

CIAA

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up and added a considerable spark. When he's on his game the Panthers are hard to beat. VUU 17-14.

Fayetteville State finds itself atop the standings in the CIAA West for the first time, and this week's game will determine if the Broncos can remain in the driver's seat for a divisional title. Coach Kenny Phillips has assembled a strong offensive arsenal and a defense that has been efficient, but not overpowering.

Winston-Salem State can't afford to come out flat after dropping its heartbreaking loss to Virginia Union last week. The Rams have dominated their series with the Broncos, but they can't take this one for granted. This might be the best Fayetteville State team since the Broncos came into the league nearly four decades ago.

WSSU's main weakness is Fayetteville's major strength. The Rams' defensive secondary has struggled against passing teams. Fayetteville boasts perhaps the CIAA's top passing attack. But on the other hand, WSSU has a strong offensive line and running attack. The

Rams must use their ball possession to keep the Broncos off the field.

An overflow crowd is expected at Bowman Gray Stadium for homecoming. Coach Kermit Blount and the Rams will work hard to avoid a disappointing showing. WSSU should prevail, 24-21.

Andrew Faison, the former WSSU defensive coordinator, has Virginia State playing its best football in several seasons. The Trojans have gotten out to a 3-1 start and are tied with VUU with a 2-0 record in the East division. The Trojans had a lot of fun last week in dismantling St. Augustine's 52-0. Faison and the Trojans will face another first-year coach when Livingstone and coach George Johnson visit Petersburg Saturday.

Things aren't going nearly as smoothly for Johnson and the Blue Bears. Livingstone has yet to win a game under Johnson after four tries. A victory on the road would go a long way in soothing some of the pain. However, it isn't very likely with VSU quarterback Kevin Jones developing into the premier passer in the CIAA. Give this one to the Trojans, 24-17.

N.C. Central finally got back

in the win column last weekend after losing three in a row. The Eagles struggled past Elizabeth City, and this week they make the short trip to Raleigh to take on first-year St. Augustine's. The Falcons have been blasted by each of their CIAA opponents, and the Eagles are hoping to have their way with St. Aug's also.

Coach Rudy Abrams' team will get a chance to finally showcase its offensive attack. The Eagles will fly high in a 38-0 win.

Elizabeth City and Johnson C. Smith are both winless at this point in the season, and one of them will come out of their battle with a victory on their ledger. These two teams are very similar. Both have struggled offensively and played well on the defensive side.

ECSU's Sean Wilkes, a former Carver High standout, has emerged as one of the league's dominant defensive players at outside linebacker.

Wilkes was named the Defensive Player of the Game after a 14-tackle effort in last week's win. Wilkes and the Vikings are the favorites by virtue of having the home field advantage. Elizabeth City should prevail, 17-14.

Rams

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minute touchdown in Richmond last year. VUU also captured a victory in the CIAA championship game last season.

WSSU answered the Panthers' tying touchdown late in the third quarter with a fourth-quarter score to take control. The Rams embarked on an 80-yard drive and scored on Arnell Wooten's 17-yard

touchdown pass from McGee. Vincent Wilkins scored the 2-point conversion for a 15-8 lead with 10:12 left in the game.

However, the Panthers, behind the play of 5-10, 170-pound quarterback Cordell Roane, went 75 yards on their next possession to tie the game 15-15. Larry Edwards scored from 2 yards out, and Oby's extra-point attempt was good with 6:15 to go.

WSSU had two opportuni-

ties to go ahead, but the Rams' offense couldn't move the ball, and it looked like the game would go into overtime.

VUU got its final opportunity, getting the ball back with less than a minute to play. Roane broke free for a key first down to get the ball down to the 42-yard line. Then Roane hit Leslie for a 12-yard gain, and the clock stopped with one second left.

Oby came on and connected on the winning field goal.

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