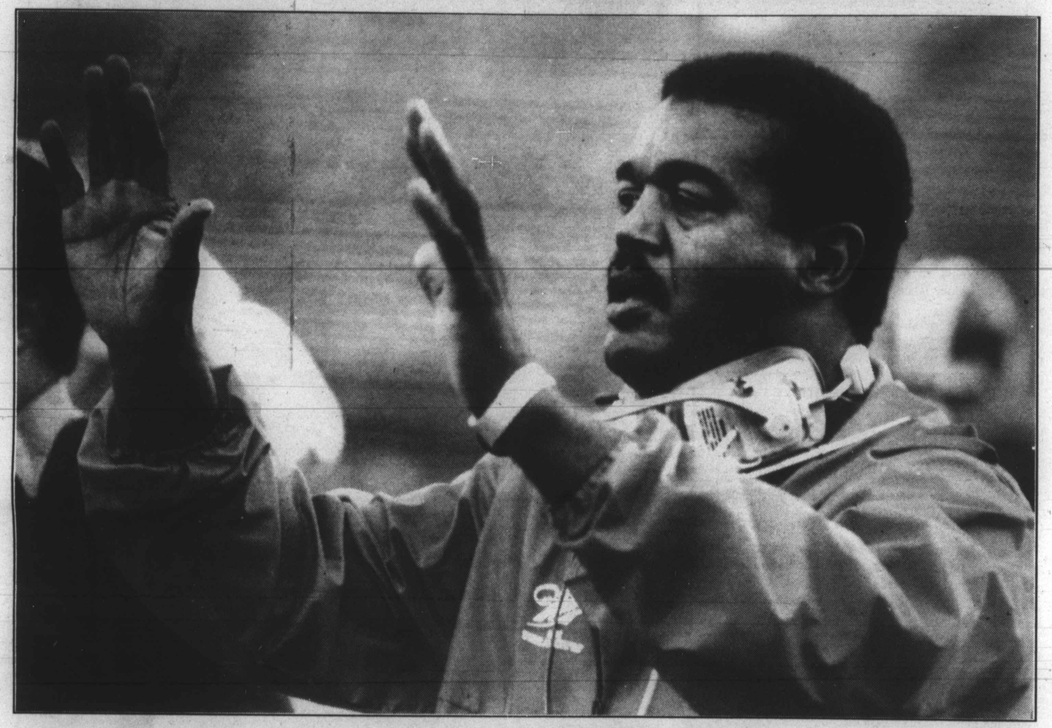
ON THE MOVE

Changing from Ram red to Aggie blue



Hayes eagerly anticipates facing his former team, WSSU, when the Rams visit his A&T squad this fall.

staff photo

They say the third time is the charm and Bill Hayes would probably agree. Hayes is the former head football coach at Winston-Salem State who recently moved 30 miles east to take over at North Carolina A & T in Greensboro.

Hayes, who had coached the Rams for the past 12 seasons, had applied for the elusive Division I-AA job two times previously.

Apparently it took a few whacks upside the head courtesy of Hayes and his Rams before the Aggies became convinced that he could change their grid fortunes. Now, the new coach has some shopping to do.

"I don't have too many blue and gold outfits yet," Hayes confessed. "I left all of the red and white suits in my old office. After I get a couple of checks, I'm going to dress out right."

With a contract that is reported to be in the neighborhood of a new car warranty -- six years at $60,000 a pop -- Hayes should be able to pick out some rather nice suits of blue and gold hue. The color red, however, will always have a special meaning, he admits.

"I had nothing against Winston-Salem State when I left," the 45-year old Hayes said. "I worked hard right up to the last day. I went to North Carolina A & T simply because it was a better coaching job.

"It was just like any other guy out there on the street taking a better offer from someone else. That's pretty much all there is to it."

There were a few details that turned out to be prime factors in Hayes' decision to leave.

"I knew the day was just around the corner when Winston-Salem State would have just average football players at defensive back," the coach explained. "Proposition 48 was the beginning of the end for the type of situation we were used to at Winston-Salem State. That's why we changed our defense in the secondary last year. We knew that pretty soon, we wouldn't be able to get the kind of defensive back who lines up one yard off a receiver and checks him all over the field.

"We played that kind of defense for six years. Pete Richardson (now the interim coach at WSSU) loved to play it that way because we had such great talent. With guys like Derrick Beasley and Anthony Blaylock, you can do that."

For those who wonder if Richardson can beat the recruiting trail like Hayes, the A & T coach has a definite opinion.

"With the rules we have to play by these days, I don't think Jesus could get the really good athletes to come to Winston-Salem State or any other Division II school. I don't think I could do it with the new rules so why should we expect Pete Richardson to do it. Yes, Pete is going to have a hell of a time recruiting. We all are. The rules have changed and everything favors the big guys.

At this point though, Hayes knows he is in a better position to deal with those restrictions than he had been.

"Proposition 48 had a lot to do with me leaving," he said. "I've got twice as many scholarships (70) as I had at WSSU. That's like lining up two brand new Mercedes and filling one up full with gas and putting only a half a tank in the other one. Which one is going to go further?

"When you go to the big schools, you can see what big-time college football is all about these days. Look at what they offer some of these kids. They can bring in a few guys and sit them out as Proposition 48 cases. Auburn had 28 of their 30 new guys sitting out the first year. Now I can't do that even with 70 scholarships at A & T. But at WSSU, only 11 of my 83 football players had full scholarships. The others just got partial help.

"It was hell trying to sell guys and then when it came time to talk, all you could give them was a half a ride. Not many of

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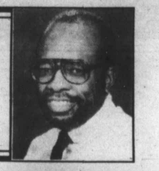
NOTES ... QUOTES ... AND TALES OF WOE

By

ROSCOE NANCE



South Carolina State won the National Minority Golf Tournament for the second consecutive year.

Southern University was second, followed by Prairie View, Texas Southern, Jackson State, Livingstone, St. Augustine's, Fayetteville State, Alcorn State, Virginia Union, Tennessee State, Johnson C. Smith, Mississippi Valley State, Florida A & M, Lincoln (Mo.), and Grambling.

Jamie Hildago of Jackson State was the medalist, shooting 75 - 74 - 149. .....

Howard University is the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference all-sports champion in men's and women's athletics.

Bison men's teams finished first in football and tennis; second in baseball and wrestling; and third in outdoor track to win the T.L. Hill Award with 56 points.

Women's teams were first in volleyball and third in tennis, cross-country and basketball, to win the Mary McLeod-Bethune Award with 43 points. ...

Lewis Tillman

The SIAC has stripped Alabama A & M of its 1987 football championship for awarding more scholarships than allowed under NCAA rules for Division II schools. The Bulldogs gave 61 scholarships. NCAA rules permit 45.

In addition, the Lady Bulldogs basketball team had to forfeit 13 victories for using an ineligible player during the second semester of this academic year.

A & M drew two fines from the conference -- $6,500 for the football infractions and $1,000 for basketball for a total of $7,500. .....

The Jackson State sports information department is attempting to raise $20,000 to mount a Heisman Trophy campaign for senior running back Lewis Tillman.

Sam Jefferson, JSU sports information director said the campaign will include, posters, flyers, bumper stickers and a video.

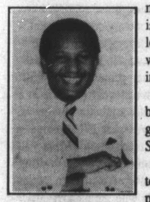
"This is the bare minimum," Jefferson said. "Notre Dame said it didn't spend an extra penny on Tim Brown's Heisman campaign. But the Notre Dames of the world are a lot different from Jackson State."

Tillman was a finalist for the Payton Award as the top player in Division I-AA last season when he rushed for 1,474 yards and scored 10 touchdowns. He broke Payton's single season rushing record at Jackson State and is 1,010 yards shy of his collegiate career record. Tillman was the third ranked runner in I-AA with 122.8 yards a game. .....

The NCAA avoided a potentially embarrassing situation last month during the Division I baseball playoffs when the selection committee assigned Southern University to the Central Regional in Austin, Tex.

The Jaguars, the Southwestern Athletic Conference champions, were fearful they would be assigned to the Southeast Regional in Starkville, Miss. -- home of Mississippi State University. Mississippi State fans were involved in two incidents dealing with black players last season, one during the Southeastern Conference Tournament in Athens, Ga., and the other in Starkville during the Division I playoffs.

Southern athletic director Marino Casem said if the Jaguars had been assigned to the Southeast Regional, they would have elected to by-pass the playoffs. "We told them it wasn't going to be that way," said Casem. "We weren't going. My thing is that they (Mississippi State) have a history of that (racial problems). For them to send us up there wouldn't have been right. We weren't going to be a part of a total disregard for feelings and integrity and manhood." .....



Jeff Jones

Former Fayetteville State basketball coach Jeff Jones has been named the new men's coach at Delaware State. Jones, a 1975 graduate of Illinois State, was 14-36 in two years at Fayetteville State. He was an assistant at Wichita State from 1978-1986.

Washington Redskins' quarterback Doug Williams continues to demonstrate why he is one of the classiest acts ever to put on a pair of shoulder pads. Last month, the Grambling State graduate awarded 10, $1,000 scholarships at the Doug Williams Foundation Benefit Dinner in Washington, D.C. The foundation's goal is to raise $300,000 for stay-in-school, anti-drug and amateur sports programs. .....

Alfred Barney, a former assistant at Georgia Southwestern College, is the new men's basketball coach at Tuskegee University. It is the first head coaching job on the college level for the 30-year old Barney. He inherits a team that was 6-20 last season. .....

All is right in Archie "Gunslinger" Cooley's world at Arkansas-Pine Bluff. The Lions were 7-4 last season, their first winning record in 14 years. The coach has reason to smile with all 22 starters returning for the upcoming season.

Archie Cooley

"I have the best job in black college football," said Cooley, "and it's because of (president) Dr. Charles Walker. He's an amazing person. He's willing to do what it takes to get where he wants to go in athletics. He can see so far ahead. He realizes the value of athletics to the university. He has no ego problems. There is no jealousy. It's scary. This is as happy as I've been since I've been in coaching."

Jessie Stewart has been hired to resurrect Tuskegee's golf program which has been inactive since 1973.

"We did a survey and found that there is a need for non-traditional sports on black campuses," said Stewart. "Not only is golf a good money-maker, it provides an opportunity to expose kids to people they wouldn't meet otherwise."

Tuskegee dropped golf because of scheduling problems and difficulty in finding a place to play its home matches. "Swimming, golf and tennis. Black schools should never drop them," said Tuskegee athletic director Howard Davis. "They are great for business contacts."

Lee McElroy, former associate athletic director at the University of Houston, is now the new athletic director at the University of the District of Columbia. McElroy assumed his new position last month. The former UCLA linebacker comes to the Washington area with a national reputation for developing academic support programs for athletes. During his five year tenure at Houston, the number of athletes graduating increased by nearly 20 percent as a result of his program.

Ram red, Aggie blue

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the super-duper kids want to work their butts off for half a ride. It'll still be tough for me, but hopefully it won't be quite as tough."

Despite the recruiting hardships, Hayes didn't leave the Rams with an empty cupboard when he accepted the A & T job. In Hayes' estimation, WSSU had one of their better recruiting efforts in recent years. "But it was a little frustrating to get all that talent and have to leave them behind," he added. "I wore out my car chasing a few of those kids. But I worked right up until the last day. I couldn't just stop and wait for things to happen. If I did and didn't get the A & T job, then I would've been in trouble."

Hayes has settled himself in Greensboro now and didn't find himself having to pack quickly because of bomb threats from angry Ram Booster Club members. They understand.

"There have been a few folks to give me the evil eye," the coach added. "But I think most football fans know that it is a move in the right direction for me. When I started coaching, I never intended to work at the same job all my life.

"I thank the Lord for being so fortunate over the years and being able to keep my family in one city for so long. I can't think of very many coaches who have been as lucky to stay in one place like that.

In Hayes' mind, he enters the Aggie kingdom in the best possible position: starting from scratch. You won't hear the usual comment about this new coach profiting from talent that was recruited by the departing coach.

WSSU became a consistent winner under Hayes' guidance. The Aggies are hopeful he will bring that same kind of consistency to their program. That doesn't mean that the new coach is under great pressure to win, however. Hayes feels that pressure comes from within. "No one has really come up to me and said, 'Well Bill, we want you to win four the first year, then six the next, and then go 10-0.'

"In fact there has been very little said to me about winning. But the program is hungry. A & T has had only one championship in 20 years. When I got the WSSU job, nobody ever mentioned winning either. They wanted me to put a team out there that played hard and didn't get into fights or cause trouble. The thing about winning came in due time, really. The coaching staff and the kids eventually got a taste of what it was like to win and they wanted more. Winning is like a disease after a while. It takes you a little while to catch it, then you're infected with it."

The annual A & T-WSSU game is always a war and this September the game will feature added excitement when the Rams travel to Greensboro to face their former coach. Hayes' eyes light up at the mention of that game.

Hayes confesses that he'll be clawing and scratching to win against his former team as he would any other opponent. "But," he added, "it won't hurt me to lose either. If the WSSU kids don't try to spank A & T real good, then I ought to go over there and take my foot to all of them."

-- Randy Pettitt