker, and free safety Billy Shelton are two of East's defensive leaders. Shelton led the SWC in pass interceptions a year ago with seven.

Others on defense include Tim Smith at strong safety, Tim Ledford and Chuck McCurry at cornerback, Alvin Keith and Leroy Kelly at end, Dany Dotson and Rome Logan at tackle and Ricky Smith and Wayne Pruett at guard.

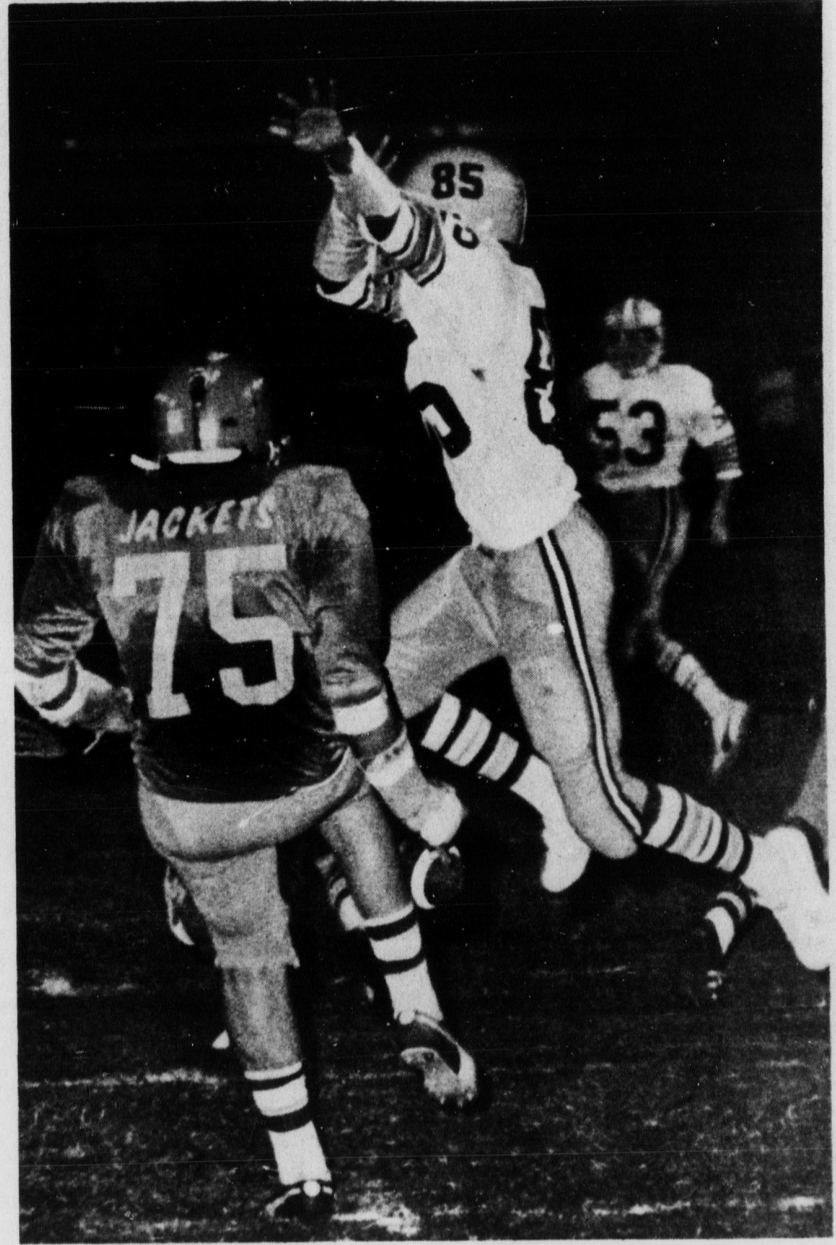
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BLOCKS PUNT - Kings Mountain defensive end Terry McClain (5) is shown here blocking a punt by Bessemer City's Tommy Parker (75) in Friday's Southwestern Conference football game at John Gamble Stadium. The ball went out of the end zone for a KM safety. The Mountaineers went on their big fest scoring spree in 21 years, blasting the winless Yellow Jackets by 50-0.

Jayvees

At Home

To Shelby

Alone at the top...

SWC OVERALL

W	L	T	W	L	T
3	0	0	4	0	0
3	1	0	3	1	0
2	1	0	2	2	0
2	1	0	3	1	0
2	1	0	3	1	0
2	1	0	2	2	0
2	1	0	2	2	0
0	2	1	1	2	1
0	2	1	0	3	1
0	3	0	0	4	0
0	4	0	0	4	0

Kings Mountain High School's jayvee footballers, impressive despite a 6-0 loss to Crest in their season's opener last week, host undefeated Shelby tonight at 7:30 at John Gamble Stadium.

The Baby Lions bring a perfect 3-0 record into the contest against Coach Bud Bumgardner's Little Mountaineers.

The KM eleven gave a good effort last Thursday night against a Crest team which was undefeated against Southwestern Conference rivals. The Little Chargers' only loss had been to 4-A McDowell.

Crest scored its lone touchdown in the second period after a long gain put the Chargers in scoring position inside the KM 10.

Except for that one series, the Little Mountaineer defense stood tall against the much bigger and more experienced Crest team.

Kings Mountain never threatened seriously, but got an outstanding running (Please Turn To Page 2B)

LAST WEEK'S RESULTS

KINGS MOUNTAIN 50, Bessemer City 0
Chase 28, Crest 20
South Point 18, East Gaston 12
East Rutherford 21, Cherryville 7
R-S Central 21, North Gaston 6
Shelby 26, Burns 14

FRIDAY'S GAMES

KINGS MOUNTAIN at East Rutherford
Crest at Bessemer City
R-S Central at Chase
Shelby at East Gaston
North Gaston at Hunter Huss
South Point at Ashbrook
Cherryville at Burns

THE STATISTICS

	BC	KM
First Downs	3	12
Rushing	24	228
Passes	2-6	4-7
Yds. Passing	2	97
Passes Int. By	0	2
Fumbles Lost	2	1
Punts	5-29	2-24
Yds. Penalized	65	130

SCORE BY QUARTERS

TEAM	1	2	3	4-T
BC	0	0	0	0
KM	22	7	7	4-50

SCORING

KM - Owens, 3-run (kick failed)
KM - Safety, punt blocked out of end zone.
KM - Robinson, 3-run (Valentine kick)
KM - Ross, 1-run (Valentine kick)
KM - Ross, 6-run (Valentine kick)
KM - Brown, 41-pass from Bumgarner (Valentine kick)
KM - Hall, 7-run (Ellis kick)
KM - Jenkins, 17-run (Ellis kick).



LOOKING FOR ROOM - Kings Mountain fullback Dennis Owens (33) takes handoff from quarterback Jimmy Hall (5) and looks for some running room in Friday's game with Bessemer City at John Gamble Stadium. Owens scored the first KM touchdown on a

three-yard run, setting the stage for an offensive display that netted the Mountaineers their biggest margin of victory in 21 years, 50-0. The win was the fourth straight for KMHS, which travels to East Rutherford Friday night.



TOP RUSHER - Kings Mountain's Jody Deaton (45) tries to escape the grasp of a Crest tackler in Thursday's junior varsity football opener at Gamble

Stadium. Crest won the game, 6-0, but Deaton claimed individual rushing honors with 133 yards in 12 carries. The Jayvees host county rival Shelby tonight at 7:30.

Photo By Gary Stewart