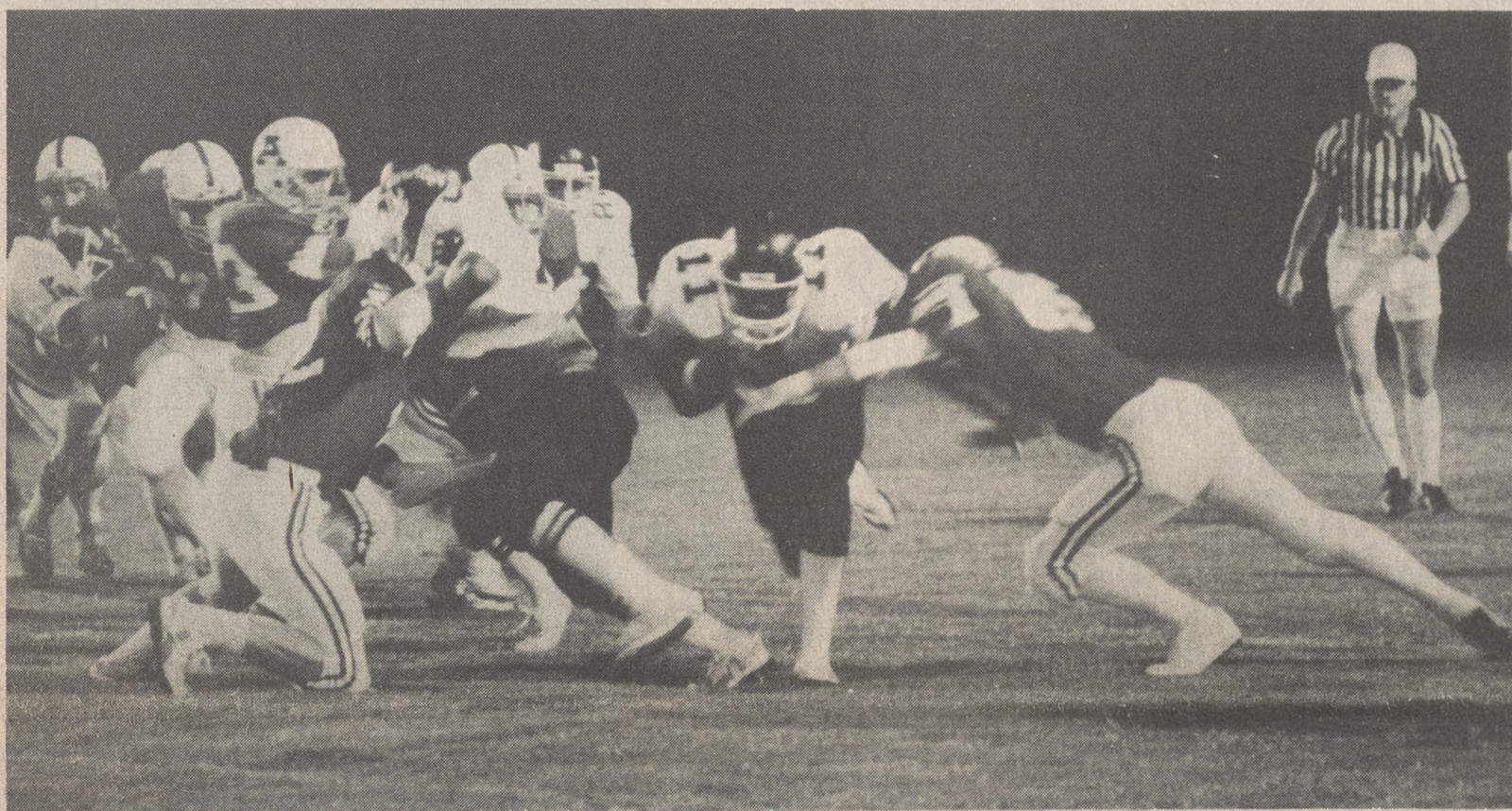




Tracy Johnson (41) Blocks For Curt Pressley (11)



Curt Pressley (11) Finds Big Hole In Ashbrook Defense

Lose 21-13

Mounties Play 'Flag' Football

Ashbrook's Green Wave took advantage of 112 yards in penalties against Kings Mountain's Mountaineers Friday night at the Ashbrook Stadium to score their first win of the year, 21-13.

Kings Mountain, 1-1, plays its first home game Friday at 8 p.m. at John Gamble Stadium against an East Gaston team which is 2-0 and looking like the team to beat for the Southwestern 3-A Conference championship.

The Mountaineers, coming off a 29-6 victory over Burns in their opener, ran up a 13-7 halftime lead over the Greenies, 1-2, but had three drives stopped inside the 20 on penalties.

Coach Denny Hicks was unhappy with his team's performance, but took much of the blame himself.

"We played 27 kids, but didn't have many of the ready to play, and that's the coaches fault," he said. "I don't know if we took them lightly or what, but we had only two kids to grade out with a winning effort. We played with no intensity, and you can't win like that."

The Mountaineers missed a golden scoring opportunity on the opening kickoff, when the Ashbrook deep receiver let Tracy Johnson's kickoff hit the ground and bounce around inside the 10 yard line for several seconds. By the time the Mountaineer defenders realized they had a shot at recovering the ball, it barely broke the goalline and was ruled a touchback.

Ashbrook took over on the 20 and quickly moved 80 yards for the first touchdown. Quarterback Darren Littlejohn hit Tony Smith on a 14-yard touchdown pass and Jay Cline booted the extra point for a 7-0 margin.

But the Mountaineers struck back with two touchdowns to take the lead. Quarterback Todd Cloninger stunned the huge Mountaineer crowd when he faked a back into the line and hung up a long pass down the Ashbrook sidelines. Thomas Putnam was 30 yards behind the secondary when he caught the ball and turned it into a 54-yard touchdown with 2:18 left in the first period. Curt Pressley kicked the point-after to tie the score at 7-all.

The Mountaineers took the lead on their next possession. Tracy Johnson, who gained 109 yards in 15 carries, scored from 39 yards out the first time he touched the football. He ran over several Ashbrook defenders as he broke through the left side of the KM offensive line, and then outraced the secondary to the endzone. A bad snapped resulted in Cloninger being tackled on a two-point conversion attempt.

Kings Mountain missed a chance to blow the game open late in the first half when a bad call from an official stopped them at the 15. The Mounties faced a third and one when an official flagged them for five yards because a screw in the back of a KM lineman's helmet was missing. The lineman had no way of knowing the screw, one of four which holds the chin strap, was missing. The penalty made it third and six, and the Mounties failed to pick up a first down.

"Usually, an official will warn you when he sees something like that," Coach Hicks said. "That's the first time since I've been coaching that has occurred. The screw just popped out and the other three were still intact."

Ashbrook came back in the third period to take the lead 14-13 on a one-yard run by Harold Jackson, and the Wave got the clinching touchdown with two minutes remaining on a four-yard run by Jackson. Both drives were aided by some costly Mountaineer penalties.

The game followed much the same pattern as the Burns game a week earlier. The Mounties were the superior football team in the first half, but penalties killed them in the final two periods.

"We told our kids when we first started that penalties have killed us over the past two years," Hicks said. "The two years that I was an assistant, we lost 11 ballgames and in about seven or eight of them, we beat ourselves."

"For every penalty a boy causes, he has to do extra work, but they keep on making them," he said. "We've been working

Turn To Page 3-B

Parker Contest Winner

Eddie Parker of 304 Somerset Drive, Kings Mountain, forgot to predict a tie-breaking score in last week's Herald football contest, but it didn't matter. He correctly predicted 15 of 20 winners of area high school and college football games to edge out several other contestants and win the \$100 prize.

Parker missed Ashbrook's victory over Kings Mountain, Shelby's loss to Crest, Appalachian's loss to James Madison, Boston College's victory over Clemson and East Carolina's win over N.C. State.

Other winners last week included East Gaston over South Point, Cherryville over Burns, Chase over North Gaston, East Rutherford over R-S Central, Hunter Huss over West Mecklenburg, Mooresville over Bessemer City, Lenoir-Rhyne over J.C. Smith, Wofford over Davidson, Indiana over Duke, Alabama over Georgia Tech, Maryland over Vanderbilt, North Carolina over Memphis State and Wake Forest over VPI.

The third of 10 weekly contests is inside today's paper. Pick the most winners and you will pocket the next \$100 check. Bring us your entry by 5 p.m. Friday, or mail it to Herald Football Contest, P.O. Box 752, Kings Mountain, N.C. 28086.



The sport of skiing is said to have begun in Telemark, Norway about 1860.

Now 10-4 On Season

Fearless Riding With Raiders And Warriors

By FEARLESS

Fearless had backfires on Kings Mountain over Ashbrook, North Gaston over Chase, and Hunter Huss over West Mecklenburg last week.

Not too good, in other words. I had a 5-3 week, giving me a 10-4 record on the season after a 5-1 opening week.

We had power failure at Arrowhead Stadium last Friday during a good football game between East Gaston and South Point, a game (following the blackout) won by the Warriors, 20-10.

It was one of the most unusual nights of my life, but not quite as bad as when I jumped out of Memorial Stadium in Charlotte many years ago while covering a

game (I got locked up in the stadium after calling my story back in to the paper), and broke my right foot and badly sprained the left. We who cover athletic events serve valiantly. I won a purple heart for the Charlotte affair. I was just "in the dark" at East Gaston.

If there was anything Butch hated it was that preachin' type of crooks. The kind of guys who would rob a bank or beat their mothers and then go to church to pray that they don't get caught. One day the warden put one of these guys right in his cell and the preacher started preaching right away. "Brother," he said, "lose no time. Turn to the path of righteousness. We

are here today and gone tomorrow."

"Don't kid yourself," said Butch. "I got eight years yet."

Women can get more dirt out of a telephone than out of a vacuum cleaner.

Most girls today have a keen sense of humor.

My girl has a rattlesnake tattooed on her arm. Very feminine, though. The snake has a rose in its mouth.

"Hey," she whispered to me as we entered the theater. "Look who they've got tonight. My favorite actor. Nosmo King."

She pointed to an electric sign. "Honey," I said. "That sign says 'No Smoking.'"

The two girls stood on the corner watching the gentleman holding the newborn child.

"Look at his cute teeth," said one.

"Yes," said the other. "And small ears and blue eyes."

"Right," agreed the first. "The baby is kinda cute too."

Attention, mothers: Buy a chemistry set for a kid who wants to go places.

Never cash a friend's check on Saturday. That leaves two days to worry about it.

The man laughed and hung up the phone. "Boy that was great," he said.

"Who were you talking to?" his friend asked.

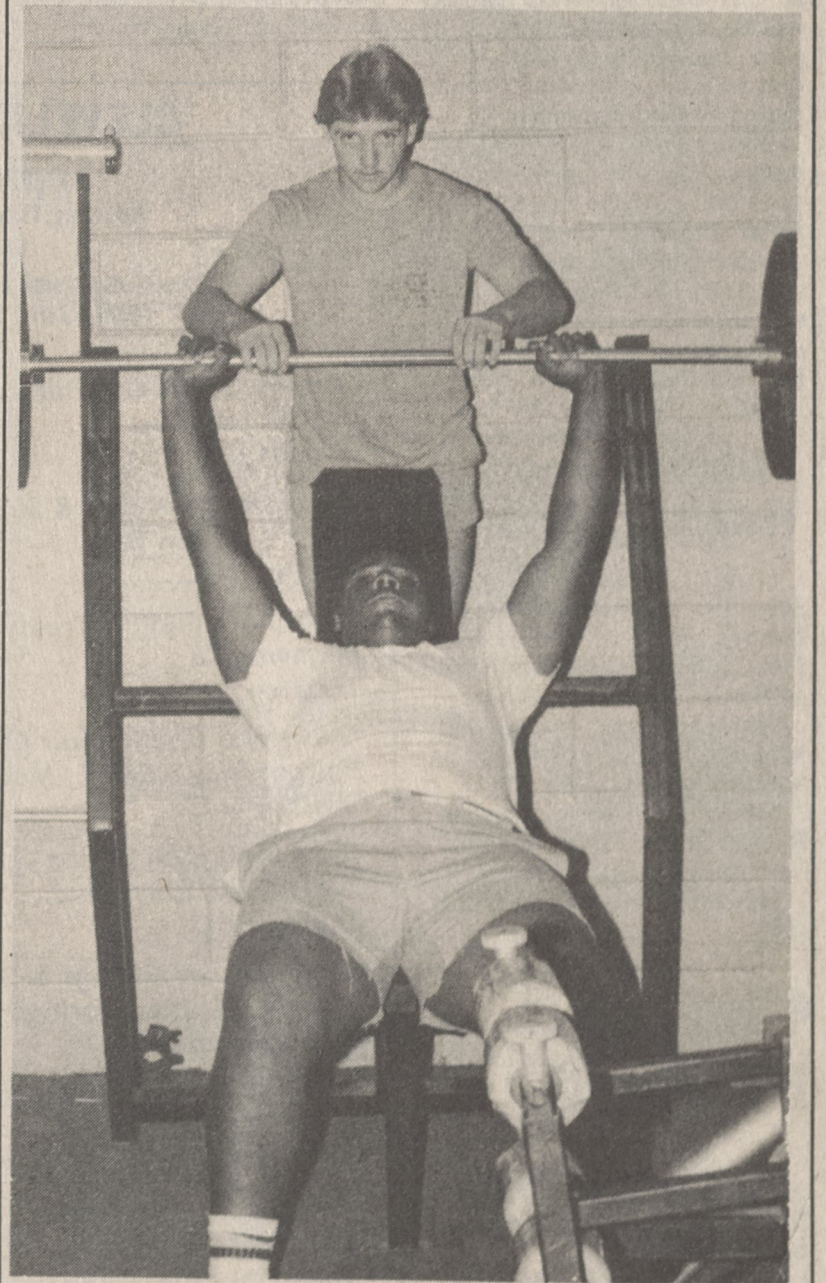
"Nobody," he said. "This is a party line."

The car knocked down the man on the country road. "Don't just stand there," shouted the driver to a gaping farmer. "Go into town and get the village doctor."

"Can't," said the farmer.

Turn To Page 3-B

THE WINNERS CORNER



Each week the Kings Mountain High coaching staff grades its players on the important factors that lead to victories.

Each week throughout the rest of the year the players who give a "winning effort" each Friday night will be pictured in this corner of the sports page. The only players who graded out to a winning percentage in Friday's loss to Ashbrook were Kale Bagwell (top) and Dale Moore, who are pictured working in the KMHS weight room. Any players who want to be pictured here next week should put forth an extra effort to win Friday's game against East Gaston.