



UH Sports Photo
SUMLIN: UH coach is first African-American Div. I coach in Texas. His team on Southern's schedule this season.

WHAT'S IN STORE IN '08

BREAKING DOWN THE MATCH-UPS AS TEAM-BY-TEAM SCHEDULES UNVEILED

UNDER THE BANNER

WHAT'S GOING ON IN AND AROUND BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

NEW HOWARD BB COACH:

Niki Reid Geckeler has been named the new head women's basketball coach at **Howard**, Director of Athletics **Dwight Datcher** announced last week.

Reid Geckeler comes to Howard after 10 years at Georgetown University, where she served as an assistant coach, recruiting coordinator and academic advisor with the women's basketball team. During her tenure, the Hoyas reached the Big East Championship game in 2005 and made three WNIT appearances.

During the 2002-03 and 2003-04 seasons, Reid Geckeler served as the associate head coach at Fordham.

In addition to her coaching accolades, Reid Geckeler was also a standout student-athlete at Georgetown. She was a four-year starter at point guard and upon graduating in 1993 with a degree in psychology, she left the Hoya women's basketball program as the school's leader in assists and three-point field goal percentage.

18 GAMES ON ESPNU IN HI DEF:

ESPNU will kick off its fourth season of presenting live college football games with the launch of its new high definition network, ESPNU HD, on Thursday, Aug. 28. The network will showcase more than 70 live college football games including 18 contests featuring HBCUs, with all of its Thursday and Saturday live telecasts available in HD.

Thursdays will be mainly dedicated to HBCU games from the MEAC or SWAC, starting with the MEAC's **Florida A&M at Delaware State** on Sept. 4 at 7:30 p.m.

"This will be a special college football season at ESPNU as we enter a new frontier in high definition," said Rosalyn Durant, vice president and general manager, ESPNU.

Thursday nights will feature the combination of Charlie Neal (play-by-play) and former **Howard** and NFL quarterback **Jay Walker** (analyst) calling HBCU matchups.

Saturday's coverage will begin at noon. The final game will pair Dwayne Ballen (play-by-play) and former **Alabama State** and NFL linebacker **Eddie Robinson Jr.** (analyst) at 10:30 p.m. (tape-delay), which will generally feature a MEAC or SWAC matchup.

2008 ESPNU/ESPNU HD HBCU College Football Schedule

SAT., AUG. 30, 10:30 P.M.

***Prairie View at Texas Southern**

THU., SEPT. 4, 7:30 P.M.

Florida A&M at Delaware State

SUN., SEPT. 7, 2 P.M.

Morehouse at Fort Valley State

SAT., SEPT. 13, 10:30 P.M.

***North Carolina A&T at Norfolk State**

THU., SEPT. 18, 7:30 P.M.

Arkansas Pine Bluff at Alcorn State

SAT., SEPT. 20, 10:30 P.M.

***Tuskegee at Stillman**

THU., SEPT. 25, 8 P.M.

Mississippi Valley State at Alabama State

THU., OCT. 9, 7:30 P.M.

Winston-Salem State at Florida A&M

SAT., OCT. 11, 10:30 P.M.

***Morehouse at Tuskegee**

SAT., OCT. 18, 10:30 P.M.

***Florida A&M at Southern**

SAT., OCT. 25, 10:30 P.M.

***Alabama A&M at Alabama State**

SAT., NOV. 1, 10:30 P.M.

***South Carolina State at Delaware State**

THU., NOV. 6, 7:30 P.M.

Howard at South Carolina State

SAT., NOV. 8, 10:30 P.M.

***Bethune-Cookman at Hampton**

SAT., NOV. 15, 10:30 P.M.

***Delaware State at Norfolk State**

THU., NOV. 20, 9 P.M.

Grambling State at Texas Southern

SAT., NOV. 22, 10:30 P.M.

***Alcorn State at Jackson State**

* Same Day Delay

Something for everyone on '08 schedule

LUT WILLIAMS

BCSP Editor

The 2008 black college football schedule has a little something for everyone. In addition to the always competitive races in each conference, there's plenty more when teams step outside.

David vs. Goliath

For those who want to see black college teams go up against the Div. I powers and perhaps pull off an Appalachian State-like upset of Michigan, there are a few of those. But the competition is mighty fierce.

South Carolina State gets the unenviable first shot, and in fact gets two shots, at the big boys.

Oliver "Buddy" Pough's MEAC favorites open the season travelling to Orlando to take on Central Florida on Aug. 30. The Golden Knights, coached by George O'Leary, finished 10-4 last season and earned a trip to the *Liberty Bowl* where they lost to Mississippi State.

After games in state, at home vs **Benedict** (9/6) and in Charleston vs **Bethune-Cookman** (9/13), the Bulldogs stay in state to play at Clemson on Sept. 20. Clemson, who wound up 9-3 last season under Tommy Bowden, finished the 2007 campaign ranked 21st in the nation after losing to Auburn in the *Chic-fil-A Bowl*. The Tigers are ranked in the Top Ten in most preseason Div. I polls for 2008.

Pete Richardson's Jaguars of

Southern open their season Aug. 30 on the road at Houston, who enters the season with new coach Kevin Sumlin at the helm. Sumlin is the first African-American Div. I head coach in Texas. Houston finished 8-5 last season and lost to TCU in the *Texas Bowl*.

After hosting **Virginia State** in their opening game on Aug. 30, head coach **Pete Adrian** and the **Norfolk State** Spartans travel to Lexington, Ky., to take on the powerful Kentucky Wildcats on Sept. 6. Kentucky, under head coach Rich Brooks, finished 8-5 last season and closed out its season with a win over Florida State in the *Music City Bowl*.

Last but certainly not least, **Donald Hill-Eley** and the Morgan State Bears take a shot at Rutgers on Sept. 27. The Scarlet Knights under Gary Schiano finished 8-5 last season including a win over Ball State in the *International Bowl*.

So not only did all the Div. I opponents have winning records, but they also played in bowl games.

Spy vs. Spy

For those looking for some inter-conference play between schools in the four HBCU conferences, there's a little of that. These games can help spice up the argument regarding which of the conferences plays the best football.

For openers, two NCAA Div. II playoff teams, **CIAA** champion **Shaw** and **SIAC** runner-up **Albany State**, hook up in what should be a classic

season opener for both teams on August 30 in Albany, Ga. First round playoff losses ended both their seasons a year ago.

The other CIAA/SIAC matchup also features two of the better teams in each conference when CIAA *Pioneer Bowl* participant **Virginia Union** travels to take on perennial SIAC contender **Fort Valley State** on Sept. 13.

The MEAC vs. SWAC battles commence with the fourth annual *SWAC/MEAC Challenge* to be staged this year in Orlando on Sunday, Aug. 31. New **Hampton** coach **Jerry Holmes** will get his baptism under fire as he faces defending SWAC champ **Jackson State** and coach **Rick Comegy**.

Florida A&M is involved in the other two SWAC vs. MEAC games, opening the season hosting **Alabama State** on Aug. 30 and travelling to Southern on Oct. 18.

The two CIAA vs. MEAC matchups are both scheduled for Labor Day weekend. The annual *Labor Day Classic* in Norfolk pits **Virginia State** of the CIAA vs. the MEAC's **Norfolk State** on Aug. 30. **North Carolina A&T** will be looking for CIAA meat when it takes on **Johnson C. Smith** on the same day. A&T head coach **Lee Fobbs** will be looking to win his first game in three years in the season opener.

The SIAC has one date against the MEAC this year when **Benedict** travels to nearby South Carolina State for a Sept. 6 tussle.

SIAC programs also have some interesting dates with SWAC schools.

Stillman travels to **Jackson State** on Sept. 6. **Morehouse** plays at the *Angel City Classic* vs. **Prairie View A&M** in Los Angeles on Oct. 11.

Defending SIAC and black college national champion **Tuskegee** however gets to take on the two SWAC schools in Alabama and compete for bragging rights. The Golden Tigers face **Alabama A&M** at the Oct. 4 *Circle City Classic* in Indianapolis and close the season with their traditional Thanksgiving Day matchup in Montgomery, AL, at the *Turkey Day Classic* vs. Alabama State on Nov. 27.

Toughest rows to hoe

North Carolina Central's 2008 road schedule to Div. I is fraught with danger. The Eagles play at FCS preseason No. 1 James Madison on Sept. 6, at Central Connecticut on Sept. 20, at Presbyterian on Oct. 11, at Coastal Carolina on Oct. 18 and at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo on Nov. 18.

Elizabeth City State faces three straight South Athletic Conference opponents in September - Catawba, Tusculum and Wingate. The CIAA was 1-10 last year vs. SAC opponents.

Tennessee State, an HBCU that competes in the Ohio Valley Conference, plays four black college teams. TSU faces Alabama A&M (Aug. 30), hosts Southern (Sept. 6), faces Jackson State in Memphis (Sept. 13) and faces Florida A&M in Atlanta (Sept. 27).

2008 TEAM-BY-TEAM BLACK COLLEGE FOOTBALL SCHEDULES

BOWIE STATE	8/30 @ Cheyney.....1
	9/6 @ Shepherd.....1
	9/13 @ Nichols State TBA
	9/20 @ Livingstone.....7
	9/27 Shaw in Durham.....4
	10/4 @ Lincoln.....1
	10/11 Elizabeth City State (HC).....1
	10/18 @ St. Paul's.....1:30
	10/25 Virginia Union.....1
	11/3 @ Virginia State.....1

CHOWAN	8/30 @ Elizabeth City State.....7
	9/6 @ St. Paul's.....1:30
	9/13 Brevard.....12n
	9/20 @ VMI.....1
	9/27 Virginia Union.....6
	10/4 @ Fayetteville State.....6
	10/11 Livingstone.....6
	10/18 @ Shaw.....6
	10/25 @ J. C. Smith.....1
	11/3 @ St. Augustine's.....4

ELIZABETH CITY STATE	8/30 @ Chowan.....7
	9/6 @ Catawba.....7
	9/13 @ Tusculum.....6
	9/20 @ Wingate.....1:30
	9/27 St. Aug.'s (Rocky Mt., NC).....4
	10/4 Virginia State.....1:30
	10/11 @ Bowie State.....1
	10/18 @ Lincoln (HC) TBA
	10/25 @ St. Paul's.....1:30
	11/1 @ Virginia Union.....1

FAYETTEVILLE STATE	8/31 @ NC Central.....4
	9/6 @ Presbyterian.....1:30
	9/13 @ Lincoln.....1
	9/20 @ St. Paul's.....6
	9/27 @ Virginia State.....6
	10/4 @ Chowan.....6
	10/12 Shaw in Durham.....4
	10/18 @ J. C. Smith (HC).....2
	10/25 @ St. Augustine's.....1
	11/1 @ Livingstone.....1

JOHNSON C. SMITH	8/30 @ N. C. A&T.....6
	9/6 @ Virginia State.....6
	9/13 Edward Waters.....6
	9/20 @ Va. Union in Salem, VA.....2
	9/27 @ St. Paul's.....1:30
	10/4 @ Livingstone.....1
	10/11 @ St. Augustine's.....1
	10/18 @ Fayetteville State.....2
	10/25 @ Chowan (HC).....1
	11/1 @ Shaw.....1

LIVINGSTONE	8/30 @ Concordia in Greenville, SC.....7
	9/6 @ Catawba.....7
	9/13 @ Savannah State.....7
	9/20 @ Bowie State.....7
	9/27 @ Lincoln.....1
	10/4 @ J. C. Smith.....1
	10/11 @ Chowan.....6
	10/12 Shaw in Durham.....4
	10/18 @ J. C. Smith (HC).....2
	10/25 @ Chowan (HC).....1
	11/1 @ Shaw.....1

SHAW (Home games in Durham, NC)	8/30 @ Albany State.....7
	9/6 @ Edward Waters.....5
	9/13 Texas Southern in Sac., CA.....4
	9/20 @ Lincoln.....4
	9/27 @ St. Augustine's.....4
	10/12 Fayetteville State.....4
	10/18 @ Chowan (HC).....4
	10/25 @ Livingstone.....1
	11/1 @ J. C. Smith.....1

ST. AUGUSTINE'S	8/30 @ Catawba.....7
	9/6 @ Charleston.....1
	9/13 @ Mars Hill.....1:30
	9/20 @ Virginia State.....6
	9/27 @ Eliz. City St. in Rky. Mt., NC.....4
	10/4 @ Shaw.....4
	10/11 @ J. C. Smith.....1
	10/18 @ Livingstone.....3
	10/25 Fayetteville State.....1:30
	11/1 @ Chowan (HC).....4

ST. PAUL'S	8/30 @ Wingate.....1:30
	9/6 @ Chowan.....1:30
	9/13 @ Tusculum.....1:30
	9/20 @ Virginia Union.....6
	9/27 @ Bowie State.....1:30
	10/4 @ Shaw (HC).....1
	10/11 @ Johnson C. Smith.....1:30
	10/18 @ St. Augustine's.....1:30
	10/25 @ Fayetteville State.....1:30
	11/1 @ Virginia State.....1

VIRGINIA STATE	8/30 @ Norfolk State.....6
	9/6 @ J. C. Smith.....6
	9/13 @ St. Joseph's.....6
	9/20 @ St. Augustine's.....6
	9/27 @ Fayetteville State.....6
	10/4 @ Elizabeth City State.....6
	10/11 @ St. Paul's.....1:30
	10/18 @ Virginia Union.....1
	10/25 @ Lincoln (HC).....1:30
	11/1 @ Bowie State.....1

VIRGINIA UNION	8/28 @ E. Stroudsburg.....7:30
	9/6 @ W. Va. Wesleyan.....6
	9/13 @ Fort Valley State.....1
	9/20 @ J. C. Smith in Salem, VA.....2
	9/27 @ Chowan.....6
	10/4 @ St. Paul's.....1
	10/11 @ Lincoln.....1
	10/18 @ Virginia State (HC).....1
	10/25 @ Bowie State.....1
	11/1 @ Elizabeth City State.....1

BETHUNE-COOKMAN	9/6 @ Alabama State.....4
	9/13 @ S. C. State in Chas'N, SC.....4
	9/20 @ Savannah State.....4

C	9/27 @ Norfolk State.....4
I	10/4 @ Morgan State.....4
A	10/11 @ Delaware State (HC).....4
A	10/25 @ Winston-Salem State.....2
	11/1 @ NC A&T.....4
	11/8 @ Hampton.....2
	11/12 @ FAMU in Orlando.....2

DELAWARE STATE	9/4 @ Florida A&M.....7:30
	9/13 @ Kent State.....TBA
	9/27 @ Cenn. Conn. State.....7
	10/4 @ Hampton.....1
	10/11 @ Bethune-Cookman.....4
	10/18 @ N. C. A&T (HC).....1
	10/25 @ Morgan State.....1
	11/1 @ Delaware State.....1
	11/8 @ Winston-Salem State.....1
	11/15 @ Norfolk State.....1
	11/22 @ Howard.....1

FLORIDA A&M	8/30 @ Alabama State.....5
	9/4 @ Delaware State.....7:30
	9/20 @ Howard.....1
	9/27 @ Tennessee State in Atlanta.....4
	10/4 @ S. C. State.....6
	10/9 @ Bethune-Cookman.....7:30
	10/18 @ Southern.....6
	10/25 @ Norfolk State.....1
	11/1 @ Morgan State (HC).....TBA
	11/8 @ N. C. A&T.....TBA
	11/15 @ Hampton.....TBA
	11/22 @ B-Cookman in Orlando.....2

HAMPTON	8/31 @ Jackson State in Orlando.....2
	9/6 @ S. Illinois.....6
	9/13 @ Howard.....6
	9/20 @ N. C. A&T.....6
	10/4 @ Winston-Salem State.....1
	10/18 @ Norfolk State.....1
	10/25 @ South Carolina State.....1:30
	11/1 @ Winston-Salem State (HC).....2
	11/8 @ Bethune-Cookman.....2
	11/15 @ Florida A&M.....TBA
	11/22 @ Morgan State.....1

HOWARD	8/30 @ Georgetown.....1
	9/13 @ Hampton.....6
	9/20 @ Florida A&M.....1
	9/27 @ Savannah State in Miami.....6
	10/4 @ Winston-Salem State.....6
	10/18 @ Morgan State (HC).....1
	10/25 @ N. Carolina A&T.....1:30
	11/1 @ Norfolk State.....1
	11/6 @ S. Carolina State.....7:30
	11/15 @ Bethune-Cookman.....4
	11/22 @ Delaware State.....1

MORGAN STATE	9/6 @ Towson.....TBA
	9/13 @ N. C. Central.....4
	9/20 @ Winston-Salem State.....6
	9/27 @ Rutgers.....TBA
	10/4 @ Bethune-Cookman.....4
	10/11 @ N. Carolina A&T.....TBA
	10/18 @ Howard.....1
	10/25 @ Delaware State (HC).....1
	11/1 @ Florida A&M.....TBA
	11/8 @ Norfolk State.....1
	11/15 @ South Carolina State.....4
	11/22 @ Hampton.....1

NORFOLK STATE	8/30 @ Virginia State.....6
	9/6 @ Kentucky.....TBA
	9/13 @ N. Carolina A&T.....4
	9/20 @ William & Mary.....TBA
	9/27 @ Bethune-Cookman.....4
	10/11 @ S. C. State.....1:30
	10/18 @ Hampton.....1
	10/25 @ Florida A&M.....1
	11/1 @ Howard.....1
	11/8 @ Morgan State.....1
	11/15 @ Delaware State.....1
	11/22 @ Winston-Salem State.....1:30

NORTH CAROLINA A&T	8/30 @ J. C. Smith.....1
	9/6 @ Winston-Salem State.....1
	9/13 @ Norfolk State.....4
	9/20 @ Hampton.....6
	9/27 @ Coastal Carolina.....TBA
	10/4 @ N. C. Central in Charlotte.....5
	10/11 @ Morgan State (HC).....TBA
	10/18 @ Delaware State.....1:30
	10/25 @ Howard.....1
	11/1 @ Bethune-Cookman.....4
	11/8 @ Florida A&M.....TBA
	11/12 @ S. C. State.....1:30

SOUTH CAROLINA STATE	8/30 @ Central Florida.....6
	9/6 @ Savannah State.....6
	9/13 @ B-Cookman in Chas'N, SC.....4
	9/20 @ Clemson.....1
	9/27 @ Winston-Salem State.....6
	10/4 @ Florida A&M.....6
	10/11 @ Norfolk State (HC).....1:30
	10/25 @ Hampton.....1:30
	11/1 @ Delaware State.....1
	11/6 @ Howard.....7:30
	11/15 @ Morgan State.....4
	11/22 @ N. C. A&T.....1:30

WINSTON-SALEM STATE	9/6 @ North Carolina A&T.....6
	9/13 @ Savannah State.....6
	9/20 @ Morgan State.....6
	9/27 @ South Carolina State.....6