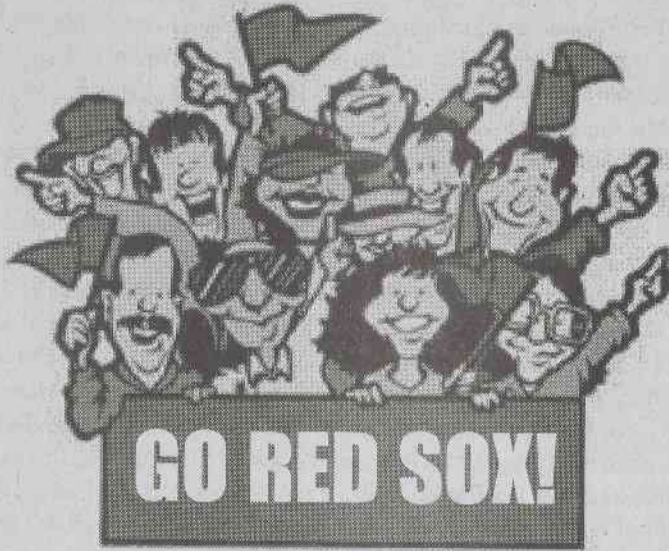


# Sports

## Curse of the Babe

By Marshall Goatley  
Sports writer



The curse of the Babe is finally over. After 84 years of terrible seasons or getting to the World Series and losing, the Boston Red Sox finally won a World Series.

The curse allegedly began after the Red Sox traded Babe Ruth to their hated rivals the New York Yankees. Shortly after the trade the Red Sox team itself went down hill. For years, the team could not even buy a playoff berth.

Fans themselves tried to reverse the curse by going to Babe Ruth's old cottage in the Boston country side and giving good wishes and gifts to the spirit of Babe Ruth. Nothing was working. One fan even went as far as to look for an old piano that Ruth himself pushed into the lake behind his cottage.

The 2004 baseball season was a new beginning for the Red Sox; they had a great pitching staff, great defense, power and clutch hitters in the lineup. Even with all the team chemistry, the Red Sox could not

claim the American League East division title. The hated Yankees claimed the East all to themselves.

The Red Sox swept their first round opponent in three games. Then came the American League Championship Series against the Yankees. The Yankees quickly jumped out to a three game to nothing lead. Facing elimination for the second straight year, the Red Sox bats came to life. Johnny Damon led the charge against the Yankees over the next four games. The Red Sox did something no other

team in baseball history has ever done. They came back from a three-game deficit to win the ALCS.

It was on to the World Series for the Red Sox where they faced the St. Louis Cardinals. The Red Sox swept the Cardinals in four games. David Ortiz was named World Series MVP. So, as it turns out, there really was no curse on the Red Sox. It was just that the Red Sox team themselves never had a team that gelled together. It may have taken 84 years, but the Red Sox have finally won a World Series.

## Vikings take home opener 75-62

Courtesy ECSU Public Relations Department

ELIZABETH CITY, NC- The Elizabeth City State University Vikings were victorious in their season opener, defeating Bluefield State College 75-62 Wednesday night at the RL Vaughan Center.

After finding themselves down by four at the intermission (29-25), ECSU would outscore their opponent 28-6 over an 8-minute span in the second half to take a commanding 16 point lead with 9:45 remaining. The Big Blue would orchestrate a run to cut the deficit to 7 but that was as close as they would get after consecutive 3-pointers by sophomore Devin Mooring and freshman Martin Chavious gave the momentum back to ECSU. The Vikings swarming defense would hold Bluefield to just 10 points over the final 8 minutes, while on the other side of the ball, Vikings shot 52% from the field in route to 50 points in the second half alone. Chavious led ECSU with 14 points followed by Maurice Wilkerson with 12, while Mooring chipped in 11.

## Four Vikings receive all-CIAA football honors

Courtesy ECSU Public Relations Department

HAMPTON, VA-Four members of the Elizabeth City State University football team have been named to the 2004 All-CIAA and All-Rookie teams.

The team, which was released on Wednesday, November 3, 2004 is voted on annually by the CIAA Football Coaches Association. For the Vikings, Howard Williams, Kevin Dodson, Greg Moore and Dewitt Newkirk, all received All-Conference nods.

Williams, a native of Elizabeth City, concludes his career by being named to the All-CIAA Defensive First Team for the first time. This season Williams was arguably the most feared defensive back in the CIAA with a league best 10 interceptions for 174 yards, which is also tied for 1st in the nation.

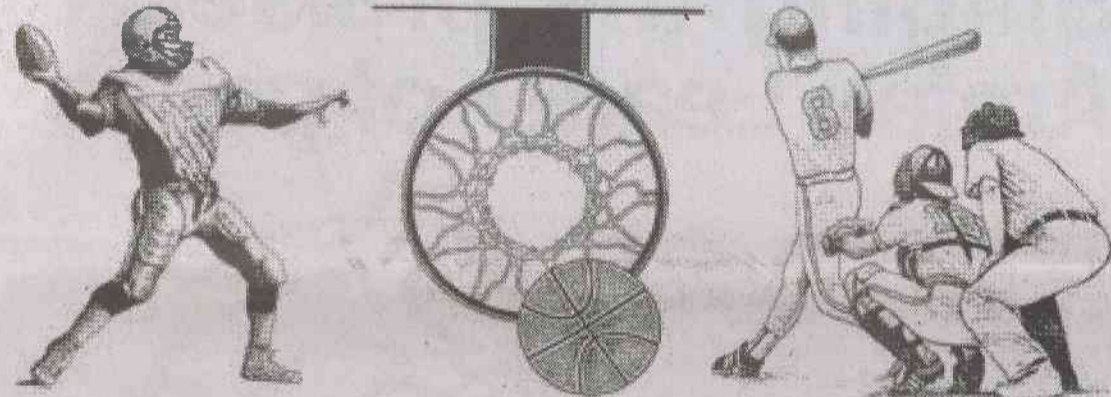
During this year's campaign, Williams was named CIAA Defensive Back of the Week twice and he is tied at 6th in NCAA Division II in passed defended with 10. His previous accolades include the 2001 All-Rookie Team, the 2002 All-

CIAA Pre-Season Team, and the 2003 All-CIAA Defensive Second Team.

Kevin Dodson, a Camden, NC native, follows up a stellar rookie campaign as the CIAA's most consistent punter. This season he averaged 37.6 yards per punt, good for 1st in the conference. In the season finale versus Virginia Union, Dodson punted his career long with a punt of 65 yards. He finished 2003 with 3,087 yards with 12 over measuring over 50 yards.

Rounding out the Vikings on the 2004 All-CIAA First Team and representing their only All-Rookie selection is Teachey, NC native Greg Moore. The freshman defensive lineman had an impressive rookie season, leading the CIAA in sacks with 10 for a loss of 56 yards and ranked 10th in tackles for loss. In NCAA Division, II, Moore finished tied at 10th in sacks and 31st in tackles for loss.

The final Viking to receive All-CIAA recognition on the Defensive Second Team is senior linebacker Dewitt Newkirk. A native of Teachey, NC, Newkirk was the Vikings leading tackler with 102 including 20 for a loss of 50 yards.



### ELIZABETH CITY STATE UNIVERSITY

#### 2005 VIKINGS BASEBALL SCHEDULE

DATE	OPPONENT	LOCATION	TIME
January 28-30	Florida Memorial Tourney	Miami, FL	T.B.A
February 16	#Mount Olive College	Mount Olive, NC	1:00pm
19	#Benedict College	Durham, NC	1:00pm
23	#St. Andrews College	Laurinburg, NC	1:00pm
25	#Bluefield State College	Farmville, VA	12:00pm
27	#Bloomfield College	Elizabeth City, NC	12:00pm
March 4	Dominican College	Elizabeth City, NC	1:00pm
6	#Voorhees College	Raleigh, NC	1:00pm
10	Chowan College	Murfreesboro, NC	2:00pm
13	#Bryant University	Elizabeth City, NC	1:00pm
15	Apprentice School	Newport News, VA	2:00pm
18	Apprentice School	Elizabeth City, NC	2:00pm
25	##Shaw University	Elizabeth City, NC	1:00pm
27	##Virginia State University	Petersburg, VA	1:00pm
28	##Saint Paul's College	Elizabeth City, NC	1:00pm
30	##Saint Augustine's College	Raleigh, NC	1:00pm
April 3	##Shaw University	Raleigh, NC	1:00pm
4	##Saint Paul's College	Lawrenceville, VA	1:00pm
6	##Saint Augustine's College	Elizabeth City, NC	1:00pm
10	##Virginia State University	Elizabeth City, NC	1:00pm
20-24	CIAA Baseball Championships	Petersburg, VA	TBA

### ELIZABETH CITY STATE UNIVERSITY

#### 2005 LADY VIKINGS SOFTBALL SCHEDULE

DATE	OPPONENT	LOCATION	TIME
February 25	Chowan College	Murfreesboro, NC	1:00pm
March 12	Bowie State University	Elizabeth City, NC	1:00pm
15	Saint Augustine's College	Raleigh, NC	1:00pm
19	U. of California (PA)	Elizabeth City, NC	11:00am
20	Saint Paul's College	Lawrenceville, VA	12:00pm
22	Fayetteville State Univ.	Elizabeth City, NC	1:00pm
25	Livingstone College	Salisbury, NC	1:00pm
26	Winston-Salem State Univ.	Winston-Salem, NC	11:00am
29	Virginia Union Univ.	Richmond, VA	1:00pm
31	N. C. Central Univ.	Durham, NC	1:00pm
April 1	Johnson C. Smith Univ.	Elizabeth City, NC	1:00pm
4	Virginia State Univ.	Petersburg, VA	1:30pm
12	Shaw University	Raleigh, NC	1:00pm
21-24	CIAA Softball Championships	Petersburg, VA	TBA

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