

# "Amazing Grace" at ECSU

By MAYO CALDWELL

Although naturally talented, few athletes-male or female-have greatness thrust upon them. The exciting and exceptional skills that basketball fans enjoy during the games are really the result of long hours of hard work, sacrifice, and perseverance.

Born under the sign of Sagittarius, Grace Bell, a sophomore-guard from Washington, D.C., is dedicated to helping the ECSU Girls' Basketball team win the conference championship.

On the yard, at ECSU, you probably wouldn't know her from any of the other fine

coeds that reside in Hugh Cale Dormitory. Her personality wouldn't give you a clue either, because she possesses a friendly, easy-going personality.

That coupled with her dark eyes, smooth brown skin, and effervescent smile which highlights her facial features, remind you of your babysister instead of a basketball player.

On the basketball court, however, Grace sheds her sisterly-image and changes into an aggressive, playmaking guard.

Like most basketball players, Grace's roundball roots were planted on the playground. "I started out

playing basketball with my five brothers, but I didn't take the game seriously until I reached the seventh grade," she said warmly, her eyes scanning the room.

"I started practicing everyday when my oldest brother told me that he thought I had a future in basketball if I worked hard at it," she continued.

Grace's basketball ability is well known throughout the Washington, D.C. area. While playing for Eastern High School, she was selected to the All-InterHigh Team in 1976-77-78 and the All-American Team in 1977-78. In high school, she also earned varsity letters in volleyball and softball.

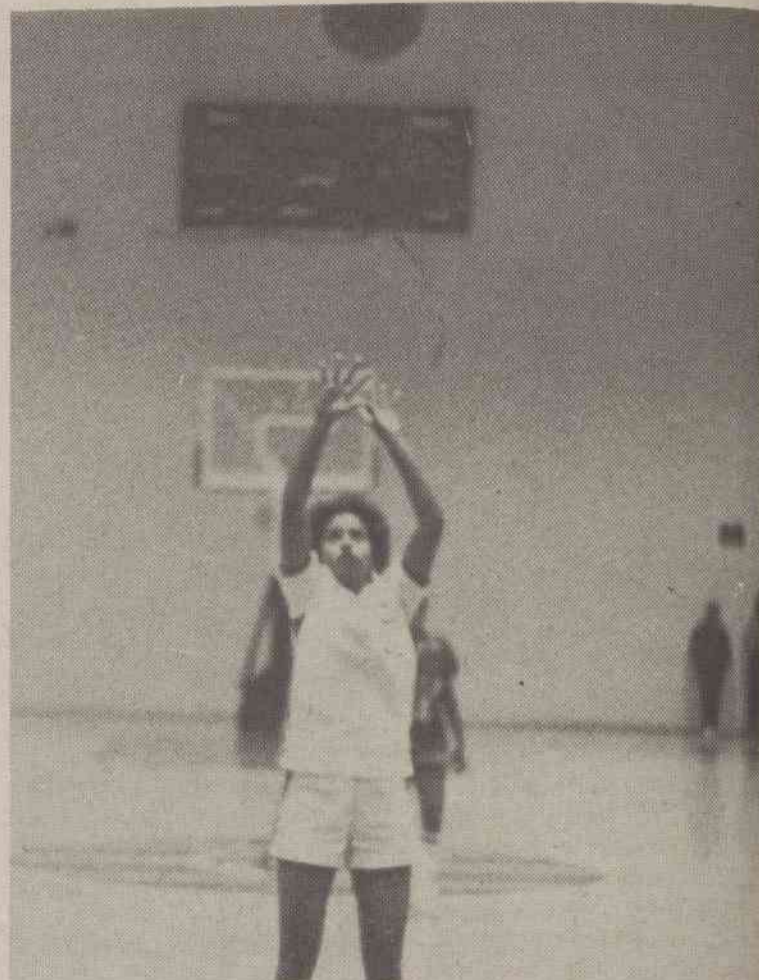
Similar to her idols, Walt Frazier and Earl Monroe, perhaps Grace's greatest talent is versatility.

Last season, she was primarily a shooting guard. This year, however, the shifty ballhandler's duties consist of quarterbacking the team, handling the ball, hitting the open man, and setting up plays.

Flashing a warm cherubic smile, she said, "I get just as much of a thrill from making a good assist as I do from hitting a jump shot," she noted.

Last year the team had a mediocre season, but according to Grace, the "Lady Vikings" are going championship hunting this year.

"If we can play like we are capable of doing, if we can get good rebounding and scoring from our bigmen, I believe that we will be in the running for the championship," she explained.



Grace attempts a free throw.



Grace brings the ball down the court.

## ELIZABETH CITY STATE LADY VIKING'S 1979/1980 BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

Date	Opponent
Nov. 16	Fayetteville State
Nov. 18	Norfolk State
Nov. 26	Campbell College
Nov. 28	N.C. Central
Dec. 3	Atlantic Christian
Dec. 8	Va. Union
Jan. 7	Va. State
Jan. 8	Va. Union
Jan. 10	Campbell College
Jan. 13	Fayetteville State
Jan. 14	Shaw University
Jan. 16	N.C. Central
Jan. 17	St. Augustine's
Jan. 20	St. Paul's
Jan. 22	A & T State
Jan. 24	Hampton
Jan. 26	UNC-Wilmington
Jan. 29	St. Augustine's
Jan. 31	Norfolk State
Feb. 1	Atlantic Christian
Feb. 4	Hampton
Feb. 6	St. Paul's
Feb. 10	Va. State
Feb. 11	UNC-Wilmington
Feb. 14-16	CIAA TOURNEY
Feb. 21-23	NCAIAW

# Local business supports athletics

Through a co-operative effort between McDonalds and the ECSU Athletic Department, all Viking homegame tickets are supplied by McDonalds.

Bill Taylor, owner and Mrs. Mary Morris, program specialist have arranged with Coach Bobby Vaughan, ECSU athletic director to provide free drawings at half-time for "Free Big Macs," and Big Mac "T" shirts.

In addition, any home game where the Vikings win and hold the opposition to a score

under 60 points a free Big Mac will be given to each ticket holder of that game.

With regard to the "Free Big Mac" give-away for under 60 points, several stipulations have been made since the Dec. 6 contest, to provide a smooth operation and good public relations features for McDonalds and the University.

The new procedures are as follows: (1) Complimentary drawing tickets will be issued at the door only to students with valid I.D. cards who

entered by game time (8:00 P.M. weekends and 7:30 Saturdays.) (2) In the event that the Vikings win the game and hold the opponents under 60 points, all tickets holders must have their tickets validated by stamp, in the arena the night of the game. Yellow tickets holders will be issued a "be our quest big mac coupon" on the spot.

Pink (student) ticket holders must bring their validated tickets back to the athletic office during the

following week between 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

To exchange their ticket for a free big mac coupon, no free big mac tickets will be issued to students the night of the game in question. McDonalds will no longer honor ticket stubs for the free big mac.

It is hoped that all students will cooperate. McDonalds wishes to sponsor the Vikings, but it is impossible to supply enough big Mac's the

night of the game to so many students on short notice. However, the reduced price coupon supplied by McDonalds is good anytime until March 31, 1980.

## Have a Mac Attack

The Viking "Mac Attack" defense was introduced by assistant coach Claudie Mackey. Remember, the Vikings need student support to win and especially to win and hold our opponents to 60 points or less.