

BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS PAGE



Albany State Sports photo

SEEKING HISTORY

QUINN GRAY: Albany State head coach looks to lead Golden Rams into NCAA Div. II football national semifinals.

ALBANY STATE LOOKS FOR FIRST FINAL FOUR SPOT; JSU/PV BATTLE FOR SWAC TITLE, CELEBRATION BOWL BERTH



JACKSON STATE TIGERS (9-2)

EAST DIVISION CHAMPION
SOUTHWESTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE



Head Coach
T. C. TAYLOR

TEAM RECORD	2025 RESULTS
2025 Overall 9-2	JACKSON STATE 9-2
2025 SWAC East 7-1	28..... Hampton.....14 W
2025 BCSP Ranking 3rd	20.....@ Southern Miss.....38 L
All-Time vs. Prairie View A&M 41-15-2	30..... Tuskegee.....0 W
Last Time vs. Prairie View A&M 27-10 W, '21	38.....@ Southern.....13 W
SWAC Title Games 8, 4-4	57..... Alabama A&M in Mobile...24 W
SWAC Championships 20 (Last '24)	38..... Alabama State.....34 W

COACH'S RECORD
Alma Mater: Jackson State '01
Record vs. Prairie View A&M: 0-0
Record at JSU: 26-8, '764, 3rd year
Career Record: Same



PRAIRIE VIEW A&M PANTHERS (9-3)

WEST DIVISION CHAMPION
SOUTHWESTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE



Head Coach
TREMAINE JACKSON

2025 RESULTS	TEAM RECORD
PRAIRIE VIEW A&M 9-3	2025 Overall 9-3
22.....@ Texas Southern.....21 W	2025 SWAC West 7-1
17..... Texas Rio-Grande Valley...21 L	2025 BCSP Ranking 4th
17.....@ Rice.....38 L	All-Time vs. Jackson State 15-41-2
27..... Northwestern State.....24 W	Last Time vs. Jackson State 10-27, L '21
28..... Grambling State in Dallas...13 W	SWAC Title Games 3, 1-2
13.....@ Alcorn State.....12 W	SWAC Championships 11 (Last '09)
24.....@ Southern.....3 W	
38..... Lincoln (CA).....0 W	
25.....@ Alabama A&M.....20 W	
28..... Alabama State.....31 L	
48.....@ Alabama A&M.....5 W	
56..... Arkansas-Pine Bluff.....9 W	

COACH'S RECORD
Alma Mater: Houston '06
Record vs. Jackson State: 0-0
Record at Prairie View A&M: 9-3, '750, 1st year
Career Record: 48-15, 6 seasons

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2025 • JACKSON, MS. • MISSISSIPPI VETERANS STADIUM • 1 P.M. CST • ESPN2

Final Four, Bowl game berth on the line

SCORES

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27
Alabama State 58, Tuskegee 21

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 29
Southern 28, Grambling State 27
NCAA DIV. II PLAYOFFS - SECOND ROUND
Albany State 14, Benedict 12

NCAA DIV. II PLAYOFF GAME RECAP

Albany State 14, Benedict 12

ALBANY, GA – SIAC champion Albany State, the region's top seed, scored its third win this season over SIAC runners-up Benedict 14-12 Saturday in a second round NCAA Div. II Super Region II playoff game. With the win, the Golden Rams (12-1) advance to the regional final next week vs. Newberry (11-1).

ASU scored first vs. Benedict on a 41-yard first-quarter pass from QB Isaiah Knowles to WR Jamill Williams. Benedict (10-3) got a late first-quarter field goal and another in the second quarter to trail 7-6 at the half.

It stayed that way until midway thru the fourth quarter when Knowles (19-29-0, 244 yards) capped a 7-play, 89-yard drive with a 1-yard plunge for a 14-6 lead with 7:36 to play. On the ensuing possession, Benedict covered 70 yards in 11 plays to score on a 9-yard run over the right side by David Smith (12 carries, 74 yards) with 3:45 left. The attempt for a tying two-point conversion on a pass was broken up in the end zone. ASU picked up three first downs to run out the clock.

The Golden Rams regional final win followed a 31-3 win over Benedict in the regular season and a 22-16 win over the Tigers in the SIAC title game. Benedict was the fifth seed in the region. Albany State defeated Valdosta State, 34-31 in the first round. It is ASU's fourth time in the regional final.

Third-seeded Newberry advanced to the regional final following a 24-17 second round win on the road over second-seed West Florida Saturday. The Wolves defeated SIAC member Kentucky State, 45-24 in the first round. Albany State will host this Saturday's regional championship game. The winner advances to the Div. II Final Four semifinals.

2025 ALL-SWAC FOOTBALL SELECTIONS

OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR
Andrew Body, Jr., QB, Alabama State

DEFENSIVE PLAYER AND NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR
Quincy Ivory, Sr., DL, Jackson State

FRESHMAN OF THE YEAR
Chase Bingmon, Fr., RB, Prairie View A&M

COACH OF THE YEAR
Tremaine Jackson, Prairie View A&M

FIRST TEAM OFFENSE

QB: Andrew Body, ALS; **RB:** Ahmad Miller, JSU; Jaylen Jennings, ARKPB; **OL:** Cameron Smith, ALS; D'Andre Townes-Blue, JSU; Elijah Baker, ALS; Brian Williams Jr., JSU; Calvin McMillian, PVA&M; **WR:** Jalen Jones, ALS; Iyzaiah Rockwell, PVA&M; **TE:** Travaunta Abner, ALA&M;

FIRST TEAM DEFENSE

DL: Quincy Ivory, JSU; Ckelby Givens, SOU; Warren Robinson, GSU; Bryce Cage, GSU; **LB:** Stemarion Edwards, ALC; Danarius Hilliard, ARKPB; Reid Pulliam, JSU; **DB:** Trevor Randle, PVA&M; Ta'Shaun Sims, ALS; Antwone Watts, B-CU; Markel Linzer, GSU;

FIRST TEAM SPECIALIST

PK: Daniel Porto, FLA&M; **P:** Max Tulen, B-CU; **RS:** Javon Ross, B-CU; **LS:** Cole Hash, B-CU;

SECOND TEAM OFFENSE

QB: JaCobian Morgan, JSU; **RB:** Reggie Davis, ALC; Chase Bingmon, PVA&M; **OL -** Quaveon Davis, JSU; Jeremiah Frazier, ALS; Christian Loving, B-CU; Cameron Rogers, ALC; Ashton Grable, FLA&M; **WR:** Maleek Huggins, B-CU; Nate Rembert, JSU; **TE:** Travon Jones, PVA&M;

SECOND TEAM DEFENSE

DL: Malik Gucake, PVA&M; Jeremiah Williams, JSU; Michael Akins, TXSOU; Eric Thomas Jr., ALC; **LB:** Jason Riles Jr., FLA&M; Isaiah Bogerty, TXSOU; Jalil Lenore, ALS; **DB:** Keane Lewis, ALS; Kam Sallis, JSU; Eric Zachery, PVA&M; Deontre Morris, ALS

SECOND TEAM SPECIALIST

PK: Marko Jovicic, MVSU; **P:** Demetron Duvall, ALC; **RS:** Nehemiah Hixon, ALS; **LS:** Garrett Wilemon, ALS;

BLACK COLLEGE FCS TOP FIVE

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1) SOUTH CAROLINA STATE (9-3) - MEAC champion NEXT: Celebration Bowl in Atlanta's Mercedes Benz Stadium on Dec. 13.

2) ALABAMA STATE (9-2) - Defeated Tuskegee, 58-21. NEXT: Finished second in SWAC East.

3) JACKSON STATE (9-2) - SWAC East champion. NEXT: SWAC Championship Game at home vs. Prairie View A&M.

4) PRAIRIE VIEW A&M (9-3) - SWAC West champion. NEXT: SWAC title game vs. Jackson State Saturday.

5) DELAWARE STATE (8-4) - Finished second in MEAC. NEXT: Season over.

BLACK COLLEGE NCAA DIV. II / NAIA TOP FIVE

1) ALBANY STATE (12-1) - Held off Benedict, 14-12 in Div. II second round game. NEXT: Hosting Newberry for Super Region II title.

2) JOHNSON C. SMITH (10-2) - CIAA champion lost in D2 playoffs first round. NEXT: Season over.

3) VIRGINIA UNION (9-3) - CIAA runners-up lost in D2 first round. NEXT: Season over.

4) BENEDICT (10-3) - Lost third match of season to Albany State, 14-12 in D2 second round. NEXT: Season over.

5) KENTUCKY STATE (9-3) Lost in D2 first round. NEXT: Season over.

LUT WILLIAMS

BCSP Editor

There are only four black college teams left playing college football as the month of December begins.

Three are in action this week while one is waiting to find out who it will be facing next week.

In Action

Quinn Gray's 12-1 SIAC champion Albany State squad will be looking to go where no Golden Rams' team has gone, despite three tries – to the NCAA Div. II Final Four, national semifinals.

The Rams, the top seed in D2's Super Region II, have posted playoff wins over Valdosta State and SIAC runners-up Benedict (see NCAA Div. II Playoff Game Recap) and will now host South Athletic Conference (SAC) champion 11-1 Newberry, the region's third seed, for the region title (Saturday, 1 p.m.).

Albany State, playing at home, is also attempting to get where no black college team has gotten since Winston-Salem State's run to the Div. II championship game in 2012. The Golden Rams are in the same spot that 2024 CIAA champion Virginia Union was a year ago after playoff road wins over Wingate and Lenoir-Rhyne. The Panthers however fell on the road to Valdosta State in the Super Region I final.

Albany State and Newberry appear evenly matched. Interestingly, they have one common opponent this season – SIAC member Kentucky State (9-3) – and they produced similar results vs. the Thorobreds.

ASU led KSU 28-21 thru three quarters before scoring 21 unanswered fourth-quarter points for a 49-21 in-conference win early in the season (Sept. 6). KSU hung with Newberry, trailing only 31-24 after three quarters, before the Wolves scored 14 unanswered fourth-quarter points for a 45-24 win two weeks ago in the first round of the playoffs.

Newberry features a quick-strike passing offense led by grad senior quarterback Reed Charnia who has thrown for 3,386 yards – seventh in Div. II football – and 28 touchdowns with just four interceptions. Senior wideout Keith Desaussure has been Charnia's chief target hauling in 87 catches for 1,016 yards, both sixth in Div. II, and ten TDs. Two other receivers, sophomore DeAndre Coleman and senior Rico Dorsey Jr. topped 700 receiving yards with Dorsey getting seven scoring catches. Junior RB Quez Spellis is the Wolves top rusher (395 yards, 3 TDs) but is also a receiving threat. The Wolves average 31 points per game.

Albany State counters with a passing defense that gave up an average of 171.5 passing yards per game, second best in the SIAC, and 13.3 points per game, best in the conference and third in Div. II. Redshirt sophomores Jonavan Carr and Tyrell Gainey are all-SIAC selections in the secondary with redshirt junior Derrick Drayton the leader up front with a team-best 7.5 sacks.

Albany State's offense is led by senior QB Isaiah Knowles, the SIAC's Offensive Player of the Year, who has thrown for 2,151 yards and 18 TDs with six picks despite missing three games. Sophomore Tiant Wyche leads the Rams' ground attack

Albany State seeks D2 Final Four; Prairie View A&M/Jackson State battle for SWAC title, Celebration Bowl berth

with 960 yards (71.9 ypg., 5.7 yards carry) and 10 rushing touchdowns.

SWAC Championship

The other two teams in action this week are SWAC East Division champion and defending league champion Jackson State hosting SWAC West champion Prairie View A&M in the league's 27th championship game (1 p.m., ESPN2).

The team in waiting is Mid Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC) champion South Carolina State who will meet the SWAC champ next week (Dec. 13) in Celebration Bowl X in Atlanta.

Head coach T. C. Taylor's Tigers of JSU (9-2) are trying to duplicate the feat of former head coach Deion "Coach Prime" Sanders who led JSU to back-to-back SWAC titles in 2021 and 2022 before bolting to Colorado.

Taylor is likely entering Saturday's game without starting grad QB Jacobian Morgan, last year's Celebration Bowl MVP, who has not played since being injured in the first half of a 26-24 loss to Grambling State on Oct. 25 in Las Vegas. True freshman QB Jared Lockhart has led JSU to four wins since while putting up efficient if not spectacular numbers. He has thrown for 677 yards (135 ypg.) since coming in in the Grambling game with six TDs and only one interception. The Tigers have primarily relied on a ground game that has piled up 1,537 yards, 307 yards per game and 13 TDs, backing Lockhart over that span.

While JSU will have a freshman at the controls of the offense, Prairie View will have senior signal caller Cameron Peters leading the offense.

Marshall Faulk introduced as new Southern head football coach

Southern University brought out star alumni in NFL Hall of Famer Aeneas Williams and NBA champion Avery Johnson to welcome Pro Football Hall of Fame running back Marshall Faulk as the Jaguars' new head football coach Monday.

Faulk, who has spent the 2025 season as the running backs coach at Colorado under head coach Deion "Coach Prime" Sanders, was introduced at Monday's press conference as the 22nd head football coach at Southern.

He also becomes the latest NFL standout to join the black college head coaching ranks in the last few years joining the likes of Sanders, formerly at Jackson State, Eddie George formerly at Tennessee State now at Bowling Green, Michael Vick now at Norfolk State, DeSean Jackson now at Delaware State and others.

"For me to have my first head coaching

GAMES THIS WEEK

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6
SWAC CHAMPIONSHIP GAME
Prairie View A&M vs. Jackson State in Jackson, MS - ESPN2 1p

NCAA DIV. II PLAYOFFS - QUARTERFINALS
Newberry vs. Albany State in Albany, GA - ????? 1p

Peters has been key to the Panthers' 3-0 close to the season after throwing four picks in a 31-28 home loss to Alabama State on Nov. 1. Since then he has thrown for 1,097 yards (365 ypg.) and nine TDs with just one interception.

JSU and PV are neck and neck in most SWAC statistical categories. JSU is second (33.9 ypg.) and PV third (31.8 ypg.) in scoring offense. The Panthers are first (15.8 ypg.) and JSU second (18.4 ypg.) in scoring defense. JSU is first in total offense (478.9 ypg.) with PV third (431.4) and PV is first (269.6 ypg.) and JSU second (317.6 ypg.) in total defense. Jackson State is first in rushing offense with PV third. JSU leads the league in rushing defense (110.0 ypg.) with the Panthers fourth (143.5).

Individually, players to watch include JSU 6-foot, 207-pound redshirt sophomore running back Ahmad Miller (1,027 yds., 6.8 yards per carry, 5 TDs) who was the only SWAC runner to top 1,000 yards this season. Prairie View's 6-2, 214-pound junior wide receiver Iyzaiah Rockwell's 64 receptions tied for first with his 988 receiving yards second and seven TD catches tied for third. PV freshman RB Chase Bingmon's 857 rushing yards (6.0 ypc., 8 TDs) earned him the league's freshman of the year award. JSU senior lineman Quincy Ivory (64 tackles, 13.5 TFL, 6 sacks) and PV defensive back Trevor Randle (84 tackles, 3 ints.) are defensive standouts. Ivory was named Monday the SWAC's defensive player of the year and Randle an all-SWAC first teamer.

job in this state that gave me everything and provided everything for me, means the world to me," said Faulk, a New Orleans native.

There's no fear in me," Faulk said. "Winners win. That's it. At every level somehow, some way I've found a way to find the win. That's what we're going to do. We are going to deliver a team that plays with heart, that plays with passion and goes out there and represents this community the way you want to be represented."

Faulk's playing credentials are equal or surpass those of the others that preceded him into the black college coaching ranks. He was a three-time all-American and three-time Heisman Trophy finalist at San Diego State before a sterling NFL career that included seven 1,000-yard rushing seasons, over 12,000 career rushing yards, three NFL Offensive Player of the Year awards, seven Pro Bowl selections, a Super Bowl XXXIV title with the St. Louis Rams in a 12-year NFL career culminating with his 2011 selection to the Hall of Fame.

TOP PERFORMANCES

FOR GAMES OF
NOVEMBER 29, 2025

PASSING	COMP-ATT-INT	Yds	TDs (Yds)
Te'Sean Smoot, ALST	20-24-0	422	4 (1, 11, 12, 13)
Isaiah Knowles, ALB	19-29-0	244	1 (41)
Hayden Benoit, GSU	16-32-1	221	2 (9, 26)
Michael Franklin, TUSK	12-29-3	208	0

RUSHING	CAR	Yds	AVG	TDs (Yds)
Barry Remo, SOU	7	107	14.3	1 (51)
David Smith, BEN	12	74	6.2	1 (9)
Tre Holly, SOU	18	61	3.4	2 (1, 9)

RECEIVING	REC	Yds	AVG	TDs/Yds
Jalen Jones, ALS	6	189	33.0	0
Jamill Williams, ALB	6	112	18.7	1 (41)
Rashad Wilson Jr., TUSK	7	81	11.5	0
Andrew Frazier, GSU	1	70	70.0	0

TACKLES	PLA	Yds	AVG	TDs/Yds
12 Omari Terry, BEN;				
10 Isaiah Stephens, BEN;				

SACKS	PLA	Yds	AVG	TDs/Yds
2.0 Cameron Gordon, ALS;				
1.5 Israel Nwokocho, BEN;				
1.0 12				

INTERCEPTIONS	PLA	Yds	AVG	TDs/Yds
2 Ta'Shaun Sims, ALS;				
1 4				



BCSP NFL PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

For NFL games of November 27 - December 1, 2025

DEFENSE

- **#90 GROVER STEWART**, DT, Indianapolis (9th season, ALBANY STATE) - In the Colts' 20-16 loss to Houston Sunday, Stewart started at defensive tackle and had three tackles, two solos, with one batted down pass and one hit on the QB. Stewart was in for 52 defensive snaps (68%) and four on special teams (18%).



OFFENSE

- **#19 XAVIER SMITH**, WR/KR, Los Angeles Rams (3rd season, FLORIDA A&M) - In the Rams' 31-28 loss to Carolina, Smith started at wide receiver and had three receptions for 82 yards (27.3 yards per catch) with a long catch of 51 yards. He had two fair catches on punts. He was in for 20 plays on offense (38%) and four on special teams (17%).



SPECIAL TEAMS

- **#33 BHAYSHUL TUTEN**, RB, Jacksonville (Rookie, NORTH CAROLINA A&T/Virginia Tech) - In the Jaguars' 25-3 win over Tennessee Sunday, Tuten carried eight times for 17 yards (2.1 yards per carry) with a long run of 7 yards including a 2-yard third-quarter TD run. He also had a catch in his only target for 2 yards and had one kickoff return for 32 yards.