

N.C. A&T running back Michael Ferguson fights for yards during the Aggies loss.

Homecoming doesn't go well for A&T Aggies

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

Reputations are built through word of mouth. They are sustained visually. Morgan State's reputation of having one of the best defensive teams in Division I FCS is fully intact after a sellout

crowd at Aggie Stadium nessed Morgan State's No. 2 nationallyranked defense North Carolina A&T to just 139 yards of total offense in a 41-3 homecoming victory over the Aggies last Saturday.

just 23 yards with an interception on 7-for-29 passing. Those passing woes translated into the Aggies going 0for-16 on third down conversions. North Carolina A&T head coach Lee Fobbs had two solutions to improve a passing game that has produced just 192 yards over the last three games.

"The one thing we need to do is catch the dang football," said Fobbs. "That's one thing. I'm also not very pleased upfront. Quarterbacks need protection to throw it and receivers have to catch it. We just didn't block them and we just didn't catch it."

Morgan State's offense took advantage of the Aggies' offense inability to move the football. The Bears only led 10-3 at halftime. In fact, the Aggies had even out-rushed the Bears in the

Cunningham

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victory over Bowie State University at the Bulldogs' 2008 Homecoming.

Finally junior kicker Daniel Mendez had earned Specialty Player of the Week honors for the second time in 2008. Mendez had 6 punts for 185 yards including four inside the 20-yard line and zero touchbacks. He was 3for-3 in extra point attempts, had 4 kickoffs for 219 yards and successfully kicked an onside kick which the Vikings recovered to set up the game winning drive.

The Vikings (4-3, CIAA 4-0) will return to action on Saturday at Lincoln University of Pennsylvania. Game time is scheduled for 1 p.m., and it will be the Lions' first football Homecoming in 48 years.

first half. But the Aggies defense had a continual presence on the field, and it began to take effect in the second half.

The Bears rushed 225 yards in the second half and 280 yards in the game.

Devan James led the way for the Bears with 127 yards and a touchdown on 27 carries. Quarterback Mario Melton, who was one of three Morgan State quarterbacks who played last Saturday, rushed for 97 yards and a touchdown on three carries.

A 30-yard Aaron Moore kick-off return to start the The Aggies played three second half gave the Bears the ball at Aggies 48-yard line. A 44-yard run by Melton gave the Bears a 1stand-goal at the Aggies 9. But the Aggies were able to keep the Bears out of the end zone, holding them to a James Meade field goal.

Consecutive three-and-

outs by the Aggies offense begin to turn a competitive game into a blowout. With 6:17 remaining in the third quarter, Morgan State running back Keith Lee busted through off-tackle for a 43vard gain to the Aggies 17. Two plays later, Jeremy Glover found Whitfield Diggs open on a crossing pattern for a 19-yard touchdown and a 20-3 lead.

The Aggies did manage to mount an 8-play drive, but it ended when punter Lee Woodson's pass slipped through the hands of junior receiver Giorgio Lowrance on a 4th-and-4 from the Aggies 48. On the next-play, Melton ran through tackles, bounced to the outside and scored on a 52-yard run that put the Bears ahead 27-3. It was more than enough as the Aggies offense produced just one first down in the fourth quarter.

"They played up to their reputation today," said Eley about his defense.

Baseball Downtown will host entertainment tryouts

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

Baseball Downtown and the new ballpark in Winston-Salem are hosting a community-wide talent search to locate the most

energetic and outgoing individuals to work on the onfield entertainment staff for the 2009 season. Auditions for the staff, on-field hosts and mascots will be held on Oct. 18 from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Forsyth Country Day

School Auditorium. The primary responsibilities of the on-field entertainment staff will be to energize the crowd and create an electric atmosphere while providing wholesome family fun for our fans. From tossing out T-shirts to

dancing on the dugouts, the entertainment team will make sure that everyone who attends a ballgame will go home with a lasting positive memory, whether the

home team wins or loses.

"We are looking forward to providing first class entertainment to our fans next year at the stadium...we will have over 170 different entertainment promotions next year," said

Baseball Downtown Team President Kevin Terry. "We look forward to having a chance to meet with all of the talented people here in Winston-Salem and we encourage everyone who may be interested in helping us provide first class entertainment to our fans next

year to try out."

No experience is necessary and all interested parties are encouraged to apply. This is a unique opportunity to perform in front of thousands of fans on a nightly basis and get involved with the new ballpark during this special time for our community. Anyone interested must pre-register by contacting Trey Kalny, Director of Entertainment at 336-714-2287 Ext. 1121 or trey.kalny@baseballdowntown.com.

Baseball Downtown will be opening a new state-ofthe-art ballpark in downtown Winston-Salem in April of 2009. For more information or to inquire about our unique ticket packages, please call 336-714-2287 or visit www.baseballdowntown.com.

City employees

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though. I look forward to the next time."

The sanitation department team defeated the fire department squad, 44-36, on Monday to captured the championship trophy. More than 50 people were in attendance to witness the action. Players for the sanitation department were Mike Stokes, Mark McMillian, G. Simmons, Antonio Bennett, Matthew Gattison, Monte Mitchell and Victor Bethea. The winners were coached by Moody, Chris Christmas and Reggie Tindall.

The fire department squad was led by Brian Reid, Keith Mahaffey, Rob Lakey, Charles Browniger, Jeff Shaw, Warren Glenn, (police officer) Bennie Oates, John Hymes, Leon Witherspoon and Hardy.

"We're trying to make this game bigger," said Moody. "We're actually hoping this was the first game of a tournament. We want to call it the Inner City Basketball League, where we'd have teams from city departments playing for the trophy. We'd like to have teams from the recreation department, utility, city hall, water and sewer. We have the trophy now. But we're going to put it up when the tournament starts.



Members of the Sanitation department squad celebrate.

thing up next month," Inner City League or tournament will be good for the

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"I'd love to start some- guys to play. It will fun fun for families to watch, and Moody continued. "The for everyone to enjoy. I this sooner the better. I think this this could be a lot of fun for everybody.



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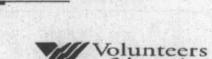
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