

BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS PAGE



NC A&T Athletics Photo

ALL ABOUT PRECIOUS MEMORIES

ISAIAH TAYLOR: NC A&T's 400 meter hurdler tops the nation and leads over 20 HBCU competitors to this week's NCAA Div. I Track & Field Championships in Eugene, Oregon Wednesday thru Saturday.

MOREHOUSE TOP SIAC MEN; HBCU LEGACY BOWL TO ATLANTA; HOWARD TRANSFER; CHARLIE NEAL MEMORIAL

Morehouse repeats as SIAC Men's Commissioner's Cup winner

ATLANTA, GA | The **Morehouse** Department of Athletics has added another major chapter to one of the most successful eras in Maroon Tiger history as it was named the recipient of the **SIAC Men's Commissioner's Cup** for the second consecutive year.

The Tigers and Athletics Director **Harold Ellis** were congratulated for their championship success during the 2025-26 academic year, a year defined by conference titles, improved finishes, individual excellence and department-wide momentum. The Maroon Tigers captured SIAC championships in men's cross country, men's basketball, men's indoor track and field, and men's outdoor track and field.



Morehouse / SIAC Photo

MAROON TIGERS WIN! Morehouse Athletics Director Harold Ellis (r.) receives the SIAC Men's Commissioner's Cup signifying overall athletic excellence in the conference from SIAC Commissioner Anthony Solomon (l.).

The Commissioner's Cup is awarded based on cumulative athletic performance across conference sports, recognizing the institution whose programs achieve the highest level of competitive success throughout the academic year. For Morehouse, the 2025-26 award was powered by championship performances, postseason runs, weekly awards and a growing list of regional and national recognition.

HOW IT HAPPENED

Morehouse set the tone in the fall as the men's cross country team continued its dynasty. The Maroon Tigers captured their fourth consecutive SIAC Men's Cross Country Championship, scoring 26 points and placing four runners in the top 10.

The winter season brought two more championships and one of the most memorable basketball seasons in recent program history.

Under first-year head coach **Larry Dixon**, the Maroon Tigers won the SIAC East Division regular season title, secured the No. 1 seed from the East, and defeated **Tuskegee**, 66-56, to win the SIAC Men's Basketball Tournament Championship. It was Morehouse's first SIAC Tournament title since 2003 and sent the Maroon Tigers back to the NCAA Division II Tournament for the first time since 2018.

Morehouse indoor track and field added another championship to the department's historic year by winning its second consecutive SIAC Indoor Track and Field Championship. The Maroon Tigers scored 149 points and again displayed the program's depth across sprints, distance, jumps, throws and relays.

The spring season brought the exclamation point. Morehouse captured the SIAC Outdoor Track and Field Championship with 176 points, completing the first SIAC "track triple crown" in conference history. By sweeping men's cross country, men's indoor track and field, and men's outdoor track and field in the same academic year, the Maroon Tigers delivered one of the most dominant all-around performances ever by an SIAC men's track and field program. The outdoor championship also marked Head Coach **Willie Hill's** 51st SIAC championship in track and cross country.

Morehouse Athletics will receive their trophy during the SIAC football media day in Macon, GA on July 22. The winner of the women's Commissioner's Cup will be revealed at a later date.



2023 NFF CHRIS SCHENKEL AWARD RECIPIENT
CHARLIE NEAL
1945 - 2026

The homegoing service for black college sports and broadcasting legend **Charlie Neal** will be livestreamed (<https://fbcg.online.church>) on Friday, June 12 from the First Baptist Church of Glenarden at 600 Watkins Park Drive in Upper Marlboro, Maryland. The doors will reportedly open at 9:30 a.m. with the funeral service to begin at 11 a.m. James "JB" Brown, the prominent CBS Sports and NFL broadcaster, is hosting the service.

The audio of the services will also be streamed on the Heritage Sports Radio Network (hsmn.com) beginning at 9:30 a.m. with host Lamont Germany interviewing a host of colleagues, friends, athletes, coaches, celebrities and others who worked with and have known the beloved broadcaster for years.

Allstate HBCU Legacy Bowl moving to Atlanta

The **Black College Football Hall of Fame** (BCFHOF) announced Friday that the **Allstate HBCU Legacy Bowl**, a postseason all-star game showcasing 100 of the best draft-eligible seniors in black college football, will be moving to Atlanta in 2027 after spending its first five years in New Orleans.

The announcement was made during a press conference at Atlanta's Omni Hotel on the eve of Saturday's induction of the 17th class to the Black College Football Hall of Fame.

2026 BCFHOF inductee **Steve Wyche** hosted the press conference and made the announcement and brought on BCFHOF co-founder, **Grambling** and NFL quarterback legend **James "Shack" Harris** for remarks.

"Beginning in February 2027, the Allstate HBCU Legacy Bowl will call Atlanta, Georgia its home," Wyche said. "As we know, Atlanta stands at the intersection of HBCU heritage, black culture, business leadership and sports excellence. It is home to one of the nation's largest concentrations of HBCU students and alumni and it provides an unmatched stage to showcase the next generation of leaders both on and off the field."

"We have incredible partners, New Orleans has served us well," Harris added, "Mrs. (Gayle) Benson and the New Orleans Saints, the Allstate Sugar Bowl and the state of Louisiana. It just so happens that (BCFHOF co-founder) **Doug (Williams)** and I both are from Louisiana.

"But we're equally excited about the growth and the opportunity to grow our footprint in Atlanta."

"It's more than a football game," Wyche said. "It's a week-long celebration of black culture, history and provides invaluable exposure to HBCU football players and their coaches."

In 2023, a Career Fair was added to the bowl-week schedule and is now the **Allstate HBCU Legacy Bowl Career Fair**, the largest HBCU career fair in the country. Over 2,000 HBCU sophomores, juniors, seniors and grad students attended the career fair in New Orleans and many left with jobs and internships. A bus program sponsored by the **John Madden**



BCSP Photo

ATLANTA, HERE WE COME! Howard grad Steve Wyche announces the move of the Allstate HBCU Legacy Bowl from New Orleans to Atlanta at Friday's press conference in Atlanta.

Foundation brought HBCU students within a 500-mile radius to New Orleans to interact with Fortune 500 companies such as Adidas, Coca-Cola, Delta the National Football League (NFL) its clubs and many others.

Wyche announced that Allstate is continuing its support of the Legacy Bowl by extending its title partnership with another multi-year commitment. The move to Atlanta means students in Georgia, North and South Carolina and Virginia, unable to travel to New Orleans, will now have access to the game and career fair.

"So, this game and this job fair is going nowhere (but to Atlanta) courtesy of Allstate," Wyche said.

UNDER THE BANNER

WHAT'S GOING ON IN AND AROUND BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

HOWARD LANDS SIAC TOURNEY MVP:

SIAC Basketball Tournament MVP, 6-7, 220-pound sophomore forward **Josiah Lawson** of league champion **Morehouse**, has decided to transfer to **MEAC** champion **Howard**.

Despite starting just one of 29 games in the 2025-26 season, Lawson was a key catalyst as the Maroon Tigers ran to a 19-9 regular season record including a 19-5 mark that earned them the tournament's top seed from the SIAC East Division.

He averaged 13.5 points per game for the season, second-best on the balanced attack of first-year head coach **Larry Dixon** that featured five double-digit scorers. He shot an efficient .491 (141 of 287) from the field, .371 (36 of 97) from 3-point range and .760 (73 of 97) from the line while pulling down 3.7 rebounds in 23.6 minutes per game.

In the tournament, Lawson scored 17, 18 and 17 points in the three wins leading to the title and automatic NCAA Div. II Tournament berth. His 17 points in the 66-56 championship-game win over West top seed **Tuskegee** led the Tigers. Lawson shot .540 (20 of 37) from the field in the three tournament games and was a key difference-maker in each of the wins.

Morehouse finished 22-10, losing 94-60 in the first round of the D2 tournament to 2025 national champion Nova Southeastern who went on to the D2 Final Four.

Lawson becomes the second Morehouse player to join **Kenny Blakeney's** Howard squad over the last two seasons. He will join 2024-25 Maroon Tigers' standout **Cedric Taylor III** (6-7, 210) who was Morehouse's top scorer (13.7 ppg.) and rebounder (6.7 rpg.) and a first team all-SIAC performer as a sophomore before joining the Bison last season. Both Taylor and Lawson are from the Atlanta area.

As a junior this season at Howard, Taylor started 23 of 24 games and finished second in the MEAC in scoring (17.2 ppg.) and rebounding (6.7 rpg.) behind league player of the year and tournament MVP, senior teammate **Bryce Harris**. He also finished third in field goal percentage (.454), sixth in free throw percentage (.812) while sinking 1.2 3s per game. He was a first team all-MEAC selection.

Taylor had 13 points and a team-high 12 rebounds in the 70-63 league tournament title win over **N. C. Central** that earned the Bison the league's automatic NCAA Tournament berth. He was named to the all-tournament team.

He followed that up with 16 points and six rebounds before fouling out in an 86-83 NCAA First Four win over UMBC. He added 19 points and six boards as the Bison (24-11) bowed out 101-80 to eventual NCAA national champion Michigan in the first round.

Blakeney has also added two centers via the transfer portal, former 6-10 North Carolina commit **James Brown** and 6-9 Fresno State commit **Gašper Kočevar**.

BCSP Notes

Start times for HBCU athletes at NCAA Div. I Outdoor Track & Field Championships

These are the start times and schedules for the black college athletes competing at the NCAA Div. I Track & Field Championships in Eugene, Oregon from Wed., June 10 thru Saturday, June 13.

Coverage of the championship meets held at Hayward Field in Eugene, Oregon, is split across ESPN, ESPN2, and the ESPN app.

The day-by-day television and streaming breakdown for the meet typically follows this schedule:

Day 1 (Men's Events): Televised live on ESPN.
Day 2 (Women's Events): Televised live on ESPN2.
Day 3 & 4 (Men's & Women's Finals): Televised live on ESPN2.
Field Events & Combined Events: Streamed throughout the competition on ESPN+.

For the complete schedule, exact event start times, and to watch the live streams directly, you can visit the official Broadcast Schedule on [NCAA.com](https://www.ncaa.com) or use the Watch ESPN platform.

MEN 4X100 METER RELAY
Wed., 6/10 - 5:05 p.m. - Semifinals
MEN 110 METER HURDLES
Wed., 6/10 - 6:08 p.m. - Semifinals
MEN 400 METER HURDLES
Wed., 6/10 - 7:14 p.m. - Semifinals
MEN 4X400 METER RELAY
Wed., 6/10 - 8:26 p.m. - Semifinals
MEN LONG JUMP

MEN TRIPLE JUMP

WOMEN 4X100 METER RELAY
Thur., 6/11 - 5:05 p.m. - Semifinals
WOMEN 100 METER HURDLES
Thur., 6/11 - 6:09 p.m. - Semifinals
WOMEN 400 METER HURDLES
Thur., 6/11 - 7:14 p.m. Semifinals
WOMEN 200 METER DASH
Thur., 6/11 - 7:29 p.m. Semifinals

North Carolina A&T
Fri., 6/12 - 5:02 p.m. - Final
Jason Holmes (NC A&T) & Leonard Mustari (FLA&M)
Fri., 6/12 - 6:42 p.m. - Final
Isaiah & Xzavier Taylor (NC A&T)
Fri., 6/12 - 6:27 p.m. - Final
North Carolina A&T
Fri., 6/12 - 7:21 p.m. - Final
Justin Walker (Alabama A&M)
Wed., 6/10 - 6:40 p.m. - Final
Xavier Partee (NC A&T)
Fri., 6/12 - 5:12 p.m. - Final
Howard, Florida A&M
Sat., 6/13 - 5:02 p.m. - Final
Tashina Alase (Southern)
Sat., 6/13 - 5:42 p.m. - Final
Cenaiya Billups, Aniya Woodruff (Howard)
Sat., 6/13 - 6:27 p.m. - Final
Yahnari Lyons (Howard)
Sat., 6/13 - 6:37 p.m. - Final

WOMEN HIGH JUMP

WOMEN TRIPLE JUMP

Spirit Morgan (N. Carolina A&T)
Sat., 6/13 - 4:30 p.m. - Final
Olivia Dowd (NC A&T), Daedrian Beville (Alabama State)
Sat., 6/13 - 5:10 p.m. - Final

SWAC Announces 2026 SWAC TV Football Schedule

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.- The **Southwestern Athletic Conference** has announced its 2026 SWAC TV Football schedule featuring 50 regular season contests set to be broadcast live on the league's free digital platform throughout the upcoming season.

The 2026 slate will provide fans with extensive coverage of SWAC football action beginning on Sat., August 29 and continuing through Thanksgiving Day. The schedule includes several highly anticipated non-conference matchups, conference contests, Classic games, and Homecoming events involving all 12 SWAC member institutions. Kickoff times will be released at a later date, the complete upcoming schedule of games is listed below.

DATE	MATCHUP	DATE	MATCHUP
Sat, Aug 29	Clark Atlanta at Grambling State	Sat, Oct 3	Jackson State vs. Alabama A&M
Sat, Aug 29	Albany State at Florida A&M	Sat, Oct 10	B-Cookman at Alabama A&M
Sat, Aug 29	Morehouse vs. Ark.-Pine Bluff	Sat, Oct 10	Southern at Prairie View A&M
Sat, Aug 29	Miles at Alcorn State	Sat, Oct 10	Arkansas Baptist at Alcorn State
Sat, Sep 5	Miles at Alabama A&M	Sat, Oct 10	Miss. Valley St. at Texas Southern
Sat, Sep 5	Lane at Alabama State	Sat, Oct 10	Jackson State at Grambling State
Sat, Sep 5	Central State at Grambling State	Sat, Oct 17	Southern at Texas Southern
Sat, Sep 5	Kentucky State at Southern	Sat, Oct 17	B-Cookman at Miss. Valley State
Sat, Sep 12	Tennessee State at Alabama A&M	Sat, Oct 17	Alabama State at Ark.-Pine Bluff
Sat, Sep 12	Lincoln vs. Mississippi Valley State	Sat, Oct 17	Grambling State at Alabama A&M
Sat, Sep 12	Stetson at Bethune-Cookman	Sat, Oct 24	Jackson State at B-Cookman
Sat, Sep 19	S.F. Austin at Prairie View A&M	Sat, Oct 31	B-Cookman at Ark.-Pine Bluff
Sat, Sep 19	Bowie State at Alabama A&M	Sat, Oct 31	Alcorn State at Miss. Valley State
Sat, Sep 19	Tuskegee at Jackson State	Sat, Oct 31	Grambling St. at Texas Southern
Sat, Sep 19	Delta State at Miss. Valley State	Sat, Nov 7	Bethune-Cookman at Southern
Sat, Sep 19	Louisiana Christian at Southern	Sat, Nov 7	Alabama A&M at Pr. View A&M
Sat, Sep 19	Va. Lynchburg at B-Cookman	Sat, Nov 7	Alabama State at Texas Southern
Sat, Sep 19	Central State at Ark.-Pine Bluff	Sat, Nov 7	Ark.-Pine Bluff at Grambling State
Sat, Sep 26	Texas Southern at Alcorn State	Sat, Nov 7	Florida A&M at Alcorn State
Sat, Sep 26	Alabama A&M at Florida A&M	Sat, Nov 14	Grambling State at B-Cookman
Sat, Sep 26	Miss. Valley St. at Alabama State	Sat, Nov 14	Pr. View A&M at Ark.-Pine Bluff
Sat, Oct 3	Arkansas-Pine Bluff at Southern	Sat, Nov 14	Miss. Valley State at Florida A&M
Sat, Oct 3	Alcorn State at Grambling State	Sat, Nov 14	Texas Southern at Alabama A&M
Sat, Oct 3	Alabama State at B-Cookman	Sat, Nov 21	Alabama A&M at Miss. Valley St.
Sat, Oct 3	Pr. View A&M at Miss. Valley State	Thurs, Nov 26	Tuskegee at Alabama State