

Something To Cheer About!!!

Did you come from a high school that had a basketball team and a football team that seemingly no one cared about? Did the sports writers and newscasters predict that your team would lose agame after game, season after season? Did this ever happen to your team?

But wait a minute, suddenly something big happened! One the the greatest 'game in the district was held in your school's gym. Your basketball team, the long forgotten team in the woods, was schedule to play the big team from the city.

Predictions were bad for your team. At half-time your team is winning by five points and at the end of the game your team wins by ten points. No one believed that this would ever happen, but it did. And your team went on from there to defeat the big private school across the way. And the long awaited moment had arrived; at last you and your teammates and schoolmates had something to cheer and brag about.

Did that ever happen to your school? Maybe not as described above but within similar terms. I know how it feels to have something to cheer and brag about because it happened to us, it happened to us for real.

I remembered the day we played The North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University, the big university in Greensboro. It happened that day and it was some beauti-

ful baby.

Sportscasters predicted grim outlooks for our small town team — that we would lose to the big university team by a long shot. Anyway, that Saturday the A & T Aggies arrived in little Liz with buses for days, Continental Trailways, at that. About 1:00 in the afternoon we put the Aggies on Memorial Field and stumped muddy ground for days. We stumped and stumped the Aggies to sheer embarrassment.

It was a good game - The Aggies lost and the Vikings won. Now that was something to cheer about. No one in Elizabeth City community really believed that we would defeat the Aggies until the very last quarter of the game, but you see the Vikings knew it all along. You just don't tamper with a Viking and get away with it.

And then the basketball games, mercy, mercy me. And the years we went to Kansas City were the best years.

We think that the sports program at Elizabeth City State University is really together. Not only as a means of entertainment, when the Vikings really break out in mean threads, but also as a show of good, strict competition and skill. Athletics at ECSU is something the students really look forward to, however basketball and football are by far the most popular sports.

During the basketball season the



Mike Gale and Israel Oliver



ECSU QUARTERBACKS



Vikings fans really got down to see the games and the football team is also widely supported by the Elizabeth City community. Because of outstanding performance at the level of local, state, district and national both the basketball and football teams, have brought nationwide recognition and honors to Elizabeth City State University.

The football team has, for the past two years, been a strong contender for the CIAA Championship title. In 1969 the football team was ranked number two in CIAA and number eighteen in the NAIA. In 1969 Coach Caldwell also received the Coach of the Year Award.

Even though 1969 was our most outstanding year in basketball, the 1970 team did a very splendid job finishing in very high position both in the NAIA and the CIAA. Michael Gale received national honors as a

valuable player and was selected an All American player. However the 1969 basketball team, the best in the history of ECSU, was the CIAA Tournament Champions, CIAA AA Visitation Champions, Phiblan Christmas Tournament Champions, College of Charleston Tip-Off Tournament Champions and fourth in the NAIA National Championship competition.

In 1969, three basketball players achieved ALL CIAA Tournament honors; one, ALL CIAA honors; one, ALL NAIA District 29 honors; two, all NAIA National Tournament honors; and one, ALL AMERICAN NAIA honors. The basketball coach was named "CIAA Coach of the Year." "Most Outstanding CIAA Tournament Coach," and "NAIA Coach of the Year." The man receiving these honors was our own Coach Robert (Bobby) Vaughan, Chairman of the Department of Health and Physical Education.

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS (Continued)

Q. What is Candlelighting Service?
A. Candlelighting service at ECSU is a tradition and it is one that is well respected at the University. It is significant because it signifies your entrance into a world of knowledge - the University, and as an end-product-your accomplishments. At the end of your studies you carry your light out into the world and make a contribution to society.

COMPASS

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