

# Sports

## Graves, Beligrinis honored on BET

PRESS RELEASE

Three WSSU football players received awards from two different companies for their performances in the football game against the Virginia State Trojans, a game that was telecast over the Black Entertainment Television network.

Outside linebacker David Graves was selected to receive the Toyota Leadership Award presented weekly by Toyota Motor Sales USA Inc. to a player from each team participating in the BET college football game of the week. The award is based on the players' contributions to team, school and community.

Graves is a senior from Reidsville, who is majoring in accounting.

The Virginia State recipient of the Toyota award was defensive end Kerwin Whatley.

Field-goal kicker Konstantinos Beligrinis received the BET Player of the Game Award sponsored by the Anheuser-Busch Co. Backup quarterback Keith James received Most Valuable Player honors in the game.

The players winning the Leadership Award are selected by coaches and faculty advisors based on their contributions to team, school and community. Both academic and athletic leadership play a part in the selection process.

Award recipients are honored on the air by BET during the telecast of the game. In addition, Toyota honors each recipient by presenting him a special award plaque and donating \$1,000 to his school's general scholarship fund.

Toyota also is the exclusive import car/truck sponsor for the games. The Leadership program will run throughout the 1988 NCAA football season in association with BET sports.



Graves

## 10 named to all-CIAA team honors

By Bryon M. Tinnin  
SPORTS EDITOR

This year the Rams placed 10 players on the All-CIAA team.

A great effort as a team, clutch defense, a fabulous running attack, and kicking game are the reasons.

Coach Pete Richardson is excited about his team's success and being able to play in the title game.

Selected for this year's offensive team are center Horace Spencer, a 6-2, 250-pound sophomore; offensive lineman Darren Peebles, a 6-4, 275-pound senior; offensive lineman Clayton Suggs, a 6-0, 265-pound sophomore; two-time selection at running back, Broderick Graves, a 6-0, 195-pound sophomore; and another two-time selection, kicker Konstantinos Beligrinis, a 5-7, 155-pound sophomore.

Selected for this year's defensive team are defensive lineman Jeff Kelly, a 6-3, 257-pound senior; defensive lineman Roy Phillips, a 6-2, 250-pound junior; linebacker Leslie Barley, a 6-2, 210-pound sophomore; defensive back Anthony McCord, a 5-8, 178-pound sophomore; and punt returner Keith Torrence, a 5-7, 152-pound junior.

Those players who are chosen All-CIAA, showed tremendous character in a team effort that brought them back to the promise lands of the championship.

Good luck to the team in their quest for the gold ring this year!!

## Rams eliminated from playoffs by Eagles

By Bryon Tinnin  
SPORTS EDITOR

The Winston-Salem State Rams were defeated for the second time this season by the North Carolina Central Eagles. This time was a 31-16 trouncing in the opening round of the NCAA Division II playoffs. The win advances the Eagles to the quarterfinals of the playoffs, where they will meet Cal-Davis or Sacramento State.

The Rams trailed through most of the game, but did show fire later in the game. However, it was the Eagles who drew first blood and persevered through the game.

An Earl Harvey 4-yard run put the Eagles up early in the fourth quarter, but a two-point conversion afterwards failed.

Quarterback Keith James, filling in for the injured Kenny Jones, quickly drove the Rams down field for a quick score. James fumbled the ball into the end zone into the waiting arms of Dwayne James.

Central's Harvey had an outstanding game as he helped his Eagles team wrap up a school record 30 first downs. With the Rams up 7-6, a Konstantinos Beligrinis 42-yard field goal made it 10-6. The Rams would never again see the lead. Harvey scored again from 6 yards out and added a successful two-point conversion. A 35-yard pass to Parish Brown from Harvey made it 21-10 Eagles. Darren Stinson added a 24-yard field goal before the half to make it 24-10.

The Rams, who are known primarily as a second-half team, were hoping to come out early and convert on the Eagles. But it just wasn't to be for Coach Pete Richardson and his Rams team as he watched them generate only 380 total offensive yards compared to Central's 434. "They just outplayed us," said Richardson, "but it's not the end of the world. We played hard, and we've got next year."

The last two scores for each team came in the

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fourth quarter. A 9-yard pass to Rodney McKoy from James tallied the Rams score to 16. David Burt scored the final touchdown for the Eagles with 41 seconds left. A 9-yard run by Burt made it 31-16, as the Eagles celebrated their second victory over the Rams this season.

The Rams, who played the game without five starters, finished their season at 10-2.

### Rams capture CIAA crown

The Rams of Winston-Salem State captured their second CIAA title in a row with a 13-9 come-from-behind victory over the Virginia State Trojans.

Acc field-goal kicker Konstantinos Beligrinis and backup quarterback Keith James turned the game around for the Rams.

James got an unexpected call as starting quarterback when Kenny Jones went down midway through the second period with an ankle injury.

James came into the game with the Rams down 9-0. James, a senior from Greensboro, quickly came in and took charge of the Rams' offense. "Keith did well and we're very proud of him," said Coach Pete Richardson. "There was no time to be nervous. . . we've always been a second-half team, but we had our backs to the wall this time," said James.

A key blocked punt by Cornell Wallace in the second half led to a 23-yard touchdown pass from James to Broderick Graves. Beligrinis then stepped into the picture, kicking two field goals. One was from 27 yards out, and the other, from 28 yards.

The Trojans had one last scoring opportunity as

they had Rams' fans chanting D-E-F-E-N-S-E, D-E-F-E-N-S-E, . . . With 1:05 left in the game and the Trojans on the 2-yard line, a score was certain for them. But, on the next play, an over-eager Trojan lineman jumped offside, causing the ball to move back 5-yards. The Rams now had room to put the squeeze on the Trojans offense. They quickly held for the next two drives and regained possession of the ball to run down the rest of the clock. The victory not only gives the Rams their second conference title, but it also gives debuting Pete Richardson his first title as head coach.

### Rams rally to beat Bowie

The Rams won their sixth consecutive CIAA Southern Division championship as they staged a fourth quarter rally Nov. 5 to beat Bowie State 16-14.

A Les Barley interception set up a 32-yard field goal by Konstantinos Beligrinis with 3:50 left. It proved to be the game winner. Bowie scored twice in the second quarter as the homecoming crowd of 13,900 saw their Ram football team 14-0.

WSSU began their rally with 10:23 left in the game. A 10-play drive led to Broderick Graves' 1-yard touchdown run, and the point after brought the Rams within striking distance. A fumble by Bulldogs fullback Tony Atwater led to a recovery by WSSU's Willie Jones at the 5. Quarterback Kenny Jones scored three plays later; however, a two-point conversion attempt failed making the score 14-13.

The game-winning kick was redeeming for Beligrinis as he missed a chance a couple of weeks ago from 47 yards out to beat North Carolina Central.

Bowie State had one chance to come back, but quarterback Don Haney had his pass intercepted by Raymond Puryear with 2:42 remaining.

The victory placed WSSU in the CIAA Championship game against Northern Division winner Virginia State.

## Young Rams rebuilding this basketball season

By EuGenia Williamson



Coach Clarence "Big House" Gaines

Losing five starters is a blow to any team. It puts a damper on its ability to win.

Clarence "Big House" Gaines, the head coach of the Winston-Salem State University basketball team, can relate to this situation. Since the 1987-88 season, he has been working on a major rebuilding project with the Rams.

Despite the odds against it, the team is predicted to finish second in the Southern Division. Coach Gaines feels that other teams surpass the Rams in talent.

"I feel that I am in competition for second place because there are teams that are stronger in many areas in addition to experience," he said.

Coach Gaines said that his two main problems would be overall inexperience and the absence of a dominating big man inside. With the starting positions

open, the players have been practicing very hard in order to get in shape and prepare themselves for the season.

Returning players -- Jamal Pierce, a 6-1 point guard, and Michael LeSane, a 6-3 shooting guard -- performed well for the team last season. So this year, Pierce and LeSane will serve as Gaines' strongest leaders, he said.

The rebuilding project will be a tremendous task, but the coaching staff is beginning to see improvements. Coach Gaines' objective is to always win the championship.

"I have won 785 games," he said, "and I plan to make the 800 mark in the CIAA championship this season."

*EuGenia Williamson is a junior majoring in mass communications.*