

sports

Winston-Salem Chronicle

Rams Face Smith In Crucial Game

By Robert Eller
Sports Editor

It has been quite a few years since the annual football contest between the Rams of WSSU and the Bulls of J. C. Smith has had such a great bearing on the CIAA title chase for both teams. But Saturday at 1:30 p.m. when the two old rivals face off at Bowman Gray Stadium for the Rams Homecoming game it will be a must game for both squads.

The winner will have a

shot at the CIAA southern division title and a berth in the CIAA title game, while the loser will have to look forward to next season.

Bulls coach Wylie Harris has seen his team play in roller coaster fashion this season. With but five seniors on the squad the Bulls have looked good in wins over Lenoir Rhyne (33-32), Bowie State (26-3), and last week against Livingston (39-19). On the other hand they have looked mediocre in a 19-18 loss

to A&T, poor in two losses, 28-13 to Elizabeth City and 13-0 to Virginia State, while words will not describe their play in an 82-0 trouncing at the hands of South Carolina State.

Still with a 2-2 conference mark a win over the Rams, who are 3-2 in league play and one half game behind division leading NCCU, they could put themselves in a spot to take the division crown, by beating Central and Norfolk State. Smith has one of the top

offenses in the CIAA* in fact they are second in the league averaging 333 yards per outing. Quarterback John Henry Thomas leads the league in total offense with 174 yards per game and pint sized runningback, freshman Darrel Wesley, is the conferences top rusher with 673 yards. Wesley's running mate Jeff Steel has four touchdowns and 382 yards to his credit. Both are fine receivers but the top pass catching threat is Nate McDowell. The senior

speedster has 32 catches for 380 yards thus far. On the other side freshman Ken White has 11 catches in four games since earning a starting spot.

While the Bulls young offense has been able to move the ball their problem has been turnovers. While outgaining their opponents on both the ground and through the air, and giving up but 267 yards per game, they have surrendered 196 points while scoring only 129.

Quarterback Thomas has thrown 12 interceptions and mistakes have been numerous.

Defensively the Bulls have tough Alvin Ellington, big Reggie Williams and Senior Daryl Kornegay as the

mainstays up front. The linebacking corp is solid with co-captain See Page 18

12 Teams Assured Of Share In Crown

Hampton, Va....With the close of eight weeks of top-notch football in the CIAA, only one of twelve teams has assured itself at least a share of one of the crowns.

The Panthers of Virginia Union University, with their 43-14 drubbing of Norfolk State last weekend, assured themselves of no less than a share of the CIAA Northern division crown. They can cinch a trip to the first CIAA Football Championship in Charlotte, N.C., on 21 November with a win this Saturday over the Trojans of Virginia State University. The game will be held at Richmond's City Stadium.

In a contest that was billed as the turning point for the Spartans of Norfolk State, it ended in one of the season's greatest mismatches.

At the same moment, the Elizabeth City State Vikings were sharpening their game plans for the next conference contest by downing the Eagles of North Carolina Central 27-20 in a non-conference game.

The Vikings used the running of Gary Sneed (95 yards on 30 carries - 2 TD's) on offense, the leg of field goal kicker Dwayne Whitfield and a strong defense to down the Eagles.

The Bulldogs of Bowie State College enjoyed homecoming by shutting out St. Paul's 21-0. The win put the Bulldogs over the .500 mark in overall games. The CIAA Giant Killers' (Bowie State) defense showed it

could be ready when they face the Southern division leader, North Carolina Central, in Durham next weekend.

After losing their first three contests, the Rams of Winston-Salem State have won their last four contests. The latest victim was Lenoir-Rhyne whom the Rams downed 24-17.

Head Coach Bill Hayes has regrouped his starting units by replacing juniors and seniors with aggressive first and second year players.

Freshman quarterback Mike Winbush was the leading rusher with 110 yards on 20 carries and threw 6 yards to Mike Ferguson for a TD. Freshman fullback Alex Cowans added 81 yards on 15 attempts.

The Hampton Institute Pirates proved they are very much for real as they edged NCAA Division I-AA James Madison 17-15. It was the third straight win for the Pirates who are now 5-2 overall.

Sophomore quarterback Kevin Joiner led the way, completing 7 of 12 passes for 95 yards and two touchdowns. On defense, the Pirates look strong for the future with sophomore defensive end Phil Harrison, freshman defensive back Blake Anderson and sophomore

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Black On Sports



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With only a few weeks left in the college football season it appears that there will be only one clear cut winner in the battle for post season play among the black college conferences.

Right now it looks as if Virginia Union will claim a spot in the CIAA's championship game. Appearing to be the cream of the crop in the league they have a 6-0 league mark with Elizabeth City, possibly the next best team in the conference, standing 4-1.

Over in the Southern Division things are tighter. North Carolina Central has a half game lead over WSSU with J.C. Smith still in the battle for the southern division title.

Central got a big break last week even though they lost to Elizabeth City. Because the Eagles play eight conference foes they drew from a hat and as a result their game with ECU wound up as a non-conference game. As WSSU coach Bill Hayes put it, "that might have been the biggest draw play of the season for the Eagles".

The Rams still can have a shot at the title with a win over Elizabeth City at home on November 7.

In the Mid Eastern Athletic Conference where the winner will get an automatic berth into the NCAA Division I-AA playoffs South Carolina State and Bethune-Cookman are both unbeaten. Their big showdown will occur on November 7 also.

Florida A&M, a team that has already won a 1-AA title when they were not a MEAC member and before the automatic berths were extended still has a shot at the title if Bethune can trip SC State and they can beat Bethune on November 28.

In the Southwestern Athletic Conference, Grambling's upset of number one ranked Jackson State has put the perennial powerhouse Tigers back in the drivers seat for the title in that conference.

One team that is not affiliated with any conference but is doing very well this year is Tennessee State University. Tennessee State has a 6-1 record and has claimed wins over some of the big white schools.

Talking about Tennessee State...over the years there has been a lot of talk about "home cooking" when teams have visited the school to play football. In fact some schools have refused to play them because of that.

This writer feels he saw a little home cooking the other Saturday night when the WSSU Rams traveled to Hickory to take on Lenoir Rhyne of the SAC-8.

In that contest the Rams were penalized 200 yards and had a touchdown called back but still won 24-17. The Rams had no less than three drives stalled by the yellow flag and LR scored on a field goal that most observers thought was wide.

On that play an LR player came from the sidelines to lineup after the teams were on the line of scrimmage and WSSU was called for clipping twice on the same play. Oddly enough they were defending against a Lenoir Rhyne punt.

Bill Hayes was able to laugh about it after the game but had the Rams lost Bill might not have been so forgiving.

One Ram fan gave this writer a laugh or two when he remarked after the contest, "I should have known the officials were partial when all of them took off their hats and stood at attention when the band played the LR school song."

Moments later the same fan nearly halted a victory celebration by Ram fans when he loudly announced that the officials, after long consultation, had changed the final score to 25-24 in favor of Lenoir Rhyne.

Recently a fan called me to ask what had happened to the Aggies of North Carolina A&T. I had to tell him that I honestly didn't know since I had not received a release from the schools Sports Information Office since the first game of the season. I also couldn't tell him the status of Jim McKinley's job as head football coach, but there are quite a few rumors going around. Some of them mentioning Bill Hayes' name.



World Series

UPI Photo

Yankees' Craig Nettles, hero of the series against Oakland A's seems to ignore teammate Reggie Jackson during the Yank's practice at Yankee Stadium. The pair had a fracas in a restaurant in Oakland after the Yankees defeated the A's for the American League pennant.

Black College Sports

No Black Games On ESPN

ESPN, a 24-hour sports television network, has announced its football schedule for the remainder of the season and guess what - the network will carry no black college football games this year.

Teams such as Alabama and Florida State regularly appear on the network, but black schools have all but been ignored by ESPN.

Only once has a black college team appeared on ESPN in the network's two-year history. That was in 1979, when Florida A&M played predominantly white Miami. ESPN has never shown a game involving two black college teams, and it has broadcast more than 100 games in the past couple years.

Directors Meet

Black college athletic directors are meeting this month to plan strategies for an upcoming NCAA meeting in December. Realignment will be the issue at the meeting, as the College Football Association - made up of about 51 predominantly white, big-time schools - seeks to break away from what they call lesser schools.

Most of the well-known black college teams are in Division I-AA, just a notch down from the big-time of Division I-A.

Basically, what the CFA wants to do is push more teams down into I-AA, making Division I-A a more exclusive league.

All this could be excellent for black college teams because of the added exposure they would receive if I-AA is enlarged.

Also at stake at the meeting will be television money. Division I-A teams, such as Southern California, receive \$200,500 for regional appearances on ABC, while smaller I-AA schools, such as Jackson State, receive the same amount.


The CFA is prepared to argue that it is unfair for the smaller schools to receive the same amount of cash.

Tenn. State Considers OVC

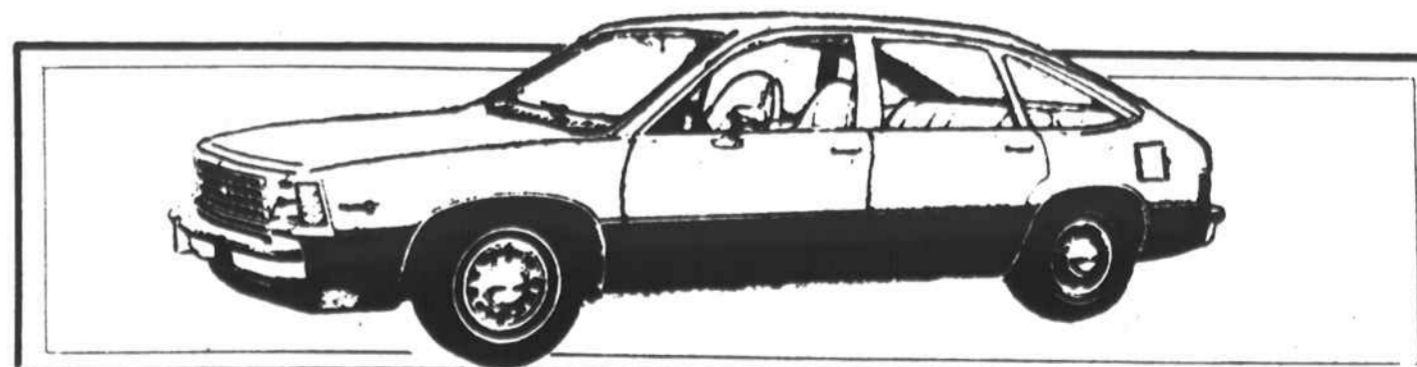
Tennessee State, still an independent, is said to be considering joining the Ohio Valley Conference or the Metro Conference. The Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference, which had courted the Blue Tigers vigorously, has all but given up hope of luring TSU into the league. However, there is talk Morgan State may return to the MEAC this summer. That would give the MEAC eight teams ranging from Daytona Beach, Fla. (Bethune-Cookman College) to Baltimore, Md. (Morgan State).

Bowie State Looking To Improve

Bowie (Md.) State, 1-25 in basketball last year, hopes things will be better this season. "I think we had a good recruiting year," said Bowie State coach Nat Frazier. Frazier revamped his team after last season, hitting the road for some intense recruiting. In all, he bought in seven new players, including Hollis Lamb, a 6-foot-10 center from Baltimore Community College.



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