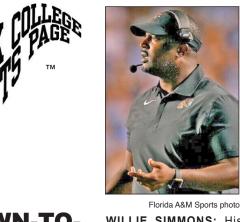
For the Week of November 14 - 20, 2023



DOWN-TO-**THE-WIRE** FINISHES

WILLIE SIMMONS: His Florida A&M Rattlers are waiting to find out their opponent in Dec. 2 SWAC Championship Game.

THREE TEAMS VIE FOR MEAC, SWAC WEST TITLES; SIAC, CIAA CROWN CHAMPS, D2 PLAYOFFS NEXT

CHAMPIONSHIP GAME RECAPS

SIAC

Benedict 47, Albany State 10 ATLANTA, GA - Benedict grad senior quarterback Aeneas

Dennis threw touchdown passes of 28 and 55 yards and scored on a 72-yard run as the Tigers completed their second straight undefeated season with a dominating 47-10 win over Albany State at Lakewood Stadium here in the SIAC Championship Game.

On Sunday, the Tigers were named the top seed for the second consecutive year in NCAA

Div. II Super Region II and will receive a first round bye in the playoffs that begin this week.

Dennis (15-26-1, 256 yards) threw both of his TD passes in the second quarter as the Tigers (11-0, 9-0 SIAC) built a 17-0 lead. ASU (6-5, 6-3) got on the board with a 35-yard Eli Mash**burn** field goal with :09 seconds left in the half to cut the lead to 17-3 at the break.

In the first second-half possession, ASU QB Jhaydon Sullivan was sacked at his own 1-yard line by BC defensive end Jayden Broughton and fumbled with fellow DE Loobert Denelus recovering the strip in the end zone to increase Benedict's lead to 24-3. Following an ASU three-and-out, Dennis went 72 yards to paydirt on a 3rd-and-3 from the ASU 28 to put Benedict up 31-3.

WR Caden High, who caught Dennis's 28-yard pass for a score, led the Benedict receivers with nine catches for 156 yards. Dennis finished with 95 rushing yards in seven carries. Backup RB Zavian Foster capped the Tigers' scoring with a 75-yard fourth quarter run.

While the offense amassed 563 yards, the Tigers' defense held ASU to 5 completions in 18 attempts for 59 yards while registering eight quarterback sacks for -41 yards and 14 total tackles for loss. Junior defensive lineman John Hannibal led the parade with two sacks.

CIAA

Virginia Union 21, Fayetteville State 10

SALEM, VA - North Division champion Virginia Union grinded out a 21-10 win over Southern Division titlist and defending champ Fayetteville State in the CIAA Championship Game here Saturday afternoon. It was FSU and head coach Richard Hayes's fifth loss in six consecutive championship game ap-

Plenty of title scenarios in MEAC and SWAC

LUT WILLIAMS **BCSP Editor**

and **CIAA** crowned SIAC The their champions over the weekend (See CHAMPIONSHIP GAME RECAPS) and their winners are moving on to postseason competition. While the MEAC champion will be decided in games this weekend, the SWAC will not decide its champ until the Dec. 2 Championship Game in Tallahassee, Fla. But who will be host Florida A&M's opponent in that game could be decided in games this weekend. Or not.

Here's the breakdown.

CENTRAL INTERCOLLEGIAT ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

CONF

5 0 8 1 8 3

L W L W L 0 8 1 10 1

ALL

DIV

w 6

Jada Byers, Jr., RB, VUU-40 carries, 135 yards, 2

Isaac Anderson, R-Jr., DL, VUU - Three tackles.

one solo, 1.5 sacks for -14 yards, one forced fumble,

one pass break-up in win over Fayetteville State

TDs (1, 16) in win over Fayetteville State

NORTH DIVISION

^ Virginia Unior

SOUTH DIVISION

OFFENSE

DEFENSE

Fayetteville State ^ Conference champior

CHAMPIONSHIP GAME MVPs

MEAC MID EASTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

North Carolina Central

Howard

Morgan State

CONF ALL

3

3

3

L W 1 8

1 4 5

1

5 5

2

NCAA Div. II Playoffs

SIAC champion Benedict and CIAA champion Virginia Union both received berths in the 28-team NCAA Div. II national playoffs.

Benedict

For the second straight season, undefeated Benedict (11-0) is ranked first in Super Region II and will receive a bye thru this weekend's first round games.

The Tigers are led by third-year head coach Chennis Berry and feature grad senior quarterback Aeneas Dennis and a defense that leads Div. II giving up just 8.4 points per game.

Benedict will play the winner of Saturday's first round game between 4th-seed Lenoir-Rhyne (10-1) and 5th-seed Shepherd (9-2) next Saturday (Nov. 25). A year ago, Benedict lost in the second round to Wingate, 23-6.

Virginia Union

The Panthers (10-1), under sixth-year head coach Dr. Alvin Parker, return to the D2 playoffs for the first time since 2015. They were moved from Super Region II to Super Region I for travel purposes and are seeded seventh. VUU will play at 9-2 Kutztown on Saturday at 12 noon. Kutztown is the champion of the Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference (PSAC).

VUU is led by grad senior lefty QB Christian Reid and junior running back Jada Byers (120.5 rushing ypg., 15 TDs), 13th in Div.

II rushing yards. The Panthers have the top rush defense in the nation, giving up just 37.3 yards per game, and surrender just 11.6 points per game (6th in D2).

MEAC

Three teams are still alive for the MEAC title and postseason berths, including the Celebration Bowl bid that goes to the conference champion.

Defending champion N. C. Central, Howard and Morgan State are all at 3-1 in MEAC play headed to this week's final games. On Saturday, Howard hosts Morgan State (1 p.m., ESPN+) and NCCU hosts Delaware State (2 p.m.).

A Howard win Saturday gives the Bison and third-year head coach Larry Scott the league title and its first Celebration Bowl berth (Dec. 17 in Atlanta) vs. the SWAC champion. Howard's 50-20 win over NCCU Saturday gives the Bison the edge over NCCU even if the Eagles defeat DelState.

A Morgan State win over Howard and a win for NCCU over DelState gives the conference crown and Celebration Bowl berth to the Eagles who have a head-to-head win over MSU.

MSU can claim the league title and bowl berth with a win over Howard and loss by NCCU.

Trei Oliver's NCCU Eagles (8-2) dropped from seventh to 14th in both this week's American Football Coaches Association (AFCA) and FCS Coaches national polls. They are still likely alive for an FCS playoff berth with a win Saturday vs. DelState.

SWAC

By virtue of its 7-0 mark in SWAC play, Florida A&M (9-1 overall) is in as East Division champ and host of the Dec. 2 SWAC Championship game. The Rattlers under Willie Simmons are now up from ninth to seventh in both the AFCA and FCS national polls as they

GAMES THIS WEEK

INDEPENDENTS

5 2 6

0 0

Florida Memorial

Va.-Lynchburg

Texas College

CAA

4

10 7 1

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16	
Alabama A&M vs. Miss. Valley State in Huntsville, AL	6р
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18	
CIAA	
NCAA DIV. II PLAYOFFS - SUPER REGION II - 1st Round	
Virginia Union (10-1) vs. Kutztown (9-2) in Kutztown, PA 1	2n
MEAC	
Howard vs. Morgan State in Washington, DC - ESPN+	1р
NC Central vs. Delaware State in Durham, NC	2р
Norfolk State vs. SC State in Norfolk, VA - ESPN+	2р
SWAC	
Jackson State vs Alcorn State in Jackson, MS - ESPN+	2р
Pr. View A&M vs. Alabama State in Prairie View, TX - ESPN+	2р
Texas Southern vs. ArkPine Bluff in Houston, TX - HBCU Go	2р
Florida Classic	
Bethune-Cookman vs. Florida A&M in Orlando, FL - ESPN+ 3:3	0р
CAA	
Elon vs. Hampton in Elon, NC - FLOSports	1р
NC A&T vs. Campbell in East Greensboro, NC - FLOSports	1р
OVC	
Tenn. State vs. Tenn. Tech in Nashville, TN - ESPN+	2р
head to their regular-season finale Saturday	in

Orlando (3:30 p.m. on ESPN+) at the Florida Classic vs. rival Bethune-Cookman (3-7, 2-5 E).

Prairie View A&M (5-5) and Alcorn State (6-4) go into Saturday's games tied for the West Division lead with 5-2 SWAC records though PV holds a head-to-head 23-20 win over Alcorn back on Sept. 23. A Prairie View win at home Saturday (2 p.m. on ESPN+) over a tough 6-3 Alabama State squad would give the Panthers the West title and championship game berth. A PV loss and win by Alcorn at 7-3 Jackson State Saturday (2 p.m. on ESPN+) gives the title game berth to the Braves

At 4-3, Grambling State (5-5) will take the W. Div. title with losses by both PV and Alcorn Saturday and a G-Men's victory over Southern in the Nov. 25 Bayou Classic in New Orleans.



2023 BLACK COLLEGE FOOTBALL (Standings and Weekly Honors)

SIAC

^ Benedict

Albany State

^ Conference champion

CHAMPIONSHIP GAME MVPs

Southern Intercollegiat Athletic Conference

9 0 11 0 6 2 6 5

6

SWAC SOUTHWESTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

EAST DIVISION

^ Florida A&M

Jackson State

Alabama State

Alabama A&M

DIV

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ALL

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2 7 3 2 6 3

SC State 2 2 4 6 Norfolk State 1 3 3 7 Delaware State 0 4 1 9 MEAC PLAYERS OF THE WEEK OFFENSE Quinton Williams, Gr., QB, HOW - 23-33-0, 277 passing yards, 3 TDs, 1 rushing TD vs. NCCU. DEFENSE Terron Mallory, Jr., DB, NSU - 3 interceptions, 2 tackles, one break-up in win over DelState. SPECIALIST Jordan Toles, Sr., DB, MSU - 73-yard game- winning kickoff retun vs. SC State. OFFENSIVE LINEMAN Garrison Wheatley, Jr., OT, NSU - 85% grade, 5 pancakes, 5 knock downs vs. DelState. ROOKIE Gavin Harris, Fr., WR, HOW - 3 catches for 41 yards including 18-yard TD reception vs. NCCU.	CHAMPIONSHIP GAME MVPs OFFENSE Aeneas Dennis, Gir., QB, BENEDICT - Put up 378 yards of total offense completing 15 of 26 passes for 279 yards and 2 TDs (28, 55) and 7 carries for 95 yards including a 72-yard TD run in win over Albany State. DEFENSE Aaron Miller, R-Sr., DE, BENEDICT - 5 tackles, 4 solos, 2.5 tackles for loss, 1.5 sacks for -11 yards in win over Albany State. SPECIAL TEAMS Tom Piccirillo, Gr., PK, BEN - 25- and 32-yard field goals and 5-for-5 PATS for 11 points in win over Albany State. ROOKIE Caden High, Fr., WR, BENEDICT - 9 catches, 156 yards including 28-yard TD reception and an 18-yard punt return in win over Albany State.	Alabama A&M 2 5 4 6 Bethune-Cookman 2 5 3 7 Miss. Valley State 1 6 1 9 WEST DIVISION Alcorn State 5 2 6 4 Prairie View A&M 5 2 5 5 Southern 4 3 5 5 Grambling State 4 3 5 5 Texas Southern 2 5 3 7 Arkansas-Pine Bluff 0 7 1 9 ^ Division champ SMAC PLAYERS OF THE WEEK OFFENSE - LaDarius Owens, Sr., RB, TSU - 24 carries, 211 yards, 3 TDs vs. Alcorn State, DEFENSE - Jacob Williams, Jr., LB, TSU - 9tack-les, 1TFL, 5sacks, 2break-ups vs. Alcorn State, SPECIALIST - Efren Jasso, So., P, PVA&M - Three punts (47.3-yard avg.) vs. Southern. NEWCOMER-Mar'Kai Shaw, Fr., RB, B-CU - 12 carries, 109 yards (9.1 ypc.), 52-yard TD run vs. Alabama A&M.	Hampton (T8th) 3 4 5 5 NC A&T (14th) 0 7 1 9 OHIO VALLEY Tennessee State 2 3 6 4 MIAA Lincoln (Mo.) 0 0 11 MOUNTAIN EAST W. Va. State 6 4 7 4 SAC (Sooner Athletic Conference) Langston 5 3 6 4 PLAYERS OF THE WEEK OFFENSE Omari Milton, Fr., QB, LANG - 15-22-0, 305 yards, 3 TDs (75, 2, 26) and ran for one TD in win vs. Wayland Baptist. DEFENSE Damien Lowery, Jr., DL, LANG - 7 tackles, 5 solos, 3 TFL for -26, 2.0 sacks for -16 yards vs. Wayland Baptist.

pearances

The Panthers (10-1, 7-1 CIAA) thus claim their first CIAA crown since 2001 and avenge their only defeat of the season, a 10-7 loss to FSU (8-3) on Sept. 23. The Panthers were named to the NCAA Div. II playoffs on Sunday when the 28-team field was announced.

Preseason Offensive Player of the Year, and 2022 Player

of the Year, junior running back Jada Byers was the difference in the contest. The 5-7, 185-pound workhorse carried the ball a season-high 40 times for 135 yards and capped two of the Panthers' scoring drives with carries of 1 and 16 yards. VUU took the opening kickoff and drove 75 yards in 13 plays before Byers went in from 1 yard out.

VUU QB Christian Reid finished off a late second quarter 49-yard drive with a 1-yard run to give the Panthers a 14-0 lead one minute before the halftime break. On the ensuing kickoff however, FSU wide receiver/kick returner Barry Elliott breathed life into the Broncos by bringing it back 91 yards to paydirt. Jacob Meneses's PAT cut the to FSU deficit to 14-7 at halftime.

Behind back-up QB Demari Daniels, FSU drove for a Meneses 20-yard field goal to open the second half to pull within 14-10. After stopping VUU, the Broncos' Anthony Binyard mishandled the Panthers punt with VUU recovering at the FSU 27. On the fifth play after the fumble, Byers ran in from 16 yards out to increase VUU's lead to 21-10 with 7:35 left in the third quarter.

FSU could mount no serious offensive threat for the remainder of the game. The VUU defense limited FSU to seven first downs and 130 yards of total offense while posting six tackles for losses, five sacks for -31 yards and recovering two FSU fumbles. Junior defensive lineman Isaac Anderson had three tackles, one solo, 1.5 sacks for -14 yards and one forced fumble.

SCORES

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10

SWAC

Grambling State 43, Arkansas-Pine Bluff 14 SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11 SIAC CHAMPIONSHIP GAME Benedict 47, Albany State 10 CIAA CHAMPIONSHIP GAME Virginia Union 21, Fayetteville State 10 MEAC Howard 50, NC Central 20 Morgan State 20, SC State 17 Norfolk State 44, Delaware State 21 SWAC

Alabama State 20, Miss Valley State 3

Bethune-Cookman 31, Alabama A&M 14 Florida A&M 28, Lincoln (CA) 0 Prairie View A&M 27 Southern 21 Texas Southern 44, Alcorn State 10 NON-HBCU CONFERENCES Rhode Island 31, NC A&T 24, OT William & Mary 31, Hampton 10 Eastern Illinois 30, Tennessee State 17 Charleston (WV) 52, West Virginia State 20 Central Missouri 63, Lincoln (MO) 27 Keiser 44, Florida Memorial 13 Kennesaw State 63, VA-Lynchburg 3 Langston 27, Wayland Baptist 19 SWAG 29, Texas College 12

Bvers

1)	TOP PERFORM	FROM HBCU GAMES OF NOVEMBER 11-13, 2023		
5	PASSING	COMP-ATT-INT	YDs	TDs (YDS)
	O'mari Milton, LANG	15-22-0	305	3 (75, 5, 26)
r	Jace Wilson, TXSOU	17-23-0	288	1 (67)
	Aeneas Dennis, BEN	15-26-1	279	2 (28, 55)
	Quinton Williams, HOW	23 -33-0	277	3 (18, 15, 65)
	Aaron Allen, ALC	19- 40 -1	258	0
	Xzavier Vaughn, LINCM	11-28-0	209	2 (5, 69)
	Myles Crawley, GSU	18-28-0	198	3 (50, 16, 5)
	Trazon Connley, PVA&M	10-16-0	184	1 (60)
	Camerion Sapp, NSU	8-12-0	174	2 (16, 10)
ĺ	Quincy Casey, ALA&M	17-31- 2	171	1 (19)
	RUSHING	CAR	YDS	TDs (YDS)
r	LeDarius Owens, TXSOU	24	211	3 (10, 20, 62)
1	Walter Simmons III, B-CU	16	165	3 (1, 47, 22)
	Joel Felder, WVSU	26	165	2 (3, 16)
f	Jimmie Robinson III, B-CL	J 25	137	0
1	Jada Byers, VUU	40	135	2 (1, 16)
-	Kevon King, NSU	19	116	1 (3)
	Jarett Hunter, HOW	14	113	2 (17, 20)
	J. J. Davis, MSU	15	108	1 (53)
-	Johnnese Williams, ARKP	°B 15	99	1 (12)
-	Kenji Christian, NCA&T	22	97	1 (1)
	RECEIVING	REC	YDS	TDs
J	Caden High, BEN	9	156	1 (28)
5	Trenton Leary, TXSOU	6	137	1 (67)
ł	Aderias Ealy, LINCM	4	134	2 (5, 69)
	Kasey Hawthorne, HOW	6	114	2 (15, 65)
	Andre Pegues, NSU	3	100	0
-	Levon Williams, LANG	3	91	2 (75, 5)
t	Kisean Johnson, ALST	7	84	1 (20)
r	Charles Johnson, LINCM	4	79	0
	Kameron King, FSU	3	74	0
e	Shemar Savage, PVA&M	2	71	1 (60)

TACKLES

- 21 T. J. Jasper, LINCM;
- Jamahreon Smith, LINCM; 16
- 15 Jaree Jones, VUL;
- Jordan Mitchell, ALA&M; 14 13
 - Zenin Hall, LINCM;
- 12 Kobe Moledor, NCA&T; Lewis Matthews, GSU; Terreance Ellis, ALC; 11
 - Khalil Arnold, ARKPB; CKelby Givens, SOU; Elijah Casey, FSU; Jayden Flaker, NCCU; Jy Martin, WVSU; Josiah Hardman, TXSOU;

SACKS

2.0 Darrian Brokenburr, HOW; Darrian Lowery, LANG; Isaac Anderson, VUU; Shi Gaskin, FSU; Terreance Ellis, 1.5 Devin Dawson, ALC; 1.0 30

INTERCEPTIONS

- Terron Mallory, NSU 3
 - 13



sanfrancisco49ers.com Photo

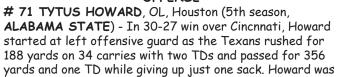
BOTTOM EATER!

San Francisco defensive tackle JAVON HARGRAVE (#98, SOUTH CAROLINA STATE) joins Nick Bosa (#97) and Chase Young (#92) in smothering Jacksonville quarterback Trevor Lawrence (not visible). Hargrave had 1.5 sacks as the Niners' defense was key to a 34-3 win.

HBCU NFL PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

For NFL games of November 9 - 13, 2023





in on all 76 plays (100%) on offense and six plays (17%) on special teams.



DEFENSE

- # 98 JAVON HARGRAVE, DT, San Francisco (8th season, SOUTH CAROLINA STATE) - Hargrave started at right defensive tackle in 34-3 win over Jacksonville. He finished with four tackles, three solos, 1.5 sacks for -8 yards. He was credited with three hits on the quarterback. Hargrave played

37 (65%) of the defensive snaps.

SPECIAL TEAMS

- #6 JAMIE GILLAN, P, New York Giants, (5th season, ARKANSAS-PINE BLUFF) - In the Giants' 49-17 loss to Dallas, Gillan punted seven times for 350 yards, an average of 50.0 yards with a average net of 45.9 yards. Two punts were downed inside the 20 with a long punt of 58 yards. Gillan was in on ten (32%) of the special teams' snaps.

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