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THE A&T REGISTER

That's the way life is.

IT'S ROUGH BUT IT'S FAIR

-----*Leon Rucker*



Once in an athletic lifetime, a few young men gather to form what we often times refer to as a mere team. They are immersed in the idea of performing up to standards that will not allow room for failure. They will be dedicated, responsive, intelligent and, above all, filled with the faith that they will conquer their adversary no matter how tough. We are indeed fortunate to be a part of and to witness the 1976 A&T football team.

-----*Craig R. Turner*
Sports Editor



Hornsby Howell

HEAD COACH

Since taking over as the North Carolina A&T State University head football coach, Hornsby Howell has guided the Aggies to an impressive 49-30-3 record.

A graduate of the university, Howell has not only made a fine contribution to college football but has also tutored some of professional football's most outstanding players. He is a man not only dedicated to building athletes, but is interested in developing the total man who can compete in our highly competitive society.

Entering his ninth season with the Aggies, Howell is the giant force behind the Aggie football spirit. Last season his team finished with a 8-3 record and Howell is out to return the Aggies to the success of previous teams. To do this the Aggies will again use the veer offense.

Howell began his coaching career in 1950 in nearby Burlington, N. C. In 1953 he returned to his alma mater in the capacity of a trainer and remained in that position until 1964 when he was promoted to assistant football coach.

He took over the head job in 1968. A quiet, soft-spoken man, Howell has that intangible ability to inspire his athletes to give their best at all times.

George Wheeler

OFFENSIVE COORDINATOR

George Wheeler brings along an impressive football background to the A&T program. In a period of time when communication is so important to the success of a football team, Wheeler's youth and experience in dealing with young people will be of great help to the Aggie offense. Before joining the A&T staff, Wheeler served as a Head Football Coach and Athletic Director in the Albemarle County School System. Wheeler was an outstanding college football player at East Carolina University.

North Carolina A&T State University

Wylie Harris

DEFENSIVE COORDINATOR

The personable Wylie Harris will have the task of coordinating the defense which will keep the Aggie opponents from crossing the goal line. A former center on the championship Aggie team of 1959, he is a native of Charlotte, N. C. and was very quick to recruit players from talent rich areas for the Aggies. Harris served as an officer in the 82nd Airborne Division and later coached football, basketball, and baseball at Chatham High in nearby Siler City, N. C. His two year football coaching record there was 14-2-2.

Ben Blacknall

A former standout linebacker for the Aggies, Blacknall joined the staff this season. He has been a great help to defensive coordinator Wylie Harris in working with the A&T defensive unit.

ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

CAL IRVIN



After serving as A&T's acting athletic director in 1971, Cal Irvin decided to step down from his head coaching job and devote total energies to molding a dynamic overall sports program.

One of the country's winningest and most respected cage tutors, Irvin never suffered a losing season at A&T and posted 401 victories against only 143 losses.

The A&T Register

Presents....

THE 1976 FALL FOOTBALL PREVIEW

Checking The Schedule

"When you're number one everybody's out to prove something each time you step on the playing field." This is the sentiment of the North Carolina A&T football team as they open up defense of their 1975 title. Besides a competitive conference schedule featuring such powers as South Carolina State, Howard, and Morgan, the Aggies also face some tough non-conference opponents like Grambling, Florida A&M, and Johnson C. Smith. Last year the Aggies got off to a better start and peak just at the right time.

North Carolina A & T State
All-America Candidate

Dexter Feaster

Senior
Wide Receiver
6'3", 190 lbs.

Feaster, a native of Charlotte, N.C., has a chance to be the first A&T player to gain All-MEAC honors for three consecutive seasons. Since his sophomore season he has been among the leaders in pass receiving and scoring.

He has sprinter-like speed, good moves, and an excellent pair of hands. Feaster will probably enjoy his finest season as a pass receiver in 1976.

1976 SCHEDULE

DATE-OPPONENT	SITE	KICKOFF
September		
4- Virginia Union	Richmond, Va.	7:00
11- Open		
18- South Carolina State	Greensboro, N. C.	7:00
25- Florida A&M	Tallahassee, Fla.	7:00
October		
2- J. C. Smith	Charlotte, N. C.	8:00
9- Norfolk State	Greensboro, N. C.	7:00
16- University of Md., E.S.	Greensboro, N. C.	7:00
23- Howard University	Washington, D. C.	1:00
30- *Morgan State University	Greensboro, N. C.	1:00
November		
6- Grambling College	Pontiac, Mich.	1:00
13- Delaware State	Greensboro, N. C.	1:00
20- N.C. Central University	Durham, N. C.	1:30
*Homecoming		

TRAINING

Head-Mr. Thomas Bynum
Assistant-Earl Mason
Students Jeffery Sims

STAFF

Jerry Coble
Statistician-Eric Williams

Aggies To Meet Toughest Grid Slate In History

By Craig Turner

Rarely in these days of changes and appearance of new faces do past events repeat themselves. Football in the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference is no exception. Most MEAC fans will remember that last season A&T rose to the top of the heap with an 8-3 record which also included a six-game winning streak.

South Carolina State did what was expected of it although it struggled with an offense that really never got started. Howard University lost two crucial contests to South Carolina and A&T and never became a factor although it did finish 8-3 and was also the preseason favorite.

North Carolina Central was perhaps the biggest disappointment in the entire conference as it lost four of its last six ball games and finished a miserable fourth.

No one will forget the 42-0 beating that the Eagles took in Durham from Howard, the convincing loss to CIAA power Johnson C. Smith, and, finally, the worst humiliation of all, a 34-16 thumping at the hands of the Aggies in the season's finale.

After last year's MEAC co-championship of a year ago by the Aggies, this season promises to be the most exciting ever for Aggie football fans.

The upcoming schedule promises to be the toughest in A&T history. Coach Hornsby Howell's headhunters will face stiff nonconference foes such as Norfolk State (CIAA champs), Florida A&M (SIAC champs), and always powerful Grambling State of the Southwest Athletic Conference.

Last season defense dominated the play among the

Black college football powers. Many of those same stars will return this season to try to enhance that theory.

The biggest and the best of the defensive linemen to look for is Robert Sims, a 6-6, 295 pound defensive tackle. That's right, 295 pounds. He has the speed and agility to run down almost any running back that comes his way.

Certainly not to be outdone, Howard has the tallest defensive linemen on any one team in the entire nation: Kevin Cunningham, 6-8, 285 and sophomore Tommy Spears, 6-7, 275 are a pair of tackles that would scare off Godzilla.

Grambling doesn't have the monstrous line of the past, but it does have a linebacker that would play as a lineman for anyone else. Russell Hall stands 6-6 and weighs just under 240 pounds. Experts say he cannot be passed over.

The list goes on and on of sound defensive players like Bobby Miller of Central, Kenny Mullen of Florida A&M, Bob Corely of J.C. Smith, Frank Collins of Maryland-Eastern Shore, and David Crocker of Delaware State.

However, despite all the hoopla sounded off by defenses, the fans pay their money to see points put on the board. Perhaps the most exciting player that will put on a pair of cleats this fall is A&T's Dexter Feaster.

Feaster, a splitend end, and A&T's greatest passing quarterback, Ellsworth Turner, have combined for the last two years for some simply spectacular performances. Both should be prime candidates for All-America honors.

The next best "arm and foot" combination is at Howard University in Washington, D.C. Quarterback Mike Banks (6-2,210) and receiver Kenny Warren (5-10,175) can be just as deadly as the A&T pair of Turner and Feaster.

Morgan State has its own entry into the star column with end Mark Durden. Durden (6-0,178) does not possess the speed of a Turner or Warren but he led the MEAC in pass receptions with an astounding number of 50.

There will be some anxious moments this season with all the aerial talent that is abundant in so many teams this fall. Indeed very few games will be decided until that final play is over with.

The following is a thumbnail sketch of the Aggies' opponents for 1976:

VIRGINIA UNION:

Very few veterans remain from 1975 on the defensive side for Coach Willard Bailey. Gone are All-CIAA tackle Don Tate and All-America Anthony Leonard from one of the better defensive units in the CIAA.

Most of the work will be in that area. The offense presents no such problems as most of that unit returns intact. The Panthers retained the front wall and most of the backfield strength although the search for a quarterback continues. There is also a shortage of receivers but freshmen will fill the gaps there.

Union will have to score a great deal to really be effective because the youthful defensive unit will undoubtedly suffer early in the year.

SOUTH CAROLINA STATE:

Former A&T assistant Willie

Jeffries has created a monster of a defense in Orangeburg and will bring his creation into Greensboro some two weeks from now. You can bet the two MEAC co-champions won't be here for a family reunion.

The Bulldogs gave up absolutely nothing on the ground worth mentioning and placed in the top ten defensively as they limited their opponents to less than 140 yards offensively.

Robert Sims will take over departed All-America Harry Carson's old spot, and Larry James will be the other huge tackle. State will turn to All-MEAC deep backs Tony Evans and Lenny Duncan.

Nine of the 19 regulars returning for Jeffries are with the offense. Most of the weight is being pulled there by runner Charlie Burgess and guard Luther Dixon.

FLORIDA A&M:

Rudy Hubbard came to Tallahassee three years ago from Ohio State and brought those same winning ways with him to the coaching post with the Rattlers. Hubbard gave A&T the best season it has enjoyed in quite some time.

After going 9-2 in 1975 the Rattlers look forward to even bigger things in the bicentennial year. Although 15 regulars are gone, 37 lettermen remain to add confidence to the hope of repeating as SIAC champions.

Florida's strength will be the defense where nearly all of the top veterans still remain. Kenny Mullen (6-4,245) and Ephram Hagins (6-5,225) will lead the defensive charge.

Quarterback duties will be shared by Ricky Pope and Albert Chester. Fullback Clarence

Hawkins will be the top rusher despite some leg problems.

JOHNSON C. SMITH:

Look very closely at the Golden Bulls. You may be looking at the new CIAA champions for 1976. Coach Eddie McGirt has by his own admission, "A Powerhouse"

Wayne Banks was the starting quarterback going into this final week of preparation and he will have the top rusher in the CIAA in his backfield. Earnest "Warhorse" Williams ran wild for the Bulls and led the league in total offense.

Defensively, the Bulls will depend on tackle Robert Corely (6-4,315) and end Grover Covington (6-3,255). The coaching staff will have to shore up the linebackers a bit, but the secondary will include all four starters from a year ago and that is enough.

NORFOLK STATE:

The Spartans went 8-3 and captured its third straight CIAA crown but Dick Price's club will be hard pressed in 1976. Graduation wiped out nearly all the first-team experience that Norfolk had stock piled the last couple of years.

Jackie Powell (6-5,220) is splitend with a great deal of talent and should provide All-CIAA quarterback Steve Graeff with an outstanding target.

Defense may suffer but end Roger Nance (6-4,228) will be the stalwart on experience and will be one of the few upperclassmen there. If things don't jell quickly, the Spartans could be in for a long, long season.

(see Maryland page 6)

MID-EASTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE 1975 FINAL FOOTBALL STANDINGS

	CONFERENCE						ALL GAMES					
	W	L	T	PCT	PTS	OPP	W	L	T	PCT	PTS	OPP
S. C. STATE	5	1	0	.830	139	6	8	2	1	.800	201	44
N.C. A&T	5	1	0	.830	170	72	8	3	0	.720	267	155
HOWARD	4	2	0	.660	134	94	8	3	0	.720	201	147
N.C. CENTRAL	3	2	1	.600	82	112	5	4	1	.550	160	198
DELAWARE STATE	2	4	0	.330	89	97	5	5	0	.500	156	143
MORGAN STATE	1	4	1	.200	93	142	4	5	1	.440	165	230
MARYLAND-E. SHORE	0	6	0	.000	0	184	0	10	0	.000	27	328

1975 Results

	OPPONENT	SITE	ATTENDANCE
Sept. 6	A&T 25	Virginia Union 21	Greensboro 4,500
Sept. 20	A&T 0	South Carolina St. 7	Orangeburg 10,000
Sept. 27	A&T 0	Florida A&M 7	Greensboro 12,020
Oct. 4	A&T 21	Johnson C. Smith 0	Greensboro 7,220
Oct. 11	A&T 35	Norfolk State 13	Norfolk 9,334
Oct. 18	A&T 27	Maryland E.S. 0	Greensboro 18,954
Oct. 25	A&T 34	Howard University 14	Greensboro 6,876
Nov. 1	A&T 48	Morgan State 28	Baltimore 12,748
Nov. 8	A&T 16	Grambling 42	Grambling 8,676
Nov. 15	A&T 27	Delaware State 7	Dover 3,000
Nov. 22	A&T 34	N. C. Central 16	Greensboro 18,954

Team Points - 267 Opp. Points - 155 Total Attendance - 112,282

Season 8-3 MEAC 5-1



Aggies Will Face A Replica Of 1975 Season

By Craig R. Turner

A&T was picked by football experts and the MEAC coaches alike to finish first ahead of defending co-champion South Carolina State, North Carolina State, North Carolina Central and Howard. Whether that prediction comes true or not will depend upon the next twelve weeks of action.

Until then, this position-by-position breakdown should give each Aggie fan an idea of what to expect in the way of strengths and weaknesses.

KICKING GAME:

It may be hard to believe, but there will be some competition to see who will do the kicking chores for the Aggies this fall. The punting duties were handled solely by Mike Howell, the coach's son.

His average of 35.7 yards a kick placed him in the fourth spot among the leaders in the conference. However, that may not be enough to hold off the challenge of defensive end Nolan Jones.

Jones may also displace Ellsworth Turner as the team's placekicker which would be a pleasing occurrence: to Coach Hornsby Howell. Jones' development as a kicker could possibly keep the star quarterback from unnecessary injury.

RUNNINGBACKS:

There can be no denying that A&T has perhaps the three finest tailbacks in the entire league. The most talented of the three is junior Frank Scott, a 6-1, 205 pound native of Atlantic City, N.J. He boasts 4.5 speed in the forty yard dash and had an outstanding spring.

The starting fullback will be powerful Ron Scott. The 6-2, 210 pound junior sliced through opposing defenses a year ago. He will be pressured by a couple of quality backups in Larry Barham and freshman Paul Christman.

Scott will have to prove his worth as tailbacks Cal Hawkins and Glen Holland did last year behind departed All-America George Ragsdale.

QUARTERBACKS:

Not too much else can be said for A&T's all-time passing leader and junior signal caller Ellsworth Turner. He was a consensus All-MEAC pick a year ago and was edged out in the league's MVP voting by teammate Ragsdale. He is a prime All-America candidate this year.

Turner threw for over 1340 yards for 11 touchdowns to lead the league. The Maryland native had over 190 attempts for 107 completions for a 54.7 percentage and only ten interceptions.

Ample replacements are found in Houston, Tex., product Gary Alliniece and rambler Carl Caviness. Both were held out of action last season and should provide good depth.

RECEIVERS:

A&T expects to pass less this season because of the proficiency of the running backs. Perhaps that is a blessing in disguise. Howell moaned during the spring drills about inefficient receivers and little reserve strength. Some new faces and some old standbys will have to assert themselves early.

Back again for his last and perhaps his greatest season ever is wide receiver Dexter Feaster. Twice named an All-MEAC selection, Feaster finished second in receptions a year ago with 30 catches for 343 yards. His blistering 4.4 speed enhances his being a deep threat.

James Crowder should step into the shoes of the departed James Lily at slotback. Replacements Queen Davis and Bruce Black will see a great deal of action.

Brett Fisher (6-4, 230) will be the tightend replacing All-America Walt Bennett. He

will be backed by pass catching wizard Liberace Harris and Mike Howell.

OFFENSIVE LINE:

The offensive line was indicative of the Cinderella story of A&T.

The cornerstone of the inner wall is All-MEAC guard Ron Aiken (6-1, 230) who returns as the best at his position. Teaming on the other side will be Greg Roberts (6-1, 245).

The tackles are plenty big and strong, an ingredient missing in the past. Wheeler Brown (6-2, 245) and George Small (6-3, 240) will give opposing linebackers plenty of problems.

Reservists Ken Villepontoux, Charles Roberts, Ken Campbell, and Clayton Pride will be the second line folks.

The center will be Joe Bloomfield (6-0, 220) who offsets his lack of size with superior quickness. He will have sound backing with massive freshman Norman Jones

DEFENSIVE LINE:

This is an area which A&T improved immensely last season. The defensive front became the most vicious in the league last year. All-America candidate and All-MEAC tackle Ron Morgan (6-0, 245) can play linebacker with his superb quickness. Another top defender is team MVP Jim Merrick (6-3, 225) and Arthur Boone (6-3, 240) provide great outside containment at the ends.

The defense improves its size in 1976 with Dwaine Board (6-6, 227), Nolan Jones (6-5, 245) and tree-like Lucen Nibbs (6-7, 245). Leon Rucker and Greg Smith rate ahead in experience.

They are called the best trio of linebackers in the conference by Howell. Joe Crosby, Jerome Simmons, and Lou Alston are by far the best to grace the Aggie camp in quite some time.

LINEBACKERS:

A&T's strong point is here in the linebacking corps. Reserves Clint Bostick, James Paige, Daryl Pridgen, and "super soph" Art Curry are the stalwarts. Highly touted freshman Charles Fuller will see action early and should be a key factor. Linebacking was the turnaround in last season's defensive scheme and it should be one of the more consistent of any of the A&T departments.

SECONDARY:

A lack of speed played havoc with A&T in two of its three losses last season. Although there will be a lack of experience early in the year, the lack of speed has been remedied with the addition of four top notch defensive backs. All-America Terry Bellamy boasts 9.4 speed and is considered as one of the best senior defensive backs in the college ranks this season. The 6-1, 185 pound Charlotte native returned an interception 85 yards for a score against Howard last year and holds the record for the longest return of an

intercepted pass of 104 yards.

Howard Barnhill is a step or two slower but remains a heady safetyman who can turn a game around at any time. Barnhill is an excellent openfield tackler and is one of the most intelligent players on the squad. He should be a prime candidate for MEAC honors.

Steve Lynes broke upon the scene late last season against Delaware State and played well against North Carolina Central. He was considered a top starting prospect going into this campaign before transferring.

Freshmen James Rainey, Odell Walker, Earl Wicks, Tony Currie, and Allen Thomas are among the best recruits in the

South. Transfer Tommy Warren comes from Hampton Institute to the Aggie camp with high credentials. The surprise of the year could be James Wilkes 96-3,190) who has moved himself into one of the top deep backs spots in preseason.



1976 Schedule

	OPPONENT/SITE
Sept. 4	Virginia Union at Richmond
Sept. 11	Open
Sept. 18	South Carolina State at Greensboro
Sept. 25	Florida A&M at Tallahassee
Oct. 2	J. C. Smith at Charlotte
Oct. 9	Norfolk State at Greensboro
Oct. 16	University of Md., E.S. at Greensboro
Oct. 23	Howard University at Washington
Oct. 30	*Morgan State University at Greensboro
Nov. 6	Grambling College at Pontiac
Nov. 13	Delaware State at Greensboro
Nov. 20	N.C. Central Univ. at Durham

*Homecoming



Michael Banks Is Top Bison Offensive Star

By Craig Turner

Who are some of the top offensive football stars in the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference? Of course every team in the seven member league has its own "unsung" heroes, but this article will try to identify some of the names that MEAC fans will often times hear outside of A&T's football circles.

The name most mentioned will probably be that of Mike Banks of Howard University. The 6-2, 210 pound quarterback has been named all conference in his last three seasons as he quarterbacked his explosive Bison club to an overall 24-7-1 record.

Banks, a native of Detroit, Mich., led the conference in passing and total offense his first two years and placed second last year behind A&T's sensation Ellsworth Turner.

He is a superb passer and field general and carries a knack for pulling out the closely-contested games. He is what Howard Coach Doug Porter calls his "Mr.

Clutch."

Banks is not alone when it comes to engineering offenses. North Carolina Central has a budding star in Ricky Moore. A flashing scrambler in his own right, Moore possesses some of the quickest feet on any back playing today. Although Moore is more known for his running, the Baltimore product is an extremely deadly passer when given sufficient time to throw. Moore follows a football rich tradition for the Eagles and their great quarterbacks.

Passers will themselves sometimes admit the people on the other end of their passes deserve even more credit than they do. One of these people of outstanding quality is Mark Durden of Morgan State. Durden, 6-1, 180, caught a mind-boggling 50 passes a season ago for 343 yards. His teammate, Steve Turpin, is just as adept in catching the pigskin. The duo ranked first and third, respectively, in the pass receiving department and will present

(Continued on Page 5)



Frank Scott will find the going even tougher this fall.

Coach's Son Pleased With A&T As College Choice

By Maxine McNeill

The seemingly reserved conversationalist but proven outstanding football star, Hornsby Howell, Jr., had two major reasons for choosing A&T to play collegiate football.

First Hornsby enrolled at A&T because his father, Hornsby Howell, Sr., head coach of the Aggie football team. "I always wanted to play on a team my father coached and this way I got the opportunity," said Hornsby.

"My father has traveled a lot and has some experience with professional football teams. I can learn a lot from him."

"The second reason I attended A&T is I was offered a scholarship. If my father had not been coaching at A&T, I would not have accepted the scholarship. I would have gone to South Carolina State instead."

Howell, a 6-3, 195-pound player with more of a basketball physique, is the punter and plays the position of splitend. He is more recognized as a punter than a split end, though.

"It was not until the ninth grade in high school that I started playing football," said Hornsby. "Before then, I always played basketball. One day I just decided I wanted to play football, so I did."

"I learned that I liked football more than basketball so I switched. I don't know what made me decide to play football."

A native of Greensboro, young Howell is a physical education major at A&T. Although it seems that most people always associate athletes

with that particular major, Howell does not think it should be done.

"The only reason I majored in P.E. is I happen to like sports," he said.

When asked what motivates him to play on the field, Howell did not have an immediate answer. While thinking the question over, he was asked if religion played a part in motivating him. He then gave a quick answer of "No".

"I don't know what motivates me to play," admitted Howell. "All I know is that I just put my mind on what I'm supposed to do and I do it. I would like to be thought of as a self-motivated player."

Whether this statement is taken chauvinistically or not, Howell does not feel that football is a woman's sport.

"Football is too rough for women," stated Howell. "Women make better spectators than players."

"If a girl goes out for the A&T football team and makes it, she will be treated like any other team member. Though he smiled when he made that comment, Howell said he is very serious.

Howell's ambition when he graduates is to play professional football.

When his father-coach was asked how he felt about his son playing professional football, he answered very quickly.

"I would love to see my son make it in professional football," said the senior Howell. "I have no objections to his playing. The only thing is that pro football is not all glory.



These are the A&T co-captains for 1976. (From left to right) are Dexter Feaster, Ron Morgan, Ron Aiken, Joe Bloomfield, and Jearold Holland.

Merrick Likes Carolina Year

By Maxine McNeill

The six foot 3, 250 pound Amityville, N.Y., native, James Merrick, performs at the position of defensive tackle and defensive end on the A&T football team. He is a senior business administration major.

"I chose business administration as a major because I feel it is versatile," said Merrick. "I consider myself a career minded football player."

"I admit I would like to play professional football very much, but if I do not make it, at least I will have my business background to fall back on. That business background will enable me to perform well in any career."

Merrick has a very personal reason for wanting to play football.

"When I was in high school, I was considered a below average player," said Merrick. "I wanted to prove to myself and others that I could be a top player."

As far as Merrick is concerned, he has not yet reached his goal. How will he know when he has reached his goal?

According to Merrick, his

goal will be achieved when he has exerted all of his energy to playing the game. This football season will be his final chance to achieve his goal while attending A&T.

"When I first enrolled at A&T I weighed 319 pounds," said Merrick. "During my first year I underwent a vigorous training and dieting program and lost 112 pounds. My desire to succeed was the only motivation I needed to do this. I've always wanted my body in good condition so that I could perform well on the football field."

Prior to attending A&T, Merrick received an offer from Howard University to play

football. He turned it down to play at A&T. Merrick cited two reasons for turning Howard's offer down.

"First, I desired to attend a university in the south," he explained. "Now that I am here, I love North Carolina. I feel that being here has allowed me to obtain a good exposure to different people. It has also allowed me to deal with people in a way in which I would not have gotten otherwise."

The second reason Merrick voices for wanting to travel south is the weather.

"I love this North Carolina weather," he admitted. "The weather here is just right, especially in the winter."

Howard Has Another Scoring Threat

quite a few problems for opposing secondaries.

Howard has produced one of the fastest splitends in the MEAC in Kenny Warren. At an impish 5-11, 175, Warren dazzled crowds with blistering speed and spectacular catches. He may prove himself the single best deep receiver in the league, Dexter Feaster notwithstanding.

Running backs in this conference lost a lot of luster with the graduation of A&T's George Ragsdale. He moved ahead of Central's Jeff Inmon in bruising tailback with both good hands and outside speed to go along with his outstanding size. A&T's entry into the running elite appears to be junior Frank Scott.

Howard and A&T seem to have cornered the market on the top offensive linemen but that is not unusual since both clubs ranked one and two offensively. Howard offers center Dan Ambrose (6-2,230), Talbert Hutton (6-3,235), and guard Keith Napier (6-3,225) as returning All-MEAC choices. They are a superb blocking team.

A&T presents the premier

guard in Ron Aiken (6-4,235), Joe Bloomfield (6-0,220), and George Small (6-3,240) rate special recognition.

Morgan offensive punch is often times delivered by Dave McCleary (6-3,210) and Wil Lighty (6-3,230). They are especially formidable as is Luther Dixon (5-11,220) of S.C. State. All were MEAC picks a year ago.

Central has only one starter back in its interior wall in Darius Helton, who, at a very large 6-4,245, literally moves mountains for Eagle backs. He is considered the top tackle in the upcoming campaign among MEAC foes.

the staff for this

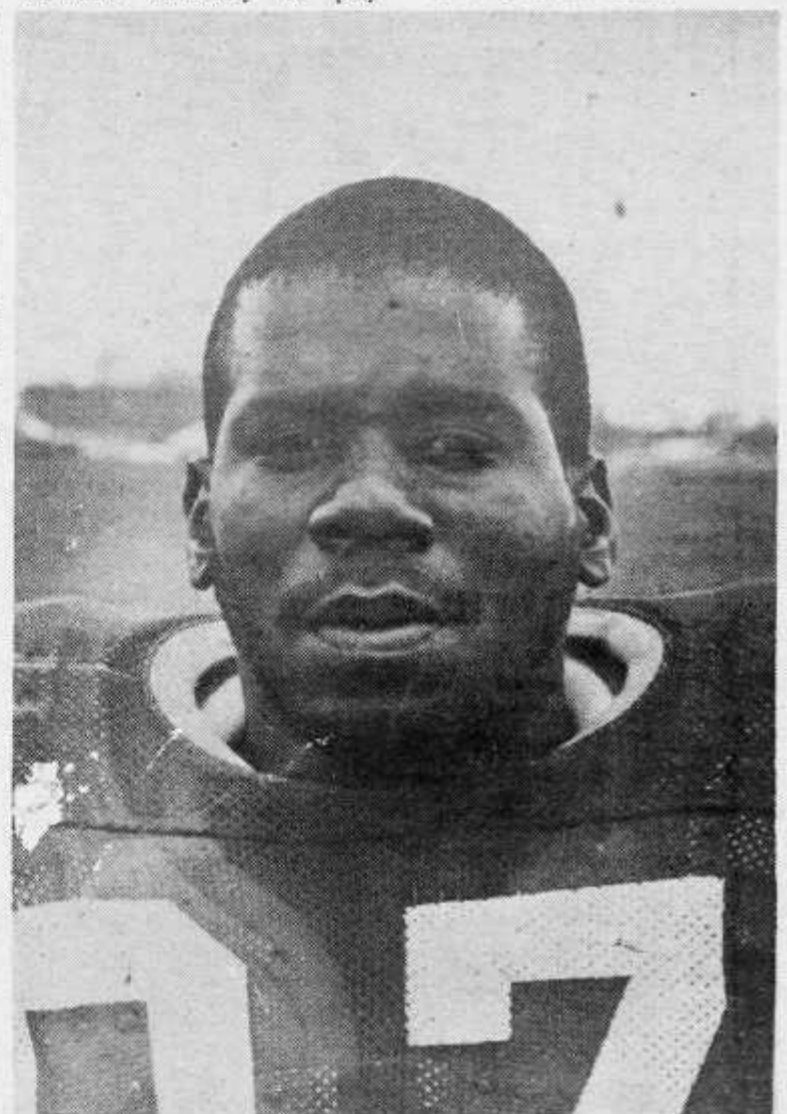
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mary e. cropps, benjamin forbes, michael hailey, william

lawson, maxine mcneil, lucinda moore, hilda rinnix, daryl

e. smith, sheila williams, and craig r. turner.

a special thanks to mr. joseph faust III



James Merrick

MARYLAND IS PICKED FOR THE CELLAR IN THE MEAC

(cont. from page 3)

MARYLAND-EASTERN SHORE:

The Hawks merely went through the motions of playing football last season enroute to a 0-11 record. Few bright spots showed through for Maryland. One was defensive end Carl Hairston who grabbed All-America status but he left Princess Anne, Md., for the pro ranks.

There is Frank Collins, who at 6-4, 280, is in the same mold as Hairston but lacks the stamina to be effective.

Maryland will probably remain unchanged from 1975. They should again simply go through the motions.

HOWARD:

After an 8-2-1 mark in 1973, 8-2 in 1974, and an 8-3 record just last season, a person would think that the Bison would be satisfied with impressive marks. Not so according to the Howard publicity office.

The Bison fell apart offensively and never got going as Coach Doug Porter wanted them to. Defense held up most of the way but fell off toward the end of the campaign.

Micheal Banks had a very slack year but still placed on the second team All-MEAC squad to give some kind of indication of his potency. Talbert Hutton (6-3,235) leads the line, but there will be freshmen in the running slots.

Tackles Kevin Cunningham and Tommy Spears head the defense along with linebacker Paul Ball and others. The secondary will be a sore spot as all of the starters from last season were seniors.

MORGAN STATE:

Coach Hank Lattimore may just have the best team in the conference although you won't hear him admit it. But Morgan

has to be looked on with suspicious eyes..

The Bears have 16 starters returning including 25 lettermen and enough offensive fire power to dust off any team in the MEAC. Donnell Coleman has been the quarterback the last two seasons and will start unless injured.

Linemen Wil Lighty and Dave McCleary rate special recognition as blockers. The keypoint will be receiver Mark Durden and runner Nathan Mumford. Both turn in stellar performances and are counted on heavily.

Defense could be a problem with five seniors leaving. However, there are enough second line people to give the Bears more than enough punch to stifle their opponents.

GRAMBLING:

Grambling is flirting with the officials of the Southwest Athletic Conference. The conference has threatened to expel the Tigers if they do not meet Prairie View on October 2 instead of Hawaii. Last season the Tigers forfeited to Prairie View and opted to play Oregon State. The Tigers seem bent on having 'it their way.

They will have to have it that way because their grid opponents may just take unfair advantage of a rebuilding program by Eddie Robinson. Gone are Sammy White, Dwight Scales, James Hunter, and thirteen other regulars along with some key depth.

Still Grambling has quarterback Doug Williams who threw 23 touchdowns last year and top runner Cliff Martin. Antoine Edwards is the best linebacker along with safeties James Harris and Mike Smith. But this could be the year that the Tigers get their ears tied back by a few

people.

DELAWARE STATE:

Edmond Wyche turned the Hornet program around by posting a surprising 5-5 record and got two conference victories in the process. The outlook is even brighter going into this season with 51 lettermen returning.

David Crocker (6-0,202) was an All-MEAC linebacker and may just be the best in the MEAC at that post. Quarterback Andre Brown will push for All-MEAC honors along with Greg Wright.

It is a good thing that the Hornets are improving since they are facing the toughest schedule in their history.

NORTH CAROLINA CENTRAL:

Coach Willie Smith said it is the best team he has ever coached Fact or fiction? It may be both. The Eagles do return nearly all of their offensive stars and depth including quarterback Ricky Moore, who finished third among passers and fourth in total offense.

But also true is the fact that Central has lost seven defensive starters form a unit that was frankly not that strong. Smith says redshirts and transfers have eliminated that problem. But it was defense, or the lack of it, that spelled doom for the Eagles in 1975.



Players warm up before practice

Bellamy Feels Poise Is Key

At 6-1 and 190 pounds, Terry Bellamy has always possessed superior strength and speed on the football field.

During his prep career at Charlotte's West Mecklenburg High, one of the city's perennial football powers, his coach decided to take full advantage of Bellamy's skills and played him at the defensive end position. Bellamy responded to the challenge by gaining All-City and All-State honors at the position.

However, when it came time to decide on a position to play on the collegiate level, Bellamy was uncertain that his size would be adequate for the physical competition.

After signing with A&T and spending most of his first year experimenting in the defensive backfield and as wide receiver, Bellamy decided to concentrate on the defensive position.

"I knew I was too small to play defensive end in college, so I had it in my mind that, if I played college ball, I would have to change my position," said Bellamy, who was named last season to the Black Sports All-American football team. "I had played a little wide receiver in high school and, because of the movements involved in playing that position, I didn't find the change to the backfield too difficult."

"Speed is my greatest asset. In the defensive backfield you can

make a bad judgment and make up for it with speed."

Besides being one of the nation's top-rated defensive backs, Bellamy also is an excellent student with a 3.3 average on a four-point grading system.

He is hopeful A&T can repeat as champions of the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference and his future plans include a possible pro career.

"Making an All-American team last season and winning the championship have given me an incentive which I have never had approaching a football season," said Bellamy, holder of the MEAC's record for the longest return of an intercepted pass (104 yards).

"We have the material to repeat as champions and that's what I want the most. Beyond that, I have always wanted to play pro football and I would like to give it a shot."

"If that doesn't work out, I'll go to grad school to work on a master's degree in public administration and then attend law school."

Although the Aggie secondary has Bellamy and Charlottean Howard Barnhill returning, this area remains one of the big question marks surrounding the Aggie hopes of repeating as conference champions.

"I usually run track in the summer, but this year I decided

to give it up in order to make spring practice," said Bellamy who has been timed at 9.5 seconds in the 100-yard dash. "I think our secondary will be as fast as we have ever been but there will be some inexperienced players back there."

"At my position, I usually have to cover the opposition's best receiver man-on-man. I am fortunate that we have receivers like Dexter Feaster and James Crowder on our team who provide a real test for me each day in practice."

Bellamy is now a senior and wants to leave A&T on a winning note. He believes that the team will be under more pressure to win this season because of last season's championship.

"We will be the favored team on paper in most of our games this season, and I feel the underdog will have the psychological edge," said Bellamy a political science major.

"Every time we play, there will be a team who is out to prove something against us. I think that poise will play a big part in our success."



Terry Bellamy

**AGGIE
SPORTS**

1975 MEAC ALL STAR FOOTBALL TEAM

1975 ALL-MEAC FOOTBALL FIRST TEAM				SECOND TEAM			
OFFENSE	HEIGHT	WEIGHT	HOMETOWN	HEIGHT	WEIGHT	HOMETOWN	
Walter Bennett, A&T (TE)	6-2	190	SR. Jacksonville, FLA.	Larry Smiley, Morgan (TE)	6-3	215 SOPH. Richmond, VA	
Dexter Feaster, A&T (SE)	6-1	185	JR. Charlotte	John Chisholm, Delaware	6-2	205 SR. Savannah, GA	
General Roney, Howard (T)	6-2	240	SR. Ft. Worth, Texas	Darius Helton, NCCU (T)	6-3	245 JR. Chapel Hill	
William Lighty, Morgan (T)	6-2	240	JR. Dillon, SC	Milton Glover, SC State (T)	6-0	230 JR. Anderson, SC	
Keith Napier, Howard (G)	6-3	225	SOPH. Kaco, Texas	Joe Labrie, Morgan	6-2	210 SR. Houston, Texas	
Luther Dixon, SC State	6-0	220	JR. Brooklyn, NY	Ron Aikens, A&T (G)	6-3	230 JR. Monck's Corner, SC	
Dan Ambrose, Howard (C)	6-2	230	SOPH. Detroit, MICH	David McCleary, Morgan (C)	6-1	225 JR. Baltimore, MD	
Ellsworth Turner, A&T (QB)	6-1	185	SOPH. Gaithersburg, MD	Michael Banks, Howard (QB)	6-2	210 JR. Detroit, MICH	
George Ragsdale, A&	6-0	180	SR. Baltimore, MD	Charles Burgess, SC State (RB)	6-1	185 SOPH. Walterboro, SC	
Anthony Tapp, Howard (RB)	5-11	182	SR. Portsmouth, VA	Donald Barnes, Howard (RB)	6-2	225 SR. Washington, DC	
Mark Durden, Morgan (RB)	5-11	182	JR. Beaumont, Texas	Harvey Banks, Howard (FL)	5-8	170 SR. Washington, DC	
Steve Turpin, Morgan (Punter)	6-4	210	SOPH. Richmond, VA				
DEFENSE	HEIGHT	WEIGHT	HOMETOWN	HEIGHT	WEIGHT	HOMETOWN	
Harry Carson, SC State (E)	6-2	220	SR. Florence, SC	Shelton Smith, Delaware (E)	6-1	198 SOPH. Norfolk, VA	
Carl Hairston, UMES (E)	6-4	255	SR. Martinsville, VA	George Jones, NCCU (E)	6-2	225 SR. Rocky Mount	
Robert Sims, SC State (T)	6-5	295	SOPH. Columbia, SC	Angelo Wells, Morgan (T)	6-4	227 SR. Annapolis, MD	
Ben Harris, Howard (T)	6-3	250	SR. Haines City, FLA	Ron Morgan, A&T (T)	6-3	240 JR. Louisburg	
Brone Edmonds, SC State (OLB)	6-0	200	JR. North, SC	Aaron Whitaker, NCCU (OLB)	6-0	200 SOPH. Washington, DC	
David Crocker, Delaware (OLB)	6-0	202	JR. Steubenville, Ohio	Paul Smith, UMES (OLB)	6-0	230 SR. Wyanduck, NY	
Van Nicholson, Morgan (MLB)	6-4	230	SR. Flint, MICH	Kenneth Wright, Delaware (MLB)	6-2	213 SR. Savannah, GA	
Leonard Duncan, SC State	5-10	176	SR. Lancaster, SC	Rudolph Bryant, SC State (MLB)	6-2	230 SOPH. New Ellington, SC	
Tim Baylor, Morgan (CB)	6-4	200	SR. Washington, DC	Terry Bellamy, A&T (CB)	6-1	185 JR. Charlotte	
Louis Breeden, NCCU (S)	6-0	180	SOPH. Hamlet	Norman Empty, Delaware (CB)	5-10	180 SR. Frankford, DEL	
Anthony Evans, SC State (S)	6-0	188	JR. Columbia, SC	Haywood Corley, Howard (S)	6-2	180 SR. Washington, DC	
Leroy Mason, SC State (PAT)	5-11	200	JR. Columbia, SC	Terry Evans, NCCU (S)	6-1	200 JR. Fayetteville	
Walter Tullis, Delaware (RET. SPEC.)	6-1	164	SR. Hartford, CONN	Duane Danner, Morgan (PAT)	5-8	165 SOPH. Lancaster, SC	

NORTH CAROLINA A&T STATE FOOTBALL ROSTER

DEFENSE	HEIGHT	WEIGHT	HOMETOWN	DEFENSE	HEIGHT	WEIGHT	CLASS	HOMETOWN
Nolan Jones	6-5	245	3 Greenville, SC	Brett Fisher	6-4	228	1 Philadelphia, PA	
Jearold Holland	6-3	225	4 Roanoke, VA	Mike Howell	6-3	195	2 Greensboro	
Arthur Boone	6-3	240	4 Durham	Thomas Edison	6-4	240	1	
Willie Washington	6-3	240	1 Wilson					
Gary Adams	6-4	235	4 Gastonia	Dale De Graffenried	5-11	200	1	
Lucien Nibbs	6-7	250	2 St. Thomas, VI	Ronald Scott	6-3	210	3 Garden City, KAN	
Dwaine Board	6-6	235	2 Union Hall, VA	Frank Scott	6-2	205	3 Atlantic City, NJ	
				Glen Holland	6-0	180	3 Roanoke, VA	
Leon Rucker	6-0	230	4 Red Springs	Calvin Hawkins	6-1	190	2 Grimesland	
James Merrick	6-3	250	4 Amityville, NY	Larry Barham	5-10	210	2 Weldon	
Ron Morgan	6-1	250	4 Franklington	William Joyner	6-0	170	1	
Greg Smith	6-3	240	3 Atlanta, GA					
Coy Holland	6-5	240	1 Roanoke, VA	Ron Aiken	6-1	230	4 Monck's Corner, SC	
Arthur Lowe	6-5	249	2 Greensboro	Aldrick Beyers	6-2	225	1	
				Charles Roberts	6-1	250	3 Roanoke Rapids	
Joe Crosby	6-3	205	4 Charlotte	Greg Roberts	6-2	250	4 Spindale	
Roger Norrell	6-1	200	1	Ken Villaponteaux	6-0	225	4 Wando, SC	
Jerome Simmons	5-10	190	4 Monck's Corner, SC	Kenneth Campbell	6-2	230	2 Aberdeen	
James Paige	6-1	190	4 Siler City					
Clint Bostick	6-2	205	4 Rockingham	Cedrick Barnes	6-2	235	1	
Arthur Curry	6-0	185	2 Murfreesboro	Wheeler Brown	6-3	245	3 Baltimore	
Emanuel Davis	6-2	210	2 Roanoke, Rapids	Ralph Gaskins	6-2	245	1 Wilson	
Lewis Alston	6-1	215	3 Greensboro	Clayton Pride	6-3	235	3 Charlotte	
Daryl Pridgen	5-10	185	3 Newark, NJ	George Small	6-3	239	2 Raeford	
Glenn Inman	6-1	205	2 Fayetteville					
Anthony Porchia	6-1	220	3 Monck's Corner, SC	Allen Thomas	6-3	190	1 Raeford	
Ronald Wotten	6-2	210	2 Greensboro	Dexter Feaster	6-3	190	4 Charlotte	
Charles Fuller	6-4	220	1 Greensboro	Jesse Monterio	6-3	220	1	
				Ollie Davis	6-2	180	2 Chapel Hill	
Howard Barnhill	5-10	165	4 Charlotte	Bruce Black	5-9	165	2 Buena Vista, VA	
Terry Bellamy	6-1	190	4 Charlotte	James Crowder	6-1	205	2 Weldon	
Earl Ricks	6-0	170	1 Greensboro					
Thomas Warren	6-0	180	2 Greensboro	Norman Jones	6-3	260	1 Johns Island, SC	
O'dell Walker	6-4	190	1 Charlottesville, VA	Joe Bloomfield	6-0	220	4 Rockingham	
Rodney Westmoreland	5-9	165	4 Greensboro	Jeff Jackson	6-3	210	3 Atlanta, GA	
Marcus Floyd	6-0	180	2 King's Mountain					
Tony Currie	6-1	185	1 Greensboro	Ellsworth Turner	6-1	185	3 Gaitherburg, MD	
Gerald Johnson	6-2	185	1	Gary Allineice	6-0	180	2 Houston, Texas	
Jeff Wilkes	6-3	195	1	Carl Caviness	6-3	180	2 Washington, DC	

*North Carolina A & T State
All-America Candidate*

Ron Morgan

*Senior
6'-3", 240 lbs.
Defensive
Tackle*



Morgan is one of the premier defensive linemen in the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference this season. He is extremely quick off the snap of the ball, an attribute which gives offensive linemen minutes of total frustration. "We've had our share of outstanding defensive players here at North Carolina A & T and Ron can certainly compare with the best", said Head Coach Hornsby Howell.

