

BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS PAGE



JC Smith Sports Photo

SOME RACES HEAT UP

WINDS OF CHANGE BLOW IN CIAA, SIAC; HBCU PLAYER IN THE WNBA; SWAC MAKES HOOP PICKS

DARIUS OCEAN: CIAA passing leader has led Golden Bulls to 4-0 start at they head to Bluefield State's homecoming.

CIAA	CENTRAL INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION			
	CONF	ALL	W	L
Johnson C. Smith	1	0	3	1
Shaw	1	0	3	1
Winston-Salem State	1	0	3	1
Fayetteville State	1	0	2	1
Bowie State	1	0	1	2
Elizabeth City State	0	1	2	2
Livingstone	0	1	2	2
Bluefield State	0	0	1	2
Virginia Union	0	1	1	2
Virginia State	0	1	1	2
Lincoln (PA)	0	1	0	3

CIAA PLAYERS OF THE WEEK
QB - Darius Ocean, Jr., JCSU - 17-28-0 passing for 282 yards, 1 TD (20) in win vs. Virginia Union.
OB - Trevon Hester, Jr., WSSU - 28 carries, 143 yards in win vs. Virginia State
WR - Al'Shaan Belcher, R-Sr., SHAW - 4 receptions, 91 yds, 2 TDs (4, 31), 1 TD pass in win vs. Lincoln.
DB - Reagon Mackey, So., SHAW - 5 tackles, 1 TFL, 1 int., return for 45-yard TD vs. Lincoln.
LB - Elijah Casey, Jr., FSU - 9 tackles, 3 solos, 1 TFL vs. ECU.
DL - Jalen Alexander, Jr., DE, JCSU - 8 tackles, 5 solos, 2.5 TFL (-11 yards), 2.0 sacks (-9) vs. VUU.
SPECIAL TEAMS - Gilberto Lorenzana, R-Fr., PK/F, WSSU - 3 of 3 on field goals, game-winning FG from 20 yards in win over VSU.

MEAC	MID EASTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE			
	CONF	ALL	W	L
Howard	0	0	2	2
North Carolina Central	0	0	2	2
Morgan State	0	0	2	2
Norfolk State	0	0	2	3
SC State	0	0	1	2
Delaware State	0	0	1	3

MEAC PLAYERS OF THE WEEK
OFFENSE
Walker Harris, R-Sr., QB, NCCU - 16-23-0, 272 yards, 3 TDs, 1 rushing TD vs. NCA&T.
DEFENSE
Daylan Long, R-Jr., DB, NSU - 1 pick, 45 yards for TD return, 4 solo tackles, 1 BU vs. VMI.
ROOKIE
Javion Martin, Fr., QB, NCCU - 1 of 3 for 46-yard TD in win over NCA&T.
OFFENSIVE LINEMAN
A. C. McMoore, So., NCCU - 91% grade, 5 pancakes vs. NCA&T.
SPECIALIST
Juan Velarde, Sr., PK/P, NCCU - 3 punts 108 yards (36.0 avg.), 2 punts inside 20 vs. NCA&T.

SIAC	SOUTHERN INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC CONFERENCE			
	CONF	ALL	W	L
Clark Atlanta	2	0	3	0-1
Albany State	1	0	1	2
Miles	1	0	1	2
Fort Valley State	1	1	1	2
Lane	1	1	1	2
Savannah State	1	1	1	2
Benedict	1	1	1	2
Edward Waters	1	1	1	3
Morehouse	1	1	1	3
Central State	1	1	1	3
Allen	0	1	1	2
Tuskegee	0	1	0	3
Kentucky State	0	2	0	4

BCSP PLAYERS OF THE WEEK
OFFENSE
David Wright III, Jr., QB, CAU - 30-49-1, 374 yards, 4 TDs (11, 28, 27 and 7) vs. B-CU.
DEFENSE
Matthew Yafondo, Fr., LB, MILES - 10 tackles, 7 solos, 1 sack for -8 yards in win vs. Lane.
NEWCOMER
Lashon Young, Fr., DB, MILES - Two ints. in win over Lane.
SPECIAL TEAMS
Leonardo Cabrera, Fr., PK, CAU - 55-yard FG at buzzer, 5 of 5 on PAT kicks vs. B-CU.

SWAC	SOUTHWESTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE			
	DIV	ALL	W	L
EAST DIVISION				
Florida A&M	0	0	2	2
Jackson State	0	0	2	2
Alabama A&M	0	0	2	2
Alabama State	0	0	1	2
Bethune-Cookman	0	0	0	4
Miss. Valley State	0	0	0	4
WEST DIVISION				
Southern	1	0	2	2
Texas Southern	1	0	1	2
Grambling State	0	0	3	1
Arkansas-Pine Bluff	0	0	1	3
Alcorn State	0	0	1	3
Prairie View A&M	0	2	1	3

SWAC PLAYERS OF THE WEEK
OFFENSE
Cam'Ron Ransom, R-Jr., QB, B-CU - 22-31-0, 382 yards, 3 TDs (29, 70, 54), 11 carries, 79 yards, 1 TD (78) vs. Clark Atlanta.
DEFENSE
Brenden Barley, So., LB, GSU - Seven tackles, 4 solos, 1 interception in win vs. Jackson State.
SPECIALIST
Cameron Gillis, Gr., PK, FAMU - Was 4 of 4 FGs (22, 29, 31, 43) in loss at Troy.
NEWCOMER
Quintell Quinn, RB, TXSOU - 23 carries, 149 yards (6.5 ypr.) vs. Lamar.

INDEPENDENTS	W	L	W	L
Texas College	0	0	2	1
Florida Memorial	0	0	1	1-1
Va.-Lynchburg	0	0	0	4
CAA				
Hampton	0	0	2	2
NC A&T State	0	0	1	3
OHIO VALLEY				
Tennessee State	0	0	2	2
MIAA				
Lincoln (Mo.)	0	3	0	3
MOUNTAIN EAST				
W. Va. State	0	0	2	2
SAC (Sooner Athletic Conference)				
Langston	0	0	0	2

BCSP PLAYERS OF THE WEEK
OFFENSE
Isiah Bess, Jr., QB, WVU - 18-25-0, 319 yards, 4 TDs (36, 35, 7, 30) vs. WLU.
DEFENSE
Jaylen Geter, So., DB, WVU - Six solo tackles, 1 TFL for -20 yards, 2 FF vs. WLU.
SPECIAL TEAMS
Brennen Schmitt, Sr., PK, WVU - 3 of 4 FGs (23, 23, 36), 6 of 7 on PAT kicks for 15 points in win vs. WLU

SCORES

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19	McNeese State 42, Alcorn State 14
Benedict 31, Edward Waters 28	Miles 42, Lane 32
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21	Morehouse 31, Kentucky State 28
Albany State 28, Central State 7	Morgan State 56, Va.-Lynchburg 7
Allen 35, Point 10	Nicholls 66, Mississippi Valley State 0
Austin Peay 59, Alabama A&M 16	Norfolk State 32, VMI 10
Bowie State 31, Livingstone 17	NC Central 66, NC A&T 24
Central Arkansas 56, Arkansas-Pine Bluff 17	Quaz 56, Texas College 21
Clark Atlanta 38, Bethune-Cookman 37	Richmond 38, Delaware State 24
Cumberland 47, Florida Memorial 35	Savannah State 20, Tuskegee 16
Delta State 27, Fort Valley State 24	Shaw 48, Lincoln (PA) 14
Fayetteville State 31, Elizabeth City State 7	Southern 31, Prairie View A&M 24
Grambling State 41, Jackson State 20	Tennessee Tech 24, Tennessee State 14
Hampton 27, Howard 20	Troy 34, Florida A&M 12
Johnson C. Smith 21, Virginia Union 16	West Virginia State 57, West Liberty 37
Lamar 20, Texas Southern 17	William Jewell 48, Lincoln (MO) 20
Louisiana Christian 50, Langston 15	Winston-Salem State 15, Virginia State 14

Changing of the guard in full effect?

LUT WILLIAMS
 BCSP Editor
 It's still early, but the changing of the guard at the top of the CIAA and SIAC appears to be well underway.

The CIAA

This past weekend in the CIAA, both 2023 defending champion **Virginia Union** (to **Johnson C. Smith**, 21-16) and 2024 coaches pick **Virginia State** (to **Winston-Salem State**, 15-14) bit the dust.

JCSU got all three of its touchdowns from bruising running back **Quavaris Crouch** in his showdown with VUU star RB **Jada Byers**. Crouch scored on two on short runs and on a 20-yard reception. Byers was held to 47 yards on 19 carries but scored both VUU TDs.

WSSU got a last-second field goal by **Gilberto Lorenzana** to knock off VSU.

Those results leave J. C. Smith (4-0), Winston-Salem State and **Shaw** (both 3-1) atop the conference with 1-0 records with 2-1 **Fayetteville State** and 1-2 **Bowie State** also at 1-0 headed into a weekend of key matchups.

The most interesting matchups have the teams jostling for spots at the top of the standings going against each other. VUU is hosting **Shaw** (1 p.m.), Winston-Salem State hosts **Bowie State** (1 p.m.) and Virginia State hosts **Fayetteville State** (2 p.m.). These results will likely ferret out a pecking order as we head into October. Current top dog JCSU is at 1-2 **Bluefield State's** homecoming (6 p.m.).

The SIAC

Who thought that four weeks in **Clark Atlanta** (3-0-1, 2-0 SIAC) would be sitting atop the SIAC regular season race? No one.

Just to remind everyone, CAU was picked by league coaches and sports information directors in the preseason to finish 10th in the 13-team SIAC. The Panthers have beaten **Fort Valley State** (45-42 to open the season) and **Allen** (26-22 a week later). FVSU was picked second by the so-called experts.



CHANGING OF THE GUARD



NEW SHERIFFS: New Clark Atlanta head coach **Teddy Keaton** (l.) and quarterback **David Wright III** (r.) have shook up the SIAC race early. They take their show into Memphis Saturday to take on Lane.

The upstart Panthers with **Allen** transplants in head coach **Teddy Keaton** and quarterback **David Wright III** are the talk of the league. That is especially so after they ventured into **SWAC** country Saturday and came away with a last-second 38-37 win over **Bethune-Cookman** on a 55-yard field goal. Wright was again his prolific self throwing for 374 yards and four TDs in the win. The Panthers hit the road to face dangerous **Lane** (1-2, 1-1 SIAC) Saturday (2 p.m., *ESPN+*) in Memphis, Tennessee.

Elsewhere in the SIAC, league favorite **Albany State** (1-2, 1-0) is hosting (2 p.m.) winless **Kentucky State** (0-4, 0-2), third-choice **Miles** (1-2, 1-0) is at **Allen** (1-3, 1-1) (1 p.m. on *TheGrio*) and **FVSU** (1-2, 1-1) is at **Savannah State** (1-2, 1-1) (2 p.m., *ESPN+*).

The MEAC

The **MEAC** continues its march toward conference play in late October (10/26) with one exception.

League favorite **North Carolina Central** (2-2) will face **Norfolk State** (2-3) Saturday (3 p.m.) in the 40th edition of the *Circle City Classic* at Lucas Oil Field in Indianapolis. In other games, **Howard** (2-2) has its annual Ivy League trip, this time facing 0-1 Princeton (3 p.m., *ESPN+*). **South Carolina State** (1-2) is hosting old MEAC rival **N. C. A&T** in Orangeburg (6 p.m., *ESPN+*), **Morgan State** is at **Stony Brook** (3:30 p.m., *FloFootball*) and **Delaware State** is at **Campbell** (2 p.m.,

GAMES THIS WEEK

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28	
Benedict at Morehouse in Atlanta, GA	1p
Lincoln (CA) at Lincoln (MO) in Jefferson City, MO	2p
Saint Thomas at Florida Memorial in Miami Gardens, FL	1p
West Virginia Wesleyan at W. Virginia State in Institute, WV	1p
Texas College at Langston in Langston, OK	6p
Tuskegee at Edward Waters in Jacksonville, FL	7p

STREAMING / TV GAMES

Bowie State at Winston-Salem State in W-S, NC - <i>CIAA SN</i>	1p
Miles at Allen in Columbia, SC - <i>TheGrio</i>	1p
Shaw at Virginia Union in Richmond, VA - <i>CIAA SN</i>	1p
Alabama State at Bethune-Cookman in Daytona Beach, FL - <i>HBCUGo</i>	2p
Clark Atlanta vs. Lane in Memphis, TN - <i>ESPN+</i>	2p
Delaware State at Campbell in Buies Creek, NC - <i>FloFootball</i>	2p
Fayetteville State at Virginia State in Ettrick, VA - <i>CIAA SN</i>	2p
Fort Valley State at Savannah State in Savannah, GA - <i>ESPN+</i>	2p
Kentucky State at Albany State in Albany, GA - <i>ASU Stream</i>	2p
Howard at Princeton in Princeton, NJ - <i>ESPN+</i>	3p
Morgan State at Stony Brook in Stony Brook, NY - <i>FloFootball</i>	3:30p
Alabama A&M at Florida A&M in Tallahassee, FL - <i>ESPN+</i>	5p
Charleston S'thrm at Tennessee State in Nashville, TN - <i>ESPN+</i>	5p
Alcorn State at Miss. Valley State in Itta Bena, MS - <i>MVSU Stream</i>	6p
Hampton at William & Mary in Williamsburg, VA - <i>FloFootball</i>	6p
Jackson State at Texas Southern in Houston, TX - <i>ESPN+</i>	6p
Livingstone at Lincoln (PA) in Lincoln, PA - <i>Lincoln Stream</i>	6p
N. C. A&T at S. C. State in Orangeburg, SC - <i>ESPN+</i>	6p
CLASSICS	
40th Circle City Classic	
N. C. Central vs. Norfolk State in Indianapolis, IN	3p
Texas State Fair Classic	
Grambling State vs. Prairie View A&M in Dallas, TX - <i>ESPN+</i>	6p
HOMECOMINGS	
J. C. Smith at Bluefield State in Bluefield, WV - <i>BLST Stream</i>	6p

FloFootball).

The SWAC

We get the first real taste of SWAC play this week as **Alabama State** is at **Bethune-Cookman** (2 p.m., *HBCUGo*), **Alabama A&M** is at **Florida A&M** (5 p.m., *ESPN+*), **Alcorn State** is at **Mississippi Valley State** (6 p.m.), **Jackson State** is at **Texas Southern** (6 p.m., *ESPN+*) and **Grambling State** and **Prairie View A&M** tangle at the *State Fair Classic* at the Cotton Bowl in Dallas (6 p.m., *ESPN+*).

UNDER THE BANNER

WHAT'S GOING ON IN AND AROUND BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

KALU DEBUTS IN WNBA:

Fzinne Kalu, who starred for five seasons at **Savannah State**, leading the women's basketball team to the **MEAC** championship and the NCAA tournament in 2015, was signed last week to the WNBA's Atlant Dream just in time for the playoffs.

She got in and played nearly 15 minutes and scored four points in the Dream's 83-69 Game 1 loss to the New York Liberty Sunday. She had three points in a 79-67 win over the Liberty in her debut on Sept. 19. In that game, she became the first black college player to appear in a WNBA game since **Andrea Gardner** of **Howard** played for the Washington Mystics during the 2008 season.

Kalu played for Savannah State from 2010-2015, scoring 2,119 points before the Tigers returned to Division II and the **SIAC**.

The 5-8 guard brings a wealth of international experience, most recently leading the 2024 Nigerian Olympic team past the group stage in Paris earlier this year. Kalu averaged 18.5 points per game in Paris, ranking her fourth in the category, behind only Emma Meesseman (BEL), A'ja Wilson (USA), and Satou Sabally (GER). Kalu's standout performance came against Australia, where she led D'Tigress to an upset win, scoring 19 points, with five assists, five rebounds, and three steals.

SWAC UNVEILS 2024-25 HOOPS PICKS:

The **Grambling State** men and women were tabbed as the preseason favorites in 2024-25 **SWAC** basketball as the league held its media events for the sport last week.

WOMEN - 1) Grambling State 276 (10), 2) Southern 232 (2), 3) Alabama A&M 226 (4), 4) Jackson State 211 (4), 5) Florida A&M 178 (3), 6) Prairie View A&M 165 (1), 7) Alcorn State 157 (8) Bethune-Cookman 142 (9) Texas Southern 17 (10) Alabama State 114 (11) Arkansas Pine Bluff 86 (12) Miss. Valley State 46

FIRST TEAM - Coriah Beck, AA&M; Destiny Brown, ALC (POY); Cordasia Harris, ALST; Alisha Wilson, AA&M (DPOY); Sh'Diamond McKnight, MVSU
SECOND TEAM - Jaيدا Belton, TSU; Olivia Delancy, FAMU; Kayla Clark, B-CU; Zy'Nyia White, ALC; Chanelle McDonald, B-CU

MEN - 1) Grambling State 212 (10) 2) Texas Southern 200 (3) 3) Southern 160 (1), 4) Jackson State 153 (1), 5) Alcorn State 144 (1) 6) Alabama State 122 (1), 7) Prairie View A&M 121 (1) 8) Bethune-Cookman 109 (2) 9) Alabama A&M 106 (10) Arkansas-Pine Bluff 70 (11) Florida A&M 63 (12) Miss. Valley State 32

FIRST TEAM - Kintavious Dozier, GSU (POY); T. J. Madlock, ALST; Tidkiane Diourmassi, SOU; Shannon Grant, JSU; Chad Moodie, AA&M;
SECOND TEAM - Grayson Carter, TSU; C. J. Hines, ALST; Kenny Hunter, TSU (DPOY); Ubong Odon, ALST; Lorenzo Downey, AA&M

TOP PERFORMANCES

FROM HBCU GAMES OF SEPT. 19 - 21, 2024

PASSING	COMP-ATT-INT	YDS	TDs (YDS)
Cam'Ron Ransom, B-CU	22-31-0	382	3 (29, 70, 54)
David Wright III, CLATL	30-49-1	374	4 (11, 28, 27, 7)
Kendrick Connelly, TXCOL	29-51-0	362	3 (92, 43, 15)
Miles Scott, MHS	21-38-3	369	3 (25, 22, 24)
Isiah Bess, WVU	18-25-0	319	4 (36, 35, 7, 30)
Norfolk State, FLAM	25-39-0	288	0
Kamren Ivory, MILES	18-28-1	284	3 (41, 30, 13)
Darius Ocean, JCSU	17-28-0	282	1 (20)
Jerick Gaston, LANE	22-36-3	282	2 (9, 13)
Jalen Daniels, NSU	20-29-0	277	3 (24, 80, 56)

RUSHING	CAR	YDS	TDs (YDS)
Walter Wilbon, FMU	24	178	3 (54, 14, 10)
Quintell Quinn, TXSOU	23	149	0
Trevon Hester, WSSU	28	143	0
J'Mari Taylor, NCCU	19	137	2 (66, 5)
Xzavier Vaughn, ALC	16	127	1 (25)
Julian Milligan, FSU	12	117	1 (19)
Ja'Quan Snipes, HAMP	10	117	2 (53, 5)
Ike Brown, LANE	20	114	2 (1, 1)
Marqui Adams, DSU	14	114	0
Denim Johnson, KSU	18	109	1 (10)