

Albany St. Rams Await 1977 Gridiron Opener Under New Mentor, Whitney Van Cleve

ALBANY, GA. — The Albany State College Golden Rams football season could be viewed with mixed emotions. The Rams will open the 1977 grid season under new head coach Whitney Van Cleve and will return, virtually intact, veteran offensive and defensive units.

Jimmy Thorpe Flies High at Greensboro Regional

GREENSBORO—There were more than plans flying high on Highway 68 near the Greensboro Regional Airport on Sunday. Jimmy Thorpe shot a smoking 15 under par 129 at the Bel Air Golf Course to win the Gate City Open by 8 shots and \$1200. Jimmy had a 65 on Saturday, 7 under, and a 64 on Sunday to post the thrilling 129.

Thorpe eclipsed the old record of 14 under for the tournament set just last year by his brother, Chuck. Thorpe's closest pursuer was Mike Walach, who shot 137 to win \$700. Walach had a closing 65 on Sunday.

This reporter gave Jim a lift home on Saturday, since we are both from Roxboro. During the trip, it was revealed that he and Chuck plan to try again for tour cards at Pinehurst in October.

Jimmy was the hottest thing in Guilford County on Sunday, but the Thorpe family as a whole was quite warm. With father looking on and mother at the club house, Chuck playing in the same foursome with Jimmy, shot a 70 to go with a first round 69. One other of the five golfing brothers, Bill, shot a 71 to add to his previous 73. They earned \$400 and \$158, respectively.

After "Yours Truly" shot a horrible 156, he got a chance to see how golf should really be played. Jimmy birdied the par five fifteenth and the par four sixteenth, which carried him to fifteen under. He showed his skill at the all-important short game by getting up and down on fifteen and seventeen, before closing out the superb performance with a routine par on eighteen.

Among the amateurs, Charles Smith won the Championship Flight with a 67-78, 145. Vernon Hughes came in at 147, 73-74, to take second. Willie Smith shot 73-74, 148 for third.

Chester Bradley, the tournament director, said, "This has been a very wonderful tournament. We got much cooperation and we hope it will be better in the future."

The next stop on the so-called Black Tour will be Nashville, Tennessee this weekend for the Teddy Rhodes Memorial.

blem facing the Rams again this fall will be that of finding capable reserve strength at several positions. A promising group of freshmen are expected to fill the void on both the offensive and defensive teams.

Van Cleve cited spring drills as an indicator of what is in store for the Rams during the upcoming season. He said, "a lot of the players really 'grew up' during these drills."

The Rams lost only four lettermen via graduation and will carry a three game win streak into their season opener against Fayetteville State University on September 10.

Van Cleve will have the luxury of thirty lettermen returning this fall to build the nucleus of his ball club, but is quick to point out that the Rams will still be a relatively young squad.

Offensively, the Rams will probably rely on the leadership of junior quarterbacks, Ricky Alexander, 6-4, 215, and Curtis Tucker, 6-2, 210.

The overall ground attack should be vastly improved with more emphasis on a running game as opposed to last year's "run and show" offense. A wealth of talented running backs are returning including Ernest Adams, 6-1, 210; Daniel Collins, 5-11, 190; Roderick Kelly, 5-10, 185; and Anthony Kennedy, 5-10, 190.

"Our offensive line is still questionable, but it showed a lot of improvement during the spring. They are getting off the ball quicker and are hitting and staying with their men better. We feel that with a good running game, as well as a good passing game, we will be right in the thick of things for the conference championship," said Van Cleve.

The backbone of the team should again be the defensive unit. Every position will be manned by a veteran, but here again, the lack of quality reserve strength could really put a strain on the first unit.

Along the defensive front will be ALL-SIAC performer James White, 6-6, 280; Harold Stephens, 6-0, 260; and Curtis Bunche, 6-5, 240.

White and Stephens should be the leaders on the defensive unit with Bunche holding his own at defensive end.

The Ram also return an outstanding pair of linebackers in Charles Monroe, 6-3, 230, and Ricky Davis, 6-2, 220.

The linebackers along with an experienced secondary, led by all conference performers All Moss, 5-10, 180, and Darold Pope, 6-3, 200, should make it hard on opponents to pass successfully.

One of Van Cleve's major concerns could be his kicking game, which did an adequate job at times last season, but it is still inconsistent and could give the Rams some problems if they cannot shore up the loose ends.

NCCU Eagles Travel To Elizabeth City to Face The Vikings This Weekend

The NCCU Eagles look for their first victory of the year when they travel to the Elizabeth City State Vikings this Saturday. The game will be held at Memorial Field at 6 p.m. The Eagles lost a heart-breaking 14-10 home opener to Va. Union last Saturday.

Coach Willie S. Smith plans no major changes in the lineup that faced the Panthers. The Eagles held the explosive Panthers to 56 yards rushing and 82 yards passing. Smith was proud of his defense in that game. "We looked very, very good defensively, especially Odom and Overton and our front line," said Smith.

Odom led all tacklers with 2 unassisted and 16 assisted tackles. Overton had 3 unassisted and 5 assisted tackles. Chris Smith, the third line-backer had 1 unassisted and 9 assisted tackles to join Odom and Overton.

"We will be facing a new coach with a new system offensively and defensively," added Smith. "They return an outstanding passer in Johnny Williams, who threw for over 1400 yards and 15 touchdowns last year," lamented Smith. "Jeffrey Jones, a fine receiver caught 35 passes last year and Michael Hill also returns at a wide receiver post."

The Eagles plummeted the Vikings 34-0 last year. They held the Vikings to 26 yards rushing and a minus 7 yards (Williams was the quarterback at the time). The Eagles amassed 402 yards rushing and 12 yards passing. Although Ricky Moore was the quarterback last year instead of James Lawrence, Reggie Smith and Alonzo Davis returns, along with Carl Cheek.

Lawrence had 98 yards last year against the Vikings; Smith, 84 yards; Davis, 55 yards and Cheek, 38 yards.

The Vikings must reckon with the Eagles passing attack featuring quarterback Charles Amwood, tight end Joe Mack, and wide receivers Maurice Bassett and Reggie Smith.

Amwood completed 9 of 16 passes last week for 111 yards and his touchdown pass to Mack. Mack caught 6 of Amwood's passes for 69 yards, while Bassett caught 2 passes for 33 yards.

Last year's game was the first of the series and the Eagles are looking to make two in a row.

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In this country, people usually get a voice in Government only every two or four years, when they vote.

Then, you're voting for people, based on what they say and what they propose to do. All too often, that's forgotten until the next election.

But, right now, in North Carolina, you've got a chance to have your say-so in State Government. You can tell us what's on your mind, what you think your State Government should do and should not do. It's important that as a citizen you send us your opinion on a regular basis. The more we know about what's on your mind, the better job we in State Government can do.

Which, after all, is really what Government is all about.

So, take a few minutes to tell us what you think. When it comes to playing a part in North Carolina's future, it could be just as important as any vote you've ever cast.

S. J. Hunt

1. What would you say is the biggest problem facing North Carolina today that you would like State Government to do something about? (Write your answer clearly below.)

2. What do you think State Government should do to solve the problem? (Write your answer clearly below.)

3. Thinking now about North Carolina State Government, about how much effect do you think its activities, the laws passed, services provided, and money spent have on your day to day life? Do you think they have a great effect, some effect, or no effect at all? (Please circle one.)

1—great effect 2—some effect 3—no effect

4. Please circle how satisfied you are with the following in your area:

	satisfied	not sure	dis-satisfied	very dissatisfied
a. Elementary and secondary education	1	2	3	4
b. Public roads	1	2	3	4
c. Programs for senior citizens	1	2	3	4
d. Welfare	1	2	3	4
e. Health care	1	2	3	4
f. Programs for children	1	2	3	4
g. Cultural activities, such as art, music, and theatre	1	2	3	4
h. Law enforcement	1	2	3	4
i. Recreation	1	2	3	4
j. Community colleges	1	2	3	4
k. Housing	1	2	3	4
l. Public transportation	1	2	3	4
m. Opportunities for women	1	2	3	4
n. Higher education	1	2	3	4
o. Water and sewer lines	1	2	3	4
p. Protection of our agricultural land	1	2	3	4
q. Prisons	1	2	3	4
r. Utilities	1	2	3	4

5. Over the years, people have proposed a number of changes in North Carolina's tax system. We would like to know your opinion on these proposed changes. Please tell us for each tax whether you would favor increasing it, letting it stay the same, decreasing it, or removing the tax entirely by circling the appropriate number for each tax.

	increase	stay same	decrease	remove
a. Personal income tax for people making more than \$10,000 per year	1	2	3	4
b. Sales tax on food	1	2	3	4
c. Tax on cigarettes	1	2	3	4
d. Tax on alcoholic beverages	1	2	3	4
e. Tax on gasoline	1	2	3	4
f. Income tax on business	1	2	3	4
g. Inventory tax on business	1	2	3	4
h. Intangibles tax on savings accounts, stocks, and bonds that a person owns	1	2	3	4
i. Property tax	1	2	3	4

6. Listed below are four factors which many people think are important in choosing a place to live. Which one is most important, second most important, third most important, etc., to you? (List below by numbering priorities as 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5.)

- Availability of employment ()
- Desire to be near family ()
- Near good schools and services ()
- Climate ()
- Other ()

7. How old are you? _____ years

8. What is the last year of school you completed? _____

9. What does the head of your household do for a living? _____

10. What is your race? _____

11. What is your sex? (Please circle.)
1—male 2—female

12. What county do you live in? _____

13. What size town do you live in? (Please circle, even if you're not sure.)
1. 100- 1,500 4. 15,000-30,000
2. 1,500- 5,500 5. 30,000-50,000
3. 5,500-15,000 6. Over 50,000

14. There are many economic problems facing North Carolina today. Please circle how important the following problems are to you.

	very important	important	not sure	not important
a. Attracting new industry to North Carolina	1	2	3	4
b. Protecting the environment	1	2	3	4
c. Helping new industry which provides jobs locate near smaller towns and rural areas	1	2	3	4
d. Limiting sprawl	1	2	3	4
e. Providing more opportunities for workers to learn new skills	1	2	3	4
f. Helping new industry which provides jobs locate near larger cities	1	2	3	4

15. From the list above, which problem is most important to you? (Please circle.)

a. b. c. d. e. f.

Please mail your survey to:

