

SPORTS



GARY STEWART / HERALD
Kings Mountain defenders Corry Branham (30), John Gwinn (23) and Lamar Womic (52) put rush on South Point quarterback Tyler Lemons (9) in Friday's game at KMHS.

LEMONS

From 1B

McGlenn for 70 and 21 yards and staked the Red Raiders to a 14-0 lead with 9:07 left in the half.

Kings Mountain came back to drive 59 yards to cut the margin to 14-6 on a four-yard run by Sidney Goode, but South Point came right back to go 65 yards in seven plays to take a 21-6 lead on an eight-yard keeper by Lemons. The Red Raiders tacked on another touchdown when Marcus Duckworth took a short pass from Lemons and turned it into a 41-yard touchdown with just 32 seconds left in the half, giving South Point a touchdown on four consecutive possessions and a 28-6 halftime lead.

Mountaineer defensive end John Gwinn, who played another outstanding game on both sides of the ball, recovered a fumble on South Point's first possession of the second half at the KM 45. Behind the running of Goode and fullback J.J. McClain, plus a couple of 15-yard penalties against the Raiders, the Mountaineers moved to the Raider 12 but the Raiders' McGlenn intercepted a Brandon McClain pass at the goal line.

The Mountaineer defense forced a three-and-out, and the offense got back into the game momentarily by driving 50 yards in six plays to score on a one-yard run by J.J. McClain with 11:44 left. Sidney Goode circled left end for a two-point conversion to cut the score to 28-14.

But, just like in the first half, Lemons' right arm ignited the Raiders again. After an errant pitch on an option play resulted in a seven-yard loss, Lemons rolled right and found McGlenn wide open behind the KM secondary for a 72-yard scoring play that put the Raiders up by 34-14 at the 10:41 mark. Late in the game the Raiders blocked a punt deep in KM territory to set up Lemons' 10-yard keeper to close out the scoring.

The Mountaineers try to rebound this week when they play the first of three straight road games at Gastonia Forestview. After that, the Mountaineers go to Crest and Central Cabarrus before returning home on Friday, September 30 against East Gaston's Warriors. On that night, the Kings Mountain Sports Hall of Fame will dedicate the Gamble Stadium field house



GARY STEWART / HERALD
Kings Mountain linebacker Ryan Skibo (53) applies the pressure to South Point quarterback Tyler Lemons (9) in Friday's game at KM's John Gamble Stadium. The Mountaineers couldn't bottle him up all night, though, as he passed for a school record 248 yards and four touchdowns in a 41-14 Red Raider victory.

On to Forestview

Forestview Quick Facts

Head Coach - Scott Lee (29-21, fifth year).
Last year - 7-5 overall, 5-2 Big South, made it to state 3A playoffs for sixth year in a row.
This year - 1-1, defeated Anson County 33-26, lost to Clover, SC 35-13.
Offense - Shotgun, one-back.
Players to watch - Mark Barnett, 6-1, 175 Sr. QB, has rushed for 128 yards and hit 26-of-51 passes for 244 yards in two games. Rod Mack, 6-2, 195 Sr. RB, has rushed for 94 yards in two games.
Key to victory - Stop RB Sidney Goode and put pressure on QB Brandon McClain

Mountie Quick Facts

Head Coach - David Farquharson (21-36, 6th year).
Last year - 2-4 SWFH, 4-8 overall.
This year - 1-1, defeated Hunter Huss 23-21, lost to South Point 41-14.
Offense - I, shotgun.
Defense - 3-5.
Players to watch - Sidney Goode, Sr. RB, has 299 yards rushing in two games. Brandon McClain, Sr. QB, has hit 23-of-48 passes for 295 yards in two games. Nate Marable, Jr. WR, has caught 10 passes for 102 yards in two games.
Key to victory - Consistency on offense, great pass defense and stop QB Mark Barnett from scrambling.

in honor of former head director Bill Bates.
football coach and athletic

Hope coach looks for more discipline

By TODD HAGANS

After three straight losses, Hope Christian head coach Jason Thomas wants to formulate a new game plan for his Thunderbolts.

The first-year squad has this week off and Thomas hopes to use the time to revamp his coaching strategy and mold his players into a disciplined football team.

"We are going to work them," said Thomas of his plans for this week's practice. "We are going to stay on them and make some changes to how we coach a first-year program."

While picking up the private school's first ever football victory is a goal, Thomas said it is more important for his team to hit the field with a winning attitude and knowledge of how to win.

"I don't care if we go 0-13, but I do want to look like a disciplined football team," said Thomas, who coached at Bessemer City and Cherryville before taking the Hope Christian job. We are going to work on that."

The Thunderbolts return to action on September 16 at Southside Christian in Huntersville. Hickory Grove Baptist, a first-year program out of Charlotte, comes to Kings Mountain's City Stadium on September 23 and that's when Thomas is confident his team can score a win in front of the home crowd.

"They are a first-year program and we can compete with first-year programs," said Thomas. "We are going to get our first win."

HOPE

From 1B

and tossed two first-half interceptions.

"Our running game looked better," said Thomas. "We've been working hard on running the football, but we are going to have to keep working."

After both teams punted on first possessions, Richard Winn advanced into Thunderbolt territory on two Swearingin carries. Ladd then bolted for a 45-yard scoring run, but a holding call canceled the touchdown.

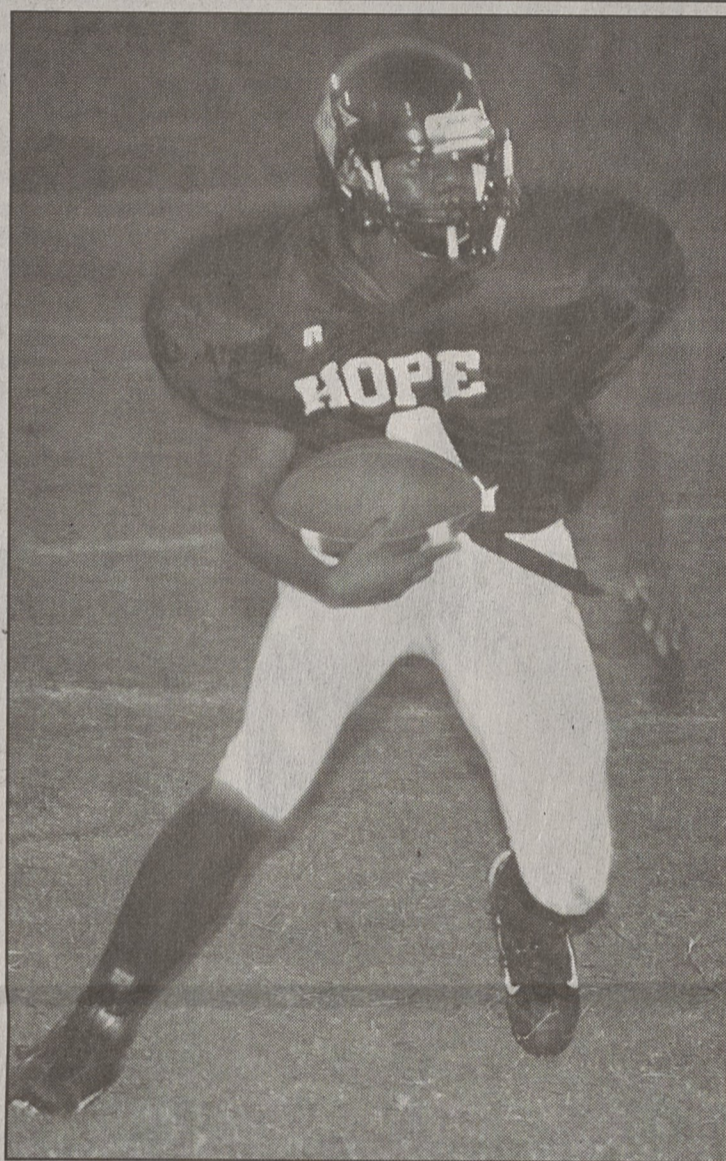
The visitors then took more than six minutes to steadily push toward the end zone, capitalizing on fourth-down hauls by Swearingin and Ladd, who capped his outstanding running effort with a seven-yard touchdown run to end the first quarter. Brandon Ward blocked the kick attempt to hold the Eagles' lead at 6-0.

Gilbert connected with Kenny Gabriel for 14 yards to open the second quarter, but delivered an interception to Martin Caulder four plays later. The Eagles marched to within scoring distance on eight plays, but Charles stopped Ladd on fourth and four at the HC 33 to force the turnover on downs.

The Thunderbolts moved to midfield on their next possession midway through the second quarter on offensive efforts by Charles and Gilbert. A pressured Gilbert relied on luck to connect with Keith Gabriel for a 12-yard gain and Charles got enough yards on fourth down to keep Hope Christian alive.

The drive stalled when Ladd pressured Gilbert, forcing the fumble and turnover at the HC 44, and Ladd broke free two plays later for a 44-yard touchdown run. D.J. Byrd stopped Swearingin on the two-point attempt and Richard Winn held a 12-0 lead with 2:45 to go before halftime. The Thunderbolts' next offensive drive failed when Caulder intercepted a Gilbert pass for Dee Bell and Richard Winn managed five plays before the break.

With the game still within reach, an early blunder set the tone for Hope Christian's second half. The Eagles gained possession of an apparent fumble on the



TODD HAGANS PHOTO
Sidney Charles carries the ball for Hope Christian in Friday's game with Richard Winn, SC at City Stadium.

kickoff and Ladd and Swearingin combined forces to score at the 10:25 mark. Joseph Talbot's kick extended the Eagle lead to 19-0.

On the next possession, another blunder - this time a fumble on a Charles run - and the loss of Caleb Kellough to a leg injury compounded Hope's problems. Kellough's injury halted the game for more than 30 minutes as paramedics tended to his injury and transported him to the hospital. Play resumed when paramedics arrived back at the stadium.

The Eagles looked to score again, marching to the HC eight-yard line on seven plays. After two incomplete passes, the Thunderbolt defense held on fourth and six when Taylor Breuer deflected a quarterback pass. Deep in their own territory, the Thunderbolts had trouble moving the ball and Richard Winn scored a safety when Ladd pressured Gilbert in the end zone, resulting in an intentional grounding call.

An illegal blocking call nullified a big touchdown

run by Ladd, but carries by Mills and Thomas Wilkes pushed Richard Winn to the HC 14. Looking to score, the Eagle drive halted when Tyler Shores managed a fumble recovery.

The Thunderbolts were able to advance from deep in their own territory this time, moving to the Eagle 18-yard line on outstanding runs by Gilbert and Charles and a Gilbert connection to Byrd. The scoring drive failed when Charles in the quarterback role threw an interception.

Richard Winn added its fourth touchdown on the next possession, moving 68 yards on 10 plays. Mills scored and Talbot's kick made the 28-0 final. Hope punted four plays later and Wilkes ran the Eagles into Thunderbolt territory before Gilbert made the stop on the game's final play.

While Gilbert and Charles powered the Thunderbolt offense, Dustin Yonkers and Jamie Singleton were stand-outs on defense along with Kellough before his injury departure in the third quarter.

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