

Sports Report



By Gary Savage
Sports Writer

Self confidence is essential for the upcoming season of the Wrestling team of ECSU. The team has been practicing to fulfill a very hopeful year for all you

Wrestling Coach Mr. T. J. Little, Jr., comments about the potential CIAA champs. Coach Little thinks that the Vikings will do better than last years record of 7-4. "I would say for the first time in about three or four years, that I'm very optimistic and enthused. I think we have a good potential team this year. The quality of the players are high. The overall excitement and morale of these individuals are excellent. The team is working very hard for this upcoming season."

Coach Little said the veterans that he chose to keep around will be very sincere. They are the nucleus of the wrestling team. A lot of the veterans returning are past non-starters, but of the veterans that are returning he speaks very highly of.

Coach Little stated the bad points of last year mainly were the quality of individuals on the wrestling team. Also the lack of being able to recruit the top quality. Last year I had to settle for some walk ons who had past experience."

The Vikings have a total of 13 new recruits. All 13 recruits are freshman. Coach Little feels that if they keep working out, that out of the group we should expect three or four CIAA champions.

John Andrews the team captain had this to say about the season: "This season, we should place high in the CIAA. The new recruits have given more strength and power to the team. I'm also looking forward to winning the CIAA this year."

This is Andrews third year of wrestling. He wrestles in the 134 lb. weight class. Andrews goal is to win the CIAA.

"We are extending an invitation to all Vikings to come out and support the young Viking matmen in their endeavor to recapture the CIAA Wrestling championship," said Little.

"These mat men have already formulated self-confidence, now all they need is your confidence and support to lead them to the CIAA title."

By Tamara E. Wright
Editor

Along with the excitement of football season, another major sport at ECSU is taking shape, and there are two groups of athletes who have begun training for their upcoming seasons.

Basketball has been one of the more exciting sports at ECSU for quite a while now, and both the men and women's teams are shaping up for this season. Under the direction of Asst. Coach Claudie Mackey for the men, and Asst. Coach Ronald Peterson for the women, both teams are in the midst of pre-conditioning -- TOGETHER! These work outs are basically to get the players in shape and review fundamental drills. They began this joint practice routine on October 15th, the day the NCAA ruled that official practice may begin.

For the men's team, and I might add, the defending CIAA champs, we have 9 returning players, joined by 10 other hopefuls for the team. Of the 19, four will be cut to compose the dressing team, consisting of 15 players. There are 7 freshman trying out this year.

The team will be deficient in height according to Head Coach R.L. Vaughan. He explained that Linwood Hines, former center for the Vikings, was one of the four

players lost from last year's team. Standout Arthur "Boo Boo" Gaskins will also be missed from this year's team as he is completing his under graduate requirements this year.

Coach Vaughan is hopeful that the team's lack of height will be made up for in speed, and that they will be the quickest team since Mike Gale and "his crew," former CIAA champs. He hopes to work with Darryl Brown, Donnie Carter and James Hardy closely to help tally up points.

In discussing the women's team, Vaughan was very optimistic. Under the direction of Coaches Ola Goss, Alvin Kelley, and Ronald Peterson, Vaughan feels that the girls should look forward to an outstanding season. There are 6 returning seniors who Vaughan feels are in the "twilight of their career." Of these 6, four are regular starters; Grace Bell, Francine Godwin, Diana Chavers, and Deborah Fogle. Kathy Fennell and Vanisha Gray are the other senior veterans who will add their experience along with underclassmen players.

The Lady Vikings have 15 out this year and that number will basically remain the same. They will open their season on Dec. 2nd at Fayetteville State.

The men's season will open on Dec. 5th in a double-header with the women's team against Virginia Union at Vaughan Center.

Power Volleyball In Action

By Steve Bly
and Joann White

Staff Writers

Volleyball is a competitive sport that can be enjoyed by all ages. It can be played indoors, in the park, on the beach, and in the backyard. This year, the ECSU women's volleyball team has demonstrated that they really have potential and are looking forward to a successful season.

The team is currently in the home stretch of their season, and are eyeing a shot at the CIAA tournament in November. Coach Ola Goss feels very confident about this year's team. "I have 12 hard working young ladies, most of them in their first and second years of playing volleyball. While a few have played before entering college, the majority of them have acquired skills upon coming here. All in all, I

think this team has played very well with the skills that they have learned."

The team starters, Bridgette Bordeaux, Wanda Crump, Pamela Stanley, Esther Hicks, Judy Perry, and Sonjie Hilton play as a close knit unit both at home and on the road according to Goss. Other team members include Anita Bailey, Denise Cook, Hallie Crump, Janie Reed, Gwendolyn White, Sonya Leary, and Katrina Hood.

The rest of the season will be tough, for the ladies must face two teams who have already defeated us on their home courts. Goss says that "we will seek revenge on our home court!"

Our volleyball team is ready for the challenge, so let's all attend the remaining games and cheer them on to the CIAA tournament in November.

NCAA DIVISION II SOUTHERN REGION RATINGS

1. Elizabeth City State
2. Jacksonville State (Alabama)
3. Tuskegee Institute (Alabama)
4. North Alabama
5. Fort Valley State (Georgia)
6. Mississippi College
7. Alabama A & M
8. Livingston (Alabama)
9. North Carolina Central
10. Troy State (Alabama)

SPECIAL CONGRATULATIONS

TO BOBBY FUTRELL---

COACHES PICK FOR

PLAYER OF THE MONTH !

DAILY ADVANCE REPORT

The Elizabeth City State Vikings are presently ranked first in the NCAA Division II Southern Region football ratings.

The top eight teams in the Southern Region final rankings will advance to the first round of NCAA Division II post-season play.

The Vikings, 5-1 following a 39-6 win over St. Paul's, rank ahead of Jacksonville (Alabama) State and Tuskegee Institute (Alabama) in the Southern Region Top 10. Representing the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Conference along with ECSU is North Carolina Central, in ninth place.

The Vikings' Oct. 24 home game against N.C. Central has been designated by the ECSU athletic department. All area teams are being invited to the campus for an informal lunch preceding the 1:30 game against the Eagles at the Northeastern Athletic Complex.

All area teams responding to ECSU's invitation are requested to assemble in the R.L. Vaughan Center by 12 noon for lunch and an opportunity to meet and talk with head coach Johnnie Walton. All teams will be seated in the west stands and recognized at halftime.

ECSU's Homecoming contest against Fayetteville State Oct. 31 will not be played at the new Carrie and Sam B. Roebuck Stadium as had been originally planned. The contest, which will get

underway at the NHS athletic complex at 1:30, was moved due to the expense involved in holding one game at the new stadium this season, said ECSU athletic director Bobby Vaughan.

...ECSU's Bobby Futrell continues to lead the CIAA in interceptions, with seven pickoffs in six games. Futrell also ranks second in punt returns, with 172 yards on 11 returns for 15.6 average.