

CIAA WEEK IN REVIEW

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

Virginia State 14, Virginia Union 7: Brian Berry's 32-yard touchdown run in the third quarter proved to be the game winner as the Virginia State Trojans pulled off a stunning 14-7 win over the Virginia Union Panthers in front of an announced Homecoming crowd of over 4,600 last Saturday at Hovey Field.

VSU freshman tailback phenom Taron Hampton carried the ball 33 times for a season high 196 yards and the Trojans (4-4, 3-2) got two big blocked punts from their special teams to set up both touchdowns.

Trailing 7-0 after a 14-yard touchdown run by VUU's Lamar Little, Virginia State got a huge break when defensive back Donnie Avant slipped through to block a Wayne Motley punt, which the Trojans recovered at the VUU 11-

Scores

Bowie State 21, St. Paul's 7

Elizabeth City St. 70, Lincoln 6

Fayetteville St. 48, JCSU 3

St. Aug's 28, Livingstone 13

Shaw 68, Chowan 13

Virginia State 14, Virginia Union 7

yard line. One play later, quarterback Leonard Johnson sprinted in from 11 yards out and Justin Parker kicked the PAT to knot the game at 7-7 with 1:00 left in the first quarter.

After a scoreless second quarter the Trojans used another blocked punt to set up their only scoring drive in the third quarter. Following the block, that gave VSU the ball at their own 28-yard line, Hampton, who has over 1000 rushing yards this season, broke loose for a 45-yard gain that moved the ball down to the Panthers' 27-yard line. Three plays later, Berry's 32-yard touchdown run gave the Trojans the lead for good and put a serious dent in the Panthers' (5-3, 3-2) Eastern Division title aspirations and hopes for a return trip to the CIAA Championship game.

This week, the Panthers travel to Bowie State for an important divisional matchup. Even with a win over the Bulldogs on Saturday, Virginia Union would still need a Saint Paul's win over Elizabeth City State just to stay in title contention.

In other conference action... Elizabeth City State rolled up 632 yards of total offense and 10 different Vikings scored touchdowns as they improved to 5-3 and 5-0 in the CIAA with a 70-6 win over host Lincoln last Saturday. The Vikings can wrap up their second Eastern Division title in three years and secure a berth in the CIAA Championship game with a win over Saint Paul's on Saturday in Elizabeth City.



VSU photo

VSU sophomore wide out Brian Berry makes moves against Virginia Union.

Game

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David added: "Just like Rodney, my old school has a special place in my heart. I played there. I coached there. I still have a lot of friend over there. Simeon Stadium will always mean a lot to me. This game is going to have special meaning to me in several ways. It's absolutely differently than any other game."

Friday's contest between Carver and High Point Andrews will also mean a great deal to Andrews' first-year defensive coordinator Lamont Scales. Scales was the defensive coordinator for Carver the last two seasons. He joined Andrews this past summer.

Game also important to Scales

"I thought I was going to stay at Carver," Scales said. "But things didn't quite work out that way. We know this is going to be a tough game. They're still Carver. They still have a good record and some talented players. We're looking forward to the challenge."

Like McCoy and David, Scales feels the extra importance of this week's game. But he's trying to prepare his troops as if it were one of the seven games the Raiders have already played.

"The only difference between this game and the ones we've already played is the fact that I know some of the players over there," Scales



Photo by Anthony Hill

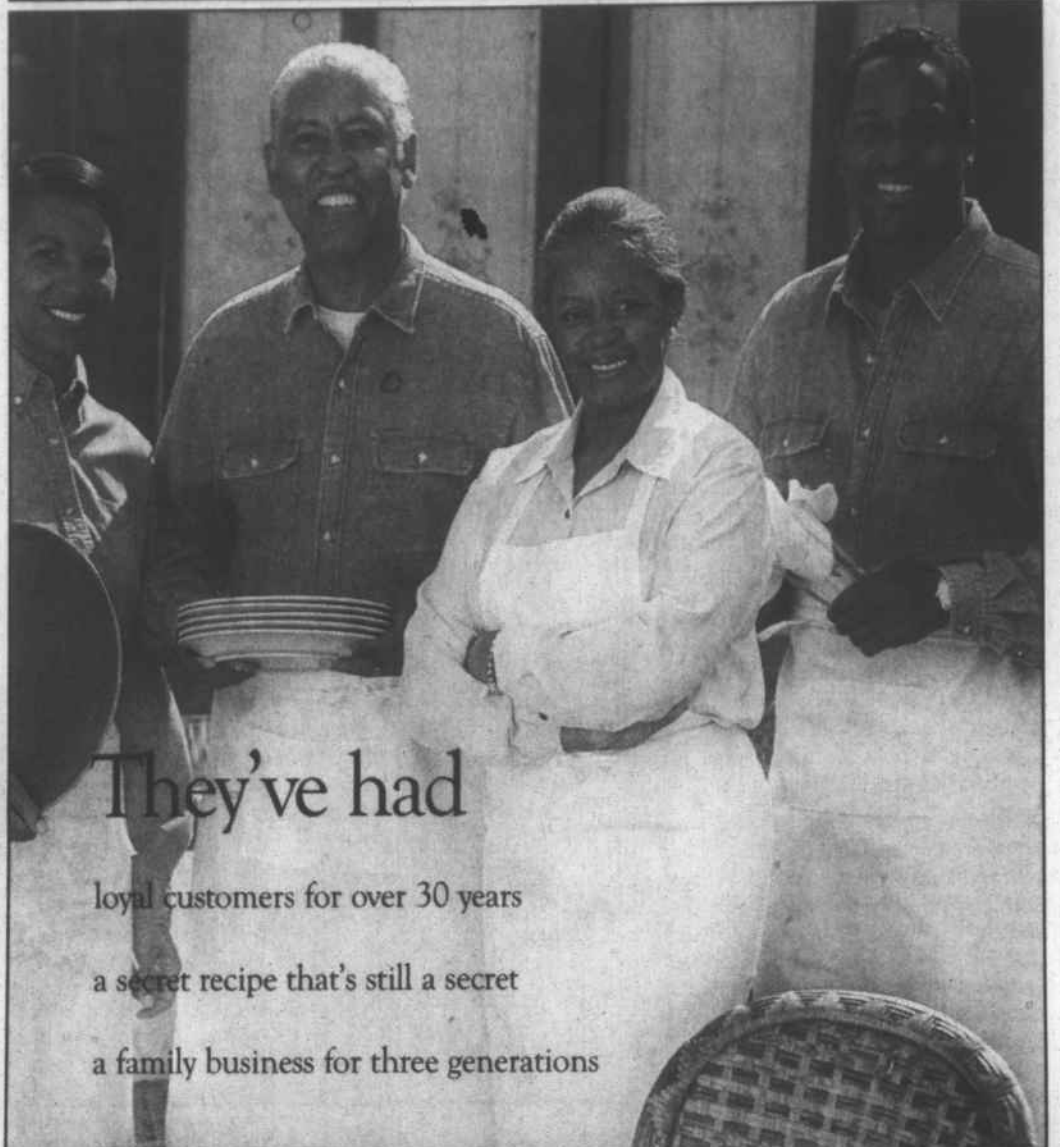
McCoy has enjoyed success at High Point Andrews.

said. "But our goal is the same as it's been before this game and that's to be conference champ. We like our chances this week. We like our chances every time we go into a game. A little luck doesn't hurt either. But we're not treating this game any differently than the rest of our games. We've prepared just as hard as we've been preparing heading into this week's game."

"It doesn't matter how close I was with the guys over there," Scales continued. "We could've been brothers or Siamese twins. I'm a competitor. When you're battling it's you against me. It's going to be you before it's me. That's the way I see it. Like I said, it's going to be a challenge. But a challenge we feel like we're ready for."

David definitely realizes the challenge ahead of his Yellowjackets. He's also aware of the many places his mind might travel when he leads his squad into Simeon Stadium tomorrow night.

"The first thing I'm going to do is find Tony Washington and follow him the whole night," David jokingly said. "That will probably be the first thing I do when I get off the bus. I'll probably (also) think about some of the good times I've had at Andrews. I've had a lot of good times at Andrews, and quite a few memorable moments in Simeon Stadium. It's still a good place to see a ball game, play a ball game and coach a good ball game. I'm pretty sure Friday will be memorable."



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