

TITLES

UP FOR

GRABS



FRED McNAIR: His Braves got big win over Southern to move into SWAC West lead. On the road at Texas Southern Saturday.

SIAC AND CIAA CHAMPS TO BE DECIDED: MEAC AND SWAC RACES ENTER FINAL FEW WEEKS

ALBANY STATE GOLDEN RAMS (6-4)

SECOND PLACE Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference



Head Coach QUINN GRAY SR.

TEAM RECORD 2023 Overall 6-4 2023 SIAC: 6-2 2023 BCSP Ranking: 5th, D2 All-Time vs. Benedict: 17-3-0 Last Time vs. Benedict: 24-20 L, '22 SIAC Title Game: SIAC Championships: 15 (Last '21)

Alma Mater: Florida A&M ('06) Record vs. BC: 0-0 At Albany State: 6-4, .600 (1st year) Career Record: Same

2023 RESULTS **ALBANY STATE** . @ Wingate

BENEDICT TIGERS (10-0)

FIRST PLACE Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference

TEAM RECORD

2023 BCSP Ranking:

2023 Overall:

2023 SIAC:



Head Coach **CHENNIS**

THE STAT CORNER

WHO ARE THE BEST PERFORMERS IN BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

SIAC CHAMPIONSHIP GAME YARDSTICK









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ALBANY STATE		TEAM S	STATS		BENEDICT		
25.2 ppg. (7th)		SCORING	OFFENSE		40.5 ppg. (1st)		
18.8 ppg. (2nd)		SCORING	DEFENSE		8.3 ppg. (1st)		
346.8 ypg. (5th)		TOTAL O	FFENSE		409.7 ypg. (2nd)		
323.1 ypg. (3rd)		TOTAL DI	EFENSE		209.2 ypg. (1st)		
137.7 ypg. (5th)		RUSHING	OFFENSE		157.0 ypg. (1st)		
131.5 ypg. (5th)		RUSHING I	DEFENSE		81.6 ypg. (2nd)		
209.1 ypg. (6th)		PASSING (OFFENSE		252.7 ypg. (4th)		
191.6 ypg. (3rd)		PASSING I	DEFENSE		127.6 ypg. (1st)		
INDIVIDUAL STATS							
Frederick Gaines	- 0	RUSH	IING	0 [Deondra Duehart		
486 yds., 60.8 ypg., 5	1 ypc., 6 T	Ds	569	yds., 56.9	ypg., 4.9 ypc., 7 TDs		

20 19 Dionte Bonneau **PASSING** Aeneas Dennis 93-172-6, 54.1%, 1,220 yds., 9 TDs 188-295-4, 63,7%, 2,443, vds, 17 TDs RECEIVING Rashad Jordan Jalen Jones 24 rec., 17.5 ypc., 419 yds., 5 TDs 42 rec., 13.3 vpc., 557 yds., 3 TDs **TACKLES** Jalen Mitchell **Dedrick Starkes** 63 tackles, 6.3 tpg. 57 tackles, 5.7 tpg. Roderick Welch SACKS **Loobert Denelus** 5.0. -16 yds. 10.0. -57 vds. INTERCEPTIONS **Cameron Watts** Ja'Voni Melidor 4.0 TD 2. 0 TD **PLACEKICKING** Tom Piccirillo Eli Mashburn 23-24 PATs, 10-13 FGs, 53 pts. 49-51 PATs, 14-14 FGs, 91 pts

CIAA CHAMPIONSHIP GAME YARDSTICK











	STATE STATE	PATELLEA LITE 21	BIE NAME AND	THERE	PANTHE	PANTHERS		
Alston	Owens	Merri	tt By	ers	Reid	Graham ·		
FAYETTEVILLE STATE TEAM STATS VIRGINIA UNION								
17.4 ppg. (10t	h)	SCOR	ING OFFE	NSE		39.1 ppg. (1st)		
14.8 ppg. (3rd)	SCOR	ING DEFE	NSE		11.8 ppg. (1st)		
273.9 ypg. (9t)	TOTA	AL OFFEN	SE		397.8 ypg. (2nd)			
265.0 ypg. (4tl	h)	TOT	AL DEFEN	SE	_ :	229.5 ypg. (2nd)		
142.5 ypg. (4t)	h)	RUSH	ING OFFE	NSE		229.5 ypg. (1st)		
97.1 ypg. (3rd) [RUSH	ING DEFE	NSE		37.4 ypg. (1st)		
131.3 ypg. (11	th)	PASS	ING OFFEI	NSE		169.3 ypg. (7th)		
167.9 ypg. (7tl	h)	PASS	ING DEFE	NSE	S 1	92.2 ypg. (10th)		
INDIVIDUAL STATS								
Derrick Alstor	ı Jr.	F	RUSHING			Jada Byers		
368 yds., 36.8 ypg	J., 3.3 ypc. 4	TDs		950 yds., '	118.9 yp	g., 6.6 ypc., 13 TDs		
Joe Owens Jr	E	- 1	PASSING			Christian Reid		
77-130-5, 59.2%,	914 yds., 4	TDs		82-144-5,	56.9%,	1,314 yds., 13 TDs		
Treveron Goo	de	R	ECEIVING			Said Sidibe		
18 rec., 16.0 yp	c. 288 yds.	, 1 TD		31 rec., 1	7.2 yp	c., 534 yds, 5 TDs		

Shamar Graham Kolby Merritt **TACKLES** 56 tackles, 5.6 tpg. 65 tackles, 6.6 tpg. SACKS Shi Gaskin Armonii Burden 4.5. -23 yds. 4.5, -29 yds. INTERCEPTIONS William Davis **Dvlan Morris** 3. 1 TD 5. 1 TD **PLACEKICKING Brady Myers Jacob Meneses** 20-21 PATs, 8-15 FGs, 44 pts.

SCORES

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2 Bethune-Cookman 20, Miss. Valley State 7 SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4

CIAA Bowie State 45, Lincoln (Pa.) 39 Elizabeth City State 38, Bluefield State 20 Fayetteville State 40. Winston-Salem State 34 Johnson C. Smith 38. Livingstone 17 Shaw 21, Saint Augustine's 14 Virginia Union 30, Virginia State 20

NC Central 38, Norfolk State 24 SC State 27, Howard 24 Albany State 13, Fort Valley State 7 Benedict 37, Allen 9

Morgan State 24, Delaware State 17

Central State 20, Kentucky State 10 Edward Waters 41, VA-Lynchburg 17

Lane 27, Savannah State 21 Miles 35, Tuskegee 10 Morehouse 35, Clark Atlanta 21 SWAC Alabama State 17, Grambling State 6 Alcorn State 44, Southern 21 Florida A&M 42, Alabama A&M 28 Jackson State 21, Texas Southern 19 **NON-HBCU CONFERENCES** Florida Memorial 37, Thomas 24 Hampton 42, Maine 35 Nebraska Kearney 38, Lincoln (MO) 6 Texas Wesleyan 42, Langston 19 Towson 42, NC A&T 32 Wheeling 29, West Virginia State 22

MEAC MID EASTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

	CONF		ALL		DIV	
	W	L	W	L	EAST D	
North Carolina Central	3	0	8	1	^ Florid	
Howard	2	1	4	5	Jackso	
SC State	2	1	4	5	Alabar	
Morgan State	2	1	3	5	Alabar	
Norfolk State	0	3	2	7	Miss. \	
Delaware State	0	3	1	8	Bethur	
					WEST I	
	A 1					

MEAC PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

OFFENSE Jawarm Howell, Fr., QB, SCSU - 27 carries 283 yards,3 TDs (48, 85, 16) in win over Howard. **DEFENSE**

Cole Jones, Jr., DB, NCCU - 8 tackles, 5 solos, 1 forced fumble, 1 interception vs. Norfolk State **SPECIALIST** Adrian Olivo, Sr., PK, NCCU - Eight points, 5 PAT kicks and one field goal vs. NSU.

OFFENSIVE LINEMAN Nick Taiste, Jr., SCSU - 95% grade, 6 pancakes as Bulldogs put up 457 yards, 438 rushing vs.

Tahj Smith, Fr., QB, MSU - Two TD passes, 6 of 17 for 131 passing yards vs. DelState

Prairie View A&M 38, Arkansas-Pine Bluff 14 Charleston Southern 35, Tennessee State 21 Wayland Baptist 38, Texas College 36

49-52 PATs, 5-9 FGs, 64 pts.

SWAC SOUTHWESTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

DIV		ALL			
EAST DIVISION	W	L	W	L	
^ Florida A&M	7	0	8	1	
Jackson State	5	2	7	3	
Alabama State	4	2	5	3	
Alabama A&M	2	4	4	5	
Miss. Valley State	1	5	1	8	
Bethune-Cookman	1	5	2	7	
WEST DIVISION					
Alcorn State	5	1	6	3	
Southern	4	2	5	4	
Prairie View A&M	4	2	4	5	
Grambling State	3	3	4	5	
Texas Southern	1	5	2	7	
Arkansas-Pine Bluff	0	6	1	8	

^ Clinched Div. title

SWAC PLAYERS OF THE WEEK OFFENSE-Aaron Allen, R-Sr., QB, ALC-19-30, 263 yards, 3 TDs in 44-21 win over Southern DEFENSE - Keenan Leachman. Gr., DL ALC - Three tackles, 2 interceptions, one with a 95-yard return, 27-yard fumble return TD vs. SU. SP. TEAMS - Noah Kiani, So., QB, ALC - $5\ of\ 5$ on PATS and 3 of 3 on FGs for 14 points vs. SU NEWCOMER - Tink Boyd, Fr., WR, B-CU - 4 rec., 76 yards, 2 TDs in win over MVSU



COACH'S RECORD

6-4 16......21 L 24...Morehouse in E. R'fd., NJ . 14 W 2-5, Last '21 15.. @ Savannah State in Br'wk, GA. 12 W 33......@ Kentucky State 27 W 48......0 W .. Allen.. 27......@ Edward Waters31 L7 W Miles ..

BENEDICT 10-0 .. Shaw ... 0 W 34..... @ Edward Waters 0 W .. @ Lane@ Chowan..... 3 WMorehouse.. 27...... @ Miles 24 W 48...... Fort Valley State 6 W 63......Kentucky State 14 W 38.....@ Savannah State ... 17 W 13.. Ft. Valley St. in Col., GA... 7 W

2023 RESULTS

All-Time vs. ASU: 3-17-0 Last Time vs. ASU: 24-20 W, '22 SIAC Title Game: SIAC Championships: 1 (Last '22) **COACH'S RECORD** Alma Mater: Savannah State ('94) Record vs. ASU: 1-1 At Benedict: 25-5, .833 (3rd year) Career Record: Same

10-0

1st, D2

BERRY

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2023 · ATLANTA GA · LAKEWOOD STADIUM · 1 P. M.

Championship game time in SIAC, CIAA

LUT WILLIAMS

After ten week's of regular season play in the SIAC and CIAA, it's all come down to this! First-place and defending champ **Benedict** takes on second-place Albany State in the SIAC Championship game at Lakewood Stadium in

Atlanta, Saturday at 1 p.m. N. Div. champ **Virginia Union** meets S. Div. and defending conference champ Fayetteville State in the CIAA Football Championship game in Salem, Va. Saturday at 3 p.m.

Once again, the BCSP has broken down the championship game match ups by their 2023 schedules and history (above and below this story) and their team and individual statistics and rank in their conferences (see STAT CORNER).

What's left now are the games to be played and the outcomes to be determined. Those outcomes will have some bearing on which teams will play on in the Div. II playoffs.

Entering Saturday's championship games, undefeated Benedict (10-0) is ranked first in Super Region II of NCAA Div. II. Fayetteville State (8-2) is ranked sixth with Virginia Union (9-1) seventh. Of the championship game participants, only Albany State (6-4) is out of the region's top ten.

Both the SIAC and CIAA teams are in Super Region II along with teams from the Gulf South Conference (GSC) and South Atlantic Conference (SAC).

Only the top seven teams from each of the nation's four Super Regions will make the 28team Div. II championship playoff field.

SIAC Championship Game

Benedict (10-0, 8-0 SIAC) has once again been the most dominant team in black college football. Chennis Berry's troops have run thru the competition, winning games overall by a 40-8 margin and housing SIAC competition to the tune of 39-9.

The 8.3 points per game the Tigers give up is the best in black college football and all of NCAA Div. II football. Benedict has posted 37 sacks thru 10 games (3.7 per game), fourth best in Div. II. The squad is led by SIAC sacks leader, scored 21 and 40 points in its final two contests senior defensive end **Loobert Denelus** who has posted ten takedowns, tied for seventh in Div. II. Junior Jayden Broughton and freshman **Joshua Barker** check in with 8.5 and 6.5 sacks

The Tigers also sport the best offense in the SIAC that puts up 40.5 points per game. Despite losing last year's signal caller Eric Phoenix to the transfer portal, the Tigers' offense under grad senior quarterback Aeneas Dennis has not

First-year head coach Quinn Gray's Golden Rams of Albany State (6-4, 6-2) rebounded from two late-season losses to Allen (39-27) and Edward Waters (31-27) to claim second-place in the league with a 13-7 win over Fort Valley State Saturday.

In that game, sophomore QB Jhaydon Sullivan came on in relief of starter Dionte **Bonneau** after he had thrown three interceptions and scored two rushing touchdowns in the fourth quarter to pull out the victory.

Sullivan started the season as the thirdstring signal caller behind Bonneau and backup OB Isaiah Knowles, who was lost for the season on Oct. 7 vs. Central State. Sullivan had rushed for 4 yards and passed for 5 before Saturday's game. It is likely to be a gametime decision Saturday of who starts between Bonneau and Sullivan.

The transition from former head coach Gabe Gardinia's option attack to former prolific Florida A&M QB Gray's more wideopen offense has taken some time. Bonneau threw for 262 yards and three scores and ran for another score in a 48-7 shellacking of Miles on Oct. 28, perhaps their best offensive output of

CIAA Championship Game

This will be the sixth straight trip for Fayetteville State and seventh-year head coach Richard Hayes Jr. to the CIAA championship game. Hayes is looking for a repeat after last season's buzzer-beating field goal earned him his first title in a 31-28 win over Chowan.

This season's title-game match up with Virginia Union is a rematch from a game earlier this season in which the Broncos came away with a hard-fought 10-7 win. The win was indicative of the Broncos' season. Of their eight wins in CIAA play this season, seven have been by single digits. The other win was a 10-point victory (28-18) over conference newcomer **Bluefield State.**

The once-anemic FSU offense, that games playing as many as four quarterbacks, has with 6-4 redshirt sophomore **Joe Owens Jr.** at

FSU will need to score points facing VUU's offense, which leads the league averaging 39.1 points per game.

In that earlier contest vs. VUU, the Panthers were without prolific conference rushing leader Jada Byers (118.9 ypg.) though his back-up, Curtis Allen, ran for 155 yards on 30 carries. Bvers, who missed two games this season, ran for 155 yards in VUU's 30-20 division clinching

CIAA

GAMES THIS WEEK

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10					
SWAC					
Arkansas-Pine Bluff vs. Grambling State in Pine Bluff, AR - ESPNU	6				
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11					
SIAC CHAMPIONSHIP GAME					
Benedict vs. Albany State in Atlanta, GA	1				
CIAA CHAMPIONSHIP GAME					
Fayetteville State vs. Virginia Union in Salem, VA - HBCU Go MEAC	3				
Delaware State vs. Norfolk State in Dover, DE - ESPN+	12				
SC State vs. Morgan State in Orangeburg, SC	1:30				
Howard vs. NC Central in Washington, DC	3:30				
SWAC					
Bethune-Cookman vs. Alabama A&M in Daytona Beach, FL - HBCU G					
Miss Valley State vs. Alabama State in Itta Bena, MS	2				
Texas Southern vs. Alcorn State in Houston, TX - ESPN+	2				
Florida A&M vs. Lincoln (CA) in Tallahassee, FL	6				
Southern vs. Prairie View A&M in Baton Rouge, LA	2				
NON-HBCU CONFERENCES					
CAA					
Hampton vs. William & Mary in Hampton, VA - FLO Sports	1				
Rhode Island vs. NC A&T in Kingston, RI	1				
OVC					
Eastern Illinois vs. Tennessee State in Charleston, IL - ESPN+					
Lincoln (MO) vs. Central Missouri in Jefferson City, MO	12				
West Virginia State vs. Charleston (WV)	12				
Arkansas Baptist vs. North American in Little Rock, AR					
Florida Memorial vs. Keiser in Miami Gardens, FL	1				
SWAG vs. Texas College in Waxahachie, TX	2				
Wayland Baptist vs. Langston in Plainview, TX	2				
Kennesaw State vs. VA-Lynchburg in Kennesaw, GA	3				

win Saturday over Virginia State but left the game late favoring his left leg. His availability for Saturday's title game is unknown.

Grad senior quarterback Christian Reid had perhaps his best game vs. VSU, passing for four touchdowns in the win. But he also threw two picks.

SWAC and MEAC

Florida A&M (6-0 E) has clinehed the East Division title and a berth in the Dec. 2 SWAC championship game.

Alcorn State's 44-21 win Saturday over **Southern** has the Braves (5-1) atop the West as they travel to Texas Southern Saturday (2 p.m.) **Prairie View** (4-2), who has a head-to-head win averaged just 13.1 points thru its first eight over Alcorn, is still in contention as it plays at Southern, also 4-2, Saturday (2 p.m.).

Defending champion North Carolina Central leads the MEAC at 3-0 headed to a showdown in Washington, D. C. Saturday (3:30 p.m.) at **Howard** (2-1). A win by the Eagles clinches their second straight regular season title and Celebration Bowl berth. A win by Howard opens up several championship scenarios with one final week left in the regular season.

The Bison are 2-1 in league play along with Morgan State and SC State, who meet Saturday in Orangeburg, S. C. (1:30 p.m.).



FAYETTEVILLE STATE BRONCOS (8-2)

SOUTH DIVISION CHAMPION CENTRAL INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

8-2

2nd, D2



8-2

VIRGINIA UNION PANTHERS (9-1)

NORTH DIVISION CHAMPION CENTRAL INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION





Head Coach **RICHARD** HAYES JR.

All-Time vs. VUU: 11-11-1 10-7 W, '23 Last Time vs. VUU: CIAA Title Games: 9, 4-5 CIAA Championships: 4 (Last '22) COACH'S RECORD Alma Mater: N. C. A&T ('99) Record vs. VUU: 1-2 Record at FSU: 49-24, 671 (8th year)

TEAM RECORD

2023 BCSP Ranking:

Career Record: Same

2023 Overal

2023 CIAA:

17...... @ UNC Pembroke 10.....Lenoir-Rhyne ... 20...... Lincoln (PA) 17 W 10...... @ Virginia Union...... 7 W 28....@ Bluefield State.... 18 W 7...... @ St. Augustine's 0 W 19......14 W ...J. C. Smith@ Shaw 14 W

40..... Winston-Salem State . 34 W

2023 RESULTS

FSU

45.... Morehouse in Canton, OH... 13 W ...@ Shaw... ..24 L 13 W 28...... @ Livingstone 20 W 7...... Fayetteville State. 10 L 47....@ St. Augustine's. 7 W 42...@ Elizabeth City State . 20 WLincoln (PA)...... 0 W .@ Bluefield State..... 12 W

...Virginia State......20 W

2023 RESULTS

VUU

TEAM RECORD 2023 Overall 9-1 2023 CIAA 2023 BCSP Ranking: 3rd, D2 All-Time vs. FSU: 11-11-1 Last Time vs. FSU: 10-7 L, '23 CIAA Title Games 9, 5-4 CIAA Championships: 5, (Last '01

> COACH'S RECORD Alma Mater: Virginia Union ('99) Record vs. FSU: 1-1 Record at VUU: 39-12, .764 (6th year)



DR. ALVIN **PARKER**

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2023 • SALEM, VA • SALEM STADIUM • 3 P. M.

HBCU NFL PLAYERS OF THE WEEK For NFL games of November 2 - 6, 2023

COOKIN'!

Kansas City safety BRYAN COOK (#6, HOWARD, Cincinnati) pulls away from Miami speedster WR Tyreek Hill after a Hill fumble was lateraled to him



and he ran 59 yards for a touchdown in Sunday's game in Frankfort, Germany. Cook finished with four tackles, two solos, in the Chiefs 21-14 win.

OFFENSE

- #31 EMMANUEL WILSON, RB, Green Bay (1st season, FORT VALLEY STATE) - In the Packers' 20-3 win over the Los Angeles Rams, Wilson had season-highs of nine carries for 43 yards (10.8 yards per carry) with a long run of 31 yards. He was in for eight (11%) offensive snaps.

DEFENSE

-#6 BRYAN COOK, S, Kansas City (2nd season, HOWARD/Cincinnati) - In Chiefs' 21-14 win over Miami in Franfort, Germany Cook started at strong safety and returned a fumble 59 yards for a TD while also posting four tackles, two solos. Cook played 56 (89%) of the plays on defense and ten (40%) of the plays on special teams.

SPECIAL TEAMS

- #6 JAMIE GILLAN, P, New York Giants, (5th season, ARKANSAS-PINE BLUFF) - In the Giants' 30-6 loss to the Las Vegas, Gillan punted four times for 1699 yards, an average of 42.3 yards with a average net of 40.8 yards. One punt was downed inside the 20 with a long punt of 48 yards. Gillan was in on four (17%) of the special teams' snaps.