

to our potential like we should have, also several calls were made, not in our favor."

Higgs led the Vikings in scoring with 25 points. Higgs also had seven rebounds, two steals, and two assists. Shawn Walker had 24 points, two steals, two rebounds, and one assist. Martin "Twiggy" Lacewell had 14 points, five rebounds, two steals, and one assist. Jo-ve Ford had 10 points, seven rebounds, two steals, five blocks, and one assist. Rounding out the scoring for the Vikings was Ron Nowlin who had 9 points, four rebounds, and two assists. The Vikings also had 18 turnovers.

The Vikings were led by 6'7" junior forward Nate Higgs. Higgs was third in the CIAA in scoring averaging to 23 points a game and led the conference with 10.4 rebounds. Junior guard Shawn Walker was sixth in the CIAA in scoring, averaging 20 points a game. The team assist leader was junior guard Martin "Twiggy" Lacewell 4.8 assists per game. Sophomore 7'1" center Jo-ve Ford was third in rebounding in the CIAA grabbing 9.5 rebounds per game and third in block shots with 2.5 blocks per game. Ford also averaged 13 points per game.

"Ford has played basketball only two years including high school and college," said Mackey. "He's still learning how to play the game and I'm convinced that in due time Jo-ve will certainly be a force for the ECSU basketball

program."

For the season the Vikings shot 49 percent from the field, and 68 percent as a team from the free throw line. The Vikings had 1086 rebounds for the season and 527 turnovers. The overall record of the Vikings was 18-0.

"The whole year was a success for the guys," said Randy Jones, ECSU's Assistant Sports Information Director and play by play announcer for the Viking Sports Network. "We have a young team and with this years experiences on our side, we'll be back next year."

"The presence of returning players and the addition of Ron Nowlin, Larry James, and Jo-ve Ford helped the team tremendously," said assistant basketball coach Alfred Johnson. "We had a very successful season and we had one of the hardest schedules in Division II. I think we proved ourselves to the university family that we can play basketball and that they will see more of good things to come for the ECSU men's basketball program."

Johnson pointed out that two Vikings, Nate Higgs and Shawn Walker made All-CIAA this year.

"Nate Higgs was also named CIAA Player of the Year," Johnson added. Shawn Walker had the highest three point percentage in the CIAA.

"Our second place finish in the Northern Division during the regular season was not a surprise to me," Johnson said.

Ron Nowlin: a Viking who gives his best

By Ayanna Dorsey

Sophomore forward Ron Nowlin, from Florence, SC, joined the Vikings this season and has made a powerful impact on the defense during their winning season.

Nowlin, a transfer from Otero Junior College in Colorado, is known throughout the CIAA as an "awesome defender" and according to the the Daily Advance he is the "secret weapon" for the Vikings.

Nowlin says that these labels only make him work harder and do the best he can.

"I love to play hard and give all I can, day in and day out, on and off the court," he said.

"The defense brings the offense; the good defense will win championships, the best part of our game is the defense and that helps to motivate the team." Nowlin says that he tries to motivate the team to play better by hustling harder and playing together, "the rest will fall in place," he adds.

"I had to adapt to the larger crowds and more support from the black community." Nowlin stated, "that was one of the largest transitions, coming from a small community college." He also said that another reason he chose Elizabeth City

State University was the high graduation rate amongst the basketball team.

"I like playing for Coach Mackey, he always stresses hitting the books before the basketball, he really enforces being a good student and getting an education." Nowlin stated, "One of the key points Coach Mackey always stresses. 'You are here for an education, get that, then play ball.'"

Nowlin said that he doesn't feel any pressure playing with more popular veterans, such as Nate Higgs, Shawn Walker, as well as the others and the new rookie Jo-ve Ford. "We are all a team, even though there are always going to be those who stand out, the key is playing together, I also realize that my day will come to be in the public eye."

Nowlin, 20, a Physical Education Major says that he plans to return to his home town after graduation, to teach and become the head basketball coach at his high school. Nowlin, a twin, has three other brothers and two sisters.

His advice for today's younger generation of black men?

"Stay in school and think positive. Never let anyone turn you around and stop you from reaching your dreams."

Ice Cube

From Page 14

ing Stone Jan 7, 1993, feels that "Ice Cube has shut us out. In no song on *The Predator* can we see into his mind (Let alone his heart)."

I disagree with Danyel Smith's view. This album doesn't just have the Ice Cube that just left N.W.A. and is now the "Gangsta Gangsta" in transition as in the first album *Amerikkka's Most Wanted*. Nor does it totally have the political Cube that had "Met Farrahankan and had dinner as in the 2nd album *Death Certificate*.

This album is titled *The Predator* and that's exactly where you'll find Cube's mind and heart at. Throughout the album you find him stalking his prey: the media, cops, punk gang bangers, "bitches" (as Cube would say) and Amerikkka period.

I believe Cube made the same move that KRS, one of Boogie Down Productions, did on their last album. That move was to get away from the preachy pro-black politically based type of album and

just catch wreck for kicking mad poetical styles.

The shortcoming of *The Predator* is that if the listener is not familiar with Cube's background, some things that he's saying may sound like rhetoric. Throughout the album he makes references to Caucasians who are anti-black as "devils," justifiably so. On the flipside you have Ice Cube disrespecting black women and gambling, drinking and smoking.

Ice Cube says that he wants to hold up a mirror to brothers so that they can see their reflections on the destructive things that they are doing. Fine, but in *The Predator* when Cube holds up the mirror I don't see any reflection—meaning that Cube seems to enjoy portraying the ills of black America. That leaves you to question who's the real devil?

All in all this album is definitely worth peeping and should be added to your collection. The overall production of the album is solid. The anger and rage toward America is put into lyrically creative perspective as only as Ice Cube can.

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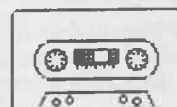
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