

SPORTS WEEK

SEPTEMBER 11, 2014

Despite rocky start, Reynolds optimistic

BY CRAIG T. GREENLEE FOR THE CHRONICLE

After three games, Reynolds is below .500. Yet, there's strong evidence that the Demons could prove themselves as worthy contenders in Central Piedmont Conference junior varsity football.

"At this point, we're still putting all the pieces together on both sides of the ball," said Coach David Hamlin. "We're young, but we have a good number of versatile people who can play multiple positions on defense."

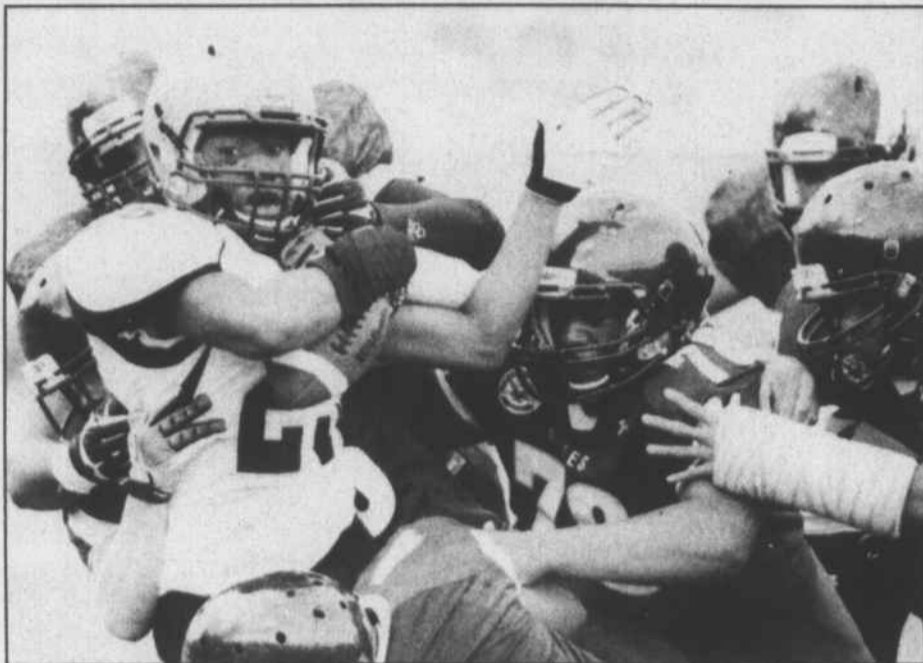


Hamlin

After starting the season at 0-2, Reynolds bounced back with a 14-0 victory over Ashe County last week. In that game, officials stopped playing late in the second quarter because of thunder and lightning. Frank Hines opened the scoring with a 33-yard punt return and Jevon Marsh added a four-yard touchdown run. Defensively, Clayton Philbrick led the way with three sacks.

Hamlin liked what he saw against Ashe County, but because of the shortened game, he wasn't able to make a full assessment of his team's progress. "I was hoping that I'd get the chance to see how we would perform over four quarters," said Hamlin. "From what I saw, there were some very positive signs. We gave our best effort in every phase of the game."

The Demons' back-to-back road losses could prove to be pivotal in how their season turns out. In a 21-0 loss to East



Reynolds' Jeremiah Brown runs for yardage.

Photo Charles Leftwich Jr.

Forsyth, the defense allowed three touchdowns in the first half, but held the Eagles scoreless in the second half. The following week, RJR gave Carver all it could handle in a 27-21 overtime loss. The Demons defense put points on the board when Jaishun White intercepted a pass and ran it back 45 yards for a touchdown.

"The Carver game was a confidence builder," said Hamlin. "Our kids saw for themselves that what we're teaching really does work. They saw what happens when you fill your lanes on defense and they saw how well the veer (offense) works when each player does his job."

Reynolds doesn't have a wealth of experience on this year's roster. More than half the team is comprised of freshmen. Hamlin understands that how well

his team plays hinges heavily on how quickly the Demons first-year players continue to mature and develop.

"We have several athletes who have never played organized football," he said. "They're learning and we're getting better. Clearly, we're a work in progress. The key for us is to keep improving week after week. Our kids are always asking questions and that's good because it shows that they want to improve as individuals and as a team. They're buying into what we're teaching. We just want to continue on the path that we're on."

Reynolds (1-2) looks to reach the .500 mark tonight (Sept. 11) when it plays Glenn in a home game at Deaton-Thompson Stadium. Kickoff time is 6 p.m.



Photo by Kevin Dorsey/A&T

Miranda Green on the move.

Aggies dominate Eagles

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Both North Carolina A&T cross country teams were successful last weekend over N.C. Central in the annual Eagle/Aggie Cross Country Classic in Durham.

The women's race changed to a standard 5k instead of the originally planned 2.9 mile run, while the men raced in a 6k event.

The women's team took the top-4 finishes. Freshman Miranda Green led the women to a 20-35 victory (the lowest score wins in cross country) against the Eagles with a first-place finish. Green ran 21:07.65 in her first 5k of the season. Behind her were sophomore Daniqua Dye (22:11.70), freshman Imani Coleman (22:19.93) and sophomore Imani Quillen-Harris (23:50.29).



Ross

The men had five Aggies in the top-6 with an 18-37 win. Senior Saeed Jones led the Aggie men with a first-place finish of 21:28.40 in the 6k race. Right behind Jones was sophomore Darren White with a second-place finish of 21:29.23. Finishing fourth, fifth and sixth were freshmen David Conner (22:28.12), Steven Stowe (22:50.79) and Corey Aiken (22:58.22) respectively.

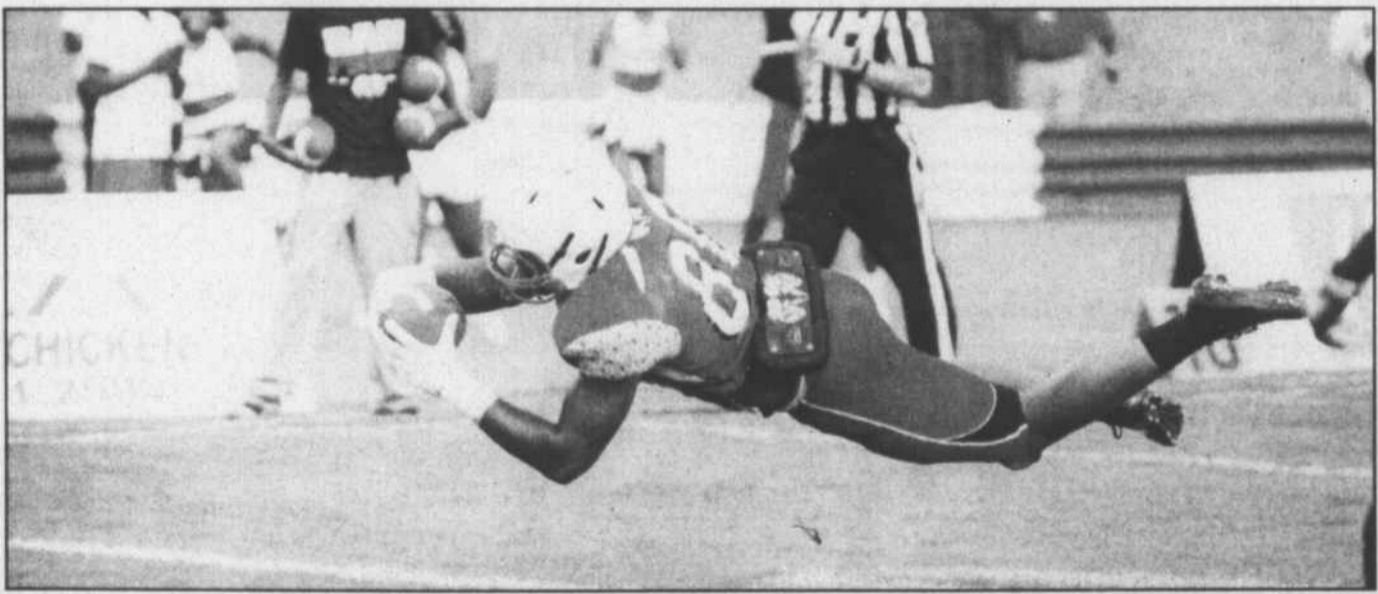
"Our team performed as expected," said Duane Ross, director of track and field programs. "Miranda continues to improve every day and I'm extremely happy with how the rest of our women responded today. Imani Coleman continues to impress as well. I wouldn't have expected anything less from our men. They know our expectations for this season and it includes winning conference, making a showing at regionals and the NCAA championships."

The Aggies will return to competition this upcoming Saturday, Sept. 13 at the Elon Invitational in Elon.

Boulware Era Begins

WSSU Photos by Garrett Garris

By the time QB-turned-tight end DeShean Townsend (pictured) dove in to give Winston-Salem State a 31-7 advantage over the visiting UNC Pembroke Braves, the writing was on the wall. The Rams would go on to finish off their opponents 38-7. Not only was it the team's first victory of the season, but it marked the first for new Head Coach Kienus Boulware (left).



Williams and Epps make NCAA top 30 cut

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

The CIAA's Danielle Williams and the MEAC's Christina Epps are among the top 30 finalists for the NCAA Woman of the Year Award.

The list started with 446 nominees. Ten women from each of the three divisions make up the top 30, spanning various NCAA sports.

The top 30 honorees reflect the pillars of the Woman of the Year award: outstanding achievements in academics, athletics, community service



Epps

and leadership.

In late September, three finalists from each division will be selected to form the nine finalists for the award. The 2014 Woman of the Year will be announced at an annual ceremony in Indianapolis Oct. 19.

Williams graduated from Johnson C. Smith in May after making her mark on the track. She is the Indoor and Outdoor Track Scholar Athlete of the Year in Division II and won five individual national titles last season.

Epps graduated in May from Coppin State University, where she ran track and was a member of the volleyball squad.

Epps was a four-time All-MEAC student-athlete in track and field and is a six-time triple jump champion in the conference.



CIAA Photo

Track darling Danielle Williams.

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