

Eagles Seek First Win Over Maryland

Score 12-6 Win Over Virginia State

After a scoreless first half, the North Carolina College Eagles caught fire in the second half to whip the stubborn Virginia State Trojans, 12-6 at Rogers Field in Petersburg last Saturday, Oct. 16.

Albert Montgomery, brilliant sophomore quarterback of Gastonia, and John Baker the 300 pound Raleigh freshman fullback, accounted for the Eagles' scoring. The air minded Trojans scored the first touchdown of the day as Clint Freeman, senior quarterback flipped a fifteen yard pass to end Lee Mack for a touchdown that climaxed an 80 yard march. John Nash failed to convert, and the Trojans enjoyed a 6-0 lead.

However, this was short lived as the Trojans seemed to have aroused the Eagles. Al Montgomery on a keep play skinted 27 yards around left end, Co-Captain Jerome Evans found a hole at left tackle and squeezed through for 14 more. Big John Baker moved for six, and the oval lay resting on the 1 yard line, from which point "Money" Montgomery sneaked over Webster failed to convert and the score was tied at 6 apiece.

Otto Harvey, NCC center, intercepted a Freeman fourth quarter pass on the Trojan's 19 yard line to set up the winning T. D. The Eagles line, bolstered by the spectacular play of Big Jim Crawford, and Guard Francis McGee, opened holes that sent Evans, Alexander, Montgomery, and Baker on successive plays down to the one yard line where the 300 pound Baker bulldozed through for the score. Webster again failed to convert.

Montgomery was the bright spot in the rock-em, sock-em affair. After the Eagle spark was ignited, the potential all-CIAA quarterback did everything right. He was one of the four men who played sixty minutes. Guard Francis McGee, Claude

Mayfield the 235 pound Suffolk tackle, Otto Harvey, 205 pound center of Elizabeth City, were the other full times. Co-Capt. Jerome Evan's, the spunky halfback of Goldsboro, was carted off the field with less than a minute to play, thus missing full time service.

This was the Eagles' first victory over the Trojans in four years. Injured in the fray were Matt Boone, the Eagle all-CIAA tackle, and Charley Floyd, another all-conference end of 1952. Both are expected to be ready today for the Eagles' Homecoming scrap against Maryland State. Also expected to don equipment will be ends Henry King and Linwood Jones.

Today's game on O'Kelly Field may well decide the 1954 CIAA championship.

With the perennially dangerous A. and T. Aggies nursing a poor season and the Morgan Bears limping at best, the game between the two undefeated teams — NCC and the invading Maryland State Hawks — takes on special significance. Looming in the background, however, is powerful Virginia Union, coast-

ing along on its best record in recent years.

But they must yet meet Maryland and Morgan, either a considerable de-railing threat.

That leaves the field to the two principals in today's tangle — the Riddick-coached Eagles and the McClain-coached Hawks. And the fact that Maryland is playing for the first time in the CIAA as a member organization adds considerable fat to the fire of interest and speculation.

Riddick is seeking his first win over the Hawks, having suffered defeat at their hands on two occasions—in 1952 by a 20-13 margin and last year by a 20-7 score. Last year's victory by the Hawks, Riddick believes, was just an example of the breaks going wrong. The Eagles outdid the Hawks in every department except scoring.

Leading up to today's skirmish, the NCC machine has crushed St. Augustine's 25-0, Hampton 28-0, and eased by Virginia State last week, 12-6. The Hawks, on the other hand, have dealt merciless 26-0, 34-13, and 46-0 defeat-portions to Hampton, A. and T., and Fayetteville respectively.

This gives Maryland an overall scoring edge, but puts the Eagles slightly in front in the scoring over Hampton, the lone team they've both met. In that encounter, the Eagles rolled up 319 yards rushing, while holding the Pirates to 46 yards. The Hawks, on the other hand, amassed only 228 yards, while holding the hapless Pirates to 58.

Overall, the Eagles have gained a 9-4-0 lead in the series. (Continued on Page Twelve)

Gridders Rout St. Aug., Hampton In Opening Pair

Saint Augustine Bows 25-0; Hampton Swamped 31-0

The North Carolina College Eagles, winners of their final three games last year and champions of their conference, amassed a total of 53 points in whipping the Saint Augustine's Falcons and the Hampton Institute Pirates in their first two '54 outings.

The Falcons were the first to bite the dust as the Eagles, scoring in the first, third, and final periods, gave H. H. Riddick his fifth straight victory over R. D. Moore on O'Kelly Field, September 25.

All-American Amos Thornton on the opening kickoff raced 49 yards to the Falcon 30 yard line. It looked as if the Eagles were on their way, but back Al Montgomery, attempting a pass to end Charley Floyd, saw it fall into the hands of Falcons' back James Giles. A fifteen-yard clipping penalty moved the ball back to St. Augustine's 5 yard line. McDonald, attempting a kick, got off a poor one that only came to the 14 yard line. Thornton and fullback Fred Ponder combined efforts in the TD drive, with Ponder getting the score. Jerome Evans missed the try for the extra point and the Eagles led 6-0. That was the halftime score.

MONTY SCORES

The third period saw a Montgomery kick to Falcon Sam McGuire fumbled on the two-

yard line. Big Claude Mayfield, the Eagles' senior tackle, pounced on the oval. Diminutive Leon Holley slipped into the end zone from this point. Deral Webster's conversion made the score 13-0. Another fumble proved costly to the Falcons. A. C. Eldridge, conforming under the commands of the onrushing Eagle line, didn't quite get his hands on the handle of the ball, and he dropped it on his own 21, Francis McGhee was first to get to it, and hid it under his 200 pounds.

Eagle backs Ralph Curry, Ponder, and Oscar Turner on successive drives, left the oval resting on the one, from which point Turner carried it over. Webster failed to convert as the Eagles led 21-0. The final tally came as a result of an intercepted pass by the brilliant Montgomery. He ripped off 31 yards before he was brought down on the visitor's 22.

Drives by Curry (13 yards); Turner, (5 yards); and Bob Price (5 yards) carried the ball to the one yard line. Price won the Oscar on the next play, and the score read 25-0 as Webster missed his second conversion. Against the Pirates at Hampton on October 3, the Eagles were held scoreless throughout the first period, although Little Leon Holly, Eagle fullback, saw a 70 yard gallop nullified.

83 YARD SCORE

Taking a punt in the second period, co-captain Jerome Evans, behind perfect blocking, raced 83 yards to a touchdown. Deral Webster, the 285 pound Raleigh guard converted and the Eagles were on their way with a 7-0

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'Steve' Is Okay, Statistics Show

By BOB JAMES

When Ben Whaley, former Los Angeles Ram star, left North Carolina College this year to accept a coaching position at Hampton, Coach Herman Riddick termed him "irreplaceable." Sports scribes who had seen the Eagle forward wall the season before, were inclined to agree with Riddick.

Whaley, a line coach, had developed one of the most powerful front lines in sepia circles, even surpassing those at Prairie View and Tennessee State. Teaching alone did not account for the fact that the line was so great, but one of the primary factors was Whaley himself, who was a great morale booster.

About mid-summer, I. G. Newton, athletic director, informed the press that James A. "Jimmy" Stevens, assistant coach at A. and T., Greensboro, had been elected to succeed Whaley. Though Stevens had an excellent record as a coach, producing championship teams in football, basketball, and track in the '40's while at Prairie View, some writers felt he was incapable of stepping into the big shoes left vacant by Whaley.

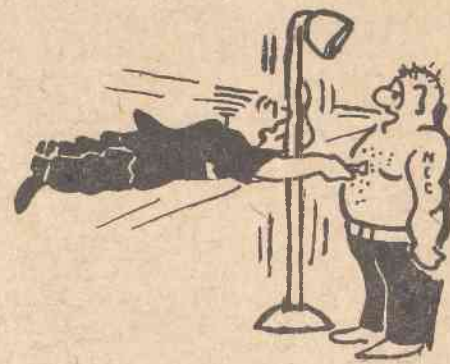
Whether or not Stevens can continue to produce a line that is recognized throughout sepia circles was the question in the

sports writers' minds when the Eagles met St. Augustine at Durham on September 25. After the game the Falcons had absorbed a 25-0 defeat and statistics were checked. Records showed that St. Augustine had been held for a total of 36 yards rushing. Compare this with last year's records when the Falcons punctured a Whaley-coached line for 112 yards rushing.

Persons who were still optimistic looked forward to the Hampton-NCC game when the two lines would clash, thinking that perhaps this would decide the answer.

After the one-sided contest, which saw the Eagles register a 28-0 win, fans were convinced that Stevens can hold his own in the coaching world. The Eagles held the Pirates to 66 yards rushing, not as much as one Eagle back, Jerome Evans, who rushed 161 yards against the Pirates, managed to gain.

Did you see the football players take their physicals?



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