

BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS PAGE



DSU Sports Photo

BUDDING RIVALRY BEGINS IN PLAYOFFS

▼ IN-STATE RIVALRY KICKS OFF FCS PLAYOFFS; SHAW, ALBANY STATE OUT

LAVAN: Fourth-year coach leads Delaware State into playoffs for first time-ever against nearby but first-time opponent Delaware.

2007 BLACK COLLEGE FOOTBALL (Results, Standings and Weekly Honors)

CIAA	CENTRAL INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION			
	CONF	ALL	CONF	ALL
E. DIVISION	W	L	W	L
# Virginia Union	6	2	9	2
Eliz. City State	5	2	5	5
St. Paul's	4	3	5	5
Virginia State	3	4	4	6
Bowie State	3	4	3	7
W. DIVISION				
# Shaw	7	2	8	4
Fayetteville State	4	3	4	6
St. Augustine's	2	5	2	8
J. C. Smith	2	5	3	7
Livingstone	0	7	0	10

CIAA PLAYERS OF THE WEEK
OFFENSE
RAYMON WILLIAMS, RB, SHAW - Ran nine times for 129 yards including an 80-yard TD gallop in the third quarter that was the Bears only score in a loss to Delta State in Div. II playoffs.

MEAC	MID EASTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE			
	CONF	ALL	CONF	ALL
E. DIVISION	W	L	W	L
Delaware State	8	0	10	1
Norfolk State	6	2	8	3
SC State	6	2	7	4
Hampton	5	3	6	5
Morgan State	4	4	5	6
Bethune-Cookman	3	5	5	6
Howard	2	6	4	7
Florida A&M	2	6	3	8
NC A&T State	0	8	0	11
# W-Salem State	4	5	6	5

MEAC PLAYERS OF THE WEEK
OFFENSE **WILL FORD, So., RB, SCSU** - Had 21 carries for school-record 322 yards and 1 TD (84) in win over NC A&T
DEFENSE **RUSSELL REEVES, Sr. LB, DSU** - Led Hornets with 10 tackles, 6 solos, 2 sacks (-28 yards) and 2 forced fumbles vs. Howard.
ROOKIE **PHIL SYLVESTER, Fr., RB, FAMU** - 7 carries for 73 yards vs. BCU.
SPECIAL TEAMS **PETER GAERTNER, Sr., PK, DSU** - 2 field goals (24, 33), 3 PATs vs. Howard.
LINEMAN NA

SIAC	SOUTHERN INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC CONFERENCE			
	CONF	ALL	CONF	ALL
E. DIVISION	W	L	W	L
# Tuskegee	7	0	10	0
Albany State	6	1	8	3
Fort Valley State	5	2	8	3
Morehouse	4	3	7	3
Lane	4	3	7	3
Stillman	3	4	7	4
Kentucky State	3	4	3	8
Clark Atlanta	2	5	3	8
Benedict	1	6	2	9
Miles	0	7	2	9

SIAC PLAYERS OF THE WEEK
OFFENSE
BRIAN PORTER, Jr., RB, ALBANY STATE - Rushed for 90 yards on 20 carries and returned three kickoffs for 142 yards including a third-quarter 84-yarder for a score in Golden Rams loss to Catawba in NCAA Div. II playoffs.

SWAC	SOUTHWESTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE			
	CONF	ALL	CONF	ALL
E. DIVISION	W	L	W	L
Jackson State	7	2	7	4
Alabama A&M	6	3	8	3
Alabama State	4	5	5	5
Miss. Valley St.	2	7	3	8
Alcorn State	2	5	2	6
W. DIVISION				
# Grambling State	8	0	8	2
Southern	6	3	7	3
Prairie View A&M	6	3	7	3
Ark. Pine Bluff	4	5	4	7
Texas Southern	0	9	0	10

SWAC PLAYERS OF THE WEEK
OFFENSE
JIMMY OLIVER, Sr., QB, JSU - 17 of 33 passes for 245 yards and two scores (24, 33) and rushed for 111 yards as Tigers clinched SWAC East title with win over Alcorn State.
DEFENSE
ZACH EAST, Sr., LB, PV - Led Panthers with 13 tackles, 5 solos, 1 forced fumble and 1 tackle for loss in win over Alabama A&M.
SPECIAL TEAMS
ANTHONY WEEKEN, WR, PV - 73-yard punt return for TD vs. Alabama A&M, 3 rec., 41 yards

INDEPENDENTS	W	L	PLAYERS OF THE WEEK	
			OFFENSE	DEFENSE
West Virginia State	7	3	JAVARRIS WILLIAMS, Jr., RB, TENN. STATE - 9 carries for 162 yards and four touchdowns on runs of 48, 4, 16 and 73 yards in loss to UT-Martin.	KELVIN BAKER, LB, TENN. STATE - 13 tackles (5 solos) in loss to UT-Martin.
N. C. Central	6	4	SPECIAL TEAMS DOMINIQUE RODGERS-CROMARTIE, Sr., DB/KR, TENN. STATE - Returned kickoff 92 yards for a TD vs. UT-Martin.	
Langston	5	4		
Tennessee State	5	6		
Edward Waters	5	6		
Central State	5	6		
Texas College	3	7		
Lincoln (Mo.)	2	8		
Concordia	2	9		
Savannah State	1	9		
Cheyney	1	10		

SCORES

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17
CIAA
NCAA Div. II Playoffs - First Round
Deltat State 45, Shaw 7
MEAC
Bethune-Cookman 34, Florida A&M 7
Delaware St. 29, Howard 13
Norfolk State 23, W-Salem State 20
SC State 51, NC A&T 7
S. Illinois 45, Hampton 27

SIAC
NCAA Div. II Playoffs - First Round
Catawba 66, Albany State 35
SWAC
Ark.-Pine Bluff 20, Tex. Southern 10
Jackson State 31, Alcorn State 19
Miss. Valley St. 28, Savannah St. 3
Prairie View 30, Alabama A&M 20
INDEPENDENTS
UT-Martin 43, Tennessee State 38

DelState gets what it wanted in FCS playoffs

LUT WILLIAMS
BCSP Editor

Delaware State had to wait almost 16 years to win another Mid Eastern Athletic Conference football title but it won't have to wait nearly as long to begin a gridiron rivalry that has been talked about, particularly recently on the national stage, and its wanted for quite some time.

The 10-1 Hornets, who completed their 2007 regular season Saturday with a perfect 8-0 MEAC mark after a 29-13 win over Howard, now get to face Delaware (8-3) on the Hens' home field in a first round game that kicks off the FCS playoffs Friday (1:30 p.m.) in Newark, Del. Despite being just 45 miles apart and both schools playing football on the NCAA Div. I-AA, now FCS level, the two have never met on the gridiron. The NCAA Selection Committee changed that Sunday by pairing the teams in the first round.

DSU, which won its first MEAC title since 1991, earned its spot in the playoffs by virtue of the automatic bid that goes to the league champion. The Hornets have been the top-ranked team in the BCSP Top Ten since the middle of the season. Fourth-year head coach **Al Lavan** will be taking them to the playoffs for the first time. Their only loss this season was 38-7 to Kent State back on Sept. 15.

Delaware is one of a record five teams from the Colonial Athletic Association to make the 16-team playoff field this year joining CAA members Massachusetts, Richmond, James Madison and New Hampshire. The Hens lost their final two games, 16-10 to unranked Villanova and 62-56 in overtime to Richmond, then ranked ninth nationally. Their other loss was 35-30 to New Hampshire on Oct. 6.

Fifth-year coach K. C. Keeler is returning the Hens, one of the dominant programs in I-AA, to the playoffs for the first time since the 2004 season. The Hens won the 2003 I-AA national title under Keeler.

The schools have played each other in several other sports, just never in football. Just two



DSU Sports Photos

THE KEYS: Keeping the high-powered Delaware offense off the field will largely depend on the play of the DSU defense led by LB Russell Reeves (l.) and the DSU offense led by QB Vashon Winton (r.).

weeks ago the Delaware women's basketball team defeated Delaware State 54-47 in a first round WNIT game.

An ESPN.com article and an "Outside the Lines" segment on ESPN in September explored why the teams had not met on the gridiron and led to some testy remarks, particularly from coaches and administrators at Delaware State who said they had been frustrated in their attempts to get a regular season game vs. UD on their schedule. Saturday, all the talking will end and the teams can settle things on the field.

As if to follow-up on the hype it helped create, ESPN will carry the drama and intrigue of this unique playoff matchup live on its primary network Friday afternoon.

Delaware comes in with a high-powered offense, triggered by 6-6, 230-pound senior quarterback Joe Flacco, averaging 468.1 yards, fourth best in FCS football, and 38.1 points per game, which is eighth best. Flacco has thrown for 3,185 yards (251 of 370, 67.8%) with 17 TDs and only five interceptions. Senior RB Omar Cuff (5-10, 195) has rushed for 1,369 yards and 29 touchdowns (33 TDs total, tops in FCS) and is the linchpin of the Hens' ground game. Cuff is a top candidate for the *Walter Payton Award* that goes to the best offensive player in the FCS.

DelState has given up just 22 touchdowns all season and has limited opponents to just 16.1

GAMES THIS WEEK

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 22	
84th Turkey Day Classic	
Alabama State vs. Tuskegee in Montgomery, AL	1
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 23	
PLAYOFF GAMES	
NCAA FCS Playoffs First Round - Live on ESPN	
Delaware State vs. Delaware in Newark, DE	1:30
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 24	
Houston vs. Texas Southern in Houston	4
TV GAMES	
Bayou Classic XXXIV - Live on NBC	
Southern vs. Grambling State in New Orleans	1

points per game. Linebacker **Russell Reeves** is the teams' top tackler with 72 stops and five sacks. QB **Vashon Winton** (1,561 yards, 12 TDs, 5 ints.), RB **Kareem Jones** (666 yards, 2 TDs) and WR **Shaheer McBride** (47 rec., 583 yds., 9 TDs) are the Hornets' chief weapons on offense. The Hornets have another weapon in placekicker **Peter Gaertner** who hit on 19 of 25 field goals including several clutch kicks that tied or won ballgames down the stretch.

BCSP TOP TEN

- 1. DELAWARE STATE** (10-1) - Beat Howard 29-13 to finish with perfect (8-0) record in MEAC. **NEXT:** First round FCS playoff game at Delaware Friday on ESPN.
- 2. TUSKEGEE** (10-0) - Idle. **NEXT:** Closes regular season Thursday at Turkey Bowl vs. Alabama State
- 3. GRAMBLING STATE** (8-2) - Idle. **NEXT:** Bayou Classic vs. rival Southern on NBC.
- 4. NORFOLK STATE** (8-3) - Beat Winston-Salem State 23-20 to close out breakthrough season.
- 5. SOUTH CAROLINA STATE** (7-4) - Throttled NC A&T 51-7 to close out season.
- 6. JACKSON STATE** (7-4) - Beat Alcorn State 31-19 to clinch SWAC East crown. **NEXT:** Dec. 15 vs. Grambling in SWAC Championship Game.
- 7. ALBANY STATE** (8-3) - Loss to Catawba, 66-35 in first round NCAA Div. II playoff game.
- 8. SOUTHERN** (7-3) - Fell to Arkansas-Pine Bluff, 23-20 **NEXT:** Grambling at Bayou Class on NBC.
- 8. PRAIRIE VIEW** (7-3) - Knocked off Alabama A&M, 30-20 to finish regular season.
- 10. SHAW** (7-4) - Lost to Delta State, 45-7 in first round NCAA Div. II playoff game.

UNDER THE BANNER

WHAT'S GOING ON IN AND AROUND BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

ALL-SIAC TEAM NAMED: Tuskegee

quarterback **Jacary Atkinson** and **Clark Atlanta** defensive end **Curtis Johnson** took the top individual honors as the **Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference** named its 2007 all-conference team last week. Atkinson was named the league's most valuable player and offensive player of the year after leading the Golden Tigers to the conference title and perfect 10-0 mark. The junior from Valley, Al., led the league and all of NCAA Div. II

football in pass efficiency (188.0) while also leading the conference in passing yards (2,414, 241.4 per game), touchdowns (27) and total offense (276.6 ypg.). Johnson finished the season with 112 total tackles, was the SIAC sack leader with 13.5 and also led the conference with 27 tackles for losses. **Andrew Ramsey**, a running back from **Kentucky State** chosen as freshman of the year and Tuskegee coach **Willie Slater** as coach of the year. Ramsey finished third in the conference in rushing with 771 yards and second in the in rushing touchdowns with nine. Slater has led the Golden Tigers to a 14 game winning streak, an undefeated season thus far and a second consecutive conference title. Tuskegee led all schools with 10 representatives on the all-conference teams followed by Kentucky State with eight. **Albany State** and **Clark Atlanta** both had seven representatives.

2007 ALL-SIAC FOOTBALL TEAM

FIRST TEAM
OFFENSE **QB** - Jacary Atkinson, Jr., Tuskegee; **RB** - Winston Thompson, So., Clark-Atlanta; Pierre Brown, Jr., Fort Valley State; **WR** - Virgil Union, Sr., Lane; Jason English, Jr., Tuskegee; **TE** - Zach Davis, Sr., Kentucky State; **OL** - Larry Peoples, Sr., Tuskegee; Nartavious Mitchell, Sr., Kentucky State; Jonathan Didier, Jr., Clark Atlanta; Eric Martinear, So., Lane, Montrell Neal, Jr., Albany State
DEFENSE **DL** - Curtis Johnson, Sr., Clark Atlanta; Jarvis Devaughn, Jr., Tuskegee; Sammie Hill, Jr., Tuskegee; Anthony Richardson, Sr., Kentucky State **LB** - Ivan Diggs, Sr., Fort Valley State; Brandon Parnell, Sr., Miles; Harvey Logan, Sr., Stillman **DB** - Dre'mail Hardin, Jr., Stillman; Justin Hannah, So., Tuskegee; Terry McGhee, So., Albany State, Mario Fuller, So., Albany State
SPECIAL TEAMS
KR - Jamaree Gordon, Fr., Kentucky State; **PR** - Mario DeGracia, Sr., Clark Atlanta; **PK** - Mauricio Garcia, Sr., Kentucky State; **P** - Brandon Larkin, Sr., Clark Atlanta

SECOND TEAM
OFFENSE **QB** - Charles McCullum, Sr., SC; **RB** - Andrew Ramsey, Fr., KSU; Lironne Davis, So., ASU; **WR** - Nathaniel Randall, Sr., FVUSU; Derrick Hector, Sr., MC; **TE** - Robert Smith, Jr., LC; **OL** - Michael Stevens, So., TU; Alphonso Johnson, Jr., CAU; Ramone Harewood, So., MHC; Nate Nobles, Jr., MHC
DEFENSE **DL** - Jason Marshall, Sr., ASU; Develle Miller, Fr., ASU; Chris Bostock, Jr., MC; Dejuan Payne, Jr., MHC; **LB** - David Thompson, Sr., KSU; Michael Porter, Sr., CAU; Ryan Davis, Sr., ASU; **DB** - Terrance Stringer, Sr., TU; John Rhoden, Sr., LC; Vincent Hill, Jr., MC; Derrick Scott, Jr., MHC
SPECIAL TEAMS
KR - Brian Witherspoon, Sr., SC; **PR** - Jerome Bryant, Sr., KSU; **PK** - Matt Sims, Fr., TU; **P** - Micah Streiff, Jr., MHC

BCSP Notes

Four coaches nominated for FCS award

Four black college coaches are among the 16 coaches announced last week by *The Sports Network* as finalists for the *Eddie Robinson Award*, named for the legendary former **Grambling** coach that is given annually to the FCS (formerly NCAA Div. I-AA) national coach of the year since 1987.

Pete Adrian of **Norfolk State**, **Rod Broadway** of **SWAC** West Division champ **Grambling State**, **Henry Frazier** of **Prairie View** and **Al Lavan** of **MEAC** champ **Delaware State** are among the finalists. This year's winner will be announced on Thursday night, Dec. 13 at the Sports Network's annual awards banquet to be held at the Marriott Hotel in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

The winners of the *Walter Payton Award* (offensive player of the year) and the *Buck Buchanan Award* (defensive player of the year), along with the *Sports Network Cup*, will also be announced. The Sports Network Cup is handed out to the top Mid-Major team.

Here are biographies of the four HBCU Eddie Robinson Award candidates:

Pete Adrian, Norfolk State - This veteran coach has built this oncedoormat MEAC team, into a potential playoff participant in just three years, while also making major strides with the program academically. The Spartans had never had a winning season since moving from Division II to FCS until this year, when they have gone 8-3 and advanced to the MEAC championship game, losing 28-21 in overtime to Delaware State. Adrian is a 38-year coaching veteran, whose experience includes a stint as the defensive coordinator for the Chicago Enforcers of the XFL in 2001.

Rod Broadway, Grambling - In his first year at Grambling, Broadway has restored Tiger fortunes and taken the team to a 8-2 record and a berth in the SWAC championship game on December 15 in Birmingham, Ala. Before coming to Grambling, Broadway was instrumental in building **North Carolina Central's** program into a Division II powerhouse and helped facilitate NCCU's jump to Division I this season during his four years as coach. A veteran of 28 years as a coach, Broadway led NCCU to back-to-back CIAA titles for the first time since 1953-54 and last year's No. 1 seed in the NCAA Division II Southeast Region. North Carolina Central was also ranked first nationally in defense in 2006. After a 4-6 record in Broadway's first year, the Eagles won eight or more games in each of the next three seasons.

Henry Frazier, Prairie View - Frazier has accomplished what many thought was next to impossible by guiding Prairie View to a winning record, its first since 1976. The Panthers finished at 7-3 this season. In his fourth year at Prairie View, Frazier has taken a program that was among the nation's worst before he arrived and gradually built it into a winner, going 3-8, 5-6 and 3-8 in three seasons before breaking through this year. The Panthers had won just nine games in the 13 seasons before Frazier arrived. A star quarterback at **Bowie State** (18-3-1 career record as a starter), Frazier



ADRIAN



BROADWAY



FRAZIER



LAVAN

returned to his alma mater in 1999 and rebuilt that school's fortunes before moving to Prairie View. He put together three successive winning seasons from 2001-2003 for BSU, including a 2002 CIAA championship, and left as the winningest coach in school history with 26 victories.

Al Lavan, Delaware State - In four years, Lavan has taken a program that had one winning season in the eight years prior to his arrival and turned the Hornets into MEAC champions. The Hornets finished 10-1, with an unblemished 8-0 MEAC record and have earned their first berth in the FCS playoffs by virtue of their regular season MEAC championship. Lavan is 28-14 overall and 24-8 since 2005. He has Delaware State ranked No. 10 in the country for the first time since 1987. Lavan served as the interim head coach at Eastern Michigan before coming to DSU. His 35-year coaching resume includes nine years as a Dallas Cowboys assistant for Tom Landry and a stint with the 1990 San Francisco 49ers Super Bowl champions.

Cameron gets permanent position with Albany State basketball

Christopher J. Cameron, who led **Albany State** to the 2007 SIAC championship as the interim coach, has been named permanent head coach. Cameron enters his second season at the helm of the men's program after serving five years as an assistant coach.

"We decided that Cameron was the best choice for the job as head coach," Athletics Director **Joshua Murfree** said. "He has made many accomplishments during his first season and we are proud of what he has done with the men's basketball program. We look forward to another great season of Golden Rams action." Cameron and the Fast Break Club initiated a major fund-raising campaign to money into the program for scholarships, recruitment efforts, community outreach programs and game day operations, Murfree said.

Cameron led the 2007 Golden Rams to a 15-17 overall record and a trip to the NCAA Division II basketball playoffs last season as the SIAC champion. During the 2007 SIAC tournament, Cameron led his team on a four-game winning streak to capture Albany State's seventh SIAC championship title, the team's title first since 1997, and the 2007 SIAC Tournament Coach-of-the-Year honors. He is assisted by **Melvin Drake** and **Stanley McCormick**.



CAMERON