



PERFECT **FITS**

WELCOME ABOARD!: Former NFL standout DeSean Jackson, at Delaware State, latest former pro footballer to take reins of a black college program

SAM SHADE, DESEAN JACKSON NEW HBCU HEAD **COACHES; LISTING OF 2024 TOP ATTENDED GAMES**

MEN'S 2024-25 BLACK COLLEGE BASKETBALL (Men's Standings and Weekly Honors)

CIAA CENTRAL ATHLET				=	MEAC A
	CONF		ALL		
NORTH DIVISION	W	L	W	L	
Virginia State	3	0	8	4	Norfolk State
Lincoln (PA)	3	0	8	5	Delaware State
Bluefield State	1	2	7	5	S. C. State
Virginia Union	1	2	6	7	Howard
Elizabeth City State	0	3	6	5	Morgan State
Bowie State	0	3	7	7	N. C. Central
SOUTH DIVISION	W	L	W	L	Md. E-Shore
Fayetteville State	2	1	8	5	Coppin State
Johnson C. Smith	2	1	6	4	
Shaw	2	1	7	6	OFFENSIVE PLAYER
Claflin	3	2	9	6	Brian Moore Jr., 6-2
Livingstone	1	3	7	5	5 rebs., 6 assists in w
Winston-Salem State	0	0	3	6	ing 13 of 21 from the

PLAYERS OF THE WEEK Ethan Garita, Sr., F, LINCP - Averaged 17 ppg., 7.6 rebounds in three wins, MVP of HBCU CP3 Classic. Had 19 pts. 7 rebs., vs. Benedict, 19 pts., 11 rebs., vs. KSU and 13 pts., 5 boards vs.

DEFENSIVE PLAYER Peter Sorber. Sr., F. LINCP - Averaged 13.0 points, 7.5 rebounds in four games. ROOKIE

Jackson

Trey Minard, Sr., F, LIV - 11 pts., 3 rebs., 1 assist vs. VUU, 7 pts., 4 rebs., 1 assist vs. BSU.

	CON	F	ALL			CONF		ALL	
	W	L	W	L	EAST	W	L	W	
Norfolk State	0	0	9	6	Clark Atlanta	5	0	8	
Delaware State	0	0	7	7	Morehouse	3	1	5	
S. C. State	0	0	6	9	Edward Waters	4	2	8	
Howard	0	0	5	8	Albany State	3	2	5	
Morgan State	0	0	6	10	Savannah State	3	3	5	
N. C. Central	0	0	6	10	Benedict	2	3	2	
Md. E-Shore	0	0	4	12	Allen	1	4	3	
Coppin State	0	0	1	13	Fort Valley State	0	4	1	
					WEST				
OFFENSIVE PLAYER O	F THE	WE	EΚ		Miles	6	0	9	
Brian Moore Jr., 6-2, Gr., FG, NSU - 33 pts.,					Tuskegee	3	2	5	
5 rebs., 6 assists in win o		_			Spring Hill	3	3	5	
ing 13 of 21 from the field	d, 6 of	6 at	the I	ine.	Kentucky State	3	4	6	
ROOKIE					Central State	2	4	5	
Blake Harper, 6-2, Fr., G, HOW - Had career-					Lane	2	4	2	

SIAC

PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

0 Southern Alabama State 0 Alabama A&M Florida A&M Arkansas-Pine Bliuff Texas Southern Grambling State Miss. Valley State 0 12 Jackson State 0 0

SWAC

PLAYERS OF THE WEEK Reggie Ward Jr., 6-6, Sr., F, B-CU - Led Cats with 19 points on 7 of 10 shooting and had 10 rebounds, 4 steals in win over South Florida.

18 points in 30 minutes in win over USF with 5 rebounds, 5 assists and 1 steal. IMPACT Keionte Cornelius, 6-0, Sr., G, ALC - Shot 7 of 15, had 22 points with six 3 pointers in

Brayon Freeman, 6-2, Sr., G, B-CU - Had

INDEPENDENTS

CONF		ALL	
W	L	W	L
11	2	7	2
9	3	1	3
8	4	1	2
8	5	1	0
5	5	3	3
4	9	0	2
4	10	0	1
	W 11 9 8 8 5	W L 11 2 9 3 8 4 8 5 5 5 4 9	W L W 11 2 7 9 3 1 8 4 1 8 5 1 5 5 3 4 9 0

PLAYERS OF THE WEEK Tyler Chapman, 5-11, Jr., G, LINCM - Shot 12 of 16 from the field, 6 of 9 from behind the arc for 30 points in win over Ohio Do minican

Wayne Bristol Jr., 6-6, Gr., G, HAMP - Led four Pirates in double figures with 18 points in fifth straight win, 83-67 over Howard.

THE STAT CORNER

WHO ARE THE BEST PERFORMERS IN BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

HIGHEST ATTENDANCE AT 2024

BLACK COLLEGE FOOTBALL GAMES	i		
RANK 2024 - 2023)			
1 - 1) MAGIC CITY CLASSIC - Oct. 26, Legion Field, Birmingham, AL			
Alabama State (27) vs. Alabama A&M (19)	69,125		
2 - 2) BAYOU CLASSIC - Nov. 30, Ceasar's Superdome, New Orleans,	_A		
Southern (24) vs. Grambling State (14)	63,207		
3 - 3) FLORIDA CLASSIC - Nov. 23, Camping World Stadium, Orlando,			
Florida A&M (41) vs. Bethune-Cookman (7)	56,453		
4 - 4) STATE FAIR CLASSIC - Sept. 28 - Cotton Bowl - Dallas			
Grambling State (34) vs. Prairie View A&M (36)	52,323		
5 - 8) TUSKEGEE HOMECOMING - Nov. 9, Abbott Stadium, Tuskegee,	AL		
Miles (37) at Tuskegee (7)	47,311		
6 - 9) CELEBRATION BOWL - Dec. 14, Mecedes Benz Dome, Atlanta, 0	3A		
Jackson State (28) vs. South Carolina State (7)	36,823		
7 - 10) JACKSON STATE HOMECOMING - Nov. 2, Vet Stadium, Jackson	on, MS		
Arkansas-Pine Bluff (3) at Jackson State (41)	34,932		
8 - 9) ALABAMA STATE HOMECOMING - Oct. 5, ASU Stadium, M'gom	ery, AL		
Florida A&M (28) at Alabama State (13)	33,576		
9 - NR) JACKSON STATE HOME GAME - Sept. 14 - Miss. Vet. Stadium, Jack	kson, MS		
Southern (15) at Jackson State (33)	32,027		
10 - 20) NORFOLK STATE HOMECOMING, Oct. 26, Price Stadium, No.	folk, VA		
Howard (20) at Norfolk State (21)	31,876		
11 - NR) HBCU NEW YORK FOOTBALL CLASSIC - Sept. 14, MetLife Stadium, E. F	R'thrfd., NJ		
Morehouse (21) vs. Howard (35)	31,174		
12 - NR) FOUNTAIN CITY CLASSIC - Nov., 9, Albany State Coliseum, Col	umbus, GA		
Fort Valley State (15) vs. Albany State (20)	28,675		
13 - 17) JACKSON STATE HOME GAME, Oct. 19, Veterans Stadium, Jackson, MS			
Florida A&M (21) at Jackson State (35)	28,450		
14 - 6) SOUTHERN HERITAGE CLASSIC - Sept. 14, Liberty Bowl, Memphis,			
Arkansas-Pine Bluff (28) vs. Tennessee State (41)			
15 - 13) W. C. GORDEN CLASSIC - Sept. 7, Veterans Stadium, Jacksor	ı, MS		
Lane (7) at Jackson State (58)	26,700		
16 - 24) SOUTHERN HOMECOMING - Oct. 14, Mumford Stadium, Baton Rouge			
Alcorn State (14) at Southern (24) 26,688			
17 - NR) CHICAGO FOOTBALL CLASSIC - Sept. 21, Soldier's Field, Cl			
Morehouse (31) vs. Kentucky State (28)	25,823		
18 - 21) NC A&T HOME GAME - Sept. 7 - Aggie Stadium, Greensboro, I			
Winston-Salem State (20) at North Carolina A&T (27, OT)	25,000		
19 - NR) SWAC CHAMPIONSHIP GAME - Dec. 7 - Miss. Vet Stadium, Ja			
Southern (13) vs. Jackson State (41) 23,76			
20 - 19) FLORIDA A&M HOMECOMING, Nov. 2, Bragg Stadium, Tallahassee, FL			
Texas Southern (28) at Florida A&M (52) 23,21			
21 - 23) NC A&T HOMECOMING - Oct. 19, Truist Stadium, Greensboro,	NC		
Hampton (59) at NC A&T (17)	00 040		
22 - 5) SOUL BOWL (ALCORN STATE HOME GAME), Nov. 23, Spinks-Casem Stadium, Lorman, M			
Jackson State (48) at Alcorn State (10)	orman, MS 22,617		
Jackson State (48) at Alcorn State (10) 23 - 21) SC STATE HOMECOMING, Oct. 26, Dawson Stadium, Oranget	orman, MS 22,617 ourg, SC		
Jackson State (48) at Alcorn State (10) 23 - 21) SC STATE HOMECOMING , Oct. 26, Dawson Stadium, Orangel Delaware State (35) at South Carolina State (69)	orman, MS 22,617 burg, SC 22,169		
Jackson State (48) at Alcorn State (10) 23 - 21) SC STATE HOMECOMING, Oct. 26, Dawson Stadium, Oranget Delaware State (35) at South Carolina State (69) 24 - 16) SWAC/MEAC CHALLENGE - Aug. 24, Center Parc Stadium, At	orman, MS 22,617 burg, SC 22,169 lanta, GA		
Jackson State (48) at Alcorn State (10) 23 - 21) SC STATE HOMECOMING, Oct. 26, Dawson Stadium, Oranget Delaware State (35) at South Carolina State (69) 24 - 16) SWAC/MEAC CHALLENGE - Aug. 24, Center Parc Stadium, At Florida A&M (24) vs. Norfolk State (23)	orman, MS 22,617 burg, SC 22,169 lanta, GA 22,210		
Jackson State (48) at Alcorn State (10) 23 - 21) SC STATE HOMECOMING, Oct. 26, Dawson Stadium, Oranget Delaware State (35) at South Carolina State (69) 24 - 16) SWAC/MEAC CHALLENGE - Aug. 24, Center Parc Stadium, At	orman, MS 22,617 burg, SC 22,169 lanta, GA 22,210		

HIGHEST ATTENDANCE AT 2024 BLACK COLLEGE HOMECOMING GAMES

26 - NR) ALABAMA STATE HOME GAME - Nov. 16, ASU Stadium, Montgomery, AL

27 - NR) ALABAMA STATE HOME GAME - Sept. 7, ASU Stadium, Montgomery, AL

20,276

TOTAL 878,453

TOTAL 866,888

TOTAL 954,149

Jackson State (16) at Alabama State (10)

(2024) - 27 games over 20,000 - 32,535 average

(2023) - 26 games over 20,000 - 33,341 average

(2022) - 25 games over 20,000 - 38,165 average

Miles (3) at Alabama State (24)

RANK 2024 - 2023)						
1 - 1) TUSKEGEE vs. Miles - Nov. 9						
2 - 2) JACKSON STATE vs. Arkansas-Pine Bluff - November 2						
3 - 11) ALABAMA STATE vs. Florida A&M - October 5	33,576					
4 -) NORFOLK STATE vs. Howard, October 26	31,876					
5 - 17) FORT VALLEY STATE vs. Allen - Oct. 12	26,730					
6 - 7) SOUTHERN vs. Alcorn State - October 19						
7 - 3) ALABAMA A&M vs. Bethune-Cookman - Oct. 12	19,727					
8 - 5) FLORIDA A&M vs. Texas Southern - November 2	23,271					
9 - 8) N. C A&T vs. Hampton - Oct. 19	23,016					
10 - 6) SC STATE vs. Delaware State - Oct. 26 22,1						
11 - NR) GRAMBLING STATE vs. Arkansas-Pine Bluff - Oct. 19 17,135						
12 - 9) ALCORN STATE vs. Arkansas-Pine Bluff - October 5	14,753					
13 - 12) PRAIRIE VIEW A&M vs. Arkansas-Pine Bluff - Nov. 4	14,224					
14 - 10) CLARK ATLANTA vs. Miles - Oct. 19	14,809					
15 - 14) NC CENTRAL vs. Morgan State - Oct. 26	13,910					
16 - 15) ARKANSAS-PINE BLUFF vs. Miss. Valley State - Oct. 26	12,437					
17 - NR) WINSTON-SALEM STATE vs. Fayetteville State - Nov. 9	12,000					
18 - 18) MOREHOUSE vs. Fort Valley State - Oct. 27	11,687					
(2024) 18 games over 10,000 - 22,124 average TOTAL -	398,248					
(2023) 18 Games over 10,000 - 18,773 average						
(2022) 15 Games over 10,000 - 21,745 average						

BCSP Notes

high 34 points, 4 rebounds in loss to Hampton.

Shot 10 of 18 from the field, 12 of 15 at the

Julius Ellerbe III. 6-5. Fr., G. CSU - 12 points.

3 rebounds, 3 assists, 6 steals vs. George-

With the great success of former NFL standout and Hall of Famer Deion "Coach Prime" Sanders as head football coach at Jackson State, it should not be a surprise that black colleges are increasingly turning to men with similar profiles to lead their programs.

One testimony to this trend is that retired NFL veterans in former Heisman Trophy winner and prolific star running back Eddie George at Tennessee State and eight-year NFL veteran safety Sam Shade at Miles not only led their teams to OVC/Big South and SIAC championships respectively this season, but were chosen as the BCSP Div. I FCS and Div. Il coaches of the year on their respective levels.

The trend continued as former NFL No. 1 overall draft pick Michael Vick was named the new head football coach at Norfolk State a week ago and struck again last week as two accomplished NFL veterans are two new hires.

Former outstanding NFL receiver/kick returner DeSean Jackson named the new head coach of the Delaware State Hornets

Former NFL standout wide receiver/kick returner DeSean Jackson

was named Friday as the new head football coach at **Delaware State**. "We had great [candidate] choices, but it was very clear after we got DeSean here on campus. It was really clear. We all kind of turned

and looked at each other once he left and said, 'That is our guy,'" said Tony Tucker, DSU's newest athletic director and senior associate vice president for Athletics and Wellness.

"The opportunity for me to help write another chapter here at DSU is a oncein-a-lifetime moment consistent with my journey as a young boy finding his way to manhood through mentorship, accountability, achievement, and discipline," Jackson said in the university's announcement

of his hiring. "If we build that kind of culture at Delaware State University, we will attract the right talent and radically change the trajectory of this program. I cannot wait to get started."

Jackson, 38, a native of Los Angeles, played for six NFL teams during an outstanding 12-year career in the NFL. The first six of those years were with the Philadelphia Eagles where the 5-10, 175-pounder established himself as one of the NFL's fastest and most feared deep threat wide receivers and among the most dangerous kick returners.

In his career he posted five 1,000-yard receiving seasons three with the Eagles and two with Washington and two others with over 900 receiving yards. He was selected to the Pro Bowl three times and was the first player selected to the Pro Bowl at two different positions in the same year when he was named to the 2010 Pro Bowl as a wide receiver and return specialist. Jackson holds the record for most 60+ and 80+ yard catches in all of NFL history.

He was selected by the Philadelphia Eagles in the second round of the 2008 NFL draft after earning two first-team all-American designations playing collegiately for the Cal Berkeley Golden Bears. He also played in the NFL for the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, Los Angeles Rams, and Baltimore Ravens.

Tucker described Jackson as "the perfect fit" for the Dover HBCU.

"DeSean Jackson is a perfect fit for our institution - incredibly competitive, optimistic about the prospects for our collective future, and focused on the fundamentals of the institution: students first," he said. Jackson's predecessor, Lee Hull, was 2-21 in two seasons leading DSU.

Jackson has received support from his first NFL head coach, Andy Reid, L.A. Rams head coach Sean McVay, and Delaware State legend John Taylor, Jackson's uncle.

"Having played football for many different coaches throughout my career, each one has added a unique dynamic to my game," said Taylor, who played nine seasons and won three Super Bowls with the San Francisco 49ers. "I'm excited to see the new direction Coach Jackson will take the team – his vision and leadership are sure to bring fresh energy and opportunities for growth,"

Hoop Highlights

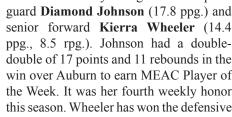
Norfolk State ladies get another big win

The Norfolk State Lady Spartans, under 10th-year head coach Larry Vickers, got their second win over SEC competition as they won on the road at Auburn Sunday, 73-67. The NSU ladies got their first SEC win this season over Missouri, 57-54 on Nov. 10.

The win improves the early season record for the back-to-back MEAC champions to 12-4 overall that includes wins at home over William & Mary, and on the road at UNC-Wilmington, in Puerto Rico over Wyoming and in Washington, DC over Saint Louis. Their losses have been at Alabama (68-58), to Washington State (68-60 in Puerto Rico), to Green Bay (55-54 in PR) and at Carolina (90-47).

They went into the week ranked 11th in the College Insider Women's Mid Major Top 25.

The ladies have been led by 5-5 grad senior point guard Diamond Johnson (17.8 ppg.) and senior forward Kierra Wheeler (14.4



double of 17 points and 11 rebounds in the win over Auburn to earn MEAC Player of the Week. It was her fourth weekly honor this season. Wheeler has won the defensive player of the week honor three times.

NSU begins 2025 MEAC play at home vs. Maryland-Eastern Shore

on Sat., Jan. 4.

"DeSean is like a son to me — a fierce competitor on the field, without rival, and a quality leader off of it," said Reid, who coached Jackson in Philadelphia and is now head coach of the back-to-back Super Bowl champion Kansas City Chiefs. "I could not be more supportive of his desire to coach Division I football and would stake my career on his success at Delaware State University. We are bound at the hip and are forever family. I cannot wait to see where he takes the university and where the university takes him. This is a win-win for everyone."

Delaware State will hold an introductory press conference for Jackson at the MLK Center on campus on Wednesday, Jan. 8, 2025. Amazon Prime will also release a documentary about Jackson's life in the fall of 2025.



Sam Shade leaving Miles to take over at Alabama A&M

Former eight-year NFL veteran and Alabama product Sam Shade has seen his career trajectory go forward since he joined the coaching ranks.

In 2020, in his second year at Pinson Valley High School, his team won the Alabama High School Athletic Association 6A championship. He took over at Miles in 2022 and after 1-9

and 7-3 campaigns in his first two seasons, he led the Golden Bears to a perfect 9-0 mark in SIAC play and the conference championship in 2024. The Bears advanced to the NCAA Div. II national playoffs where Shade led them to their first-ever playoff win defeating Carson-Newman in the first round. They fell in the second round to eventual national runners-up and the playoff's overall top seed Valdosta State. Miles finished 10-3 with the ten wins representing the most in program history.

On Sunday, Alabama A&M Director of Athletics Paul Bryant named Shade, 51, as the Bulldogs' 22nd head football coach. He succeeds **Connell Maynor** who was let go following the 2024 season after seven years at the helm. Maynor had a 40-32 record over his seven seasons. The Bulldogs finished 6-6 this season.

"This is a new and exciting time to bring Coach Sam Shade to the Hill," Bryant said. "He brings a wealth of knowledge and proven success to a program ready to thrive. His vast resources in the state and impeccable relationships with his team made him the perfect candidate for Alabama A&M University."

During his eight years in the NFL Shade played for the Cincinnati Bengals (1995-98) and Washington (1999-2002). He was the Bengals' leading tackler in 1997 and ranked second on the team in 1998. He led Washington in tackles in 1999. He played collegiately at Alabama where he was a member of the 1992 national championship team and was a team captain as a senior in 1994.

He was selected by the Bengals in the fourth round of the 1995 NFL Draft. He previously coached at Samford and Georgia State as well as in the NFL as an assistant special teams coach for the Cleveland Browns.

The date and time for Shade's official introductory press conference will be announced by Dr. Bryant and the AAMU Athletic department.



packers.com photo

RUNNING FREE!!

Green Bay running back EMANUEL WILSON (#31, FORT VALLEY STATE) runs for daylight in the Packers game Sunday vs. Minnesota. Wilson ran for 29 yards on six carries and scored on a 5-yard fourth quarter run.



Johnson

BCSP NFL PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

For NFL games of December 25 - 30, 2024

DEFENSE

- #90 GROVER STEWART, DT, Indianapolis (7th season, ALBANY **STATE**) - In Indy's 45-33 loss to the New York Giants, Stewart started at nose tackle and had six total tackles, two solos with one tackle for loss. He played 39 defensive snaps (70%) and 13 on special teams (41%).

OFFENSE

- #31 EMANUEL WILSON, RB, Green Bay (3rd season, FORT VALLEY STATE) - In the Packers' 27-25 loss to Minnesota, Wilson had six carries for 29 yards (4.8-yard average) with a long run of 16 yards including a 5-yard fourth quarter TD run. He was in for 20 offensive plays (32%).

SPECIAL TEAMS

- #29 BRANDON CODRINGTON, DB/KR, Buffalo (1st season, NORTH CAROLINA CENTRAL) - In Buffalo's 40-14 win over the New York Jets, Codrington had two punt returns for 32 yards (16.0yard average) with a long return of 25 yards and two solo tackles on defense. He played on 23 defensive snaps (37%) and three on special teams (14%).