

A NEW EDDIE GEORGE: Leads the Blue Tigers of Tennessee **DAY IS** State into South Bend, Indiana Saturday for historic date vs. DAWNING Notre Dame.

36 GAMES ON TAP; NFL TEAMS MAKING THEIR **CUTS; POUGH ANNOUNCES HIS RETIREMENT**

| | DIV | CONF | | | AL | | |
|----------------------|-----|------|---|---|----|--|--|
| NORTH DIVISION | W | L | W | L | W | | |
| Virginia Union | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |
| Virginia State | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |
| Bluefield State | Õ | Õ | Õ | Õ | Õ | | |
| Elizabeth City State | Ō | Õ | Õ | Õ | Ō | | |
| Lincoln | Ō | Õ | Õ | Õ | Ō | | |
| Bowie State | Ŏ | Ŏ | Õ | Õ | Õ | | |
| SOUTH DIVISION | - | - | - | • | - | | |
| Fayetteville State | Ω | Ω | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |
| Shaw | ŏ | ñ | Õ | ŏ | Õ | | |
| Livingstone | Õ | Õ | Õ | Õ | Õ | | |
| Johnson C. Smith | Ö | Ô | Õ | Õ | Ö | | |
| Winston-Salem State | Ô | ñ | Ô | Õ | n | | |
| Saint Augustine's | 0 | 0 | 0 | ٥ | ٥ | | |
| oaini Audustine s | U | U | U | U | U | | |

CIAA PLAYERS OF THE WEEK QB - NA

DB - NA LB - NA SPECIAL - NA

MEAC MID EASTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

| | CONF | | ALL | |
|------------------------|------|---|-----|---|
| | W | L | W | L |
| North Carolina Central | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Delaware State | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Morgan State | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Howard | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Norfolk State | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| SC State | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| | | | | |

MEAC PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

Keshawn Toney, Jr., TE, SCSU - Led Bulldogs with three receptions for 41 yards including their only TD on an 18-vard reception vs. Jackson State Patrick Godbolt, Gr., DL, SCSU - Had five solo

tackles, 2 sacks for -13 yards vs. Jackson State. SPECIALIST Max'Cleon Cobb, Jr., P, SCSU - Six punts for 219 yards (36.5 -yard average) with two downed

Jawarn Howell, Fr., RB, SCSU - Led 'Dawgs with 13 carries for 48 yards (3.7 ypc.) vs. JSU. OFFENSIVE LINEMAN - NA

inside the 20 and 42-yard long punt vs. JSU.

SIAC SOUTHERN INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

2023 BLACK COLLEGE FOOTBALL (Standings and Weekly Honors)

| EAST DIVISION | W | L | W | L | |
|----------------------|---|---|---|---|--|
| Benedict | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| Fort Valley State | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| Clark Atlanta | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| Savannah State | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| Albany State | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| Morehouse | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| Edward Waters | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| Allen | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| Central State | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| Tuskegee | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| Lane | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| Miles | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |

SIAC PLAYERS OF THE WEEK NEWCOMER - NA

Kentucky State

SWAC SOUTHWESTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

| | DIV | | ALL | |
|---------------------|-----|---|-----|---|
| EAST DIVISION | W | L | W | L |
| Jackson State | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Alabama State | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Bethune-Cookman | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Alabama A&M | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Miss. Valley State | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Florida A&M | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| WEST DIVISION | | | | |
| Prairie View A&M | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Texas Southern | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Arkansas-Pine Bluff | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Grambling State | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Alcorn State | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Southern | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | | | |

SWAC PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

OFFENSE & NEWCOMER-Jason Brown, GR., QB, JSU - 26 of 31 for 361 yards and TD throws of 35, 21 and 44 yards in win over SC State. DEFENSE - Isaac Peppers, Gr., LB, JSU - Six tackles, five solos, 2 for -15 yards, 1 sack for -8 yards vs. SC State. SPECIALIST - Gerardo Baeza, Jr., PK. JSU -Hit on 3 of 4 FGs (31, 27 & 38) and four PATs

INDEPENDENTS

| | W | L | W | L |
|-------------------|--------|-------|-------|----|
| | CON | | ALL | |
| Bluefield | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Bluefield State | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| VaLynchburg | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Texas College | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Florida Memorial | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| CAA | | | | |
| Hampton | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| NC A&T State | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| OHIO VALLEY | | | | |
| Tennessee State | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| MIAA | | | | |
| Lincoln (Mo.) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| MOUNTAIN EAST | | | | |
| W. Va. State | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| SAC (Sooner Athle | etic (| Confe | erenc | e) |
| 1 | ^ | _ | ^ | ٠, |

PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

OFFENSE George Young, Jr., RB, FMU - 18 carries, 156 yards, 3 TDs (7, 8, 11) vs. Bluefield. DEFENSE

Cedquan Smith, Fr., CB, FMU - Three solos, 2 for -9 yards, a sack for -7 yards vs. Bluefield.

SCORES

SATURDAY, AUGUST 26 Bluefield 50. Florida Memorial 47

Jackson State 37, SC State 7 Mid America Nazarene 24, Langston 21, OT

RECAPS

Jackson State 37, South Carolina State 7

ATLANTA, GA - Any idea that the cupboard is bare at Jackson State after the departure of head coach Deion "Coach Prime" Sanders was debunked Saturday at the 17th MEAC/SWAC Challenge at Center Parc Stadium here.

New head coach T. C. Taylor of SWAC member JSU unleashed 70 new players – 27 former Div. I transfers that came via the portal and new starters at just about every position - in a 37-7 shellacking of MEAC stalwart South Caro-



quarterback Jason Brown. The 6-2, 230-pounder, who also had stints at South Carolina and (FCS) Saint Francis, completed an ultra-efficient 26 of 33 passes for 361 yards and touchdown tosses of 40, 21 and 44 vards to three different receivers. The 361 passing yards set a new Challenge record and earned Brown JSU's MVP award. SCSU (0-1) was limited to 201 yards of total offense. Grad senior QB Corey Fields Jr. was 7 of 20 for 59 yards with one interception.

Chief amongst JSU's weapons was Virginia Tech transfer

Bluefield 50. Florida Memorial 47

BLUEFIELD, WV - Down 43-21 in the third period, Florida Memorial scored four straight TDs to take the lead before giving up a touchdown with just :25 seconds left to fall at Bluefield

FMU's George Young (156 yds., on 18 carries) scored the last of his three rushing touchdowns from 11 yards out to give the Lions a 47-43 lead with 4:34 left. Bluefield however drove 99 yards in 14 plays to score the game-winner on a 2-yard run by QB Nathan Herstich. On the ensuing drive, FMU (0-1) drove to the BU 35 before its pass into the end zone was picked off.

FMU senior QB Antoine Williams was 25 of 44 for 306 yards and one TD but was picked off three times, one returned 90 yards for a TD. FMU amassed 685 yards of total offense but surrendered 360 passing yards and four passing TDs to Herstich.

Mid America Nazarene 24, Langston 21, OT

LANGSTON, OK - Mid America Nazarene blocked Langston's attempt at a game-tying 34-yard field goal in overtime to pull out a win. The teams were tied at 21 in regulation.

MA-N scored the first 14 points of the game before Langston scored 21 unanswered points to take a 21-14 lead early in the fourth quarter. MA-N tied the game at 21 just over two minutes later. It scored in the extra period on a 19yard field goal. Sophomore QB Wrentie Martin threw (9-23-1, 106 yds) for one score and ran (13 car., 41 yds.) for another for Langston (0-1).

UNDER THE BANNER

WHAT'S GOING ON IN AND AROUND BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS



A WINNER ALL AROUND: South Carolina State Head Football Coach Oliver "Buddy" Pough gives a celebratory wave to Bulldog fans after his teams' stunning 31-10 2021 Celebration Bowl victory over Jackson State. Pough announced last week that he will retire at season's end after 22 years leading SCSU.

POUGH TO RETIRE AT END OF SEASON:

Veteran South Carolina State head football coach Oliver "Buddy" Pough announced last Thursday before his team's Saturday date at the MEAC/SWAC Classic that this will be his final one leading the Bulldogs.

"I wanted to let you all know before the season got underway," Pough said in a release from the university. "No one is running me off. It's my decision. When you have done something for 47 years, it's a bit tough to give it up, but it's time. I will be all right."

Pough, 70, the dean of black college head football coaches, is entering his 22nd year leading South Carolina State after taking over from Bulldog legend Willie Jeffries in 2002. This is his 47th year in coaching.

He has amassed a 146–87 overall record and a 112–42 MEAC record at SC State. Each of those marks makes him the winningest head coach in SCSU football history. He has produced 15 winning seasons and won three outright MEAC titles (2008, 2009 and 2021) and shared five others (2004, 2010, 2013, 2014 and 2019). He and his teams have made five trips to the FCS playoffs.

His 2021 MEAC championship team went on to defeat Jackson State and head coach Deion Sanders 31-10 in the prestigious Cricket Celebration Bowl, earning his team the Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) national championship, the second of his college coaching

Pough played at SC State from 1971-74 and for Jeffries in his last two seasons. He was a SCSU assistant from 1979 to 1988 and became an assistant to Jeffries from 1997 until taking over as head coach in 2002.

Full slate of 36 games kicks off Week 1

LUT WILLIAMS BCSP Editor

After a big 37-7 win over **South Carolina** State to open the season at Saturday's MEAC/ SWAC Challenge in Atlanta (see RECAPS, new Jackson State head coach T. C. Taylor and the Tigers may be facing their biggest game of the season this week.

Miami's Orange Blossom Classic Sunday (3 p.m. on ESPN) will pit JSU against Florida **A&M** in a match of what many believe to be the two best teams in the **Southwestern Athletic** Conference (SWAC).

The early season match up of the two SWAC East Division titans could almost decide that race just as it begins. That's been the case the last two seasons as **Deion Sanders'** Tigers took down Willie Simmons' Rattlers and went on to take division and eventually conference honors.

The full Monty

The Miami Gardens, Fla. game is perhaps the highlight of what is, in effect, the true opening week of black college football that will run from Thursday thru Sunday.

The menu of 36 games includes nine games Thursday, one on Friday, 23 on Saturday and another three on Sunday. Nine are dubbed 'Classic Games.' At least ten can be seen on TV or streamed online.

Among them is **Tennessee State** going into South Bend, Ind. Saturday (2:30 p.m. on NBC) to give Notre Dame its first-ever FCS or HBCU opponent. Third-year TSU head coach Eddie George and his Tigers will have their hands full with the Irish who are coming off a 42-3 Week Zero win over Navy. A \$1 million payday will help salve the wounds. And, N. C. A&T opens its first season under new head coach Vincent **Brown** Thursday (7 p.m.) at UAB.

JSU vs. FAMU is not the only conference game on the SWAC schedule. Alabama State and **Southern** open the season at the Montgomery, Ala. Labor Day Classic Saturday (5 p.m.) while Texas Southern and Prairie View A&M tangle in the Houston version (7 p.m.) of the holiday classic. SWAC members Bethune-Cookman, Alcorn State and Alabama A&M start on the road Saturday vs. FBS opponents. B-CU plays at Memphis, Alcorn is at Southern Miss and A&M





Simmons



Brown

goes up to Vanderbilt, all at 6 p.m.

Both Grambling State (vs. Hampton in Harrison, NJ) and Mississippi Valley State (vs. Central State in Chicago) have 3 p.m. dates Saturday at neutral sites. MVSU/CSU will be at historic Soldier's Field in the Windy City while Grambling and Hampton tangle at the 25,000seat soccer-themed Red Bull Arena. Arkansas-**Pine Bluff** opens SWAC teams' schedules with a date Thursday (7 p.m.) at Tulsa.

Three MEAC teams play at home vs. CIAA opponents while the three others are on the road. Saturday, **Delaware State** hosts **Bowie State** in the debut of new DSU head coach **Lee** Hull (1 p.m.). Norfolk State opens at Dick Price Stadium vs. Virginia State (2 p.m.) and N. C. Central entertains former CIAA rival **Winston-Salem State** (4 p.m.).

Howard hits the field first playing at Eastern Michigan Friday (6:30 p.m.). On Saturday at 6 p.m., SC State plays at Charlotte and Morgan State is at Richmond.

CIAA defending champion Fayetteville **State** (at UNC-Pembroke, 6 p.m.) and **Lincoln Pa.** (vs. Clarion, 7 p.m.) hit the field Thursday. On Saturday at 1 p.m., Elizabeth City State hosts Catawba and J. C. Smith is at W. Va. Wesleyan. Saint Augustine's travels to Lenoir-Rhyne and **Shaw** is at **SIAC** defending champ **Benedict**, both at 6 p.m.

Virginia Union caps off the schedule for CIAA teams Sunday (4 p.m. on NFL Network) with a date vs. SIAC member Morehouse in Canton, Ohio at the Black College Football Hall of Fame Classic.

Albany State opens at Wingate (6 p.m.) Clark Atlanta is at Kentucky State (7 p.m.) in games involving SIAC teams Thursday. On Sunday, the *Red Tails Classic* closes out the week as SIAC contenders Fort Valley State and Tuskegee meet in Montgomery, Ala. (6

GAMES THIS WEEK

THURSDAY, AUGUST 31 UNC Pembroke vs. Fayetteville State in Pembroke, NC Wingate vs. Albany State in Wingate, NC Emporia State vs. Lincoln (MO) in Emporia, KS Carson-Newman vs. VA-Lynchburg in Jefferson City, TN Kentucky State vs. Clark Atlanta in Frankfort, KY Lincoln (PA) vs. Clarion in Lincoln University. PA TV / STREAMED GAMES Morehead State vs. W. Va. State in Morehead, KY - ESPN+ 6p Tulsa vs. Arkansas-Pine Bluff in Tulsa, OK - ESPN+ 7p UAB vs. NC A&T in Birmingham, AL - ESPN+ 7p FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1 Eastern Michigan vs. Howard in Ypsilanti, MI - ESPN+ 6:30p **SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2** Delaware State vs. Bowie State in Dover, DE 1p Elizabeth City State vs. Catawba in Elizabeth City, NC 1p W. Va. Wesleyan vs. Johnson C. Smith in Buckhannon, WV 1p 2p 4p

Norfolk State vs. Virginia State in Norfolk, VA NC Central vs. Winston-Salem State in Durham, NC Lane vs. Miles in Memphis. TN UT-Permian Basin vs. Texas College in Midland, TX Vanderbilt vs. Alabama A&M in Nashville, TN Allen vs. Erskine in Blythewood, SC Charlotte vs. SC State in Charlotte. NC Lenoir-Rhyne vs. Saint Augustine's in Hickory, NC Livingstone vs. Bluefield State in Salisbury, NC Southeastern vs. Savannah State in Lakeland, FL Chicago Classic Mississippi Valley State vs. Central State in Chicago, IL Brick City Classic Hampton vs. Grambling State in Harrison, NJ Labor Day Classic Alabama State vs. Southern in Montgomery, AL

3р

6p

6р

Labor Day Classic Texas Southern vs. Prairie View A&M in Houston, TX 7р TV / STREAMED GAMES Notre Dame vs. Tenn. State in South Bend, IN - NBC/Peacock 2:30p Richmond vs. Morgan State in Richmond. VA - FloSports Memphis vs. Bethune-Cookman in Memphis, TN - ESPN+

Edward Waters vs. Florida Memorial in Jacksonville, FL

S. Mississippi vs. Alcorn State in Hattiesburg, MS - ESPN+ Carolinas Classic Benedict vs. Shaw in Columbia, SC - HBCUGO SLINDAY SEPTEMBER 3

CLASSICS / TV / STREAMED GAMES

Florida A&M vs. Jackson State in Miami Gardens, FL - ESPN Black College Football Hall of Fame Classic Morehouse vs. Virginia Union in Canton, OH - NFL Network Red Tails Classic

Fort Valley State vs. Tuskegee in Montgomery, AL - ESPNU

BCSP Notes

NFL teams begin cutdowns to 53-man rosters

A crop of black college players were cut early this week by NFL teams before the league's 32 teams were required to get down to their



Simmons

53-man limits on Tuesday at 4 p.m. Among those cut was former Tennessee State offensive lineman Lachavious Simmons, the only HBCU player selected in the 2020 NFL draft, who was let go by Arizona. Other veterans getting the knife were two veterans from N. C. A&T, sixth-year

offensive lineman Brandon Parker by Las Vegas

and third-year defensive back Mac McCain who was waived by Carolina. Second-year former Fort Valley State wide receiver Shemar Bridges was cut by Baltimore. Both McCain (with Philadelphia) and Bridges had been on practice squads a year ago.

Amongst 2023 undrafted free agents released include former Jackson State linebacker Aubrey Miller Jr. by Miami, former Virginia State running back Darius Hagans by Pittsburgh and former



greenbaypackers.com photo

CATCH & RUN!!

Green Bay rookie free agent wide receiver JADAKIS BONDS (#6, HAMPTON) catches 52-yard pass vs. Seattle Saturday to set up game-winning score.

Bowie State defensive lineman and CIAA Defensive Player of the Year Joshua Pryor by Washington.

Big Cat Classic

2022 black college receptions leader Xavier Smith out of Florida **A&M** was released by the LA Rams Tuesday.

Among players released before this week were former N. C. A&T defensive end Darryl Johnson Jr. by San Francisco and former Jackson State and Morgan State wide receiver Daylen Baldwin by Cleveland.

Here are the rules:

When a player is cut, they are either "waived" or "released." A player who has at least four accrued seasons is released, not waived, meaning their contract is immediately terminated and they are a free agent who can sign anywhere immediately. A player with less than four accrued seasons is 'waived," meaning their contract stays intact until they go through the waiver wire process. A waived player can be claimed by any other team looking for more talent.

The BCSP will release the 2023 BCSP NFL Report with a full list of all former HBCU players on NFL rosters next week.

HBCU NFL PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

For preseason games of August 24 - 27, 2023



- #41 JAMES HOUSTON, LB, Detroit (2nd season, JACKSON STATE) - Started at outside linebacker (rush end) in 26-17 win over Carolina and finished with three total tackles, one solo, 1.5 sacks for -15.5 yards and three hits on a quarterback. Plays on the field stats not available.

DEFENSE

- #6 JADAKIS BONDS, WR, Green Bay (1st season, HAMPTON) - Had two receptions for 60 yards (30.0 ypc.) with a long catch of 52 yards that set up the game-winning touchdown in 19-15 win over Seattle. Number of plays on the field stats not available.

OFFENSE

SPECIAL TEAMS

- #6 JAMIE GILLAN, P, New York Giants, (5th season, ARKANSAS-PINE BLUFF) - Punted five times for 246 yards (49-2-yard average) with a long punt of 62 yards and net of 44.0 yards. Number of plays on the field stats not available.