#### TEAM PROFILE From Page 14

got started."

himself, and he couldn't wait for the from Alabama. on a grant-in-aid.

"The crowd chanted, 'Lee-Roy! Lee-Roy!' and the more they yelled, the harder he played," recalled Macon. "He's one of the most aggressive players I've ever seen."

has led Division II in least yardage Union offense has thrived on the run,

last two.

Jones, from Washington, was the Lions.

Macon went to see Gause for defensive lineman Willie Reynolds VUU.

touchdowns, both to Wayne Martin. leg... Jones also ran out of the pocket for another 72 yards.

Carl Bland, now a starter with the Palmer, also from Charleston.

ton from Florida and 300-pound to the term "ground beef" around

The bruising senior from game to end to try to get his signature A rollout passer, Jones buys extra Charleston, W.Va., has 778 yards and gram with a big void to fill. Almost as time with his quick feet. Against Nor- 10 touchdowns in seven games. He damaging was the fact that Bailey's folk he passed for 188 yards and two missed the St. Paul's game with a sore longtime No. 1 assistant, Jesse Chavis,

Representatives from at least six paign. NFL teams have been by Union prac-Operating out of the run-oriented tices this fall to get a closer look at the organizer, but Chavis, a bear of a man, Union thrives on its defensive wing-T, Jones has jazzed up a once- muscular ballcarrier, who ranks second was the one who cracked the whip in history. Three times since 1978, VUU dormant passing game. While the only to Jones in weight-room heroics. practice and motivated the players for

Wright worked a fork lift on a West the game. the program has produced two NFL Virginia construction gang for two Offensively, Taylor calls junior receivers in recent years. They are years following high school. Then quarterback Kenny Jones "the solid Malcolm Barnwell, who played with Union Coach Bailey found out about difference" between this year and the the L.A. Raiders and Washington, and him from former Panther Luther

Palmer, who played briefly in the

"What comes around, goes

in a pressure game," said Wilkerson.

Taylor comes from a winning background. In 1978, he was offensive line coach for an Eastern Illinois squad that defeated Delaware in the championship game of the Division II tour-

A plaque from that season sits on Taylor's desk.

At the rate his team is going this season, it'll have company in the near

in Richmond.

#### DEJA VUU



Virginia Union's David Banks (43) traps Winston-Salem State running back James Johnson in the Panthers' 34-7 CIAA championship victory three years ago. The two teams face one another again this year for the league title (photo by James Parker).

starting quarterback as a freshman in Taylor's one year at Howard.

"I sat down a senior to play Kenny, and I took a lot of flak for it," Taylor recalled. "But he's just super. He's one of the fastest guys on our team, and he's got that great arm."

Taylor recruits heavily in the D.C. area, where he has many contacts. Also, he's cultivated some new talent pools in the Deep South. Among his top freshmen are receiver Quentin Cot-

pressive if the Panthers weren't always ahead and in no great need to put the

"People talk about Air Harvey (Earl Harvey of N.C. Central)," said Paul Jones. "But Kenny could be just as good if we used that type of offense."

Usually, Kenny Jones is handing off to his huge fullback, Adrian Wright. A 250-pounder with bowling-ball-sized biceps, Wright has given new meaning

NFL with the Los Angeles Rams, is now on Bailey's staff at Norfolk.

In Bailey's 13 seasons at Union, the Panthers were 106-32-4. They won the CIAA title three years in a row, from '81 to '83, and went to the NCAA playoffs on five straight occasions, '79

Bailey worked wonders at VUU. He could make brick without straw, or so 12 tackles and three sacks in a losing it seemed. His teams were 32-3-1 cause.

His departure left the Union pro-

against CIAA competition his last five

died of cancer just before the '84 cam-

Bailey was the strategist and

Under Bailey and Chavis, the program developed an aura of invincibility, at least in the league.

Obviously, this left Taylor with some giant shoes to fill.

around," said Bailey. "I told people all along that if they stuck by Joe, he'd come through for them."

Union has been criticized this season for playing a weak schedule. But the methodical annihilation of Norfolk, a perennial powerhouse, gave the team enormous credibility.

"We had to prove we could play well

Freddie Williams is a free-lance writer

### Another title

Unbeaten Virginia Union survived a spirited effort by Virginia State, which led 23-14 in the third quarter, to capture the CIAA Northern Division

The Panthers, who had been allowing opponents only five points a game, stormed back with 20 fourth-quarter points. They scored three touchdowns on big plays: a 29-yard run by David Moore, a 24-yard pass from Kenny Jones to Wayne Martin and a 71-yard interception return by Michael Brim on an ill-advised option pass.

Although the Trojans scored on Rudy Elliott's 55-yard pass to Mike Davis with 43 seconds left, Union recovered the ensuing onside kick to preserve its ninth straight win.

VSU linebacker Peter St. Louis had

#### THE PROS

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As good as he is now, San an apparent reception. But on his way Francisco's home-run receiver is still down, he lost possession. learning the trade. One area that he's "I was trying to pull the ball in," working on especially is bringing the Rice recollects. "Somehow, the defenentire season. The following week verthat cometh -- and goeth -- past the ball in stronger once he catches it, so he sive back got his hands on my arms and sus Green Bay, he had four catches for best defenders the NFL has to offer. won't be prone to defensive backs' I just couldn't get to the football. It 49 yards, but one went for a score. ball-stripping techniques.

"The toughest thing for someone with Jerry's height," Green points out, "is when defensive backs scramble for the ball. There are times when he'll have the ball and then a DB will come in and take a smack at it.

"In the NFL, defensive backs are very good at reaching and grabbing at the ball, and pulling the receiver's arm at the last second. So the more Jerry is exposed to that, he'll be even better than he is already,"

In the Falcons game, Rice went high for a Kemp pass and brought it in for

## COVER STORY

From Page 5

wacky and unpredictable year in which the underdog has risen up to bite the favorite as routinely as the sun sets in the West. And it has made black college football well worth watching.

It's kind of refreshing to pick up the paper and see that the haves are learning what the have-nots have been suffering through. It gives you the feeling that, if you hang in there long enough and keep plugging, things can and will

Roscoe Nance is a sportswriter for USA Today and a regular contributor to the Review.

# Turning tables

How times changed after Prairie View's 1964 SWAC championship. That season the Panthers went 10-1, finishing a game ahead of Grambling, whose only loss was to A&M.

Since then, Prairie View had a record of 59-141-3 before it beat Grambling again last month. Grambling, on the other hand, was 162-50-4 over the same 21½-year period.

The Panthers won three straight games for the first time in 21 years with October victories over Grambling, Bishop and Texas Southern.

But they still aren't world-beaters. Mississippi Valley's Clarence "Stringer" Alexander had 162 yards in receptions and returned a kickoff and punt return for a touchdown in Mississippi Valley's 28-21 win over Prairie View Nov. 1.

was a good play by the defensive

Like most athletes with superlative

two (three receptions, 56 yards, no TDs key factor. versus Atlanta) doesn't constitute an

sion receiver. As San Francisco drives tributes to the Review.

skills, Rice knows that an off-day or toward a playoff berth, Rice will be a

Indeed, the 'Niners have a Rice Man

Rice is the perfect complement for Craig T. Greenlee is an Atlanta-based Clark, the 49ers' consummate posses- free-lance writer who frequently con-

