

Little looking for Wildcat MEAC win

By Malcolm Pharr

Coach Larry Little's Wildcats had a losing record overall last season at 5-6. But the 4-2 conference mark was enough for the Cats to claim the MEAC title. Victories over FAMU and Delaware St. gave

them the chance to emerge from the confusion of the regular season race.

The Wildcats lost heavily from last years team, but they are semi-optimistic that the large number of quality receivers. If he can touch

it...he can catch it,,is the best possible way to describe Stevie Thomas. Thomas snared a league-leading 43 aerials as a junior last season. This he will have the scouts and agents in an all-out drool throughout the season.

Lebrone Sumpter will keep opposing defenses honest and in single coverage of Thomas. Michael Thomas, who rushed for 510 yards last season, was also on the receiving end of 19 passes.

The biggest blow in

Wildcat country is the absence of quarterback Anthony Thomas. Thomas' 2,500 yards in the air last season will be missed desperately. Four players, including converted receiver Lamar Anderson, are vying to fill the vacancy.

Center Michael Willis will lead an inexperienced line for the Cats.

The Wildcats will rely defensively on Evan Toney, linemen Joe Jones and Godfrey Story, and linebacker Cedric McKinnon.

Delaware Hornets anticipate another winning season

By Malcolm Pharr

Coach Bill Collick's Hornets could have a bad taste in their mouths after losing their first four games last season, but the second half saw a 100% turn around as they won their last five of six contests. This season's op-

timism is bubbling from the Hornet's nest and the joy of sweet honey oozes from the north as Coach Collick has 18 starters returning and 50-lettermen.

The Hornets will rely on the leadership of senior quarterback Darrin Felton to lift the bees

back into prominence in the MEAC. The Hornet's backfield must rebound from the loss of 1,000 yard rusher Reggie Barnes, who completed his eligibility. Eric Wainwright, an all-league selection of linebacker last year will be asked to help fill the

holes in the Hornet's backfield. Running-backs Mike Riddick and John Barber also returned to the nest.

Tim Egerton and tight end Dave Jones will provide the strong-armed Felton with excellent targets.

The Hornets, who are

known for high-powered scoring offenses is relatively experienced on defense with the one, two punch of defensive backs Reggie Johnson and Elvis Hines. They finished one and two in the league last season in interception. Pass-

rusher supreme Malcolm Showell promises to keep the heat on opposing quarterbacks. Defensive tackle Andy Harris complements the aggressive Showell with consistency. Safety Marc Ware will help round out the secondary.

Florida A&M readies superior defense

By Malcolm Pharr

Florida A&M narrowly missed winning the MEAC crown last season, despite a difficult schedule. The Rattlers posted a 6-4-1 mark overall, and an impressive 4-2 mark in conference play. This season could be the icing on

the cake, and the snakes should "belly-up" and become a power in the MEAC.

Redshirt freshman from a year ago, Tony Ezell stepped forward and passed for 889 yards and 11 touchdowns. Ezell's poise and maturity was evi-

dent in key situations last season.

The Rattlers will look to Sean Gilliam to carry the ball this season. Gilliam is the team's leading returning rusher with 322 yards. Amir Rasul and Stacy LeMay will make the Rattlers respectable in the backfield as well.

The Rattlers are not about to hide the fact that defense in number one in the state's capital of Tallahassee, Florida. Last year's defense, which was ranked No. 1 in the MEAC in 1988 will be tough once again.

Linebacker Darryl Davis who led the team

in tackles returns with ample support from cornerbacks William Evers and Lowell Crawford. The Rattlers must recover from the loss of two-time all-CEAC lineman Bryan Brewer. Brewer transferred to Texas Southern.

The Rattlers sport one

of the conference most gifted athletes in receiver/return specialist, Howard Huckaby. Huckaby is a threat to go the distance everytime he touches the football. Florida A&M place-kicker Jimmy Vertuno led the league in scoring last season.

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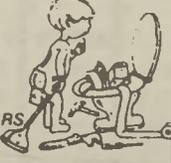
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