

Blue Devil Basks In Marked Man Role

Tommy Blakeney felt like a marked man.

And with good reason.

For every time Mooresville's 5-10, 188-pound senior footballer of an I-back touched the football, and there were plenty of those times, on Friday night's high school football season-opener here, he gathered quite a crowd of would-be Mt. Pleasant tacklers.

But that didn't stop the determined Blakeney, who was slowed by an injury as a junior after breaking the coveted 1,000-yard barrier during his sophomore season.

In fact, it played right into his stacked deck of ace-high cards.

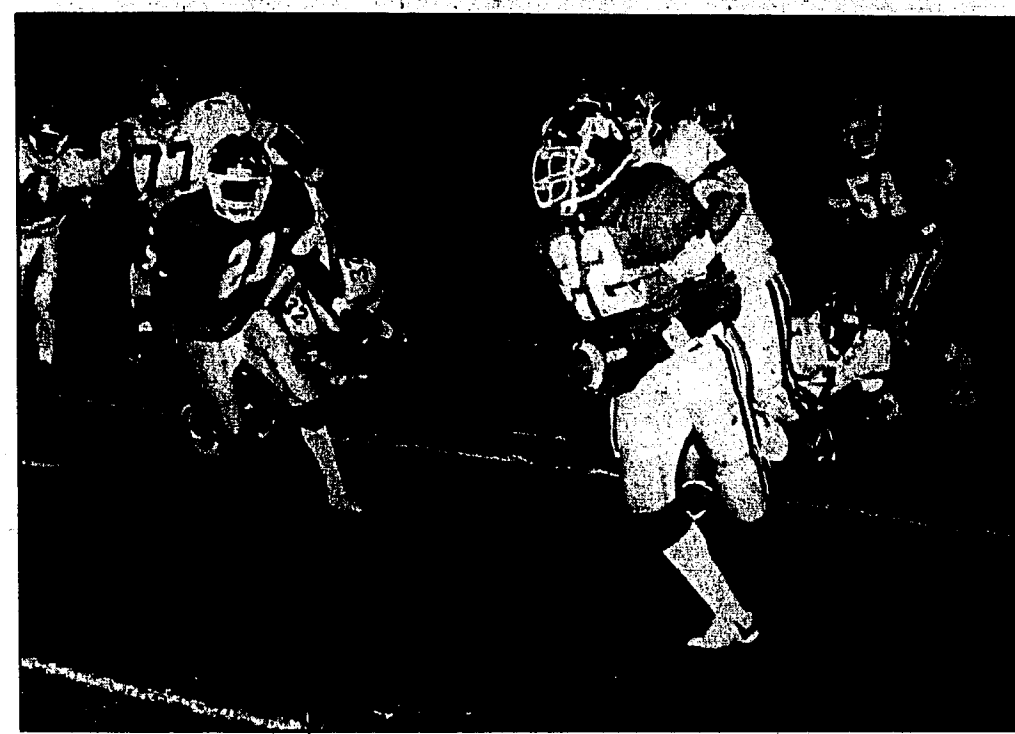
"When I go into a game and know they're keying on me," summarized Blakeney, setting the precise scenario entering his senior season and home debut, "it makes me want to run the ball even harder. It motivates me. It gets me going. That's just the way I like it."

That being the case, then, Blakeney was in gridiron heaven Friday.

Despite being programmed to, beware of Mooresville's offensive workhorse, the defending Tigers looked more like terrified domestic felines during their feeble attempts to stick a claw or two into the elusive blue-and-white clad yard chaser.

Blakeney officially finished the night with 27 carries for 172 yards, averaging just over six yards per tote. He was somewhat involved in all but 15 of the Devils' 44 offensive plays, and he single-handedly accounted for more offense than the entire Mt. Pleasant team combined.

Among those nearly 30 calls were covered distances of 49, 27, 20, 15, and 10 yards. Only three times was Blakeney, who also returns kickoffs and punts for the



Blakeney, Pursued As Always, Carefully Cradles Ball While Chewing Up Yardage

Devils, prevented from gaining at least a yard.

Not bad for a tailback whose every blessed carry was all but magnified in the eyes of the Mt. Pleasant defense.

However, not included in those official statistics is a 73-yard, fourth-quarter touchdown run on what would have been his 27th official carry. That rush, which would have put him well over the 200-yard barrier for the game, was nullified completely by a holding penalty.

Thou of proving practically unstopable on the ground, Blakeney's most damaging accomplishment in

the eyes of the guests came on the first play of a dramatic, and necessary, overtime session.

In a by-then patterned routine, Blakeney cradled the handoff from junior quarterback Chris Sherrill and appeared headed around right end. Only this time, he pulled up, reared back and tossed a 10-yard yarder, and he single-handedly carried. That rush, which would have put him well over the 200-yard barrier for the game, was nullified completely by a holding penalty.

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running game if we are to be successful this year. It seems that the more times I carry the ball, the better game I have. I told them the ball as many times as they could give it to me. I've been getting ready for this season for a long time."

And for more than just personal reasons.

Blakeney is one of a host of seniors on this year's team, all of whom are serving out their final year of eligibility as honorary team captains.

To a player, they each have sites set on accomplishing the same mission.

"As seniors," revealed Blakeney, "like a number of his classmates a three-year starter, "our goal is to have a winning season. We feel that if we play as well as we can, we can possibly reach the playoffs. We want this to be our best year."

In addition to those team goals, Blakeney has set a very special, and just as difficult, individual objective, one he feels that if he can achieve will simultaneously aid the team's primary aim.

"I would love to gain 1,500 yards this season," announced Blakeney, "using a long drive to return the figure appear reachable. "I'd be satisfied with gaining 1,000, but I want 1,500. We'd have to have a good year for me to get that many yards. You see, I don't have one without the other, so I'll take both."

For his career, which spans nearly 20 games, Blakeney has rushed for close to 1,800 yards, ranking him among the best running backs ever to wear a Mooresville Blue Devil uniform.

That fact, alone, makes him a marked man entering any game he plays.

And Tommy Blakeney wouldn't have it any other way.

"I'll take all the punishment that comes from carrying the ball 25 or 30 times a game," stressed Blakeney, "if that's what it takes to help us win. I feel like I have to have a good

Cummings, and Darin Cooke—all conference "title," announced Crowley upon entering the season.

And the Vikes appear well on track to do just that for what could be a third straight year.

South shared the league title, and won the FAC's top seed, two years ago before emerging as the sole possessor of the league title last season.

In the championship match of the Freedom Invitational staged Wednesday night against tournament host Morganston Freedom, the Vikes registered their second win over the home team in a week's time with a 6-2 conquest.

The Vikings evenly distributed their damage, scoring three goals in each half. After holding a 3-2 edge at intermission, South scored all the second half's goals to win going away.

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FALL IS FOR PLANTING
Pre-Season Planning Field Day
Saturday, September 12, 1987 (9am-2pm)

Local landscaper Paul Cunningham of Lakeshore Landscaping will be available for FREE landscape consultations & design sketch. Please bring pictures and dimensions of house. (Rain or Shine)

Crepe Myrtles (red, white) \$7.00 3 gal.	Red Tips \$1.75 1 gal. \$5.00 3 gal.	Plush Grass Seed \$2.50 1 gal.	Hardy Mums \$2.50 1 gal.
Azaleas \$1.75 1 gal. \$3.50 2 gal. \$5.25 3 gal.	Leyland Cypress Newest Border Plant \$5.00 1 gal.	Flagged Specials Quality Discounts 50% 60 day guarantee	

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Viking Booters Flashing Mid-Season Form Early

Though just midway through the pokings of what their coach calls "pre-season play," South Iredell's soccer Vikings are already flashing mid-season form.

And, as a result, the Vikes have captured a trio of victories, including a pair under tournament conditions, by a combined total of 15 goals scored to only two surrendered, and have that tournament championship title to call their own.

South Iredell, the reigning two-

time kings of the Poothills Athletic Conference, completed a stellar Labor Day Weekend match playing schedule by collecting the first-place hardware in last week's Freedom Invitational Soccer Tournament.

The two journey wins, coupled with an earlier victory pocketed prior to that event, the booters of second-season head coach Greg Crowley take an undefeated 3-0 mark into a pair of non-conference battles this week.

Crowley, employing the same strategy that last year enabled the Vikes to shroud aside a 1-4-1 showing in non-league play and reel off 11 straight wins, readily admits that player development is his primary concern during non-conference play.

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Prospect Community News Briefs

By MRS. LURIE MCNEELY

—Mr. and Mrs. Claude McDaniel of Salisbury visited Mrs. McDaniel's mother, Mrs. Ethel Brunley, over the weekend.

—Mrs. Helen Barber of Salisbury is visiting her sister, Mrs. Louise Jackson, and Mr. Hazel Jackson this week.

—Visiting in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Wilkinson were their daughter, Mrs. Luann Robinson and Tony Robinson and baby daughter Meredith of Salisbury.

—Mr. and Mrs. Harry Hart spent the weekend in Mabene visiting with Mr. and Mrs. Bob Hupman and family.

—Mrs. Frances Jackson had as her guests on Saturday Mr. and Mrs. Christopher and grandson, David Hinson, and great-grandsons, Charlie and Robert Hinson of Denton.

—Mr. Clarence Powers is doing well following outpatient surgery last week at the Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat Hospital in Charlotte.

—Mr. and Mrs. Richard Lafferty, Corral and Alleen of Richmond, Va., worshiped at Prospect Presbyterian Church on Sunday and later visited Mrs. Ethel Brunley and other friends in the community.

—Mrs. Mildred Lowrance spent last Friday and Saturday with her sister, Mrs. Una Lewis, in

Statesville.

—Mrs. Debbie Cywood and Amanda and Mrs. Neil Clarend were weekend guests of Mrs. Louise Marks in Winston-Salem.

—Mr. and Mrs. Earl Montsinger, Earl Jr. and Ray, of Harrisburg were Labor Day guests of Mrs. Montsinger's mother, Mrs. Mildred Lowrance.

—On Friday, Mr. P. Y. Lowrance of Columbia, S.C., visited with Mrs. Mildred Lowrance.

—Mr. Perry Teeter returned last Thursday from a week's business trip in Los Angeles, Calif.

—Mr. Claude Jackson had outpatient surgery on Tuesday at the Lake Norman Regional Medical Center in Mooresville.

—Attending the Doby family reunion in Denver on Sunday were Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Gregory, Mr. and Mrs. Larry Shue, Mark and Amanda of Salisbury.

—Welcome to Mr. and Mrs. Carroll Teeter and family to our community. They moved into their new home on London Road 1187 last Saturday.

—Mr. and Mrs. Walter Staton and Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Goodman and Ray Mayfield returned home today from a Labor Day weekend at their summer home at White Lake.

—Spending Labor Day weekend with Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Lipe

were Mr. and Mrs. Ron Lipe and Catherine of Charlotte and Mr. and Mrs. Dan Lipe and Emily of Kernersville.

—Mr. and Mrs. Walter Wedington were dinner guests of Dr. and Mrs. Lucius Gray in Greensboro on Saturday night.

—Woodie, Freeze of North Carolina State University in Raleigh spent the holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Freeze Jr.

—Tony Moore is a patient at the Lake Norman Regional Medical Center in Mooresville.

—Mr. Oscar Goodman was a patient a few days last week in a Winston-Salem hospital and Rowan Memorial Hospital in Salisbury.

—Bally Day is this coming Sunday at Prospect Presbyterian Church. Please make special efforts to attend this Rally Day program.

—Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Kipka and Amanda of Appalachia State University, Boone, spent several days in Louisville visiting with their daughter and sister, Miss Scarlett Kipka, a student at Louisville College.

—Mr. and Mrs. Henry Edmiston of Chapel Hill were weekend guests of Mr. and Mrs. Bob Linker and other relatives.

—Visiting with Mr. and Mrs. Ray Fries at their summer home on Lake Norman on Sunday and Monday were Mr. and Mrs. S.M. Brown of Thomasville.

—Mr. and Mrs. Perry Teeter spent Sunday with Mrs. Teeter's mother, Mrs. William Teeter of Harrisburg, helping her celebrate her birthday.

—Total for the entire county were 461 single-family and 77 multi-family residences.

—This figures out that 51 per cent of the single-family permits issued in Iredell in 1986 were for South Iredell. 100 per cent of the multi-family permits issued in Iredell County for 1986 were for South Iredell. Through June of 1987 the number of permits issued is up approximately 50 per cent.

—It's little wonder, then, that the sound of hammers, saws and drills beat a steady rhythm in our end of Iredell.

Another point of pride with your Chamber is the Business Directory that will be in all member's hands whether you or you may have received your copy already.

This directory, in addition to all the information about our business members, contains what you need to know about essential services. This will be of particular value to members to our area and those who have been here for awhile but have not yet learned where these services are located or how to call them.

For instance, newcomers may wonder how to charge their driver's license. Everything you need to know is in the directory. Another for instance, voter registration. It's all in the directory.

Beginning at 1 p.m., The Little Family of Claremont will play, sing and clog at the zoo amphitheatre. The Littles have performed for thousands of people across the state, including zoos at last year's celebration.

This year's event is being presented in cooperation with the N.C. Division of Aging. In case of rain, the concert will be postponed until Sept. 13 at 2 p.m.

The zoological park is on N.C. 158 six miles southeast of Asheville, off U.S. 220.

Calabash Valley Area Girl Scout Council held "Be A Girl Scout Day" August 28 at Signal Hill Mall. The event began the new Girl Scout year, and gave girls and adults a chance to learn more about the Girl Scout program.

Highlight of the day was a coloring contest in which girls could draw and color a picture of their choice. They would like to do a Girl Scout Grand prize winner of a one-year Girl Scout membership, a set of handbooks, and a ribbon was Melissa Layton. Other ribbons were awarded to Brandy Robinson, first; Emily Fries, second; and Marty Meadows, third.

A unique act, "Robinson's Racing Tips," will be presented free several times daily, and all guests will witness a no-holds-bar competition.

The fabulous Hollanders will provide free entertainment nightly at a unique act.

The fairgrounds will open at 6 p.m. Monday and 2 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday.

The Cabarrus County Fair in Cabarrus County is the oldest and largest agricultural fair, begins a week-long run Monday, Sept. 14.

Daguerre Attractions, the nation's foremost midway amusement operators, anchors nightly entertainment.

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MSI
Mooreville South Iredell Chamber of Commerce
664-3898
480 N. Main St.
P.O. Box 588
MOORESVILLE, N.C.
Home 6, Park

News Briefs

If you've done any cruising around Mooresville and South Iredell in recent months you know you've been impressed—maybe amazed—at the amount of construction going on. Your chamber has completed some research on building permits issued that proves the growth going on in South Iredell.

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