

BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS PAGE



Southern Sports photo

ERIC DOOLEY: Let go at Southern after only two years despite 12-10 record, a 2022 SWAC West title and SWAC title game appearance.

FOUR IN, ONE OUT

BENEDICT AND NC CENTRAL ENTER PLAYOFFS, HOWARD AND PRAIRIE VIEW CLINCH POSTSEASON SPOTS

2023 BLACK COLLEGE FOOTBALL (Standings and Weekly Honors)

CIAA CENTRAL INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

NORTH DIVISION	DIV		CONF		ALL	
	W	L	W	L	W	L
Virginia Union	6	0	8	1	10	2

PLAYOFF MVPs
Jada Byers, Jr., RB, VA UNION - Carried 20 times for 101 yards and an 8-yard TD in 38-14 loss to Kutztown in first round NCAA Div. II playoff game.
DEFENSE
Jabril Norman, Jr., LB, VA UNION - Led Panthers with 11 tackles, 5 solos with one hit on the QB in loss to Kutztown.

MEAC MID EASTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

NORTH DIVISION	CONF		ALL	
	W	L	W	L
Howard	4	1	6	5
North Carolina Central	4	1	9	2
Morgan State	3	2	4	6
SC State	3	2	5	6
Norfolk State	1	4	3	8
Delaware State	0	5	1	10

MEAC PLAYERS OF THE WEEK
OFFENSE
Davius Richard, Gr-Sr., QB, NCCU - Completed 19 of 21 passes without an interception for 386 yards and five TDs in win over DelState.
Joaquin Davis, Jr., WR, NCCU - Had 5 catches for 128 yards and TD grabs of 64, 20 and 23 yards vs. DelState.
DEFENSE
Jordan Toles, Sr., DB, MSU - Had game-high 14 tackles, 9 solos with .5 tackle for loss in loss to Howard.
SPECIALIST
Adrian Olive, Sr., PK, NCCU - 7-of-7 on PATs with 24- and 33-yard field goals, accounting for 13 points vs. DelState.

SIAC SOUTHERN INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

NORTH DIVISION	CONF		ALL	
	W	L	W	L
Benedict	9	0	11	0

PLAYOFF MVPs
OFFENSE
NA
DEFENSE
NA
SPECIAL TEAMS
NA
ROOKIE
NA

SWAC SOUTHWESTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

EAST DIVISION	DIV		ALL	
	W	L	W	L
Florida A&M	8	0	10	1
Jackson State	5	3	7	4
Alabama State	5	3	6	4
Alabama A&M	3	5	5	6
Bethune-Cookman	2	6	3	8
Miss. Valley State	1	7	1	10

SWAC PLAYERS OF THE WEEK
OFFENSE - Donovan Eaglin, R-So., RB, ALA&M - 27 carries, 207 yards (7.7 ypc), 2 TDs (17, 67) in win over MVSU.
DEFENSE - C. J. Pressley, Jr., LB, PVA&M - 8 tackles, 4 solos, 2.5 TFL, 1.5 sacks, 1 forced fumble vs. Alabama State.
NEWCOMER
NA

INDEPENDENTS

W	L	W	L	
				CONF
Florida Memorial	5	2	6	4
Va.-Lynchburg	0	0	1	9
Texas College	1	7	1	10

CAA
Hampton (T8th) 3 5 5 6
NC A&T (14th) 0 9 1 10
OHIO VALLEY
Tennessee State 2 4 6 5
MIAA
Lincoln (Mo.) 0 0 0 11
MOUNTAIN EAST
W. Va. State 6 4 7 4
SAC (Sooner Athletic Conference)
Langston 5 3 6 4

BCSP PLAYERS OF THE WEEK
OFFENSE
Alston Hooker, R-So., QB, NCA&T - 11-15-0, 115 yards, 1 TD vs. Campbell.
DEFENSE & NEWCOMER
Joshua Iseah, Fr., LB, NCA&T - 13 tackles, 7 solos, 1 TFL (-3 yards) vs. Campbell.

SCORES

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16	SWAC
Alabama A&M 30, Miss. Valley State 21	Alcorn State 28, Jackson State 24
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18	Arkansas-Pine Bluff 35, Texas Southern 34
CIAA	Florida A&M 24, Bethune-Cookman 7
NCAA DIV. II PLAYOFFS - Super Region I	Prairie View A&M 21, Alabama State 14
First Round	CAA
Kutztown 38, Virginia Union 14	Campbell 28, NC A&T 14
MEAC	Elon 51, Hampton 14
Howard 14, Morgan State 7	OVC
NC Central 55, Delaware State 14	Tennessee Tech 35, Tennessee State 0
SC State 44, Norfolk State 17	

PLAYOFF GAME RECAPS

NCAA DIV. II

Kutztown 38, Virginia Union 14

KUTZTOWN, PA – Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference (PSAC) champion Kutztown scored touchdowns on its first five possessions to lead 35-7 at the half en route to downing CIAA champion Virginia Union 38-14 in a first round NCAA Div. II playoff game.

VUU (10-2), shifted to Div. II Super Region I from Super Region II for travel purposes, had no answer for the first-half onslaught.

The Panthers got their only first half TD on a blocked punt by **Epraim Moore** than **Kenneth Davis** returned 10 yards to paydirt with 3:26 left in the first half.

VUU junior RB **Jada Byers** (20 carries, 101 yards) scored the only third quarter TD on an 8-yard run at the end of a nine-play, 76-yard drive.



Byers

LUT WILLIAMS

BCSP Editor

It's win or go-home time for both **Benedict** and **North Carolina Central** this week. The two teams will enter NCAA championship playoff fields this week in Div. II and FCS respectively.

SIAC champion **Benedict** (11-0, 9-0 SIAC) is one of the four teams ranked first in each of the Div. II Super Regions in the 28-team playoff field. The Tigers are the top-ranked team in Super Region II and received a bye thru Saturday's first round.

NC Central (9-2, 4-1 MEAC) received one of the ten at-large bids to the 24-team FCS playoff field.

Both **Benedict** and **NCCU** will be seeking their first such playoff wins in history.

NCAA Div. II Playoffs

Benedict puts its undefeated mark and top ranking in Super Region II on the line when it hosts South Atlantic Conference (SAC) champion, fourth-seed **Lenoir-Rhyne** (11-1), Saturday in Columbia, S. C. (1 p.m.).

This will be **Benedict's** and third-year head coach **Chennis Berry's** second straight trip to the playoffs and second straight time they will be hosting after receiving the region's top seed.

After an 11-0 season in 2022, the Tigers received the first-round bye but fell at home to SAC member **Wingate**, 23-6, in the second round.

The Match Up

Lenoir-Rhyne at Benedict

Lenoir-Rhyne junior QB **Sean White** passed for a school-record 398 yards and five TDs and rushed for two scores as the Bears walloped **Shepherd**, 63-14 in a first-round home playoff game Saturday. LR-U is led by fourth-year head coach **Mike Jacobs**.

White has thrown for 1,324 yards and 16 touchdowns with just three interceptions while completing 64.7% of his passes. He has passed for ten TDs over the Bears' last two victories including 308 yards and five TDs in a 48-7 SAC title-clinching win over **Tusculum**.

But LR-U redshirt sophomore QB **Jalen Ferguson** has been perhaps more productive. Ferguson has passed for 1,468 yards and 16 TDs with just two interceptions while completing 72% of his passes. It is not clear who will start Saturday between the two prolific passers.

The Bears boast three receivers with over 30 receptions – **DeAree Rogers** (43 rec., 621 yds., 6 TDs), **Senga Yates** (35 rec., 516 yds., 7 TDs) and **Deondre Lester** (33 rec., 471 yds., 5 TDs). Opening things up for the Bears' passing attack is junior running back **Dwayne McGhee** who has rushed for 1,213 yards and 9 TDs while averaging 6.8 yards per carry.

WIN OR GO HOME!



STAYIN' ALIVE?: **Benedict** head coach **Chennis Berry** (l.) and **North Carolina Central** coach **Trei Oliver** (r.) take their teams into battle Saturday in the NCAA Div. II and FCS playoffs respectively.

The **Benedict** defense leads the nation in scoring defense giving up just 8.4 points per game. It will have its hands full slowing down the L-RU offense that comes in averaging 40.2 points per game, 14th-best in Div. II. The Tigers also are second in the nation in sacks (45, 4.0 per game) led by 10 sacks from defensive ends **Loober Denelus** and 9.5 by DE **Jayden Broughton**.

Benedict has been even more prolific than the Bears on offense scoring 41.1 points per game, 11th-best in Div. II. The offense is led by grad senior QB **Aeneas Dennis** who has completed 63.2% of his passes for 2,722 yards, 19 TDs and five interceptions.

Sophomore **Deondra Duchart** (591 yards, 7 TDs) leads the rushing attack while 6-foot, 215-pound redshirt freshman **Noah Zaire Scotland** has rushed for 295 yards and 13 TDs.

Benedict is 0-2 historically vs. L-RU. The Tigers lost 17-0 to the Bears in 2006 and 38-17 in 2007.

FCS Playoffs

North Carolina Central will travel down to **Richmond, Va.'s** Robins Stadium Saturday (2 p.m., ESPN+) to face the University of **Richmond** (8-3, 7-1 CAA), one of three co-champions of the Coastal Athletic Association (CAA).

The Match Up

NC Central @ Richmond

NCCU and **Richmond** have four common opponents this season – **MEAC** members **Morgan State** and **Delaware State**, CAA member **Elon** and former **MEAC** member and now CAA member **North Carolina A&T**.

UR was 3-1 vs. those common opponents. The Spiders lost a stunning 17-10 decision to **Morgan State** to open the season, defeated **Delaware State** 38-6 on Sept. 16, beat **NC A&T** 33-10 on Oct. 21 and won over **Elon** 38-24 on Nov. 11.

NCCU was 4-0 against the same teams, beating **NC A&T** 30-16 on Sept. 9, handling **Elon** 34-23 on Oct. 7, getting by **Morgan State** 16-10 on Oct. 19 and dispatching **Delaware State** 55-14 on Nov. 18.

TOP PERFORMANCES

FROM HBCU GAMES OF NOVEMBER 16-18, 2023

PASSING	COMP-ATT-INT	YDS	TDs (YDS)
Davius Richard, NCCU	19-21-0	386	5 (64, 20, 23, 27, 23)
Damon Stewart, ALST	27-38-0	372	2 (76, 16)
Aaron Allen, ALC	16-24-1	225	3 (55, 33, 12)
Ty'Jarian Williams, MVSU	10-18-1	223	2 (64, 62)
Mekhi Hagens, ARKPB	15-37-0	193	1 (17)

RUSHING	CAR	YDS	TDs (YDS)
Donovan Eaglin, ALA&M	27	203	2 (17, 67)
LaDarius Owens, TXSOU	25	140	3 (3, 2, 30)
Marquis Gillis, DSU	14	133	1 (62)
Michael Jamerson, ARKPB	10	113	0
Jarett Hunter, HOW	20	108	1 (8)

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	TDs
Joaquin Davis, NCCU	5	128	3 (64, 20, 23)
Tyree Saunders, ALST	6	120	2 (76, 16)
Jacoby Hewitt, ALA&M	4	115	0
Fabian McCray, JSU	6	109	2 (26, 38)
E. J. Core, DSU	5	99	0

TACKLES	15	14	13
Grant Ewell Jr., ARKPB; Jabril Norman, VUU; Keyshawn Johnson, PVA&M;			
Jordan Toles, MSU;			
Joshua Iseah, NCA&T;			

SACKS	1.5	1.0
C. J. Pressley, PVA&M;		
17		

INTERCEPTIONS	2	1
Eric Smith, FLA&M;		
9		

HBCU NFL PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

For NFL games of November 16 - 20, 2023

OFFENSE

71 TYTUS HOWARD, OL, Houston (5th season, ALABAMA STATE) - In 21-16 win over Arizona, Howard started at left offensive guard as the Texans rushed for 111 yards on 25 carries and rookie QB **C. J. Stroud** passed for 336 yards and two TD while being sacked three times (-29 yards). Howard was in on all 67 plays (100%) on offense and four plays (22%) on special teams.



DEFENSE

- #14 MARKQUESE BELL, S, Dallas (2nd season, FLORIDA A&M) - Bell started at safety in 33-10 win over the Carolina and led the Cowboys with 10 total tackles, six solos. He was in on 50 (85%) of the defensive snaps and five 19% of the special teams' snaps.



- #33 ANTHONIO HAMILTON, DB, Arizona (8th season, SOUTH CAROLINA STATE) - Hamilton started at cornerback in Cardinals' 21-16 loss to Houston and finished with four tackles, three solos, one interception of QB **C. J. Stroud** and a lost fumble on a punt return. He went out with a hamstring injury after his fourth-quarter interception. He was in on 51 plays on defense (76%) and seven (39%) on special teams.



SPECIAL TEAMS

- #6 JAMIE GILLAN, P, New York Giants, (5th season, ARKANSAS-PINE BLUFF) - In the Giants' 31-19 win over Washington, Gillan punted seven times for 318 yards, an average of 45.4 yards with an average net of 42.6 yards. Two punts were downed inside the 20 with a long punt of 56 yards. Gillan was in on 12 (41%) of the special teams' snaps.