



Southern Sports photos

## HOOPS TIME

**TENN STATE'S ALLEN NAMED TOP DEFENDER IN FCS; HINES WARD JOINS TSU COACH SEARCH**

**SWAC LEADER:** Six-three juco transfer shooting guard Tai'Reon Joseph has led Southern to a 2-0 start in SWAC play with a league-best 19.1 points per game.

## UNDER THE BANNER

WHAT'S GOING ON IN AND AROUND BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS



Tennessee State Sports photo

**SIXTH DOWN:** Tennessee State defensive tackle Terrell Allen becomes the sixth black college player to win the Buck Buchanan Award as he was named the best defender in Div. I FCS football Saturday.

### ALLEN WINS BUCHANAN AWARD:

FRISCO, Texas – Having already been named to seven different All-American teams and earning four different Defensive Player of the Year Awards, Tennessee State football's Terrell Allen garnered his biggest postseason award on Saturday night as he was named the 2023 *Buck Buchanan Award* winner at the FCS National Awards Banquet, given annually to national defensive player of the year in Division I FCS college football.

Allen, who was named the Big South-OVC Defensive Player of the Year led the FCS in in sacks (14.5), sack yardage (-123), tackles for loss (28), and tackle yardage for loss (149) during the regular season.

The Little Rock native finished the season with 65 tackles (44 solo, 21 assists), forcing five fumbles and logging 10 QB hurries. He had a four-game span of finishing with 4.0+ TFLs and set a TSU record with 6.5 sacks against Lindenwood, while recording 10 tackles and 4.5 sacks in the contest. His 28.0 TFLs is a new TSU single-season record.

The second-year Tiger has played in 21 games for TSU after transferring in from Austin Peay. Allen has recorded 101 tackles, 40 TFLs, and 19 sacks as a member of Eddie George's team. He has 152 career stops, 62 TFLs, and 24.0 sacks.

Allen becomes the sixth HBCU player to win the award and the third Ohio Valley Conference player.

The Buchanan Award, first presented in 1995 and in its 29th season, is named for legendary defensive lineman Junious "Buck" Buchanan, who starred at Grambling State as part of his Hall of Fame career.

Past HBCU recipients of the award include North Carolina A&T linebacker/defensive end Chris McNeil in 1997, linebacker Isaiah Land of Florida A&M in 2021, Southern defensive end Jordan Lewis in 2020, Norfolk State linebacker Deon King in 2015 and Bethune-Cookman defensive back Rashean Mathis in 2002.

The award show will air Sunday afternoon on Bally Sports at 4:00 p.m. CT.

### 2023 Buck Buchanan Award Voting Results

A first-place vote was worth five points, a second-place vote four points, a third-place vote three points, a fourth-place vote two points and a fifth-place vote one point. The final number is the combined point total.

1. Terrell Allen, DE, Tennessee State: 33-5-2-3-2-199
2. Dylan Kelly, LB, UAlbany: 6-4-10-6-2-90
3. Billy Shaeffer, LB, Lafayette: 3-4-8-4-3-66
4. Ty French, DE, Gardner-Webb: 2-7-6-1-6-64

### ADD HINES WARD TO TSU SEARCH:

Add the name of former Super Bowl MVP and Pittsburgh Steelers standout wide receiver Hines Ward to the list of possible candidates for the vacant head football coach position at Texas Southern.

While most of the attention and speculation has centered on former Alcorn State head coach Fred McNair and former NFL all-pro receiver Andre Johnson, the school has also reached out to Ward according to Dave Campbell's *Texas Football*.

TSU has been without a coach since it announced in November that it would not renew the contract of Clarence McKinney, who spent five seasons with the program.

Ward had been one of the seven new head coaches in the XFL with the San Antonio Brahmas in 2021. He spent just one season leading the Brahmas and the team finished with a 3-7 record. Ward had also taken positions with the New York Jets and Florida Atlantic Owls as an assistant coach. Ward also spent the 2017 season with the Steelers as an offensive intern. Ward earned four consecutive Pro Bowl selections and won two Super Bowls with the Steelers.



Ward

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

CIAA		CENTRAL INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION		MEAC		MID EASTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE		SIAC		SOUTHERN INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC CONFERENCE		SWAC		SOUTHWESTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE		INDEPENDENTS		
	CONF	ALL		CONF	ALL		CONF	ALL		CONF	ALL		CONF	ALL		CONF	ALL	
	W	L	W	L	W	L	W	L	W	L	W	L	W	L	W	L	W	L
<b>NORTH DIVISION</b>																		
Lincoln (PA)	3	3	7	9														
Bluefield State	3	4	6	10														
Virginia State	2	3	7	8														
Elizabeth City State	1	3	4	11														
Bowie State	1	5	6	10														
Virginia Union	0	4	5	10														
<b>SOUTH DIVISION</b>																		
Winston-Salem State	5	0	11	3														
Shaw	3	1	7	5														
Clifflin	2	1	5	4														
Johnson C. Smith	3	2	8	4														
Fayetteville State	3	2	8	7														
Livingstone	3	2	4	4														
St. Augustine's	3	2	7	8														
<b>N. C. Central</b>																		
Delaware State	2	0	10	7														
Norfolk State	1	1	10	8														
Howard	1	1	6	11														
Md. E-Shore	1	1	4	10														
Coppin State	1	1	2	14														
Morgan State	0	2	4	14														
S. C. State	0	2	4	14														
<b>EAST</b>																		
Benedict	7	0	12	0														
Morehouse	6	1	8	5														
Edward Waters	5	2	6	7														
Savannah State	4	3	6	5														
Clark Atlanta	3	3	9	3														
Allen	3	3	7	6														
Albany State	3	4	5	8														
Fort Valley State	3	4	3	10														
<b>WEST</b>																		
Miles	4	2	9	3														
Spring Hill	4	4	7	7														
LeMoyné-Owen	4	4	6	7														
Lane	4	4	4	6														
Tuskegee	2	6	3	11														
Kentucky State	1	7	3	8														
Central State	1	7	2	13														
<b>PLAYERS OF THE WEEK</b>																		
<b>NA</b>																		
<b>DEFENSIVE</b>																		
<b>NA</b>																		
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<b>DEFENSIVE</b>																		
<b>NA</b>																		

## Hoop Notes

The new year of 2024 is upon us and that means black college basketball races can now get down to the all-important matter of intra-conference play. Here's how things look as we head into the men's season-defining games.

**CIAA**  
In the CIAA, Winston-Salem State (11-3, 5-0 CIAA) enters the new year as the only undefeated team after winning all three of its conference games before the new year and two since it began. Cleo Hill Jr.'s troops posted a 76-51 win over Elizabeth City Thursday and a 76-52 win over Virginia State Saturday to open its January schedule.

The Rams are being led in scoring by Jaylen Alston's 17.1 points per game and Isaac Parson's 14.1 ppg. Alston (8.0) and Image Dodd (7.6) are 1-2 in the league in rebounds per game. WSSU is at Johnson C. Smith (8-4, 3-2) Saturday (4 p.m.).

**MEAC**  
With a practically new roster, North Caro-

lina Central is tied with surprising Delaware State in early MEAC results, both at 2-0.

NCCU (10-7, 2-0 MEAC) knocked off the past two conference champions over the weekend as the Eagles defeated undermanned 2022-23 champion Howard Saturday 73-54 and took care of 2021-22 champ Norfolk State Monday, 60-58.

The Eagles are being paced by point guard Fred Cleveland Jr. who is scoring 15.9 points per game.

The DelState Hornets (9-9, 2-0) have early wins over Coppin State (Sat., 55-53) and Morgan State (Mon, 78-66).

DSU's Martaz Robinson is leading the league in scoring at 17.8 ppg.

NCCU plays at South Carolina State Saturday (4 p.m.) while DelState hosts Maryland E. Shore (4 p.m) Saturday.

**SIAC**  
Benedict continues as the only undefeated team in the SIAC at 12-0 overall and 7-0 in conference play. In the most recent outings, the Ti-

gers easily handled Tuskegee (96-73) and Spring Hill (97-69).

Head coach Artis Maddox's troops return to action Thursday at Clifflin and Saturday at Clark Atlanta.

Asanti Price's 17.2 ppg. leads the Tigers.  
**SWAC**  
Southern, Alabama State and Alabama A&M are off to 2-0 starts in the SWAC.

Southern is coming off wins over Prairie View (79-58) and Texas Southern (58-51). Alabama State and Alabama A&M swept games against Miss. Valley State and Arkansas-Pine Bluff over the weekend.

Southern's Tai'reon Joseph leads the league in scoring at 19.1 ppg.

Alabama A&M hosts Alcorn State Thursday while Alabama State hosts Jackson State.

Southern is at Florida A&M Saturday while A&M and Alabama State switch opponents with the A&M Bulldogs facing JSU and 'Bama State hosting Alcorn State.

## BCSP Notes

### Grambling State facing possible sanctions from SWAC

Several Grambling State University sporting events have been streamed on HBCU Plus in recent seasons, which has now drawn the ire of the Southwestern Athletic Conferences boss, according to stories from Chris Stephens of HBCUsports.com and Stephen J. Gaither of HBCUGameday.com.

SWAC commissioner Charles McClelland issued a letter to Grambling interim president Connie Walton this past Friday, warning the university that a game that was scheduled to be streamed Saturday, Jan. 6, would possibly result in sanctions from the league office, including "forfeiture of conference distributions, ineligibility for the remaining SWAC-sanctioned championships for the season and pursuit of damages, expenses, and costs incurred by the conference from third-party media partners."

"Grambling is well aware that the SWAC bylaws grant the SWAC the exclusive right to negotiate national broadcast rights on behalf of SWAC member schools," McClelland said in the letter. "If you are not already aware, HBCU Plus is a national broadcasting platform. As such, Grambling is prohibited from negotiating such a broadcast agreement."

The HBCUsports.com story included a response drafted by Prometheus Partners, a law firm that represents Urban Edge Network, the parent company of HBCU Plus.

Eduardo G. Roy, an attorney who represents UEN wrote, "Your letter asserts that Grambling is a member of the SWAC and subject to its constitution, Bylaws, and Sports Regulation. Unfortunately, you did not identify any language in the identified documents that support your position. In order for Grambling to consider your letter properly, please provide citations to each document that supports your position."

Prometheus Partners also requested those documents be made available before Grambling's next basketball game, which was on Saturday. HBCU Plus did not stream Grambling's Jan. 6 basketball games in response to the commissioner's letter.

In 2023, Urban Edge Network, a fledgling broadcast entity that has only recently televised HBCU sporting events and programming, filed a \$250 million lawsuit against the SWAC for what it called "unfair business practices" regarding interference with media rights.

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	CONF	ALL		CONF	ALL		CONF	ALL		CONF	ALL		CONF	ALL		CONF	ALL	
	W	L	W	L	W	L	W	L	W	L	W	L	W	L	W	L	W	L
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