

MOUNTAINEERS: have a night to remember; KM running back ties school's touchdown record



GARY STEWART / HERALD
East Rutherford receiver Stamey is about to feel the pain of a hit by Kings Mountain line-backer Alex Reynolds (5) in Friday's season-opener at Gamble Stadium.



GARY STEWART / HERALD
King Mountain sophomore wide receiver Xavier Johnson (15) runs after catching pass during Friday's opening game at Gamble Stadium.

FROM Page 1B

Jeremiah Early for a 3-0 lead, and following that with touchdowns runs of 6, 40 and 8 yards by Guest for a 23-7 halftime lead. The Cavaliers were successful on just one of their four first half drives, with quarterback T.J. Watkins throwing a 13-yard tipped touchdown pass to Stamey.

Watkins got the Cavaliers back in the game briefly when he rambled 61 yards around left end on the first play from scrimmage in the third period cutting the margin to 23-13.

It stayed that way for awhile, but the Cavaliers were playing a lot of people on both offense and defense and they eventually tired. Watkins left the game midway of the third period with cramps and the Cavaliers had to punt from their own 31 yard line after Mountaineer defensive end Landon Keeter threw reserve quarterback Austin Hollifield for a five-yard loss on third down.

The Mountaineers began to blow the game open when Guest broke through a huge hole on the right side of the Mountaineer line and rambled 41 yards for his fourth TD for the night and a 29-13 lead.

East rebounded briefly after fair-catching a kickoff at the 44 yard line. Edgerton broke a 45-yard run down the sideline before being chased down by KM corner back Tico Crocker at the seven. Kalael Hopper sacked Hollifield for a five-yard loss but McIntyre broke through the line for a 12-yard TD that cut the margin to 29-19.

Kings Mountain answered with a quick touchdown sparked by a 22-yard kick return by Trevin Torres, who was tackled by the face mask and put the offense in possession at the 44. Guest rambled 19 yards on a screen pass, then tacked on another run of 11 yards around left end. On a first down gain of 10 yards from the 28, Guest was tackled out of bounds and that 9-yard half-the-distance penalty set up Guest's record-tying TD, a 9-yard burst around the left side.

"It was a real good start, as first games go," Coach Lloyd said. "It's much what we expected. We executed good on offense and the defense made a lot of stops. We just gave up some big plays."

All three East scores occurred on, or were set up by big plays, but for the game the Cavaliers had only five plays to go over 10 yards. They were thrown for losses or held to no

gain 11 times, including their first three plays of the game (a tackle for a six-yard loss by Alex Reynolds followed by tackles for no gain by DJ Moody and Reynolds).

East Rutherford felt the pain from hard hits by the likes of Reynolds, Moody, Dion Murray, Jose Sappia, Hopper, Markel Hemphill, Donterius Simmons, Landon Keeter, Cody Griffith, Curtis McNamara and

Crocker. Reynolds leveled several hard hits to East backs and a bone-jarring hit by Murray on an ER kick return could be heard all over the stadium.

"East Rutherford was about what we thought they'd be," Lloyd said. "They have good speed and decent size. They have improved from last year and their quarterback (Watkins) is extremely fast."

POSTGAME: Mountaineers vs. Cavaliers

FROM Page 1B

KM RUSHING - Guest 25-210, Jonathan Clark 5-66, Alex Reynolds 1-2, Michael Douglas 6-39.

KM PASSING - Clark 13-19-0-218.

KM RECEIVING - Xavier Johnson 4-93, Guest 4-72, Keenan Dimetros 1-1, Trevin Torres 3-31, Phillip Quinn 1-21.

NOTABLE

Dashon Guest's five touchdowns tied the school record for a single game. Kenny Bell

scored five against Burns in 1978 and Anthony Hillman scored five against three different teams in 1998.

QUOTABLE

"Dashon is a good back. He's a strong runner and protected the ball."

Greg Lloyd
KM head coach

THIS WEEK

Kings Mountain at Burns, 7:30 p.m. Friday.

FORMER: players to be honored at upcoming Mountaineer football games this 90th season

FROM Page 2B

volunteers will be admitted free, be fed and recognized before their designated game beginning at 6 p.m. in the South end zone. They will be honored by decades.

The schedule is as follows:
Sept. 7 vs. Alexander Central - Players, coaches and volunteers from 1990-99.

Sept. 14 vs. South Point - Players, coaches and volunteers from 1980-1989.

Sept. 21 vs. Shelby - Players, coaches and volunteers from 1970-79.

Oct. 19 vs. Crest - Players, coaches and volunteers from 1922-1969.

The following information needs to be taken to the main office at KMHS no later than the Monday preceding the game when you will be honored:

- Name
 - Year graduated
 - Best memory of KM football
- For more information contact athletic director Dustin Morehead at 704-476-8000 ext. 3054.



GARY STEWART / HERALD
Kings Mountain High band director Gil Doggett directs the marching band in the playing of the school's alma mater prior to the start of Friday's game with East Rutherford.

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