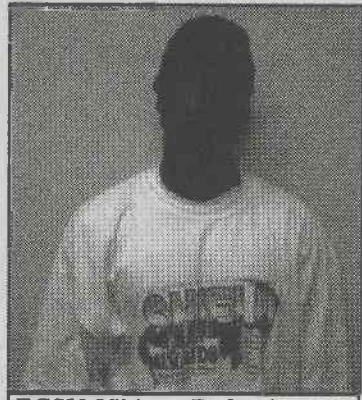


Falcons shred Vikings 22-0

By Samuel Bennett
Staff Writer



ECSU Vikings Defensive cornerback Howard Williams

The Elizabeth City State University Vikings fell to defeat in their first home game against the Saint Augustine Falcons at Roebuck Field on Saturday, September 4. The game proved to be a devastating one with the first quarter being a match of defensive wits.

In an after-game interview, Viking defensive cornerback Howard Williams of Elizabeth City said, "That was one of those games where we were not focused as a team, and we need to work more as a whole." The two defenses clashed throughout the

When the second quarter started both team's defensive units were so pumped up that, in their zeal, they committed several senseless personal fouls.

That's when the magic happened; unfortunately, it just wasn't for the Vikings. In the second quarter alone, the

Saint Augustine Falcons scored 14 points to the Vikings' zero. The 22 total points scored by the Falcons were primarily attributable to defensive play. The Viking defense gave up 14 points, the offense 2, and the special teams 6.

When asked about the upcoming game against Fayetteville State at the 6th Annual Down East Viking Football Classic in Rocky Mount, Williams commented on some strategy changes. "We made a few changes in personnel, and changed the angle in which the offense, defense and special teams view different strategies. That should propel and motivate us for Saturday."

The boys are back in town: Walker brings in new staff

By Maurice Wilkerson
Staff Writer

After last year's loss in the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association tournament, coach Shawn Walker decided that enough was enough for the Elizabeth City State Vikings basketball team. To the fans, it was a disappointing end to a disappointing season. The team finished with 11 wins, and 19 losses on the season. To a man who isn't used to losing, that was too much. Walker, in his second year at ECSU, was not expecting to lose so many games. When asked what the problem with the team was last year, Walker said, "Where do I start?"

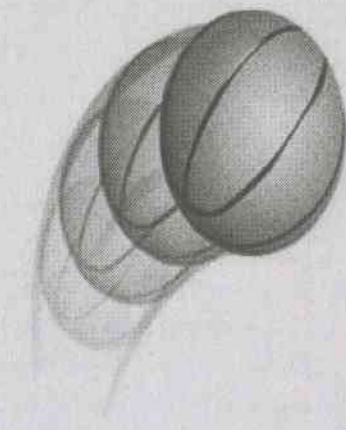
To add more insult to injury, Walker lost his star player, Jonathan Harris. Harris had served as the team's focal point and leading scorer, averaging more than 20 points a game. With a team motto of "one team one dream" last year, Walker wondered where he would go from there.

Walker's first big step toward establishing a new team was getting a staff that he felt could help his program. He went back to what he knew would work, bringing in champions with the same attitude. The first was Alico Dunk, a local star who has played on all levels of the game. Dunk's task is to add consistency to the

guards. Walker will also have another set of eyes on the floor with him, with former head coach of Livingstone, Westley Gilliam. Walker also brought in Raheem Waller, to help with the inside game of the Vikings. Waller is a former professional basketball player from overseas. However,

and six true freshmen.

With key players Scottie Alston, and Wallace Tsormey returning, the new team is a force to be reckoned with. When asked about how the team would fare without Harris, Walker said, "We will be better offensively because now we have a multitude of players who can get it done from anywhere on the floor." Walker said that the team's goal was to average around 80 points this year, a big step from the Vikings' 67 points-per-game average last season. Walker also added that the team this year was looking to make a quantum leap from fifth place in the league, to the top spot. The whole staff believes that these are achievable goals with the talent they have this year. The team has already started preparing, getting up every morning at six o'clock running and lifting weights.



Walker's key ingredient to his staff is his former player at Vorhees College, Darius Lagroon. Lagroon played with Walker during his championship year, and Walker feels like he can manage the players better than anybody else can. After Walker assessed his coaching staff, he hit the road up and down the east coast looking for talent. He was going to need it since nine players left the team of 13 due to problems off the court. Walker searched all summer looking for hungry players that knew how to win. He came up with 11 junior college transfers,

The Viking basketball team will have their first two games against Old Dominion and The University of Maryland at Eastern Shore, both Division One schools. The team has a bright future ahead of them; with only two seniors and five interchangeable freshmen, the Vikings seem to be on the come up. With a new team motto, "No Days Off," it appears that the boys are back in town, and coach Shawn Walker will be back on top.

ECSU cheerleading squad discovers Fame upon arrival in Virginia Beach

Gym owner takes varsity under his wing

By Carla S. Layton
Staff Writer

The Elizabeth City State University Cheerleading Squad, coached by Mrs. Ruth Ann Williams and Mrs. Cynthia Sawyer, are off to a great start this year. The ECSU cheerleaders returned to campus one week early for a seven-day period of intense conditioning. The cheerleaders traveled to Virginia Beach every morning at 7:00 for training

at a cheer gym known as "Fame."

Dr. Melvin S. Farley Jr., the owner of Fame gym, has taken the Varsity under his wing. Dr. Farley has coached dozens of cheerleading squads ranging from all different levels. One week before the conditioning began, the 2004-2005 cheer captains had a chance to preview the gym and to see if Fame was the direction that ECSU was headed. They were pleasantly surprised. There are three large floors to work on and the coaching staff is excellent. Elizabeth City State University is ready to step up to the challenge of becoming one of very few predominantly

black universities that compete on a collegiate level.

Practicing from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Mondays through Fridays, the ECSU Cheerleaders work hard. Three days out of the week the women are expected to work out in the gym for one hour and are required to run one mile under 8 minutes. Every Tuesday, Dr. Farley visits them to make sure they are progressing. The

Cheerleading squad is composed of twenty women who have the dedication, devotion, and a passion for making Elizabeth City State University a cheerleading squad everyone can be proud of.

Schedule of Events - Vikings & Lady Vikings

<u>Who</u>	<u>When</u>	<u>Where</u>
Viking Football vs. Virginia State University	October 2, 1:30PM	Roebuck Stadium
Lady Vikings Volleyball vs. University of D.C.	October 7, 7:00PM	Washington D.C.
Viking Football vs. Bowie	October 9, 1:00PM	Bowie, MD
Lady Vikings Volleyball vs. Saint Paul's College	October 12, 6:00PM	Lawrenceville, VA
Lady Vikings Volleyball vs. Shaw University	October 14, 6:00PM	Raleigh, NC
Viking Football vs. Shaw University	October 16, 1:30PM	Roebuck Stadium
Viking Football vs. Fort Valley State University	October 23, 1:30PM	Fort Valley, GA
Lady Vikings Volleyball vs. Bowie State University	October 23, 12:00PM	R.L. Vaughan Ctr.
ECSU High School Bowl	October 23, 8:00AM	K.E. White Bldg.
Lady Vikings Volleyball vs. Virginia Union University	October 26, 6:00PM	Richmond, VA
Homecoming 2004 Football: Virginia Union University	October 30, 2:00PM	Roebuck Stadium

