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HIGH SCHOOLS

PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Tommy Garner, Clinton, WR: The junior caught four passes for 136 yards, all for second-half touchdowns, in a 38-14 road upset of Brandon, then ranked No. 6 in *The Clarion-Ledger* Super 10 poll. Garner's scores came on receptions of 19, 41, 47 and 29 yards. He also had a 97-yard punt return for a touchdown erased on a penalty.

COACH OF THE WEEK

Mike Justice, Madison Central: He led the unranked Jaguars to a 24-14 upset of Pearl, then ranked No. 5 in *The Clarion-Ledger* Super 10 poll. Madison Central, competing in Class 4A, is 3-0. It was formed this year with the consolidation of East Flora and Madison-Ridgeland. At Louisville, Justice won consecutive 4A state championships in 1985 and 1986.

NOTES

Touchdown Club honors McIntyre: Clinton fullback Leo McIntyre is the Jackson Touchdown Club Player of the Week. McIntyre, a 5-foot-9, 235-pound senior, rushed for 249 yards on 36 carries and scored two touchdowns in a 38-14 victory over Brandon.

End zone antics: Pine Hills Academy quarterback **J.J. Stockton** accounted for 410 total yards and three touchdowns in a 57-20 loss to Prentiss Christian Academy. Stockton rushed for 150 yards on 24 carries and two touchdowns and completed 30 of 53 passes for 260 yards and a touchdown. . . . **Sidney Jones** of Scott Central scored five touchdowns in four different ways in a 67-0 victory over Mississippi School for the Deaf. Jones scored on an 88-yard kickoff return, a 38-yard pass, a 20-yard pass interception return and runs of 8 and 60 yards. . . . **Dwayne Chandler** of Aberdeen rushed for 177 yards on 32 carries and a touchdown in a 20-3 victory over Amory. . . . **Dexter McCleon** of Meridian accounted for 223 total yards and three touchdowns in a 37-14 victory over Neshoba Central. . . . **Zoe Freeman** of Tupelo rushed for 115 yards on 25 carries and two touchdowns in a 31-6 victory over Memphis Westwood. . . . **Alfred Daniel** of Vicksburg rushed for 175 yards on 23 carries and two touchdowns in a 14-3 victory over Forest Hill. . . . **Kendrick Morris** of South Panola scored five touchdowns in a 60-20 victory over Alcorn Central. . . . **Patrick Wilson** of Hinds AHS accounted for four touchdowns in a 36-19 victory over Lake. . . . **Antonio Luckett** of Carthage rushed for 142 yards on 16 carries and a touchdown in a 34-28 victory over Forest. The Tigers produced 444 total yards. . . . **Brandon Barlow** of Mendenhall passed for 267 yards and accounted for two touchdowns in a 48-7 victory over Northeast Lauderdale. . . . **Dane Taylor** of Madison-Ridgeland Academy rushed for 173 yards on 30 carries and a touchdown in a 20-15 victory over Jackson Academy. . . . **Marcus Gray** of Sturgis scored on an 80-yard pass interception return and a 70-yard punt return in a 35-0 victory over Alexander. . . . **Nakia Greer** of Hernando scored four touchdowns in a 55-6 victory over Memphis South Side. . . . **Grant Gardner** of Baldwyn completed 14 of 21 passes for 173 yards and three touchdowns in a 19-18 victory over Itawamba AHS.

— **Bill Spencer**

LEADERS

SCORING LEADERS

ACADEMY NORTH AAA

Player, Team	TD	PAT	FG	TP
Townsend, Lee	7	2	0	44
Jennings, Indianola	7	0	0	42
Olivi, Pillow	5	0	0	30
Hughes, Washington	4	0	0	24
Evans, Pillow	4	0	0	24
Taylor, S. Baptist	4	0	0	24
Agner, S. Baptist	3	4	0	22
Alpe, Washington	3	2	0	20
Riden, S. Baptist	3	0	0	18
Skelton, Washington	3	0	0	18
McCaskill, Indianola	2	6	0	18
Thompson, Pillow	3	0	0	18
Peeples, Washington	0	12	1	15
Jordan, Pillow	2	2	0	14

ACADEMY SOUTH AAA

Player, Team	TD	PAT	FG	TP
Hindman, J. Prep	6	0	0	36
Cogan, Parklane	6	2	0	38
Madden, JacksonAca.	5	2	0	32
Bartling, J. Prep	2	12	1	27
Jones, JacksonAca.	4	0	0	24
McKinney, Parklane	4	0	0	24
Taylor, M-R Academy	3	2	0	20
Burnham, J. Prep	3	0	0	18
Dallas, M-R Academy	3	0	0	18
Richardson, M-R Aca.	3	0	0	18
Davis, Parklane	0	10	2	16
Savorgnan, Parklane	2	2	0	14
Polk, M-R Academy	0	8	2	14

ACADEMY SOUTH CENTRAL AA

Player, Team	TD	PAT	FG	TP
Tullos, Humphreys	7	2	0	44
Johnson, Wood Hills	5	10	1	43
Mitchell, Humphreys	5	2	0	32
Douglass, Brookhaven	5	0	0	30
Knight, Copiah	4	0	0	24
Johnson, Copiah	4	0	0	24
Smith, Canton	3	2	0	20
Foster, Canton	3	0	0	18
Crawford, Manchester	2	2	0	14

ACADEMY W. CENTRAL A

Player, Team	TD	PAT	FG	TP
Thrash, E. Rankin	6	2	0	38
Doby, Benton	5	0	0	30
Banes, E. Rankin	4	2	0	26
Walsh, C. Hinds	3	6	0	24
Woodruff, Sharkey-I	3	2	0	20
Wright, C. Hinds	3	0	0	18
Blossom, E. Rankin	3	0	0	18
Hayes, Sharkey-Issa.	3	0	0	18
Wallace, Tri-County	2	2	0	14
Wren, C. Hinds	2	2	0	14
Meacham, Tri-County	2	1	0	13

DIVISION 4-5A

Player, Team	TD	PAT	FG	TP
Thomas, Murrah	5	0	0	30
Adams, Callaway	4	0	0	24
Lewis, Murrah	4	0	0	24
Evans, Callaway	3	0	0	18

DIVISION 5-5A

Player, Team	TD	PAT	FG	TP
McCleon, Meridian	4	2	0	26
Reeves, Brandon	3	0	0	18
Lofton, Wayne Co.	3	0	0	18
Tigrett, Brandon	3	0	0	18
Sanford, Meridian	3	0	0	18
Slaughter, Meridian	0	10	2	16
Laird, Brandon	0	12	1	15
Smith, Hattiesburg	0	3	4	15

DIVISION 6-5A

Player, Team	TD	PAT	FG	TP
Garner, Clinton	5	0	0	30
McIntyre, Clinton	4	0	0	24
Dixon, Brookhaven	3	2	0	20
Culver, Brookhaven	3	0	0	18

DIVISION 4-4A

Player, Team	TD	PAT	FG	TP
Horne, NW Rankin	6	0	0	36
Jones, Madison	4	0	0	24
Nash, Neshoba	3	0	0	18
James, Canton	3	0	0	18
Jones, Wingfield	3	0	0	18
Gunalda, Madison	0	4	4	15
Houston, NW Rankin	0	10	1	13

DIVISION 6-3A

Player, Team	TD	PAT	FG	TP
Bennett, Bailey	4	0	0	24
Collins, Forest	4	0	0	24
Stephenson, Forest	4	0	0	24
Foster, Morton	4	0	0	24
Ashley, Richland	3	2	0	20
Luckett, Carthage	3	0	0	18
Hollis, Morton	3	0	0	18
Higgins, Raymond	3	0	0	18
Burtnett, Richland	3	0	0	18
Phillips, Carthage	2	4	0	16

DIVISION 6-2A

Player, Team	TD	PAT	FG	TP
L.Ragsdale, P'hatchie	6	0	0	36
R.Ragsdale, P'hatchie	5	0	0	30
Smith, Wesson	3	6	0	24
Wilson, Hinds AHS	3	0	0	18
Stapleton, Wesson	3	0	0	18
Lloyd, Loyd Star	2	2	0	14

DIVISION 6-1A

Player, Team	TD	PAT	FG	TP
Hollins, Anguilla	6	9	0	45
Williams, Utica	3	2	0	20
Williams, Anguilla	3	1	0	19
Cooper, Anguilla	3	0	0	18
Currie, Utica	2	4	0	16

OTHER LOCAL SCHOOLS

Player, Team	TD	PAT	FG	TP
Maxwell, MSD	4	2	0	26
Shaw, Magee	4	0	0	24
Cooper, St. Joseph	3	2	0	20
Dampeer, Magee	3	0	0	18
Hicks, McLaurin	3	0	0	18
Dampeer, Mendenhall	3	0	0	18
Ward, Pisgah	3	0	0	18
McLin, McLaurin	2	2	0	14
Barlow, Mendenhall	1	8	0	14
Wallace, MSD	2	2	0	14

STATEWIDE CLASS 5A

Player, Team	TD	PAT	FG	TP
Freeman, Tupelo	6	0	0	36
Morris, S. Panola	6	0	0	36
Daniel, Vicksburg	5	0	0	30
Moulds, George Co.	5	0	0	30
Thomas, Harrison	5	0	0	30
Thomas, Murrah	5	0	0	30
Garner, Clinton	5	0	0	30
McCleon, Meridian	4	2	0	26
Williams, Clarksdale	4	2	0	26
Smith, Gulfport	4	0	0	24
Austin, Tupelo	4	0	0	24
Thompson, Warren C.	4	0	0	24
Elliott, West Point	4	0	0	24
Adams, Callaway	4	0	0	24
Lewis, Murrah	4	0	0	24
McIntyre, Clinton	4	0	0	24
G. Johnson, Greenwood	3	4	0	22
Simon, Biloxi	3	2	0	20
Seymour, Ocean Spgs.	3	2	0	20
Dixon, Brookhaven	3	2	0	20
Culver, Brookhaven	3	0	0	18
Tidwell, Grenada	3	0	0	18
Hawkins, Moss Point	3	0	0	18
Cathey, Southaven	3	0	0	18
Miller, Starkville	0	12	3	15
Jordan, Starkville	3	0	0	18
Calmes, Starkville	3	0	0	18
R. Johnson, Greenwood	3	0	0	18
Evans, Callaway	3	0	0	18
Reeves, Brandon	3	0	0	18
Lofton, Wayne Co.	3	0	0	18
Tigrett, Brandon	3	0	0	18
Sanford, Meridian	3	0	0	18
Patterson, Tupelo	0	8	3	17
Slaughter, Meridian	0	10	2	16
Laird, Brandon	0	12	1	15
Smith, Hattiesburg	0	3	4	15
James, Gulfport	2	2	0	14

TOUCHDOWN PASS LEADERS

ACADEMY NORTH AAA — Stewart Partridge, Pillow, 4; Jeremy Riden, Southern Baptist, 3; Matthew Duff, Lee Academy, 2.

ACADEMY SOUTH AAA — Chris Mathiston, Jackson Academy, 3; Alvin Stokes, Jackson Prep, 3; Clay Johnston, Parklane, 2.

ACADEMY SOUTH CENTRAL AA — Chad Biggs, Copiah, 5; Taft Webb, Humphreys Academy, 3; Shelby Johnson, Woodland Hills, 2.

ACADEMY WEST CENTRAL A — Tom Wren, Central Hinds, 4; Benjie Blossom, East Rankin, 4; Justin Martin, University Christian, 2.

DIVISION 4-5A — John Lewis, Murrah, 3.

DIVISION 5-5A — Dexter McCleon, Meridian, 6; Richard Lucas, Hattiesburg, 3; Andy Reeves, Brandon, 2.

DIVISION 6-5A — Chris Kelly, Clinton, 5.

DIVISION 4-4A — Emanuel Dabney, Lanier, 3; Bernard Euell, Hill, 2; Russell Evans, Canton, 2.

DIVISION 6-3A — Andre Butler, Carthage, 5; Leonard Sanders, Morton, 3; Vince Granberry, Raymond, 3; Josh Lee, Florence, 2.

DIVISION 6-1A — Kenneth Frazier, Utica, 3.

OTHER LOCAL SCHOOLS — John Thomas, St. Andrew's, 3; Kris Coiniac, St. Joseph, 3; Brandon Barlow, Mendenhall, 3.

STATEWIDE CLASS 5A — Eric Holt, Greenwood, 6; Dexter McCleon, Meridian, 6; Chris Kelly, Clinton, 5; Kirk Presley, Tupelo, 5; Marty Howell, George County, 5; Edward Freeman, South Panola, 4; Billy Bernard, Horn Lake, 4; David Tidwell, Grenada, 3; John Lewis, Murrah, 3; Richard Lucas, Hattiesburg, 3; Andy Reeves, Brandon, 2; Steve Moore, Harrison Central, 2; Joe Macon, Starkville, 2.

The Clarion-Ledger POLLS

Super 10

1 Meridian 3-0
Dexter McCleon, Wildcats face Brandon in division game

2 Starkville 3-0
Demarcus Calmes' 2 TDs lead way against Warren Central

3 Tupelo 3-0
Zoe Freeman, Derrick Austin win against Memphis Westwood

4 Vicksburg 3-0
Alfred Daniel scores twice against Forest Hill

5 George County 3-0
Eric Moulds rescues Rebels in OT against Pascagoula

6 Hattiesburg 3-0
Tigers outlast Moss Point, entertain Murrah next

7 Clarksdale 3-0
Wildcats knock off Greenville, prepare for Greenwood

8 Magee 3-0
Trojans roll over Quitman, get ready for Laurel

9 Callaway 2-1
Chargers rip Wingfield, hit road for Clinton

10 Clinton 2-1
Tommy Garner, Leo McIntyre help Arrows shock Brandon

The Clarion-Ledger File Photo
Callaway coach Ray Self has the Chargers, 2-1, in the Super 10 for the first time this season.

Class 5A
1 Meridian 3-0
2 Starkville 3-0
3 Tupelo 3-0
4 Vicksburg 3-0
5 George County 3-0

Class 4A
1 Magee 3-0
2 St. Stanislaus 3-0
3 Mendenhall 3-0
4 New Hope 3-0
5 Cleveland 3-0

Class 3A
1 Ripley 3-0
2 Kosciusko 3-0
3 Pontotoc 2-1
4 Leland 2-1
5 Nettleton 3-0

Class 2A
1 Philadelphia 3-0
2 Bassfield 3-0
3 Baldwyn 3-0
4 Wesson 3-0
5 Taylorsville 3-0

Class 1A
1 Scott Central 3-0
2 Sturgis 3-0
3 Mount Olive 2-1
4 Stringer 2-1
5 Smithville 3-0

Academies
1 Jackson Prep 4-0
2 Parklane 3-1
3 Clarksdale Lee 4-0
4 MRA 4-0
5 Pillow 4-0

By George, Rebels climb to No. 5

■ George County's overtime win over Pascagoula makes the Rebels 3-0.

By Bill Spencer
Clarion-Ledger Staff Writer

With 955 students, George County is the smallest Class 5A school in the state. In addition, the Rebels have only 40 football players.

Relatively speaking, George County coach Hal Holmes has to do more with less. Three weeks into the season, he's doing a splendid job.

The Rebels are 3-0, including a 20-17 overtime victory at Pascagoula, and have climbed to the No. 5 ranking in *The Clarion-Ledger* Super 10 poll.

Meridian, 3-0, remained No. 1 following a 37-14 victory over Neshoba Central. The defending 5A state champion Wildcats, ranked 18th nationally by *USA Today*, have a 13-game winning streak.

George County won its Division 7-5A opener against Pascagoula in dramatic fashion. Trailing 17-14 and down to its last play, fourth-and-goal from the 25, George County flanker Eric Moulds threw a touchdown pass to wide receiver Jarman Cochran.

A play earlier, Moulds' 10-yard touchdown reception from quarterback Marty Howell was nullified because of offensive pass interference.

"We pulled a little flea-flicker type play," Holmes said. "We were real fortunate to pull it out. We're not a big, physical team like Pascagoula and Meridian. We've got to execute and go back to business as usual every week."

It certainly helps to have an athlete like Moulds. The 6-foot-2, 185-pound senior also caught touchdown passes of 69 and 15 yards from Howell against Pascagoula, giving him five touchdowns for the season.

This is just Moulds' second year of high school football. As a junior, he scored eight touchdowns — four on kick returns — and averaged 20 yards per catch. Last season in basketball, he averaged more than 20 points per game at forward.

"Eric has a lot of God-given ability," Holmes said. "He runs a 4.4 40 and he's 6-2, 185. We get the ball to him in a variety of ways. We use him at flanker so he can be in motion."

Although the Pascagoula victory enhanced George County's playoff chances, Holmes knows one win does not a season make. The Rebels' remaining division games are Oct. 18 at Moss Point and Nov. 1 at home against Ocean Springs.

"We lost 20 seniors from last year, but this bunch of kids has worked hard," Holmes said. "We're happy to be where we are, but we've got to take them one at a time."

Madison Central: Force to be reckoned with

■ Mike Justice's first-year Jaguars, 3-0, have taken the express lane to credibility.

By Todd Kelly
Special to The Clarion-Ledger

Like Mike Justice says, he didn't fall off the turnip truck yesterday.

After a 3-0 start, it's apparent neither did his Madison Central football team.

The Jaguars took one giant step toward statewide respect with last Friday's 24-14 win over Pearl, then No. 5 in *The Clarion-Ledger* Super 10 poll.

So what about that turnip truck?

"I've been in what you call big league football for eight years," Justice said. "I've been in those battles. We've got some assistant coaches and some players who have been in big games. That added up to a good situation.

"We had been trying to tell people for 7-8 weeks we were going to be good."

After winning two state titles at Louisville, Justice left before last season to take the job at Madison-Ridgeland, which was scheduled to consolidate with East Flora this fall. He saw potential to build a powerhouse at Madison Central, an $8 million school located in the state's fastest-growing and most affluent area.

Nobody was sure how many years it would take for the Jaguars to build a competitive program at the Class 4A, and eventually 5A, level. Justice said he had a five-year plan but hoped it wouldn't take that long.

Now it looks like it won't after the watershed victory over Pearl. The game drew an overflow crowd to Madison-Ridgeland's old stadium. Justice said such interest shows the need for a new 7,500-seat stadium he hopes will be built in time for next season. The stadium's status is unclear at this time.

"A win like this gives your football team and your football program credibility. You show people out there, 'This is what we're going to do.' "

Pearl coach Bruce Merchant was already among the believers before last Friday, even if his team wasn't.

He saw the Jaguars knock off highly touted Brandon in a preseason scrimmage, and a sleeper was born.

"I saw them then and I saw how tough they were. All the talk had been about Brandon," Merchant said.

"They have a lot of good athletes. They may have known what they had, but a lot of other people didn't know. We had a problem with the kids knowing what M-R was like. For years we never had any problem with them. It was hard for the kids to feel it would be different."

Madison Central has another test this week. The Jaguars play at Neshoba Central on Friday night in their second Division 4-4A game.

If the Rockets aren't the best 0-3 team in the state, they're close. Neshoba, No. 2 in the Class 4A poll, has lost to No. 1 Meridian, No. 2 Starkville, and 2A top dog Philadelphia.

"Coach Barnes at Meridian told me they're an extremely good football team," Justice said. "We just went right out today and had a three-hour practice, because there's no other way to have a program in the big leagues."

Merchant likes Madison Central's chances the rest of the season.

"If they play like they did Friday night in the crucial games, they'll whip a lot of people. At that caliber, they are a good 4A ballclub," Merchant said.

Tribes battle in foothills of Smokies

■ When Choctaws and Cherokees met last Friday night, Native American pride shone in full glory.

By Todd Kelly
Special to The Clarion-Ledger

They billed it as "The Battle of the Nations." There were T-shirts selling for $12 that said so.

Last Friday in the foothills of the Great Smoky Mountains, Choctaw Central and host Cherokee (N.C.) played each other in football for the first time. The game brought together the only two Indian high schools east of the Mississippi River.

Cherokee prevailed 33-18 before a crowd estimated at more than 4,000, or a few thousand more than for one of Choctaw Central's Class 2A games.

The team, which arrived first on Thursday night, and band, which came later, chartered several buses. In addition, the tribe rented 18 vans for the 11-hour trip.

The media attention was a little greater than usual, too. The local newspapers and television stations all showed up.

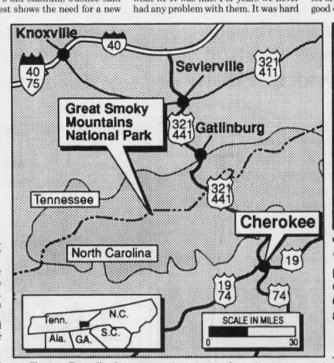
For Choctaw Central coach Walter Wilson, it wasn't the biggest game in his 19 years at the school, although it was the most unique because the game's significance went beyond the final score.

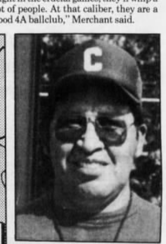
"I think it reinforced Indian pride. Just being around each other helps. It's a different culture to learn about," Wilson said.

"I think you would have to be Indian to really understand it," Wilson explained. "It had a lot of tribal pride involved."

Senior center N.D. Samuel agreed.

"Two Indian teams were playing to show which was the best. It was just like a regular game, but I think we played a little bit harder," Samuel said.





"I think it reinforced Indian pride. Just being around each other helps. It's a different culture to learn about."
— Walter Wilson, Choctaw Central coach

Choctaw Central's players spent time visiting the sites in the tourist-oriented town of 7,000. They also took a trip up the mountains.

The game came about last spring when both teams had an open date on for Sept. 20. Willis Tullos, coach at Cherokee and a former assistant at Choctaw Central, called Wilson about playing. The schools had played in basketball in the mid-1970's.

The Cherokee community rallied behind the game. Motel owners donated rooms, and the Choctaw players ate at the Cherokee cafeteria.

"They threw out the red carpet. Their hospitality was great," Wilson said.

"We just took it as another ballgame even though it was 478 miles away. We were ready to play ball, but we've got a young club and I think they got excited. Effort-wise it was good, but we had 15 penalties and seven turnovers.

"Everything would have worked out fine if we just had won the game," Wilson said with a laugh.

The loss dropped the Warriors to 0-3, while the Braves improved to 3-1.

Next fall, Choctaw Central gets a chance to avenge the defeat when Cherokee comes to Neshoba County for the rematch. It could develop into a yearly series.

"I'd like to see it become an annual thing. The only drawback is the distance. I know they're ready to come down here, and we're ready to go back there in two years," Wilson said.

"There was definitely a sense of excitement, but I would rather have a playoff game."

The Choctaws and Cherokees will compete again in sports before next year's football game. The Native American Youth Association has a basketball tournament each spring that several tribes take turn hosting.

For Choctaw Central, it's back to the world of 2A football this week. The Warriors take the half-hour trip to Sebastopol.

"I don't think the kids will have a big letdown, but we really won't know until after Friday night," Wilson said.

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