

## WHO'S IN, WHO'S OUT?



SWAC Championship Game logo HOT COMMODITY?: Word is that current Benedict head football coach Chennis Berry is being sought after by at least three schools.

FLORIDA A&M IN CELEBRATION BOWL WITH HOWARD; McKINNEY OUT AT TSU, JACKSON OUT AT GRAMBLING

CIAA

NORTH DIVISION

Virginia Union

Lincoln (PA)

**Bowie State** 

Virginia State

Bluefield State

SOUTH DIVISION

St. Augustine's

PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

DEFENSIVE PLAYER

Livingstone

in two games

**ROOKIE** 

Claflin

Shaw

Fayetteville State

Johnson C. Smith

Elizabeth City State

# MEAC

	CONF				
	W	L	W		
Norfolk State	0	0	6		
N. C. Central	0	0	4	ļ	
Delaware State	0	0	4		
Howard	0	0	3		
Md. E-Shore	0	0	2		
S. C. State	0	0	2		
Morgan State	0	0	2	į	
Coppin State	0	0	1		

PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Martaz Robinson, 6-2, Sr., G, DSU - In wins over Chicago State and Loyola (Md.), Robinson averaged 25.0 points, 7.5 rebounds, 3.0 assists and 1.0 steals. Had 26 pts., 10 rebs., in OT win vs. Loyola, 24 points, 5 rebs. vs. NEWCOMER

Jamarii Thomas, 6-0, Jr., G, NSU - Averared 20.0 ppg., 4.0 rebounds, 7.0 assists and 3.5 steals in two wins. Had 17 points, 3 rebounds, 5 assists and 3 steals in win over VCU, 23 points, 5 rebounds, 9 assists and 4 steals in win over Willam & Mary.

DEFENSIVE Davion Everett, 6-6, So., F, SCSU - Had 10 pts., 10 rebs. vs. Charleston Southern, 23 pts., 5 rebs., vs. Furman

#### SIAC ALL W EAST 8 Benedict 0 4 Albany State 2 4 Savannah State 2 Edward Waters Clark Atlanta WEST Lane Miles 2 Spring Hill LeMoyne-Owen 4 Tuskegee 3 2

Kentucky State

Central State

MEN'S 2023-24 BLACK COLLEGE BASKETBALL (Standings and Weekly Honors)

PLAYERS OF THE WEEK Marshaun West., 6-5, Jr., G, BENEDICT - In two wins, averaged 16.5 points, 5.5 rebounds getting 21 pts., 6 rebs. vs. KSU and 12 pts., 5 rebs., vs. CSU.

Asanti Price, 6-5, Sr., G, BEN - Got 27 pts. 4 rebs. vs. KSU, 16 pts., 2 rebs. vs. CSU.

#### **INDEPENDENTS**

	CONF	ALL		
	W	L	W	L
Langston	0	0	7	0
Florida Memorial	0	0	9	1
Lincoln (Mo.)	0	0	5	1
Tennessee State	0	0	6	3
West Virginia State	0	0	4	3
Hampton	0	0	3	5
NC A&T	0	0	0	7

PLAYERS OF THE WEEK Anthony Pittman, 6-5, R-Sr., G/F, WVSU -Had 28 points, 15 rebounds, 4 steals and a block in win over No. 13 Fairmont State 10 points, 5 rebounds, 3 steals in win vs.

Frostburg State. Anthony Roy, 6-5, Jr., G, LANG - Tallied 30 points on 11 of 18 shooting, 5 of 8 3s, with 4 rebounds in win overJohn Brown (Ark.) Had 22 points and 10 rebounds in win over Oklahoma City U.

#### **SCORES**

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2** 

**SWAC CHAMPIONSHIP GAME** Florida A&M 35, Prairie View A&M 14

#### **CHAMPIONSHIP GAME RECAP**

**SWAC** 

Florida A&M 35, Prairie View A&M 14

TALLAHASSEE, FLA – East Division champ Florida A&M used an explosive 229-yard output on the ground, including 113 yards from Terrell Jennings, and four rushing touchdowns to pick up a 35-14 win against West Division champ Prairie View A&M Saturday night at Bragg Memorial Stadium here in the 25th SWAC Championship game.

The win gives the 11-1 Rattlers the conference's spot opposite MEAC champion Howard in the Dec. 16 Cricket Celebration Bowl in Atlanta. Prairie View finishes the season at 6-6.

Jennings, a grad senior, got his total on just 17 carries (6.6 yards per carry) including touchdown runs of 1 and 33 yards respectively to open and close the game's scoring. Quarterback Jeremy Moussa and big back-up running back Jaquez Yant both added 1-yard TD runs in the first half as FAMU built an early 21-0 lead.



The Panthers scored just before the half on an 8-yard run by RB Caleb Johnson and then scored midway thru the third period on a 35-yard run by Ahmed Antoine to pull within 21-14.

But FAMU responded, going 65 yards in six plays with Moussa (13 of 22, 138 yards) connecting with Marcus Riley on a 32-yard scoring hookup with 4:35 left in the third quarter to extend the lead to 28-14. Jennings' 33-yard scoring run on the first possession of the fourth quarter capped the scoring.

Riley hauled in five catches for 132 yards and one score, including a 60-yarder in FAMU's first possession that set up Jennings first-quarter TD run. Kamari Young added four receptions for 63 yards.

Grad defensive back **Javan Morgan** recorded five tackles and two interceptions to lead the Rattler defense. Senior DB Deco Wilson added four tackles and one pick.

Starting Prairie View quarterback Trazon Connley was held to seven completions in 14 attempts for 91 yards and one of the picks. Back-ups Chris Herron (0-3) and Kenneth Patterson (0-1) were each picked off once. Grad linebacker **Keyshawn Johnson** led the Panthers with 11 stops.

#### ATTENDANCE MATTERS:

 2021 SWAC Championship Game - Prairie View A&M at Jackson State in Jackson, Ms. - Mississippi Veterans Memorial Stadium - 50,122 - 2022 SWAC Championship Game - Southern at Jackson State in Jackson, Ms. - Mississippi Veterans Memorial Stadium - 53,754

- 2023 SWAC Championship Game - Prairie View A&M at Florida A&M in

Tallahassee, Fla. - Bragg Memorial Stadium - 14,628

# **BCSP Notes**

5 4 3

W

0

0 0

Jordan Hinds, Jr., G. BLSU - Averaged 18.0

points, 8.0 rebounds 3.5 assists and 1.5 steals

Tremere Brown, Jr., F, VSU - Averaged 2.0

Kevon Corley, Fr., G, BSU - As a sub, hit 4 of

5 shots, with 2 blocks and an assist vs. Cheyney

blocks, 7.5 rebs. and 1.5 steals in two games

#### Is a bidding war underway for Benedict head football coach Chennis Berry?

To say current **Benedict** head football coach **Chennis Berry** is a hot commodity in the HBCU football world right now would be an understatement.

After leading the Columbia, S. C.-based Tigers to back-to-back 10-0 regular seasons, consecutive Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (SIAC) championship game wins and NCAA Div. II Super Region top seeds, the longtime assistant is being heavily sought after.

South Carolina State University has reportedly identified Berry as the top candidate to replace retiring head coach Oliver "Buddy" Pough. The South Carolina State opening is the only one so far at the six Mid Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC) football playing institutions.

But Berry, 50, reportedly also has interest from multiple schools in the Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC) as well.

Multiple sources told HBCU Gameday's Stephen Gaither that an offer was submitted to Berry's representatives last week to take over the SCSU program as Pough is on his way out the door. Pough, who led the Bulldogs for the last 22 seasons, is currently the interim AD after the resignation of Keshia Campbell from that role in late October.

Efforts to contact Pough Tuesday were unsuccessful.

Berry and Pough were seen together at SC State's Oliver C. Dawson Stadium on Thursday as the South Carolina high school football playoffs were taking place there. A multi-year contract for Berry would have to be approved by the South Carolina State University Board of Trustees. The next BOT meeting is set for Thursday, Dec. 7.

One of those sources indicated that Berry is indeed a candidate at both Texas Southern and Southern universities in the SWAC. Berry worked as an assistant coach at nine HBCUs including Howard, North Carolina A&T, Morgan State, Kentucky State and Fort Valley State. He was the offensive coordinator at Southern helping lead the Jaguars to seven consecutive winning seasons prior to getting the top job at Benedict.

The former Savannah State offensive lineman took over as Benedict head coach in 2020 and led the team to a 5-5 record during his first season. Since then he has run the table vs. SIAC competition and earned first-round byes into the NCAA Div. II playoffs.

His team lost in the second round of the playoffs to Wingate (23-6) in 2022 and this season fell in the second round to Lenoir-Rhyne (35-25). Lenoir-Rhyne went on to defeat Valdosta State 35-7 in the quarterfinals

and will face Harding in the Div. II semifinals this week. Berry is 27-7 as a head coach in three seasons.

Pough, an SC State graduate, has served as head coach at South Car-



**SWAC** 

Prairie View A&M

Bethune-Cookman

Arkansas-Pine Bliuff

Alabama State

Grambling State

Jackson State

Alabama A&M

Alcorn State

Florida A&M

**DEFENSIVE** 

Texas Southern

Miss. Valley State

PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

rebs., in loss to Marquette.

Tai'Reon Joseph, 6-3, Jr., G, SOU - In

win over No. 21 Miss State, Joseph had 27

points on 11 of 21 shooting, 3 of 10 from 3,

with 6 rebounds and 3 steals. Had 12 pts., 3

Derrick Carter-Hollinger, 6-6, Sr., F/C,

B-CU - Had 15 points, 12 rebounds and 3

blocks in win over Incarnate Word.

Southern

0

0

0 2

0

0

0

0

Benedict Head Football Coach Chennis Berry (I.) and retiring SC State Head Football Coach and current interim Athletics Director Oliver "Buddy" Pough (r.) are seen here on the sidelines at last week's South Carolina State High School football playoffs at SCSU's

ANTICIPATION?:

Oliver Dawson Stadium. Berry has reportedly been offered to succeed Pough as head coach of the Bulldogs.

olina State University since 2002. He succeeded SC State alum and Bulldog legend Willie Jeffries, who was head coach in two stints at SC State, from 1973-78 and from 1989 through 2001.

#### McKinney's contract not renewed at Texas Southern

HOUSTON - Texas Southern officially announced on Nov. 20 that head football coach Clarence McKinney's contract will not be renewed.



**McKinney** 

"Texas Southern University will not renew the contract of head football coach Clarence McKinney when it expires on Dec. 15, 2023," said Vice President for Intercollegiate Athletics Dr. Kevin Granger. "We wish Coach McKinney well moving forward. The University will begin a nationwide search for our next head coach immediately."

McKinney was 12-35 over five seasons with the Tigers and failed to post a winning record during his tenure. His best mark was in 2022 when TSU finished 5-6, 4-4 in the SWAC West.

He was named the head coach in 2018 after serving as an assistant under Kevin Sumlin at Texas A&M and Arizona.

Texas Southern finished this season at 3-8 (2-6, sixth in SWAC West), including a loss to Arkansas Pine-Bluff in the final game of the season. The Tigers led 31-7 at halftime but allowed 21 unanswered points in the fourth quarter as the Golden Lions stormed back for a one-point win.

## UNDER THE BANNER

WHAT'S GOING ON IN AND AROUND BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

#### **HUE JACKSON OUT AT GRAMBLING:**

**Grambling State** has parted ways with head football coach Hue Jackson after just two seasons at the helm.



Jackson

Jackson's team finished 5-6 overall this season including a 27-22 loss to rival Southern in the season-ending Bayou

Classic in New Orleans. Jackson was 0-2 vs. the Jaguars in the Classic. The Tigers were 4-4 this season in the SWAC West in fourth place behind Prairie View A&M, Alcorn State and Southern. In his first season. Grambling finished 3-8

overall, in fifth place in the SWAC West at 2-6. Jackson replaced Broderick Fobbs as Grambling's head coach in December 2021 and agreed to a four-year \$1.6 million contract that paid him an annual salary of \$400,000. However, only the first two years of Jackson's contract are guaranteed. Grambling will pay the remaining portion of his second-year salary over the current fiscal year.

Speaking at a press conference last Tuesday, Grambling athletic director Trayvean Scott explained the decision to fire Jackson. Scott said he informed Jackson during a 9 a.m. meeting of his dismissal before meeting with the players and coaching staff.

"There will be a focused search for the next leader of the Grambling State University Tigers football team, and it is at that point where we'll move forward as a staff in time for recruiting and get ready to prepare our men for the 2024 football season," Scott said. "I hadn't slept much over the past couple of days. I really, since Saturday just kind of been thinking and really pulling as much data and information as possible to try and make the best, informed decision."

Scott said he knew it was "time to move the football program forward" after talking with school President Rick Gallot. "We're looking at about seven to 10 days," Scott said about a timeline for a replacement. "I think that search has to be very intentional – very focused on certain attributes and specific characteristics that we want the next coach to have."

John Simon, a current assistant, was named interim coach.

# dallascowbovs.com Photo

#### THE DRAG-DOWN!

CIAA

DEFENSIVE PLAYER

averaged 21.5 points, 3.5 steals and 3.0 assists.

Alexyss Newman, Jr., F, BLSU - In three road

wins, averaged 21.6 points, 7.1 rebounds and

4.6 steals. Had 22 pts, 10 rebs., vs. UVA-Wise

Jada Jackson, Fr., G, SAU - Had 11 points, 2

and 31 pts., 11 rebs. vs. Wilmington.

assists and 1 steal vs. Clinton.

Dallas starting safety MARKQUESE BELL (#14, FLORIDA A&M) takes down Seattle wide receiver Tyler Lockett (#16) during Thursday's 41-35 win by the Cowboys over the Seahawks. Bell led Dallas with eight total tackles, four solos while playing the majoriy of the defensive snaps.

MEAC

## HBCU NFL PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

For NFL games of November 30 - December 4, 2023

**OFFENSE** - #72 TERRON ARMSTEAD, OT, Miami (10th season, ARKANSAS-PINE BLUFF) - In the Dolphins' 45-15 win over Washington, Armstead started at left tackle as the Dolphins rushed for 123 yards (34 carries)

and three TDs and passed for 283 yards and two TDs with no sacks. Armstead played 30 (49%) of the offensive snaps.



#### **DEFENSE**

- #14 MARKQUESE BELL, S, Dallas (2nd season, FLORIDA A&M) - Bell started at safety in 41-35 win over Thursday over Seattle and led the Cowboys with eight total tackles, four solos. He was in on 58 (84%)

of the defensive snaps and six (21%) of the special teams' snaps.



#### SPECIAL TEAMS

- #59 JOSHUA PRYOR, DT, Washington (1st season, BOWIE STATE) - In Commanders' 45-13 loss to Miami, Pryor had one solo special teams' tackle while

playing 26 (93%) of the plays on special teams.

**SWAC** 

Florida A&M

Southern

Miss. Valley State

#### WOMEN'S 2023-24 BLACK COLLEGE BASKETBALL (Standings and Weekly Honors)

SIAC

		CONF		ALL			CONF		ALL			CONF		Α
	NORTH DIVISION	W	L	W	L		W	L	W	L	EAST	W	L	٧
	Virginia State	0	0	6	0	Norfolk State	0	0	7	2	Fort Valley State	3	1	3
	Bluefield State	0	0	6	1	Md. E-Shore	0	0	4	5	Savannah State	1	2	3
	Virginia Union	0	0	4	1	N. C. Central	0	0	3	4	Edward Waters	2	4	4
	Elizabeth City State	0	0	3	1	Morgan State	0	0	3	5	Allen	1	3	4
	Bowie State	0	0	4	2	Coppin State	0	0	3	7	Albany State	1	3	1
	Lincoln (PA)	0	0	3	2	Delaware State	0	0	1	6	Clark Atlanta	0	3	3
	SOUTH DIVISION	W	L	W	L	Howard	0	0	1	8	Benedict	0	4	1
	Fayetteville State	0	0	6	1	S. C. State	0	0	1	8	WEST			
	Shaw	0	0	4	1						Kentucky State	4	0	7
	St. Augustine's	0	0	4	1	PLAYER OF THE WE	EK				Miles	5	0	5
	Winston-Salem State	0	0	5	3	Kiarra Wheeler, 6-1,	Jr., F,	NS	U - /	Aver-	LeMoyne-Owen	3	1	6
	Claflin	0	0	2	2	aged 21.5 points and 11.5 rebounds in two			Tuskegee	2	1	4		
	Johnson C. Smith	0	0	1	4	wins. Had 14 points, 8	reboun	ds ii	n win	over	Spring Hill	2	1	2
	Livingstone	0	0	0	0	Radford, 29 points, 15	reboun	ds ii	n win	over	Lane	2	2	2
	-					Chicago State.					Central State	2	3	3
PLAYERS OF THE WEEK			Denijsha Wilson, 5-3	3, Gr., C	), <b>D</b>	SU -	Fin-							
Aniylah Bryant, Sr., G, VSU - In two wins, had			ished with 17 points, 8 rebounds, 3 steals			PLAYER & DEFENSI	VE OF T	ΉE	WE					

ished with 17 points, 8 rebounds, 3 steals in win over LIU, 7 points, 4 rebounds vs. Rutgers DEFENSIVE Deyonce Thompson, 6-0, Jr., G, DSU - 22 points and 6 rebounds in loss to Rutgers, 7 points, 3 rebounds in win vs. LIU. ROOKIE

te	3	1	3	3	
te e	1	2	3	3	
;	3 1 2 1 1 0 0	2 4 3 3 4	3 4 4 1 3 1	3 5 5 9 5 6	
	1	3	4	5	
	1	3	1	9	
	0	3	3	5	
	0	4	1	6	
!	4	0	7	1	
	5	0	5	1	
n	3	1	6	3	
	2	0 0 1 1 1 2	7 5 6 4 2 2	1 1 3 2 4 5	
	2	1	2	4	
	4 5 3 2 2 2	2	2	5	

PLAYER & DEFENSIVE OF THE WEEK Taleah Dilworth., 6-5, Jr., G, KSU - Scored in double-digits in three wins with 19 points, 8 rebounds, 4 steals and 2 assists in vs. Benedict, 14 points, 2 rebounds vs. Allen,

Jackson State 0 Bethune-Cookman 0 Prairie View A&M 0 Alabama A&M 0 0 Grambling State Arkansas-Pine Bliuff 0 Alcorn State 0 Texas Southern 0

Alabama State 0 PLAYERS OF THE WEEK Zaay Green, 6-2, Gr., G, UAPB - Had a triple-double with 19 points, 11 rebounds and 16 assists with six steals in win vs. Ark. Baptist then threw in 23 points with 8 rebounds and 9 assists in win over SMU.

0

0

0 1

**DEFENSIVE** Ahriahna Grizzle, 5-9, Gr., G, FAMU - Averaged 20.0 points in two games with 18 points, 2 rebounds, 3 assists and 5 steals vs Houston, 22 points, 5 rebounds in close loss

# INDEPENDENTS

Langston Florida Memoria Lincoln (Mo.) West Virginia State NC A&T Tennessee State Hampton 0 0 PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

Kamesha Moore, 5-9, Sr., G, LANG - 17 points, 9 rebounds, 5 assists in win vs. John Brown, 13 points, 5 rebounds, 4 assists vs