

## Stevens Reflects On Eagle Defeats

By Robert Stevens

To the untrained eye, final scores are sometimes very deceiving. Although they tied St. Augustine's College, 12-12, and lost to the Virginia State, 14-6, the gridiron Eagles have made tremendous strides within the last two weeks of plays. Winning both games statistically, the Eagles have been the victims of costly mistakes and bad luck.

October 9th seemed to be the turning point in the 1965 gridiron season. Against St. Augustine, the Eagles scored their first points of the year, giving themselves a much needed boost in moral. At home against Virginia State, they also scored, and have begun to move the ball down field with greater ease. Both rival teams scored early in the first period to take an early lead, thereby acquiring a psychological advantage of NCC. However, veterans, Billy Alsbrooks, Bob Ferguson, Herman Byrd, James Devone, and others have returned to their old form. With the help of freshman Lonnie Paige, Harold Beatty, Doug Wilkerson, Charles Holloway, Charles Brown, and particularly Fred Baldwin, the veterans are beginning to function as a unit.

As a result of the ferocity of the Eagle defensive line, the St. Augustine Falcon lost many feathers, and displayed a great inability to leave Mother Earth after numerous plays. Virginia State also volunteered a player to help the advancement of medical science, when confronted by the Eagles. This line is being anchored by sturdy, seasoned veterans, and very promising frosh.

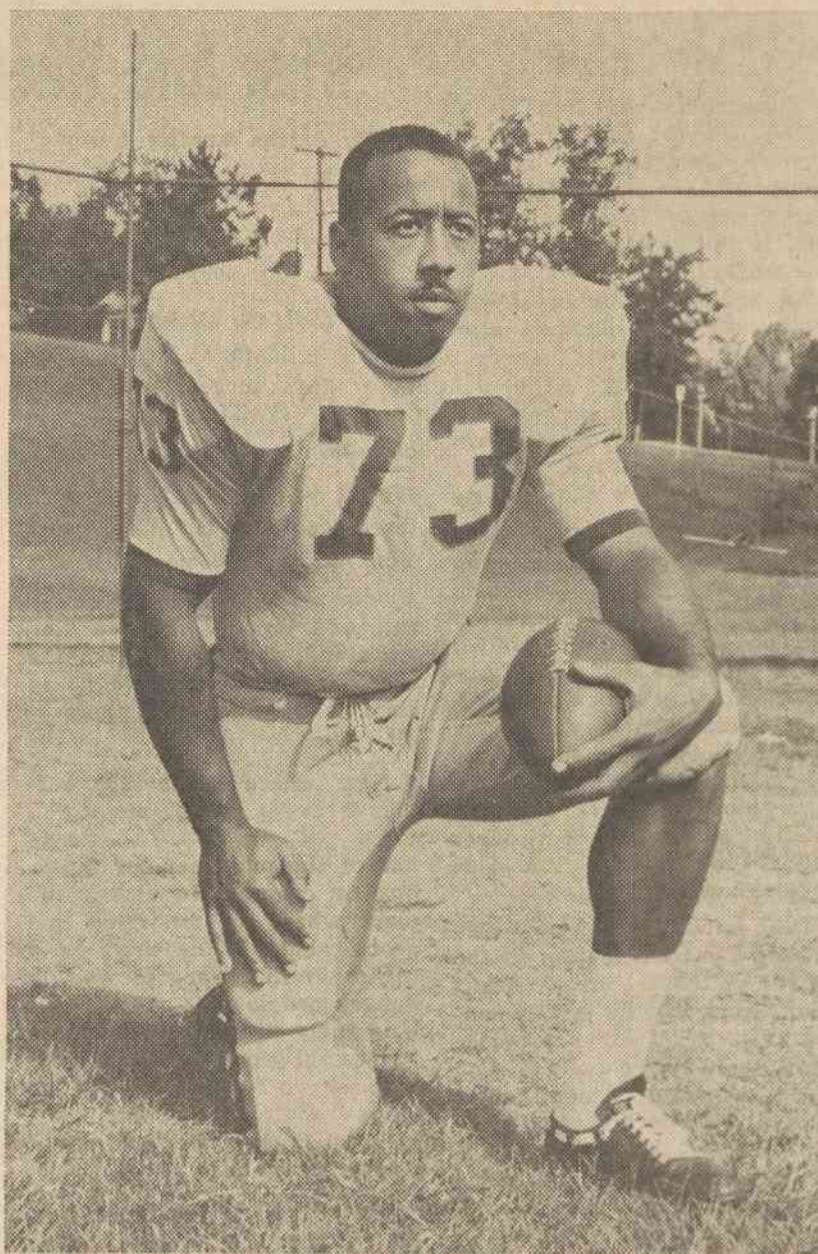
The secondary is somewhat inexperienced, particularly at the halfback and safety spots. As a result, the opposing teams have been making long gains and numerous touchdowns by means of a passing attack. However, this is naturally expected when veterans are being covered by freshman backs, who are unaware of the different tricks and fakes of a seasoned pass receiver. These boys have begun to work together and are slowly, but surely correcting their mistakes, one by one.

Offensively, freshman quarterback, Fred Baldwin is rapidly making the transition between high school and college football. In spite of his mistakes he has done a very good job of signal-calling, and must be given moral support by the fans as well as the team if he is to continue his strides toward perfection.

A tip of the hat must also go to the little speedsters James Devone, Colon Oliver and Roy Anderson, who have constantly given their all in spite of their small statures.

Halfback Billy Alsbrook continues to dazzle the crowd with his agile, and shifty running style. With an increase in blocking, he will surely reinforce his potential as a scoring threat in future games.

The overall outlook of the Eagles seems bright. Baldwin and his teammates are apt to surprise several teams in the near future.



Robert Ferguson, captain of the football team, kneels in readiness for the annual Homecoming clash.

## Memorial Service Held For Bears

PROCESSIONAL HYMN ..... The Eagles Laid His Claw on Me  
 SCRIPTURE ..... Brother Fred Baldwin  
 PRAYER ..... Brother Robert Ferguson  
 HYMN ..... I Saw An Eagle in the Sky  
 REMARKS ..... Brother Billy Shropshire  
 SOLO ..... Brother Bobby Asmond  
 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF CONDOLENCES ..... Brother Herman Byrd  
 EULOGY ..... Doctor Billy Alsbrooks

### RECESSIONAL

Pall Bearers  
 Brother James Black  
 Brother James DeVone  
 Brother Charles Johnson  
 Brother Milton Fitch, Jr.  
 Brother Douglas Wilkerson  
 Brother Joseph Smith  
 Brother Lonnie Page  
 Brother Colon Oliver

Honorable Pall Bearers  
 Brother J. A. Stevens  
 Brother G. L. Quiett  
 Brother Johnson  
 Brother Charlie Cox

Shed no tears, family,  
 The Bear has joined his clan  
 Oh! he was glad  
 To depart from Eagleland,  
 He left a message  
 For the gold and blue  
 Dear A & T Aggies.  
 They will get you too.

## Great Occasion - H'coming's Here

By Norma Brown

Once again, we, the Eagles, have begun celebrating that great occasion called Homecoming. This year the dates are Wednesday, October 27 through Saturday, October 30.

To kick-off this affair, a Maroon and Gray Day was held. On this day the true Eagles wore their maroon sweaters, blouses, or shirts and gray skirts or pants. A Homecoming Talent Show was also held on this day. The place of this event was the B. N. Duke Auditorium at 7:00 P.M. Immediately following this program, there was a social hour on the lawn from 9:00 - 10:30 P. M.

On Thursday, the most exciting and fun-filling funeral was held. This occasion was marked by the burial of the Shaw University Bears. This day also marked the beginning of preparation for the parade

and planning of the floats.

A bon fire and a pep rally from 7:00 - 8:30, a weiner roast and dance from 8:30 - 11:00, and the continuation of preparation for the parade are on the agenda for Friday.

On schedule for Saturday is a dawn dance from 4:00- 6:30 A.M. in the Men's Gymnasium; a parade at 10:00 A.M.; the selling of box luncheons and box dinners to the visitors from 11:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.; a reception given by President and Mrs. Massie for the alumni from 12:00 noon - 1:00 P.M.; the biggest event of the annual affair, the Homecoming Game and the crowning of Miss Homecoming at 1:00 P.M.; a reunion of the classes at 5:00 P.M.; and the climax of this gala affair in a victory ball featuring Garnett Mimms and his band to be held in the Men's Gym.

## Evans Exhibits The "Eagle" Eye

By James Evans

The surest way for one to get kicked is to be down because everyone is likely to kick one while he is down. After their first two shutout losses of the current football season the 1965 edition of the North Carolina College football squad will find immeasurable validity in this statement.

Most Eagle supporters including the omnipresent "fair weather" fans were spared immediate exposure to the initial loss of the season, 28-0, at the mercy of Allen University in Columbia, South Carolina. One need only view the statistics in the *Durham Morning Herald* however to deduce that the Eagles' attack proves no threat to the recognized supremacy of the Packers or the Colts. In fact, after the first game, the NCC offensive statistics strikingly resembled the "national debt." Whether the Eagles were that "un-offensive," or Allen University was that formidable, or more plausibly a combination of both is difficult to say.

On October 2 at 1:30 p.m. at O'Kelly Field, followers of the Eagles were afforded their opportunity of formulating their own first-hand conclusion. The opponent was the perennially powerful Bears of Morgan State. A week earlier they had humiliated Hampton Institute, 42-0. The Eagles took the field against Morgan State which was practically NCC's one and only positive acquisition that afternoon. Immediately the "feathers flew," Eagle feathers that is, as the Bears immediately initiated their "plucking

process." The visitors from the Chesapeake Bay area graciously accepted the opening kickoff and 16 plays later they possessed their first touchdown. It was now the Eagles turn to attack; and attack they didn't! Forced to punt the NCC punter, Shropshire, realized the appreciable impossibility of punting in crowded conditions; especially when those conditions are created by and composed of Morgan State personnel. As the blocked punt attempt rolled in the end zone and was recovered for a Bear touchdown, the pattern of the game was beginning to unfold. For the major portion of the afternoon the Eagle offense closely resembled a dance routine 1, 2, 3, kick! The two NCC freshman quarterbacks must have been quite surprised at the increased number of men allowed in the backfield—the Eagles' running backs and the various Morgan State linemen who had become "de facto members" for the afternoon. As Cole and Baldwin dropped back to pass they were invariably accompanied by a major portion of the Bear "rush line." As the maroon and gray "speed backs" tried to get outside to turn the ends they were repeatedly "detoured" by the Morgan State version of Gino Marchetti. Running inside the tackler had been long since eliminated by the voluntary immobility of the Bear lineman.

As football games are not called because of rain, there was no need for an Eagle rain dance. Consequently, the final gun was, the only reprieve Coach Stevens' men received.

This attempt to accurately interpret the North Carolina College football performance, is by no means another discreet kick at the temporarily downed Eagle. For it is inevitable that he will rise again. His ascension may have begun in Raleigh on October 9 as the Eagle played St. Augustine to a 12-12 tie. Those who consider a tie a negligible accomplishment must remember that this is the first sign of offensive proficiency shown by the Eagles this season. This is a young team highly dependent upon freshmen and other inexperienced personnel. It is generally conceded that the defensive development of a team will exceed the offensive development because although modern defensive football is intricate, offensive football can be even more so. Led by freshman quarterbacks, the problem with the offense has not been merely inadequate personnel, but the fact that the offensive unit has not yet jelled and assumed the necessary confidence and solidity. One need only recall the Morgan State game to see that although 33 points were scored against the Eagles in their shut-out loss, far too many of the points were attributed to offensive lapses and the surrendering of the ball by the Eagles in excellent field position for Morgan State.

So, for those sincere and intelligent football fans, North Carolina College's squad should provide an excellent study in the maturation of a football team as it achieves that cohesion and solidity peculiar to a successful unit. And for those "fair weather" fans who have nothing but scorn and defamation for the Eagles, the Eagle is no common, ordinary barnyard fowl. The Eagle is a mighty bird, and he will fly high again! Perhaps sooner than you think!

## Smalls Interviews James A. Stevens

By Curtis Smalls

With the present football season reaching its mid-way point, the faculty, students, and alumni of NCC anxiously await the Eagles 1965 Homecoming tilt with Shaw University, October 30.

In anticipation of the grueling contest to come, we were able to catch Eagle mentor, Coach J. A. Stevens, in his office going through the games scouting reports. "We are expecting an all-out effort from a very spirited ball club," he said. "The Bears will use everything from a spread offense to an unbalanced line," he added. Although Coach Stevens hasn't seen the Bears play, he stated that the Eagles would be up against 5-4 Oklahoma defense or a 6-2. When asked about the Bears coaching, he replied, "Coach Royster of Shaw University, who is an exponent of Jake Gaither of Florida A. and M. University, is a bright, young, imaginative coach and will use all the tricks in the book against us."

On the other hand, the Eagles will be looking for the return of Leon Walker, a 257-pound tackle—fullbacks Ben Carrington and Billy Shropshire. Also back, Kenneth Davis and end, Charles Holloway are expected to play.

In summarizing what fans should expect, Coach Stevens said, "It will be a very interesting contest with teams playing wide open football and should shape into a real battle."