

Rams No. 1 in Everybody's Poll

The Winston-Salem University football team is 10-0 and has clinched its second consecutive CIAA championship and is number 1 on everybody's poll. It's been a long climb up for Coach Bill Hayes and the team.

WSSU is a member of Division II of the National College Athletic Association (NCAA). In the earliest polls of the season, the Rams were ranked

nearly 5 points below Elon College, the #6 school in the national poll.

As the weeks passed and victory followed victory, WSSU inched up the charts. In the NAIA the Rams moved to the #7 spot on September 20 after winning the first 3 games. The next poll was released October 4, and by that date the Athletic Director C.E. "Big-house" Gaines and Coach Hayes had agreed to accept

NCAA playoff invitations rather than go to the NAIA playoffs. All schools in both associations had to declare a preference by October 1. Thus, WSSU was dropped from the NAIA team ratings, but individual performances are still recorded and ranked and District 26 continues to report WSSU's Dunkel ratings with the other 11 teams in the District.

In the NCAA, WSSU trailed Northern Michigan and Delaware in the first poll. On September 27, Northern Michigan dropped to the #5 spot and the Rams took second place. The next week Delaware lost to Temple University and WSSU captured 59 of 60 first place votes. That was the first time WSSU and any other CIAA school had been ranked #1 on the national football poll.

On the next 2 polls, WSSU was the unanimous favorite. Then, on October 25, Youngstown State of Ohio and WSSU tied for first place with 58 points each. In the latest poll, released November 1, WSSU was back in sole possession of the #1 spot.

Dr. Bannister and Dunkel were the last of the hold-outs. WSSU is now #1 on everybody's poll.

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ledge in communication. For the time being, the only course offered in communications is the introductory course, but Mr. Thomas said that other courses have already been planned. Some are Introduction to Broadcasting Radio and Television, (which will be offered spring semester) Broadcasting, law and Ethics in Mass Communications, Writing for Radio and Television, Radio and Television Announcing, Techniques of Radio Broadcasting, and Techniques of Television Broadcasting.

Mr. Thomas's spirited enthusiasm shows when he talks about the communications building at Syracuse University, which is the best in the country, helped in the designing of our building," he commented. "I checked the inside of the building out and it's nice.

When asked why he chose to come to Winston-Salem State University to teach he replied, "there's a lot of potential here. The program is new here and I have the opportunity to help WSSU get started." He would like to see the school receive grants from the state for expansion.

Before joining the WSSU faculty he taught courses in Mass Communications, Speech and Drama, English Literature, and Music to High School Students in the Norfolk Public Schools System. He received his Masters Degree in Broadcast Communications with a concentration in Television-Radio Programming, Production Management and Advertising from Syracuse University. His undergraduate studies were complete with honors at Hampton Institute.



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