



SPORTS

Split Decision!!!

September 2 Loss to Central Florida 37-7

by Gary Savage

As you know, the Vikings opened their season September 2 at Central Florida University. Usually, every year, the Vikings travel out-of-state and play a high ranking division team.

Central Florida is part of the NCAA Division I AA. The team is ranked among the top teams in their division. Central Florida is known for its clever offensive abilities - due to their Coach, Lew Sabail who formerly coached the NFL's Buffalo Bills' offensive line.

I asked ECSU's Defensive Line Coach, Richard (RD) Watson, to comment. "Our weakest points were both offensive and defensive; we weren't aggressive enough. Our team was somewhat tired from the long ride down. We did not have enough time to practice," said Watson.

He also read offense for the Vikings in the box upstairs during the game. He thinks that the team learned a lot from the game which will help them through the '83 football season.

Chris Pendergrass, a senior, position-strong safety, made a 72 yard interception to score the only touchdown made by the Vikings during the game. The touchdown was scored in the first quarter, which tied the game at that point. Unfortunately Central Florida went on to claim a 37-7 victory.

Darryl Suggs, running-back, broke the ice by being the only rookie to play in the game. Barry Polite, a junior from Wilmington, NC made his debut as a starter as fullback taking over for Bruce Butler, senior, from Philadelphia, PA. Polite gave a nice performance during the game. Barry feels that his performance could have been better. "I plan to do my best to help the Vikings claim a CIAA, NCAA Victory," said Polite.

Fans must remember that Central Florida was just one game and the Vikings can't base their future performances on one bad game. It will take the support of the student body and community to help motivate the Viking ball club.

New Stadium, New Start as Vikes Bite Bulldogs 27 - 13

by Tammye Jones

September 10 was a hot sunny day. The game was scheduled to begin at 1:30 pm. The ECSU Marching Vikings marched into Roebuck Stadium like a blue tidal wave. The crowd of students, alumni, dignitaries, and guests poured in.

The ceremony began with Dr. Ghee introducing the speakers for the day. Dr. Jimmy Jenkins, Acting Chancellor, stated: "Roebuck Stadium symbolizes a new beginning and a dream come true."

Mr. Sam Roebuck, the individual primarily responsible for the stadium, was introduced and given a standing ovation by the fans.

The first half of the game was full of fumbles and interceptions. ECSU received the ball with the kickoff return by #1 J.J McCullen, from Elizabeth City, NC, with #7 Eddie Morris from Edenton, NC in as quarterback.

A Viking fumble was recovered by Bowie State on the 18 yard line. With Bowie State in possession, #78 Dustan Brooks, from Elizabeth City, was on the tackle. There was another fumble, recovered by Brooks on the 20 yard line. The Vikings in possession, passed to #83 Elbert "BoBo" Parks, from Greenville, SC. The pass was complete. A substitution was made, and #35 Darryl Suggs, from Kinston, NC, tied the game.

The Vikings got a penalty, then fumbled again. Bowie State's #82 Greg Fuller recovered. Viking #68 Haywood Wilder, from Beauford, NC, was on the tackle and recovered a Bowie State fumble. Morris threw a pass which was incomplete. Another pass was then thrown to #25 Greg Watford from Ahoskie, NC. He carried for 8 yards but fumbled. #47 Terry Marbury for Bowie State recovered on the 28 yard line. A touchdown was made by Bowie State's Fuller. There was a penalty against Bowie State and the score was 0-6 Bowie State.

#40 Bobby Futrell, All-American Candidate, from Ahoskie, NC, received the kickoff. Morris threw a pass and Watford carried. The drive progressed. Morris had the ball knocked from his hand but recovered it himself. The first quarter was over.

The beginning of the second quarter was much like the first. #22 Reginald Banks, from Portsmouth, VA, intercepted a pass thrown by Bowie State. The Vikings were penalized twice in their own touchdown territory. There was another interception by Bowie State and another fumble. ECSU regained possession and Suggs carried the ball for a first down.

There was a fumbled interception by Bowie State, recovered by Watford of the Vikings. Bowie State, with a

sudden rage of determination, sacked the Viking quarterback. The ball was recovered by ECSU. Morris threw to Suggs, who fumbled. Viking Parks recovered, and the first half was over.

The second half started with another touchdown by Bowie State, making the score 0-13. In the third quarter, the usual starting quarterback #9 John Robinson, from Bolton, NC, was in the game for the Vikings. The third quarter was a tug-of-war between the defenses. A fumble, recovered by the Vikings, ended the third quarter.

In the fourth quarter, Robinson threw a long pass to #80 Reginald Langhorne from Smithfield, VA, to the twelve yard line. It was a touchdown for the Vikings by #24 Anthony Creecy, from Edenton, NC.

The "concrete wall" Viking defense kept the Bowie Bulldogs from making another touchdown. Banks carried the ball, then the Viking quarterback was sacked again. A pass was thrown to Parks, Tillery carried, Robinson connected with Langhorne, and Robinson made the touchdown.

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GO VIKINGS!