



Easy Street

Central State of Ohio, 8-1-0 at press time, appears to be a shoo-in for

the NCAA Division II playoffs, thanks to players like running back/wide receiver Alvin Street (photo by Brian Branch-Price).

In MEAC, Hawk and Bethune-Cookman fly high

By SAM DAVIS
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It didn't take former Miami Dolphin Larry Little long to make an impact at Bethune-Cookman College.

In only his second season at the helm, Little's Wildcats have notched their first MEAC football title since they entered the conference in 1981. Little's accomplishments loom even larger when you consider that the Wildcats' success in the past two years isn't based on an influx of new talent at the tiny Daytona Beach, Fla., school.

Rather, their fortunes turned with a change in attitude among team members and their willingness to accept Little's work ethic.

While outsiders are surprised by the way Little's team has come along in two years, Little says he felt his players were capable of doing as well in his first season, when they went 4-4-1.

"We were hoping for this type of success last year," says Little of his team, which stood 6-2 at press time. "The only difference in last year and this year is that last year we had a lot of

untested players and we couldn't seem to win the close games.

"Before the start of this season, we set as our goal to win the MEAC," Little says. "We knew that we would have a good offensive team and our defense was young. But our top people have come through for us."

Little says the major goal the players have had to attain is believing in themselves and making the sacrifice to do what it takes to succeed.

"I think I brought the winning attitude with me when I came back to

Bethune-Cookman," says the former all-Pro guard who helped lead Miami to two Super Bowl wins. "I knew what it would take to get the most out of them.

"I always prided myself in helping the younger players that came to the Dolphins when I was playing pro football," he says. "I thought I could do the same thing as a coach in college football."

Little will be the first to tell you his players are a reflection of him. With only a few exceptions, he says, he's