

**Commentary:**

**FSU An Athletic Enigma**



Colten McKethan

by Colten McKethan

Fayetteville State University's athletic department seems to be in shambles now. Only decisions with a political significance are seemingly made. Does the athletic director make decisions for the good of the students anymore? Do the administrative leaders care for the well being of the student population? The student body seems to be more disillusioned each day.

Since 1974 athletics at FSU has faced the growing possibility of extinction. One of the first policies initiated was to rid Fayetteville State University of a baseball team which had just become co-holder of the CIAA Baseball Championship. This was done only after purchase of a \$1,200.00 pitching machine. Now the machine is just sitting on the athletic field rusting away from lack of usage. Supposedly the reason for getting rid of the baseball

team was that their costs were too high and they weren't providing any revenues in return.

Soon after this happened, the remnant portions of the 1973 CIAA Championship Basketball Team were gotten rid of. The 1975 team was to be the best team that Fayetteville State has ever put together. Theoretically, this team was the best of all small colleges. Yet, many of the athletes were dropped from the squad or were forced to quit, leaving only nine guys to carry over a season; which history of the school, a win record of one game versus a lost record of twenty one games. This type action will roll any athletic department off its winning attitude.

Even further into the scene of athletics, this redundant attitude has persisted to destroy Fayetteville State's track team. Throughout the one hundred years of this school's history only nine athletes from the area of athletics have made the All-American listings. All nine were produced in the last five years under the leadership of Walter Johnson. Now this man has been replaced by political maneuvering. I question the knowledge, prudence, and quality of personnel that retain the positions of leadership. I ask, should a quality athletic and academic program be dependent upon likes and dislikes?



**STARTS 7TH SEASON AT FSU**—Fayetteville State University (N.C.) football coach Ray McDougal begins his seventh year at the Bronco helm when FSU hosts Fort Bragg, Sept. 11 opening the '76 campaign. McDougal has twice been named Dist. 29 NAIA "Coach-of-the-Year" and was '75 "CIAA-Coach-of-the-Year". The Florida born native has had only one losing season (1970) since coming to FSU. (FSU Photo by John B. Henderson)

**Starts 7th Season Sept. 11**

**McDougal Optimistic About '76 Grid Campaign**

In about two weeks Ray McDougal will commence his seventh year at the helm of Fayetteville State University (NC) football.

It has not been easy for the Florida-born native. He has seen some tough years and some good years as head coach of the Bronco gridders.

When the Broncos (7-3 last year) open the season September 11 at home against crosstown rival Fort Bragg, McDougal will probably still be pacing up and down the sidelines with that opening game "worried look" on his face.

But CIAA coaches and fans have learned to respect "Mac", as he is known throughout the league, for his many "surprises" and none take him too lightly when

playing against him.

The low-key McDougal has collected the Dist. 29 NAIA "Coach-of-the-Year" honors twice in the last three years and was "Co-CIAA-Coach-of-the-Year" for 1975.

Since coming to FSU in 1970, he had only one losing year, and that was the '70 season. His six-year record at FSU is 32 wins, 27 losses, and one tie.

"We've been picked by the experts to finish eighth in the league," McDougal said after a recent practice session. "J. C. Smith is the choice to win this year with Hampton an outside shot."

"But that's just on paper. You've got to play every Saturday. We're young and we're rebuilding, but we hope to get better each time out and

**FSU Blanks Fort Bragg 29-0 In Season Opener**

Coach Ray McDougal's Broncos of Fayetteville State University wasted little time in disposing cross-town rival Fort Bragg, 29-0, in the season opener for the FSU men.

A non-conference affair, FSU (7-3 in '75) scored 13 points in the first stanza; and eight points in the second and third frames to rack up their first win of the new campaign.

FSU sophomore QB Ed Davis engineered the Broncos' first TD after they won the toss and received the opening kick-off.

The McDougal-men returned the ball to their own 44 yard line. From this point Ed Davis guided the Broncos down field with fullback James Braswell scoring from three yards out on a sweep. The PAT by Gerald Costen gave the FSU men a 7-0 advantage on the very first possession of the pigskin.

The second TD for FSU came in the first quarter also when Bronco defensive tackle Levi Jones pounded on the Dragon one-yard line. Again fullback James Braswell was called on by QB Carlos Bailey and repoded with a one-yard dive for the tally. The PAT was wide but FSU was ahead, 13-0.

The third touchdown for FSU came early in the second quarter when linebacker Tony Reid fell on a Dragon fumble at the Fort Bragg 35. From this point, Marshall McCrae, halfback, and Braswell alternated on a series of running plays to the Dragon six. McCrae received the call and scored from the six on a pitchout from Bailey giving the Broncos a halftime 21-0 lead with the PAT being a 2-point pass play.

The highlight of game came early in the third period when All-CIAA linebacker candidate Phil Platt picked off an errant Dragon pass deep in Fort Bragg territory and raced 92 yards unmolested for the final Bronco TD.

The PAT run by Braswell gave the FSU men a final victory of 29-0 margin. The Broncos travel to Norfolk State September 18, for a CIAA encounter.

**BRONCOS FALL**

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The Broncos, on the other hand, only managed to score in the last quarter of play.

The next F.S.U. contest will be against Shaw University Bears in the Bronco stadium, slated for September 25. F. S. U. is now 1-1 overall and 0-1 in conference action.

**FSU Blanks Shaw 23-0 For Second Victory**

Shaw University became the second shut-out victim of the early CIAA football campaign for Ray McDougal's Broncos of Fayetteville State.

The winless Bears from Raleigh were white-washed 23-0 Saturday afternoon at Bronco Field as FSU upped its overall mark to 2-1, and 1-1 CIAA-wise. Previously FSU blanked Ft. Bragg, 29-0, before bowing to Norfolk State last week on the road, 28-7.

The Broncos host new foe Virginia College next weekend in non-conference action.

Except for the first scoring drive, the Bronco defense proved to be much of the scoring punch for the homesteaders.

The first score came in the second stanza when quarterback Carlos Bailey capped a 70-yard scoring drive by sneaking over from the one. The PAT by Johnny Highsmith gave FSU a 7-0 advantage which they took to the dressing room at intermission.

In the third frame, defensive halfback Maurice Franks returned a Shaw punt from the Bronco 11 yard stripe to the Bear's nine. On the very next play Bailey threw a TD strike to wide-receiver Mike Smith to up the score 14-0 after Highsmith's PAT.

Continuing the scoring in the fourth quarter, FSU called on the accurate toe of Highsmith who responded with a 27-yard field goal increasing the margin to 17-0 over the visitors.

A 73-yard punt return by halfback Maurice Franks was nullified by an FSU penalty in the fourth stanza.

The final score for the Broncos came in the last frame after Shaw gave up the oval on down at FSU's 37. From here FSU sophomore signal-caller Ed Davis ran around his left end untouched to the Shaw five yard line where he was tackled. But before he hit the turf, he lateraled the ball to trailing halfback Chris Barfield who scampered in the end zone for the tally.



**I GOT'CHA**—An unidentified Fayetteville State University (N.C.) player prepares to put the clamps on a Fort Bragg running back during the season lid-lifter for the FSU Broncos September 11. Coach Ray McDougal's team prevailed 29-0 over cross-town foe Ft. Bragg and they travel to Norfolk State College September 18 for their first CIAA conference clash. FSU stands 1-0. (FSU Photo by Gil Foust)

**NEW MEMBERS FOR PHI BETA LAMBDA**  
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Livingston, Business Administration Senior. Other members participating included Debora Black, Guide; Boysie Jackson, Prayer; Winifred Hill, Welcome; and Beverly Ranking, Purpose. Remarks were made by Miss Bettye McKee, faculty advisor. Following the inspirational ceremony, members and guests were treated to delightful refreshments.

Our commendations to Phi Beta Lambda!

College October 9 and Winston-Salem State University, October 16 on the road.

The next three contests are at home beginning with Livingstone College October 23; Elizabeth City State is the foe for Homecoming festivities October 30; and Bowie State is the final home game November 6.

McDougal and his Bronco-men travel to Johnson C. Smith November 13 for the Golden Bulls Homecoming and the season finale.

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