

EAGLES USE DEFENSIVE CLOUT TO WIN OVER SCS



By HERMAN MATTHEWS

Like many of the 12,000 odd fans attending the football game between North Carolina Central University and South Carolina State last Saturday in Durham, I was witness to something that is characteristic of college athletics: Unpredictability!

South Carolina State was picked to win. As an alumnus of NCCU, I wanted my alma mater to defeat the invading Bulldogs from palmetto country. I believed we could win, but I predicted that South Carolina State would win and retain their leadership of the MEAC race.

As you know, NCCU won 6-3. I was right in believing it (the victory) was possible, and wrong in my predictions. Being entertained by the upset was fulfilling to my Eagle ego. The entertainment provided by the game itself fell short of my expectations. Oh, it was a defensive struggle... sometimes those kind of games are exciting too. Despite the fact that NCCU's defense sparked in their effort, and led the team to such a key conference victory, there was something missing.

I knew that I had miss eating breakfast the morning of the game, and that the hot dog I bought from the stadium vendors was old and cold. But, those irregularities did not influence my having a "lost that loving feeling" about my favorite sport.

Upon reaching home, after the game, I tuned in to the North Carolina State vs University of South Carolina game on television. I was thoroughly "entertained" for two quarters (3rd & 4th). There were unpredictable plays, audacity on the part of the coaches, talented players who executed skillfully and most of all there was the "excitement of college football" - as promised by the ABC TV network.

Football games are played to be won by one of two participating teams. Fans pay their money to be entertained by the victories earned by their favorite team (s), and also to be entertained by the game itself. How the game is played is as important as who is playing. To have football games that don't appeal to the fans, is to limit the success that one can achieve in that field of entertainment.

Yes, football is, or should be considered, in the entertainment business. It is customer-oriented. If there were no paying fans, there would probably be no NCAA football games. There would be a surplus of intramural football squads. Scholarships equipment, and out-of-town games would be obsolete. To have a product like a football game without selling it in a pretty package is like laying a naked bar of soap on a supermarket shelf to compete with other packaged brands...especially if the prices are similar.

The football coaches of the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference and the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association, as well as other small school gridiron mentors, have their hands full trying to satisfy an acknowledge objective of intercollegiate competition-- winning. But, winning isn't everything...SUCCESS is! The success of MEAC, CIAA, and other small schools athletic endeavors depends on their entertaining as well as winning. More than I would grieve to see certain athletic traditions go down in shabby disgrace for lack of the same imagination that build them up.

To say that all or most of the MEAC and CIAA football games now lack excitement would be false and unfair. But, those gridiron gardens which have produced such roses as Leroy Kelly, Willie Lanier, and Emerson Boozer; and such confrontations as Morgan State vs Maryland State (1966), Johnson C. Smith vs North Carolina Central (1969), and Norfolk State vs Virginia Union (1974), are not as attractive as they can be. "The opportunity that God sends does not wake up him who is sleep" - African Proverb.

North Carolina Central University's Eagles used their defensive clout to defeat the South Carolina State Bulldogs 6-3 in a key MEAC grid clash in Durham last Saturday.

An estimated 12,000 homecoming fans were on hand to watch NCCU improve their record (3-0-1, 5-1-1) and take sole possession of first place in the MEAC standings. The invading Bulldogs suffered their first loss of the season and fell to second place with a 3-1-0 conference and 5-1-1 overall record.

Befittingly, Eagle defensive line coach Arthur Grier wore a big smile to match the big effort put out by NCCU's defensive unit. "We had an

all out effort, and we were aggressive," said Coach Grier. "They (Eagle defenders) displayed a lot of desire and pride." Asked to comment about the four pass thefts by Eagle defensive backs, Coach Grier commented, "Oddly enough, when you get a lot of interceptions it means you are getting good coverage and also a good rush (on passer). Our line, today, had very good discipline."

On their first offensive series, the Bulldogs attempted to break that discipline by driving 53 yards before being forced to settle for a field goal by Anthony Evans from 27 yards out.

Two series later, linebacker Aaron Whitaker intercepted a South

Carolina State pass and returned it 32 yards to the Bulldog 18 yard line. After three plays, the Eagles were forced to try for a field goal, which Eric Hines successfully made (38 yards) to tie the score at 3-3.

The game settled down and evolved into an old fashion head-knocking and leg-locking defensive struggle, lasting throughout the second quarter and halfway into the third period. Nifty Eagle free safety Louis Breeden picked off a South Carolina State pass and flew 40 yards before being stopped at the Bulldogs 33 yard line. Seven plays produced but 15 yards for the Eagles, and Eric Hines was called upon to kick a 35-yard field goal. Hines' good boot gave NCCU a 6-3 lead, a margin that

proved to be enough to launch the Eagles into first place in the league standings.

Understandably, Bulldog coach Willie Jeffries was not pleased with his team's effort. "We moved the ball, but we did not get it across the goal line... which is important," said Coach Jeffries. "If you can't make a foot, then there is no use in playing football," he said, commenting about the Bulldogs failure to make a first down with fourth and one at NCCU's 4-yard line early in the fourth quarter. A brilliant goal line stand by NCCU's defense took the heart out of South Carolina State's offense at that point... they never recovered as the life of the conference race shifted to the Eagles.

Bison Power Outlasts Tough Hampton Eleven

WASHINGTON, D.C. - With the Howard University passing attack at its lowest ebb in seven seasons, Coach Douglas Porter was forced to turn suddenly to a brutal fourth quarter ground game in Robert F. Kennedy Stadium, Friday night, in order to pin a 19-15 defeat on a surprising Hampton Institute effort.

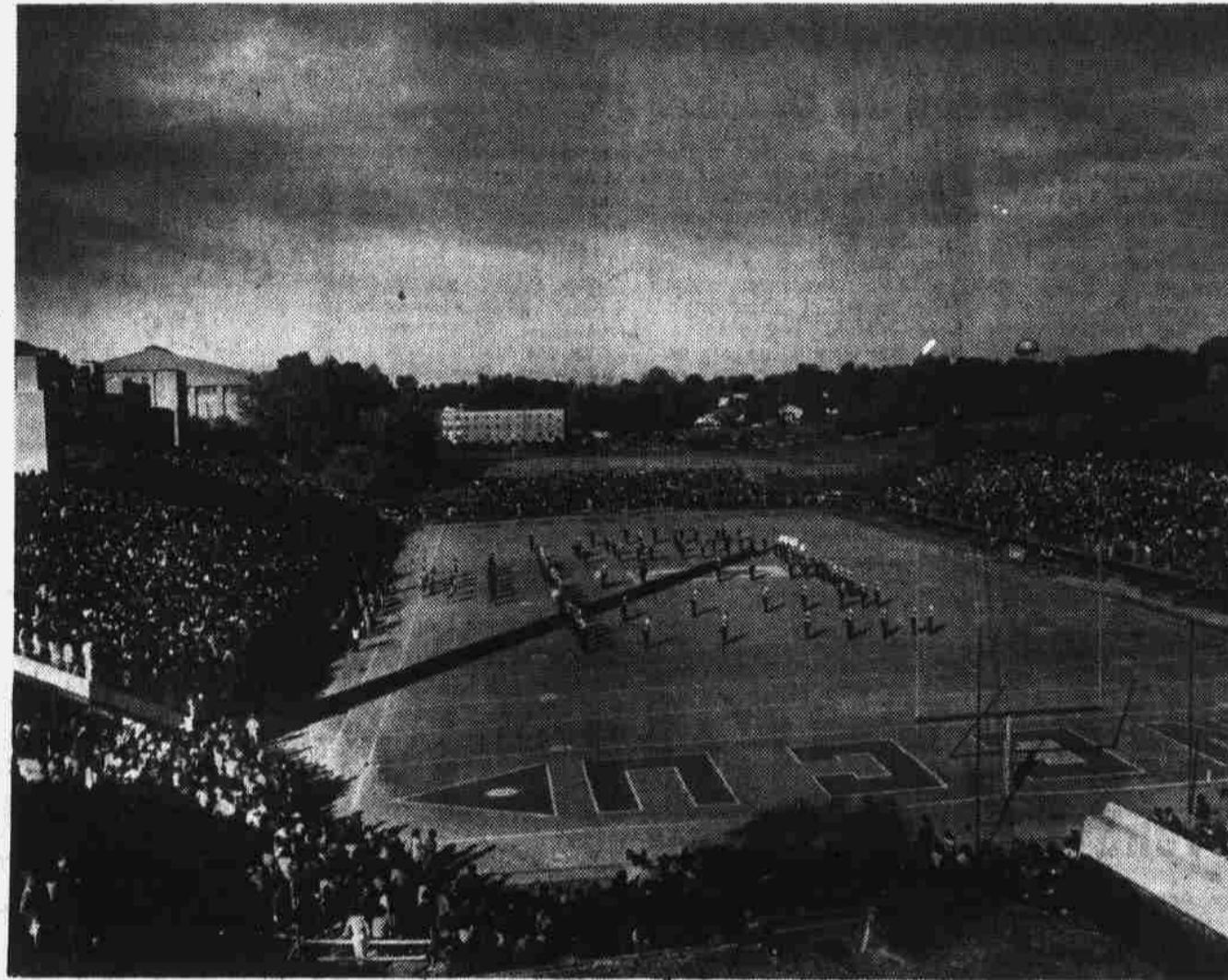
Aroused at last, following Thomas Clarke's interception and 17-yard runback of a Seaton pass at the Bison 30, the Bison waived the forward pass to rush for 11, 14, 6, 9, 2, 10 yards and a loss of 2, before David Jones ran 12 yards to score. Gamble's kick went wide for a 13-7 Howard lead.

Failing to gain Hampton punted to the Bison 38. Again the winners resorted to rushes of 6, 7 yards interspersed with a face mask call against Hampton - to set up a 9-yard Banks to Harvey Banks pass to the Pirates 33. On the next play, Donald Barnes bulled 33 yards for a touchdown. The conversion was missed and Howard led by 19-7 with 2:59 remaining, a defensive interference call gave Hampton the ball at Howard's 38. Eight plays later, Larry Brooks lunged one yard for a Pirate score. Hampton's pass play converted as Howard prevailed 19-15.

Boasting a 7-0 halftime advantage over the visiting Pirates, the winners were surprised when Hampton's Sam Moore intercepted a Michael Banks pass at the Bison 20; setting the stage for an 18-yard scoring forward pass, on a perfect Russ Seaton to Lewey Hale strike. John Gamble converted for a 7-7 tie at 3:58 of the third quarter.

The Bison had drawn first blood at 8:41 of the second quarter, when Anthony Tapp flashed outside, behind General Rooney's savage block, and ran 21 yards to a touchdown. Howard's Julius Gamble converted.

SCORING BY QUARTERS:
Hampton 0 0 7 8 15
Howard 0 7 0 12-19



HOMECOMING HALFTIME ON N.C.'S CAMPUS



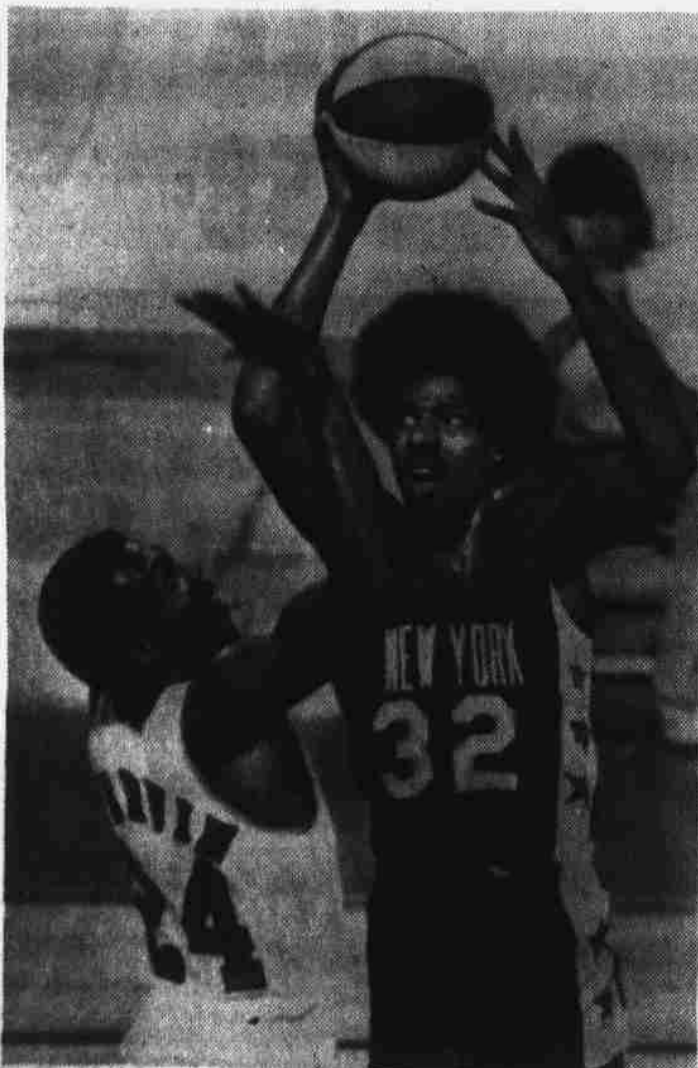
MISS DeEDGRA FOZARD, "MISS NCCU" PRESENTED DURING HALFTIME



BRONCO BOOSTER GIFT- Pete Freeman, left, Fayetteville Bronco Booster Club President present FSU Chancellor Charles "A" Lyons, Jr., (extreme right) with a new set of "first down markers" for the team. Dr. Joe Robinson, FSU Athletic Director, (center) accepts on behalf of the Athletic Department.



ALUMNI PRESENT KEYS TO MISS BARBARA LASSITER FOR '75 PINTO WON IN RAFFLE



ST. LOUIS - New York New' Julius Irving goes high above Spirits of St. Louis' Marvin Barnes as he makes a jump shot in the first period of game. (UPI)

Foaster and Ragsdale MEAC Players of Week

DURHAM - A & T's split end Dexter Foaster and running back George Ragsdale have been named offensive players of the week in the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference for their play against Morgan State.

Foaster was named offensive lineman of the week and Ragsdale was selected as the offensive back of the week.

Foaster, a 6-3, 190-pound junior split end, caught five passes for 38 yards in A & T's 49-28 win over Morgan. Foaster caught one touchdown pass for 15 yards.

Ragsdale, a 6-2, 190-pound senior from Baltimore, Maryland, set two school records in rushing for 222-yards in 25 carries against Morgan. Ragsdale set a one-game rushing mark and also a one year rushing mark. Ragsdale also caught two passes 17 yards including a three-yard touchdown pass.

Other players nominated for the offensive player of the week honors were Elsworth Turner of A & T, Donald Barnes of Howard and Leroy Way and Darius Helton of North Carolina Central.

Bisons Begin Basketball Workouts

WASHINGTON - The 1975-76 Howard University basketball squad began practice October 15th and the preseason optimism may be justified.

There's 6-9 John Mullen, the tallest player ever recruited by the University. New Coach A. B. Williamson is a stranger to losing as

proved by heaps of city championships, "Number 1" rankings, and three high school all-Americans during the last four years. Add a schedule that includes North Carolina, Southern California, and defending MEAC champion North Carolina A & T, and there is also a tough challenge ahead for the Bison.

Twelve lettermen return, headed by all-American Vadnay Cotton (Chapel Hill, N. C.) and guard Angelo Council.

"The squad is working hard and putting forth an effort," said Coach Williamson. "The number one thing we need is work on all phases of the game. We'll also have to work on team speed."

MEAC & CIAA FOOTBALL SCHEDULE / RESULTS

HOME TEAM	OPPONENT	SITE	TIME/P.M.
(November 8)			
Virginia Union Univ.	Morgan State	Richmond, Va.	1:30
Shaw University*	Delaware State	Raleigh, N.C.	1:30
Federal City	Fayetteville State	Washington, D.C.	2:00
Guilford	Winston-Salem State	Guilford, N.C.	2:00
Norfolk State	Virginia State College	Norfolk, Va.	2:00
Johnson C. Smith	N. C. Central Univ.	Charlotte, N.C.	1:30
Saint Paul's College*	Hampton Institute	Lawrenceville, Va.	2:00
Kentucky State	Livingstone College	Frankfort, Ky.	1:30
Maryland-E.S.	S. C. State	Princess Anne, Md.	1:30
Howard University	Southern University	Washington, D.C.	1:30
Grambling	N. C. A & T Univ.	Grambling, La.	2:00
(November 15)			
N. C. Central	Howard University	Durham, N.C.	1:30
Delaware State	N. C. A & T Univ.	Dover, Delaware	1:30
Morgan State	Central State	Baltimore, Md.	1:30
Maryland-E.S.	Bowie State	Princess Anne, Md.	1:30
Virginia State	Tennessee State	Petersburg, Va.	1:30
Norfolk State	Grambling	Norfolk, Va.	2:00
Fayetteville State*	Johnson C. Smith	Fayetteville, N.C.	1:30
Winston-Salem State*	Shaw University	Winston-Salem, N.C.	1:30
Saint Paul's College	Elizabeth City St.	Lawrenceville, Va.	2:00
Virginia Union Univ.	Livingstone College	Richmond, Va.	1:30

*Denotes Homecoming

GAMES RESULTS---Nov. 1

North Carolina Central 6, South Carolina State 3
North Carolina A & T Univ. 48, Morgan State 28
Norfolk State 21, Shaw University 0
Johnson C. Smith 53, Winston-Salem State 6
Livingstone College 33, Saint Paul's College 0
Elizabeth City State 6, Fayetteville State 0
Howard University 19, Hampton Institute 15
Virginia Union Univ. 21, Virginia State 0

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