

## Binion, Eagles open b-ball season competitively

James E. Dockery  
NSU 99 NCCU 91

The N. C. Central Eagles fought back from a 20 point deficit only to lose 99-91 to the Spartans of Norfolk State Wednesday night in McDougald Gym.

Reserve point guard Mike Wright sparked the comeback with his driving layups and accurate outside shooting. Wright led all scorers with 28 points.

Center David Binion came through with another good game, pumping in 25 points and pulling down 19 rebounds.

Doug Taylor also did well off the bench keeping the game close in the last five minutes with a 10-point scoring burst.

The Eagles opened the game in a zone defense—a tactic which never worked well for them. They were forced out of it by the sharp shooting Spartans. The Eagles mounted a comeback near the end of the first half with an aggressive man-to-man defense, which served them in good stead whenever they went to it.

When the Eagles went back to the

zone in the second half, NSU again countered with their outside shooting, again forcing Central out of the zone. The Eagles thrived on man-to-man, however, and narrowed the lead to seven points with 5:35 left in the game.

With 4 minutes to play, the Spartans slowed down the pace with their delay game, forcing Central to foul. NSU sunk enough charity points to forestall a late Eagle rally.

The loss drops NCCU to 3-1 in the CIAA and 3-3 overall.

### NCCU 94 ECSU 83

The Eagles held off a strong rally in the final five minutes to secure their third victory of the season against the Vikings of Elizabeth City State, 94-83, Monday night in McDougald Gym.

Central played an aggressive defense forcing the Vikings to make several mistakes, spotting the Eagles several easy baskets on steals and fastbreaks in the first half. Long-range shooting by Donnie Carter

and Rudy Burton kept ECSU close, and they trailed 47-43 at the half.

Mistakes by Central and tough defense by the Vikings prevented Central from blowing the game wide open in the second half.

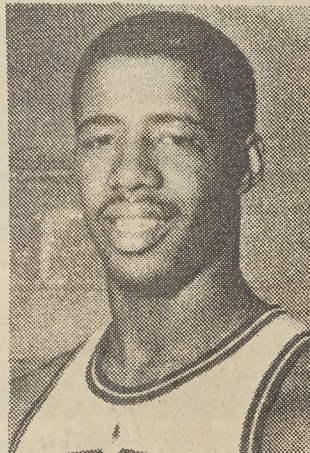
Five Central players scored in double figures. Darnell Evans led the team with 27 points, David Binion with 20, Willie Jennette and Mike Wright with 14, and Duane Griffin 10. Binion led the team with 15 rebounds and six assists.

### NCCU 96 BSC 73

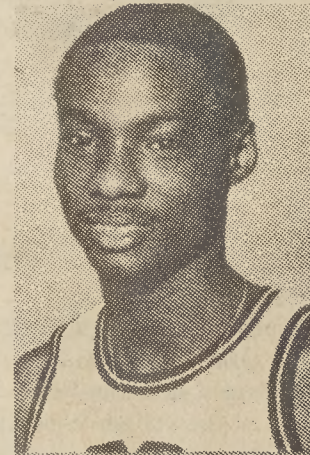
The Eagles captured their first CIAA victory of the season with a 96-73 victory over the Bowie State Bulldogs in Bowie, Md, Nov. 29.

Central scored the first six points of the game and led 47-31 at the half. Bowie cut the lead to 56-46 in the second half, but Central pulled away with their fast break offense.

Senior David Binion led the Eagles with 20 points and 19 rebounds. Other Eagles scoring in double figures were Mike Wright with 14, Kenneth Davis with 11, and Richard Kilgore with 10.



David Binion



Darnell Evans

By Patricia Stone

The St. Augustine Falcons were the victors in the seventh annual Bull-City Classic that pitted St. Paul, Fayetteville State, and N. C. Central against them, Dec. 3-4 in McDougald Gym.

The Eagles opened the tournament with an impressive win over St. Paul University in the first round of the tourney, but fell to St. Augustines in the championship game.

The Eagles have hosted the tournament for seven years and made the championship game twice, but have never won the tournament.

"We had a lot of trouble executing our game plan during the first half," said Jesse Clements, head coach of the Eagles.

There were some bright moments though.

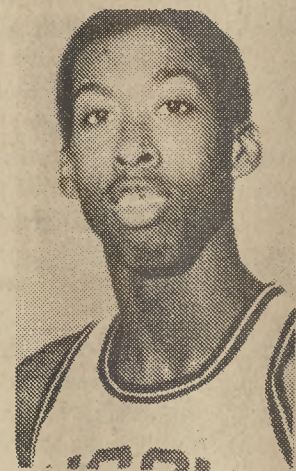
Two Eagle players, Darnell Evans and David Binion, were named all-tourney.

Third-year guard Evans, a junior business major from Wilmington, led the team in scoring, though his performance was down somewhat

from his 21.6 points per game season average.

Binion, a senior from Rochester, N.Y. was also named all-tourney. The four-year starter leads the team in rebounds and is the second leading scorer.

Binion says his objectives for the season are "to win the Southern Division Championship of the CIAA and to enter the national tournament."



Doug Taylor

Merry Christmas Cat

## Edwards brings winning ways

By Sherraine Lockhart

After coaching basketball for two years at Fayetteville State University, compiling a 47-9 record, being named CIAA Coach of the Year in 1981 and NAIA Coach of the Year in 1980, Yvonne Edwards has set new goals for her new team at NCCU—winning the CIAA Tournament and to beating arch rival Fayetteville State.

A native of Cambridge, Md. and a graduate of Maryland-Eastern Shore, Coach Edwards was accepted by the Lady Eagles with a willingness to work hard and try her kind of game.

"Sometimes they get mad at me in practice because they feel I work them too hard, but once practice is over everything is okay," Edwards said. "To be a good ball player one must be in good shape, willing to work hard and be disciplined," she added. "We have a lot work on, but you better believe we will be competitive."

There is pressure on Edwards and her squad because of her success thus far in basketball. With only eight returning Lady Eagles Coach Edwards still feels confident. "We don't have a shooting guard, but we will work around that problem," she said.

Edwards praises her players for her successful years at FSU. "I had girls who wanted to play ball, were enthusiastic and coachable," she said.

Her most rewarding experiences was when FSU won the Christmas Tournament at A&T State University and were CIAA Southern Division Champions last year.

On December 3 and 4 the Lady Eagles participated in a tournament at NC A&T University. In the first game the Lady Eagles fell to A&T 63-52; however, in the conciliation game the following night, the Eagles defeated Bennett College in double overtime with only three players by the score of 85-83.

On Dec. 6 the Lady Eagles made their first home appearance against Elizabeth City State University and defeated them 81-76. With their present record standing at 2-1, the Eagles are led by Carmen Judkins with a total of 53 points, 43 rebounds, 13 blocked shots and 6 steals. Helping lead the way is Mona McLaurin and Jacqueline Pinnix with 50 points each and 35 and 34 rebounds respectively.

The Lady Eagles travel to Petersburg, Va., tomorrow to take on Virginia State University, and they go into action at home on Jan. 6 against Johnson C. Smith University.

## Eagles fall short

By E. Bernard Hansley

The Eagles mounted a strong drive in the fourth quarter, sparked by a fourth and 10 pass from Gerald Fraylon to Victor Hunter for a first down—and capped by a five yard Fraylon run and a two—point conversion. But it was not enough for the Eagles to pull out a victory in the CIAA Championship game in Charlotte, Nov. 20.

Virginia Union won their second CIAA championship in as many years with a 33-26 defeat over Southern Division champ, N.C. Central.

The Eagles staged a patented comeback, but obstacles—turnovers, injuries and poor field conditions hindered their performance.

Unable to run effectively in the mud, Central was forced to rely upon its passing game accompanied with the injury second all-time leading rusher, Bennie Tate.

A 55-yard punt return by Carl Bland for a touchdown was the difference in the game. At the 11:12 mark Bland returned a Mark Frazier punt for a touchdown and extended the lead to 33-12.

On the following drive Fraylon moved the ball on the ground and ranbled to the two yard line. but fumbled, halting the drive with 10 minutes left in the contest.

The Eagle defense forced the Panthers to punt inside their 10 yard line and mounted a comeback drive.

Fraylon used a mixed bag of plays, finally connecting with Victor Hunter in the end zone. The Eagles missed the extra point attempt and trailed 33-18 with seven minutes remaining.

The fatigued Eagle defense held off the Panthers again and blocked a punt that gave the offense the ball on the Panther's 42 yard line.

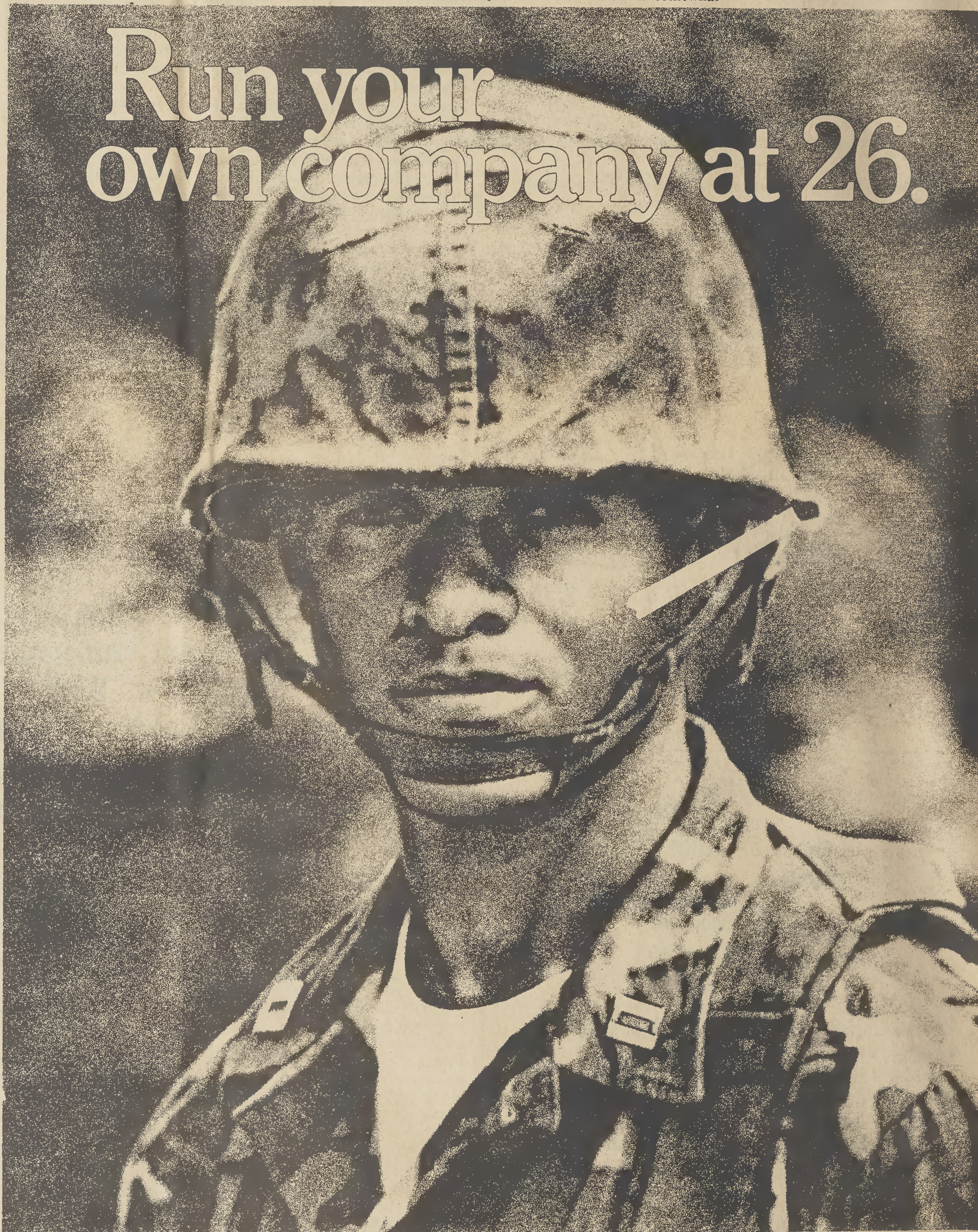
Fraylon, playing well under pressure from the Panther defense, connected with Hunter and Audrain Melton before running across the goal line for the score. He then hit Hunter in the end zone for the two—point conversion.

Only a touchdown and an extra point separated the two teams, with 3:18 left to play.

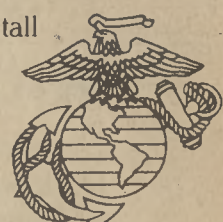
The Eagle's onside kick was recovered by CIAA Player of the Year, William Dillon, and the Panthers took possession.

But two timeouts and a battle-fatigued defense was not enough to hold the Panthers before they ran out the clock and captured another CIAA Championship.

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