

59 Points Tie School Record

KM Celebrates Homecoming With 59-0 Win Over Chase

Kings Mountain's Mountaineers bounced back from their only loss of the year to blank Chase 59-0 before a homecoming crowd of over 1,700 Friday at John Gamble Stadium.

The victory gives the Mountaineers a 1-1 Southwestern 3-A Conference record and 4-1 overall mark heading into a tough conference battle Friday night at Burns.

The team tied a school record for points and placekicker Rusty Bumgardner set an individual record for points scored on kicks when he accounted for 11 points on one field goal and eight extra points.

The 59-0 victory matched a 59-0 win over Bessemer City by the 1955 team which won the SWC championship. It was the fourth time a Mountaineer team has scored 50 or more points. The 1954 team defeated Mount Holly 54-18 and the 1976 team defeated Bessemer City 50-0.

"I was very pleasantly surprised," said KMHS Coach Denny Hicks after the breather. "We had a tough situation the week before when we lost a hard-fought ballgame to Shelby. Sometimes, it's hard to get up after a tough loss like that. I enjoyed watching them play. For the first time in 19 years of coaching, every phase of our game produced points."

Although a 59-0 score doesn't indicate it, the key to the Mountaineer win was again defense. After the Mounties marched 78 yards for a 7-0 lead on a 37-yard pass from Roderick Boyce to Edwin Sherer, all other touchdowns were either scored or set up by the defense. The final score would have been much higher had the Mountaineers not been

stopped three times in the shadow of the Chase goalline.

Kings Mountain rolled to a 31-0 halftime advantage. After Sherer's score, Raynard Roberts recovered a fumble by Sam Smith in the endzone for a 14-0 lead, Smith scored on a 13-yard run to make it 21-0, Bumgardner booted a 30-yard field goal to make it 24-0 and Jerry Jordan returned a pass interception 45 yards to make it 31-0.

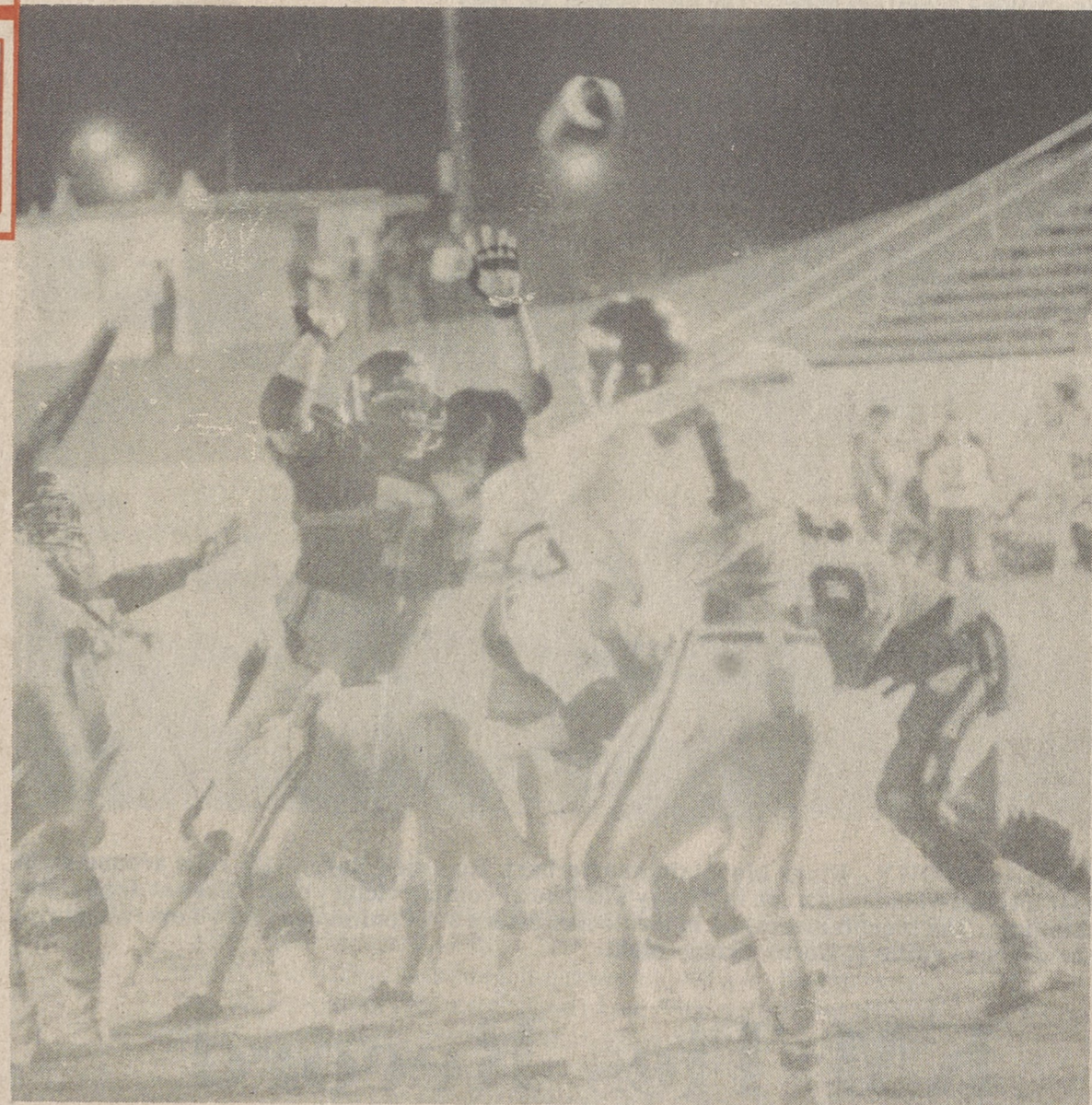
Boyce scored on a 12-yard run midway of the third period to make it 38-0 and then Coach Hicks and staff turned the game over to the reserves, who accounted for the final three touchdowns in the fourth period. Roberts scored on a five-yard run and Jordan closed out the scoring by going 48 yards on a quarterback keeper and returning a pass interception 40 yards.

Bumgardner had a near perfect night kicking. He barely missed a 25-yard field goal in the first period after Monyel McCullough recovered a fumble inside the Chase 10. He was true on all eight of his extra point attempts.

Coach Hicks gave the credit for the lopsided victory and the team's ability to bounce back after the loss to Shelby to the Mountaineer fans, players and assistant coaches.

"The fan support was tremendous," he said. "The visiting side was way down and we still had over 1,700 people. The kids felt like the fans were still behind them. The cheerleaders have done a super job creating

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GOAL LINE PRESSURE - Kings Mountain defensive tackle Wayne Brazzell (75) goes high into the air to knock down a pass by Chase quarterback Jay Davis in Friday's Southwestern Conference game at Gamble Stadium. Kings Mountain won 59-0.



Gridgraph

	CHASE	KM
First Downs	2	12
Yards Rushing	9	227
Passes	6-24	2-5
Yards Passing	28	55
Passes Int. By	0	4
Fumbles Lost	2	1
Punts	3-26	1-36
Yds. Penalized	10	45

Score by quarters:	T
C	0 0 0 0
KM	14 17 7 21
	59

Scoring:
 KM - Sherer, 37-pass from Boyce (Bumgardner kick)
 KM - Roberts, recovered fumble in endzone (Bumgardner kick)
 KM - Smith, 13-run (Bumgardner kick)
 KM - Bumgardner, 30-field goal.
 KM - Jordan, 45-pass int. return (Bumgardner kick)
 KM - Boyce, 12-run (Bumgardner kick)
 KM - Roberts, 5-run (Bumgardner kick)
 KM - Jordan, 48-run (Bumgardner kick)
 KM - Jordan, 40-int. return (Bumgardner kick)

Player	MOUNTAINEER RUSHING	
	Carries	Yards
Jordan	8	80
Smith	7	60
Roberts	16	51
Wilson	3	14
Boyce	3	18
Brooks	2	4
Total	39	227

Player	MOUNTAINEER PASSING				
	At.	Comp.	Int.	Yds.	TD
Boyce	5	2	0	55	1

Player	MOUNTAINEER RECEIVING		
	Catches	Yards	TD
Sherer	2	55	1

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Mountaineers At Burns Friday

Kings Mountain's Mountaineers hope to overcome an old stumbling block on their way to a state 3-A playoff position Friday when they travel to Burns for a key Southwestern Conference game.

Burns has been a thorn in the side of the Mountaineers for years and has been one of the big reasons the Mountaineers haven't qualified for the state playoffs since 1964.

The Bulldogs and Mountaineers, both big and physically strong ballclubs,

match 1-1 conference records. They are in a four-team logjam for third place behind unbeaten Shelby and South Point and the winner will move into a tie for second with the loser of Friday's Shelby-South Point game.

The top three teams from the SWC qualify for the state playoffs.

Burns, which was supposed to be rebuilding last year, knocked off the Mountaineers 16-6 in the opening game en route to a 5-5 season. The loss sent the Mounties stumbling

to one of their worst records in history, 1-9.

Kings Mountain has won over the Bulldogs only once in the past four years and just twice in the decade of the 1980's. In 1975, when the Mounties were 8-2 overall and in the running for a state playoff position, the Bulldogs beat them in the last game of the year to knock them out of the playoffs. In 1979, when the Mounties were again 8-2 and led by now-NFL standout Kevin Mack, Burns whipped them 16-6 in the season's opener.

"We haven't had the best of luck with Burns," says KMHS Coach Denny Hicks, whose club is 4-1 overall. "They always play well against us. Their talent is as good as it's been in years, so this is going to be a tough ballgame. They haven't given up more than 14 points against anybody."

The Bulldogs, 2-3 overall, have beaten Chase and Cherryville while losing to 4-A teams East Burke and Crest, and to East Rutherford in the SWC. They lost to East Burke, a ranked team, 14-6, Crest 6-3 and East Rutherford 8-3. They were picked by many coaches to win the SWC.

"Burns has exceptional size," says Hicks. "And to go with that size, they have ex-

ceptional speed. They list all of their speeds in the 40 in their football program, and if those figures are correct, they have several players with college speed. Their defensive front averages 6-2 and 211 pounds and they're starting seven seniors. Their slowest lineman, who is 260 pounds, runs a 5.1 40, and they have some backs running 4.3, 4.4 and 4.5."

The Bulldogs, much like the Mountaineers, have a talented offense that hasn't played up to its potential. Tailbacks Terry Bess and Derwin Briscoe are two of the fastest runners in the conference. "They alternate playing time and both are outstanding runners," Hicks said.

Quarterback Tripp Merritt does an excellent job of operating the Burns offense and is also a talented passer. Hicks says fullback Frankie Oates, a 180-pounder, "is a real good runner on dives and traps."

Defensively, the Burns front goes well over 200 pounds, led by tackle Steve Herring, a 260-pound senior, Tackle Ben Tuft weights 220, nose guard Eddie Crotts 210 and linebacker Anthony Pryor 209. Another outstan-

Stewart's Slants

By Gary Stewart



When Opportunity Came, Gabriel Took Advantage

Roman Gabriel, former N.C. State and professional football great who someday hopes to coach a professional football team in his native North Carolina, believes in making the most of every opportunity, and that philosophy paid off for him as a quarterback with the N.C. State Wolfpack, Los Angeles Rams and Philadelphia Eagles.

"I believe that when an opportunity comes, the most important thing is to do the best you possibly can. A lot of people gave me an opportunity. I was not an overnight sensation. That just doesn't happen," he said Thursday while in Kings Mountain to address the weekly meeting of the Kings Mountain Rotary Club at the Holiday Inn. He also spoke later to a group of fourth graders at West Elementary School.

Gabriel was a three-sport athlete at New Hanover High School in Wilmington, making All-State in football, baseball and basketball. He was a first team All-American at N.C. State, where he was also a first team Academic All-American, and later spent 16 seasons in the National Football League. He played 11 years with the Los Angeles Rams, twice leading them to the NFL championship game, and five seasons with the Philadelphia Eagles. He was the NFL's most valuable player in 1969.

Gabriel is now associated with George Shinn and the Rutledge Educational System in Charlotte. Shinn hopes to someday land pro basketball and football franchises for the Queen City and, if a football team is recruited for the area, Gabriel expects to be the head coach. He served several

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Photo by Gary Stewart

SIGNS AUTOGRAPH - Former Los Angeles Rams quarterback Roman Gabriel, left, signs an autograph for Kings Mountain's Carl DeVane at Thursday's meeting of the Kings Mountain Rotary Club at the Holiday Inn. Gabriel is now associated with George Shinn of Charlotte who is trying to land a pro basketball and pro football franchise for the Queen City.

Southwest Conference Standings

	Conf. W-L	All W-L
Shelby	2-0	4-1
South Point	2-0	2-3
Kings Mtn.	1-1	4-1
East Rutherford	1-1	4-1
Burns	1-1	2-3
R-S Central	1-1	2-3
Chase	0-2	0-5
North Gaston	0-2	0-5

LAST WEEK'S RESULTS
 Kings Mtn. 59, Chase 0
 Shelby 39, R-S Central 7
 East Ruth. 8, Burns 3
 South Point 26, N. Gaston 13

FRIDAY'S GAMES
 Kings Mtn. at Burns
 Shelby at South Point
 R-S Central at Chase
 East Ruth. at N. Gaston