CIAA REPORT

David Corley's two hats: He wears them well

By DAVID BULLA
Review Staff Writer

There's a new-look football team at Livingstone College this fall and the Bears' 4-1 start has alumni, fans and opposing coaches wondering how first-year Coach David Corley's doing it.

"We have a good coaching staff," said Corley, who inherited a program that was 16-24 in Mel Rose's five-year reign. "It's as simple as that."

As simple as the hard work Corley and his staff have been doing.

Corley, something of a disciple of Winston-Salem State Coach Bill Hayes, has Livingstone off to its best start since 1974. Hayes puts preparation ahead of everything; Corley's work habits aren't much different. After all, he doubles as the Bears' basketball coach. He says his average workday is from 8 a.m. until 11:30 p.m.

"Bill's awesome," Corley said. "He's so well organized, and you can't beat that. If I want to ask him for advice, he'll help me out. He gave me some good advice on how to run some practice drills."

David Corley

Corley, a WSSU assistant in 1983, says that coaching both football and basketball is nothing particularly special.

"I've done this (coach football and basketball) all my life," said the Livingstone coach. "Most of the time assistants do most of the work, so I'm used to the pace.

"About the only difference is that I have to be more decisive. But I'm not afraid of the responsibility. You know, my assistants probably work more than I do now. The pressure comes when you put too much importance on winning and forget about the rest of life. If you have good organization, winning will take care of itself."

So far Corley has proven that. The Bears opened the season with a 24-21 upset of North Carolina Central. They followed that with convincing non-conference wins over Clark (31-7) and the University of the District of Columbia (51-6). Corley's team then edged Virginia Union 13-12. That put Livingstone in first place of the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association's Southern Division.

The only loss was a 34-27 setback to non-conference foe Gardner-Webb, despite a 391-yard passing performance by quarterback Carl Boldra. The Bears had three first-half turnovers that the Bulldogs cashed in for points. Gardner-Webb built a 34-3 lead before Livingstone scored 24 straight points. A last-minute TD was nullified by a penalty.

"Before the season, I thought we had a real good shot at 5-5 and maybe 6-4," said Corley, whose team had reached No. 12 in the Sheridan Poll. "I knew nobody was going to die for us."

Now all points to a showdown with red-hot Winston-Salem State the final week of the season, with the winner going to the CIAA Championship Game.

The Bears remain a team that features explosive offense. In the previous four years, running back JoJo White was the chief offensive threat. He ran for a CIAA career-record 4,075 yards.

This season's team, however, features the passing of Boldra.

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Vince Coleman

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standing ovation when the inning ended.

The Cardinals insist he makes about two or three such plays daily. So, while you watched the playoffs, you probably saw Smith make similar plays in each game.

The veteran shortstop, who has been in St. Louis since 1982, gives the Cardinals one of three forms of intimidation; the other two are speed and Whitey Herzog's skillful managing.

Coleman's speed is the newest form of Cardinal intimidation. Without it, St. Louis might never have been in the playoffs.

"Four or five Cardinals are having great years," Hall of Famer Bob Gibson noted. "None of them would be having such years without Vince. Willie McGee was being considered for the No. 5 spot in the order. But Lonnie Smith wasn't hitting, so they brought up Vince and put McGee in Smith's No. 2 spot. Vince sparked the club and Willie settled in."

Indeed, McGee became the National League batting champion with a .353 average, hitting 57 points higher than he'd ever hit before.

And the Cards became an intimidating foe for everbody but the Dodgers and Mets. How intimidating? In the August series with the hapless Braves, the former Rattler all-America singled and stole two bases in the first inning one night. The next day the Braves retaliated by ordering Rick Mahler to throw at Coleman's head on the first pitch of the game. When was the last time you saw a pitcher throw at a base stealer?

What makes Coleman so intimidating is the ease with which he steals. He has run the 100-yard dash in 9.2 seconds.

"I have a desire to want to steal a base," Coleman said. "At the same time, I have a manager who will give me the opportunity to steal and a batter (McGee) behind me that will allow me the chance to run."

Coleman showed that unique running ability in the minors. After setting the pro record at Class A Macon, he had 101 steals at AAA Louisville last year. That broke Tim Raines' American Association record.

Yet, skeptics wondered if Coleman -- who, coincidentally, attended Raines High School in Jacksonville -- could make it in the majors, invoking "you can't steal first" to defend their arguments. Coleman silenced the critics by hitting .350 at Macon, .257 at Louisville and .267 this season.

But it is his stealing that will make him a Hall of Famer, potentially the third to come from Coach Costa Kittles' FAMU program. Montreal's Andre Dawson and Kansas City's Hal McRae also were products of Kittles' program.

Kittles says that Coleman wanted to be an NFL punter first. But he was confident in his baseball skills if an invitation to try out with the Washington Redskins didn't pan out.

"He averaged 43 yards per punt," said Kittles, who was his punting coach for the Rattler football team . "I knew he would improve, too. The Redskins invited him to rookie camp. But because of his speed, the Redskins wanted to convert him into a wide receiver. So he left the team. The Redskins attempted to get him back in camp. But the Cardinals drafted him in the 10th round and Vince decided to sign."

Kittles and Brock both said it is Coleman's lead that separates him from Brock, who holds the career (938) and National League single-season (118) steal records.

"Vince extends his lead," Kittles said. "He has longer legs than Brock and longer strides. Brock took 11 strides between first and second. Vince only takes 10 strides."

Brock says that Coleman is so audacious on the base paths that he has "baserunning arrogance."

"He has the longest leads I've ever seen," Brock said. "You have to have arrogance to take such long leads.

"But don't sell Vince short. He is the catalyst for this club. His style of play gave it a charge, a lift that resulted in a championship chemistry."

The baseball revolution that Coleman leads is best put into perspective by his cohort Smith:

"When you possess the kind of speed he has, the opposing team's defense is always in a precarious situation."

Base running and defense, not home-run hitting, are the components of the Cardinals' revolution. Yet many baseball fans will not appreciate it because Coleman and Smith represent "a new force too revolutionary to consider in the framework of old ideas." Harry Truman used those words in reference to atomic energy, but they also apply to what Coleman and Smith are doing on the diamond this season.

In their own ways, they've made the playing field smaller. Coleman's 110 steals this season were the most ever by a rookie and the third highest total in major-league history. The total ended Raines' four-year stranglehold on the NL theft title.

Coleman is so much faster than anybody else -- except Raines and Henderson -- that his dashes between bases look like they're 55 feet, not 65. Meanwhile, Smith, surrounded by above-average fielders Terry Pendleton and Tommy Herr, makes the field smaller by limiting the holes where one can hit safely.

And it's likely the mighty diamond will continue to shrink as long as Coleman's around.

BLACK COLLEGE REPORT

Brown's a good catch for Bethune-Cookman

By DAVID BULLA
Review Staff Writer

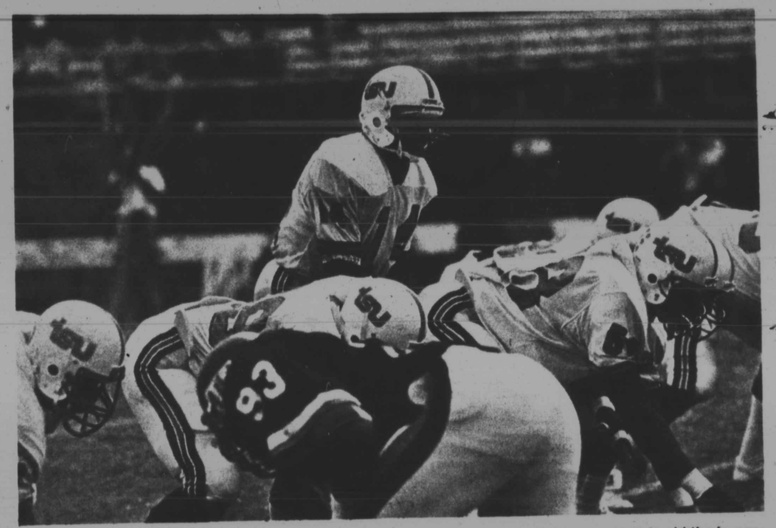
Bethune-Cookman believes it has one of the best receivers in the country in **Sebastian Brown.**

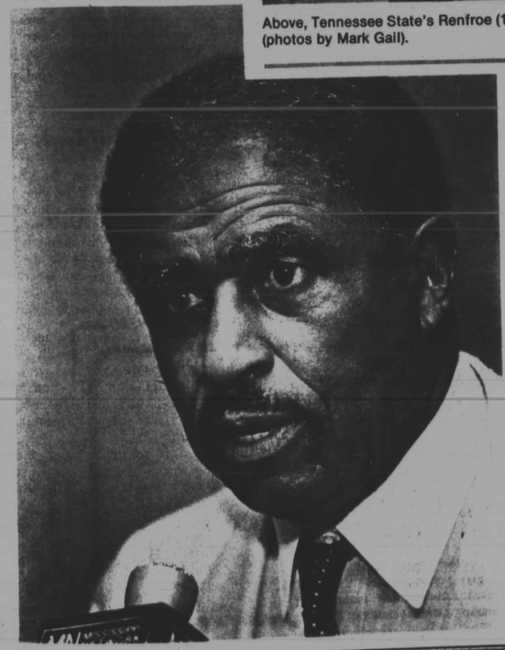
And the figures won't deny it.

Brown recently tied former B-CC standout **Leon Gonzalez** for the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference single-game receiving yardage record, catching nine passes for 222 yards in a Sept. 21 win over Howard University. Not to be outdone, Delaware State's **John Taylor** (see cover story) broke the record later that day with five catches for 223 yards.

Brown, a senior, went largely unnoticed last season because of the presence of Gonzalez, now a Dallas Cowboy. Yet, Brown finished second in the MEAC in receiving yardage to Gonzalez (Delaware State's Taylor was fifth).

This year, he and Taylor are battling for top honors. Through Oct. 5, Taylor had 22 catches and eight touchdowns for 541 yards and Brown 29 for 471 and five TDs.





Above, Tennessee State's Renfroe (14) outshone Willie Totten. Below, Eddie Robinson wants to aid the hungry (photos by Mark Gail).

The Wonsley Family

You've probably heard the name Wonsley and believe it's a ubiquitous monster that ravages football teams throughout the land.

There are five -- not one -- animals by that name in college and professional football this fall. **Otis Wonsley,** an Alcorn State alumnus, plays for the National Football League's Washington Redskins and **George** is an Indianapolis Colt. The collegians include **Leroy** (Winston-Salem State), **Nathan** (Mississippi) and **Jose** (Lenoir-Rhyne).

"All of us are running backs," Leroy Wonsley said. "Three are fullbacks and two are tailbacks. Seems like none of us really are the main running back on our team, but we get the job done."

George Wonsley had the best game of his pro career Sept. 22 in the Colts' 14-6 win over the Detroit Lions. Playing for the injured Randy McMillan, the fullback gained 170 yards on 27 carries.

Leroy, a transfer from Mississippi Gulf Coast Junior College, rushed for 84 yards on 16 carries in Winston-Salem State's 46-14 rout of North Carolina Central Oct. 5.

"Football runs in the family," Leroy said. "At one time there were three of us (George, Leroy and Nathan) in high school at the same time. We were all in the backfield. It was fun because you knew when you threw a block you were doing it for your brother."

The Wonsleys are Moss Point, Miss., natives.

More Brothers

Winston-Salem State's **Derrick Beasley** is not the only member of his family to play sports at a historically black college.

The Detroit native's oldest brother, **Wendell Wood,** played football at Tennessee State from 1974 through 1976.

Derrick also had another brother, **Steve Beasley,** play basketball at Eastern Michigan.

"Steve got a lot of clippings and I played basketball until my junior year in high school," said Derrick Beasley, who was a prep football all-America at Detroit's Cody High School. "My brothers inspired me to want to do something with my life.

"I still like basketball and might give it a try in the winter if Coach

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