

## Sports

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## No doubt about it, Maynor is A&T's main man

By CRAIG T. GREENLEE **Chronicle Sports Editor** 

I've got news for all you disciples of rock 'em, sock 'em football.

You know who you are. You're the ones who are ardent believers that all you need to win football games is a defense that chews granite and a conservative offense that scores just enough points to win. (Can you say Chicago Bears boys and girls?).

Granted, that philosophy has

been very successful for a number of teams over the years. But in a championship game against a team that has an explosive offense, you need a weapon that can make a difference.

For North Carolina A&T, the weapon is quarterback Connell Maynor.

Aggies are to win the first annual Alamo Heritage Bowl on Saturday against SWAC champion Alabama State, Maynor will be

the guy to make it hapen.

Don't get me wrong. A&T's defense will have to play up to its usual miserly standards to help ensure that the Heritage Bowl trophy winds up in Greensboro.

But if your offense can't score points, it puts a lot of pressure on the defense to play perfect and force a critical turnover that could Make no mistake, if the provide the margin of victory.

Escape artist

That's where Maynor comes in. The Fayetteville senior majors in artful dodgery and improvision.

That's why he was chosen the MEAC Offensive MVP for the second year in a row.

Maynor, 6-0, 175 pounds, isn't a classic drop back passer with a rocket launcher arm. His true value comes into play when he breaks down defenses by buying time when he goes back to pass.

He's at his lethal best when defenses are focusing on the Aggies running game or on tight end Craig Thompson.

In almost every Aggie game in '91, Maynor has destroyed the best of defensive plans by adjusting on the run. In the process, he had a hand in 26 of A&T touchdowns this year, accounting for 47.2 percent of the Aggies scor-

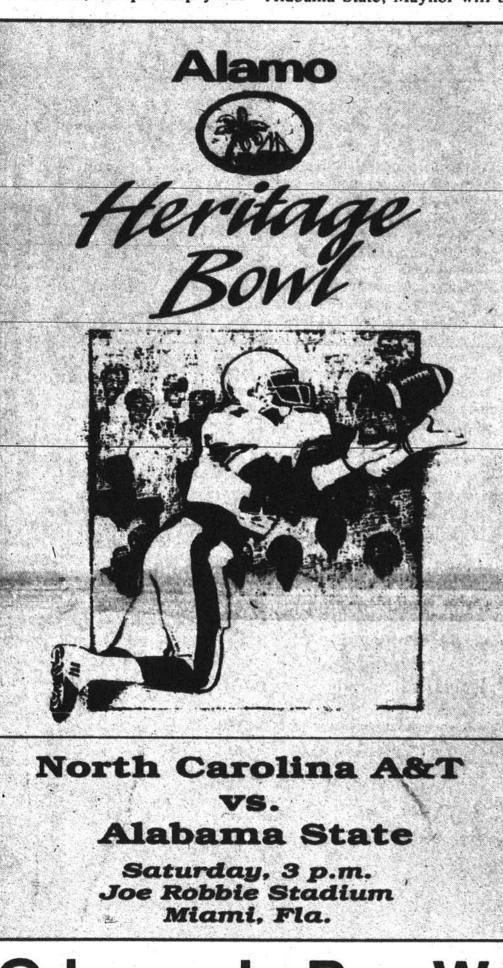
Efficient with the pass

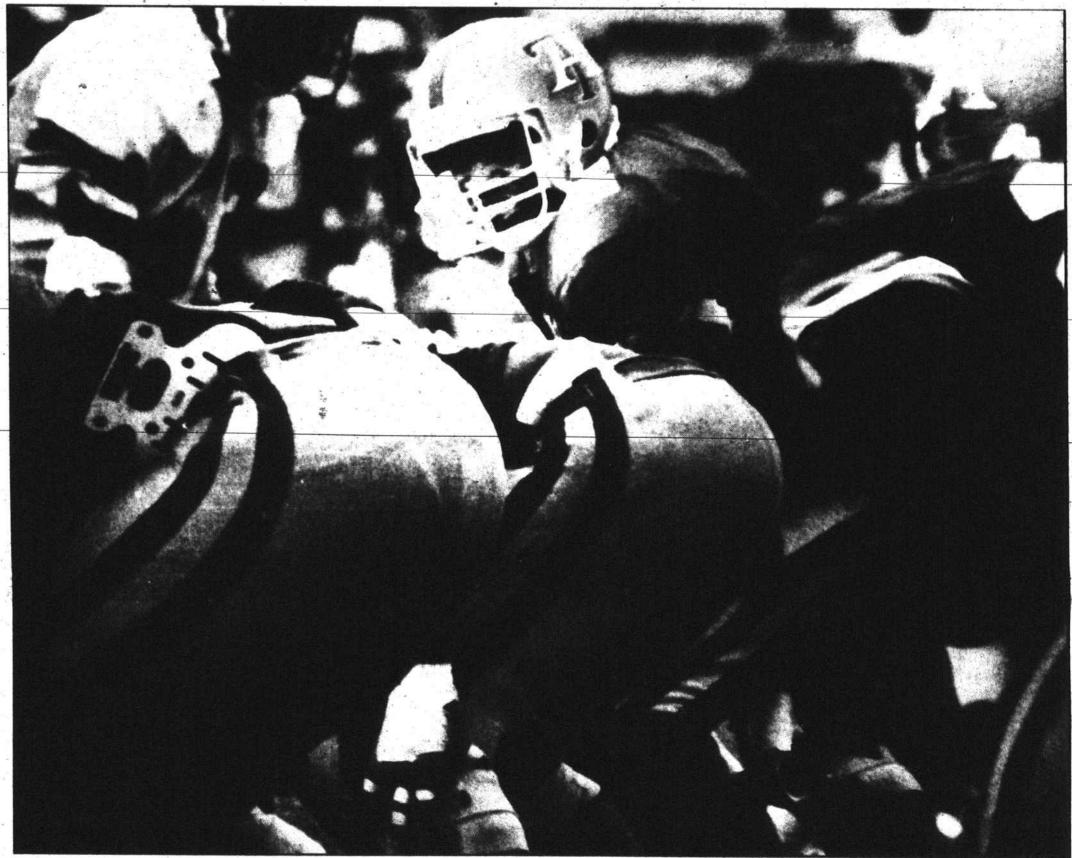
Maynor finished the regular season as Division 1-AA's sixthranked in passing efficiency (149.83 points), which was tops in the MEAC. He didn't lead the conference in TD throws or pass-

But when you look at the complete picture, you understand why the Aggie's finished with a 9-2 record for the second consecutive season. Here's the breakdown on Maynor's numbers:

- · Completed 57.2 percent of
- 1,527 yards, 18 TD passes;
- · Threw just five interceptions in 192 attempts for a sparkling

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Opposing defensive coordinators never know just what to expect when A&T's Connell Maynor (2) lines up to take the center snap. The Fayetteville senior is a familiar figure in these aprts. In '87, he helped the Rams win their first CIAA football title.

## G-hounds Pee Wees capture national Pop Warner title

By Chronicle Staff

For the third time in four years, the Winston-Salem Grayhounds organization has captured a national Pop Warner football championship.

This time, it was the Grayhounds Pee Wees who basked in the victory spotlight, winning 20-0 over the Parkland Boys Club Jets (Louisville, Ky.).

The Grayhounds were never in danger of facing defeat in the title game which was played at Jacksonville, Fla. last Saturday.

Stellar defense

Defense paved the way for the Grayhounds, who came through with key stops throughout the contest. Teddy Petree turned in the top individual performance with two interceptions which he returned for touchdowns.

Grayhounds Pee Wees coach Monty Leinbach has stressed defense all season long. So it was no surprise that when his team won the opening coin toss, he opted to put his defense on the field first.

"The strong suit of our football team is our defense," said Leinbach. "I tell our kids that if the other team can't score, we have a chance to win the ball game."

No offense for Jets

Leinbach's game plan worked very well. The Jets accomplished



Photo by Bryan Snipes

Ronnie Brown finds room to roam on the outside en route to a sizeable gain as Teon Petree (1) gets ready to make a block during the Pee Wees championship game last Saturday.

nothing on their first two offensive series of the game, turning the ball over on downs each time.

The Hounds, in the meantime, wasted little time getting on the scoreboard. On their second series, Clindell McCullough bolted into the end zone for six points on a 25-yard run around right end for a 6-0 lead.

Late in the second quarter, the Hounds added another score via Petree's first interception that he returned 35 yards for the touchdown. The Grayhounds led 12-0 at the half.

Second half struggle

The second half turned out to be a bitter defensive struggle. Neither team's offense managed to budge the opposing defensive unit. With time running out in the third quarter, the Hounds stop unit put points on the board when the Jets found themselves with their backs to the wall on their own one-yard line.

On the following play, the Jets tried to run the ball, but the running back was swarmed by several Grayhounds defenders in the end zone for a safety. The Hounds led 14-0 going into the final quarter.

The Grayhounds put some icing on their victory cake with 17 seconds left to play in the game. The Jets launched a desparation pass, but Petree closed on the ball

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