

Craft Optimistic, Yet Realistic At Conley

HOLLYWOOD — Steve Craft is known for turning around football programs. He's performed the feat two other times — at Rosewood and at North Johnston — and now, he leads a resurgence at D.H. Conley.

But Craft said the Vikings' 7-4 record in 1987 is past history. It's time to concentrate on this season, and according to Craft, it's not going to be easy.

"We lost seven two-way starters last year, and a lot of people were expecting this team to bring up a lot of junior varsity players from our undefeated team (10-0) last year," he said.

"But some of those players didn't work out, and half of them are still playing jayvee ball this year."

"I'm not sure we'll be as good as some other teams think we'll be."

Gone are quarterback Bronswell Patrick, wideouts Chuckie Gardner and Derrick Credle, tailback Darryl Simpson and linemen Kevin Moye, Robbie Little and Aaron Freeman — the seven two-way starters, plus linebacker Dante Williams. The Vikings will have to rely on a young but talented offensive line and backfield to make the playoffs for the second straight year.

Jason Hamby (6-0, 164, Sr.) returns off the line as does Kevin Daniels (5-8, 160, Jr.). Last season, Hamby was a starting defensive tackle and Daniels was a starting defensive guard.

Also returning off the offensive line are tight ends Terry Williams (6-2, 185, Jr.), Martin Patrick (6-2, 191, Jr.) and Boris Harris (6-1, 170, Jr.) as well as wideout Paul Merritt (6-2, 173, Jr.). On defense, Harris and Patrick will man the tackles. Williams should be a linebacker and Merritt is expected to shore up the secondary as a safety.

Chris Lindsey (6-1, 192, Sr.) will lead the Conley offense from his center's position. Lindsey, Stevenson and Todd Holloway (6-0, 195, Sr.) are the only other returning line starters save Hamby and Daniels.

It appears that Tyrone Turnage (5-10, 171, Sr.) will be the tailback and Anthony Perry Stevenson (5-11, 218) will start at fullback. Stevenson rushed for 460 yards last year as a junior.

Scott Seymour (5-10, 152, Jr.) will get the nod at starting quarterback, although Craft did say he would have Tim Allen (5-8, 151, Jr.) as his backup.

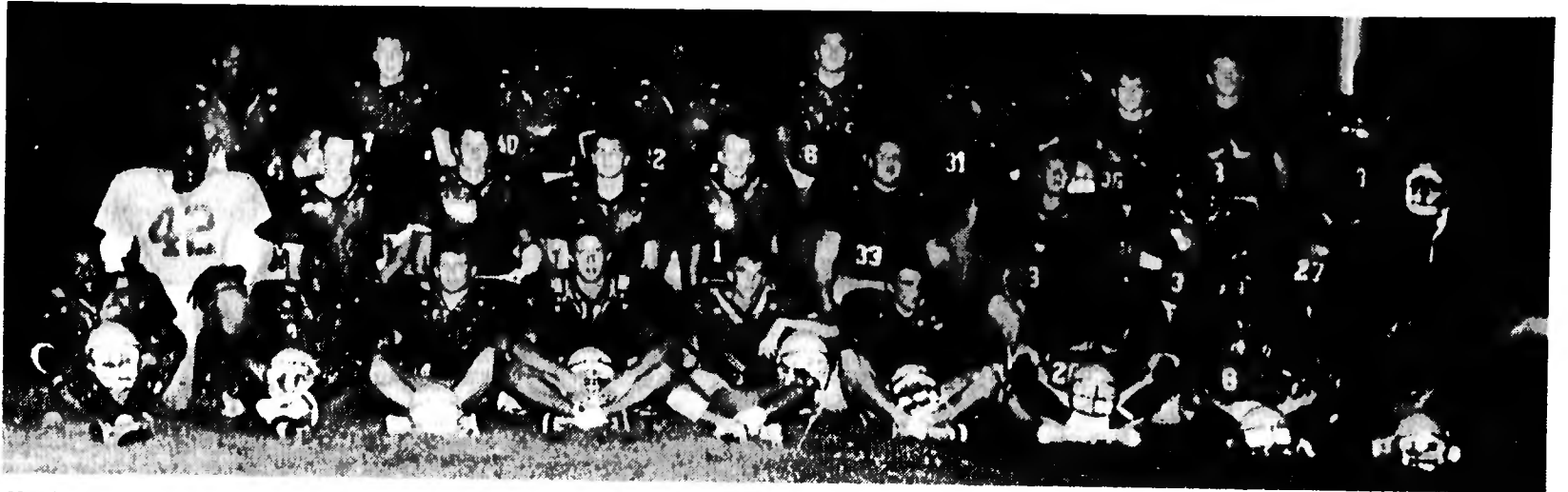
Seymour handled just 14 snaps as a backup to Bronswell Patrick last season, while Allen is up from the jayvee team. "Tim will really push Scott for the starting quarterback job throughout the season," Craft said.

One area that the Vikings should be strong in is the kicking game. Returning varsity punter Clemmons is joined by soccer-style kicker Andy Fassett (6-2, 170) and two players up from the jayvee team — punter Bill Jenkins (6-2, 164, Jr.) and kicker Junior Farrow (6-0, 167, Jr.).

Seymour and Travis Clemmons will also chip in with the punting duties this season.

Expected to fill the wideout spots are Clemmons (5-10, 167, Sr.), John Greene (5-9, 145, Jr.), Eric Bradley (5-7, 136, Sr.) and Bobby Owens (6-1, 130, Sr.). Merritt will also be a wideout, Craft said.

Stevenson, Hamby, Daniels and Patrick were all starters for a defense that gave up less than 13 points per game last season. Craft said he had not decided on a set group of linebackers or secondary help as of yet.



Members of the 1988 D.H. Conley Viking football team are, from left, front row: Tim Carter, Kelvin Daniels, Al Andrews, Bill Jenkins, Scott Seymour, Tim Allen, Rock Mitchell, Eric Bradley and Anthony Artis; second row: Martin Patrick, Andy Fassett, Hal Conger, Jason Hamby, Bobby Owcus, Danny Osborne, Jeff Whelton,

Derrick Gardner and Tim Carman; back row: Gary King, Todd Holloway, Larry Wilson, Chris Lindsay, Derrick Corey, Jesse Koonce, John Middleton and Tyrone Turnage. Not pictured are Remarto Rogers, Mike Williams, Robert Taylor and Travis Clemmons.

Craft said the biggest adjustment that most of the kids will have to make is getting used to just playing varsity football.

"The kids on the junior varsity team had a great year last year," Craft said, "but it's a whole different story making the jump from jayvee ball to varsity play. How well this team does will largely de-

pend on how well the younger ones adjust.

"Also, a lot will depend on how fast our quarterback situation progresses," Craft said.

NO.	Player	CLASS	HGT.	WGT.	POS.
7	Scott Seymour	Jr.	5-10	152	Back
9	Anthony Artis	Jr.	5-8	143	Back
17	Tim Allen	So.	5-8	151	Back
14	Tyrone Turnage	Sr.	5-10	171	Back
24	Tyrone Phillips	Jr.	5-10	151	End
22	Fred Streeter	Jr.	5-10	183	End
34	Derrick Gardner	Jr.	5-10	143	Back
20	Rock Mitchell	Jr.	5-11	143	Kicker
10	Junior Farrow	So.	6-0	167	Back
11	Andy Fassett	Jr.	6-2	170	End
32	Perry Stevenson	Sr.	5-11	218	Back
42	Travis Clemmons	Sr.	5-10	167	End
45	Mike Williams	Sr.	6-1	177	Back
28	John Greene	Jr.	5-9	145	End
36	Jesse Koonce	Jr.	5-6	144	End
23	Eric Bradley	Sr.	5-7	136	Line
40	Bobby Owens	Sr.	6-1	130	Line
54	Chris Lindsey	Sr.	6-1	192	Line
51	Al Andrews	Jr.	5-7	167	Line
53	Jon Middleton	Jr.	6-0	168	Line
61	Jeff Wheaton	Jr.	5-8	167	Line
72	Danny Osborne	So.	5-11	260	Line
64	Larry Wilson	Jr.	5-10	206	Line
77	Todd Holloway	Sr.	6-0	196	Line
55	Tim Carter	Jr.	5-9	186	Line
73	Derrick Corey	Sr.	5-10	194	Line
70	Jason Hamby	Sr.	6-0	164	Line
60	Kevin Daniels	Jr.	5-8	160	Line
63	Tim Carmon	Jr.	5-9	155	Line
80	Martin Patrick	Jr.	6-2	191	Line
88	Terry Williams	Jr.	6-2	185	End
82	Bill Jenkins	Jr.	6-2	164	End
81	Paul Merritt	Jr.	6-1	175	End
89	Boris Harris	Jr.	6-2	170	End
84	Hal Conger	So.	6-2	180	Line
30	Remarto Rogers	So.	5-10	160	Line
79	Gary King	Sr.	6-2	185	Line

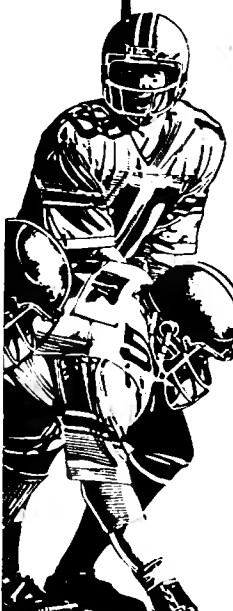
1988

D.H. CONLEY	
August	
26	Open
September	
2	at Ayden-Grifton
9	North Pitt
16	at Farmville
23	Havelock*
30	West Carteret*
October	
7	at North Lenoir*
14	West Craven*
21	Greene Central
28	Washington*
November	
4	at East Carteret*

1987

D.H. CONLEY		
6	Ayden-Grifton	33
7	North Pitt	0
14	Farmville Central	12
8	Havelock	28
49	West Carteret	6
33	North Lenoir	8
7	West Craven	16
14	Greene Central	12
28	Washington	7
23	East Carteret	8
9	Tarboro	24

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**Best Wishes
For A Great Football
Season In 1988.**

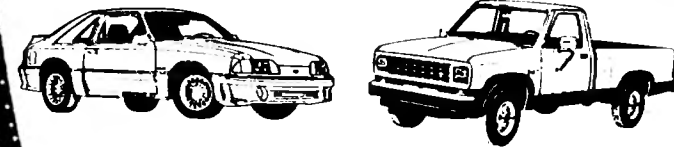
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