

SPORTS

CIAA Blues.....

Vikings Fall Short in Comeback

Derrick Lyons

pullsome@hotmail.com

Elizabeth City State University's shooting guard Sidney Gainey played his heart out in what would be his last college basketball game. Gainey was determined to help the Vikings get past Fayetteville State University as the other Vikings struggled to find their shot. Gainey who made three point shots at the basket throughout the game, says, "I didn't want to go out on a losing note".

The Viking Rookie of the Year, Tyrone Smith, could not buy a shot and it seemed that every time it looked like the ball would go in, it would roll out. At the half, the Vikings were only feeling good about two things: Gainey's shooting, and the fact that they were only to be down by 9 instead of 20 with the score 37-28.

"We didn't play good defense in the first half and that was hurting us," said Smith. The Vikings also hurt themselves on the boards where Fayetteville State University out rebounded and out played ECSU again as they had in the past.

The Vikings made a little noise in the second half coming out and playing good defense and turning it into offense. The Vikings applied full court press and made FSU's guard turn the ball over and making FSU's coach call a time-out.

With 3:10 left in the game, the Vikings tied it at 61-61, the teams would trade baskets, but down the stretch the post play became a big factor where as they would out play the Vikings.

With only 45 seconds left, and the Vikings down 67-66, the Broncos went to the line for a one and one. The Broncos hit the first, but missed the second. But because Vikings didn't box out, the shooter tipped in his own shot and made a 4 point game with under a minute to play.

The next two Viking positions were crucial as they would miss a three point shot at abrupt and lose the ball. All the Vikings, but, one left the game with their heads high because they knew that they would have at least one more year to play. While Gainey, emotionally hung his head, he walked off the court with the Vikings lost to FSU 68-74 and with his last game behind him. -Farewell Gainey.

One and Done

Derrick Lyons

pullsome@hotmail.com

The Elizabeth City State University Lady Vikings entered this year's game with one thing on their mind, that was to make it to the second round of the CIAA tournament.

But they came up on the short end of the stick and as a result lost to the Winston Salem State University Lady Rams 78-73 leaving the team's seniors in their collegiate basketball careers ended.

The Lady Vikings were up 51-40 at half-time, but after intermission, the Lady Rams came out smoking.

They went on a 25-6 run and played good defense causing the Vikings to turn the ball over and miss shots.

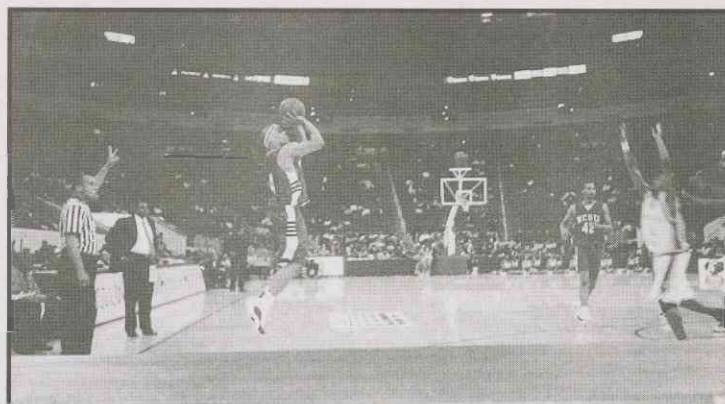
The Lady Rams went to a zone trap to freeze the post play of the Vikings. With that defense, the Lady Rams were able to hold the Lady Vikings scoreless for seven minutes.

The Lady Vikings didn't give up and continued to battle down the home stretch of the game as Vicky Arrington nailed a three pointer and two out of three from the free throws line to cut the lead to 76-73 with 45 seconds remaining.

But as luck would have it, the Lady Vikings who were suppose to win the CIAA women's crown this year, failed as the Lady Rams went to the free throw line and hit two crucial free throws.

Kim Bedgood led with 16 points in the first half and finished with 19. Monica Johnson and Aretha Williams, two seniors playing in their final game helped out with 16 points each respectively.

**Spring Fling
Three on Three Basketball
shootout Saturday 31, 2001 @
William's Hall Gym @9am-3pm**



Sidney Gainey hits a three point shot over FSU defenders in the CIAA.
Photo by Derek Lyons

The Mysterious Mr. CIAA

Derrick Lyons

pullsome@hotmail.com

What is the CIAA Tournament without the man himself: Mr. CIAA!

His name is Sam White but in his hometown, Suffolk, Va., he is better known as "Ham" where he works at a funeral home.

You can see him everywhere at the tournament, making his rounds waving as everyone cheers him on.

What makes Mr. CIAA so popular? His suits and how many times he changes, usually three times each game in team colors.

He has a variety of suits which range from blue, red, yellow, black, white, cream, maroon, and many more, and he often sports a matching cane.

"I like to wear the yellow three piece

double breasted with the yellow snake skinned shoes, and my top hat with a feather on the side," said Mr. CIAA as he paused for photographers, many from the national media.

Mr. CIAA has been doing this for many years and he only gets better but every year is a challenge for him to figure out what he will wear next.

"It usually takes me a couple of months to get prepared for the CIAA tournament, because I really want to impress people," Mr. CIAA said.

Mr. CIAA is easy to spot. He always starts at the top of the steps in a venue to courtside with everyone stopping him to take pictures of him.

If fashion is what you want, Mr. CIAA has it.

With Mr. CIAA around, there is never a dull moment.

