

Vikings Begins New Season

By Thomas Graves
Sport Editor

The Vikings will be hungry for a CIAA title in 1977-78 season. On the menu will be the tough Northern division teams. Many coaches and reporters picked Hampton Institute, Va. Union and Elizabeth City as the top teams in the league this year. However, Va. State will somehow come up with a rough team as they usually do. The southern division will have few surprises. Winston Salem is a strong favorite again in this division. Most notable though is the vast improvement of Shaw University who almost beat V. Union in last years C.I.A.A. tournament.

Norfolk State will have a good team but will be hurt by the loss of Tay Epps. Epps is now a member of the Golden State Warriors, a professional basketball team. Here are some key players to watch this year in the CIAA: Carloss Terry - Winston Salem. Marvin Payne and Keith Tolwer - Hampton Institute, Doward Fisdol - Va. State, Marvin Echols - Va. Union, "Big House" Isabell - Norfolk State and all the E.C.S.U. VIKINGS.

CIAA Candidates

By Jerry Renfrow

With only one game remaining in 1977 football season, the Mighty Vikings have five good candidates for all CIAA honor. Leading the way is defensive line backer Lester Farrington and clutch tight end Fred Hargrove. Other candidates are Tony Thompson, Kevin Grayson and Lavert Adams.

Farrington, a senior is a Red Spring native, who has amassed 76 primary tackles and 35 assists, for a total of 111 tackles. He has recovered four fumbles and intercepted two passes.

Senior, Fred Hargrove, a stellar receiver this year, has accumulate 25 airials for a total of 282 yards, scored one touchdown, and his longest reception was a 69 yarder.

Tony Thompson, a junior has 43 solo tackles to his credit, 19 assists, and one recovery. He leads the team in interceptions with three.

Senior, Kelvin Grayson has accumulated 34 individual tackles, and Lavert Adams, only a sophmore has 18 individual tackles.



Coach Mackey and Coach Vaughn observes players

Bembry Summarizes Volleyball Season

By Lillie M. Vaughan

The Women's Volleyball team began its season September 28th and since then they have played 19 games and 8 matches, but won only one which was a non-conference game with Hampton. Ms. Bembry, who is the coach is very optimistic about the team. She said that each time they played she saw definite improvements and doesn't feel disappointed, because volleyball is fairly new at ECSU.

Ms. Bembry main reason for feeling this way is because of the disadvantages placed on the team. To start off, the girls' heights range from 5'0" to 5'6", with Deborah Riddick being the only 5'6" girl. This gave the other teams an advantage because on a

whole, their girls were taller than this. Another reason was cited as being the lack of experience since volleyball is a new competitive sport to the university. This was the first year the school has had volleyball and many of the girls are amateurs.

Ms. Bembry stated, "I am planning on practicing right through next season to give the girls more experience." More than any other reason she felt that the main problem was in recruiting girls for the team. The team wasn't cut due to the fact, that had it been cut — there would not have been enough girls for a team. With all these things in mind the disadvantages become clear to everyone concerned.



The slide rule was invented by English mathematician William Outred in the 1600s.

New Coach, Mackey

By Dorenda Bryant

Many of you probably have noticed the tall, broad, bearded young gentleman walking around on campus. It is possible that you have asked yourself, who is this young man? Well your search for the answer is over. This gentleman is Mr. Claudia Jean Mackey. He is a native of Engelhard, N.C., a 1965 graduate and a varsity basketball player of E.C.S.U., and the former Basketball Coach for four years at York College, New York, N.Y. He has been awarded the position of Assistant Basketball Coach here at Elizabeth City State University. He is also teaching two courses in the education department: Foundation of Education and Secondary Schools.

The interview with Mr. Mackey was very informative, heartwarming, and impressive. When asked what motivated his return to Viking Land, it was very heartwarming to hear him say, "I have a genuine love for the school." He feels that he never left, because he has always carried the memories of some very "good" times he has experienced while attending school here. Those memories consisted of the relationships he had with the teachers here at that time, his

wife, and especially Coach Vaughan. He stated that in all of his search for his identity and the continuation of his education, he has always made E.C.S.U. a part of his life. He has sent guys here from other schools to take part in our athletic programs and he, himself, has always returned for the alumni games.

When asked what major changes has he seen in the athletic department, he was very informative in replying that the cafeteria is now located on the tract of land, which used to be the football field. And of course, the most obvious change is the new gymnasium, which he said was promised ten years before he got here, and when he graduated in 1965, it had not been built. One change that he would like to make is a stronger Booster Club. He expressed the desire to see the alumni, the school and the community become more involved in the Booster Club. He says, "We must have total community involvement in order to have a really good athletic program. If we are going to go for top students, then we are going to have to go for top treatment." He further stated that he was both surprised and disturbed about the students not sup-

porting the teams. He said, "It is true that we have had some bad seasons and most people, like myself, like to be associated with winners. But winners are not just those who make it statistically, but are persons like Coach Vaughan who for 27 years has worked with limited supplies and facilities and has produced pretty good ball teams. I feel he is a winner and being around him gives me the chance to learn from him hand-first."

In case, any of you have not heard, this year there will be a Junior Varsity Team. Mr. Mackey was asked to elaborate on this subject, and it seems from the information that was presented, that all the basketball players that were picked are varsity players. How is this possible? Well from previous years the coach has to turn down some pretty good players because of lack of funds and facilities. This year they devised a plan to keep some of those players, thus the Junior Varsity was born. This will be a chance for those players to become members of the team and gain more experience, so that they may be better able to fill the sneakers of the SENIOR PLAYERS: THOMAS BLUE, IRVING BLANKS, LORENZO HOLLOMAN,

RUSSELL HUDSON, WARREN JOHNSON, JUAN JEFFERY JONES, MARTIN TOWE, and RICARDO WHITE.

In summation of the interview, Mr. Mackey was asked if he had any added comments, this is what he had to say. "Most schools that have a strong academic program has a strong athletic program. I wish that everyone would be as dedicated and concerned about our educational program as Dr. Herman Cooke used to be. I myself, would like to moderate my thinking to the attitude of Dr. Cooke. He did not believe in giving you something, but he believed in helping you achieve your goals. This the the attitude that he projected to me. I personally see athletics as a means of projecting yourself, and if the school would take the motto of the basketball team, "TOGETHER WE STAND, DIVIDED WE FALL, ALL FOR ONE AND ONE FOR ALL," and practice that motto, we could have one heck of an athletic and academic program."

Surely, with coaches like Mr. Mackey, and involved student body and community, the Vikings will be on the way to success and victories. So everybody, "LET'S GET THE VIKINGS CLICKING."