Bears unlikely to fall against Golden Bulls

BY SAM DAVIS THE CHRONICLE Sports Editor

After losing to Livingstone by a 28-14 score two weeks ago, Coach Lou Anderson of Virginia State said that the CIAA race was a long way from being over.

At this point, however, that statement looks to be inaccurate. Livingstone is rolling along with a 6-0 overall record and 3-0 mark in the conference.

Unless the Blue Bears stumble down the stretch they will wear the crown this season.

Livingstone has shown that it has all the tools. In its last two games the Blue Bears have shown just how much firepower they have in their arsenal.

Against Virginia State, Wilmont Perry exploded for 198 yards and two touchdowns to lead the Blue Bears. Chris Williams complimented Perry's performance with a 100-plus yard outing, but Pernell Wilder had a sub-par game, throwing five interceptions,

In the battle with Winston-Salem State, it was Wilder and Williams leading the way. Wilder tossed touchdown passes of 39 yards to Reggie Johnson and 16 yards to Torrence Stephenson. He finished the game five of 14 for 99 yards, without giving up an interpeption. Williams led the team in rushing With 162 yards on 12 car-

CIAA This Week

ries and a touchdown. He also threw a halfback pass for a touchdown to Shawn Foster.

Perry was held considerably below his rushing average of 193 yards, but still had 118 yards on 21

With that kind of offensive balance, it is going to take some doing for a conference team to knock off the Bears.

JOHNSON C SMITH - its chance at the Bears this week and the Golden Bulls will find that they aren't close to the level of Livingstone.

The Golden Bulls did manage to put 44 points on the scoreboard against Benedict last Saturday. That improved Smith's record to 2-3 overall to go with their 1-1 conference slate.

First-year Coach Bill Davis will get a first-hand look at what is now the top team in the CIAA these days. His Golden Bulls are much improved over the type of team's Smith put on the field as recently as four years ago But the Golden Bulls just don't have the defensive horses to deal with the firepower of Livingstone. Not only that, but their offense won't be able to put enough points on the board to match the Blue Bears. Livingstone will continue to put

up big numbers, 42-17

WIN STON-SALEM STATE after three consecutive road games and two straight losses to play host to North Carolina Central. The Rams appeared to be on track after pulling out back-toback overtime wins over Savannah State and Virginia Union. But they struggled offensively in an 18-16 loss to Fayetteville State two weeks ago and the were overwhel med by Livingstone.

North Carolina Central is heading on a directly opposite course. The Eagle are flying high after two straight wins. NCCU lost its first four games of the season, but only one counted in the CIAA standings. The Eagles are finally putting it together offensively and Coach Larry Little is finally getting the kind of performances he expected from a veteran

Another win and the Eagles will have put themselves back in the title picture. By the same token, a loss by WSSU and the Rams can start talking about making a run next season. Coach Kermit Blount's team will also be hard-pressed to post a winning record this season.

It also should be noted that Blount hasn't defeated Little in a head-to-head dual. The boo birds will be out after this one, NCCU

FAYETTEVILLE STATE -

wins on its reco rd this season, already bettering last season's finish. However, the Broncos will be stuck on that number for awhile. Fayetteville travels to Virginia State and the Trojans will be eager to take out a little of their frustration on the Broncos.

Virginia State's offense was stymied in its 28-14 loss to Livingstone two weeks ago and the Trojans will be eager to put some numbers up this week. Coach Lou Anderson might finally turn the reigns over to freshman quarterback Antonio Hawkins, who has been waiting his turn behind Damon McNair.

Virginia State wants to impress the voters on the Division II poll because that will be the only way to reach post-season play if it doesn't win the CIAA title. Trojans pillage, 42-17.

WITH BOWIE STATE'S 10-7 overtime win over Gannon last week, there aren't any winless teams in the conference. But Bowie is still searching for its first conference win.

Elizabeth City doesn't want to have the distinction of being the Bulldogs' first CIAA conquest. The Vikings themselves are trying to get going. Their 13-6 loss to Virginia Union last week won't sit well with Coach Elisha "Cadillac" Harris. His team will be hungry this week, especially in front of a home crowd, Vikings 28-20.

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been allowed to stand.

But still the Rams are among the most porous defenses in the CIAA. In fact WSSU is on the bottom of the conference in total defense, yielding 346 yards per game.

How in the world could this be happening?

How can a small, struggling private school like Livingstone bring in better players and (oh my gosh) better coaches than publicly-funded Winston-Salem State. After all, the Bears don't even have a stadium to play night games.

Just two years ago they were looking at dropping football because it was putting the entire college program in the red. On top of that, their home field (Alumni Stadium) isn't up to the standards of the local high school fields.

But Coach Rudy Abrams has pulled it off. He's out-worked, out-recruited and out-coached every CIAA program in the

Not too long ago WSSU had a coach that could boast of the same type qualities. But as the saying goes: "That was then and this is now."

MUSTANG

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Cobb has also started to come into his own for the Mustangs at wide receiver. the 6-3, 180-pound senior receiver, is playing his first season of football.

"He is still learning the game," Faulk said. "But he is a natural athlete and we're glad to have him out on the field."

tangs held Smith to the lowest total that they've allowed in several seasons. Lamont

Wilson and Streisand Hodges led the way. That duo has been providing the defensive spark all season.

playing pretty good all along," Faulk said. "Our

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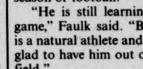
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Defensively, the Mus-

"The defense has been

defense is a typical Parkland unit. They'll get after you and hit you. But I think the one thing that hurts us is our lack of speed on defense." The Mustangs play host

to Greensboro Dudley on Friday and Faulk hopes that his team is up to the challenge of putting together a two-game winning streak.







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