



Holmes, Bryant Chosen NJCAA All-Americans

By PHIL ROYCE

Defensive back Jerry Holmes and tight end Bruce Bryant of the Chowan College football team have been honored in recent All-America selections by the National Junior College Athletic Association.

Holmes, a 6-4, 170 pound free safety from Hampton Va., was named to the first team All-America, while Bryant, a 6-4, 215-pounder from Beltsville, Md., made the second team.

Holmes was also named to the J. C. Grid-Wire All-American second team, while Bryant received honorable mention.

Jim Garrison, the Braves' head coach, called Holmes "the finest at his position including senior colleges in the state of North Carolina." Garrison added, "I think Jerry could play for any college in the state. He's a super athlete."

Garrison said the two-year starter "is a true All-American if I've ever seen one. He has great speed, good size, is a vacious tackler and shines at pass coverage."

Garrison said Holmes is also an offensive threat. He scored on punt returns of 35 yards against Baltimore and 70 yards against Baltimore and 70 yards against

Nassau. Three other long touchdown returns were nullified by penalties.

Holmes led Chowan's defensive backs in an overall team contribution with 44 tackles, 16 assists, eight broken passes, two recovered fumbles and five interceptions. Garrison noted Holmes made a number of saving tackles in the open field to prevent touchdowns.

Garrison lauded Holmes as a "fine student with an outstanding academic record. He's the kind of person we're proud to have at Chowan. Jerry's leadership abilities are a plus to the team and school."

Garrison predicts Holmes, who is being courted by a number of senior colleges, will continue his outstanding performance with a senior college.

Bryant caught 22 passes for the Braves for 354 yards and five touchdowns. Coach Garrison praised Bryant for his blocking and pass receiving.

"He's a very unselfish player who puts as much effort into his blocking as he does into his pass receiving," the coach remarked. Garrison called Bryant "a clutch performer who makes the big catch and the big play when you need it the most."

Chowan ended its season with an 8-3 mark and 4-2 for third place in the Coastal Conference. Ferrum was the only other Coastal Conference team to be represented on the team. The Panthers landed three: offensive lineman Chris Grey, defensive lineman Richard Goods and defensive back Nate Parker.

Tight End Bruce Bryant (far left) and Safety Jerry Holmes (left) won All-American honors for the 1977 season and, with Nose Guard Dunky Crosby (above) and Offensive Tackle Ken Dobler (below), were named to the All-Coastal Conference team.

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11 Braves Win Coastal Grid Honors

Eleven Chowan College football players have been named to All Coastal Conference teams.

Four sophomores were selected for the first team. Defensive players receiving the top honor are Clayton Crosby of Walterboro, SC; nose guard, and Jerry Holmes of Hampton, Va; free safety.

Named from the offense are tight end Bruce Bryant of Beltsville, Md; and tackle Ken Dobler of Virginia Beach, Va.

Named to the second team are offensive guard Pat Miller of Norfolk, VA; running back C. W. Wilson of Clinton, SC; and defensive back Charles Hopkins of Salem, Va.

Four Braves received honorable mention including three from the defense, end Rodney Robbins of Jamestown; Tackle Eddie Deeb of Richmond, Va; and linebacker Randy Raper of Wilson. Offensive tackle Glenn Beach of Norfolk, Va, was also honored.

Only Miller, a freshman, returns for the 1978 season. Chowan's head coach, Jim Garrison, expects the others, all sophomores, to receive scholarships to play for senior colleges.

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