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Sports Editor
Black-On Sports

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Sports

Ram of the Week

Anthony Oates



Anthony Oates
WSSU linebacker Anthony Oates has been selected as the Winston-Salem Chronicle's "Ram of the Week" for his play in the Rams 46-6 trouncing of Shaw University last Saturday.

In case you didn't read it in the sidelights of the story about Terry Bradshaw leading the Pittsburgh Steelers to a win over the Cleveland Browns last Sunday and into a tie with the Browns for the Central Division lead, a black quarterback got his first shot at proving himself in the NFL. Dave Mays, a 28 year old refugee from the World Football League, came in to replace Brain Sipe when the starter was injured and nearly beat the Steelers with three touchdown passes in the games final ten minutes. For the day, Mays a 6-1 204 pounder, out of Texas Southern, hit 17 of 32 passes for 269 yards, against the NFL's most feared defense. Not bad for a guy who had been off the bench only once this season and that time only to warm up. The Browns organization must have known something about Mays before the season started since they traded away Mike Phipps, a quarterback of experts in the draft who were saying they would draft a quarterback very early. The Browns didn't pick one at all. Before this season Mays had thrown a total of 20 NFL passes completing 9 for a total of 101 yards, and had rushed for 14 yards in 5 carries. So much for his experience in the league.

Now, however, with Sipe probably out for the season with a broken bone in his shoulder, it will be up to the black signal caller to lead the Browns, who were picked to finish last in the Central Division, into the playoffs in the leagues tightest division race.

Look out NFL, the Browns are now being led black. Good luck Dave here's hoping you can beat the odds.

Basketball season is just around the corner and the CIAA-Sportswriters Association has made its preseason picks for the conference.

Here's how the writers pick the teams to finish this season: In the Southern Division St. Augustine's was tabbed as the number one cage group. Winston-Salem State, the defending champs were picked to finish second, with Johnson C. Smith third, Shaw Fourth, followed by Fayetteville State, and Livingstone. Virginia Union was a unanimous choice to take the Northern Division crown with Hampton Institute second, Norfolk State third, with Virginia State, Elizabeth City and St. Pauls rounding out the division.

Virginia Union, coached by Robert Moore, was an overwhelming pick to capture the tournament. Should the Panthers win the title they would go no further however, since they are on probation.

As promised last week when he criticized the nominations for the ALL-CIAA Football team by the CIAA-SA this writer will give his ALL-Conference team. Here goes. Offense: Quarterback-Kermit Blount(WSSU); Runningbacks-Timmy Newsome(WSSU), and George Leonard (Virginia State); Wide receivers-James Woodson(St. Paul's), and Reggie Midget(Hampton); Tight end-Fred Hargrove(Elizabeth City).

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WSSU's Rams capped an undefeated season with last Saturday's final victory, a triumph over Shaw University.

Rams Demoralize Bears-End Perfect Season 11-0

By Robert Eller
Sports Editor

All the visions, hopes, and dreams of the WSSU Rams football team came true Saturday afternoon at Bowman Gray Stadium as the Rams crushed Shaw University 46-6 giving the city of Winston-Salem its first ever undefeated college football team.

The Rams finished the storybook season in fitting fashion as they scored 14 points in a 54 second span midway through the first quarter and never looked back in route to their eleventh win in as many outings in the 77 season.

A happy but subdued Bill Hayes sat in the winners dressing room after the historic victory and reflected on the season. "I said before the season

started that if we could beat our preseason prediction by six places again this year we would be in high cotton. I guess you could say we are in that high cotton now." Hayes was alluding to the CIAA preseason poll where the Rams were picked to finish sixth. "Last year they picked us to finish tenth and we finished fourth. This year we beat the prediction by six again," he said, a sense of satisfaction in his voice. "I'm happy for the coaches and the job they have done. I'm happy for the kids who gave it their all (pause) No kind of material thing can replace the feeling I have inside right now. Whatever the feeling is between a smile and a tear is, that's how I feel and it's

the ultimate." The Ram players, who showed little emotion in their ten previous victories, could hold their elation in no longer after Reginald Sherard returned a Bear free kick 64 yards for a touchdown following a safety. After the return, which made the score 33-6, tackle Gary Raiford fell on the turf and threw his legs in the air wildly.

Another celebration broke out on the Ram bench after Kermit Blount hit George Miles with a 59 yard scoring pass two minutes into the final quarter for a 39-6 lead. Third string quarterback Harold Timmons led a 45 yard drive for the final

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Finishes Dream Season

Hayes Made Plans...Not Promises

by Robert Eller

The date was February 29, 1976 and the Winston-Salem State Rams had just lost their second consecutive CIAA basketball tournament to the Norfolk State Spartans in overtime again. This writer had

surprisingly hired a side home with the new WSSU football coach Bill Hayes. I was curious about Hayes. Hayes had been picked to succeed Cleo Wallace as head coach when most Ram supporters, myself included, hoped it would be Baxter Holman.

Why Hayes, I wondered? He had never been a head coach in college and he had been across town at Wake Forest where losing was only bad if the score wasn't respectable. What made the selection committee think he could get the Rams on the winning track after the disastrous 1-9 season they had just suffered.

I wasn't really at ease but Hayes seemed to be. He seemed to want to talk to someone, anyone who would listen to his ideas about football and his plans for WSSU. It was kind of strange. No questions were needed to get the new coach started talking as he wound his way through Virginia back toward the Twin City.

"I'm really kind of apprehensive," he began, staring blankly at the road ahead. "I don't even know what to expect. I don't



Bill Hayes embraces his mother.

know anything about the CIAA. I don't know much about the coaches or the kind of ball they play, but I have some ideas and I guess I'll sink or swim with them." He paused while he overtook a pair of slower cars on the two lane highway, but the wheels continued to turn in his head.

CIAA Round-up

Three Teams End Season

Hampton, Va. - Three CIAA football teams completed their season last week, with eight others having one more game and remaining on their schedule. Winston-Salem ended its season with an 11-0 overall record, the best in the Rams history. Winston-Salem clinched the CIAA championship by downing Shaw 46-6, and now must wait three weeks to meet MEAC champion South Carolina State in the Gold Bowl in the Richmond Stadium on 3 December.

Garfield Mizzell and Malcolm Barnwell played pass and catch as they teamed up to beat the Livingstone Bears 38-0. Junior quarterback Mizell hit on 9 of 12 passes for 233 yards and four touchdowns, one being a 78 yard strike to Barnwell. Barnwell for the day caught seven passes for 218 yards and three touchdowns and rushed 4 times for 29 yards.

Virginia State under new head coach Tom Morris is enjoying their best season since 1974 as they shut out Bowie State 40-0. Sophomore running back George Leonard rushed 18 times for 120 yards and scored a touchdown on a 61 yard gallop to trigger the Trojan's offense. Rufus Crawford contributed 109 yards in 19 attempts. Offensive guard Arthur Waddell, a sophomore from Durham, N.C. was Leonard's and Crawford's key blocker and threw the block that sprung Leonard on his 61 yard scoring play.

Norfolk State who has not been able to bring home a victory in the last 6 games fell to Grambling 48-12. The Spartans and Coach Dick Price are suffering their worst season in three years. Larue Harrington, until last week, the second leading rusher in the CIAA rushed 18 times for 81 yards. The Spartans only bright moments came when senior

WSBL To Award Franchise

by Robert Eller
Sports Editor

The second organizational meeting of the 1978 Winston-Salem Baseball League will be held Sunday November 20 at 6:00 p.m. in Benton Convention Center.

The meetings agenda will include the awarding of team franchises for the 1978 baseball season, league entrance fees and payment schedules, possible field sites, the creation of a league umpire association, the divisional structure of the league, and its preseason banquet.

League President Ike Howard said the WSBL may field as many as 20 teams for the upcoming season. "We feel that there is sufficient interest in baseball and that there is enough talent to expand our league for next season. We are considering having two divisions. This

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can build a pretty good offense. The veer offense is a little ahead of almost any defense. There almost always has to be a vulnerable spot, if the quarterback reads the defense. Then you can almost always pick up some yardage."

Hayes explained in detail the options of the veer on any given play, ob-

linebacker James Daughy intercepted Heisman Trophy candidate Doug Williams' pass and raced 84 yards for the score. Another moment was when Henry Sheppard hit Elmore Rainey on an eight yard pass for the score. Grambling's Williams

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SCORES OF THE WEEK

Johnson C. Smith	13
Fayetteville St.	12
Grambling	48
Norfolk St.	12
Virginia St.	40
Bowie St.	0
Winston-Salem St.	46
Shaw Univ.	6
Hampton Institute	15
Maryland, E.S.	13
Elizabeth City St.	21
Saint Paul's	19
Virginia Union	38
Livingstone	0
CIAA Standings (through 12 November 1977)	
	W L T
Winston-Salem	8 0 0
Virginia Union	6 1 0
Virginia State	5 1 1
Hampton Inst.	5 2 0
Norfolk St.	3 3 1
Livingstone	3 4 0
Eliz. City St.	3 5 0
J.C. Smith	2 5 0
Fayetteville	2 6 0
Shaw Univ.	1 6 0
St. Paul's	0 7 0

GAMES OF 19 NOV.

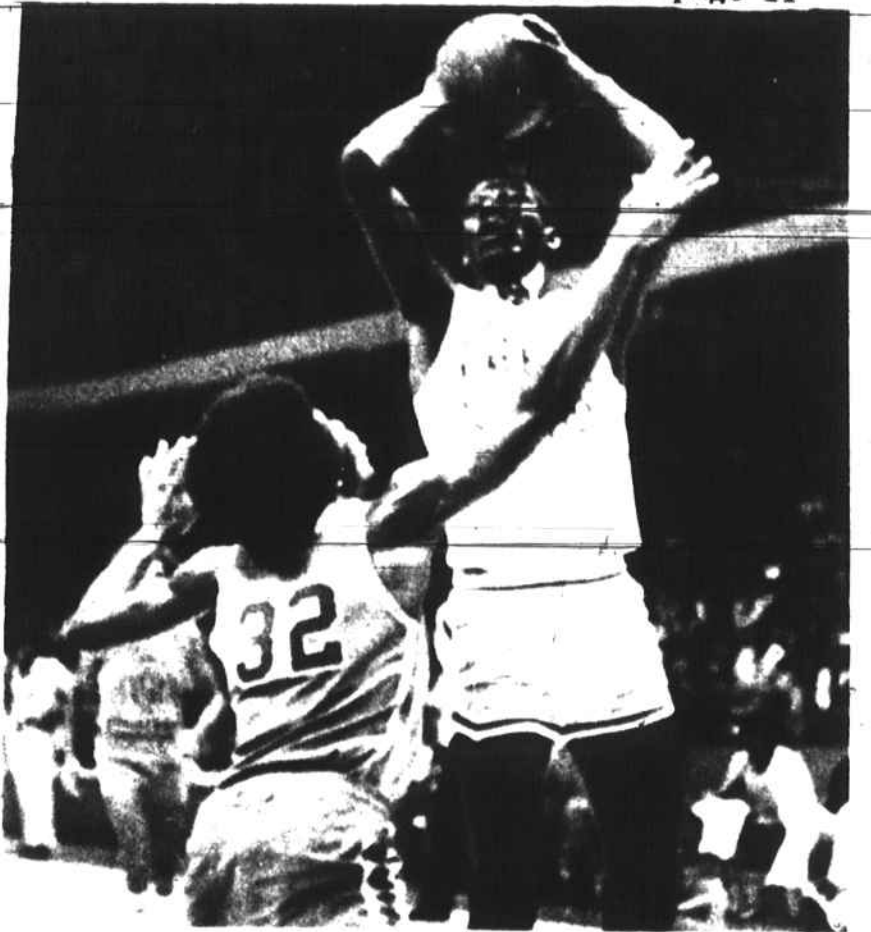
Virginia Union at Hampton Inst.
Virginia State at J.C. Smith
St. Paul's at Norfolk State
Livingstone at Shaw Univ.

viously knowing what he was talking about.

We were in Wake Forest, N.C. and I began to think of the something new Wake Forest University football program. I asked about Hayes' experiences at Wake. "I learned quite a bit about organization there," he said. "That's one thing the program has is organization." "What about recruiting," I asked. "Recruiting at Wake is different than at most other schools," Hayes explained because you have to go after the kids who can get in. You can't just try to recruit the good athlete. He has to be able to get in and do the work. That's one of the things that I will continue to do at Winston-Salem State.

"My experiences with recruiting has taught me that a kid has to be smart to be a winner. Athletic ability alone is not enough. The kids I bring in will have to be able to do college work. I'm not going to be the type of coach who simply recruits football players. I'm going after the student athlete. I know that's what every coach says but I really mean it. Not many athletes who come to college can go on into professional sports and I want the ones who play under me to be able to do something else besides play ball when they leave."

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James Sparrow 6'6" Guard takes a jumper over opponent.

'The Bird' To Play For Aggies This Year

Greensboro, N.C. - The return of guard, James "The Bird" Sparrow, the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference's Most Valuable Player during the 1975-76 season, along with seven lettermen from the 1976-77 team will restore the winning tradition at North Carolina A&T during the 1977-78 basketball season.

Last year's team suffered through a frustrating 3-24 campaign plagued by inexperience, the academic ineligibility of Sparrow, and a rigorous schedule which included national powers North Carolina State, Oral Roberts, and North Texas State.

Gene Littles, former standout guard with the Carolina Cougars of the American Basketball

In helping the Rams end their perfect season Oates was credited with 10 primary tackles, 8 assists, 2 quarterback sacks and knocked down three passes.

The 6-0 210 pound senior, playing his last game at Bowman Gray Stadium was all over the field. He played what may have been the finest game of his college career against his hometown team. A native of Raleigh, N.C., Oates was not highly recruited after his high school career at Sanderson. "We really didn't do that well in high school. I think we were 3-7 my junior year and 6-4 my senior year. Only Appalachian, Shaw and WSSU contacted me. I had friends here and after visiting the school I decided to come here." The Business Administration major became a starter at linebacker his freshman year and started off and on his sophomore season. He started only three games last season but bounced back to start every game this season.

After being picked as see Ram page 11

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