

BRONCO FOOTBALL

‘It’s not how you start...’

Coach Phillips talks about an up-and-down season, ends rumors that he is leaving

By Quinton Graham
Voice Sports Editor

The season ended on an upswing for the Bronco football team, who won their last four games by blowouts. Despite a slow start, the Broncos finished even for the season with five wins and five losses. Compared to last year’s championship season, the record may seem kind of lackluster. However, considering the turnover and other changes this year, the football team has shown much improvement from the start of the season.

Head coach Kenny Phillips said that although the season was one of disappointment and the team started the season badly, they finished up strong and that gives Bronco football something to look forward to next year.

“We lost 25 players off last year’s championship football team, including nine starters on defense. When we lose that many players in key positions, you expect the season to be tough. I am a firm believer in – ‘it’s not how you start its how you finish,’” Coach Phillips said.

The Broncos returned two players from last year’s defensive team, a defense that played a major role in winning the CIAA championship. There were a lot of new starters. That meant getting on-the-job experience. Learning during the game is never good in the game of football.

“Our team was young and we had a lot of little things to work on, I feel like we addressed that this year,” Coach Phillips said. “I feel like our biggest objective for next year will be our offensive line. If we get this key element functioning, we will be very successful.”

There was a rumor going around that Coach Phillips was leaving Broncoland to coach the Eagles of North Carolina Central University.

“Every year there is some kind of rumor about whether I’m going or staying, as of right now I’m here, I’m a Bronco. Don’t feed into the rumors,” said Coach Phillips.

Bronco football has a lot to look forward to in the near future. Coaches, players and fans should have hope that the Broncos can build on their late-season successes for the next year’s campaign.



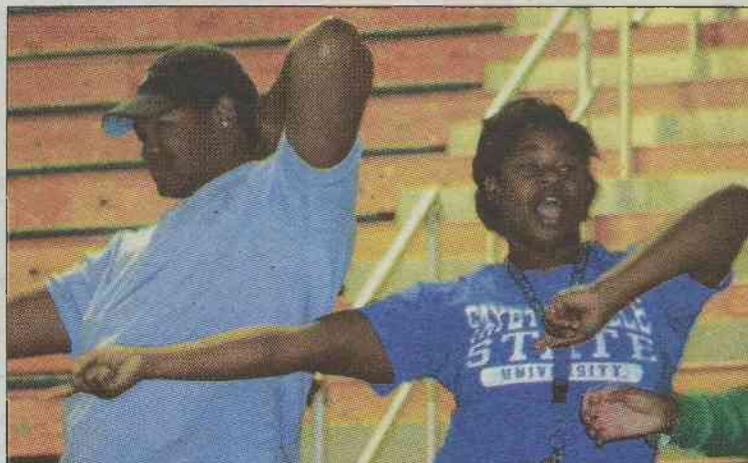
Freshman Guard Devin Thompson breaks open the Barber-Scotia defense on his way to a three-point attempt. Fayetteville States Men’s Basketball team took on the Barber-Scotia Sabers Friday during their first home game of the season. The Broncos won 83-70. The team plays in the Florida Tech Tournament on Nov. 26 in Tampa, Fla.

HOOPS SEASON STARTS



Voice photos by Nathaniel Stevenson

Junior guard Amanda Sinclair, left, protects the ball against a Francis Marion defender. FSU’s Women’s Basketball team opened their season against the Francis Marion Lady Patriots on Friday during their first home game of the season. The team lost 78-68. However, this was the same team that defeated them by more than 30 points last year. The women’s team has another home game against Barton University Saturday 2 p.m.



During halftime of the Lady Bronco’s basketball game, FSU Students Tony Glenn, left, and Raven Sutton dance to the sound of the Marching Bronco Express.



Sophomore forward Lenton Donnell gets fouled attempting a shot.