

GOINS

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selves and not feel like they are defensive rejects, so to speak. For the most part they've come through for us."

Goins says his line gradually got better and has performed extremely well. He said he feels like the only teams that outplayed Burns up front were Kings Mountain and R-S Central.

Goins, who helped turn out a championship team at his first coaching stop at Winston-Salem Carver, works hard to get better at his trade. He has played and worked under some of the best coaches in the business.

"Charlie Burns of Kings Mountain, who coached me in Pop Warner ball, really taught me a lot about blocking," he said, "and so did my high school coach, Dan Brooks, and my line coach at Kings Mountain my senior year, Steve Foster." After getting the Burns job, Goins sought out KMHS line coach Bruce Clark, who gave him a lot of tips, as well as Northern Durham Coach Ken Browning, one of the state's top head coaches whose team is consistently in the running for the 4-A state championship.

Playing and coaching briefly in the college ranks also helped prepare him for his career.

Goins attended Western Carolina and tried out for the football team, but didn't make it until his senior year when he helped lead the Catamounts to a second place finish in the NCAA Division I AA playoffs. The Catamounts lost the national championship game to Southern Illinois. Goins wasn't big enough to play on the line in college but he did an exceptional job at safety.

"The late Bob Waters was our coach," he noted. "He was a great coach and a tremendous person."

Goins helped coach the Catamounts as a volunteer his junior year.

Goins' road to high school coaching was a long and winding one. He didn't take the necessary courses to secure a teaching certificate but while working at Eaton Corporation for 18 months and helping Dan Brooks with his summer practice at KMHS, he got hooked on coaching.

"I went to the Army for a couple of years to earn money to go back to school," he recalled. "I went back to Western and picked up a teaching certificate, which gave me a second B.S. degree in Social Science Education, and I stayed an extra year and used my Army money and picked up my masters in Social Science Education in 1989."

He coached some outstanding athletes in Forsyth County, including JoMo Leggins of Winston-Salem Reynolds, who should be a shoe-in for Shrine Bowl honors this year.

"He was a sophomore when I was there," Goins said. "But I wanted to get back home. I moved back thinking I had a job lined up in Gaston County, but it fell through, and then the job at Burns came open."

Goins is thankful Coach Green gave him the opportunity, and he feels he is working under one of the best high school coaches in Western North Carolina.

"He has put me in a position to go places and learn from other people," he said. "I've watched a lot of videos and have listened to as many people as I can to try to be a good offensive line coach. Coach Green is an excellent head coach

Basketball tourney at Community Center

The Kings Mountain Parks and Recreation Department will sponsor Fall Brawl, an open league basketball tournament, November 19-21 at the Community Center.

Trophies will be awarded to the first, second and third place teams, tournament MVP, and tournament high scorer. A dunking contest will be held at halftime of the championship game.

Entry fee is \$85.
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and person. He really gives us a lot of support."

Goins hopes his future includes a head coaching position, but for now he's content to work under Green and share in his success.

Representing the SWC in the playoffs will be exciting for Goins, who did not get that opportunity during his playing days at Kings Mountain.

If the Bulldogs get past Pisgah Friday, and if South Point defeats Enka, those two SWC powers will meet for a second time Friday, Nov. 19 at Belmont's Lineberger Stadium. Goins, Green and the Bulldogs would welcome that opportunity because they feel like they can beat the Red Raiders in a second meeting.

"We had more total yards than South Point, and four more first downs than they had in our first meeting," Goins recalled. "But with the score 13-13 we were on the 18-yard line and felt like we were going in for the winning touchdown, but on a fourth down play our quarterback scrambled and went out of bounds and the South Point defense hit him out of bounds. The high school rules say that in that case the ball turns over

and the penalty is assessed then, so South Point got the ball on the five yard line and marched 95 yards for the winning touchdown. It was a big letdown. We went from thinking that we were going in for the winning score to seeing them go all the way down the field and beating us."

Should Shelby, the SWC's number three seed, also continue to win, that would set up another meeting of two SWC teams in the third week of the playoffs.

"The pairings are not very conducive for us to send too many teams to compete for the state championship," Goins said. "It seems like they want us to knock

each other off."

Goins said the Burns staff would welcome Kings Mountain support in the playoffs. Burns' attendance zone is close to the Oak Grove area of Kings Mountain and many of its students live on a Kings Mountain rural route.

"We don't get a lot of recognition over here," he said. "This is Upper Cleveland County, and it's nice that someone wants to recognize us. I wish everybody in the area would get behind us. It would be good for our kids, who are good kids, and for Coach Green, who is really a fine coach. He's always trying to do something to better the school and community."

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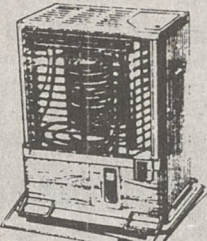
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