

## SPORTS

## Viking's Baseball Team is in Full Affect

Derek Lyons

[pullsome@hotmail.com](mailto:pullsome@hotmail.com)

The Elizabeth City State University baseball team has their season into full swing and they are ready to storm through the CIAA.

"We are a strong and experienced team, and we are capable of bringing the championship to ECSU," said Richard Jackson, short stop.

The Vikings returned with seven starters from last year and have brought in a host of Junior College transfers to help the Vikings become an even better team.

But in order for the Vikings to have a good season, they must receive good play from their pitching staff.

And pitching is where most of the team's strength and experience come from. The Vikings have one of the best, if not the best, rotations in the CIAA, and they will be tested outside of the conference with a strong schedule to play for the year.

"We have five or six pitchers who can come into a big game and lead us to victory," said Lendrick Andrews, pitcher. "We have been here a couple of years and I feel it's our time to step up and win the big one for ourselves."

If the Vikings want the younger players to help compete for the the title this year, the Viking seniors will have to be leaders for the team.

As of now, the Vikings are the most talked about team as they have seven players who will be playing for the USA international team this summer.

"We have the big hitters. Now the only thing we have to do is put our defense with our offense and win the CIAA," said Tracey Askew, second baseman.

That should make the Viking opponents think twice about their game plans when they come to play.

## Smith Named Rookie of the Year

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[pullsome@hotmail.com](mailto:pullsome@hotmail.com)

How do you make a name for yourself if you're a rookie in the CIAA? Take top honors as a rookie, which is just what Elizabeth City State University freshmen, point guard, Tyrone Smith did.

Smith, the flashy point guard from Chesapeake, Virginia, won the Rookie of the Year award edging out Fayetteville State freshman sensation, Jarvis Haywood by a few votes. "It's a honor to win this award," said Smith. "I play my heart out every game and the hard work paid off in the long run."

Smith was the Mighty Vikings second leading scorer with 16 points per game and in minutes played with 38, but he led the team in assists and led all CIAA rookies in five different categories.

"He is a good player and he helped the team in anyway he could," said Brandon Brooks one of Smith's teammates.

In addition to his rookie of the year award, Smith was also named to the All-CIAA Rookie team.

"I felt that the team helped me get better throughout the season because when I was messing up they would get behind me and make me play harder, so I credit this award as a team effort, even though it's an individual achievement," Smith said.

Smith is no stranger to winning awards. In high school he was named Most Valuable Player by his team and in the conference, he was also a member of Virginia's All-State team. He led Deep Creek High School to three winning seasons and the team to the state finals his senior year.

"You can't say enough about "Ty," he gives you 110 every time he hits the court," said Jonathan Harris, one of Smith's teammates.

Smith will have a chance to spice up the CIAA over and over because he has three years left and a lot more to accomplish.

## FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

(Tentative)

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME & LOCATION
Aug. 25	Kutztown	7:00 p.m. Elizabeth City, NC
Sep 1	Virginia Union	TBA Richmond, VA
Sep 8	Fayetteville State	TBA Fayetteville, NC
Sep 15	Morehouse	1:30 p.m. Elizabeth City, NC
Sep 22	NCCU	
	<i>DOWN EAST CLASSIC</i>	4:00 p.m. Rocky Mount, NC
Sep 29	Johnson C. Smith	1:30 p.m. Elizabeth City, NC
Oct 6	Virginia State	TBA Petersburg, VA
Oct 13	Bowie State	1:30 p.m. Elizabeth City, NC
Oct 20	Livingstone	
	<i>HOMECOMING</i>	2:00 p.m. Elizabeth City, NC
Nov 3	Winston Salem State	TBA Winston-Salem, NC
Nov 11	<i>CIAA CHAMPIONSHIP</i>	TBA

## ECSU Players Picked to Play for Team USA

Staff Reports

Seven Elizabeth City State University baseball players have been chosen to participate on the USA Athletes International Inc. Baseball Team. The team will travel to Europe and play against international teams from the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Australia, Belgium, the Netherlands and Russia beginning in May.

Shortstop Jessie Jones, centerfielder

Brian Willoughby, cater Robert Kravitz, first baseman, Mark Martin and pitcher, Johnny Fuller have been chosen to play in Brasschaat, Belgium May 27- June 5.

Pitcher, Brad Privott and second baseman, Richard Jackson will travel to Regionsburg, Germany from July 13-23 to play against other international teams.

## Congratulations Intramural Sports Winners

Staff Reports

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On February 15, 2001, the Intramural Sports Program at Elizabeth City State University carried 12 students to compete in the Regional 5 Tournament at the University of Tennessee.

There were 389 participants from 47 different colleges and universities. The students competed in the following sports: spades, bowling, ping-pong, pool, darts and air hockey.

Derek Lyons and Demetric Wiggins were 3rd place winners in spades. Chauncey Dameron was the 3rd place winner in darts. Janelle Gales placed 7th and Donyetta Hargrove placed 9th in bowling out of 35 bowlers.

In team bowling, Janelle Gales and Andre Burton finished 12th and Donyetta Hargrove and Kenneth Pimenta finished 14th out of 43 teams.