

## Spring Practice Promises New Start for Alcorn Football Team

Contributed by Felicia Chien -- Black College Wire  
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With 22 new recruits, improvement is the goal

Spring football practice is almost at an end, with hopes of a new beginning for the fall season.

With a whole new coaching staff and new recruits, the team is getting pumped up and ready for the upcoming season.

Even though the spring is an off-season for the football team, the players are still working harder than ever with conditioning and practice. "They are doing well," said head football coach Earnest Jones. "Before coming here, they were out of shape, but with conditioning such as lifting weights and running, they look very promising."

Along with the off-season practice, there is also the upcoming event of the "purple and gold" game, which will be held on April 26. With this game, Jones is stressing heavily the approach of "building on the team, eliminating the offense and defense in order to become one team, working on fundamental skills as well as discipline."

Jones emphasized the fact that the team has yet to come together as a whole. "In order to become a team, there has to be a sense of togetherness the team has yet to achieve," he said.

Jones also pointed out that there are 22 new recruits and that all positions on the team still need improvement. "All positions are open, and most of the positions available have yet to be earned," he said. With a new perspective on how the football team is being run, Jones has high hopes for the team.

"With a whole new staff, it has been difficult," he said. "But they have to believe in themselves and each other. If they put their minds and hearts into their actions, we will become part of a team."

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Felicia Chien writes for the Campus Chronicle, the Alcorn State University student newspaper, which originally published this article.