

ECSU's new athletic director says 'mental attitude' is key to winning

By Reginald Worlds

Edward McLean, Elizabeth City State University's new athletic director, is overflowing with faith in the future of the University's athletics.

"This program is ready to explode," he says. McLean believes that with some cooperation between the community and the school and a little hard work, Elizabeth City State university could be "on the map as a prominent athletic program on the national level."

McLean, who became athletic director Sept. 1, replaced Willie Shaw, who resigned to take a job at More house Col-

lege, in Atlanta. Mclean is a former athletic director and physical education department chairman at Clark Atlanta University.

McLean sees this year's basketball season as a springboard for his plans. With nationally acclaimed players such as Nate Higgs and Sean Walker along with some of the best basketball talent in the country, he says the Vikings are poised for great things this season.

"It's very important that we treat it right and keep it in perspective," he says.

In terms of his overall approach to the program, McLean seeks to "bring in the student athlete who is trying to get an

education and to keep him/her here." This this may not show up in the win-loss column, says McLean, but it will attract athletes from all over the country, who will take the program up to a new level.

"We aren't looking for a quick fix, such as some programs do," says McLean, "snatching a lot of junior college players for only a couple of years. We want to cultivate our teams with players who are close to each other."

McLean is also working on getting the Viking team new uniforms and restoring the training room.

"Right now we do not have the appearance of an up and coming program

and we are attempting to give ourselves a better image," he says.

McLean, who has his doctorate in sports psychology and motor behavior, believes "mental attitude" is vital to the student athlete.

"We have to develop a winning mentality here because at this level the difference between winning and losing is in the mind,"

McLean says he hopes to see more people attending Elizabeth City State University's sporting events.

"We're in the business of entertainment," he says. "People enjoy seeing quality entertainment."

'Midnight madness' kicks off season

By Carlos McCormick

The night started off with a "slam dunk" contest by the fans—which was judged by the Viking Basketball Team.

Fans had the chance to do three dunks, and were evaluated on the best of the three.

This was all part of Midnight Madness, which ECSU celebrated Oct. 30 in the Vaughan Center. The event, culminating in the Viking's first practice just after midnight, officially launched the Viking season and provided Viking fans to a

preview of the team.

According to National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) rules, practice must begin on Nov. 1. Since most schools begin practicing one minute past midnight, the NCAA allowed practice to begin this year on Oct. 31, to prevent practice from interfering with student's classes.

After the preliminaries were over, the Viking cheerleaders appeared clad in mail carrier uniforms, to represent the theme for this year's team, which is "The Viking men are a total package."

The theme was created by the players

"to mean 15 players from ECSU coming together for one cause, to bring home the CIAA Championship," according to Mason.

The cheerleaders gave each team member a basketball, and after the player received the ball he either slam dunked the ball or did a lay-up.

The Viking men split up into blue and white teams and played a 20-minute scrimmage. The blue team won.

The evening culminated in a dance and pancake breakfast, around two a.m.

This year's team will be anchored by

CIAA player of the year, Nate Higgs, and all CIAA Shawn Walker.

The team has an array of talent, from second year player Shrano Woodley, to the man in the middle, Jove Ford.

Mason said the purpose of the event is to generate enthusiasm for the Vikings and the upcoming season.

"We hold midnight madness to get Elizabeth City excited about the potential of the basketball team, We wanted the public to realize that we need them to support us now."

News Briefs

By Lynn Jordan

On Nov. 17 Pasquotank County Health Department worker Andrea Savage spoke to students in the New Dormitory Residence about the danger and spread of AIDS. The purpose of the meeting was to inform students of the increasing rate of AIDS cases in their age group. Savage said she felt it was important to speak to students because they really aren't taking the disease serious enough.

"I think the risk of HIV, the spread of HIV, in young adults is increasing rapidly and we do not think we are at risk. We don't take the precautions that we need to take, as young adults, because we feel we are invincible. Savage said it is important for young adults and teenagers to be fully knowledgeable about how the AIDS virus is transmitted.

"Until people learn of the importance of using protection, the disease will continue to spread," she said.

The ladies of Alpha Kappa Alpha and Delta Sigma Theta Sororities, Inc. sponsored a Blood Drive in Williams Hall Gym on Thursday, Nov. 18, 1993. The American Red Cross was received 101 pints of blood from the ECSU family. Nearly all of the blood was donated by students, according to a Red Cross representative.

The Chancellor's Distinguished Executive Speaker Series presented three Executive Speaker forums during the month of November in the Jenkins Science Complex. Gil Berry, President of Berry Construction Company in Pittsburgh, PA, Robert Mauldin, Chairman of Centura Bank, Rocky Mount, NC, and Donald Bennett, President of Richfood Inc., Richmond, VA held discussions with faculty and students. Dr. Deborah Carter Fontaine was departmental coordinator.

The Beta Zeta Chapter and the Epsilon Chi Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. hosted the 32nd Annual Associa-

tion of North Carolina Alphas District Conference, Nov. 19-21, 1993, on the campus of ECSU. The Conference opened Saturday with a public question and answer forum moderated by Nathan E. Scovens. Panelist were Dan Bleu, North Carolina Speaker of the House, Attorney Ronald Penny, Chancellor Jenkins, and Rev. Charles Sizemore. The issue being discussed was Reclaiming the African American Community.

Beta Zeta competed in several events and was recognized for their achievements. Miss Nikita C. Sutton, Miss Beta Zeta, will represent the state of NC in regional competition as Miss NC Black and Gold.

Michael A. Myrick participated in the oratorical contest; the topic was "Reclaiming Our Community the Awakening of a Sleeping Giant." The chapter also participated in the quiz bowl competition. Beta Zeta was recognized as the chapter with the highest cumulative GPA in NC.

The Beta Zeta Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. wishes to say "thank you" to all students, faculty, and administrators for the support given to us during our ANCA Conference.

The ECSU Gospel Choir sponsored a free concert for students on November 22, 1993 in Moore Hall Auditorium. The concert was in response to a request by the Viking Football Team and other students. The Gospel Choir had not planned a fall concert, but the Choir decided to perform because of the support the students have given the choir this year. The Gospel Choir wishes to express Season's Greetings to everyone.

WRVS Radio Station raised over \$11,000 during their Radiothon. Contributors are urged to mail their pledges to WRVS-FM, Campus Box 801, Elizabeth City, NC 27909.

WRVS held a Kwanzaa Program Wednesday, Dec. 1 at 8:00 pm in the G.R. Little Theater.

CBAC held a meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 23 at 2:00 pm in the back

of the University Center. Students discussed a number of topics, including the question of whether or not the administration has too much influence with SGA.

The Brothers of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. sponsored College Night at "The Wiz" on Thursday, Nov. 18. Admission was \$2.00 for students with ID.

A special thanks is extended to all students, faculty, and staff that contributed to food collection for the Thanksgiving Vesper Service. Rev. Charles Foster and UCRF were in charge of the collection and the Thanksgiving service.

Students of the Science departments presented an informative seminar on Thursday, Nov. 18 at 7:30 pm in the Jimmy R. Jenkins Science Complex. The program was entitled "Inventions and Discoveries... Blacks in Science."

ECSU officially lit the Christmas tree on Thursday, Dec. 2 at 6:00pm.

Everyone is encouraged to participate in WRVS Christmas Toy Drive which will be going on through Dec. 21. In this gift-giving season, please give to the less fortunate.

Two ECSU students, a male and a female, got into a brawl in the G.R. Little Theater on Nov. 3, 1993. The male student was arrested and charged with assault on a female after he punched the female in reaction to a mist of pepper spray. The female was treated and released from the Emergency Room at Albemarle Hospital. Hearings in ECSU Student Court and Pasquotank County District Court are pending.