

SPORTS SPOTLIGHT



“The Big O” Howard Oglesby Speaks as a Student and an Athlete

by Zelene Bunch

“...you have to more than just a ‘jock.’”

Who is Howard Oglesby?
At Anacostia High School in his hometown, Washington D.C., they called him ‘Dancing Bear.’ At ECSU, he’s called ‘Big O.’ But who is this young student-athlete?

The stories of Howard’s years here have grown legendary.

Everyone knows how he was recruited. A co-worker of his at the shipyard, acquainted with the coaches at that time, called one of them and asked, “How would you like a 6-foot-9, 400 pound defensive tackle?”

The coach replied, “How soon can he get here?”

Howard arrived Spring Semester 1981. According to the Oglesby legend, when it was weigh-in time, no scale on campus numbered high enough to weigh him. He was taken to the ice plant. He weighed 426 pounds.

“I was always big, even as a kid. I guess it made me shy. I always felt, you know, conspicuous.”

Despite the weight, Howard’s first two years in the Viking gridiron were phenomenal. He became notorious throughout the CIAA as a dangerous DT. Several professional team scouts interviewed, tested, and watched him. In a year of running, weight-lifting and dieting, he lost 139 pounds.

Then last year came the knee injury and surgery that red-shirted him for a season, forcing him to alter his thoughts on both college and life.

The now-svelte 287-pounder discussed his new views. “It almost killed me last year, having to sit on the sidelines,” said Oglesby. “I was so used to

playing every defensive second. But I found I have a good ability to read plays while watching the game, a good thing if I ever coach.

“I kept up the running, after my knee was back to full strength. I stayed in shape.

“The best thing that happened to me while I was out of action was that my grades went up. I didn’t have anything else to do with my time, so I started studying a lot more.

“Then I found out the fun of studying. It’s still a grind, but the fun comes when I get back papers with A’s or B’s on them, instead of what I used to get.

“My grades were never that bad, but I always did just enough to get by. Getting hurt made me realize that there is more to life than football, even though I still plan to reach my goal of playing pro.”

During the year on the bench, Howard found other extra-curricular activities to occupy his time. He began working with the Advertising Department of the COMPASS and VIKING.

“I saw that it’s important to do lots of things while you’re in college,” said Oglesby. “This may be the only time in my life that I can do many things. Football is number one, but nowadays, you have to be more than just a ‘jock.’”

“My major is Criminal Justice, and I plan to put my degree to use. I want to work with juveniles. I grew up in the city, seeing street life, and I got out of it without getting in too much trouble. I never went to jail or anything like that. I would rather work with prevention than detention. Show kids that there’s something to life other than ‘being a bad nigger.’”

G-Watt— Pride of the Modern Languages Department

by Algie Mabry

Had you ever noticed in former years that the only things an English major was supposed to be capable of doing was to read, write, and speak? Do you realize that even now many people think English majors can only delete an error on the video display terminal, make blurred noises across some unknown radio station or construct a well developed thesis sentence?

Well these are the 80’s and the English majors of ECSU are doing all types of different things. One particular scholar finds holding onto a pigskin bag while trying to zoom down a field with eleven zombies on his tail very enjoyable.

This English major who has the ability, the guts, the determination, and physical equipment for the task is none other than Brutus himself, Gregory Watford.

A native of Ahoskie, North Carolina, Greg comments that being an English major will be rewarding in the future because of the limitless boundaries in the English field.

“As a honor student, I try to keep football activities separate from my academics,” says Watford, who after graduation

would like to attend graduate school. Watford would also like to teach English on the college level.

“Not all ball players are dumb,” says Watford as he expounds on the brand people have stamped on athletes.

“If I could change only one thing, I would change the stigma being placed on many athletes, both male and female, regardless of the sport.”

A sincere scholar and outstanding athlete, Greg has a mission like so many other people. Although it is similar to that of others, it is characteristic of the benevolence that prevails in his outreach.

“If I could help only one student then I feel I have accomplished something.”

In the remaining football games of the season, remember that one particular English major will not have his head buried in Cooper’s LEATHERSTOCKING TALES, but will be crammed inside a white shell holding onto a pigskin bag trying to zoom down a field with eleven zombies on his tail.

Stephen Scott

ECSU’s No. 1 Wrestler

By Ricky Wilkins

Stephen Scott, a junior from Pinehill, N.J., majoring in Physical Education, has made a name for ECSU’s wrestling team. He is the first ECSU wrestler to make NCAA All American.

Twice, Scott captured the CIAA heavyweight division title. To accomplish this feat, he traveled to North Dakota State University where NCAA’s top eight All Americans challenged Scott.

A total of 24 wrestlers were in Scott’s weight class. He placed seventh with two wins and two losses. Scott admitted there were problems, the most important being the lack of a coach at the competition.

Scott held many records while attending Overbrook Senior High School in N.J. His winning record of 33-1 is untouched to this day.

He is on a four year grant in aid scholarship at ECSU. Besides wrestling, Scott is involved in various organizations: a member of the Wine Psi Phi Social Fellowship Inc. and the Physical Education club. During the summer, he coaches children in wrestling techniques at day camps.

“I love to wrestle: it is a very tough sport and you must be dedicated,” said Scott. He proudly notes that ECSU’s wrestling team has the best athletic record on campus.

During his freshman year, the team’s record was 15-3-1 and last year they were 20-4.

The first match this year will be at Hampton Institute, and he would appreciate students supporting the team.

“There are a lot of competitive teams out there,” said Scott. His

team has faced opponents such as Georgia Tech., University of Rutgers of Camden, Furman, S.C. State, Norfolk State and has been victorious in the past.

“This year the team is going for the title,” proclaimed Scott. “In the past we have come up short.”

Scott describes this year’s team as very tough. Fellow teammate, Errol Hines from Lindenwood, N.J. and William Jones, one of the assistant coaches, have been a great help to him.

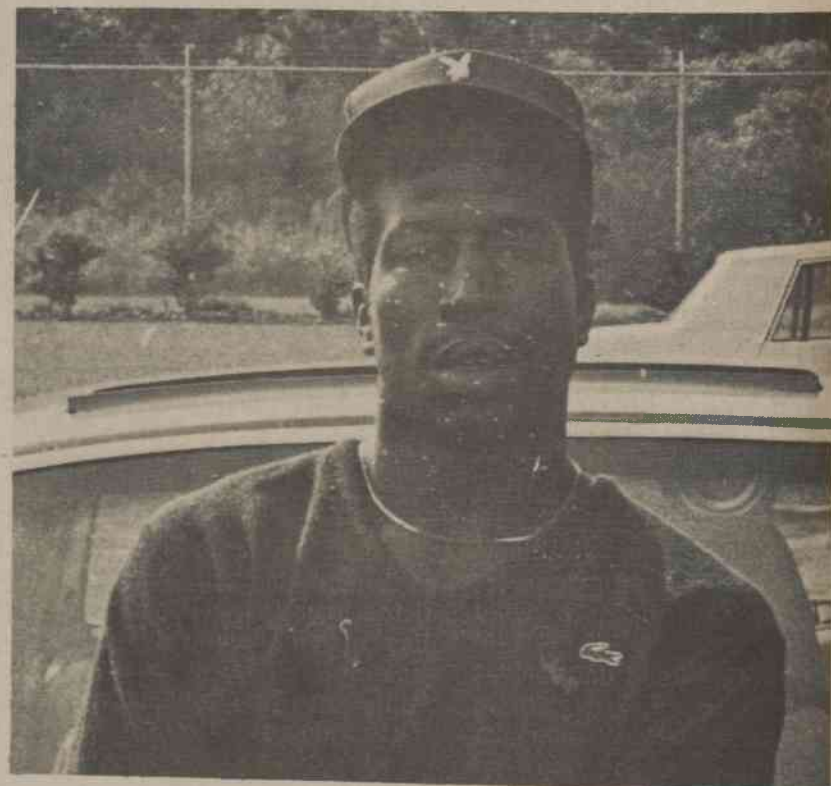
During his freshman year, Scott finished at 18-0-1 and last year at 22-1-1. He gives special thanks to Head Coach Thurlis Little for taking time to work with him, and Haywood Cooper, one of his assistant coaches who has been a great help also.

After graduation, if there are no jobs, Stephen would like to become a wrestling coach at a university because of his past experience. Scott has done a fine job as a wrestler for ECSU. He has made a name for the Vikings in wrestling.



Stephen Scott--

NCAA All American



The nice thing about Miller time is that it doesn’t end just because summer does.



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