

BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS PAGE



Delaware State Sports photo

ONLY THE STRONG ADVANCE

JC SMITH, ALBANY STATE CROWNED; FIVE TEAMS IN NCAA DIV. II PLAYOFFS; FINALES IN MEAC, SWAC RACES

SURPRISE TEAM: No one had Delaware State as a potential MEAC champion when the season started but that is where DeSean Jackson and the Hornets are now.

2025 ALL-SIAC FOOTBALL SELECTIONS

SUPERLATIVES

Player of the Year (MVP): Fabian Duncan, ALL
 Offensive Player of the Year: Isaiah Knowles, ALB
 Defensive Player of the Year: Dominique Davis II, CSU
 Freshman of the Year: Xzavier Jackson, CAU
 Newcomer of the Year: Xzavier Jackson, CAU
 Coach of the Year: Felton Huggins Jr., KSU

FIRST TEAM - OFFENSE

OL - Noah Stovall, Jr., ALB; Leon Wesley, So., ALB; O'Shea Stroman, So., ALB; Daniel Bostic, R-Sr., KSU; Chance Bush, So., ALL; **TE** - Maurice Veney, R-So., MHS; **WR** - Arnone Harris, Sr., CAU; Darius Cyprian, Jr., KSU; **RB** - Fabian Duncan, So., ALL; Johtarrious Thomas, Jr., EWU; **QB** - Isaiah Knowles, Gr., ALB.

FIRST TEAM - DEFENSE

DL - Israel Nwokocha, Gr., BEN; Amarie Fleming, So., ALL; Derrick Drayton, R-Jr., ALB; Xavier Esquillen, Jr., SSU; **LB** - Dominique Davis II, Sr., CSU; Isaiah Stephens, Gr., BEN; Darrin Bell, Gr., SSU; **DB** - Michael King Jr., Sr., TUSK; Darnell Stephens, Gr., FVUSU; Navy Curry, Jr., KSU; Travion Searchm Jr., CSU;

FIRST TEAM - SPECIAL TEAMS.

K - Lorcan Ryans, Jr., TUSK; **P** - Kollen Ford, So., BEN; **PR** - Dontie Curry Jr., So., FVUSU; **KR** - Jaxon Williams, So., ALB

SECOND TEAM - OFFENSE

OL - Isaiah Turner, R-Jr., BEN; Zyus Craft, Gr., ALL; Isaih Richardson, R-Fr., BEN; Jason Miller, Jr., BEN; Censere Wright, Fr., FVUSU; **TE** - Michael Bowman, R-So., ALL; **WR** - Jon McCall, Sr., KSU; EJ Hall, R-Fr., TUSK; **RB** - Tiant Wyche, R-Fr., ALB; Triston Morgan, Jr., BEN; **QB** - Jamir Dismukes, Jr., ALL;

SECOND TEAM - DEFENSE

DL - Isaiah Morrison, R-Jr., ALB; Mathias Davis, Fr., CSU; Tony Roundtree Jr., Sr., SSU; Lance Carson, Jr., ALL; **LB** - Trevon French, So., EWU; Robert Williams, Fr., MILES; Ty'Metrius Patterson, R-Jr., BEN; **DB** - Jonavan Carr, R-So., ALB; David Law-Mortimoer, Jr., EWU; Tyrell Gainey, R-So., ALB; Aeron Gresham, R-So., ALL

SECOND TEAM - SPECIAL TEAMS

K - Carlos Lopez, Fr., CAU; **P** - Callum Brent, Fr., TUSK; **PR & KR** - Cameron Watts, Jr., ALB;

MEAC & SWAC (Standings and Weekly Honors)

MEAC

FINAL	MID EASTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE			
	CONF	ALL	W	L
^ SC State	5	0	9	3
Delaware State	4	1	8	4
North Carolina Central	3	2	8	4
Howard	2	3	5	7
Morgan State	1	4	4	8
Norfolk State	0	5	1	11

MEAC Champion

BCSP MEAC PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

OFFENSE & NEWCOMER
William Atkins IV, Gr., QB, SCSU - 14-24-0, 249 yards, 2 TDs (10, 52) in win vs. Delaware State.

DEFENSE

Makai McCall, R-Sr., DL, NCCU - 5 tackles, 3 solos, 3.5 TFL (-15 yards), 2.5 sacks (-12) vs. MSU.
Isaiah Lawson, R-Sr., DB, NCCU - 12 tackles, 6 solos vs. Morgan State.

Jelani Vassell, R-Sr., DB, NCCU - 3 tackles, 2 solos, 2 interceptions vs. MSU.

SPECIALIST

Refeno Vangates, Jr., WR/KR, NCCU - 3 kickoff returns for 114 yards including 92-yard KO return TD vs. MSU. Also scored on 16-yard pass among 4 receptions for 68 yards.

SWAC

EAST DIVISION	SOUTHWESTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE			
	DIV	W	L	W
^ Jackson State	7	1	9	2
Alabama State	7	1	9	2
Bethune-Cookman	5	3	6	6
Florida A&M	4	3	5	6
Alabama A&M	1	7	4	8
Miss. Valley State	0	7	1	10

WEST DIVISION

^ Prairie View A&M	7	1	9	3
Texas Southern	5	3	6	5
Grambling State	4	3	7	4
Alcorn State	4	4	5	7
Arkansas-Pine Bluff	2	6	4	8
Southern	0	7	1	10

^ Division Champion

BCSP SWAC PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

OFFENSE **Timmy McClain**, R-Sr., QB, B-CU - 22-33-0, 274 yards, 4 TDs (25, 7, 67, 41) vs. Florida A&M.

DEFENSE **Garfield Lawrence**, Gr., DL, TXSOU - 5 tackles, 3 solos, 2.5 sacks for 9 yards vs. Alabama A&M.

NEWCOMER **Te'Sean Smoot**, Fr., QB, ALST - 20 of 28, no picks, 271 yards, 4 TDs of 12, 34, 10 and 36 yards vs. UAPB.

SCORES

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22
 Alabama State 44, Ark.-Pine Bluff 13
 Bethune-Cookman 38, Florida A&M 34
 Ch'ston Southern 7, Tennessee State 6
 Elon 55, North Carolina A&T 14
 Howard 44, Norfolk State 15
 Jackson State 27, Alcorn State 21
 N. C. Central 33, Morgan State 14
 Prairie View A&M 59, Miss. Valley St. 6
 Rhode Island 38, Hampton 10

S. C. State 28, Delaware State 17
 Texas Southern 24, Alabama A&M 7

NCAA DIV. II PLAYOFFS

Albany State 35, Valdosta State 30
 Benedict 25, Wingate 24
 California (PA) 27, Virginia Union 24
 Frostburg State 21, Johnson C. Smith 7
 Newberry 45, Kentucky State 24

NCAA DIV. II PLAYOFF GAME RECAPS

Albany State 35, Valdosta State 30

ALBANY, GA – SIAC champion and Div. II Super Region II top seed **Albany State** battled 2024 national runners-up and Div. II power Valdosta State and closed the game with two second-half scores to knock off the Blazers 35-30 in a first round playoff game here Saturday.

ASU senior QB **Isaiah Knowles** threw for 264 yards (24-37-1) and two TDs, one for the Golden Rams' (11-1) final score, and ran in for a 21-yard third-quarter score in the win. His scoring run preceded his second TD hook-up with WR **Jamill Williams** from 22 yards out with 8:22 to play that was the winning score. VSU had just one more possession before the Golden Rams ran the last 7:28 off the clock.

Benedict 25, Wingate 24

WINGATE, NC – Trailing 24-19 and facing 4th-and 10 at its own 14-yard line with :04 seconds left in the game, **Benedict** executed a perfect flea-flicker for an 86-yard touchdown that gave the Tigers a stunning 25-24 first-round NCAA Div. II playoff win on the road at Wingate! The play went from QB **Jackson Jensen** to Charles "Tre" Simmons who threw across the field to **Malik Mullins** who ran 75 yards for the clinching score.

The miracle finish was a fitting end to a remarkable Benedict turnaround that saw Wingate build a 17-0 halftime lead, stretch it to 24-0 on a pick six to begin the third quarter, before the tide turned.

The Tigers (10-2) got a 5-yard third-quarter TD before **Isaiah Isidore** blocked a 21-yard Wingate field goal attempt and returned it 95 yards to paydirt. Jensen (11-29-1, 158 yards, 2 TDs) hit Simmons for a 4-yard TD pass to pull the Tigers within 24-19 with 3:36 left setting up the game-winner.

Frostburg State 21, Johnson C. Smith 7

CHARLOTTE, NC – **Johnson C. Smith** (10-2) was held to 50 rushing yards and saw QB **Kelvin Durham** picked off twice (18-28-2, 219 yards, 1 TD) as it fell to 7th-seed Frostburg State, 21-7. Both Durham picks were in the first quarter. The second led to Frostburg's score on a 41-yard run. After a JCSU punt, FSU scored in the second quarter on a 2-yard run for a 14-0 lead it took into halftime.

JCSU scored with 4:04 left on Durham's 7-yard pass to **Deandre Proctor** (14 catches, 139 yards). A fourth-quarter fumble by JCSU RB **Bobby Smith** at the FSU 25 halted a Golden Bulls drive. FSU went on a 9-play, 63-yard drive to score with less than a minute left for the final margin.

California (PA) 27, Virginia Union 24

RICHMOND, VA – VUU (9-3) had two first-quarter miscues in falling at home 27-21 to California (Pa.). Cal converted a fumbled punt for the first TD and then turned a pick by QB **R. J. Rosales** into a 5-yard TD run for a 14-0 lead at the end of one period.

Curtis Allen's 2-yard scoring run got the Panthers on the board. Cal followed with a 25-yard field goal and 17-7 lead but Rosales came back to complete a 20-yard scoring pass to **Donovan Pauling-Outlaw**. The teams exchanged field goals and went into the break with Cal up 20-17.

Cal scored a touchdown on a third-quarter possession that stretched into the final period for a 27-17 lead but Tart returned the ensuing kickoff 95 yards to bring the Panthers within 27-24 with 9:41 left. **Brady Myers'** 46-yard attempt at a tying field goal was wide left with 1:11 to play.

Newberry 45, Kentucky State 24

Newberry, SC – Super Region II top seed Newberry rolled to a 31-10 half-time lead, and after two TD runs from **Kentucky State** RB **Chad Elzy**, added two fourth quarter TDs to pull away to a 45-24 first round playoff win.

BLACK COLLEGE FCS TOP FIVE

- SOUTH CAROLINA STATE** (9-3) - Won at Delaware State 28-17 to clinch MEAC title, Celebration Bowl berth **NEXT:** Celebration Bowl on Dec. 13.
- ALABAMA STATE** (9-2) - Defeated Arkansas-Pine Bluff, 44-13. **NEXT:** Hosting Tuskegee Thursday.
- JACKSON STATE** (9-2) - Defeated Alcorn State 27-21 to claim SWAC East title. **NEXT:** Idle till Dec. 6 SWAC title game.
- PRAIRIE VIEW A&M** (9-3) - Won big over Miss. Valley State, 59-6. **NEXT:** SWAC title game vs. Jackson State on Dec. 6.
- DELAWARE STATE** (8-4) - Fell at home to South Carolina State, 28-17. **NEXT:** Season over, second in MEAC.
- N. C. CENTRAL** (8-4) - Finished regular season with win over Morgan State, 33-14. **NEXT:** Season over.

BLACK COLLEGE NCAA DIV. II / NAIA TOP FIVE

- ALBANY STATE** (11-1) - Came back to knock off Valdosta State, 35-30. **NEXT:** Hosting Benedict in Div. II second round.
- BENEDICT** (10-2) - Stunned Wingate with last-second 88-yard throwback TD, 25-24. **NEXT:** Third match with Albany State in Div. II second round.
- JOHNSON C. SMITH** (10-2) - Super Region I top seed fell at home to Frostburg State, 21-7. **NEXT:** CIAA champs' season over.
- VIRGINIA UNION** (9-3) - Fell at home in D2 first round to California (PA) 27-24. **NEXT:** CIAA runners-up season over.
- KENTUCKY STATE** (9-3) - Fell big to Newberry, 45-21. **NEXT:** Season over.

THE STAT CORNER

WHO ARE THE BEST PERFORMERS IN BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

(Highest Attended Black College Games of November 22, 2025)

Bethune-Cookman vs. Florida A&M - Florida Classic in Orlando, FL	55,528
Alcorn State @ Jackson State	44,097
Arkansas-Pine Bluff @ Alabama State	19,372
SC State @ Delaware State	7,000?
Alabama A&M @ Texas Southern	6,011
Miss. Valley State @ Prairie View A&M	4,688
D2 Playoffs - Frostburg State @ Johnson C. Smith	4,293
D2 Playoffs - Valdosta State @ Albany State	4,265
D2 Playoffs - California (PA) @ Virginia Union	4,265

Two play on in D2 playoffs; SC State takes MEAC

LUT WILLIAMS

BCSP Editor

SIAC members **Albany State** (11-1) and **Benedict** (10-2) were the two black college programs that emerged with victories of the five that played first round NCAA Div. II playoff games Saturday (see PLAYOFF GAME RECAPS).

Albany State is the top seed in Super Region II while Benedict is seeded fifth.

They are the same two that met in the SIAC championship game on Nov. 15 in Albany, Ga. – a 22-16 ASU victory – and who met on Oct. 25 in the regular season in Columbia, S. C., on Benedict's home field – a 31-3 ASU win.

They will now meet a third time, this time again at ASU's home field, on Saturday (1 p.m., ESPN+) in the second round of the Super Region II playoffs.

The ASU/Benedict winner will play for the Region II title on Dec. 6 vs. the winner of Saturday's contest pitting No. 2 West Florida (10-1) vs. No. 3 Newberry (10-1) in Pensacola, Fla.

If Albany State prevails over Benedict, the Golden Rams would host the Region II championship game. Benedict would travel to either West Florida or Newberry if it wins.

The two other games scheduled this week are primarily for bragging rights as **Alabama State** (9-2) takes on **Tuskegee** (4-6) in Thursday's *Turkey Bowl* in Montgomery, Al. (2 p.m., SWAC TV) and **Southern** (1-10) and **Grambling State** (7-4) tangle in their annual Louisiana tussle at the *Bayou Classic* in New Orleans Saturday (1 p.m., NBC).

Celebration Bowl picture unfolding
South Carolina State earned its second straight **Mid Eastern Athletic Conference**

TOP PERFORMANCES

FOR GAMES OF NOVEMBER 22, 2025

PASSING

	COMP-ATT-INT	Yds	TDs (YDs)
Tyriq Starks, HOW	24-34-1	279	3 (7, 4, 11)
Timmy McClain, B-CU	22-33-0	274	4 (25, 7, 67, 41)
Te'Sean Smoot, ALST	20-28-0	271	4 (12, 34, 10, 36)
Walker Harris, NCCU	23-34-0	264	2 (16, 15)
Isaiah Knowles, ALB	24-37-1	264	2 (40, 22)
William Atkins IV, SCSU	14-24-0	249	2 (10, 52)
Jaylon Tolbert, ALC	21-33-0	234	2 (64, 17)
Cameron Peters, PVA&M	12-16-1	234	2 (5, 31)
R. J. Johnson III, FLA&M	22-34-0	228	2 (44, 17)
Kelvin Durham, JCSU	18-28-2	219	1 (7)
Jared Lockhart, JSU	13-16-0	169	1 (55)

RUSHING

	CAR	Yds	AVG	TDs (YDs)
Maquis Gillis, DSU	14	159	11.4	1 (68)
Tiant Wyche, ALB	20	134	6.7	1 (44)
Jaylen Jennings, ARKPB	25	133	5.3	1 (2)
Kaiden Bennett, DSU	12	131	10.9	0
Curtis Allen, VUU	21	128	6.1	1 (2)
Reggie Davis, ALC	15	120	8.0	1 (44)
Ahmad Miller, JSU	15	118	7.9	1 (1)
Thad Franklin Jr., FLA&M	11	118	10.7	1 (19)
James Jones, DSU	11	121	11.0	1 (10)
Anthony Reagan Jr., HOW	16	113	7.1	2 (4, 56)
Lawrence Butler, TXSOU	20	101	5.1	1 (1)

RECEIVING

	REC	Yds	AVG	TDs/YDs
Deandre Proctor, JCSU	14	129	9.2	1 (7)
Malik Mullins, BEN	4	126	31.5	1 (86)
Tyran Warren, ALC	7	111	15.8	2 (64, 17)
Montrell Walker, HOW	6	103	17.2	1 (4)
Nate Rembert, JSU	6	100	16.2	1 (55)
Iyzaiah Rockwell, PVA&M	4	100	25.0	1 (31)
Daveon Walker, ALA&M	7	100	14.2	1 (44)
Kah'Ryn Thomas, NSU	3	90	30.0	1 (34)
Jamill Williams, ALB	7	87	12.4	2 (40, 22)
Javon Ross, B-CU	2	82	41.0	1 (67)
Omari Stewart, ALB	7	80	11.4	0

TACKLES

12	Lamumba Howard, VUU; Isaiah Lawson, NCCU;
11	Stemaron Edwards, ALC; Erick Hunter, MSU; Lawrence McConnell, KSU;
10	Ty'Metrius Patterson, BEN; Jason Riles Jr., FLA&M;
	Ahmad Ross, VUU; Joshua Iseah, NCA&T; Cedric Roberts, ALC;
	Korede Sogbesan, HAMP; Wyatt Wright, Jalen Wright, ALA&M;

SACKS ;

2.5	Makai McCall, NCCU; Garfield Lawrence, TXSOU;
2.0	Josh Barker, SCSU; Isaiah Washburn, B-CU; Derrick Brown Jr., HOW
1.5	Jaquavion Smith, HOW;
1.0	28

INTERCEPTIONS

2	Refeno Vangates, NCCU;
1	11

(MEAC) title after its 28-17 win over **Delaware State** Saturday and will represent the conference for the second straight year in the Dec. 13 *Cricket Celebration Bowl* in Atlanta's Mercedes Benz Stadium.

It will be another week before the Bulldogs (9-3) and head coach **Chennis Berry** know who their opponent from the **Southwestern Athletic Conference** (SWAC) will be.

It could be either **T. C. Taylor's** 9-2 Tigers of **Jackson State**, winners of the SWAC East race after its 27-21 over **Alcorn State** Saturday, or **Tre'maine Jackson's** 9-3 Panthers of **Prairie View A&M**, West Division champs. The two will meet

Coaching changes at Hampton, Bowie State

HAMPTON, Va. (Nov. 23, 2025) ... **Hampton University** Director of Intercollegiate Athletics **Anthony D. Henderson, Sr.**, has announced an immediate leadership change in the football program, relieving **Trent Boykin** of his duties as head coach.

Boykin, a veteran running back and special teams coach with nearly three decades of collegiate coaching experience, took over as the Pirates' interim head coach for the 2024-25 season, and in October 2024, was named the permanent head coach. He was 7-17 in his two years at the helm, 2-10 overall this season. Boykin was 2-14 in Coastal Athletic Association (CAA) play including 0-8 this season. A national search will be conducted to identify the next leader of the Hampton Pirates football program.

BOWIE, MD - **Bowie State** University has decided to not renew **Kyle Jackson's** contract as head coach of the football program. Bowie State will begin a nationwide search for the next head football coach immediately.

"On behalf of Bulldog Athletics, I want to extend our sincere gratitude to Coach Jackson for the meaningful impact he has made on our football program, both as a player and as a dedicated coach over the last 11 years," said **Clyde Doughty, Jr.**, vice president for intercollegiate athletics & recreation.

Jackson compiled a 19-21 record, including a 10-16 mark in CIAA play. He was named the 10th BSU head coach in January 2023 after serving in an interim capacity during the 2022 season. He was previously the recruiting coordinator and linebackers coach for