

BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS PAGE



BCSP Photos

NEW GUYS IN THE TOP TEN

FINAL BCSP TOP TEN AND STATS; BROADWAY STAYS, JONES TO ALCORN

GOOD JOBS: (clockwise) Comegy, Adrian, Frazier and Asberry got their teams into the final BCSP Top Ten for the first time in some time.

Undefeated Tuskegee, Slater break thru to earn BCSP's final top ranking

LUT WILLIAMS
BCSP Editor

When Willie Slater took over at Tuskegee from Rick Comegy two years ago, the Golden Tiger faithful weren't sure what to expect.

After all, Comegy had taken Tuskegee to the heights of the black college football world, winning four Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference titles and two black college national crowns during his ten-year stay.

But Slater, a longtime and highly-regarded assistant with five NCAA Div. II championship rings to his credit, has proved up to the task.

He earned a share of the SIAC title in his first year and this year, behind a dynamic offense (495 ypg., 46.8 ppg.) and terrific defense (246 ypg., 16.1 ppg.), his team ran the table in and outside the conference, earning SIAC and Pioneer Bowl titles en route to a perfect 12-0 season.

In doing so, they beat back marvelous efforts this year from Delaware State, Grambling State, Jackson State and Norfolk State to earn the top ranking in the final BCSP Top Ten of 2007.

It's the first time the Golden Tigers claimed the BCSP title since they went back-to-back in the 2000 and 2001 seasons under Comegy. They matched this year's 12-0 mark in 2000 and shared the BCSP top ranking at 11-1 with SWAC champion Grambling State (10-1) in 2001.

But Slater was not the only coach to score a breakthrough this season. In fact, in many ways, 2007 will be remembered as a breakthrough year for some teams and coaches.

Delaware State (10-2), under fourth-year coach Al Lavan, broke Hampton's three-year stranglehold on the Mid Eastern Athletic Conference title and made a strong bid for the No. 1 spot going thru the regular season with an unblemished 8-0 conference record to deliver the Hornets their first league title in 16 years. Only a 44-7 loss to (eventual national runner-up) Delaware in a first round FCS playoff game tarnished some of the luster off its standout regular season. The Hornets finish second in our final ranking.

The aforementioned Comegy didn't take long to make some noise in his new job. In



Tuskegee Sports Photo

BEST OF THE BEST: Slater led Tuskegee to perfect 12-0 season.

his second year as head man at Jackson State, he returned the Blue Tigers to the SWAC and national limelight.

JSU (8-4) won the Southwestern Athletic Conference East Division title during the regular season and then avenged a loss to West Division champ Grambling State in the SWAC championship game to claim the proud Tigers first title in 11 years. Comegy and the Tigers finish third.

Perhaps the biggest turnaround of the season happened under head coach Pete Adrian at Norfolk State. The Spartans (8-3), MEAC doormats since joining the conference a decade ago, rose up to challenge DelState for league supremacy, posting the school's best record since 1984 and first winning record since moving to Div. I. The Spartans were actually ten minutes away from knocking off DelState and claiming the title but could not close out the Hornets. For his efforts, Adrian was named MEAC coach of the year. Norfolk State is our fourth ranked team of 2007.

There was also a big story at Grambling State (8-4) where new head coach Rod Broadway needed just one season to right the G-Men's fortunes. Coming off a 3-8 2006 campaign, Broadway quickly returned the Tigers to their winning ways claiming the SWAC West Division crown and a berth in the league's championship game. Losing their final three games did not dull the job Broadway did in resurrecting the Tigers, who finish fifth.

Holding down the sixth and seventh spots in our final ranking are teams whose coaches consistently have them in the upper echelon of their conference races and as nearly permanent fixtures in our Top Ten.

Oliver "Buddy" Pough's South Carolina State Bulldogs (7-4) have yet to win an MEAC title but they finished second (tied with Norfolk State) in the league race. They are sixth. SIAC runner-up Albany State (8-3) under veteran head coach James "Mike" White, who earned the Golden Rams another Div. II playoff berth, is seventh.

Three other coaches who did bang-up jobs with their teams occupy the last three spots in our Top Ten. After unprecedented back-to-back losing seasons, Pete Richardson got

FINAL BCSP TOP TEN

- TUSKEGEE** (12-0) - Prolific offense and stingy defense produces undefeated season for second-year coach Willie Slater, SIAC and Pioneer Bowl titles and BCSP's final top ranking, its first since back-to-back top finishes in 2000 and 2001.
- DELAWARE STATE** (10-2) - Fourth-year coach Al Lavan led the Hornets to their first MEAC championship since 1991 ending Hampton's three-year run atop the league and first-ever FCS playoff berth.
- JACKSON STATE** (7-4) - SWAC East Division champ won first SWAC title in head coach Rick Comegy's second year, JSU's first title in 11 years.
- NORFOLK STATE** (8-3) - Unprecedented second place tie in MEAC under third-year head coach Pete Adrian.
- GRAMBLING STATE** (8-4) - In first year under new coach Rod Broadway, Tigers win SWAC West before losing in league's title game to Jackson State.
- SOUTH CAROLINA STATE** (7-4) - Bridesmaids again finishing tied for second in MEAC with Norfolk State.
- ALBANY STATE** (8-3) - Second place finish in SIAC. Bowed out in first round of NCAA Div. II playoffs.
- SOUTHERN** (8-3) - After back-to-back losing seasons, finished tied for second in SWAC West with Prairie View and helped get Pete Richardson a new deal.
- PRAIRIE VIEW A&M** (7-3) - First winning season since 1976 and second -place tie in SWAC West with Southern earned new four-year contract for head coach Henry Frazier.
- SHAW** (8-4) - Darrell Asberry claims CIAA title, Div. II playoff berth in just his second year leading the Bears lost in first round of Div. II playoffs.



LAVAN

THE STAT CORNER

WHO ARE THE BEST PERFORMERS IN BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

FINAL INDIVIDUAL FOOTBALL STATS

THRU GAMES OF 12/15

RUSHING YARDS	TEAM	Cl	G	Att	Yds	Avg	TD	Yds/G
Derrick MOSS	CST	9	231	1314	5.4	17	139.8	
Chad SIMPSON	MSU	SR	11	276	1402	5.1	14	127.5
William FORD	SCS	SO	11	210	1389	6.6	4	126.3
Javaris WILLIAMS	TSU	JR	11	195	1187	6.1	12	107.9
Mike FEGUSON	NCA	JR	11	182	1169	6.4	4	106.3
Jay PECK	ALS	SR	10	214	1048	4.9	5	104.8
Daryl JONES	NSU	SR	11	254	1134	4.5	15	103.1

PASSING YARDS	TEAM	Cl	G	A	Cmp	Int	Pct	Yds	TD	Yds/G
Jacary ATKINSON	TU	JR	12	275	165	9	60.0	2979	34	248.2
Bryant LEE	SU	SO	9	285	187	3	65.6	2206	22	245.1
Kevin O'BRIEN	WVS	10	338	201	12	59.5	2245	19	224.5	
Brand. LANDERS	GSU	JR	11	357	198	16	55.5	2417	22	219.7
Kelcy LUKE	AAM	SR	11	349	189	9	54.2	2401	20	218.3
Jimmy OLIVER	JSU	SR	12	305	177	7	58.0	2550	20	212.5
Ant. HEFFNER	TNS	JR	7	171	96	9	56.1	1486	10	212.3

TOTAL OFFENSE	Team	Cl	G	Rush	Pass	Plays	Total	Yds/G
Jacary ATKINSON	TU	JR	12	584	2979	387	3563	296.9
Bryant LEE	SU	SO	9	288	2206	407	2474	274.9
Antonio HEFFNER	TNS	JR	7	337	1486	265	1823	260.6
Sherard ELLIS	LAN	JR	10	465	2966	429	2531	253.1
Kelcy LUKE	AAM	SR	11	261	2401	450	2662	242.0
Brian JOHNSON	HOW	SR	11	436	2212	455	2848	240.7

RECEPTIONS/GAME	Team	Cl	G	Rec	Yds	TD	Avg/C	Rec/G
Virgil UNION	LAN	SR	10	69	892	8	12.9	6.90
Jeremy GILCHRIST	HAM	FR	11	69	1043	7	15.1	6.27
Jermain KING	WVS	10	56	562	3	10.0	5.60	
Reginald JACKSON	GSU	SR	11	61	687	4	11.3	5.55
Jarahnn WILLIAMS	HOW	SR	11	59	707	15	12.0	5.36
Nate RANDALL	FVS	SR	11	50	577	5	11.5	5.33

REC. YARDS / GAME	Team	Cl	G	Rec	Yds	TD	Avg/C	Yds/G
Jeremy GILCHRIST	HAM	FR	11	69	1043	7	15.1	94.8
Virgil UNION	LAN	SR	10	69	892	8	12.9	89.2
Thomas HARRIS	AAM	SO	11	51	936	7	18.4	85.1
Jason ENGLISH	TUS	JR	12	39	993	14	25.5	82.8
Jer. FRANKLIN	JCS	FR	10	39	737	6	18.9	73.7
Jason JONES	APB	SR	11	47	793	3	16.9	72.1
Jas. STEADMAN	MHC	JR	8	33	566	4	17.2	70.8
Chris JOHNSON	TNS	JR	11	41	740	4	18.0	67.3

ALL PURPOSE	Team	Cl	G	Rsh	Rec	PR	KR	Yds	AVG.
Philip SYLVESTER	FAM	FR	10	858	90	0	695	1643	164.3
Chad SIMPSON	MSU	SR	11	1492	201	0	175	1778	161.6
Nate HUGHES	ALC	SR	10	-4	569	249	792	1606	160.6
Derrick MOSS	CST	9	1258	132	0	0	1390	154.4	
William FORD	SCS	SO	11	1389	95	0	54	1538	139.8
Jeremy GILCHRIST	HAM	FR	11	29	1043	380	0	1452	132.0
Virgil UNION	LAN	SR	10	22	892	63	338	1315	131.5

INTERCEPTIONS	Team	Cl	G	INT	YDS	TD	INT/G
Dre'Mail HARDIN	STIL	JR	11	9	171	1	0.82
Al DONALDSON	AAM	JR	11	9	91	0	0.82
Vincent HILL	MIL	JR	11	7	186	1	0.64
Bran. TRUESDALE	WVS	10	6	37	0	0.60	
Brandon MORGAN	MHC	SR	7	4	20	0	0.57

PUNT RETURNS	Team	Cl	G	Ret	Yds	TD	Avg.
Robert BROWN	SHA	SO	10	18	375	0	20.8
Stephen BUMPUS	WVS	8	20	294	1	14.7	
Jerome BRYANT	KSU	SR	8	16	217	1	13.6
Michael HAMPTON	VUU	JR	11	14	183	0	13.1
Chris JOHNSON	TNS	JR	11	20	240	1	12.0

KICK RETURNS	Team	Cl	G	Ret	Yds	TD	Avg.
De'Audra DIX	JCS	SR	10	26	813	0	31.3
Calvin WEAVER	CST	9	25	704	1	28.2	
Corey COUNCIL	BCU	JR	10	23	613	2	26.7
Mario JACKSON	TUS	JR	10	23	607	1	26.4
Demetrius JOHNSON	ALB	SR	11	25	656	0	26.2

PUNTING	Team	Cl	G	P	Yds	Avg.
Brandon LARKIN	CAU	SR	11	73	3186	43.6
Jahma BLANCHARD	HAM	FR	11	58	2500	43.1
Micah STREIFEL	MHC	JR	10	57	2368	41.5
Wesley TAYLOR	FAM	SR	11	59	2412	40.9
Aaron HAIRE	SCS	SO	10	42	1785	42.5
Justin KEABLE	BCU	FR	11	53	2134	40.3
Tim MANUEL	GSU	SR	11	54	2175	40.3
Pedro VENTURA	PV	FR	10	58	2331	40.2
John HEFLIN	APG	SR	11	70	2811	40.2
Randy ALLEN	ALB	SO	11	54	2163	40.1

SCORING	Team	Cl	G	TD	XPT	FG	Pts	Pts/G
Derrick MOSS	CNS	9	18	1	0	110	12.2	
Daryl JONES	NSU	SR	11	15	0	90	8.2	
Jarahnn WILLIAMS	HOW	SR	11	15	0	90	8.2	
Chad SIMPSON	MSU	SR	11	15	0	90	8.2	
Jeremy LICEA	AAM	SO	11	0	38	16	86	7.8
Jason ENGLISH	TU	JR	12	15	0	90	7.5	
Eric PERRI	JSU	SO	12	0	37	17	88	7.3
Jimmie RUSSELL	BCU	SR	11	13	0	78	7.1	
S. GRANTHAM	SCS	SO	10	0	36	11	69	6.9

FIELD GOALS	Team	Cl	G	FG	FGA	Pct.	FG/G
Peter GAERTNER	DSU	SR	12	19	25	76.0	1.58
Jeremy LICEA	AAM	SO	11	16	21	76.2	1.45
Eric PERRI	JSU	SO	12	17	24	79.8	1.42
Ryne POWELL	SU	JR	10	14	26	53.8	1.40
J CASTELLAT	NSU	SO	11	15	25	60.0	1.36
James MEADE	MSU	JR	10	13	18	72.2	1.30
Jake GRUBBS	FVS	JR	11	14	19	73.7	1.27
Lucas ESQUIVEL	BCU	SR	10	12	18	66.7	1.20

TACKLES	Team	Cl	G	Solo	Asst	Tot	Avg.
R McCULLOUGH	BCU	SR	10	59	90	149	14.9
Zach EAST	PV	SR	10	67	60	127	12.7
Harvey LOGAN	STIL	JR	11	66	59	125	11.4
Tim TURNER	APB	JR	11	51	71	122	11.1
Reecharad JOHNSON	ALS	SO	10	53	50	103	10.3
Curtis JOHNSON	CAU	SR	11	69	43	112	10.2

SACKS	Team	Cl	G	S	Yds	Avg.
Curtis JOHNSON	CAU	SR	11	13.5	99	1.23
Jarvis DEVAUGHN	TUS	JR	11	12.0	83	1.09
Rudy HARDIE	HOW	SR	11	11.0	115	1.00
Elisha MERCHANT	WVS	10	10.0	63	1.00	
Brandon SMITH	VUU	SO	11	10.5	83	0.95
Ledarius ANTHONY	APB	JR	11	8.5	58	0.85
Jeremy MADDOX	AAM	SO	11	9.0	76	0.82
Greg MOORE	ECS	SR	10	8.0	60	0.80</