

Vikings Battle For CIAA Tournament



By Thomas Graves
 The E.C.S.U. Vikings led by Thomas Blue are heading toward a spot in the C.I.A.A. tournament. Blue has not been performing up to par this year, so the burden has fallen on transfer students Ricardo White and freshman James Gray. They led the Vikings to victories over St. Augustine and Hampton Institute while Blue was sidelined with a bad ankle. Blue came back to lead the Vikings to a victory over St. Paul, and was injured again. The Vikings then took on Norfolk State in the Viking Arena. It was the first time that the Arena was filled to its capacity. However, the Vikings lost a close game to the Spartans by a score of 80-70.

The Vikings presently hold a 4-5 C.I.A.A. mark and an 9-8 overall record. James Gray leads the C.I.A.A. in field goal percentage. Thomas Blue was 5th in the C.I.A.A., with a 20.5 scoring mark per game. Blue was also among the leaders in rebounding.

The main problem this year has been free throws. The Vikings are presently in last place in shooting free throws. They have not been able to win on the road. This is another problem. One reason has been the lack of fan support. Our students are reluctant to travel to away games to see their team play. They have had close games on the road, wherein if some fans had been there, they might have been edged on to win. The Viking have already played the roughest part of their schedule on the road. Hampton, Virginia State and Norfolk State are still on the schedule. If the Vikings are to win, our fans must travel to support them.

