

SPORTS



GARY STEWART / HERALD
Joe Chambers tries to find some running room against Crest defense in Thursday's JV game at Gamble Stadium.

JVs fall to Crest 27-20 in overtime

Crest came from 14 points down in the fourth quarter to defeat Kings Mountain 27-20 in overtime in JV football action Thursday night at Gamble Stadium.

It was the first loss of the season for the Mountaineers, 3-1. KM is idle this week and returns to the field next Thursday at East Gaston.

The Mountaineers were their own worst enemy last week. With what seemed to be a comfortable 20-6 lead going into the fourth quarter, the Mountaineers made some costly mistakes which led to two quick Charger touchdowns and a tie game.

Patrick Allen of the Chargers hauled in a 62-yard touchdown pass to cut the score to 20-13 with 9:50 left. Kings Mountain fumbled the ensuing kickoff, giving Crest possession at the 30 yard line. It took them just four plays to score with Lavon Brooks scoring from a yard out to tie the game.

The Chargers had a couple more opportunities before the overtime, but couldn't get in the end zone. A high snap from center which sailed over KM punter Chris Irvin's head gave the Chargers possession at the KM 29. The KM defense held,

though, and Crest had to punt.

The Chargers took possession again at their own 40 with 1:15 remaining and a long pass play gave them a first down at the KM 25. A 21-yard field goal attempt with 20 seconds left was wide right.

Crest took possession first in the 10-yard overtime session, and Brooks skirted right end on the first play for the winning touchdown. The game ended abruptly when Kings Mountain passed on its first play of overtime and Crest intercepted it in the end zone.

Kings Mountain dominated play in the first half. The Mountaineers drove the opening kickoff 65 yards in five plays to score on a 30-yard run by Jerry Lowery for a 7-0 lead.

The Chargers' offense never seriously threatened until late in the game, but the visitors did get on the scoreboard with 4:34 left in the third period when their defense blocked a KM punt and O'Brien Brooks recovered it in the end zone to cut the KM lead to 7-6.

Kings Mountain responded by scoring two touchdowns in a period of just over a minute. Quarterback Sharif Burris hooked up with Cedric Roberts on a 71-yard touchdown pass to put the Mounties up 14-6 with 4:02 left in the third quarter, and on Crest's first play following the ensuing kickoff KM defensive back CJ Belcher intercepted a pass and returned it 35 yards for a TD to make the score 20-6.

Osborne, Travis Oates, Zachary Wilson and Da'Shon Quest. The Mighty Mites host Gaston Boys and Girls Club Saturday at City Stadium.

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CREST

From 1B
"You can't turn the ball over as many times as we did against a team like Crest and expect to keep it close. But I thought we got a solid performance out of our offensive line, and I thought the line-backer play of Kendrick Hart was good. Nate Marable came up big for us at wide receiver. He made some good catches to keep some drives alive."

The Mountaineers grabbed an early 7-0 lead after Kelsey Adams recovered a fumble on the opening kickoff at the Crest 24. It took six plays to score, with fullback J.J. McClain powering through the line from two yards out with 9:53 showing on the clock.

The Chargers responded quickly, driving the ensuing kickoff 80 yards in eight plays to tie the game on a six-yard run by Tosh Toms.

Early in the second quarter, the Chargers moved 90 yards in eight plays following a KM punt to score on a 13-yard pass from Robinson to Arthie Phillips and take a 14-7 lead. Earlier, Robinson had hit Washington on a short pass in the right flat and the talented wide receiver rambled 58 yards to the KM one yard line, but penalties for a personal foul and holding set the Chargers back to the 24.

Several strange and quick plays late in the half resulted in 14 more points for the Chargers that blew the game open at halftime, 28-7.

First, Kings Mountain faked a punt on its own 32 yard line, and Crest threw Javon Potts for a six yard loss to take possession at the 25. The Chargers fumbled on first down, though, and Corey Branham's recovery got the ball back for the Mounties. Jeffery Thompson of the Chargers then intercepted a Brandon McClain pass and apparently returned it for a touchdown, but Crest was penalized for roughing the passer, giving the ball back to the Mountaineers.

The Chargers intercepted again - this time by Colleif Bradley - and he raced down the sidelines untouched for a 70-yard touchdown and a 21-7 lead.

With the half winding down, the Mountaineers lost a fumble, then stopped the Chargers on downs, and then were forced to punt with 29 seconds remaining. After an incomplete, Robinson hit Bruce Smith with a 12-yard pass for a first down at the KM 36, then connected with Smith again down the sidelines for a 36-yard touchdown with two seconds left on the clock.

The Mountaineers lost their second fumble of the night on their first possession of the second half at their own 37 yard line, and Crest quickly took advantage with a 13-yard touchdown pass to Washington. A bad snap on the extra point attempt resulted in holder Skip Allen throwing a two-point conversion pass to make the score 36-7.

KM's Potts returned the ensuing kickoff 90 yards before being chased down from behind by Brandon Carter at the one yard line. The Chargers' heralded defense lived up to its pre-season hype by holding the Mountaineers to minus five yards in four plays, giving the ball back to its offense at the six yard line.

A pass interception by KM eighth grader Mike Roberts,

Central Cabarrus Quick Facts

Head Coach - Glen Cook (3rd year)
Last Year - 2-5 ME-CA 8 4A, 2-9 overall.

This Year - 0-0 ME-CA 6 4A, 2-3 overall. Def. W. Stanley 42-20, lost to Mt. Pleasant 32-31, lost to Northwest Cabarrus 28-12, lost to Kannapolis 21-15, def. Concord 28-19.

Players to watch - Jerry Edwards, 5-10, 175 Sr. RB, scored two rushing touchdowns and one receiving and sealed the win with a pass interception in last week's game with Concord; Cody Ladutko, 6-1, 185 Sr. QB; James Smoot, 5-11, 190 Sr. RB; Brandon Murrell, 6-1, 170 Sr. WR; Bo Kinard, 5-11, 210 Jr. FB/LB.

Key to victory - Continue to improve on defense.

Mountie Quick Facts

Head Coach - David Farquharson (22-37, 6th year).

Last year - 2-4 SWFH, 4-8 overall.

This year - 2-2, def. Huss 23-21, lost to South Point 41-14, def. Forestview 44-37, lost to Crest 43-14.

Players to watch - Sidney Goode, Sr. RB, has 571 yards rushing. Brandon McClain, Sr. QB, 36-of-85 passes for 496 yards. Nate Marable, Jr. WR, 18 catches for 249 yards.
Key to victory - Must play good defense as Vikings have balanced rushing attack and good throwing QB.



GOODE

and a late hit call against the Chargers, gave KM a first and goal at the nine yard line. Sidney Goode came off the sidelines to block for Potts on a six-yard run around left end for a touchdown which made the score 36-14.

The Chargers drove the ensuing kickoff 70 yards for the final score of the night, a four-yard run by Tosh Toms.

Kings Mountain, 2-2, tries to snap back this week when it travels to Concord for a 7:30 game against Central Cabarrus. This will be the first-ever meeting between the two schools.

Both teams are similar in that they have explosive offenses but their defenses have had trouble stopping other teams. The Vikings are 2-3 overall and coming off a 28-19 victory over defending State 3A champion Concord. Their two wins match their victory total from each of the past three seasons.

"They have a good football team," says Farquharson. "They've got good size and they're coming off a big win. I think it's going to be a good test for us. They are similar to us in what they want to do offensively. They've got a good tailback and a quarterback that likes to throw the ball. It's not going to be much different from anything else we've seen."

This will be the third straight road game for the Mountaineers. They return home on Friday, Sept. 30 to face East Gaston. At halftime of that game, the Gamble Stadium field house will be dedicated in honor of former coach and athletic director Bill Bates.

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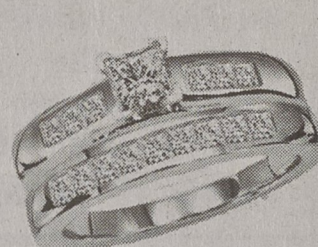
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