

CAMPUS HAPPENINGS

Football

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connected with Oronde Gadsden for a 44 yard touchdown pass. Virginia State would push its lead back up to ten in the third quarter until two Richard Huntley touchdowns put the Rams up for the first time at 28-24 early in the fourth quarter. Virginia State responded with a 61 yard touchdown by Robert Morgan and led once again by the score of 31-28. Late in the fourth quarter Virginia State was driving downfield and they were seemingly going to go up by ten points with under four minutes to go, but then something spectacular happened. Carlos Massey, a defensive lineman, intercepted a Rodney Granger pass and rumbled 50 yards to midfield to give the Rams a chance to recapture the lead late in the ball game. Huntley rushed the ball a few times to get the Rams all the way down to the three yard line and with 53 seconds left in the game the Rams were faced with a third and goal situation. Travis Pender threw a lofty pass to the All-American Oronde Gadsden and with 48 seconds remaining Gadsden came down with a touchdown reception that put the Rams up 35-31 with less than a minute to go. It seemed as if second place in the CIAA was already theirs, but they had to hold on for 48 seconds.

That is exactly what they did not do. Virginia State used a couple of short passes to get the ball out to midfield and they had under 30 seconds to work with. Then came the play that broke the Ram's heart, quarterback Granger connected with one of his wide receivers on a 48 yard bomb that gave Virginia State the ball at the two yard line. Robert Morgan then ran the ball in to put the Trojans up by three at 38-35. The Rams were left with only 12 seconds on the clock and they could not do anything with the ball and lost a thriller to the Virginia State Trojans.

The Rams finished the season at 6-5 overall and 5-3 in the CIAA. That's not a bad record for a team that started two freshman quarterbacks and had to deal with the death of Head Coach Kermit Blount's father late in the season. The Rams have a lot to look forward to next year with the return of Richard Huntley and quarterbacks Travis Pender and Tremaine Graham. The Rams will miss All-American wide receiver Oronde Gadsden and defensive standouts Adrona Crawley and Greg Smith. For now enjoy the Basketball season and get ready to cheer the Rams on to a CIAA football championship next fall.

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