



2010 Rams team captains

From left: Barry Tripp (98); Juan Corders (50); Alton Keaton (8); Dominique Fitzgerald (1); Kameron Smith (6); and Markus Lawrence (52). PHOTO BY GARRET GARMS.



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Raleigh native Kiara Brown was selected by her teammates as the Game Ball recipient because of her leadership and great play on the court.

"I give all of the credit to my coach and teammates who prepare hard for each game," Brown said.

She is a junior nursing major from Raleigh. She transferred from NCCU where she started in all 32 games last season.

"It is a great feeling for me to be chosen by my teammates as the recipient," Brown said.

"She is a leader on this team and a key player on our offense," Coach Edric Poirier said. Brown has 610 assists on the season. She also averages 8.59 assists per set and 1,401 attacks. "I believe that leadership is being vocal, staying positive and having a good attitude," Brown said.

As a key player at Millbrook High School she earned All-Cap 7 honors in volleyball, basketball and track and field.

Rams dominate Blue Bears 58-0, largest win in 32 years

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The Rams 7-1(5-1) bounced back after their first loss to St. Augustine's by defeating the Livingstone Blue Bears 0-8 (0-4) Oct. 16.

The 58-0 thumping of CIAA Southern Division rival Livingstone, was the largest margin of victory for the Rams since 1978 when they defeated Shaw 78-0, and the largest win against the Blue Bears since 1986 when the Rams won 82-8.

The first quarter saw both teams punting on their first drives. The Rams made good on the Blue Bears inefficient offense in the first quarter by holding them to 57 yards on 18 plays and only three first

downs.

The Rams offense scored touchdowns on two of their first three drives and amassed 99 yards on 10 plays.

The second quarter started with Rams freshman defensive lineman David Harris sacking Jamel Moore of the Blue Bears for a 25-yard loss.

That sack forced Livingstone to punt the ball, and the punt was returned 35 yards for a touchdown by junior wide receiver Dominique Fitzgerald.

"We just wanted to come out and play hard and continue to play with a lot of energy and hype," sophomore wide receiver Jahuann Butler said.

The Rams scored on a 53-yard touchdown pass from Kameron Smith to wide receiver Jahuann Butler with

4:02 remaining in the half.

The Rams defense forced a three and out and the offense scored on the first play of their next drive.

Nicholas Cooper broke a 54-yard rush that put the Rams ahead 35-0. The Rams added a field goal to end the half with the score 38-0.

"The guys just came out and played Ram football," Head Coach Connell Maynor said. "That was no turning the ball over and giving up any big plays."

The Rams out gained the Blue Bears 256-49 in total offense in the first half with 128 passing and rushing yards each.

In the third quarter, the Rams scored on a 12-play 50-yard drive that took about

six minutes off the clock.

The touchdown was scored on a run by Nicholas Cooper from the Livingstone 5-yard line. After a missed pat-attempt the Rams were in the lead 44-0.

On the next drive Livingstone attempted a fake punt that would eventually turn into a fumble on a tackle by sophomore defensive back Keith Ferguson. That tackle ended a potential first down in Ram territory.

The Rams scored one more time in the third on a 6-yard rush by junior running back Kayvone Spriggs. That touchdown made the score 51-0.

The Rams scored once in the fourth quarter on a 20-yard pass from junior quarterback Octavious Hawkins to senior wide receiver Jonathan Kinzer.

This win puts the all-time record between these two teams at 33-11-1 with the Rams leading. The Blue Bears last victory over the WSSU came in 1998 when they won 38-33.

The Rams next opponent is the homecoming game against UNC Pembroke 5-2 who is a NCAA Division II Independent.

"It's just another game for us, and we will prepare for them just like any other opponent," running back Nicholas Cooper said.

"Our goal for the next game is to win homecoming and continue to execute the way we did tonight," Maynor said.

The Rams are ranked No. 21 in the AFCA Top 25.

Fourth quarter rally not enough, as Rams suffer first defeat 35-40

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The Rams first loss of the season came in exciting fashion as Winston-Salem State fell short in a 35-40 loss to the St. Augustine's Falcons.

The Rams are 6-1 (4-1) and the Falcons are 5-1 (4-0) following this contest Sept. 9.

This loss puts the Rams in third place in the Southern Division behind Bowie State and St. Augustine's.

The game didn't start the way the Rams wanted by throwing an interception in the first six seconds of the game giving the Falcons the ball and momentum.

"The turnover was a shocker to the defense since we didn't expect to be on the field so soon," said defensive tackle Colby Morris, a senior from Elizabeth City, NC.

The Falcons then used six plays to travel 50 yards and score a touchdown

on a 34-yard run by Walter Sanders, running back.

The Rams didn't let the quick score get them off track as they put together a long nine-play 68-yard drive that ended with a 5-yard touchdown pass from sophomore quarterback Kameron Smith to junior running back Cedric Hickman. That pulled the game to a 7-7 tie.

The Rams defense gave up a 68-yard touchdown pass to end the first quarter trailing 14-7.

During second quarter, the Rams turned the ball over three times which lead to 16 points for the Falcons. By the half, the Falcons led 30-7.

"We were like what is going on," Morris said. "We know we can play better against them. They were celebrating like they had won the game and it was only halftime."

Head football coach Connell Maynor told his team they needed to come out and play Ram football. "That means stop giving up big plays and limiting

our turnovers," Maynor said.

The Rams started the second half giving up a touchdown on a drive that took more than six minutes off of the clock.

After falling behind 37-7 the Rams offense kicked into high gear by scoring quickly on a 5-yard pass from Smith to redshirt junior tight end Brian Wynn. The Rams defense forced a three and out and finished the third quarter down 37-14.

The Rams were right back to business in the fourth quarter with a 9-yard touchdown carry by redshirt junior running back Nicholas Cooper, his 10th on the season.

The Rams defense proved to be too much for the Falcons again as they forced another three and out.

After the defensive stop, the Rams offense committed another turnover with the fifth interception thrown on the evening by Smith.

The Falcons offense couldn't score off of the turnover, and the Rams got the

ball back and scored on a 51-yard touchdown strike from Smith to sophomore wide receiver Dominique Fitzgerald.

The Rams completed a pass to redshirt freshman fullback Tyrone Goldston on a two-point conversion attempt to bring the score to 29-37.

The Falcons made a field goal on their next drive that would put them ahead 40-29.

Even with the clock playing against them, the Rams refused to give up. They struck quickly on a 14-yard touchdown pass from Smith to freshman wide receiver Tehvyn Brantley. That score would not prove to be enough as the Rams fell short in their remarkable comeback attempt 35-40.

"The performance in the second half showed that we have a lot of heart and that if we played four quarters of football instead of two we could have won this game," Maynor said.

This loss brings the all-time record against the Falcons to 11-11-2.