

ECSU's Trahan Continues Path To Greatness Trahan First Female in ECSU History to score 2,000 Career Points

By: Reggie Lane and James C. House, Jr. - Sports Writers



ECSU officials present Celeste Trahan, a center for the ECSU Lady Vikings, with a plaque in recognition of Trahan's 2,000 career points. Standing left to right, ECSU Athletic Director Mr. Thurlis Little; Celeste Trahan, Lady Vikings' Coach, Antionette Carr. (photo courtesy of Keshia Williams, University Relations.)

With all the accolades that Celeste Trahan has received not just this season but in her career, one would think that she would have scored her 2000th career point at least five minutes into the game. But that was not the case; Bowie State University held the high-flying Viking center scoreless for the entire first half of their match-up on January 29, 2008 in Elizabeth City State University's Robert L. Vaughn Center.

With 13:36 left in the second half, Trahan got the three points she needed to set the record and that broke the ice. The Lady Vikings went on to defeat the No. 1 ranked team in the Eastern Division of the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association 63-52. "I was nervous because we were playing the No. 1 team and I really wanted to win," Tra-

han said. "I wasn't even thinking about the three points I needed, I was thinking about the victory," said Trahan.

It seemed as if the defensive strategy of Bowie was to not allow Trahan to score at all as they ran a box and one scheme practically all night long, with defenders barricading Trahan, who seemed frustrated, at times being hounded.

Trahan has written her name in ECSU's history books. Trahan still has one more milestone that most say is reachable. Trahan only needs 32 rebounds to reach the 1500 mark in her career, making her the first women in NCAA Division II basketball history to score 2000 points and haul in 1500 rebounds.

Trahan ended the night with a game high 16 points and 11 rebounds.



A GIANT SUPERBOWL

By: Reggie Lane

The New York Giants ended the perfection of the New England Patriots and had possibly the biggest upset in National Football League history.

New England came into the game looking to be 19-0 and make history by becoming the second team in NFL history to end a season perfectly, but the G-Men wanted history on their side and not against them.

Trailing 10-14 with 35 seconds left, quarterback Eli Manning found wide receiver Plaxico Burress for the winning touchdown, leaving the '72 Miami Dolphins as still the only team to remain perfect for a season.

"This is the greatest feeling in professional sports, to come out here and win the world championship. Nobody gave us a shot. We just hung in there offensively, never got down on ourselves and kept executing," Gi-

ants receiver Burress said.

The play of the game came when Eli Manning escaped a near sack on third and five and found David Tyree, who had not caught a ball in the play-offs, for a 32 yard gain. With Eli's brother Peyton in attendance, he did not disappoint. Eli finished the game 19-for-34 for 255 yards and two touchdowns and one interception to be named MVP of Super Bowl XLII.

"We knew they were coming with an all-out blitz. I knew exactly where I was going (with the ball)... I threw it up as high as I could. Either he's going to catch it or no one is. It was a great play by Plaxico making that catch and getting in the end zone for the win," Eli said.

Fewer of Top Black Athletes Going to HBCU Schools

By: Reggie Lane

Why do more black kids decide to go to a division one program than an HBCU to play basketball? In the last 20 plus years, there have been more black kids to go to a division one program than an HBCU to play basketball. OJ Mayo one of last year's top basketball prospects had over 25 college basketball offers. Instead of going to a HBCU to play basketball, he decided to go to USC (Southern California). They said part of this is that a lot of these HBCU schools are not even trying to recruit top notch athletes and they also don't have the

facilities that appeal to the athlete.

According to Floyd Kerr who was Assistant Director of USC from 2000-2004, as soon as integration hit, the other colleges started to pull talent from the black schools and the HBCU schools never countered back. Black colleges weren't prepared for the future, they were just worried about the present in the 1950's-1970's. Will HBCU schools ever go back to recruiting top notch athletes to their schools?

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