



Aaron Murchinson (no. 22) eludes three Union players in his quest for winning the CIAA rushing title in the Vikes' Oct. 8 win over Virginia Union (40-36). Murchinson is a junior from Fayetteville, N.C.

# Virginia State's defense costs Vikes homecoming game in Roebuck

By Carlos McCormick

The Virginia State University's Trojans overwhelmed the Vikings' offense Oct. 22 before a homecoming crowd of more than 8,000 in Roebuck Stadium, defeating the Vikings 14-0.

That loss ended a two-game winning streak for the Vikings.

The Trojans' defense held ECSU sophomore running back Aaron Murchison, who is fifth in the CIAA in rushing, to 69 yards on 20 carries.

"It was real frustrating," Murchison said. "Our offense never got in sync due to a lack of execution."

Virginia State's Robert Morgan scored their first touchdown from 14 yards out with 4:06 left in the first quarter. Tailback Samuel Harrell scored the next touchdown on a two-yard run with 8:53 left in

the third.

The Vikings gained only 115 rushing yards on 50 carries. They had 189 yards of total offense.

ECSU Coach George Moody was not happy with the loss, which he described as "the worst offensive display I've seen in the last ten years. I can't believe what I saw, and on homecoming, too."

Moody said the Viking's defense was solid, but added, "the offense wasn't executing." ECSU held the Trojans to 123 yards on the ground and 130 through the air.

The Vikings kicked off this season with high hopes for improving on their 1993 season's record of 2-8. Viking fans placed their hopes on three key players, Reginald Worlds, Van Issacs and Herman Kemp, defensive linemen.

Coaches and fans hoped these players

would bring what the Vikes lacked last year—experience and leadership on the offensive and defensive side of the ball.

Stovall, who was converted to quarterback from strong safety last year, would be out three weeks. Stovall's injury gave sophomore Kenny Crump the start at quarterback.

Both teams started the ball game going to their bread and butter—"the running game." Neither defense would budge as both teams finished the first quarter (0-0).

In the second quarter both teams played a defensive battle once again. The Vikings were led on defense by senior cornerback Arthur Fair who had an interception and ran it back for 29 yards—putting the Vikings in the Bulldogs' territory.

The Bulldogs held the Vikings to three and out, so the Vikings had to punt the

ball.

The rest of the second quarter was a defensive struggle until a Bulldog quarterback hit Gordan on a 15 yard out pattern in the end zone for a touchdown with 1:00 remaining in the first half.

The Bulldogs would go on to score two field goals in the third quarter bringing the score 13-0. Unable to muster any points, the Vikings lost their first game of the season (13-0.)

The Vikes returned to Roebuck Stadium on Sept. 11 for their home opener of the season against Fayetteville State Broncos.

The Broncos scored seven points in the first quarter and their defense held the Viking offense to zero. The Vikings went on to score 21 points led by Clifton Davis

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