FOR THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 20 - 26, 2026

BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS PAGE™

Virginia State Sports Photo

DR. HENRY FRAZIER: Virginia State head coach has the Trojans at 7-1 and on top of the CIAA race and as the top team in the BCSP Div. II Top Five. VSU is off this week.

SHIFTING FORTUNES

CIAA, SIAC GRID RACES IN FINAL THREE WEEKS; HOWARD DUO GETS SHOTS IN THE NFL AND NBA

SCORES

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17

Alabama A&M **(HC)** 61, Grambling State 31
Alabama State 21, Ark.-Pine Bluff **(HC)** 15
Benedict **(HC)** 45, Edward Waters 24
Bethune-Cookman 34, Miss. Valley State **(HC)** 14
Clark Atlanta **(HC)** 17, Allen 14
Clayton State 28, Virginia-Lynchburg 13
Fayetteville State **(HC)** 43, Elizabeth City State 7
Fort Valley State 22, Savannah State **(HC)** 9
Howard **(HC)** 31, Morehouse 17
Indianapolis 48, Lincoln (MO) 14
Jackson State **(HC)** 27, Florida A&M 17
Johnson C. Smith **(HC)** 40, Lincoln (PA) 6
Kentucky State 55, Lane 22
North Carolina A&T 27, Chicago State 12
Prairie View A&M **(HC)** 41, Alcorn State 38
Sacred Heart 35, Hampton 21
Tennessee State **(HC)** 25, Morgan State 16
Tuskegee 17, Albany State 14
Virginia State 76, Shaw 13
Virginia Union 48, Bowie State 7
Warner 43, Florida Memorial 24
Wayland Baptist 41, Langston **(HC)** 7
West Virginia State 30, Wheeling 24, OT
Winston-Salem State 43, Bluefield State 14

UNDER THE BANNER

WHAT'S GOING ON IN AND AROUND BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

VERSATILE HOWARD GRID AND HOOPS STARS GET PROFESSIONAL CALL-UPS:

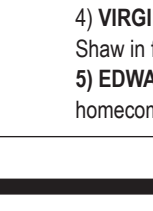
Former **Howard** standout running back/kick returner **Ian Wheeler** and former basketball do-everything swingman **Bryce Harris** both earned roster spots on professional teams last week.

Wheeler

Wheeler, who averaged 6.5 yards per carry at Howard and had totals of 1,143 yards and 14 rushing TDs during his four-year career (2019-2023), was signed to the NFL's Philadelphia Eagles practice squad Thursday.

The move comes after the 5-11, 205-pound undrafted free agent had standout efforts in NFL camps with the Chicago Bears (2024 and 2025) and the Buffalo Bills (2026) before being waived. Between those stints, Wheeler joined the Louisville Kings of the UFL and was the MVP of the 2026 United Bowl.

Also on Thursday, Harris, a sturdy 6-4, 200-pounder was signed by the NBA's Houston Rockets and will play for the Rockets' G League team, the Rio Grande Valley Vipers.



Harris

Harris helped Howard win **MEAC** titles and reach the NCAA Tournament in 2024 and 2026. In 2024, he averaged 16.6 points and 7.6 rebounds, earning first team All-MEAC honors. As a fifth-year senior in 2025-26, Harris led the league in scoring (17.3 ppg.) and rebounding (6.9 rpg.) and was named MEAC Player of the Year and Tourney MVP. He played on Oklahoma City's team in the 2026 NBA Summer League.

BCSP TOP FIVES

BLACK COLLEGE FCS TOP FIVE

1) JACKSON STATE (6-1) **-** Held off Florida A&M at homecoming, 27-17. **NEXT:** At Bethune-Cookman.
2) SOUTH CAROLINA STATE (5-2) - Bye week. **NEXT:** Hosting Norfolk State for homecoming.
3) ALABAMA A&M (6-2) **-** Celebrated homecoming with 61-31 win over No. 1 Grambling State. **NEXT:** Bye week.
4) MORGAN STATE (5-2) - Lost at Tennessee State's homecoming, 25-16. **NEXT:** Opens MEAC play hosting Howard.
5) GRAMBLING STATE (4-3) - Humbled at Alabama A&M's homecoming, 61-31. **NEXT:** Bye week.

BLACK COLLEGE NCAA DIV. II / NAIA TOP FIVE

1) **VIRGINIA STATE** (7-1) - Easily routed Shaw, 76-13. **NEXT:** Bye week.
2) BENEDICT (6-1) - Knocked off No. 1 Edward Waters, 45-24. **NEXT:** At Albany State.
3) JOHNSON C. SMITH (6-1) - 40-6 homecoming win over Lincoln Pa. **NEXT:** At Bowie State's homecoming.
4) **VIRGINIA UNION** (6-1) Beat up Bowie State, 48-7. **NEXT:** Shaw in for homecoming.
5) EDWARD WATERS (5-2) **-** Fell at No. 4 Benedict's homecoming, 45-24. **NEXT:** Clark Atlanta in for homecoming.

THE STAT CORNER

WHO ARE THE BEST PERFORMERS IN BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

For Games of October 17, 2026

Florida A&M @ Jackson State Homecoming	44,173
Alcorn State @ Prairie View A&M Homecoming	15,189
Grambling State @ Alabama A&M Homecoming	14,096
Allen @ Clark Atlanta Homecoming	12,032
Alabama State @ Arkansas-Pine Bluff Homecoming	11,684
Morgan State @ Tennessee State Homecoming	11,347
Fort Valley State @ Savannah State Homecoming	10,330
Morehouse @ Howard Homecoming	9,995
Bethune-Cookman @ Miss. Valley State Homecoming	5,732

2026 BLACK COLLEGE FOOTBALL (Standings and Weekly Honors)

CIAA
Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association

	CONF W	CONF L	ALL W	ALL L
Virginia State	6	0	7	1
Virginia Union	5	0	6	1
Johnson C. Smith	5	0	6	1
Fayetteville State	3	2	4	3
Bowie State	3	2	3	4
Shaw	2	4	4	4
Livingstone	2	4	2	5
Elizabeth City State	1	4	1	6
Lincoln (PA)	1	4	1	6
Winston-Salem State	0	4	1	6
Bluefield State	0	4	0	7

BCSP CIAA PLAYERS OF THE WEEK
QB - Rahsaan Matthews, R-So., **VSU -** 17-23-0, 302 yds., 5 TDs (15, 8, 85, 31, 33) vs. Shaw.
OB - Jayvion Danzy, Fr., **WSSU -** 16 carries, 182 yards (11.4 ypc.), 2 TDs (39, 64) vs. BLST.
WR - Jayden Grimes, Sr., **WSSU -** 3 receptions., 101 yds., (33.6. ypr.), 1 TD (8) vs. BLST
DL - Mecca Carr-Bordeaux, Jr., **WSSU** - 4 tackles, 2 solos, 2.5 TFL sacks, 1 forced fumble vs. LINCP.
LB - Christian Aiken, R-Sr., **VUU -** 7 tackles, 5 solos 1.5 TFL sack vs. Bowie State.
SPECIAL - Zyaire Tart, Fr.,DB/KR, **VUU -** 82-yard kickoff return TD vs. BSU.
NEWCOMER - Damien Mazil, Gr.,QB, **JCSU -** 18-24-2, 266 yards, 4 TDs (36, 28, 16) vs. LINCP.

MEAC
Mid Eastern Athletic Conference

	CONF W	CONF L	ALL W	ALL L
Morgan State	0	0	5	2
SC State	0	0	5	2
Delaware State	0	0	4	3
Norfolk State	0	0	4	3
Howard	0	0	3	4
North Carolina Central	0	0	2	5

BCSP MEAC PLAYERS OF THE WEEK
OFFENSE
Eden James, Gr., RB, **HOW -** 13 carries, 120 yards, 9.2 yards per carry, 1 TD (61) vs. Morehouse.
DEFENSE
Kyle Dillon, So., DL, **HOW** - 6 solo tackles, 2 TFL (-10), 1 sac (-9) vs. Morehouse.
SPECIALIST
Keith Jenkins Jr, Gr., RB, **MSU -** Averaged 18.5 yards on four kickoff returns for 74 yards and had 13 carries for 111 yards on offense (10.3 ypc.) and a 28-yard TD run. He finished with 224 all-purpose yards.

SIAC
Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference

	CONF W	CONF L	ALL W	ALL L
Kentucky State	5	1	6	2
Benedict	4	1	6	1
Edward Waters	4	1	5	2
Central State	4	1	4	3
Albany State	3	2	3	4
Miles	3	2	3	4
Tuskegee	3	2	3	4
Morehouse	3	3	3	5
Clark Atlanta	2	3	2	5
Fort Valley State	1	3	2	4
Allen	1	4	2	5
Savannah State	1	5	1	6
Lane	0	6	0	8

BCSP SIAC PLAYERS OF THE WEEK
OFFENSE
Juan Gainous, Jr., QB, **KSU -** 18-23-1, 231 yards, 4 TDs (65, 50, 9, 6) in win vs. Lane.
DEFENSE
Masiah Wells, R-Sr., DL, **TUSK -** 8 tackles, 5 solos, 4.5 TFL for -27 yds., 2.5 sacks for -18 yards in win vs. ALB.
SPECIAL TEAMS
Chris Butler, So., WR/KR, **BEN** - 3 KO returns for 132 yards including 76-yard TD vs. EWU.
ROOKIE
NA

SWAC
Southwestern Athletic Conference

	DIV W	DIV L	ALL W	ALL L
EAST DIVISION				
Jackson State	3	1	6	1
Alabama A&M	3	1	6	2
Bethune-Cookman	2	1	4	3
Alabama State	2	2	4	3
Miss. Valley State	2	2	3	5
Florida A&M	1	2	2	5
WEST DIVISION				
Prairie View A&M	3	2	3	5
Grambling State	2	2	4	3
Alcorn State	2	2	4	4
Arkansas-Pine Bluff	1	2	3	3
Southern	1	2	3	4
Texas Southern	0	3	1	5

BCSP SWAC PLAYERS OF THE WEEK
OFFENSE
Cornelius Brown IV, Gr., QB, **ALA&M** - 22-38-1, 417 yards, 5 TDs vs. GSU.
Jaylan Bean, Jr., WR, **ALA&M** - 10 catches, 240 yards , 4 TDs (67, 6, 61, 19) vs. GSU.
DEFENSE
Jaden Davis, Jr., S, **B-CU** - 9 tackles, 6 solos, 1 sack (-11), 1 FR for TD, 3 picks vs. MVSU.
SPECIALIST
Tony Phillips Jr., Jr., RB/KR, **GSU -** 4 KO returns, 178 yards, 100-yard TD vs. ALA&M.

INDEPENDENTS

	CONF W	CONF L	ALL W	ALL L
Florida Memorial	1	2	3	4
Va.-Lynchburg	0	0	1	5
Chicago State	0	0	1	6
CAA				
NC A&T State	2	2	3	5
Hampton	0	3	1	5
OHIO VALLEY				
Tennessee State	0	2	2	5
MIAA				
Lincoln (Mo.)	1	3	2	4
MOUNTAIN EAST				
W. Va. State	1	4	2	5
SAC				
Langston	1	4	2	4
Texas College	0	6	0	5

BCSP PLAYERS OF THE WEEK
OFFENSE **Daylin Lee,** Sr., QB, **TNST -** 17-34-0, 220 yards, 2 TDs (19, 11) vs. Morgan State. **Cam Bullock**, Jr., WR, **TNST -** 6 receptions,, 105 yards, 17.5 yards per catch, 1 TD (50) vs. Morgan State.
DEFENSE
Willie DeSantis, Fr., LB, **WVSU -** Led Yellow Jackets with 11 tackles, one solo vs. Wheeling.

Endings and beginnings in sight

LUT WILLIAMS
BCSP Editor

There are just three weeks left in the **CIAA** and **SIAC** regular season football races with still much to be determined.

In the CIAA, the championship table is all but set with two of the three undefeated teams in conference play – **Virginia State** (7-1, 6-0 CIAA), **J. C. Smith** (6-1, 5-0) or **Virginia Union** (6-1, 5-0) – likely to earn a spot in the Saturday, Nov. 14 title game in Durham, N. C. at 3 p.m.

One of the three is also likely to be involved in the league's added *Friday Night Blitz Game* game on Nov. 13 in Durham (6 p.m.) involving teams that finish third and fourth in the regular season. It is an effort to give two additional conference teams a final chance to improve their postseason profiles. A late win over another contender could help when the NCAA selects its Division II playoff field on Sunday, Nov. 15 at 6 p.m.

VSU moved up to No. 1 in the BCSP Div. II ranking after former No. 1, **SIAC** member **Edward Waters**, lost at **Benedict's** homecoming Saturday. JCSU is third and VUU fourth.

Virginia State is off this week while Virginia Union has its homecoming vs. **Shaw** (1 p.m.) and J. C. Smith is at **Bowie State's** homecoming (1 p.m., *CIAA Network*). VSU begins a closing stretch next week playing JCSU on the road in Charlotte, N.C. before closing the season at home vs. VUU.

Benedict's win over Edward Waters gives the SIAC four teams with one loss in conference play – **Kentucky State** at 5-1, Benedict, Edward Waters and **Central State** at 4-1.

This week, Benedict is at **Albany State** (1 p.m.), Kentucky State hosts **Savannah State** (1 p.m. *SIACN*), Central State is at **Miles** (2 p.m.)

PITCHED BATTLES: DeSean Jackson's (l.) Delaware State Hornets host Trei Oliver's (second from l.) N. C. Central Eagles Friday (5 p.m., *ESPN2*) before the Jackson State Tigers of head coach T. C. Taylor (third from l.) visit the Bethune-Cookman Wildcats of Raymond Woodie (r.) on Saturday (12 noon, *SWAC TV*).

and Edward Waters has its homecoming vs. **Clark Atlanta** (2 p.m., *SIACN*).

Central State has likely the most difficult route to the Nov. 14 SIAC title game having to face both Edward Waters (Oct. 31) and Benedict (Nov. 7) to end the season. KSU has next week (Oct. 31) off before ending the season playing **Morehouse** in Nassau, Bahamas (Nov. 7). Benedict faces Savannah State (Oct. 31) before its Central State finale (Oct. 7).

After this weekend's results, three teams are tied with one loss in the **SWAC** East – **Jackson State** and **Alabama A&M** at 3-1 and **Bethune-Cookman** at 2-1. **Texas Southern** is 0-3 in the SWAC West while the other five teams all have two losses in the division.

The biggest E. Div. game this week has JSU at B-CU Saturday (12 noon, *SWAC TV*). **Southern** (1-2) is at TSU (2 p.m., *SWAC TV*) and **Arkansas-Pine Bluff** (1-2) is at **Florida A&M's** homecoming (3 p.m., *HBCUGO.tv*). Prairie View has a non-conference date at East Texas A&M (6 p.m.).

After seven weeks of rough non-conference play, the **MEAC** begins its five-week run to a championship this week. It begins with **N. C. Central** visiting **Delaware State** Friday in Dover, Del. (5 p.m., *ESPN2*) with the Eagles looking to avenge last season's stunning 35-26 DSU win at NCCU's homecoming.

On Saturday, 4-3 **Norfolk State** invades Orangeburg, S. C. to face two-time defending champion **South Carolina State** at the Bulldogs' homecoming (1:30 p.m., *ESPN+*) and **Howard** travels to face **Morgan State** (3 p.m., *ESPN+*).

GAMES THIS WEEK

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23

MEAC
N. C. Central vs. Delaware State in Dover, DE - *ESPN2* 5p

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24

SWAC
Jackson State vs. Bethune-Cookman in D. Beach, FL - *SWAC TV* 12p
Southern vs. Texas Southern in Houston, TX - *SWAC TV* 2p
Ark.-Pine Bluff vs. Florida A&M **(HC)** in T'hassee, FL - *HBCUGo.tv* 3p
Prairie View A&M vs. East Texas A&M in Commerce, TX 6p
CIAA
J. C. Smith vs. Bowie State **(HC)** in Bowie, MD - *CIAASN* 1p
Shaw vs. Virginia Union **(HC)** in Richmond, VA 1p
Winston-Salem State vs. Lincoln (PA) **(HC)** in Linc. Univ., PA - *CIAASN* 1p
Fayetteville St. vs. Bluefield State in Bluefield, WV - *CIAASN* 2p
Eliz. City State vs. Livingstone in Salisbury, NC - *CIAASN* 2p
SIAC
Benedict vs. Albany State in Albany, GA 1p
Lane vs. Fort Valley State **(HC)** in Fort Valley, GA 1p
Savannah State vs. Kentucky State in Frankfort, KY - *SIACN* 1p
Central State vs. Miles in Fairfield, AL 2p
Clark Atlanta vs. Edward Waters **(HC)** in Jacksonville, FL - *SIACN* 2p
Tuskegee vs. Allen in Columbia, SC 2p
MEAC
Norfolk State vs. S. C. State **(HC)** in Orangeburg, SC - *ESPN+* 1:30p
Howard vs. Morgan State in Baltimore, MD - *ESPN+* 3p
INDEPENDENTS
Monroe vs. West Virginia State in Institute, WV - *MEDSN* 12p
McKendree vs. Lincoln (MO) in Jefferson City, MO 12p
Thomas vs. Florida Memorial **(HC)** in Miramar, FL 1p
Texas Wesleyan vs. Langston in Langston, OK 2p
Monmouth vs. Hampton **(HC)** in Hampton, VA - *FloSports* 2p
Charleston Southern vs. Tennessee State in N'ville, TN - *ESPN+* 2:30p
Newberry vs. Virginia-Lynchburg in Lynchburg, VA 6p

TOP PERFORMANCES

For Games of October 17, 2026

PASSING

	COMP-ATT-INT	YDs	TDs (YDs)
Cornelius Brown IV, ALA&M	22-38-1	**417**	**5** (61, 6, 67, 19, 46)
Jaylon Tolbert, ALC	19-39-0	356	**5** (13, 63, 12, 13, 16)
Tavion Faulk, EWU	**30-52**-1	349	2 (21, 18)
Tedric Wilcox, FMU	15-21-2	303	1 (63)
Rahsaan Matthews Jr., VSU	17-23-0	302	**5** (15, 8, **85**, 31, 33)
Damien Mazil, JCSU	18-24--2	266	4 (36, 28, 53, 16)
Jack Schierholz, ALST	21-37-2	243	1 (7)
Juan Gainous, KSU	18-23-1	231	4 (65, 50, 9, 6)
Daylin Lee, TNST	17-34-0	220	2 (19, 11)
Jamir Dismukes, FSU	18-22-0	205	3 (12, 19, 26)

RUSHING

	CAR	YDs	AVG	TDs (YDs)
Jayvion Danzy, WSSU	16	**182**	**11.4**	**2** (39, 64)
Fabian Duncan, JCSU	**23**	146	6.5	0
Travon Tensley, VUU	20	124	6.2	1 (5)
Eden James, HOW	13	120	9.2	1 (61)
Keith Jenkins Jr., MSU	11	113	10.3	1 (28)
Jamal Hailey, FLA&M	12	111	9.3	1 (**81**)
David Smith, BEN	12	106	8.8	**2** (6, 32)
Fredrick Robertson, ALC	15	105	7.0	0
Trayvon Pinder, CLATL	17	96	5.6	1 (2)
Dae'Jeaun Dennis, CLATL	12	92	7.7	1 (2)

RECEIVING

	REC	YDs	AVG	TDs/YDs
Jaylan Bean, ALA&M	**10**	**240**	24.0	**4** (67, 6, 61, 19)
Jalen Holly, FMU	5	135	27.0	1 (63)
Davian Bluitt, MVSU	6	133	22.2	1 (35)
Xavier Irvin, EWU	8	124	15.5	0
Jaral Williams, ALA&M	5	112	22.4	1 (46)
Jaden Hale, KSU	2	115	**57.5**	2 (65, 50)
Darius Cyprian, KSU	6	111	18.5	3 (9, 6, 43)
Demetric Whitlock Jr., ARKPB	6	107	17.8	0
Cam Bullock, TNST	6	105	17.5	1 (50)

TACKLES
14 Marcellius Johnson, GSU;
12 Demone Green, GSU; Corey Lucious, ALST; Kamsi Arinze, MVSU; Devin Smith, TUSK;
11 Trevon French, EWU; Austin Landon, FVSU; Steven Copeland II, MHS; Denzel Johnson, FLA&M;; Jonathan Kimbrough-Campbell, NCA&T;

SACKS
3.0 Armani Itote, CHIST;
2.5 Masiah Wells, TUSK; Mecca Carr-Bordeaux, WSSU;
2.0 Joseph Evans, B-CU; Savieane Stevens, MVSU; Marion Slater, LINCM; Rashad Williamson, LANE; Carlos Bazert Jr., Kenyon Martin, KSU;
1.5 Ethan Nation, BEN; Nicholas Lemons, MHS; Anthony Binyard, JCSU; Christian Aiken, VUU; Stephen Sparrow Jr., B-CU.

INTERCEPTIONS
3 Jaden Davis, B-CU;
2 Rymen Mosley, TNST; B. J. Washington, JSU;

commanders.com Photo

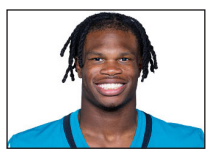
IN THE END ZONE, TWICE!!
Jacksonville cornerback/wide receiver **TRAVIS HUNTER** (#12, **JACKSON STATE** / Colorado) intercepts a pass (l.) from Houston QB C. J. Stroud in the end zone and (r.) hauls in a 7-yard fourth-quarter TD pass. He is just the fourth player since the 1970 AFL/NFL merger with a receiving touchdown and interception in the same game. Despite his efforts, the Jags fell 34-31 to the Texans.

BCSP NFL PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

For NFL games of October 15 - 19, 2026

OFFENSE

- #33 **BHAYSHUL TUTEN**, RB, Jacksonville (2nd year, **NORTH CAROLINA A&T**/Virginia - In the Jaguars' 34-31 loss to Houston, Tuten started at running back and carried 12 times for 39 yards (3.3 yards per carry) with a long run of 5 yards. He also had four receptions in four targets for 48 yards (12.0 yards per reception) with a long reception of 27 yards that went for a second-quarter touchdown. He also scored on a 2-yard second-quarter reception. He finished with 87 total yards while playing 41 offensive snaps (58%).



DEFENSE

- #12 **TRAVIS HUNTER**, CB/WR, Jacksonville (2nd season, **JACKSON STATE** / Colorado) - Started at cornerback and played wide receiver in the Jaguars' 34-31 loss to Houston and finished with three tackles, one solo, one interception and one pass defended on defense. On offense, he had four receptions in four targets for 59 yards (14.8 yards per reception) including a 7-yard fourth-quarter TD reception. Hunter was in for nine offensive snaps (13%), all 62 defensive snaps (98%) and two on special teams (7%).

SPECIAL TEAMS

#49 **ERICK HUNTER**, LB, New England (Rookie, **MORGAN STATE**) - In the Patriots 26-19 win over the New York Jets, Hunter had one solo special teams' tackle. He was in for 15 snaps on special teams (58%).

© AZEEZ Communications, Inc. Vol. XXXIII, No. 12