

SPORTSWEEK

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B SECTION

Winston-Salem Greensboro High Point

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McCloud hopes to live up to his nickname for Yellowjackets



Adrian "Bull" McCloud

Senior plays both sides of football for Carver's undefeated varsity

By THERESA DAVIS
FOR THE CHRONICLE

Anyone who knows anything about Carver's varsity football team is familiar with Adrian McCloud.

That's right, Adrian McCloud. When it comes to his teammates and friends, few of them recognize that name. They simply refer to him as "Bull". No last name is needed around Carver High.

Others, including opponents, however, know the name well. For three seasons it has been

called over the public address system frequently at Yellowjacket games.

This season McCloud is the only player who spends a lot of time playing on both sides of the ball for Carver, the No. 4 rated team in North Carolina 3-A football.

A two-time all-conference player at offensive guard, McCloud is one of the team's leaders. It is a tough task for him to line down along the defensive line, then snap the football at center or pull around the corner from a guard position. But McCloud is willing to make the sacrifice.

"When I have to play both offense and defense I get very tired of seeing the field, but if it is going to help us become state champs it is all worth my while,"

he said, during a recent interview.

McCloud has been an integral part of a Yellowjacket program that has improved steadily since his sophomore season. After helping the junior varsity capture a conference championship as a freshman, McCloud was moved up to the varsity the following season. He was named to the All-Conference Team as the Yellowjackets captured a conference championship on the field. The previous season the team had posted a 1-9-1 record.

The past two seasons the expectations have been high for the program and for McCloud individually. Especially last year when the Yellowjackets won the Piedmont Triad 3-A Conference and advanced to the 3-A State playoffs.

"We expected to beat a lot of

teams, but we didn't win the games that we needed to win," he said. "But I can see the changes in the program because the players want to win and we have coaches who are there that want to help us to achieve our goals."

Those goals include taking the Yellowjacket program to new heights. Thus far the team is undefeated (5-0) going into Friday night's Homecoming Game against Western Guilford at David Lash Stadium. Carver is 1-0 in the conference and can't afford to stumble down the stretch. The team began the season by defeating four consecutive 4-A opponents. But now it must stay focused as it faces conference opponents and make a bid to receive one of the conference's two playoff berths. The team knows it can't afford a slip up.

"The main thing that everyone wants this year is to become state champions and in order to do that we must continue to practice hard and listen to what the coaches have to tell us," he said.

When it comes to team leadership there are two other individuals who came up to the varsity with McCloud during their sophomore seasons. Tauric Rice and Allen Pinkney have also played key roles in the team's success.

"I feel that Al is the leader of the defense because he provides everyone with confidence," McCloud said. "Tauric leads because he does his stuff on the field. He does things that you would not expect him to do."

But they aren't alone, accord-

See McCloud on B2

Defensive effort helped Rams get back on track



Press Box

It is far too early to say that Winston-Salem State recaptured its season with its 21-0 win over Virginia Union last Saturday. However, the Rams went a long way toward making a statement with their victory.

The Rams defense, which has played well since the middle of last season, is certainly making its mark in the CIAA. The unit has allowed only 37 points in three games

thus far and hasn't allowed a point in its previous three CIAA games.

WSSU's streak of shutouts stretches back to last Oct. 25, when the Rams shut out Elizabeth City State 48-0. They followed that up with a 21-0 blanking of Bowie State in the season finale.

The Rams started to gel as a unit even before then. They allowed only one touchdown in a 40-7 win over Johnson C. Smith in Week Eight, (Oct. 18). Perhaps the best sign of things to come happened when the Rams held powerful Virginia State to only 12 points in a 21-12 victory that began the Rams four-game winning streak last season.

Since then, the Rams have given up only seven points against CIAA competition. In all games the Rams have given up 56 points in seven games (an average of 8 points per game).

Andrew Faison, the Rams' defensive coordinator, has built a team that has slowly come to be counted among the league's top units. The Rams have all the ingredients to make a championship team. WSSU is big and strong up front, has hard-hitting linebackers who can plug gaps and run, and defensive backs who can cover pass receivers and come up to make big hits to stop the opponent from turning the corner.

It is not a departure from the Bill Hayes teams or the ones that Pete Richardson coached at WSSU before heading to Southern Univ.

But what separates this defensive unit from others is that there are very few blue-chip players who came into the program highly recruited. The only one that can be looked upon that way is Thomas Washington, the All-CIAA defensive

See Press Box on B2



Photos by Joe Daniels
Tyrone Murphy of WSSU (left) carries the ball through a hole in Virginia Union's defense. Murphy had a career-high 201 yards. Tory Woodbury (below) threw for one touchdown and ran for another to lead WSSU to their 21-0 win.



Rams keep focus, take 21-0 win over VUU

WSSU wins CIAA opener after taking week off to work on 'basics'

By SAM DAVIS
THE CHRONICLE

From the start of pre-season practice the focus for Winston-Salem State was the same. Winning the CIAA championship was the goal. The means of getting there never mattered.

But after dropping their first two games, there were a lot of question marks in the Rams' camp. Still, the Rams never wavered. As they went through a

bye week after dropping a 20-12 decision to North Carolina A&T, there was never any urgency.

WSSU's 21-0 victory over Virginia Union, last Saturday night at Bowman Gray Stadium bore out the team's thinking. The Rams dominated from beginning to end in their CIAA opener.

"The main thing that we wanted to work on was the basics," said Coach Kermit Blount. "We went into the week thinking that we had a pretty good football team."

None of the players felt a need to panic. And even though there was certainly pressure for the team to get into the win column, it didn't affect their approach to the game or game plan. The offensive unit, which had produced only 12

points in the loss to A&T and 10 in the opening loss against Catawba, knew it needed to step up. Offensive coordinator Mike Winbush said it wasn't a matter of not producing, the offense just needed to be more consistent.

"What we really worked on was getting our offensive linemen to get a little more push," Winbush said. "We worked on running a lot of the simple plays (during the off week). The main thing was getting them motivated and ready to play."

It was evident early against VUU that the plan of attack was working. After punting on their opening possession, the Rams put

See Rams on B3

Dudley jayvees take early lead, hold on for 28-20 win

By DAMON FORD
THE CHRONICLE

What looked like an easy victory for the Dudley High junior varsity team turned out to be a 28-20 dogfight over Western Guilford last Thursday night in Greensboro.

After being shutout in the first half 20-0, Western Guilford tied the score at the 3:20 mark of the fourth quarter when quarterback Nick Luard faked the handoff to his running back, rolled out to his left, rounded the corner and ran 60 yards for a touchdown.

On the ensuing kickoff, Dudley started on Western's 45-yard line and, slowly but surely, made its way down field.

After the Panthers used a timeout to set up their play with 18 seconds remaining and the ball on the 13 yard line, Thomas Hastye fought his way up the middle on a quarterback keeper to the two-yard line. As he was being tackled, Hastye tried to stretch for the end zone but the ball rolled out of his hands and a player from the visiting Hornets recovered it.

After conferring for a minute with other line judges, the game official ruled Hastye down before the fumble. On the next play Dudley's Artis Clay ran two yards for six points and completed the two-point conversion, with five seconds remaining which all but sewed up the win.

"On the last drive we put in our first string offense line and that seemed to do what we needed," said Dudley JV coach Chuck Hayes. "We felt that if we had the ball we were going to go right back to the power I series because they had not stopped it. We got good blocking and Artis Clay ran the ball real well tonight for us."

Even with the tough loss Chris Causey, Western Guilford's coach, found a number of positives from the second half to build upon.

"(The offensive line) did a great job because Dudley was crowding the line with seven or eight guys every play," he said. "We went with our power backfield which gave us two fullbacks in there giving us a push but the offensive line did a great job in the second half."

In the first two quarters, the Panthers were in complete control.

Dudley scored on its first possession when running back Anthony McCormick took a handoff up the middle of the Hornet's defense and gave the Panthers a 6-0 lead. McCormick scored his second

See Dudley on B3

Carver JV's bounce back with 39-7 win over Glenn in conference opener

By THERESA DAVIS
FOR THE CHRONICLE

Coming off its first loss in two years, Carver's junior varsity football team found itself in a unique situation. The Yellowjackets trailed Glenn 7-0 less than three minutes into their conference opener last Thursday.

Sam Davis, Carver's coach, said he didn't expect his team to panic. It didn't. Carver reeled off 39 consecutive points to defeat the Bobcats by a 39-7 score.

"The sign of a good team is determined by how it responds to adversity," he said. "Even before our loss (in double overtime) I kept telling the kids that. No coach ever wants to lose, but

sometimes the best lessons are learned when you lose."

Carver came fighting back with a vengeance after it fumbled on the opening series against Glenn and watched the Bobcats score on their first offensive play. Derrick Adams took the ensuing kickoff, got behind a wall of teammates and sprinted 85 yards to the end zone to put Carver on the scoreboard. Although the Yellowjackets were unsuccessful on the two-point conversion attempt, the touchdown got them back on track.

The Yellowjackets held Glenn on its next possession and then took the lead for good. Jamie Williams took a pitch from Marshall Cunningham and raced



Greg Dalton

down the sideline for a 24-yard touchdown.

From there, the Yellowjackets rolled on throughout the game.

See Carver JV on B2



Keith Springs



Hail to the King and Queen!— Marcus Buckner and Jalisa Yountz were crowned King and Queen of the Tiny Vikings Flag Team at last week's homecoming at Mineral Springs.