

Volume 44 Number 2

ELIZABETH CITY, N.C.

December 12, 1979

Citing health reasons

Holmes resigns ECSU position

By PETE WILLIAMS
Daily Advance Sports Editor

Tommy Holmes has stepped down from his position as head football coach at Elizabeth City State University, the school's athletic department announced last week.

Citing health reasons, Holmes the head coach for the past three years, stepped down from his position in a letter sent to Chancellor Marion D. Thorpe and Athletic Director Bobby Vaughan.

In a letter written to Thorpe, Holmes said, "with regard to my recent illness, I feel that the duties of head football coach are more than I can successfully fulfill at the present time. I am therefore requesting to be relieved of this responsibility immediately."

The letter went on to say, "It has been a real pleasure and a challenge to work with the fine young men at this University, but I regret my health will no longer permit me to be an effective head coach."

Holmes, who has been at the University for 10 years, will remain at the school in a teaching position, Vaughan feels. The native of Chesapeake, Va., is an associate professor of physical education.

Holmes was admitted to

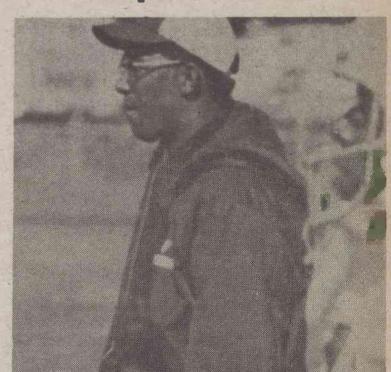
DePaul Hospital in Norfolk on Oct. 18, complaining of stomach pains. He was finally released on Nov. 19 after operations for gall stones and the removal of his gall bladder. While in the hospital, the 54-year-old coach was treated for pneumonia, a complication of his illness.

Since leaving the hospital, Holmes had not returned to work, but remained home and rested per doctor's orders. A search committee will be formed by Dr. Thorpe to find a new head coach.

According to Vaughan, chairman of the search committee, the group will comprise of the Athletic

cont. p. 4, see SEARCH

a campus mystery.....





Questions like, "What started the fire?, Who started the fire?, who will pay for the damages? are still unanswered. For more information, read the inside story on Page 4.



